

CLHCP2025 新乡



J/ψ – D^0 associated production measurements in pp collisions with ALICE Run 3

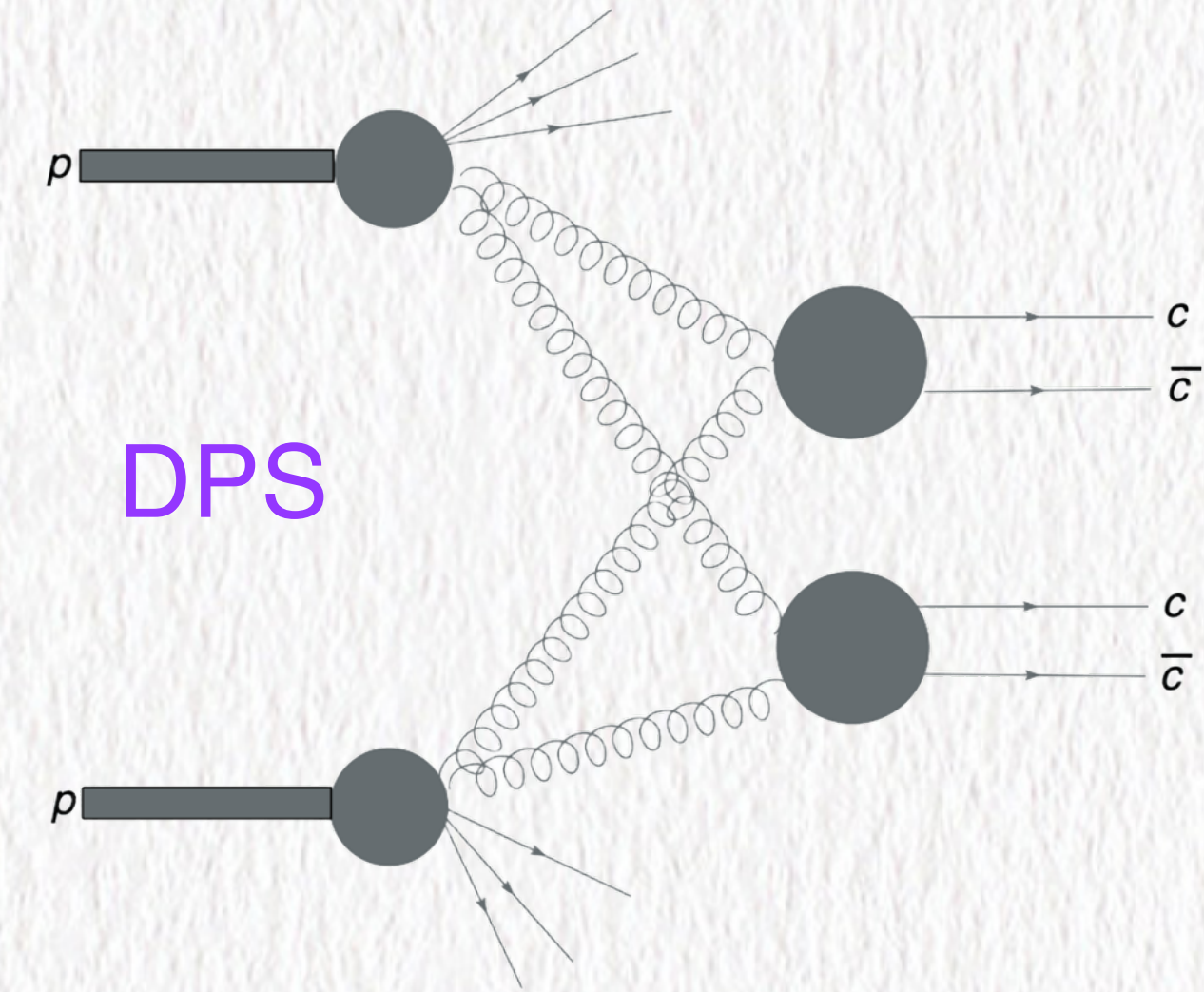
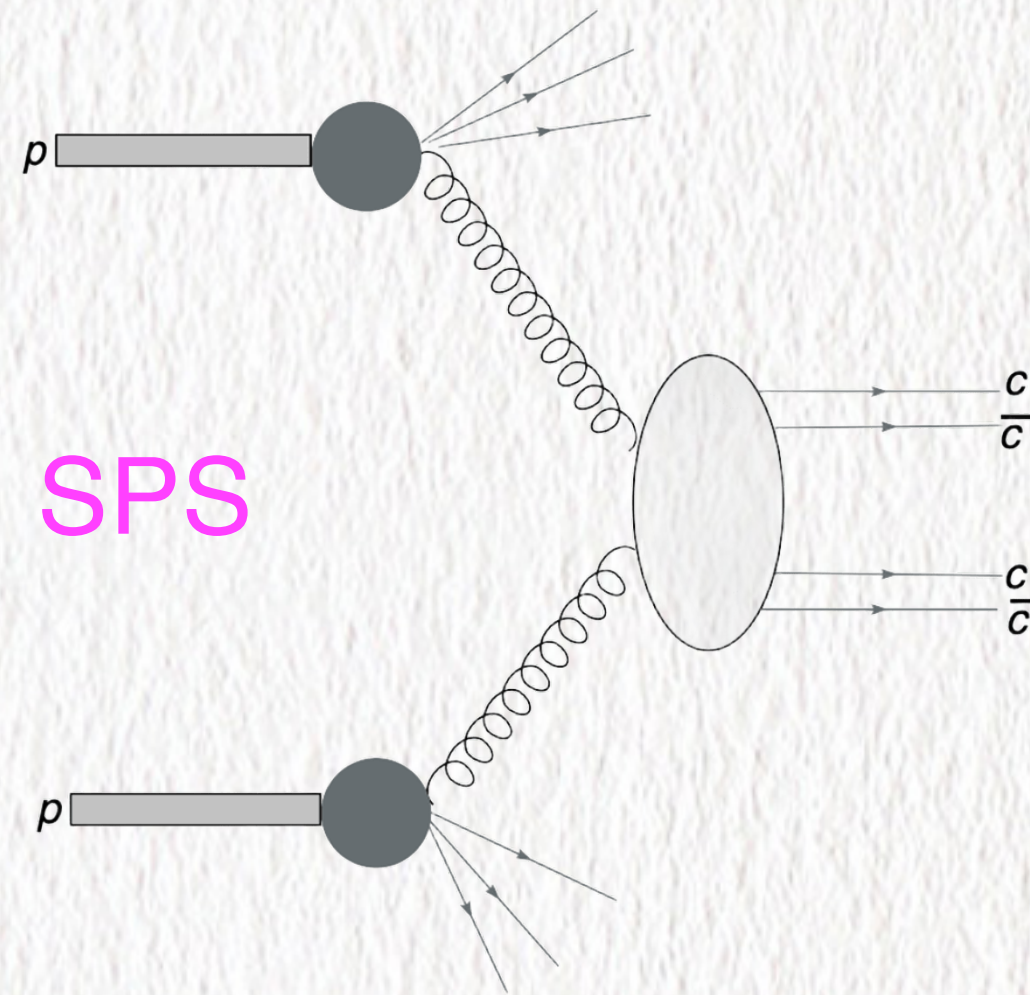
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CLHCP Workshop 2025, *Xinxiang*, 29/10–02/11/2025

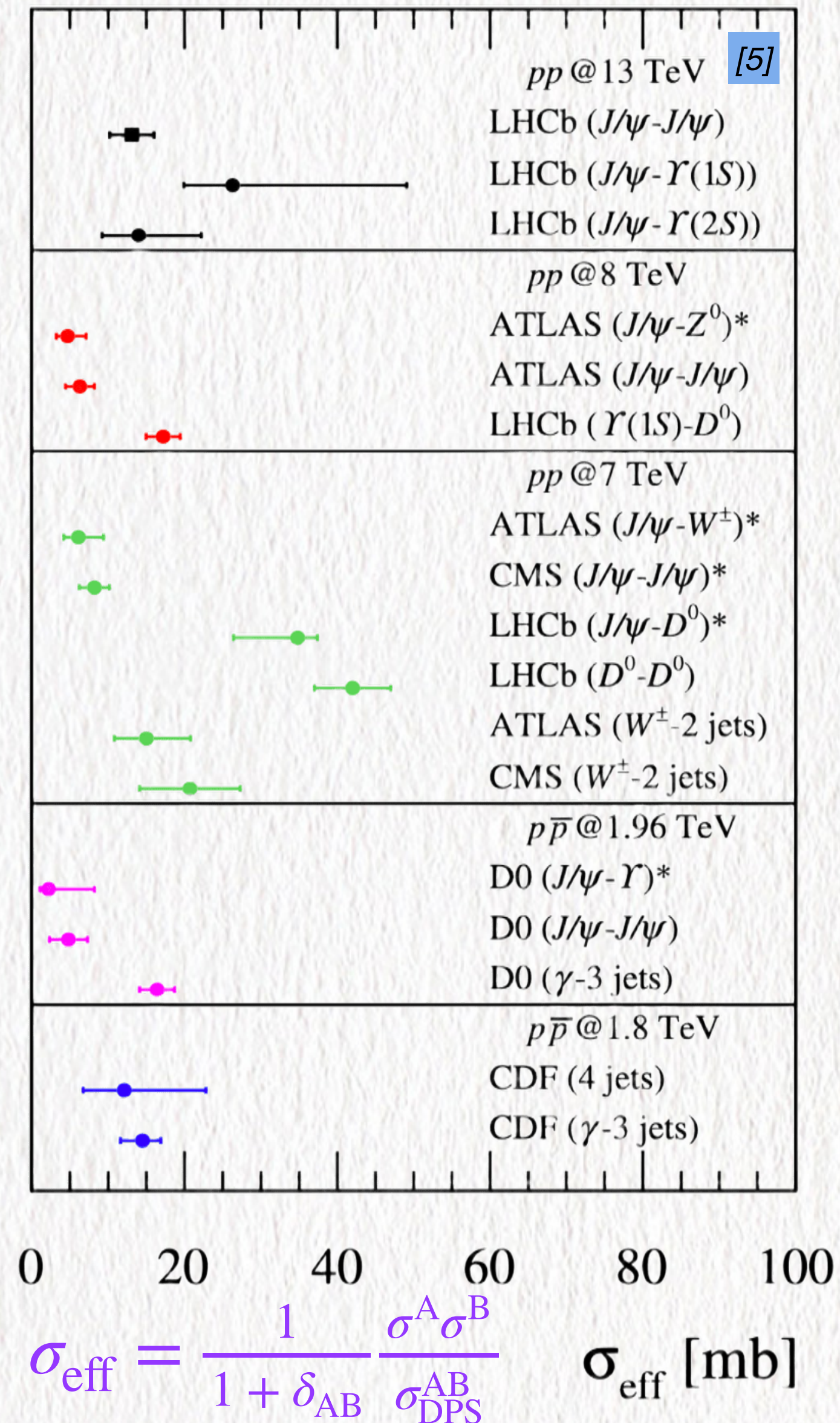
Motivation

- Heavy quarks (c, b) are primarily produced through hard scattering processes.
- The production of c-hadron pairs provides an opportunity to study both Single Parton Scattering (SPS) and Double Parton Scattering (DPS).



- Access the internal dynamics of protons
 - Study the [transverse-momentum dependent](#) distributions of gluons [\[1\]](#) [\[2\]](#)
- Investigate the puzzle surrounding the quarkonium production mechanism [\[3\]](#)
- Study the parton [transverse profile and correlations](#) [\[4\]](#)
 - Pocket formula: $\sigma_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{1 + \delta_{AB}} \frac{\sigma^A \sigma^B}{\sigma_{\text{DPS}}^{AB}}$, $\delta_{AB} = 1$ if $A = B$ else 0
- Improve our understanding of the background ($Z + b\bar{b}$, $W^+ + W^+$ etc.) in searches for new physics

Effective cross-section summary



- The general purpose of DPS measurements is to measure the σ_{eff}
 - Commonly used in phenomenological models
 - Considered **independent of the process and energy** in the simplest possible models
 - Measurements show **process-dependent differences**
 - **Aim to validate its universality or probe its dependence on process and energy**
- The production of charm-hadron pairs at ALICE will serve as important input

The ALICE detector (Run 2)

Time-Of-Flight
Particle
identification

Inner Tracking System
Track reconstruction
Vertex reconstruction

V0
Trigger
Centrality determination

Time Projection Chamber
Track reconstruction
Particle identification

$\mu^\pm$ spectrometer
Trigger and Tracking

- $J/\psi \rightarrow e^+e^-$ and open heavy-flavour states measurements at midrapidity ($|y| < 0.9$)
- Inclusive $J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ measurements with di- μ triggered data at forward rapidity ($2.5 < y < 4.0$)

During Run 2, ALICE already conducted measurements of J/ψ pair production at forward rapidity ($2.5 < y < 4.0$)

J/ψ – J/ψ at forward rapidity: analysis strategy

Loop over all combinations of double di- μ pairs in the same event:

