



Université Claude Bernard



Lyon 1



Transverse momentum fraction of strange hadrons in mini-jets in pp collisions

Lang Xu^{1,2}

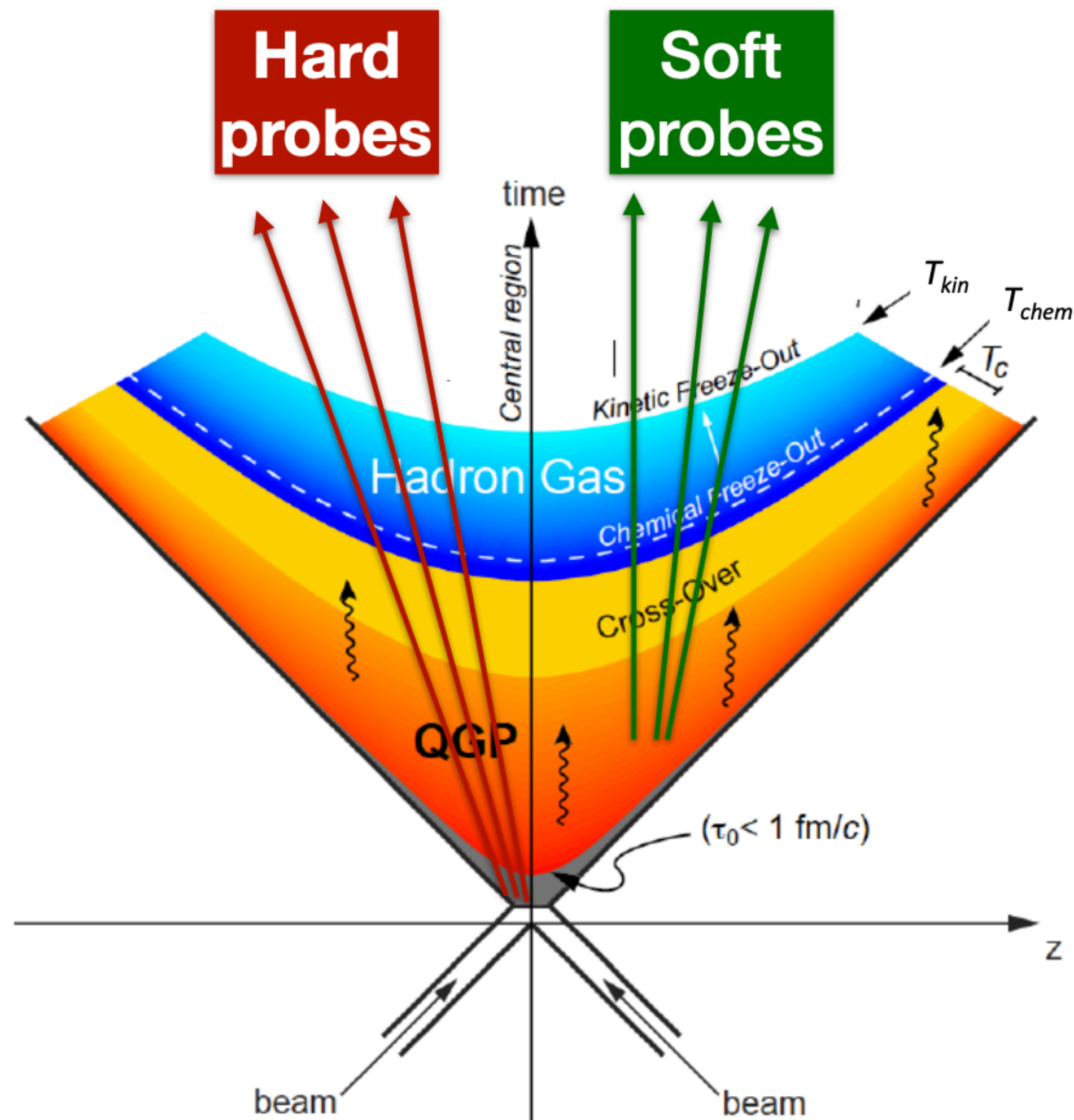
1. UCBL / IP2I, Lyon  2. CCNU / IOPP, Wuhan 

- Motivation
- Experimental setups & analysis approach
- Results
- Summary and outlook

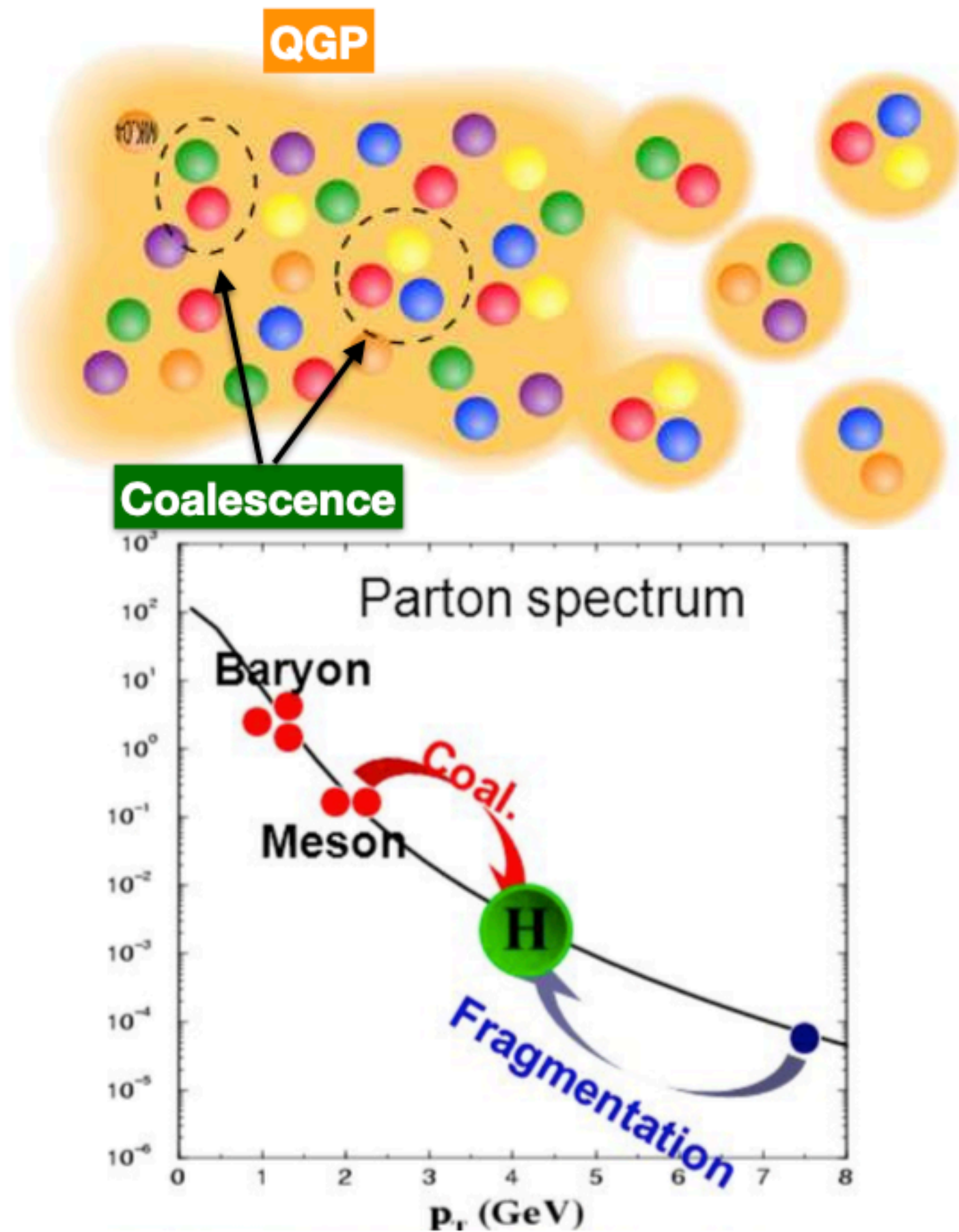
Qingdao, China

20-25 July 2025





- Heavy-ion collisions probe the strongly-interacting matter — the quark-gluon plasma (QGP) under extreme conditions of high temperature and energy density
- **Hard probes** created at the initial stage of the collision
 - ➡ Jet, heavy-flavor quarks
- **Soft probes** created in the “fireball”
 - ➡ Collective expansion



- **Fragmentation** — hadrons from high p_T (hard) partons
- **Coalescence/recombination** — hadrons formation via (di-)quark combination in the QGP medium
 - $p_{T,\text{hadron}} \approx n p_{T,\text{parton}}$, $n = 2$ (meson), 3 (baryon)
 - Sensitive to baryon and meson species
 - Baryons from lower momenta partons (denser)

Rapp *et al. Phys. Lett.* **B655** (2007) 126

Greco *et al. Phys.Rev.* **C92** (2015) 054904

Ko *et al. Phys. Lett.* **B792** (2019) 132

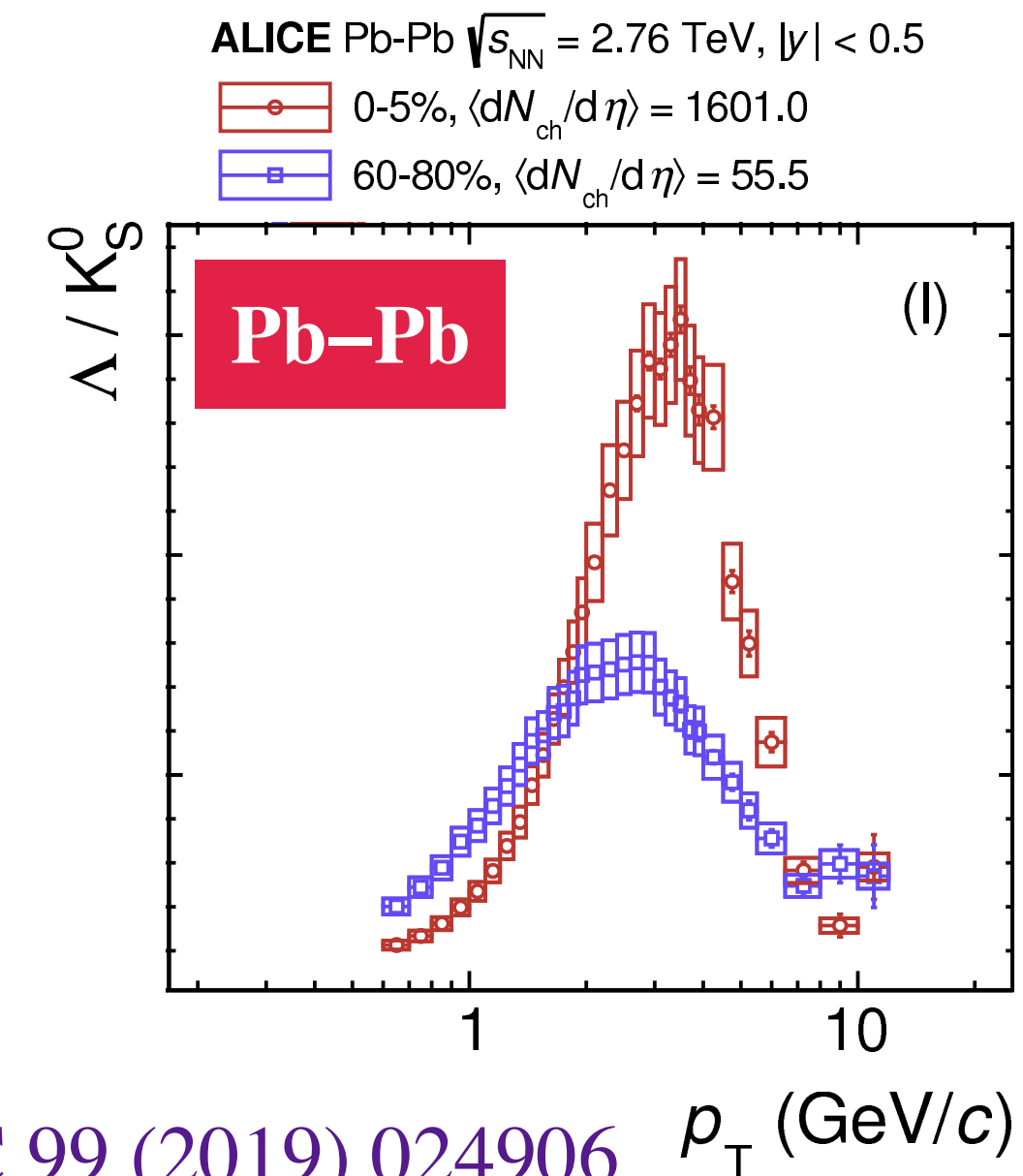
$$(p + p) / (\pi^+)$$

$$\Lambda / K_S^0$$

1

10

(j)



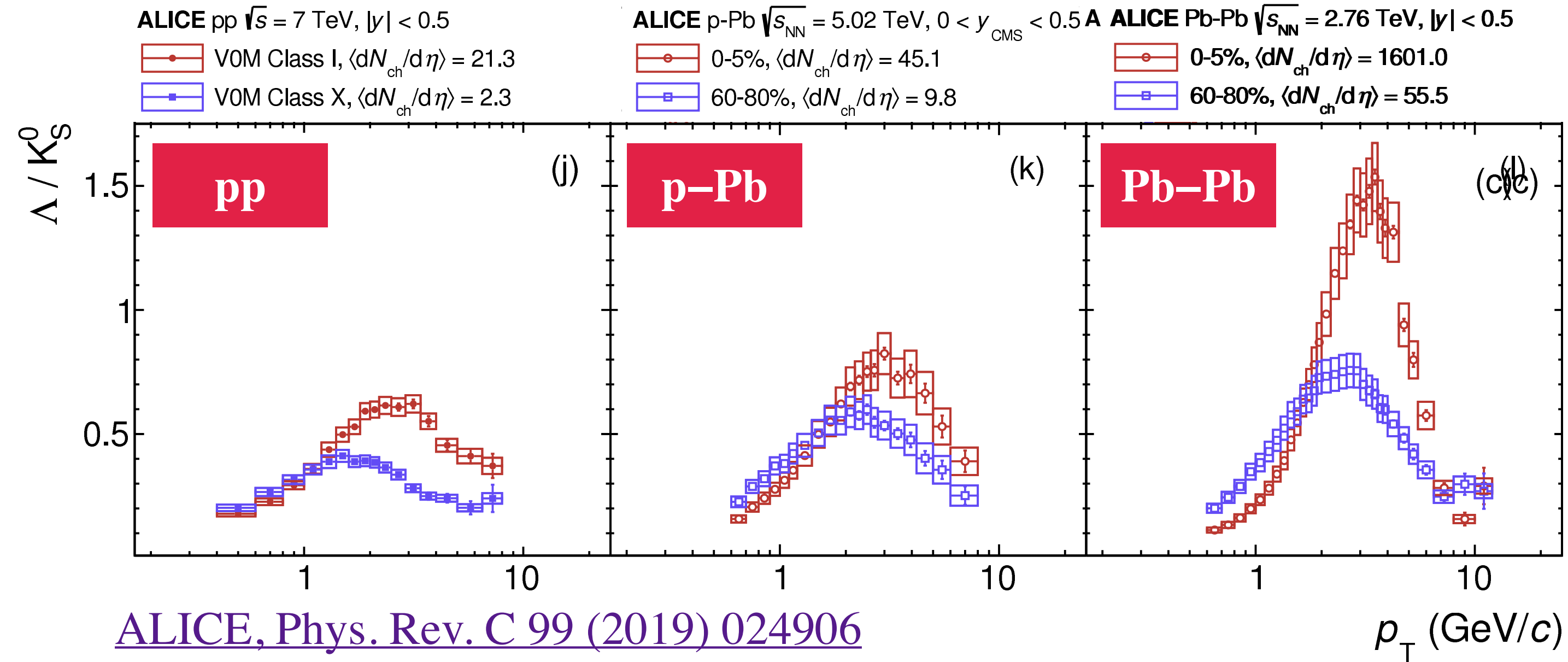
(k)

1

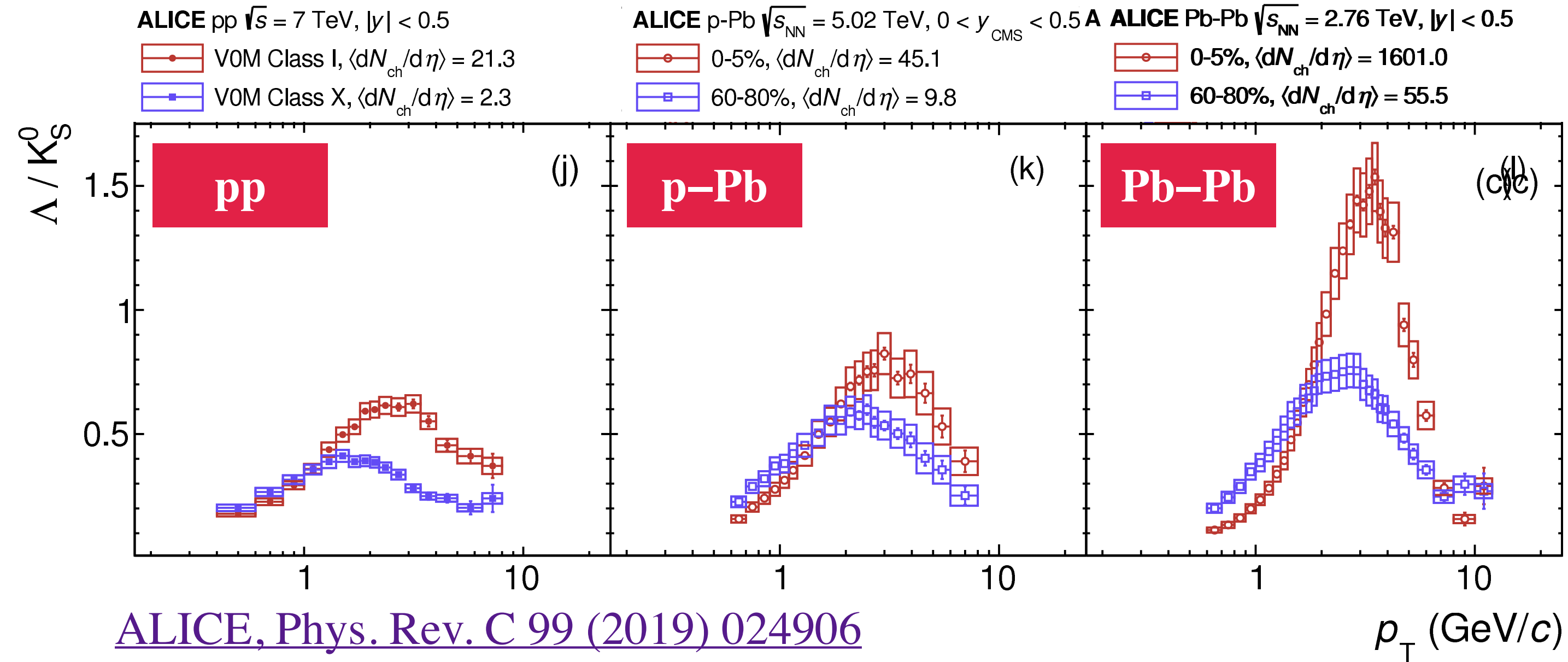
10

[ALICE, Phys. Rev. C 99 \(2019\) 024906](#)

- Baryon-to-meson ratio (Λ/K_S^0) increases at intermediate p_T in central Pb-Pb collisions compared to peripheral ones
 - ➡ Interplay of radial flow and coalescence
 - ➡ Reflect QGP effects in heavy-ion collisions

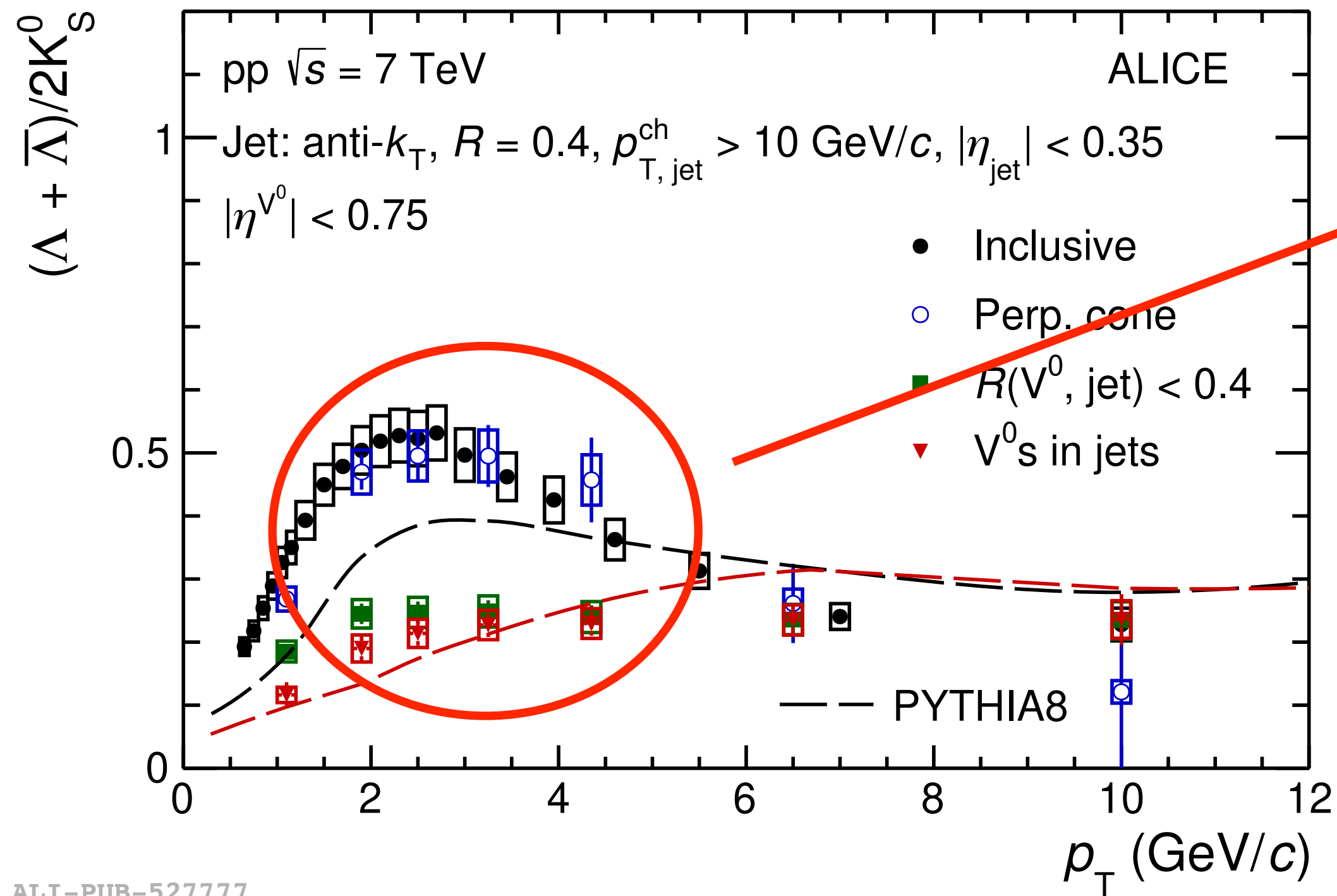


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- Λ/K_S^0 ratio enhancement is observed in different collision systems (pp, p–Pb and Pb–Pb) at high multiplicity
- To constrain hadronization mechanisms in all systems, it's important to separate particles from hard and soft processes ➡ Using jets to tag the hard processes

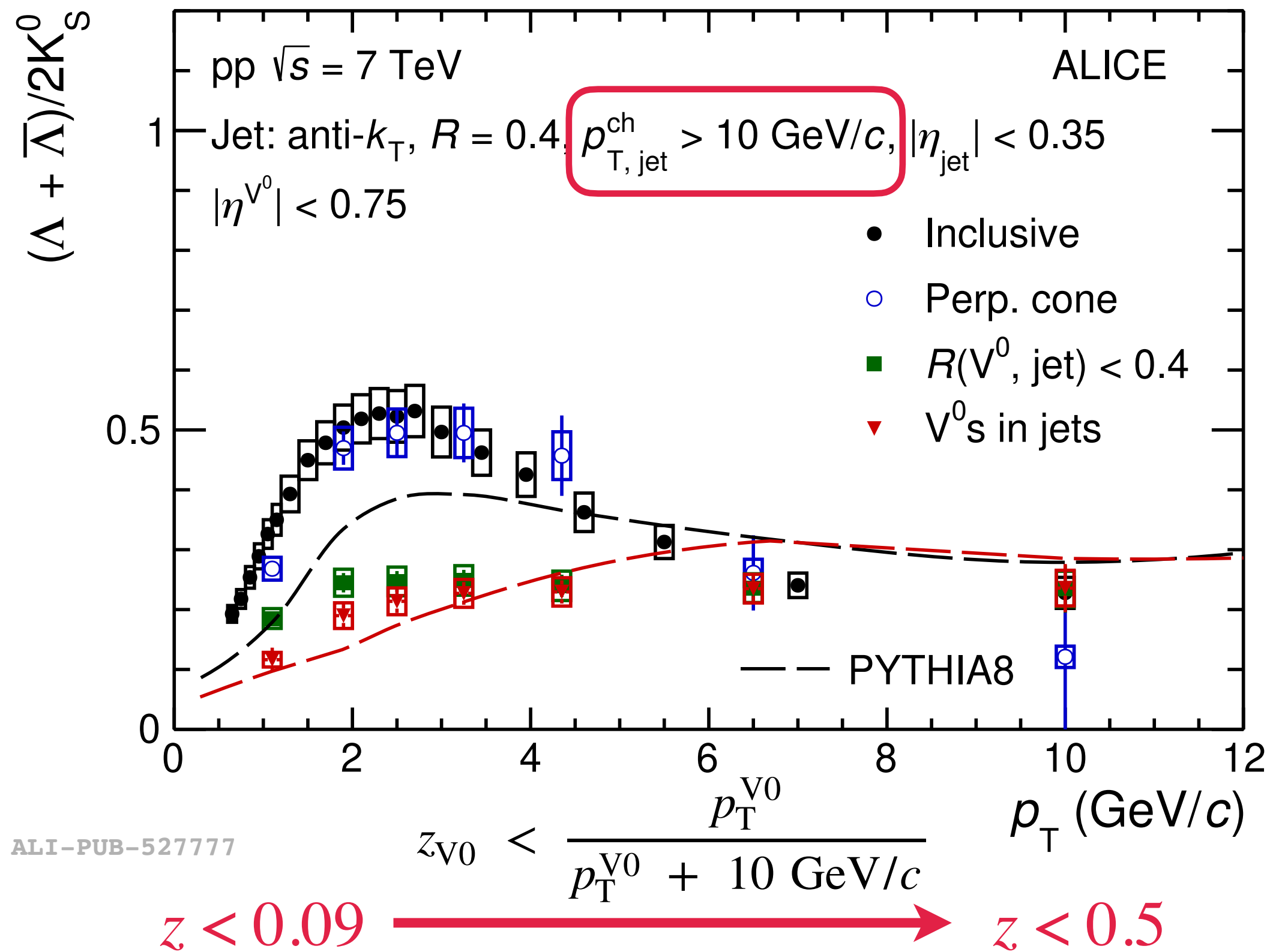
ALICE, Phys. Lett. B 827 (2022) 136984



ALI-PUB-527777

- Strange baryon-to-meson ratio enhancement observed in UE (compared to in jet production) at intermediate p_T in small systems
- ➡ Suggests that the enhancement is not attributed to the jet fragmentation
- ➡ However, particles produced in the hard process don't necessarily be within high energy jets