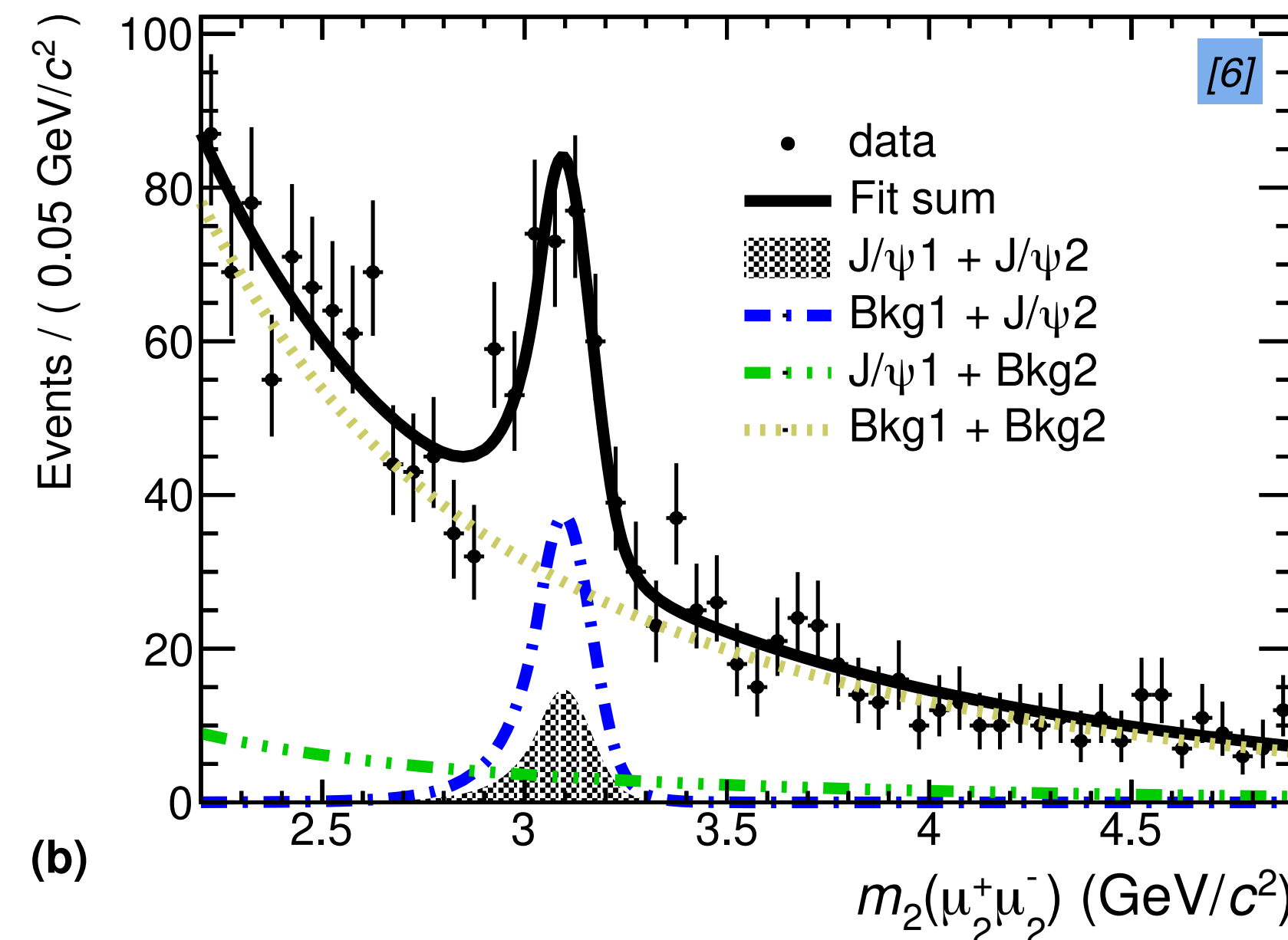
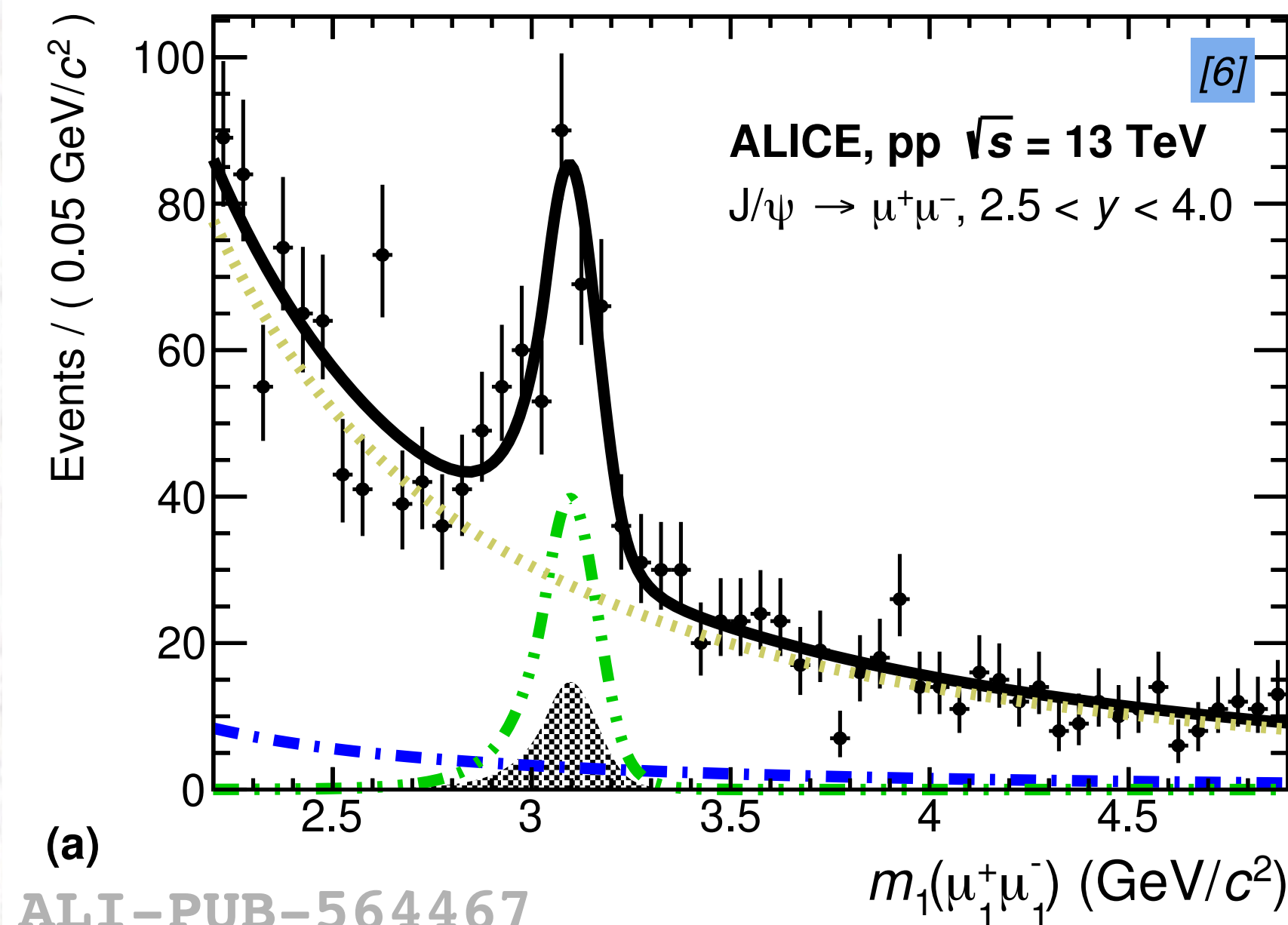
$$2.5 < y_{\mu\mu} < 4.0$$

- Compute the 2D invariant mass spectrum
 - Arbitrary ordering between the double di- μ pairs
- Model the 2D spectrum with J/ψ shape constrained from the J/ψ standard alone analysis

$$F(m_1, m_2) = N_{S_1^{J/\psi}, S_2^{J/\psi}} \times S_1^{J/\psi}(m_1) \times S_2^{J/\psi}(m_2) + N_{B_1^{J/\psi}, S_2^{J/\psi}} \times B_1^{J/\psi}(m_1) \times S_2^{J/\psi}(m_2) \\ + N_{S_1^{J/\psi}, B_2^{J/\psi}} \times S_1^{J/\psi}(m_1) \times B_2^{J/\psi}(m_2) + N_{B_1^{J/\psi}, B_2^{J/\psi}} \times B_1^{J/\psi}(m_1) \times B_2^{J/\psi}(m_2)$$

- Di- J/ψ
- Mixed signals and background
- Double backgrounds

- Acceptance-times-efficiency correction and lumi. normalisation



Estimation of the non-prompt contribution

- Inclusive $\sigma(J/\psi, J/\psi) = 10.3 \pm 2.3 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 1.3 \text{ (syst.) nb}$ [6]

Estimation on the non-prompt contribution

- For single J/ψ production:

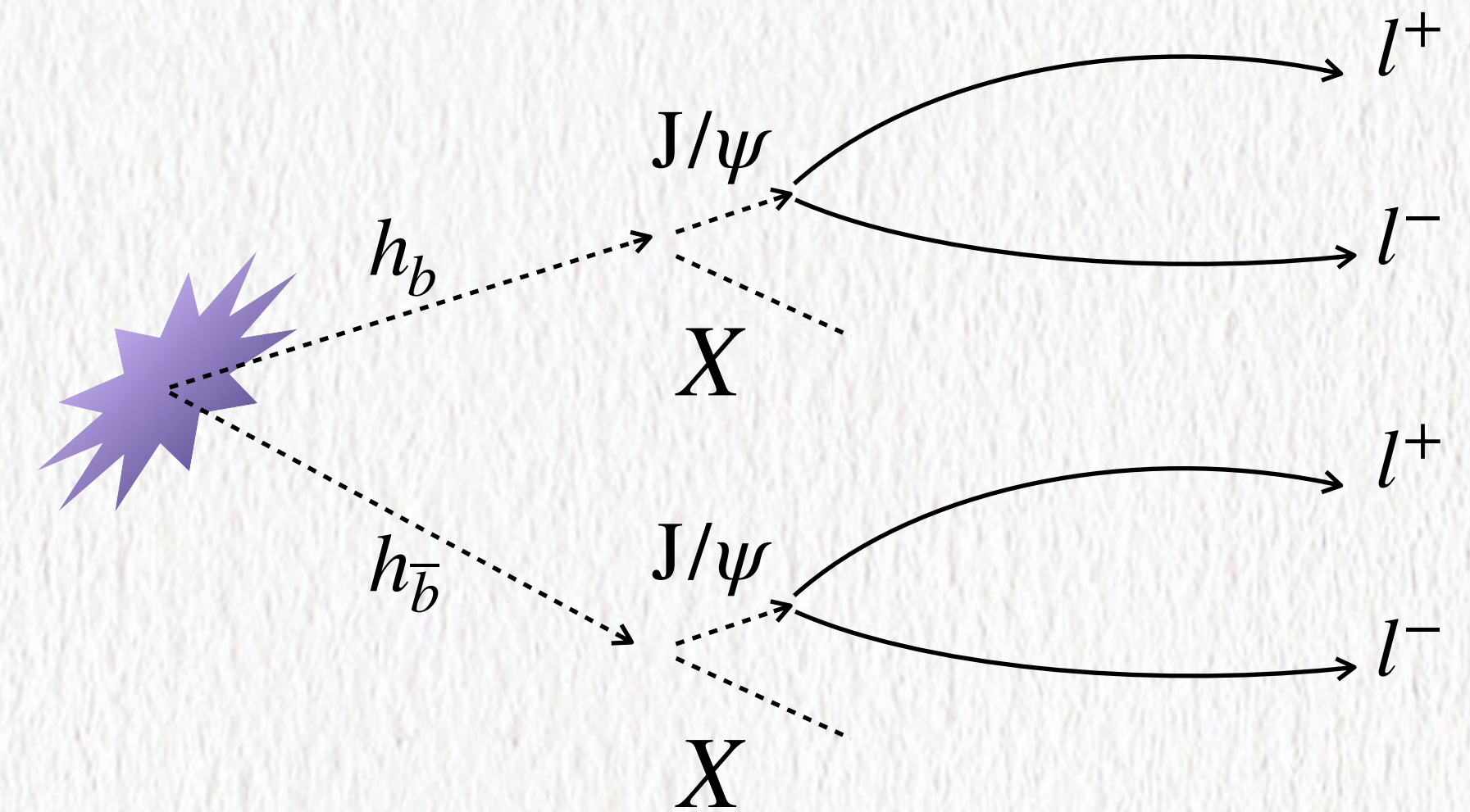
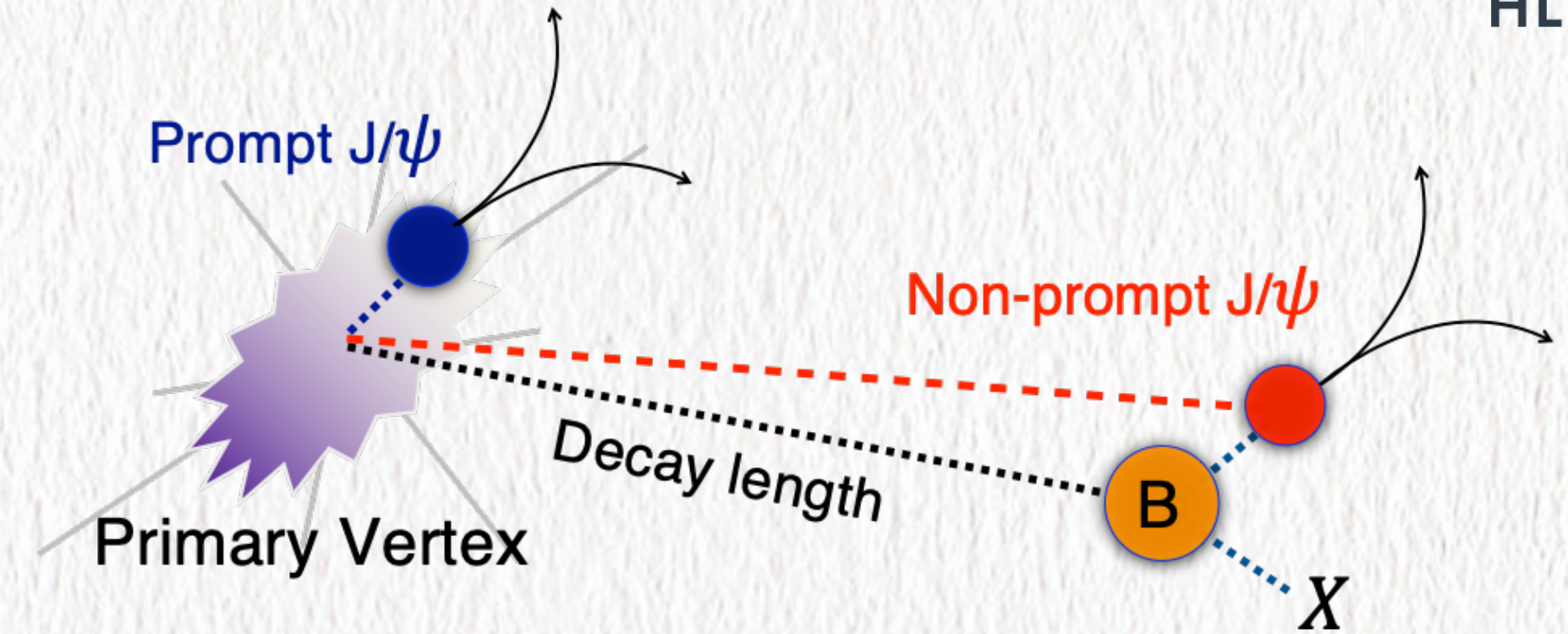
- $\sigma_{\text{non-prompt}}(J/\psi) = 2 \times \sigma_{b\bar{b}}^{\text{total}} \times \beta \times B(h_b \rightarrow J/\psi + X)$, β is the acc. simulated by PYTHIA 8

- $\sigma_{\text{prompt}}(J/\psi) = \sigma_{\text{inclusive}}(J/\psi) - \sigma_{\text{non-prompt}}(J/\psi)$