ALICE, Phys. Lett. B 827 (2022) 136984



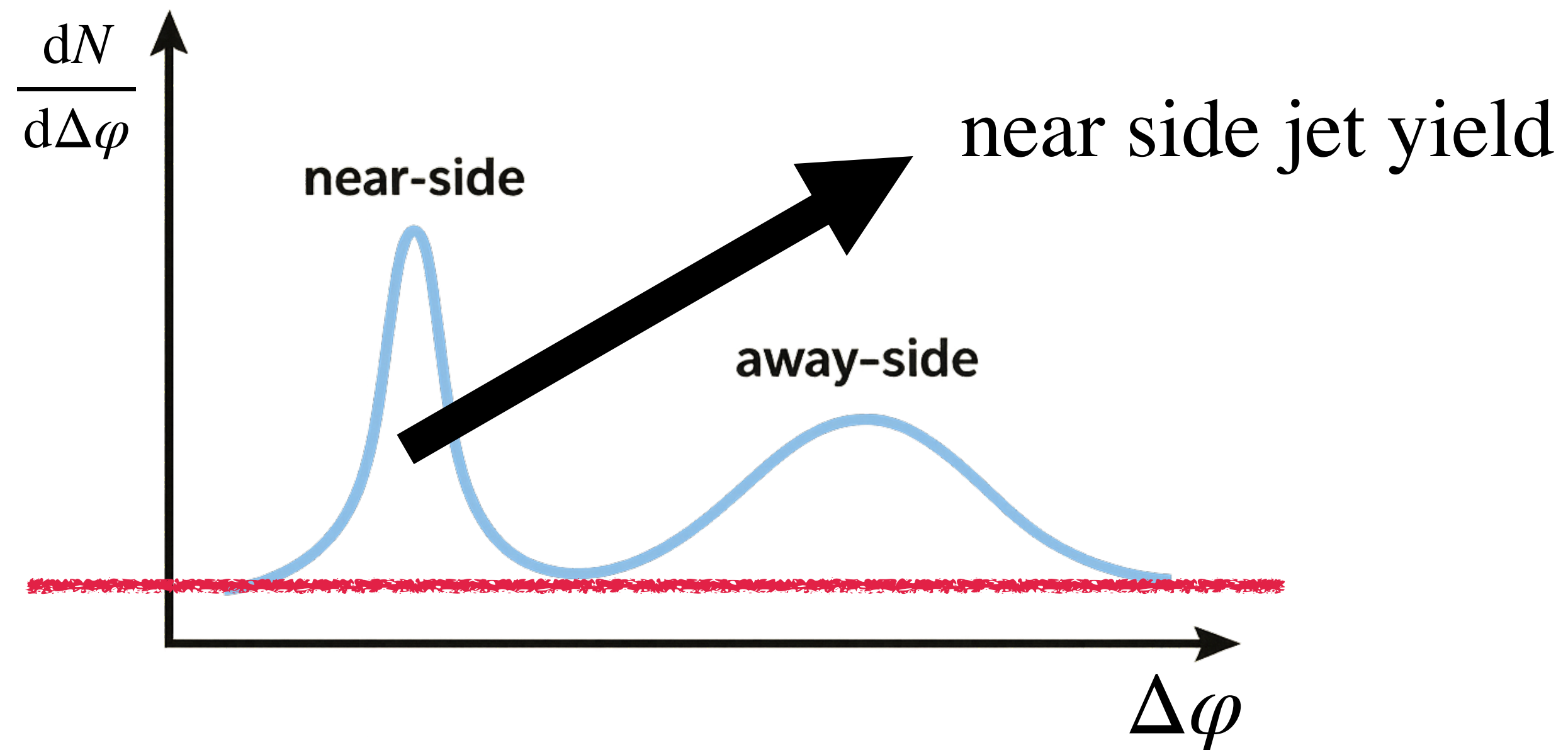
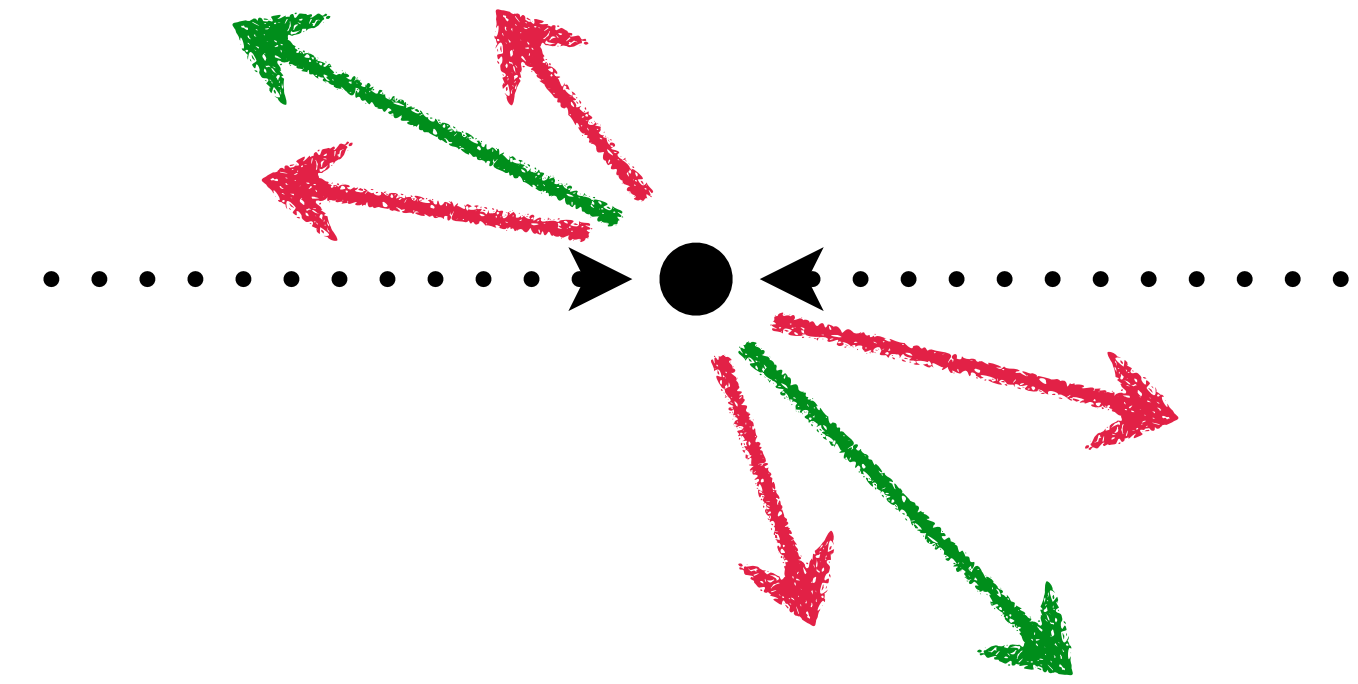
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$$z = \frac{p_T^s}{p_{T, \text{jet}}}$$

- Strange particle-jet association depends also on momentum fraction z
- Using a two-particle angular correlations method

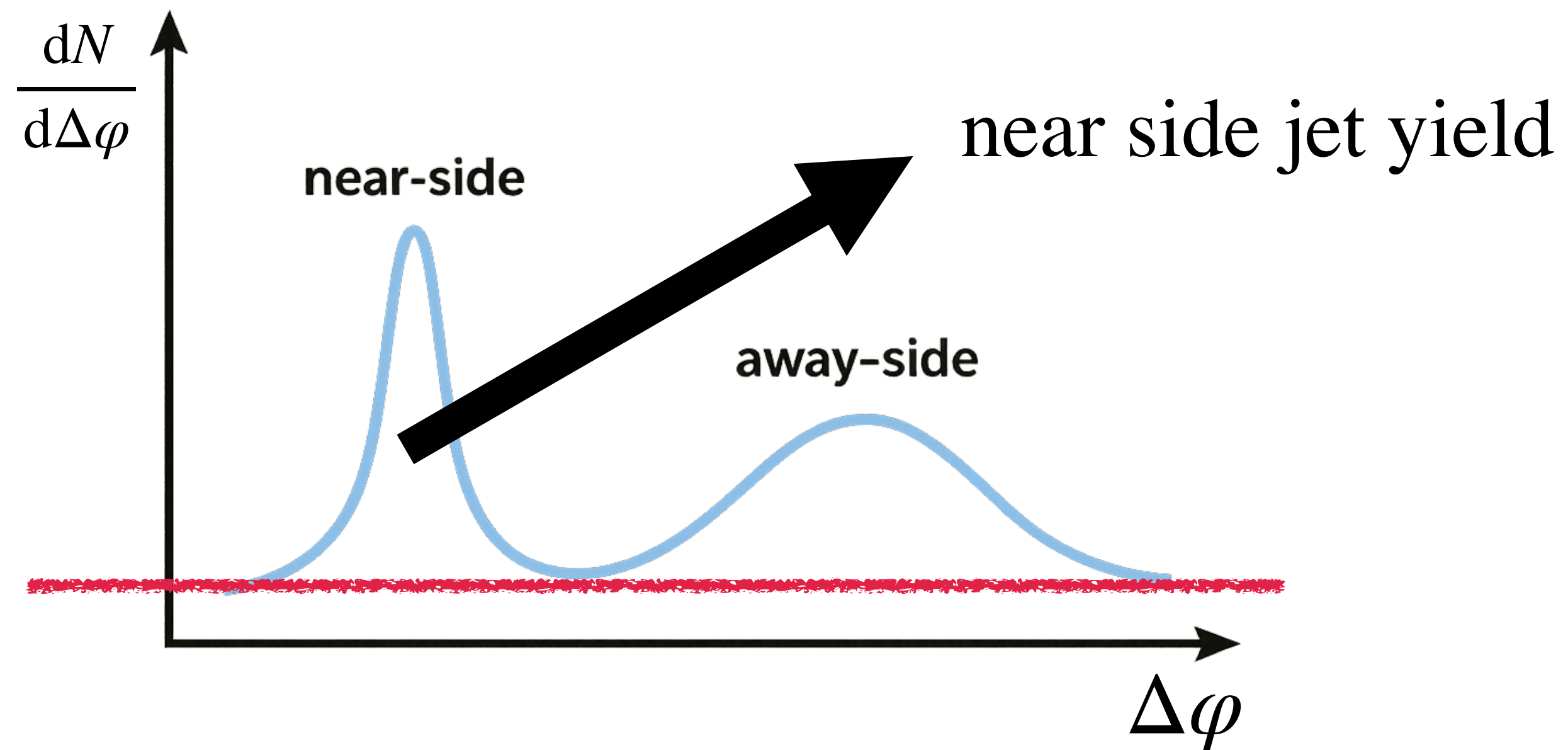
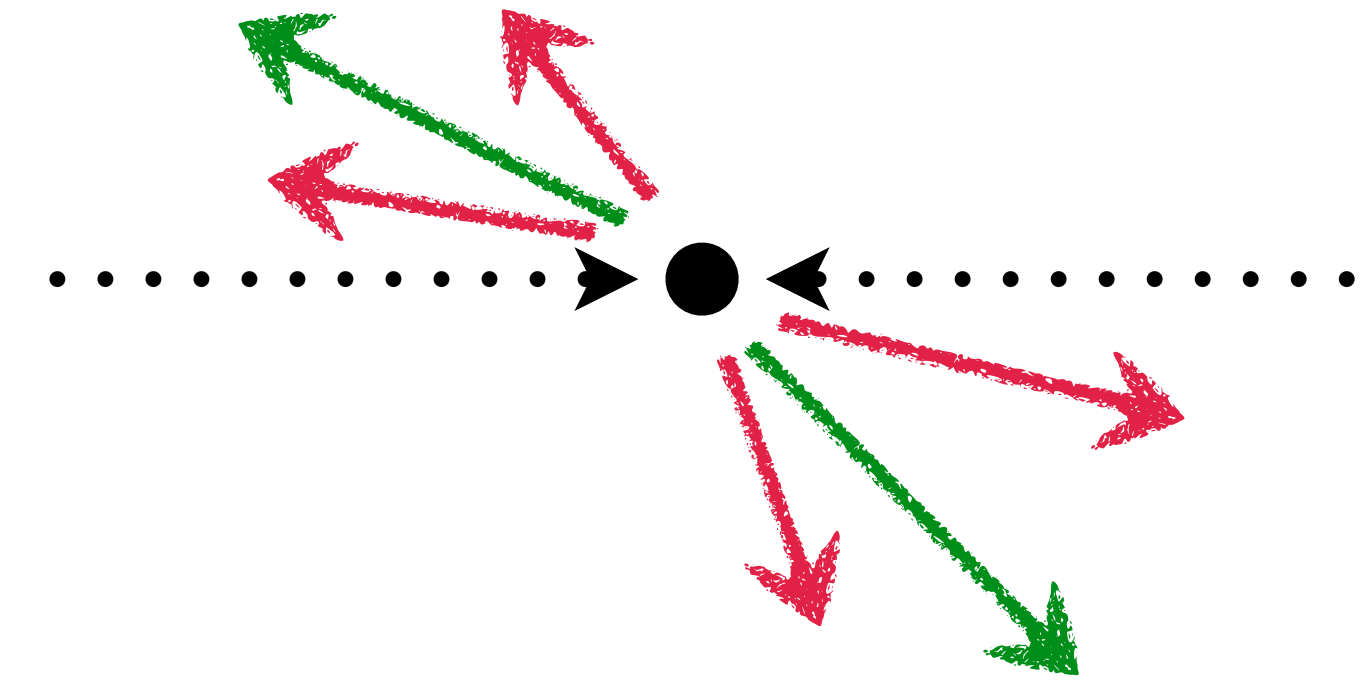
- Correlation function:

$$C(\Delta\eta, \Delta\varphi) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{trig}}} \frac{d^2N}{d\Delta\varphi d\Delta\eta}$$



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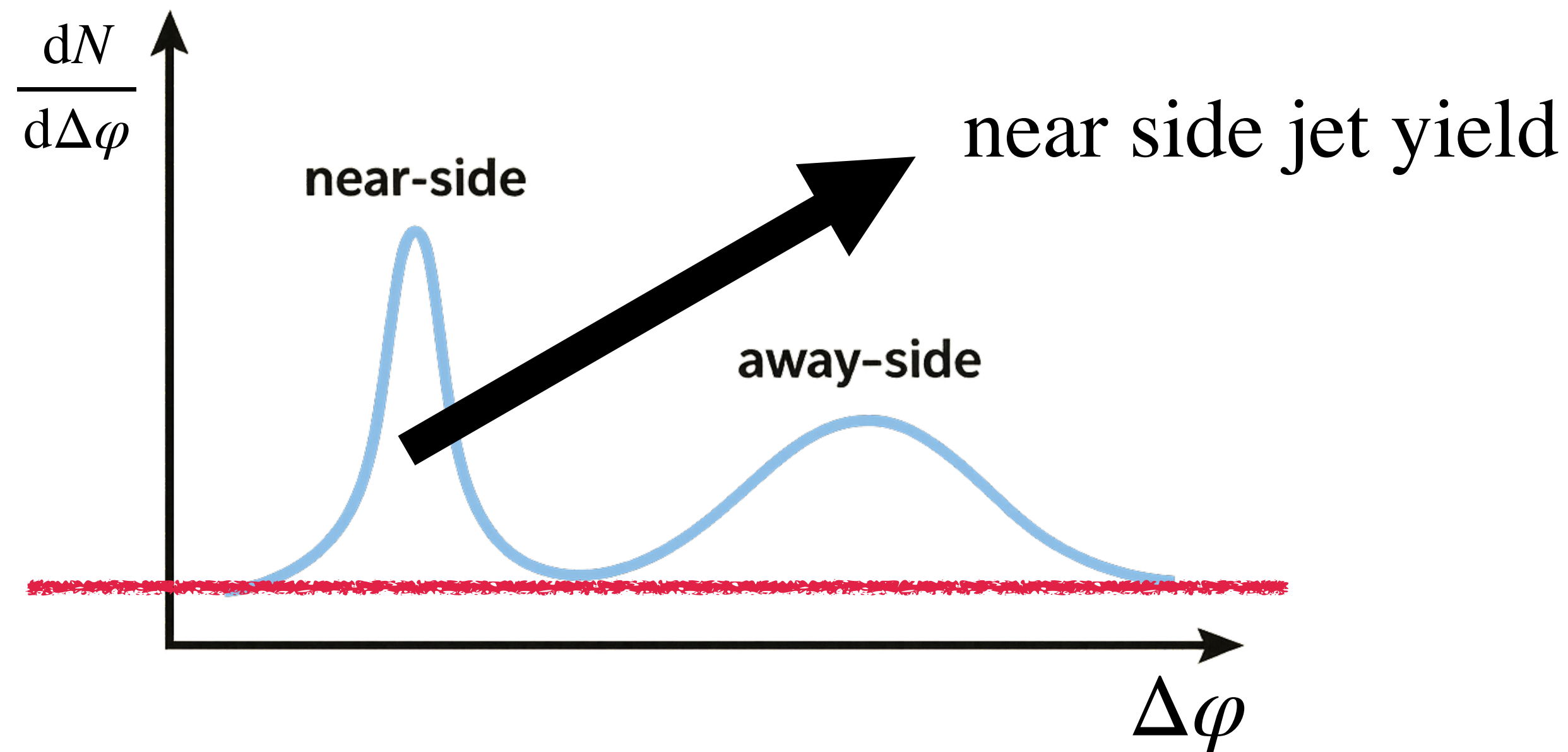
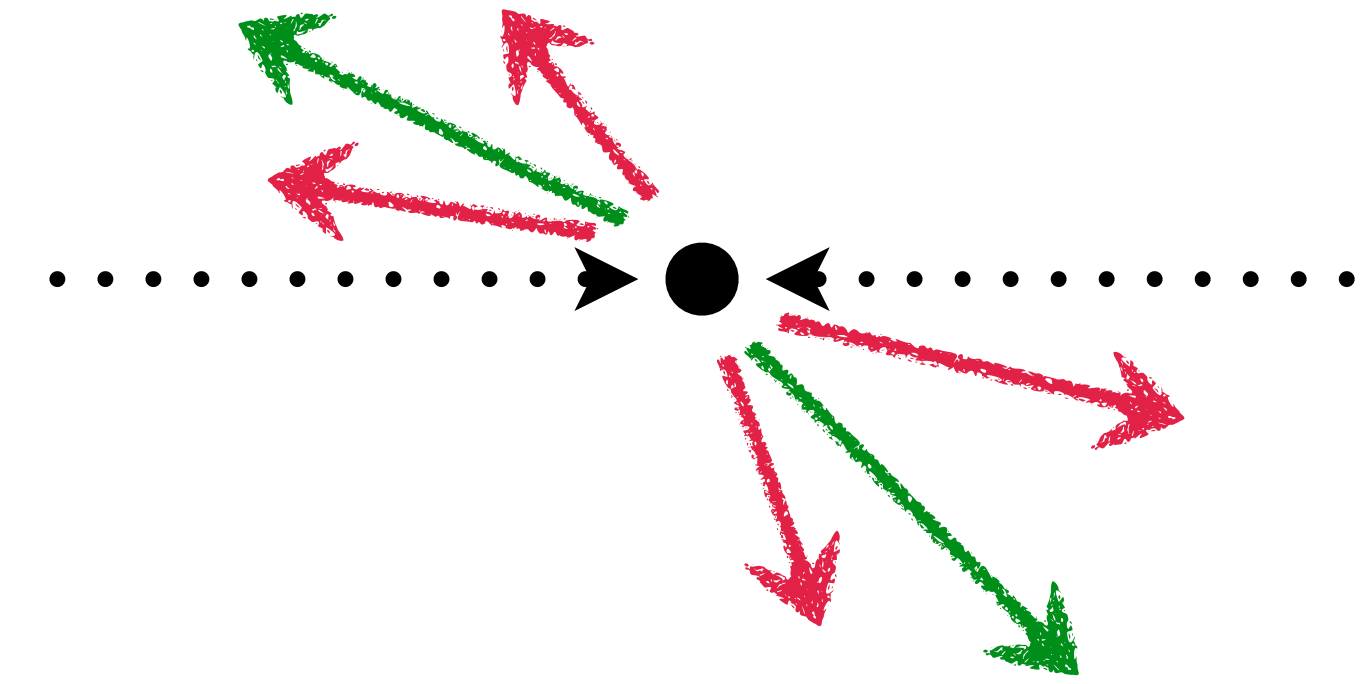


?

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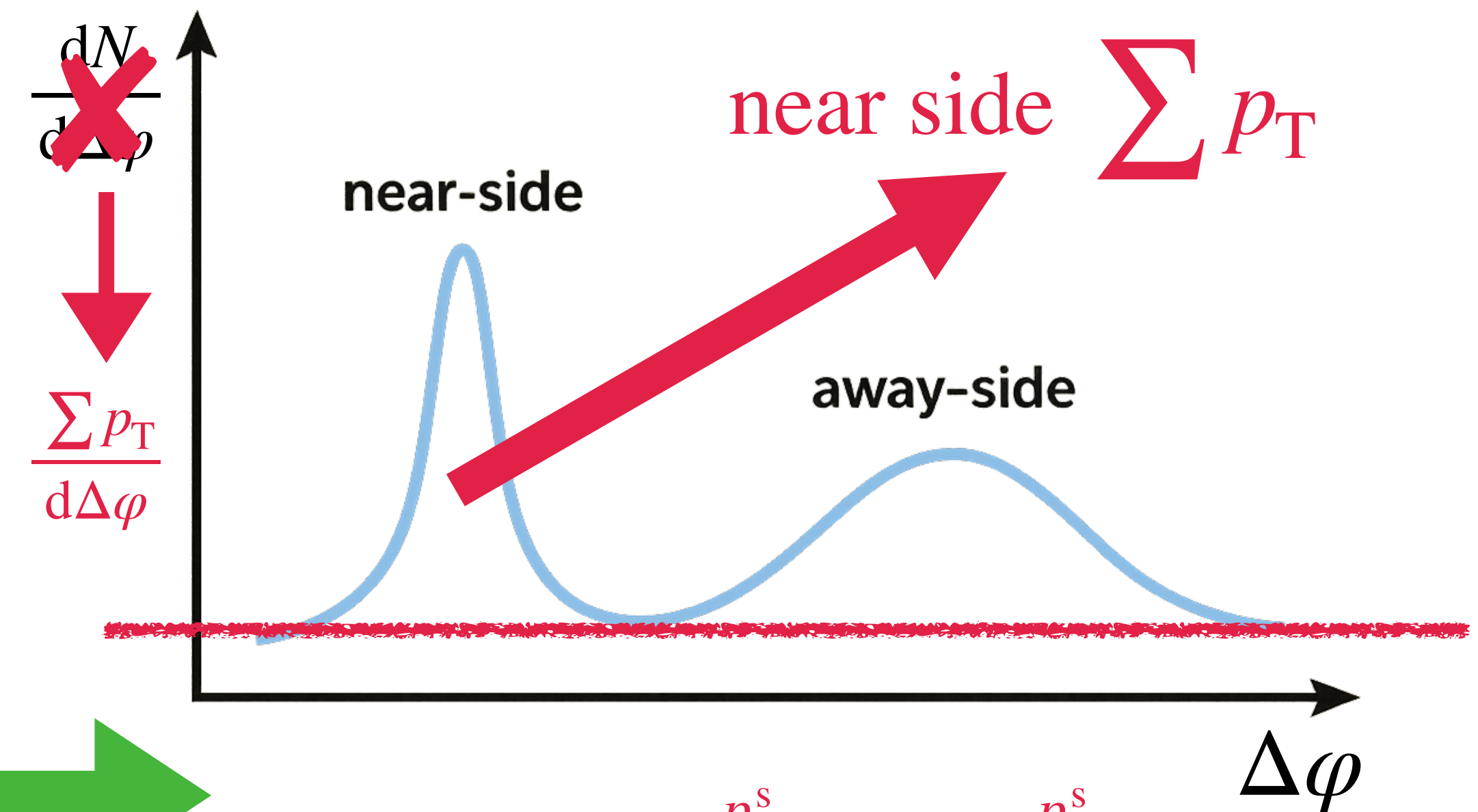
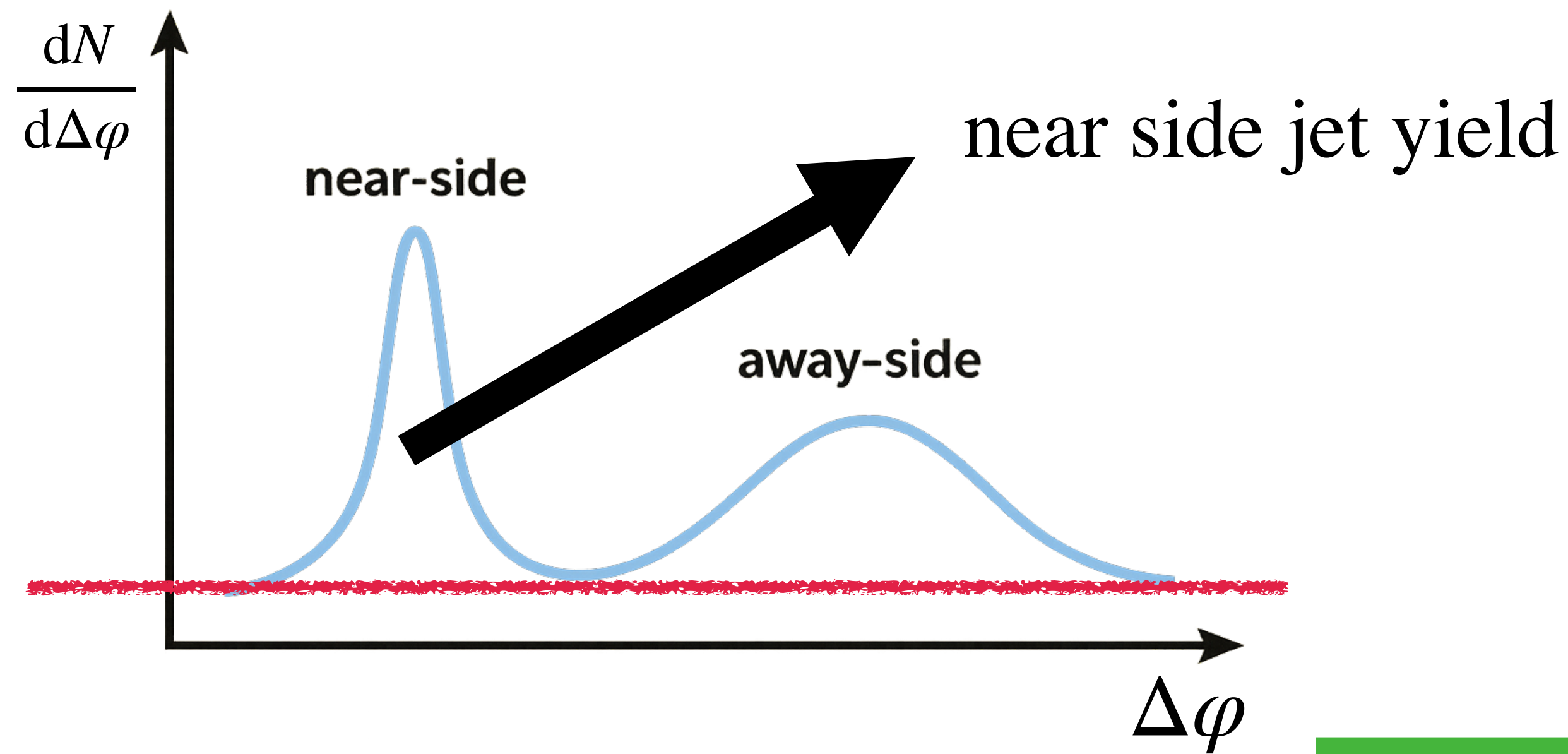
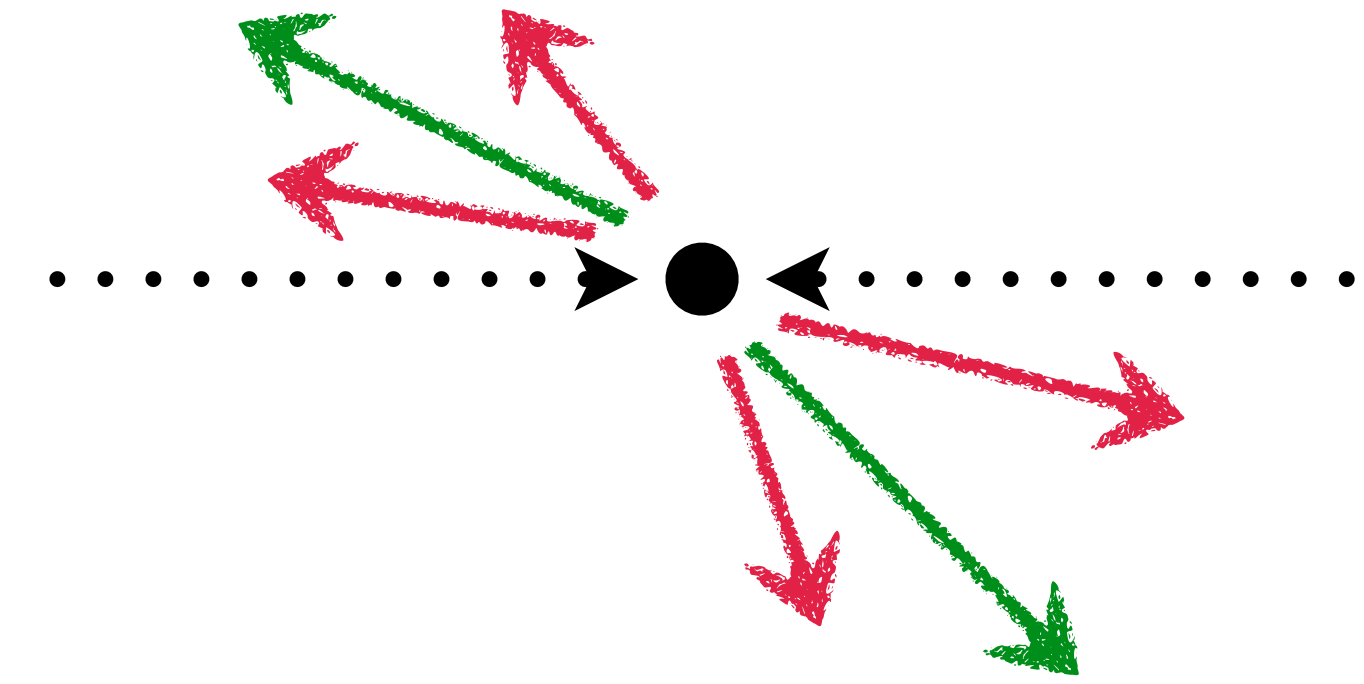


$$\langle z \rangle = \frac{p_T^s}{p_{T,\text{jet}}} = \frac{p_T^s}{p_T^s + \sum_{p_T}^{\text{NS}}}$$