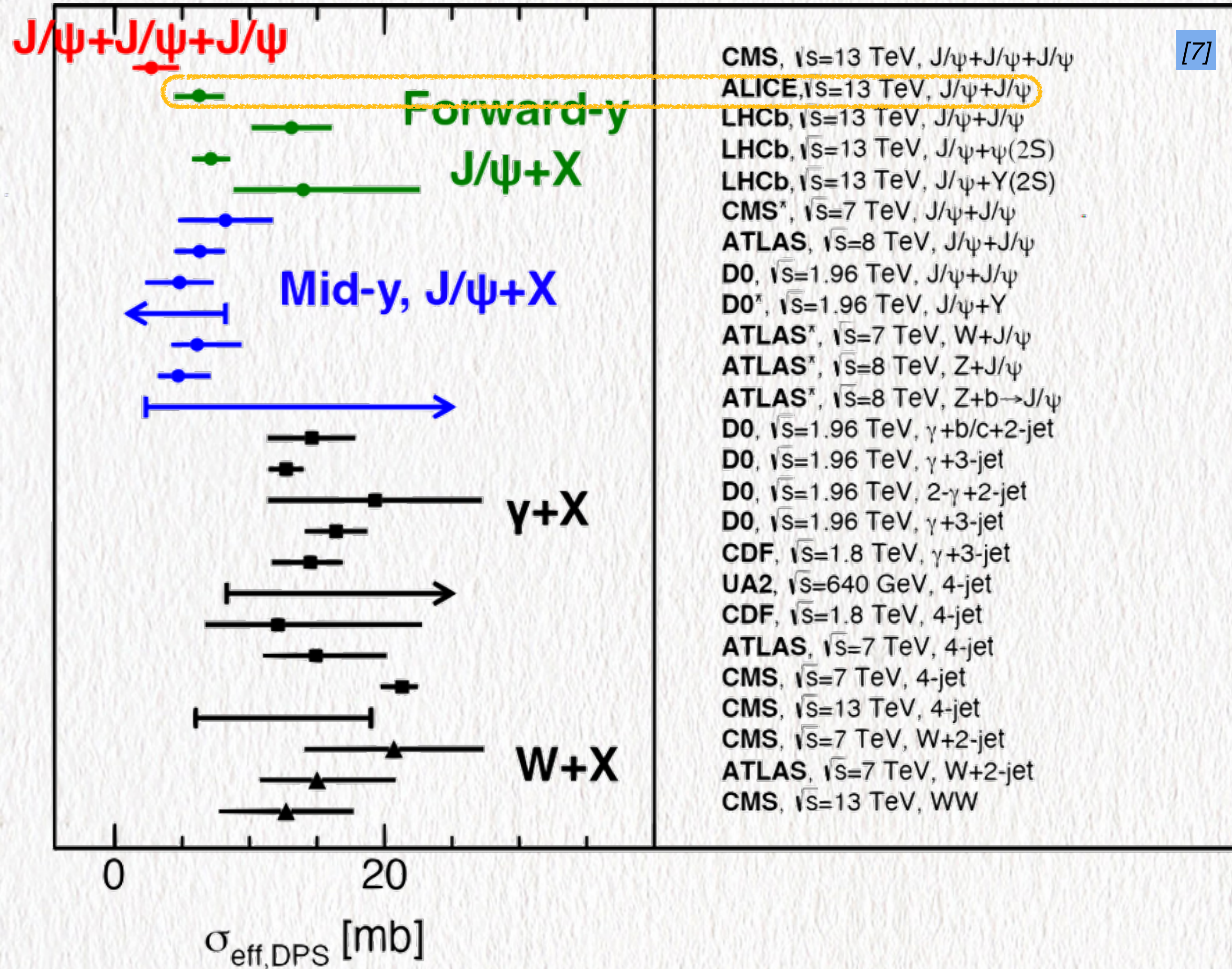
- For the J/ψ pair production:

- $\sigma_{\text{non-prompt}}(J/\psi, J/\psi) = \sigma_{b\bar{b}}^{\text{total}} \times \alpha \times B^2(h_b \rightarrow J/\psi + X)$, α is the acc.

- $\sigma_{\text{prompt}}(J/\psi, J/\psi) = \sigma_{\text{inclusive}}(J/\psi, J/\psi) - \sigma_{\text{non-prompt}}(J/\psi, J/\psi)$



Estimation on the eff. σ and Results discussion



- Assuming solely DPS production, one can calculate the σ_{eff} using the prompt sources

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{\sigma_{\text{prompt}}(J/\psi)^2}{\sigma_{\text{prompt}}(J/\psi, J/\psi)} = 6.7 \pm 1.6 (\text{stat.}) \pm 2.7 (\text{syst.}) \text{ mb}$$

It is an approximation, since we should expect the SPS as well

- First charmonium pair production measurement in ALICE
- Despite caveats from SPS and DPS contributions, **this effective value aligns with quarkonium-pair production measurements**

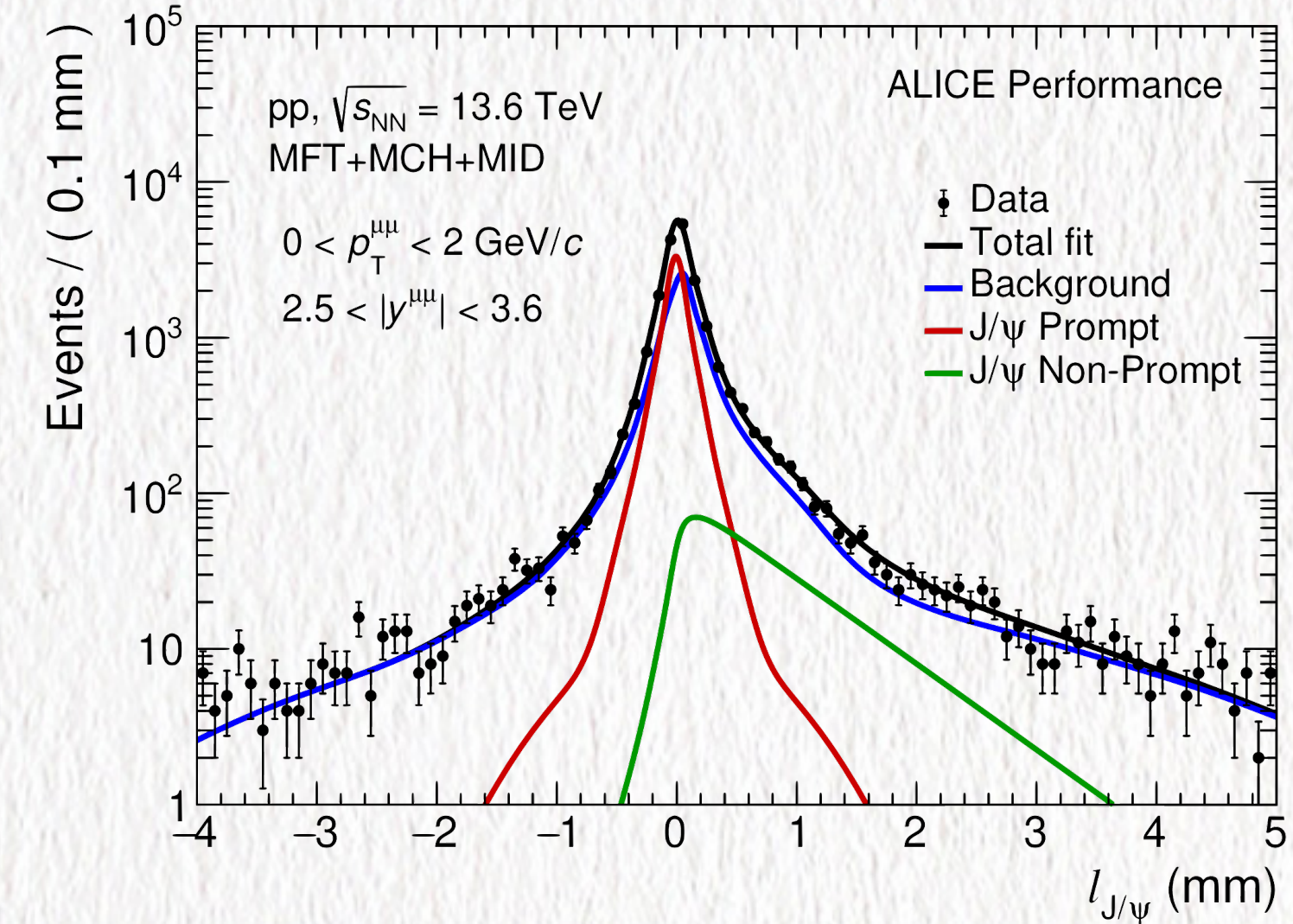
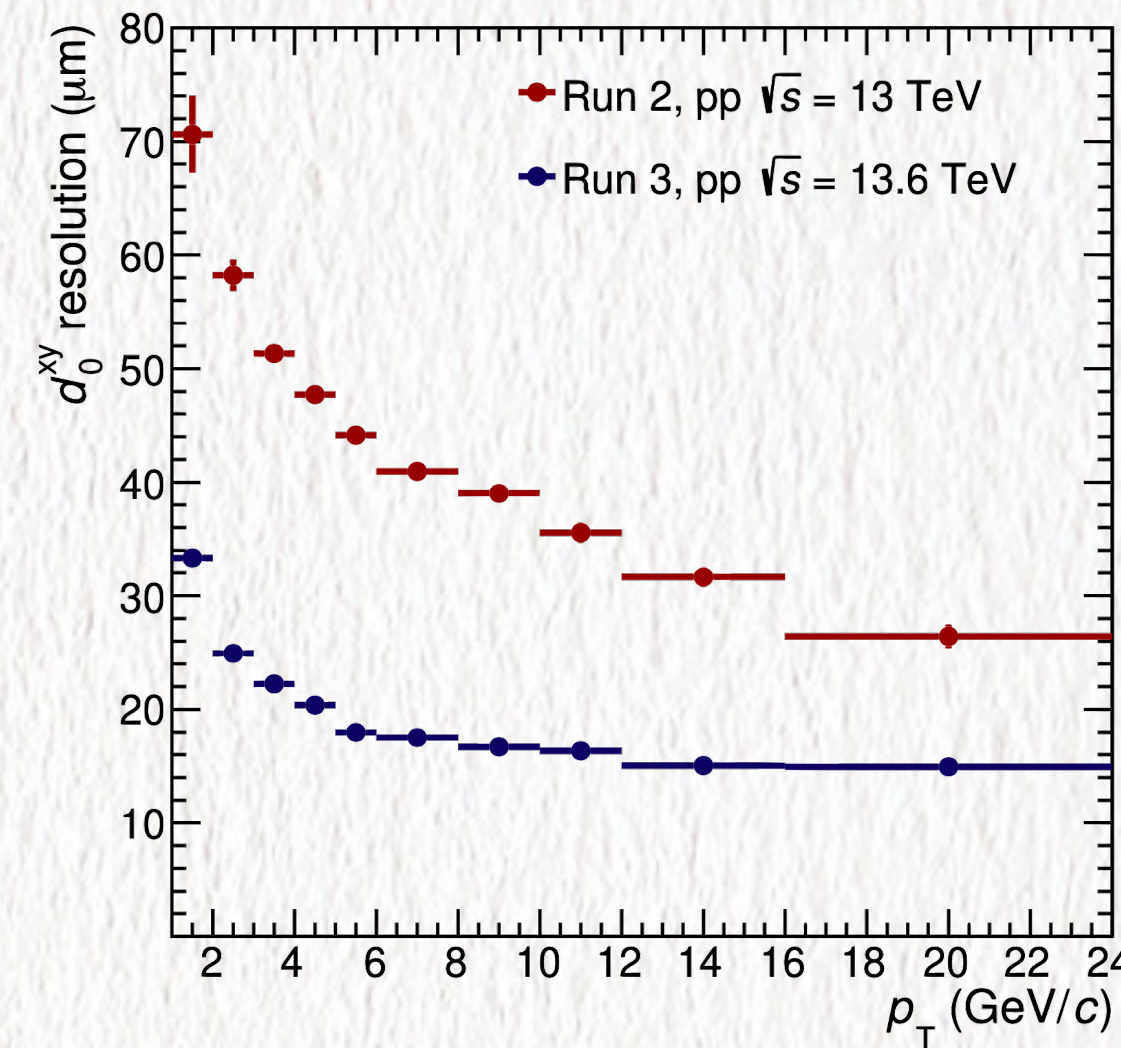
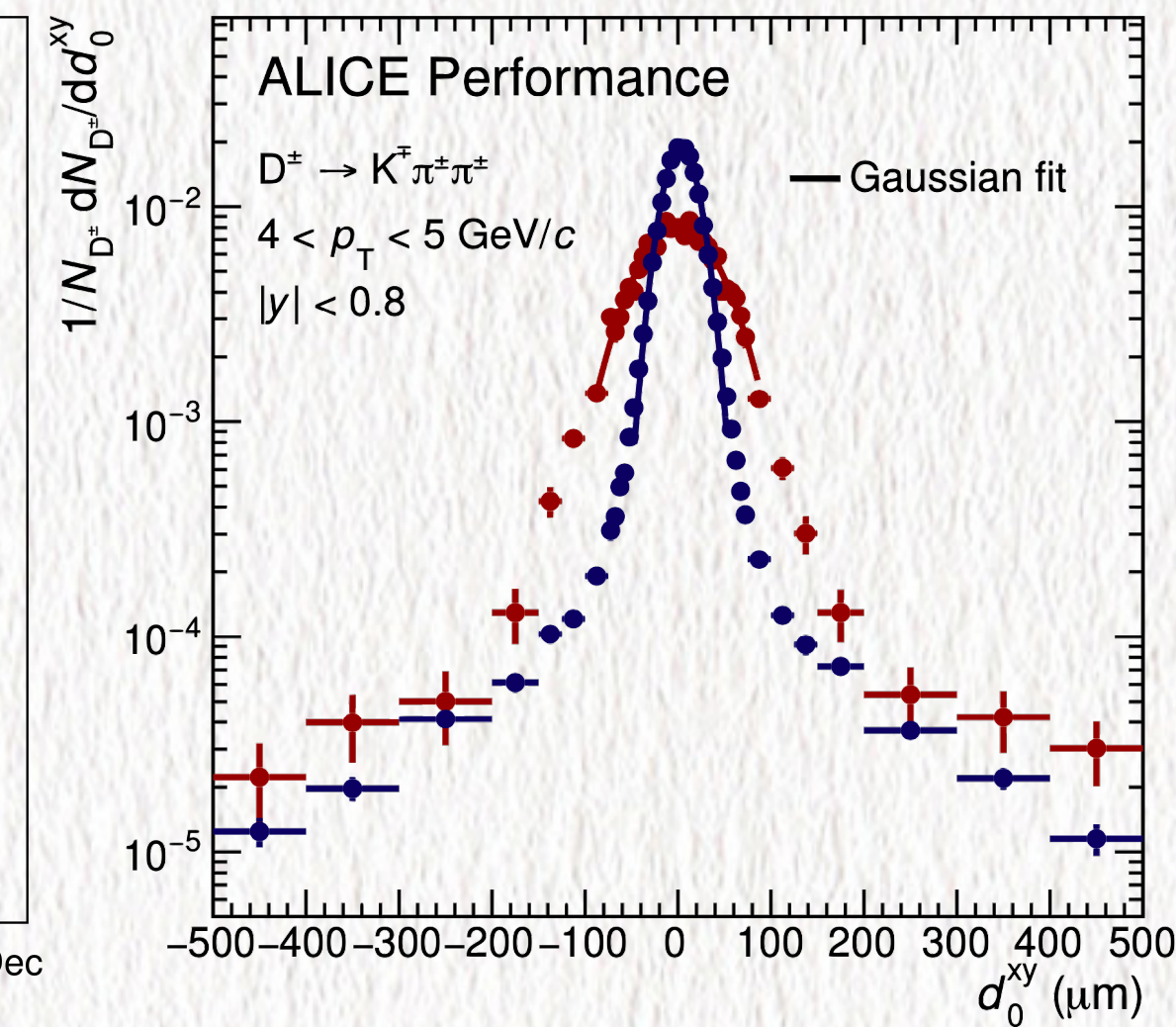
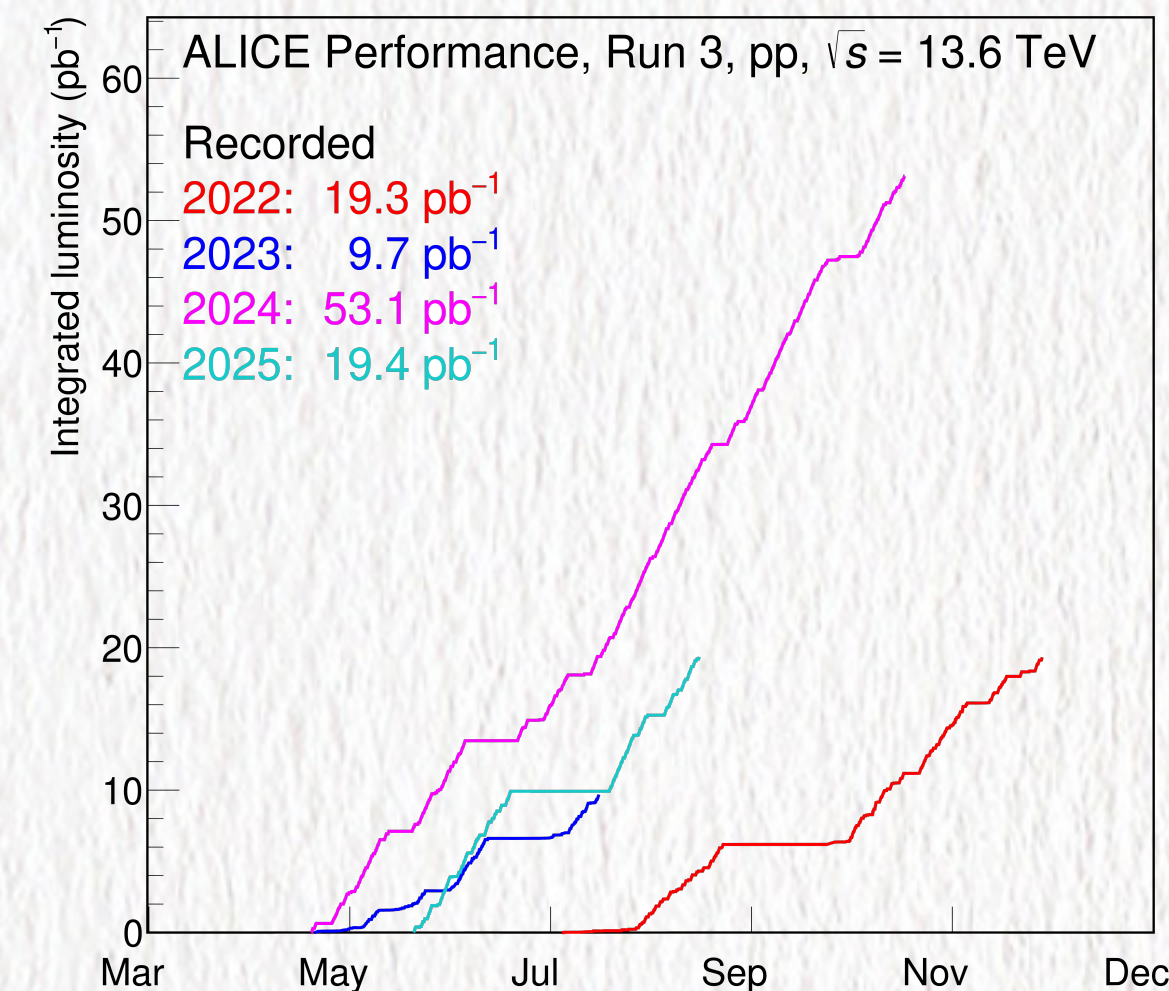
ALICE requires more precise measurements

ALICE detector upgrades for Run 3

Major upgrade of the ALICE detector (2019-2021), and in production since 2022

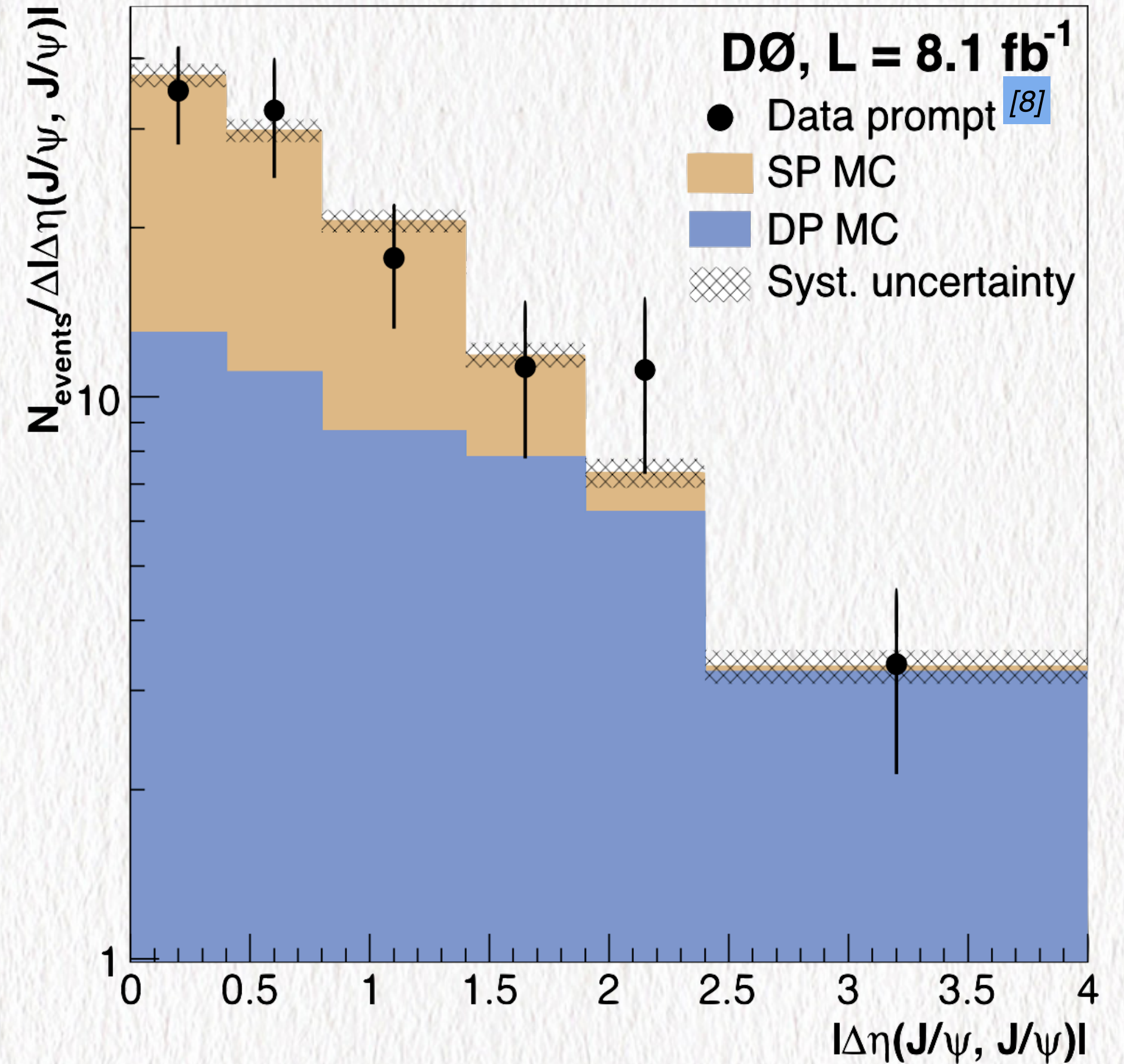
- Continuous readout: up to 500 kHz in pp and 50 kHz in Pb–Pb
 - Full Online and Offline software upgrade (O²)
- Already now improvement 2–3 times in x-y direction and 5–6 in z direction
- Secondary vertexing at forward rapidity

 Excellent performance across all upgraded detectors



Opportunities on ALICE Run 3

- In Run 3, ALICE has the possibility to conduct many new analyses, such as:
 - Combined analyses of the central barrel – μ spectrometer ($D^0(|y| < 0.6) - J/\psi(2.5 < y < 4.0)$)
 - Prompt/non-prompt separation for forward rapidity J/ψ reconstruction
- SPS –DPS separation sensitive to Δy
- Exploit ALICE's unique capabilities at the LHC to extend Δy coverage up to ~ 5



J/ψ–D⁰ production in Run 3

- Use the **ALICE Offline Trigger Selection** to select J/ψ candidates, which are later paired to D⁰ candidates
- Adopt a **Machine Learning** based approach for D⁰ selection
- Analysis strategies:
 - Yields extracted using a two-dimensional invariant mass fit
 - A × ε correction performed on a candidate-by-candidate basis
 - Prompt D⁰ fraction extracted using a data-driven method

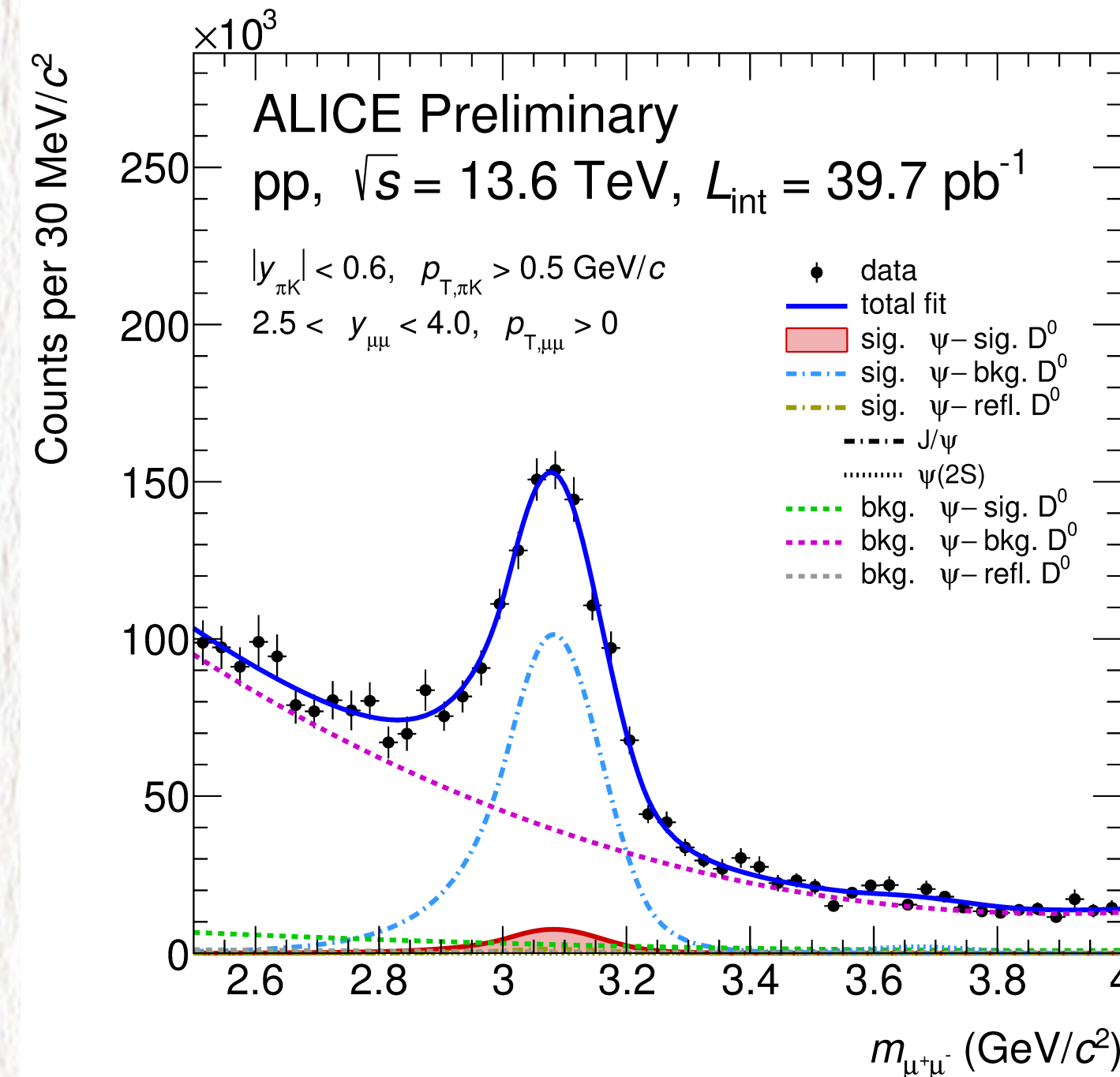
See more in backup

pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$ TeV

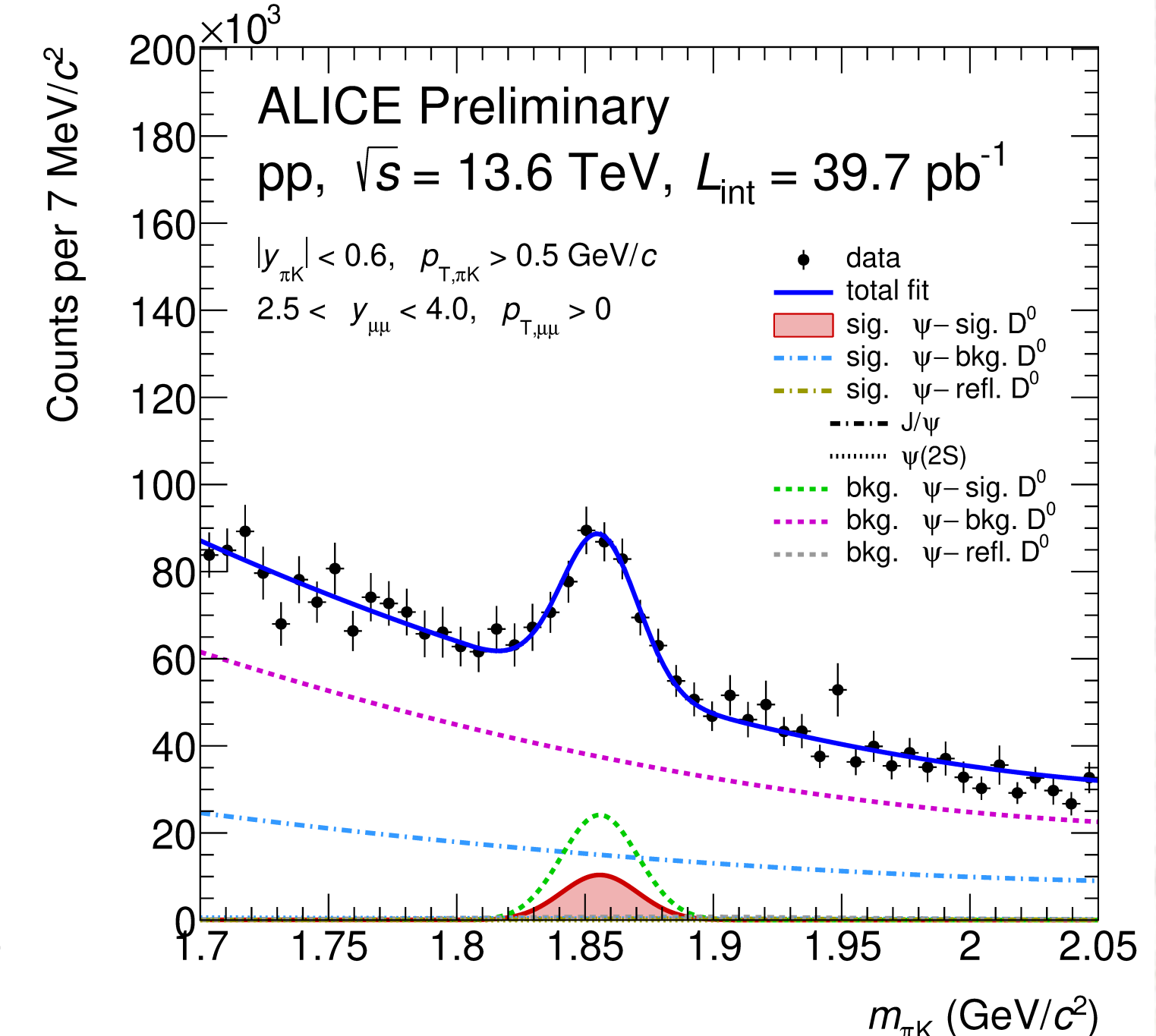
Selected channels:

$$J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \quad (2.5 < y < 4.0, p_T > 0)$$

$$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \quad (|y| < 0.6, p_T > 0.5 \text{ GeV}/c)$$