$p_{T,\text{jet}}$ represented by the sum p_T of the near side associated particles and the trigger particle

- p_T weighted correlation function:

$$C_{p_T \text{ weighted}}(\Delta\eta, \Delta\varphi) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{trig}}} \frac{d^2 \sum p_T}{d\Delta\varphi d\Delta\eta}$$



introducing $p_{T,\text{assoc}}$ weight

$$\langle z \rangle = \frac{p_T^S}{p_{T,\text{jet}}} = \frac{p_T^S}{p_T^S + \sum_{p_T}^{\text{NS}}}$$

● V0A and V0C (V0)

- V0A: $2.8 < \eta < 5.1$, V0C: $-3.7 < \eta < -1.7$
- Event trigger and multiplicity determination

● Inner Tracking System (ITS)

- $|\eta| < 0.9$
- Vertex reconstruction and event trigger

● Time Projection Chamber (TPC)

- $|\eta| < 0.9$
- Charged-particle tracking and identification

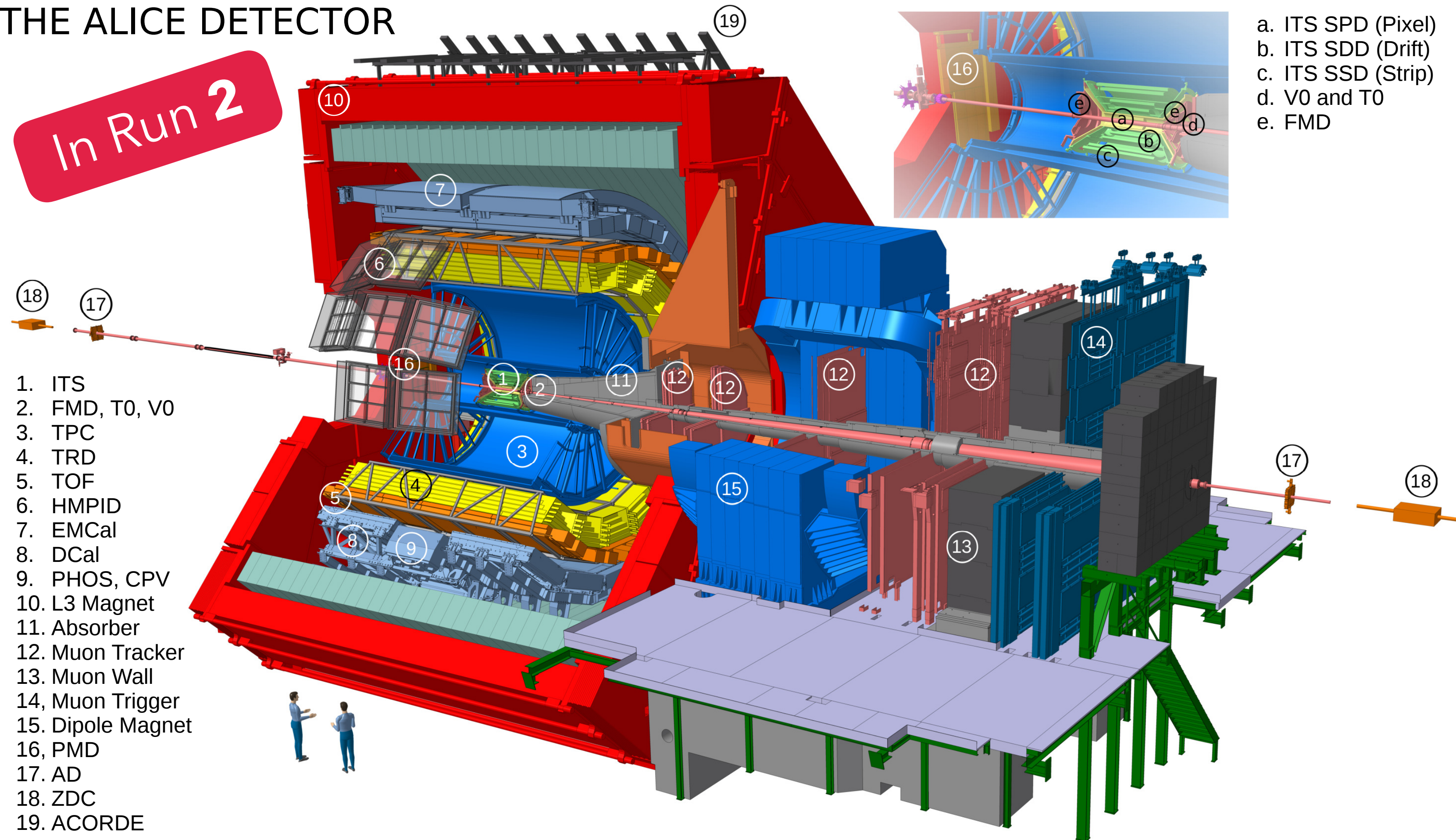
● Time Of Flight (TOF)

- Charged-particle identification

Data samples & analysis setup

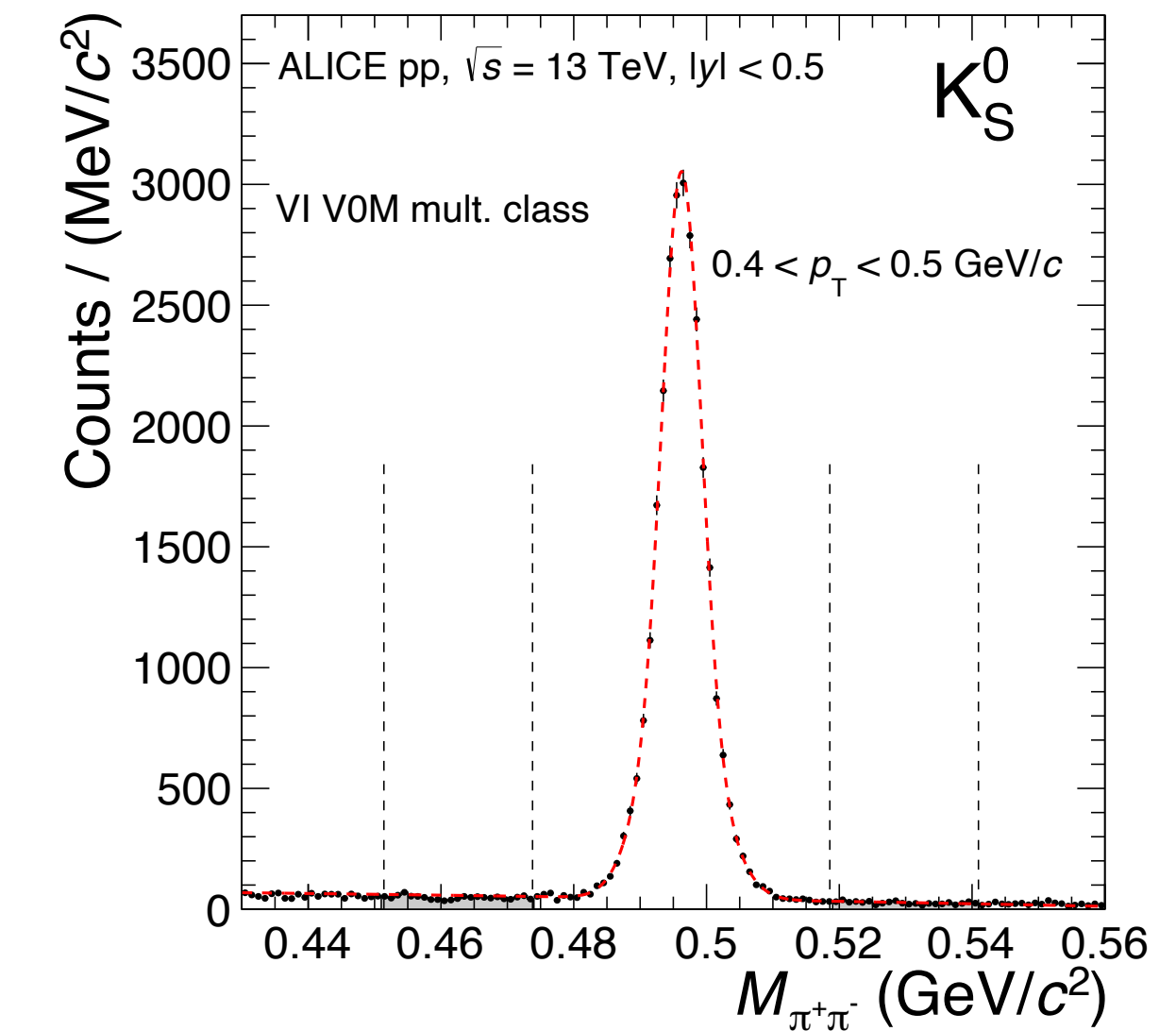
- pp at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV
- Standard event selections, $|z_{\text{vtx}}| < 10$ cm, IB and OOB pileup rejected

THE ALICE DETECTOR



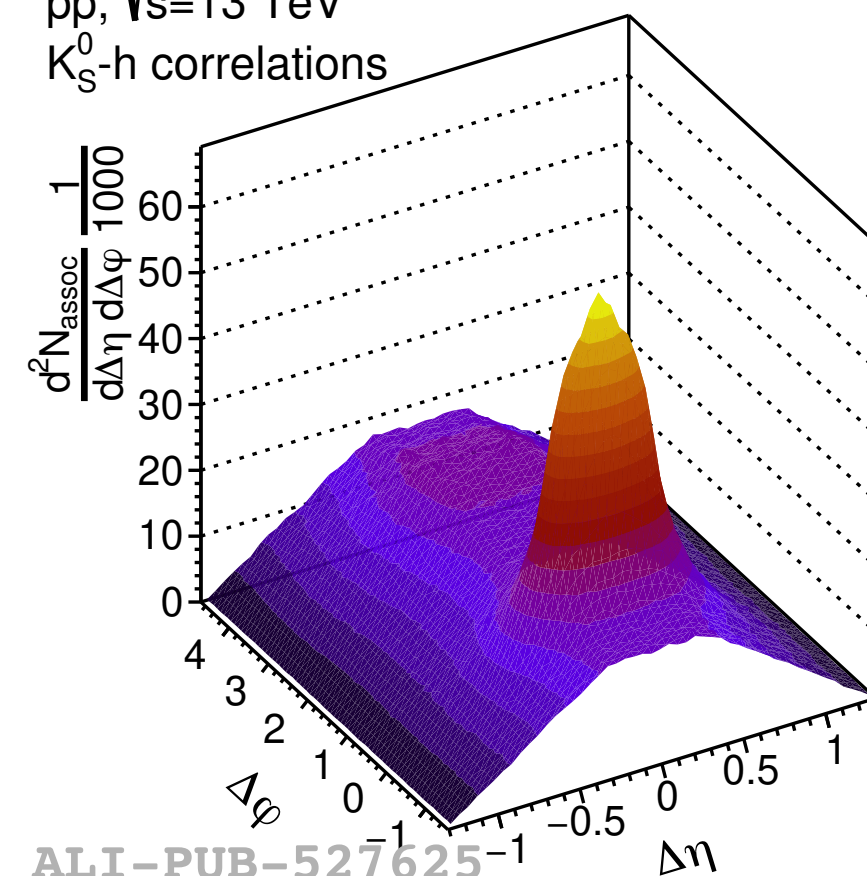
- **Trigger particles:** strange particles (K_S^0 , Λ , $\bar{\Lambda}$)
 - Pairs of tracks with proper charge-sign combination and PID
 - Topological and kinematical selections (e.g. DCA...)
- **Associated particles:** charged primary particles
- Raw correlation function
 - ➔ Jet yield ($\sum p_T$) obtained by applying acceptance and inefficiency corrections, and uncorrelated bkg subtraction

[ALICE, Eur. Phys. J. C80 \(2020\) 167](#)

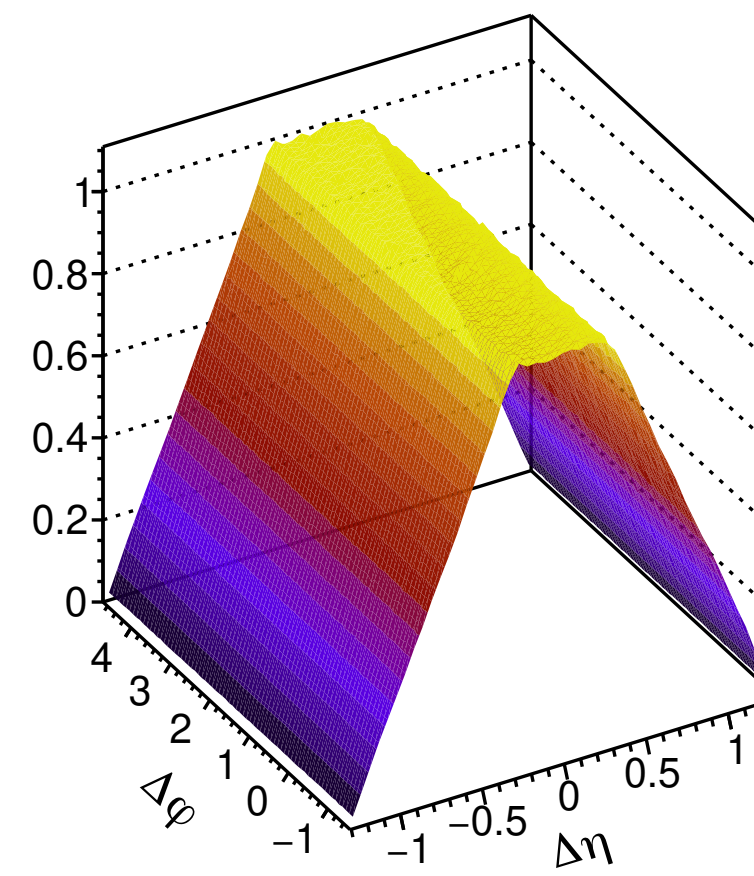


[ALICE, Eur. Phys. J. C 81 \(2021\) 945](#)