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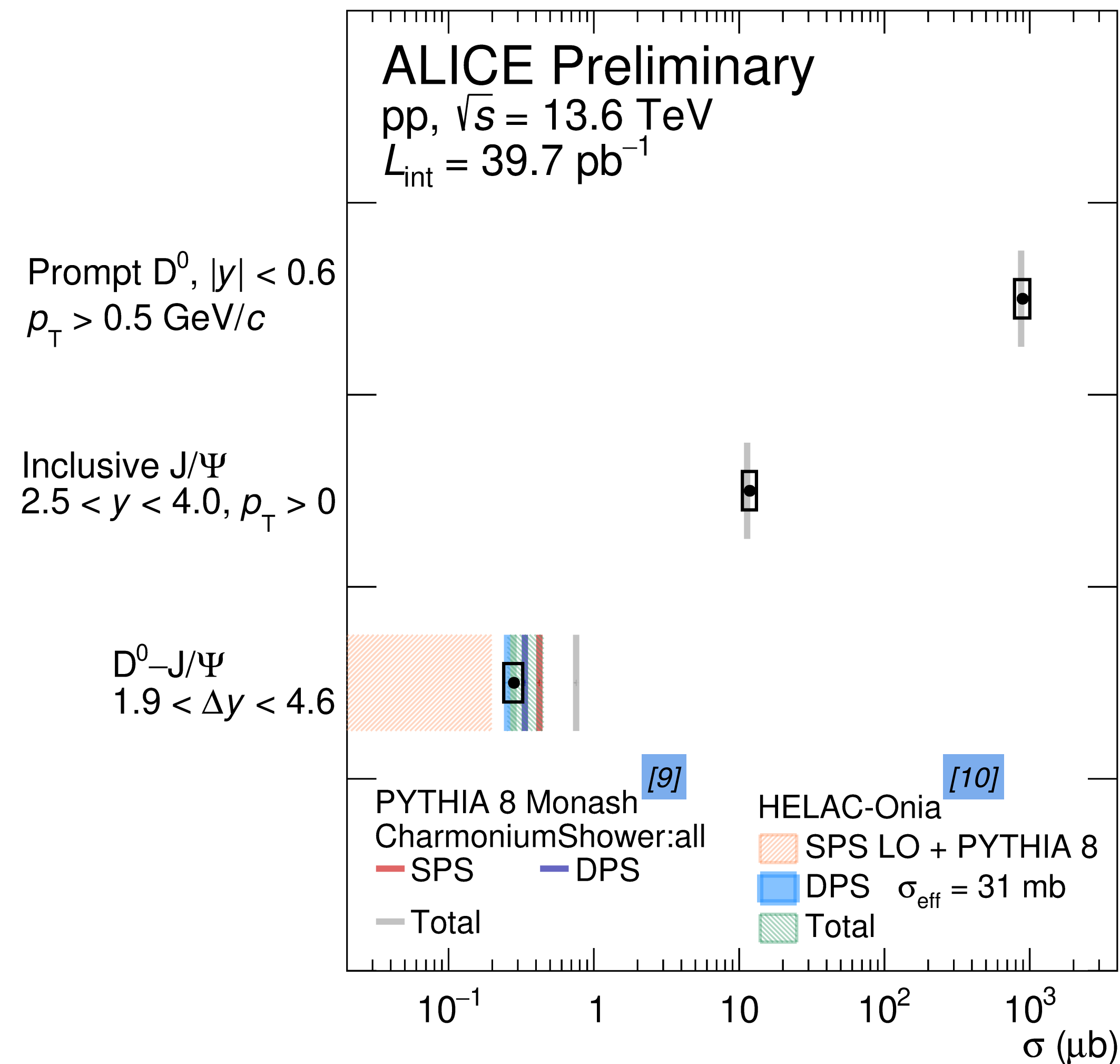


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$$1.9 < |\Delta y(J/\psi, D^0)| < 4.6$$

*reflection: D⁰(→ K⁻π⁺ and c.c.) built with the wrong mass hypothesis

J/ψ–D⁰ cross section

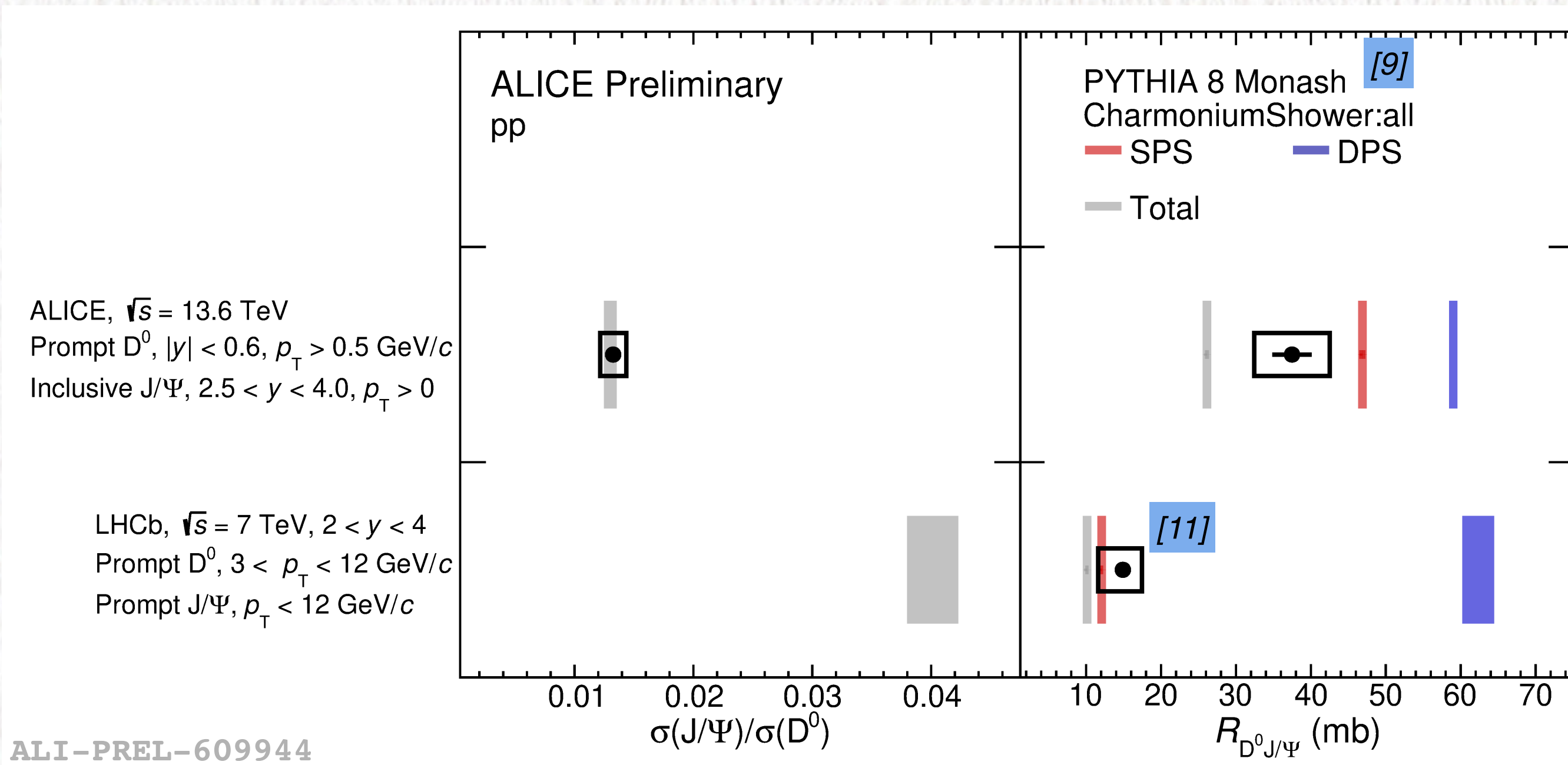


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- p_{T} -integrated associated cross section compared to the single prompt D⁰ and inclusive J/ψ cross sections and theoretical predictions
- **PYTHIA 8 simulations:**
(Monash tune + CharmoniumShower:all)
 - Compatible with single $\sigma_{\text{D}^0}^{\text{prompt}}$ and $\sigma_{\text{J}/\psi}^{\text{inclusive}}$
 - Overestimate the $\sigma_{\text{D}^0\text{--J}/\psi}$
- **HELAC-onia:**
 - Reproduce the considering a $\sigma_{\text{eff}} = 31 \text{ mb}$
 - Large $\sigma_{\text{D}^0\text{--J}/\psi}$ uncertainties from SPS (LO+PYTHIA 8) calculations → to be improved using NLO calculations

See more in backup

$\sigma(J/\psi)/\sigma(D^0)$ and $R_{D^0J/\psi}$



Left panel ($\sigma(J/\psi)/\sigma(D^0)$):

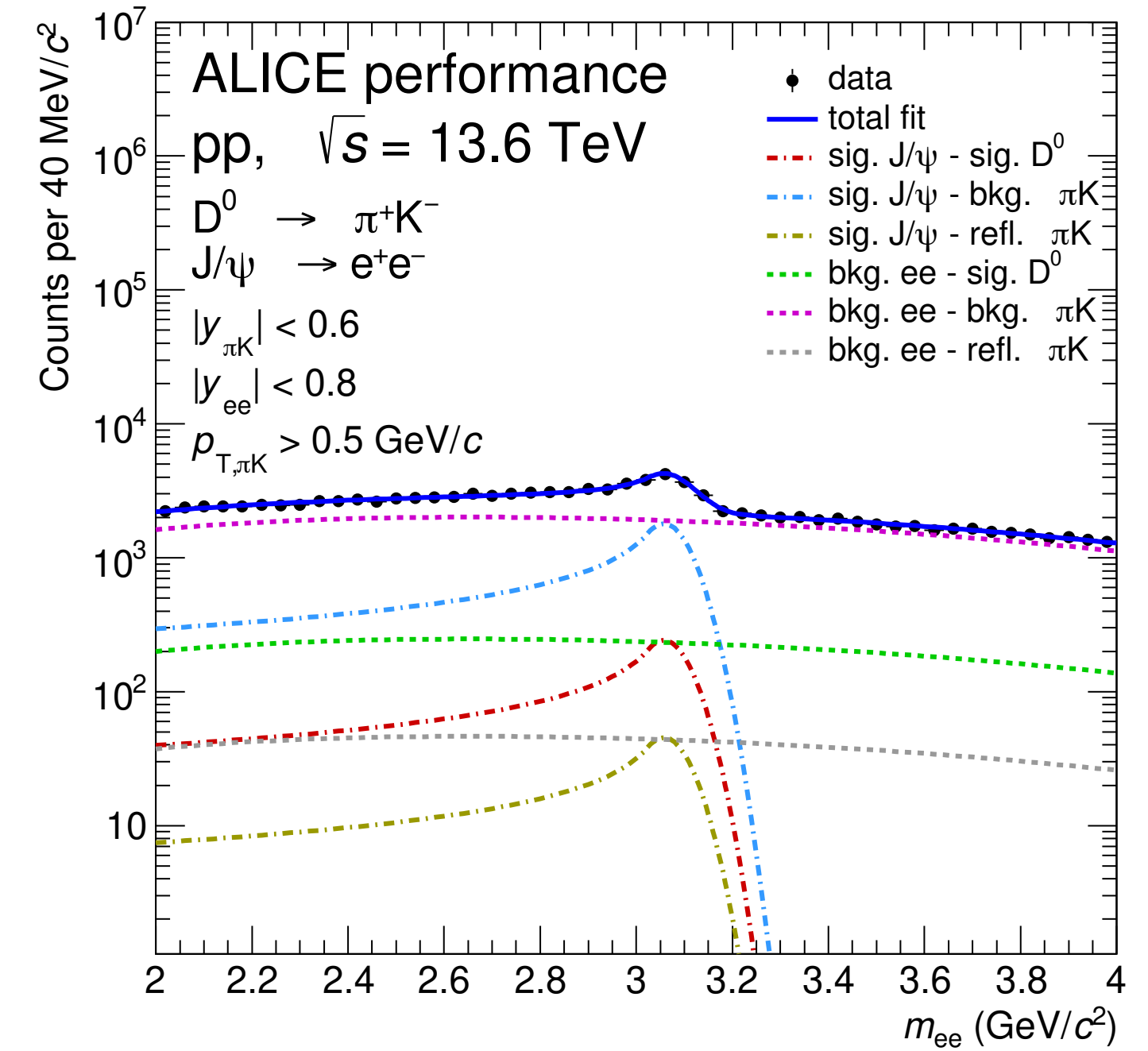
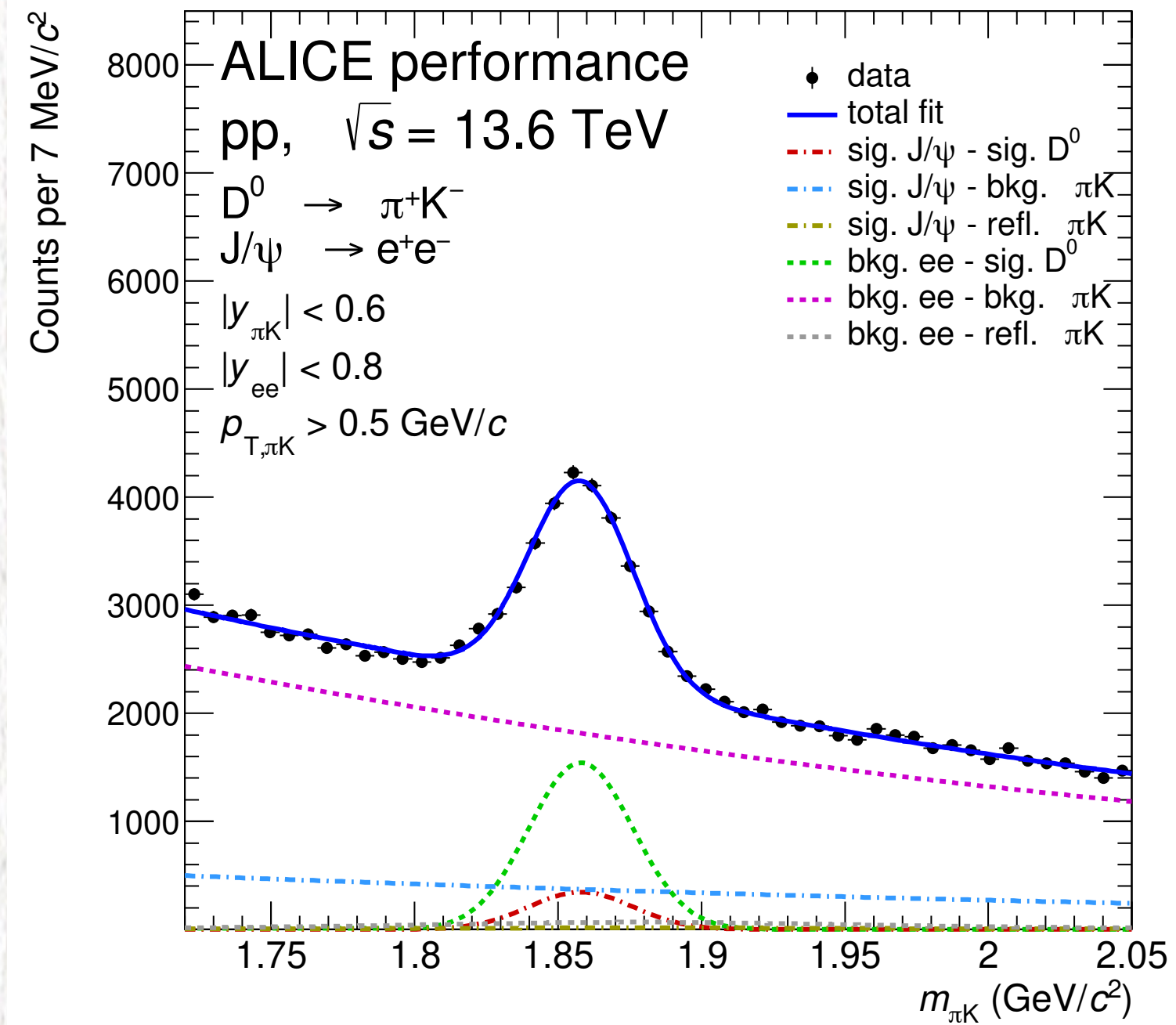
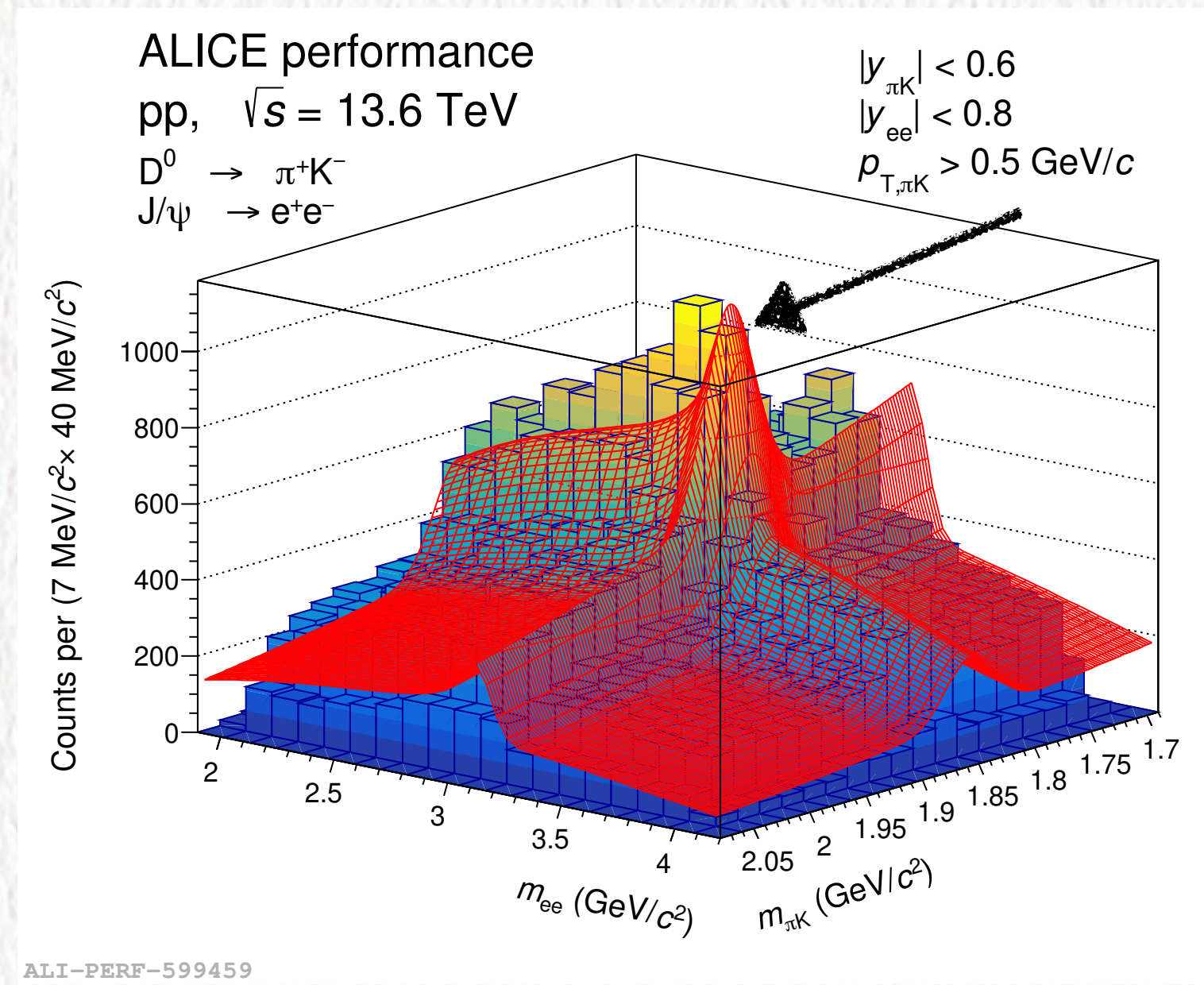
- Cancel the common initial-state effects
- Compatible with PYTHIA 8 simulations (Monash+CharmoniumShower:all)

Right panel ($R_{D^0J/\psi}$):

- PYTHIA tends to underestimate the $R_{D^0J/\psi}$ results from both ALICE and LHCb

$$R_{D^0J/\psi} = \frac{\sigma(D^0)\sigma(J/\psi)}{\sigma(D^0J/\psi)}$$

J/ψ–D⁰ production at midrapidity



● The associated production of J/ψ–D⁰ at midrapidity is on-going

● **Results will come soon...**

J/ψ → e⁺e[−] ($|y| < 0.8$)
D⁰ → K[−]π⁺ ($|y| < 0.6$)

D^0 – D^0 associated production

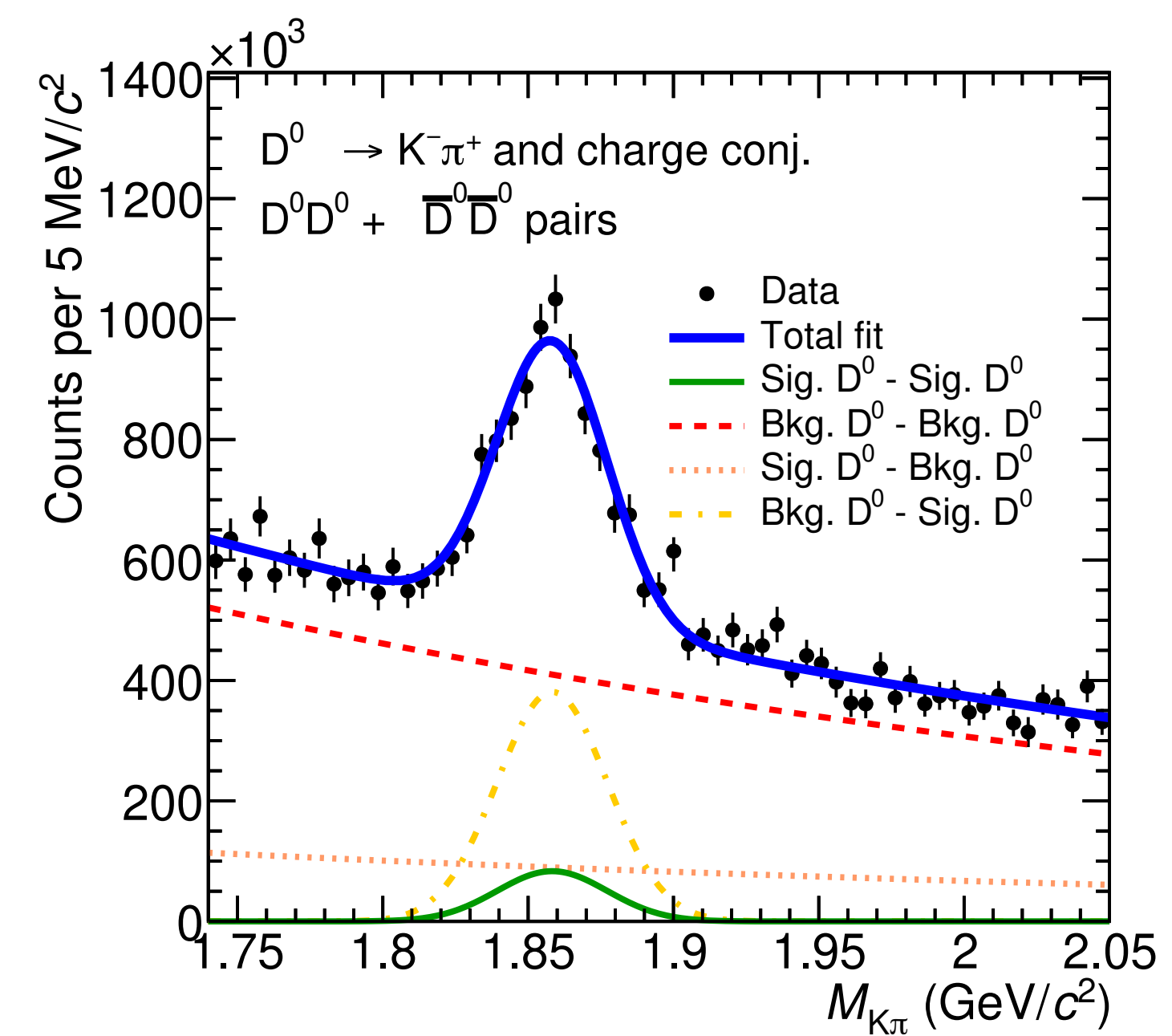
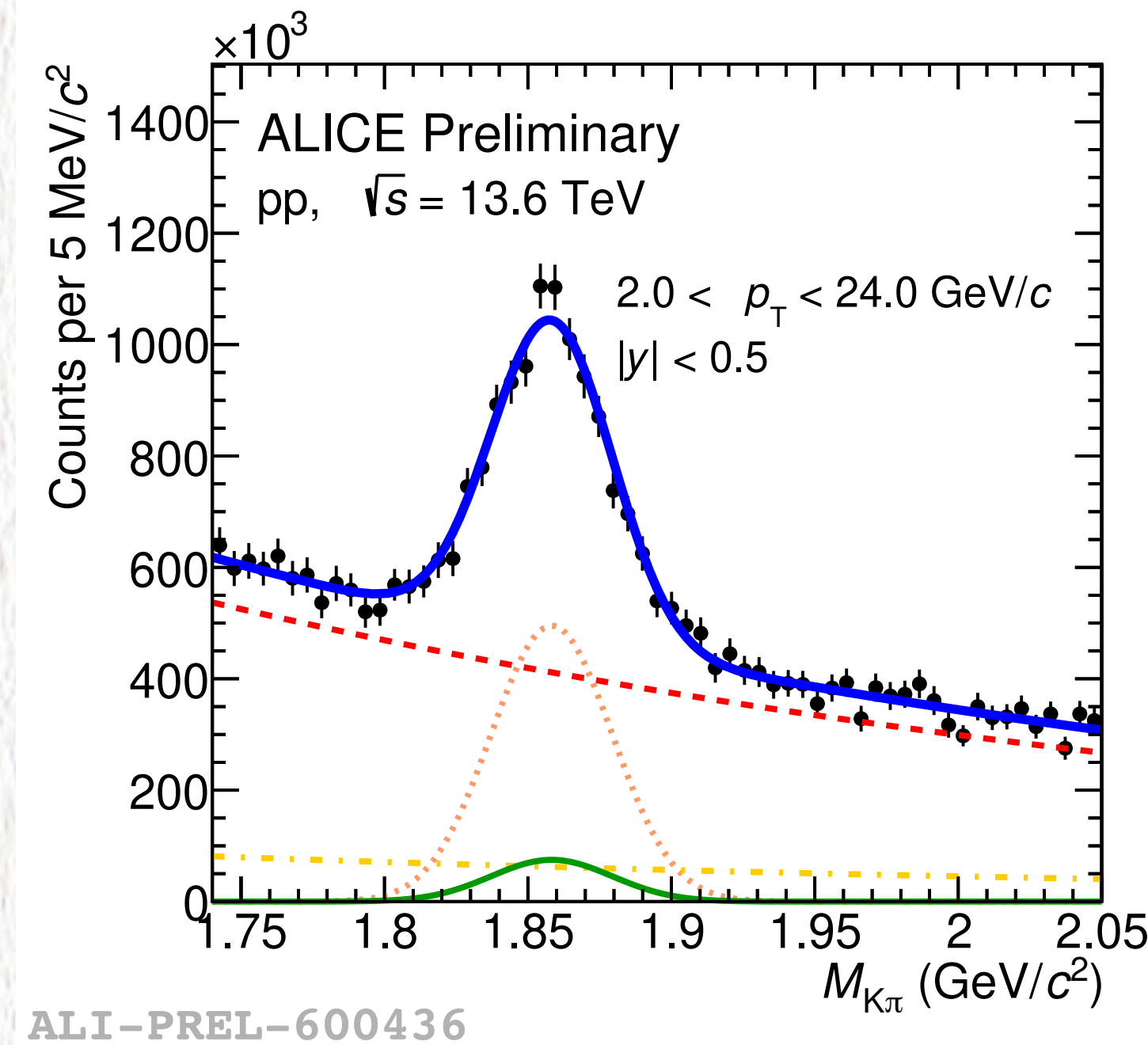
- Adopt a **Machine Learning** based approach for D^0 selection
- Two types of pairs:** $D^0\bar{D}^0$ (dominated by SPS contribution) and D^0D^0 (both SPS and DPS)
- Similar Analysis strategies:
 - Yields extracted using a two-dimensional invariant mass fit
 - A $\times \epsilon$ correction performed on a candidate-by-candidate basis
 - Prompt D^0 fraction extracted using a data-driven method