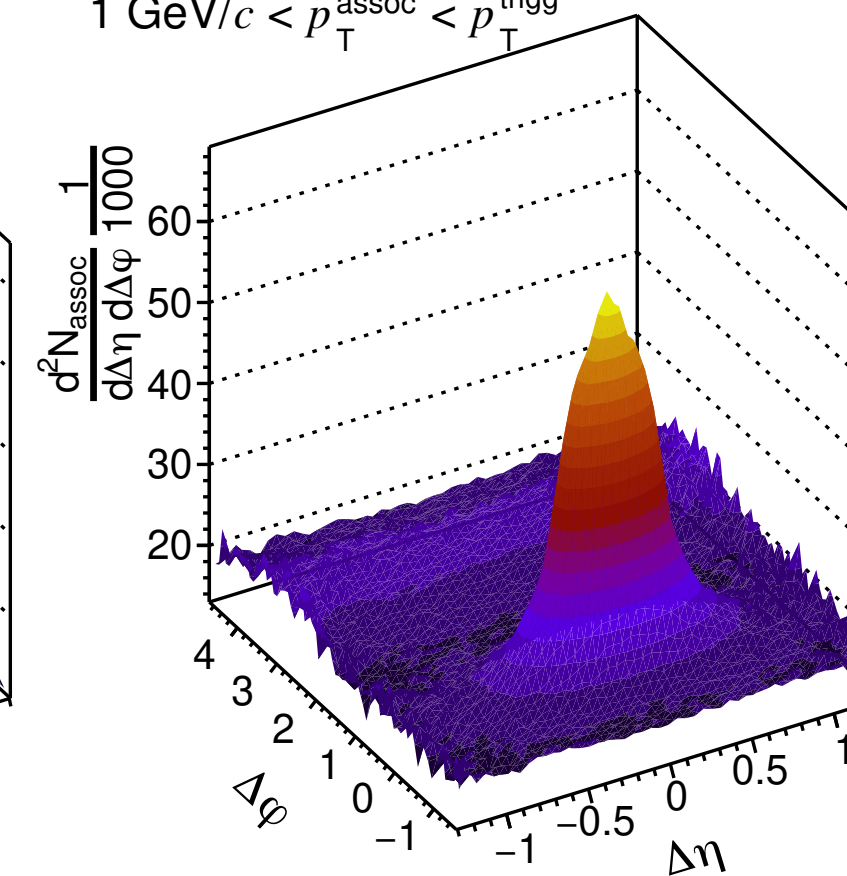
ALICE
pp, $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV
 K_S^0 -h correlations

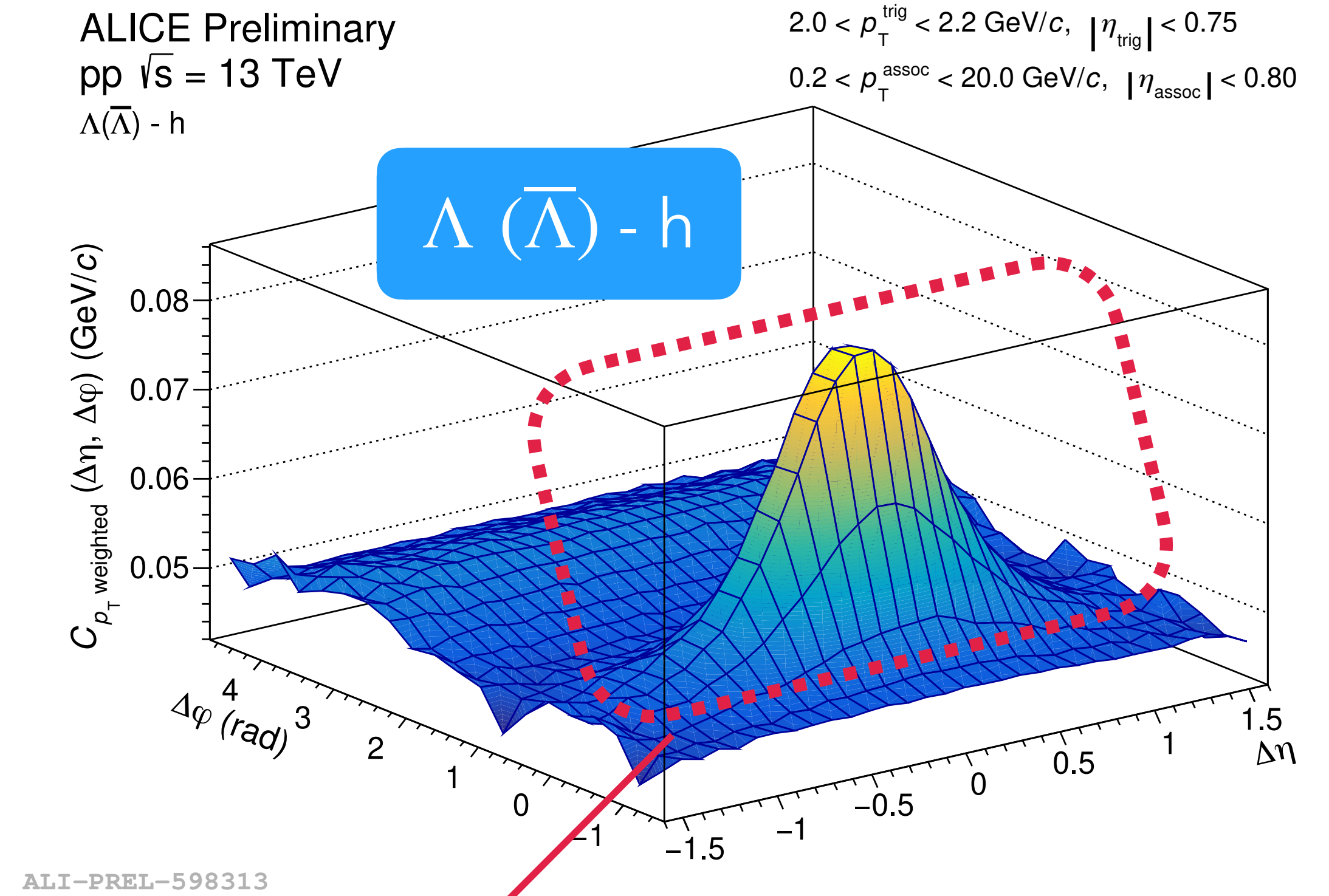
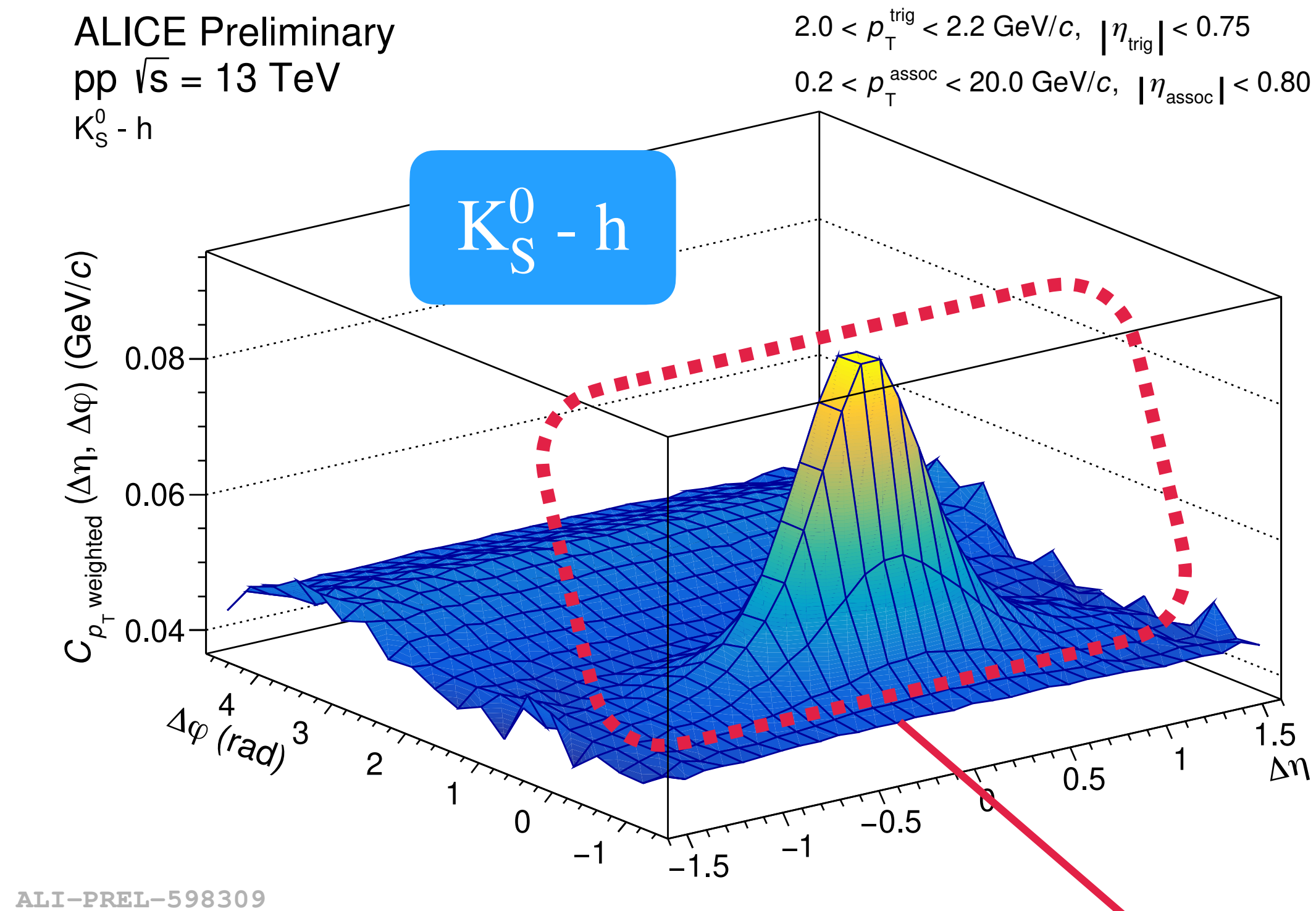


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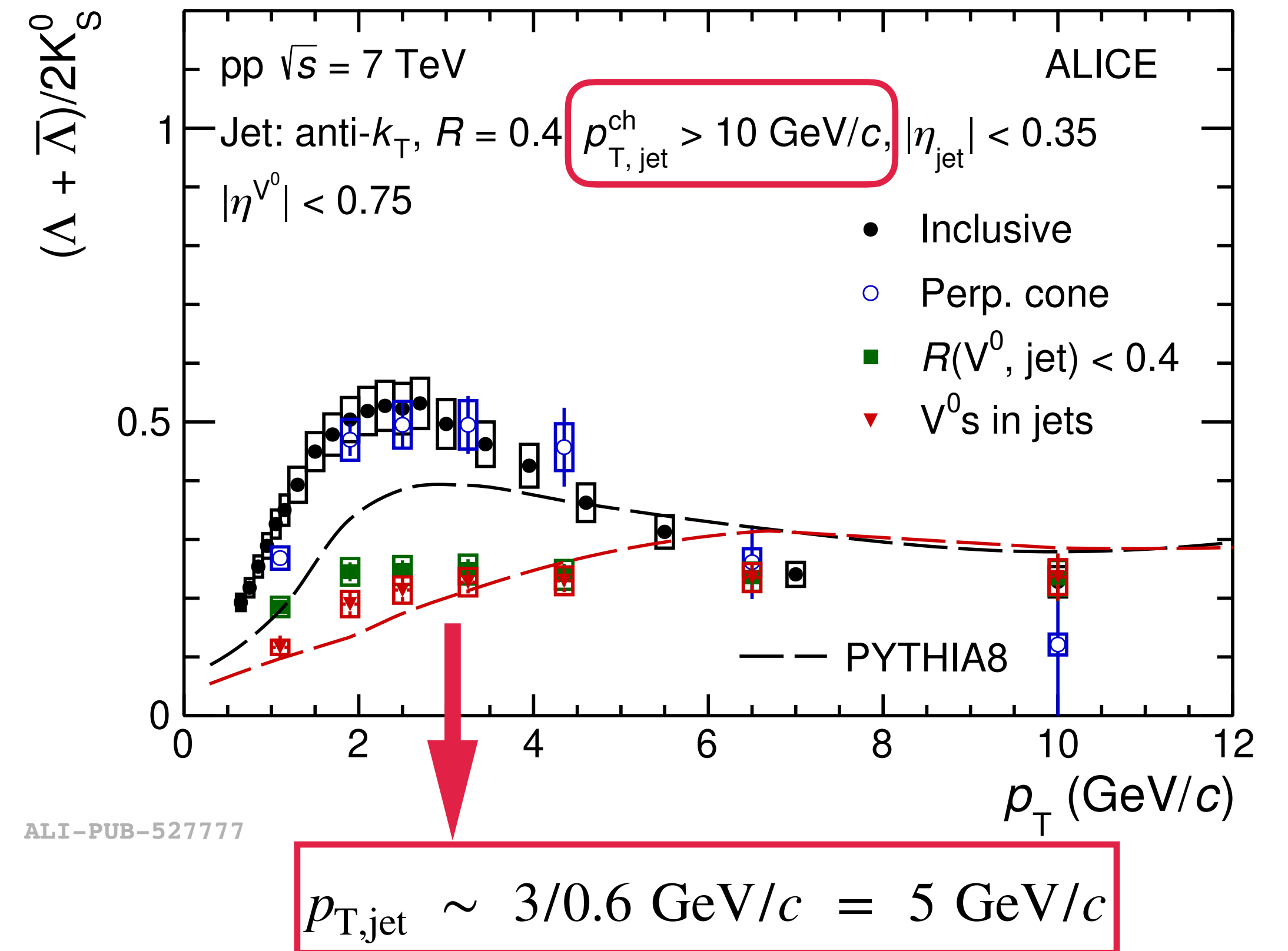
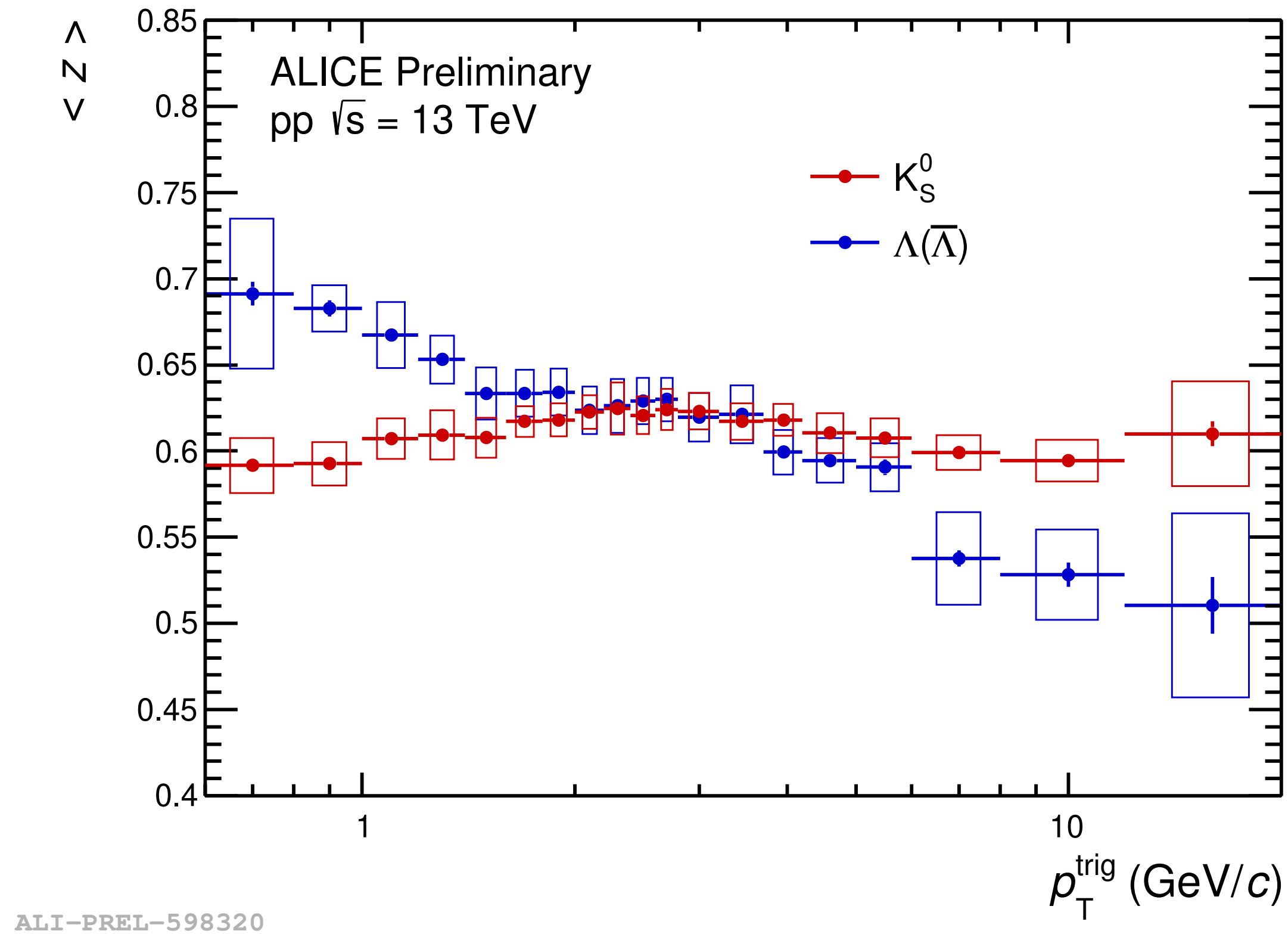
$3 < p_T^{\text{trigg}} < 4$ GeV/c
 $1 \text{ GeV/c} < p_T^{\text{assoc}} < p_T^{\text{trigg}}$