See more in backup

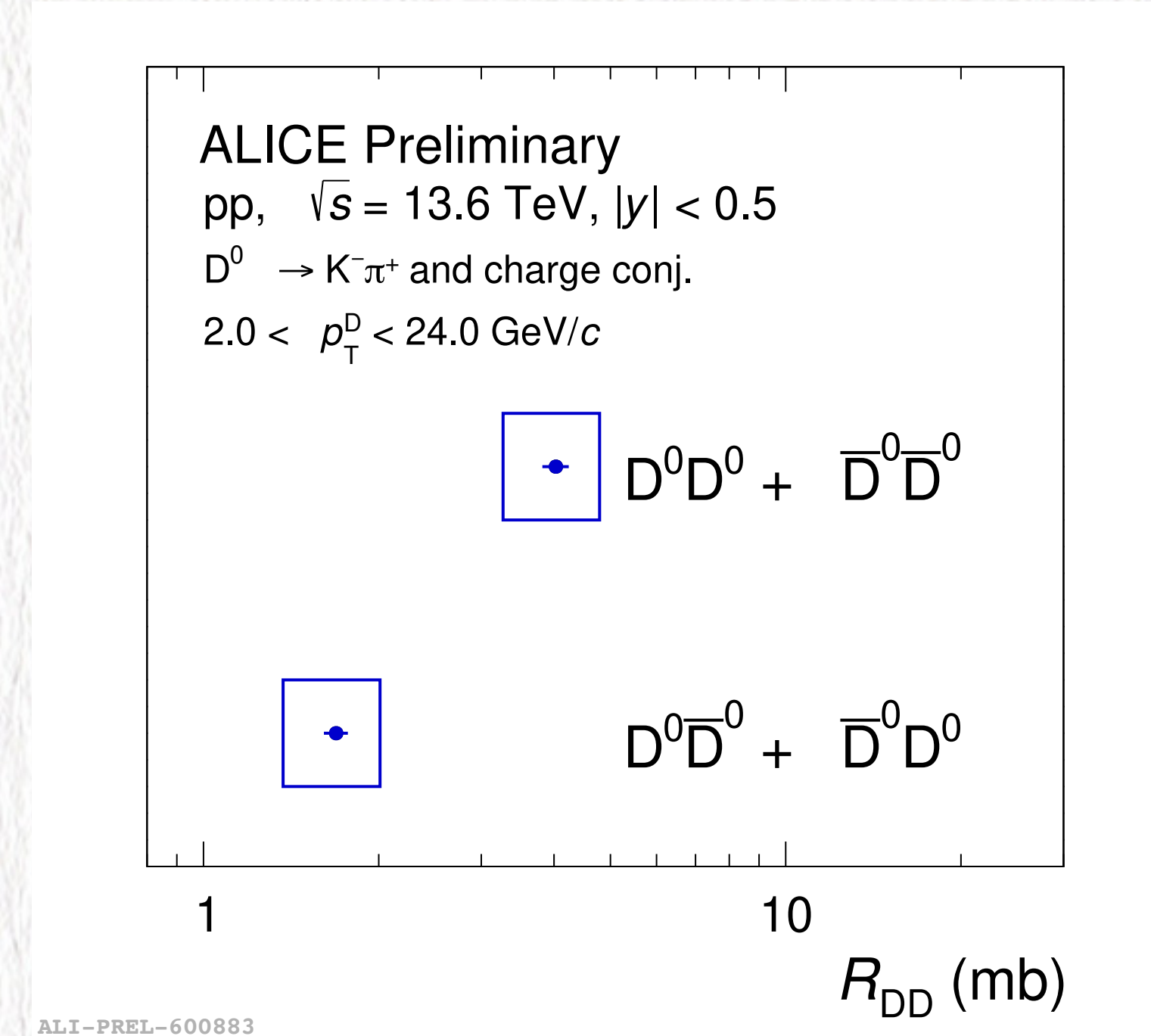
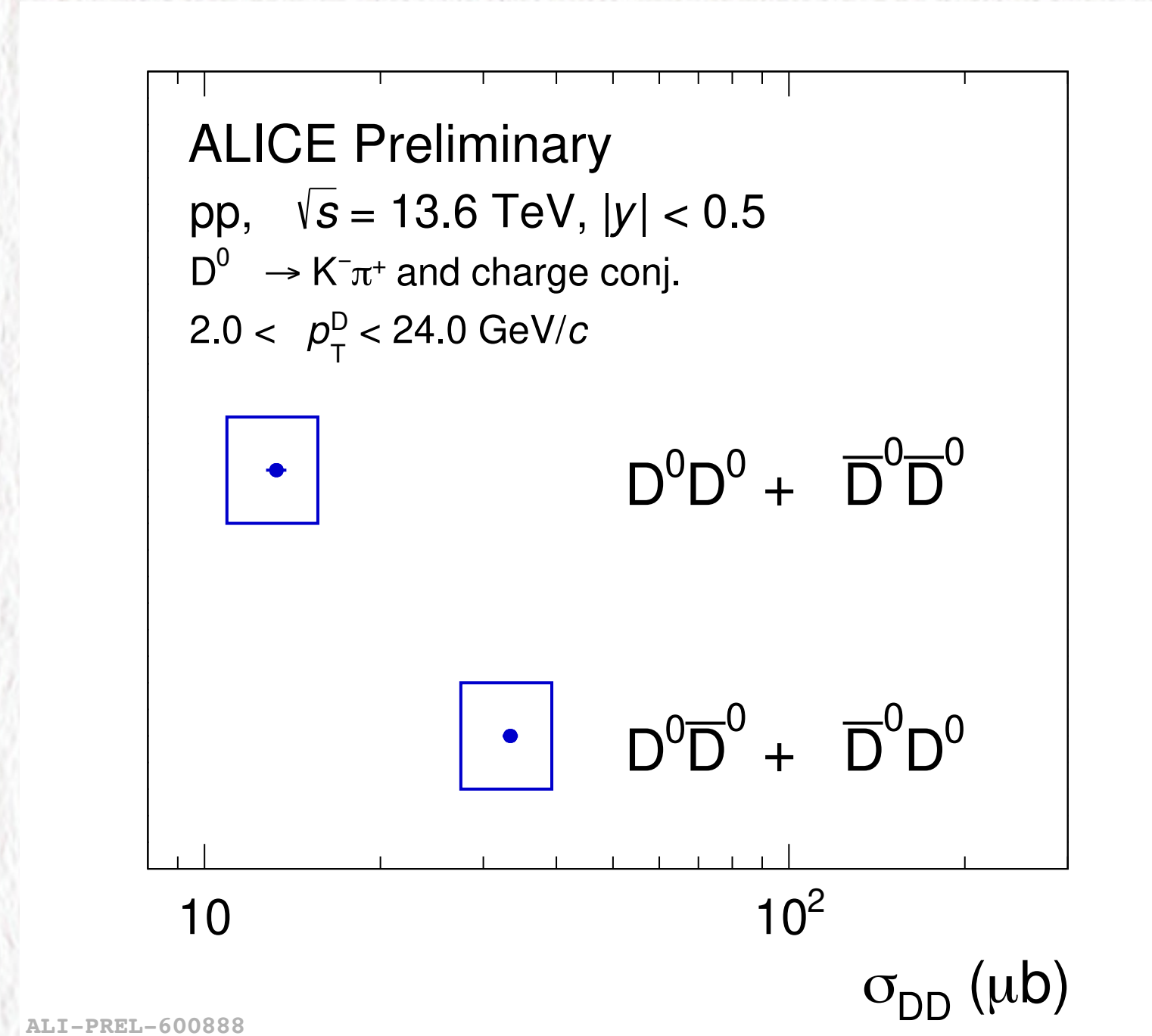
pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$ TeV

Selected channels:

$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$ and its charge conjugation
($|y| < 0.5$, $2 < p_T < 24$ GeV/c)



D⁰ associated production cross section



$$R_{D^0 D^0 + \bar{D}^0 \bar{D}^0} = \alpha \frac{\sigma(D^0 + \bar{D}^0)\sigma(D^0 + \bar{D}^0)}{\sigma(D^0 D^0 + \bar{D}^0 \bar{D}^0)}$$

, $\alpha = 1/4$

$$\sigma_{DD}^{\text{prompt}} = \frac{N_{\text{corr.}} \cdot f_{\text{prompt}}^2}{\text{BR}^2(D^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-) \cdot \mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}}$$

○ Data-driven method to determine the f_{prompt}

See more in backup

○ $R_{D^0 D^0 + \bar{D}^0 \bar{D}^0} \sim$ the average of $\sigma_{\text{eff}}^{D^0 D^0}$ and $\sigma_{\text{eff}}^{\bar{D}^0 \bar{D}^0}$

○ Single D⁰ production cross section taken from measurement at 13 TeV^[11]

○ R_{DD} is of the same order of magnitude as the σ_{eff}

Summary

- ALICE has a unique rapidity coverage to study MPIs via J/ψ – J/ψ , D^0 – J/ψ , and D^0 – D^0 .
- Studies on **J/ψ – J/ψ production in Run 2** provided compatible results with previous measurements of open and hidden charm pair production, but limited by available dataset sizes
- Thanks to the detector upgrades and the large data samples in **ALICE Run 3**,
 - The **J/ψ – D^0 and D^0 – D^0** measurements offer new possibilities to compute the σ_{eff}
 - Extend the Δy coverage up to ~ 5 for SPS and DPS separation

Thank you for your attention!

Additional slides

The cut-variation method

A data-driven procedure to extract the (non-)prompt fraction

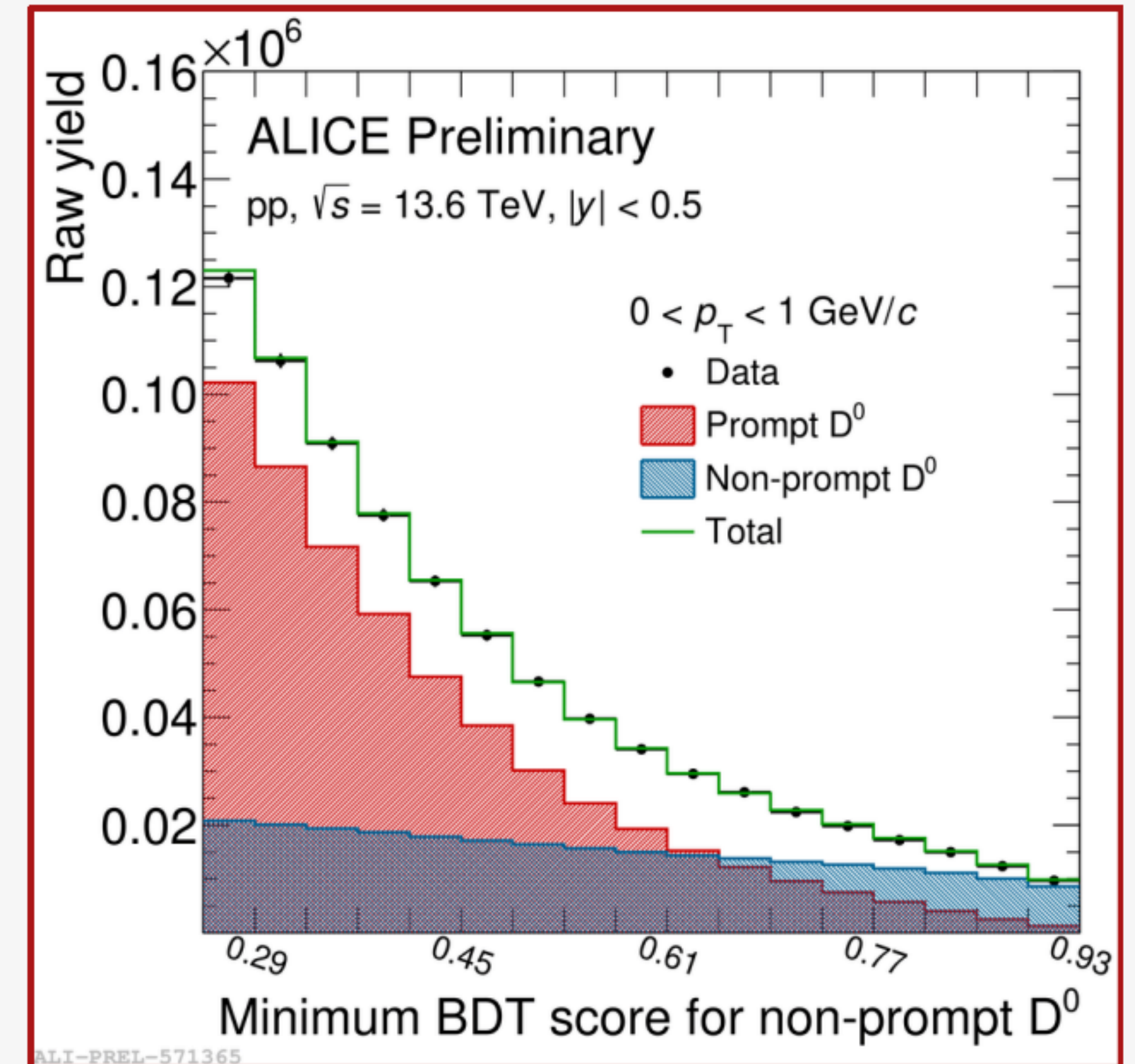
- Procedure based on **solving a set of equations** of the form:

$$(\text{Acc} \times \epsilon)_i^{\text{prompt}} \cdot N_{\text{prompt}} + (\text{Acc} \times \epsilon)_i^{\text{non-prompt}} \cdot N_{\text{non-prompt}} = Y_i$$