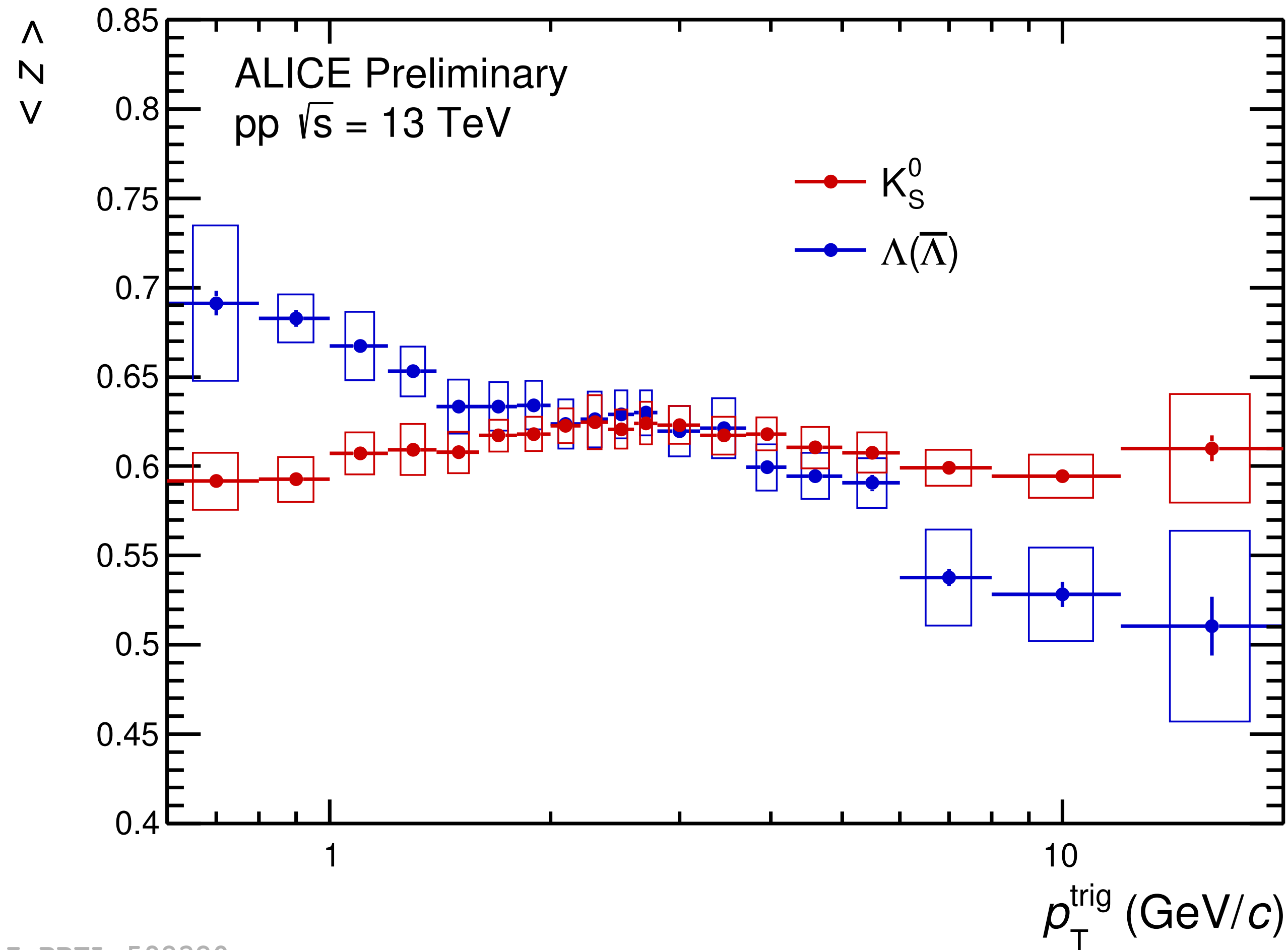


Fully corrected p_T weighted correlation function for strange meson K_S^0 (left) and baryon $\Lambda(\bar{\Lambda})$ (right)

$$\langle z \rangle = \frac{p_T^s}{p_{T,\text{jet}}} = \frac{p_T^s}{p_T^s + \sum_{p_T}^{\text{NS}}}$$

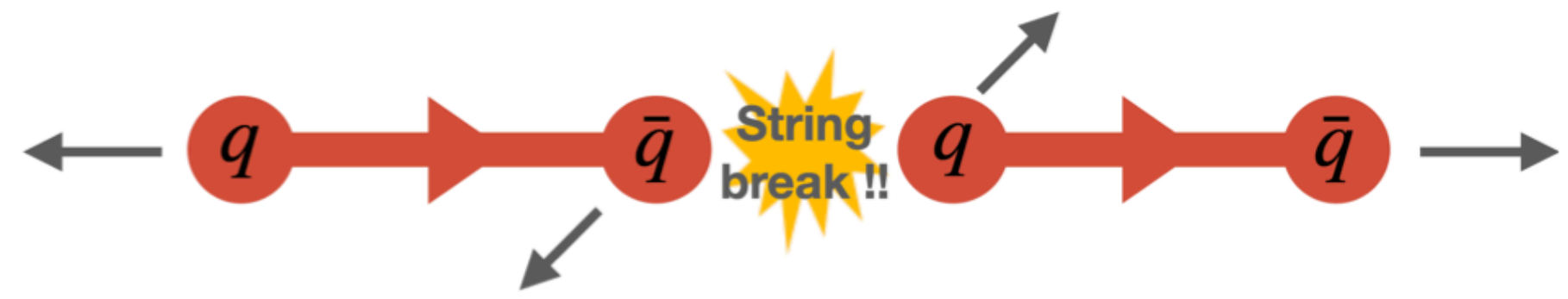
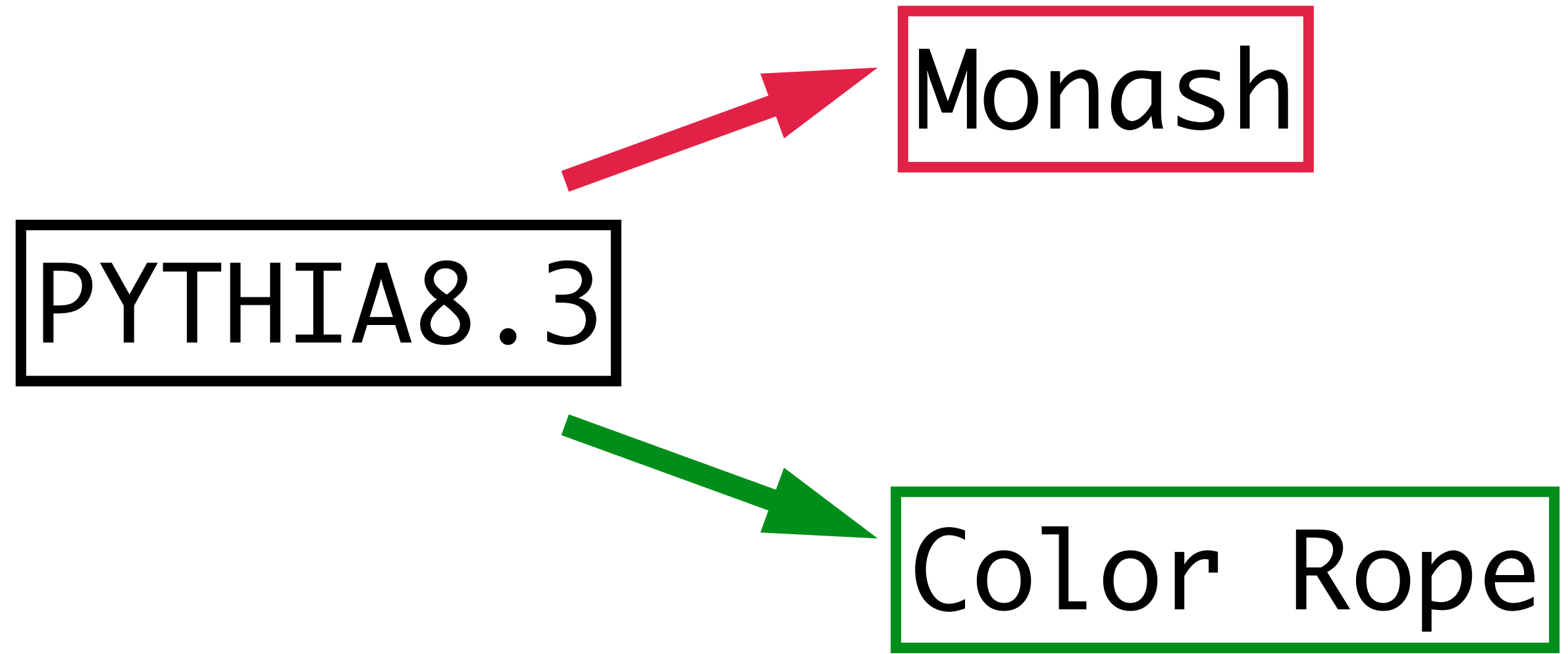


- Results suggest that the strange particles take large fraction (high $\langle z \rangle$) from the originated (relative) low energy partons
 - When comparing the in-jet and out-of-jet strange particles production, we are actually measuring particles with different $\langle z \rangle$

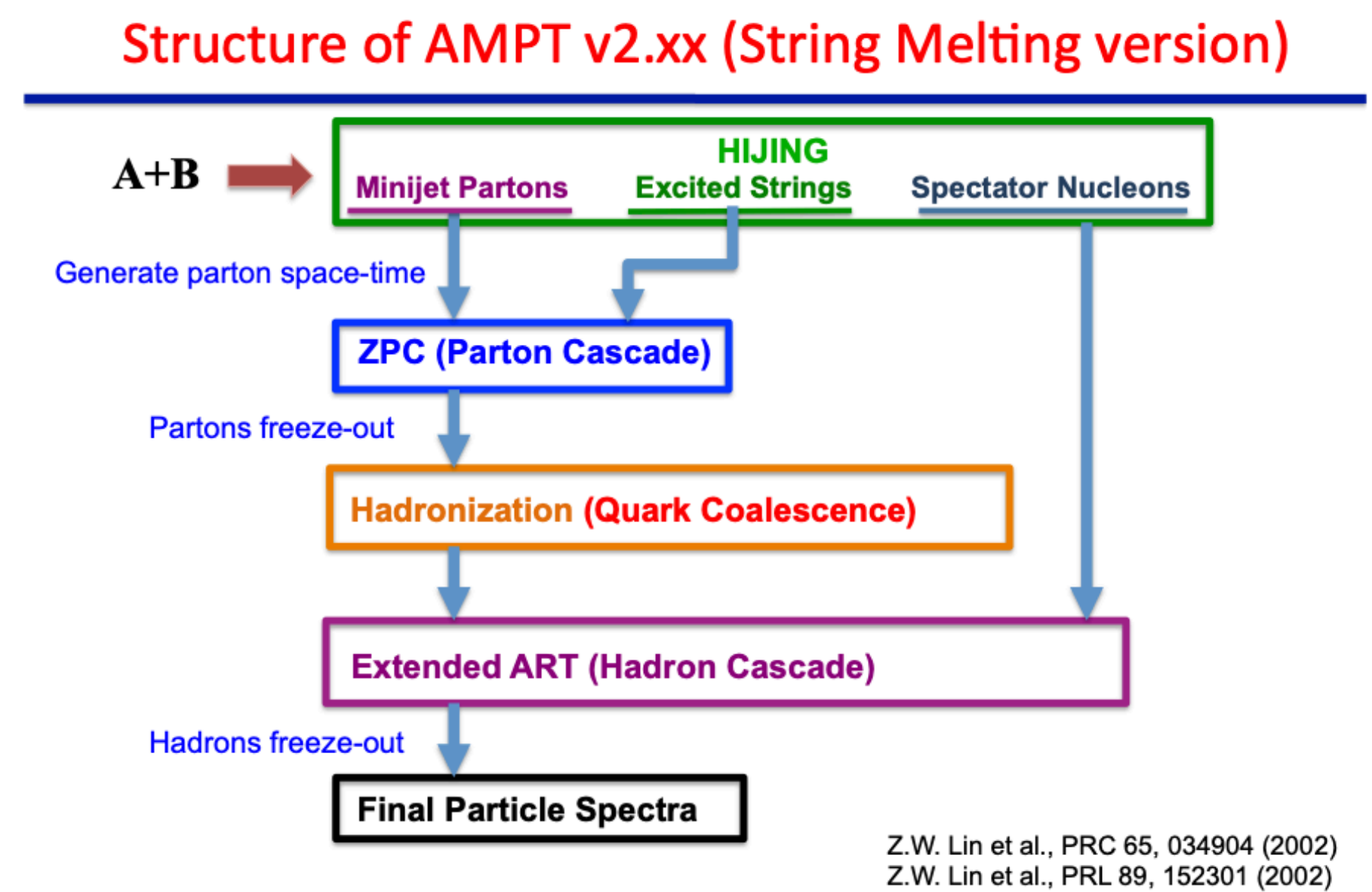


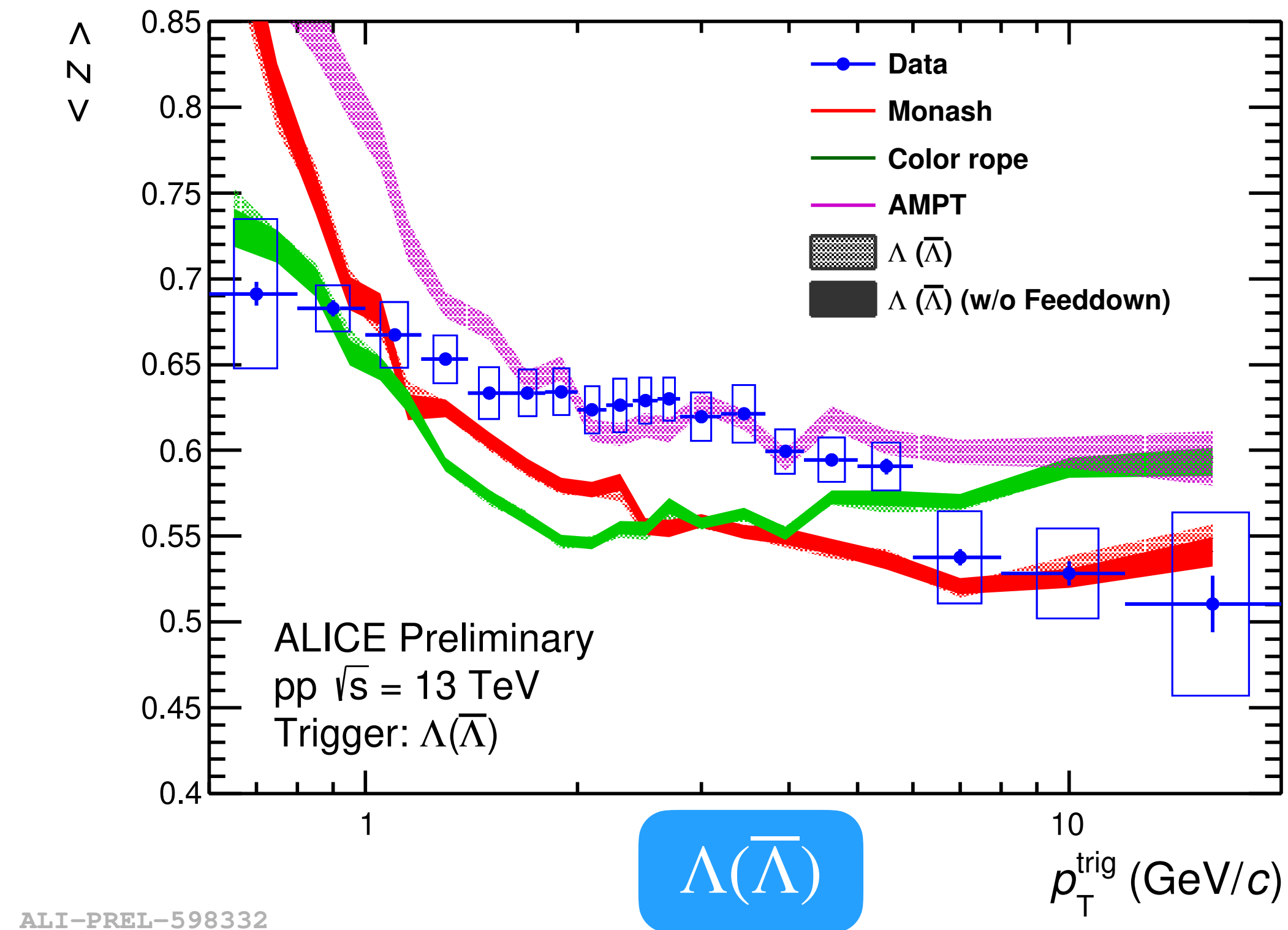
- At high p_T , expected to be the leading particle effect
- $\langle z \rangle$ doesn't change too much, no indication of a significant change of fragmentation properties
- The increasing for $\Lambda(\bar{\Lambda})$ (from intermediate p_T to low p_T) due to either the fragmentation is harder for $\Lambda(\bar{\Lambda})$ in this region, or more isolated $\Lambda(\bar{\Lambda})$ production contribution in this region

ALI-PREL-598320



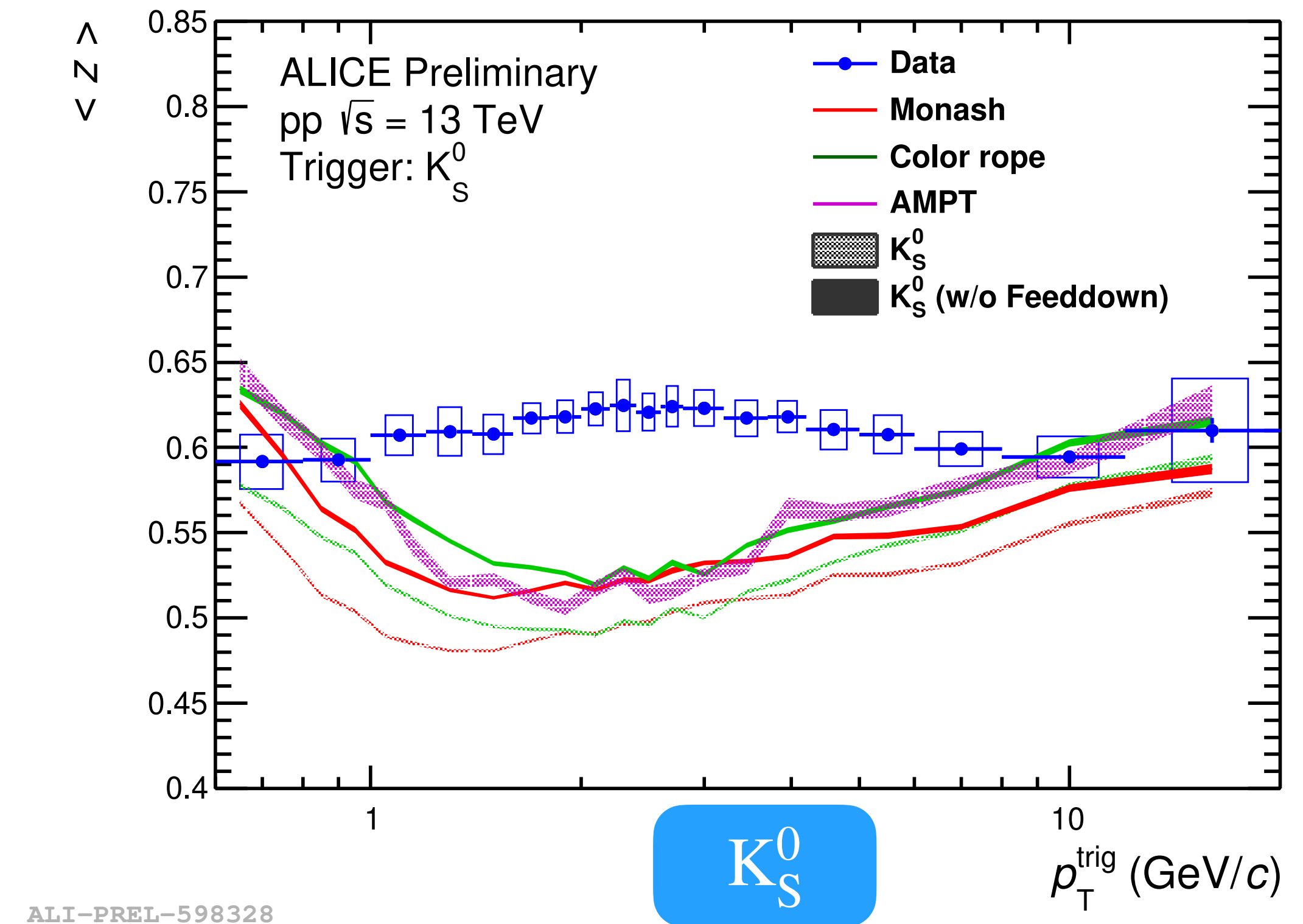
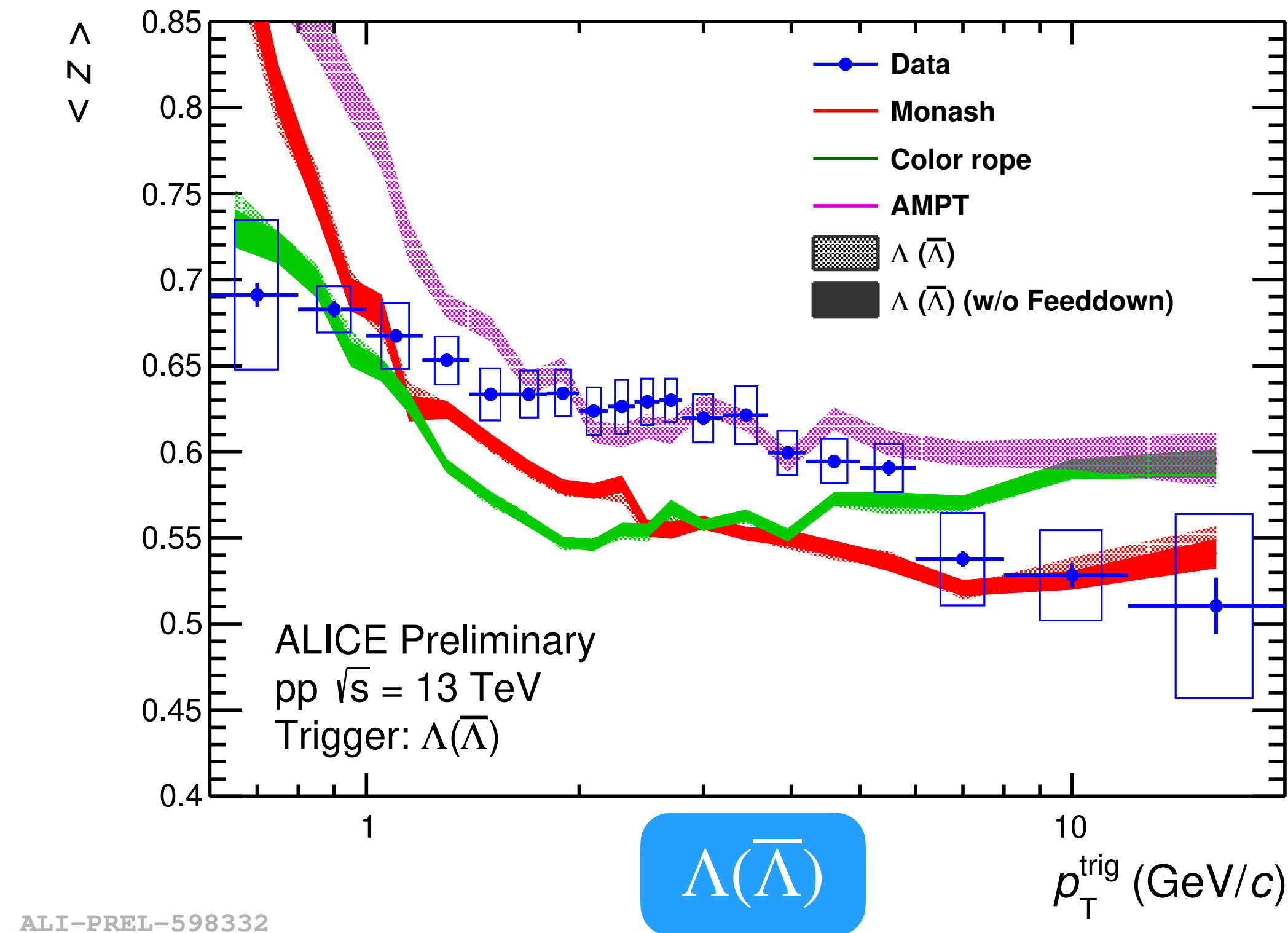
A Multi-Phase Transport (AMPT) model





$\Lambda(\bar{\Lambda})$:

- PYTHIA8 and AMPT only catch the shape for $\Lambda(\bar{\Lambda})$, not able to describe the magnitude
- No significant effect from feed-down from multi-strange particles



K_S^0 :

- PYTHIA8 and AMPT can NOT even catch the shape
- 10% decrease from resonance feed-down

Summary:

- The first measurement of the strange particle's p_T fraction in mini-jets in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV, and a novel p_T weighted correlation method is presented
- Strange particles are more likely coming from (relative) lower-energy partons with high z than from an average fragmentation of higher-energy partons
- Neither PYTHIA8 (fragmentation) nor AMPT (coalescence) can well describe data, providing new constraints on models

Outlook:

- Extend the measurement to multi-strange particles
- Investigate the multiplicity dependence of the transverse momentum fraction for (multi-) strange particles



A CSC funded joint-PhD program ongoing smoothly ~

Between

IOPP, Central China Normal University

and

IP2I, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1



Université Claude Bernard



Lyon 1

PhD candidate:

- Lang XU

Thesis title:

- Study of strange particle production in jets with ALICE at the LHC

Thesis supervisors:

- Cvetan Valeriev Cheshkov from IP2I, UCBL; Xiaoming Zhang from IOPP, CCNU

Topics:

- The novel measurement of the transverse-momentum fraction of (multi-) strange particle in (mini-)jets



Thanks for listening!

Backup