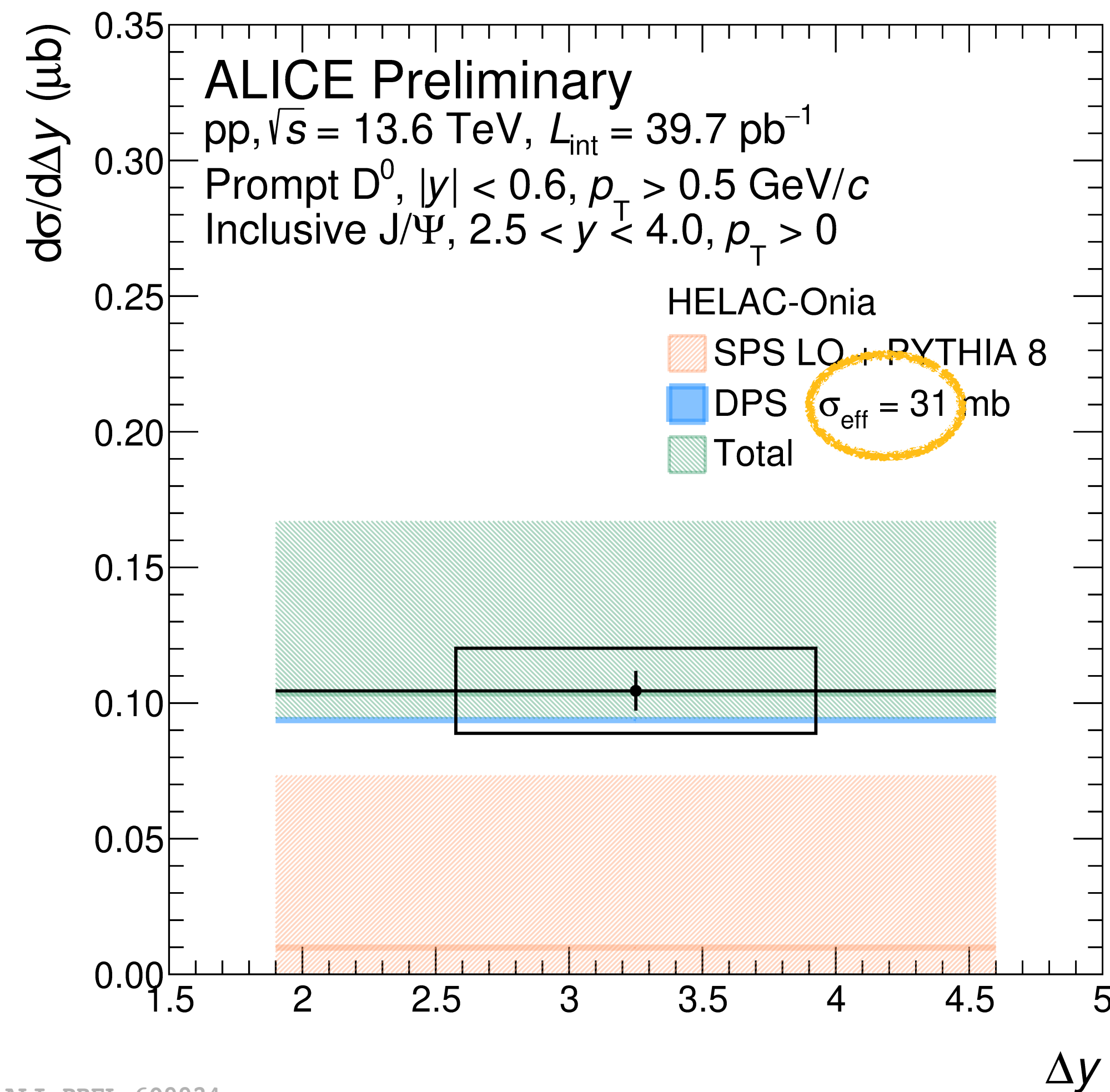
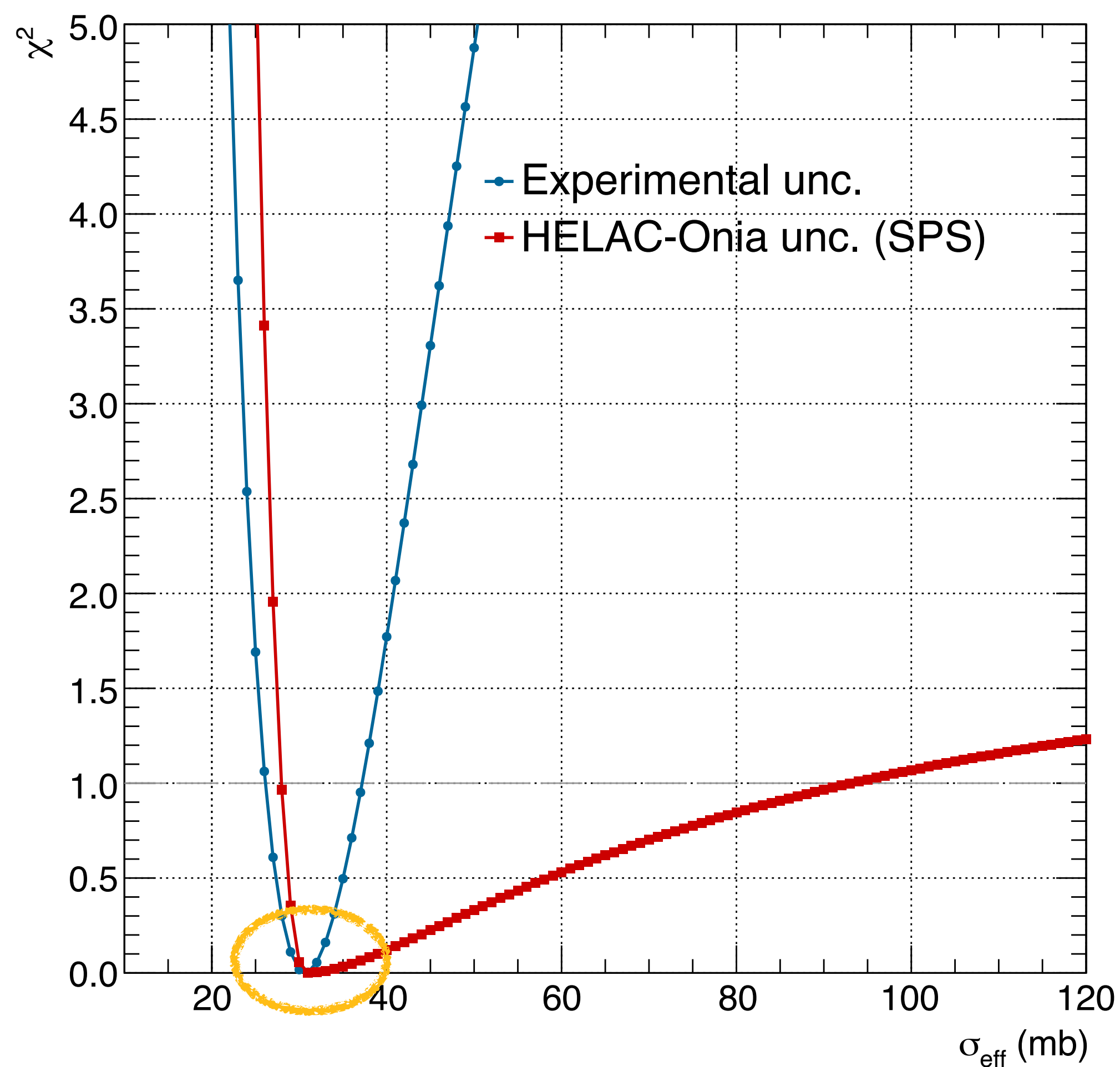
Each equation corresponds to a different selection on the ML output score

- The full system of equations can be solved iteratively by **minimising the χ^2** , obtaining N_{prompt} and $N_{\text{non-prompt}}$
- The final **non-prompt fraction** can be calculated as:

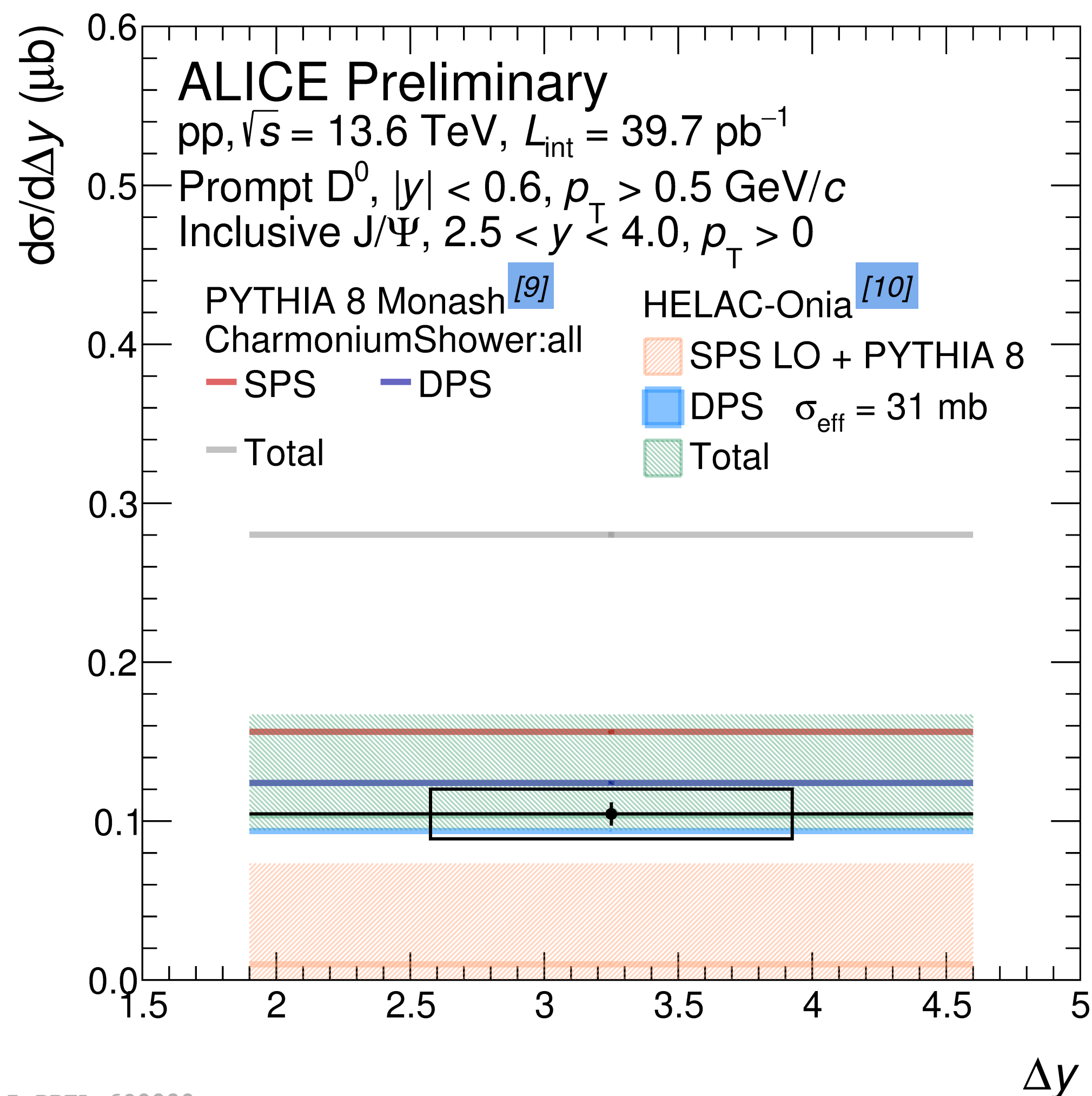
$$f_{\text{non-prompt}} = \frac{(\text{Acc} \times \epsilon)^{\text{non-prompt}} \cdot N_{\text{non-prompt}}}{(\text{Acc} \times \epsilon)^{\text{non-prompt}} \cdot N_{\text{non-prompt}} + (\text{Acc} \times \epsilon)^{\text{prompt}} \cdot N_{\text{prompt}}}$$



Estimation of σ_{eff}



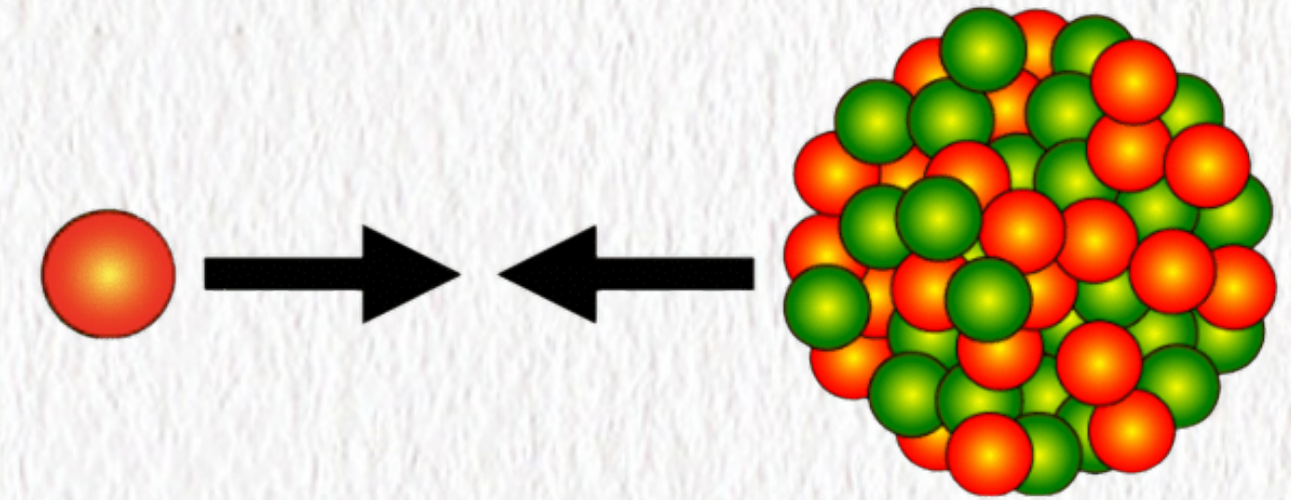
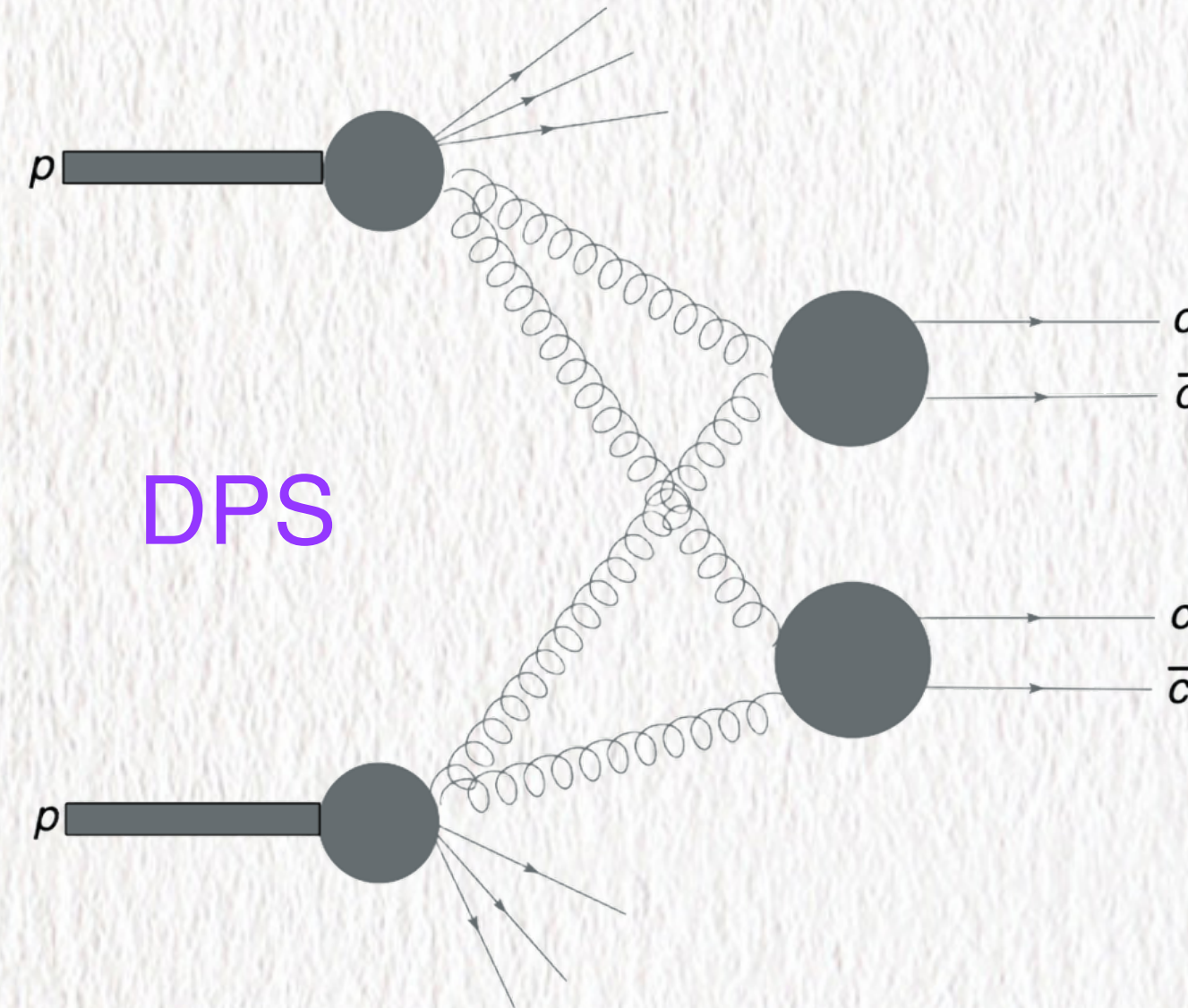
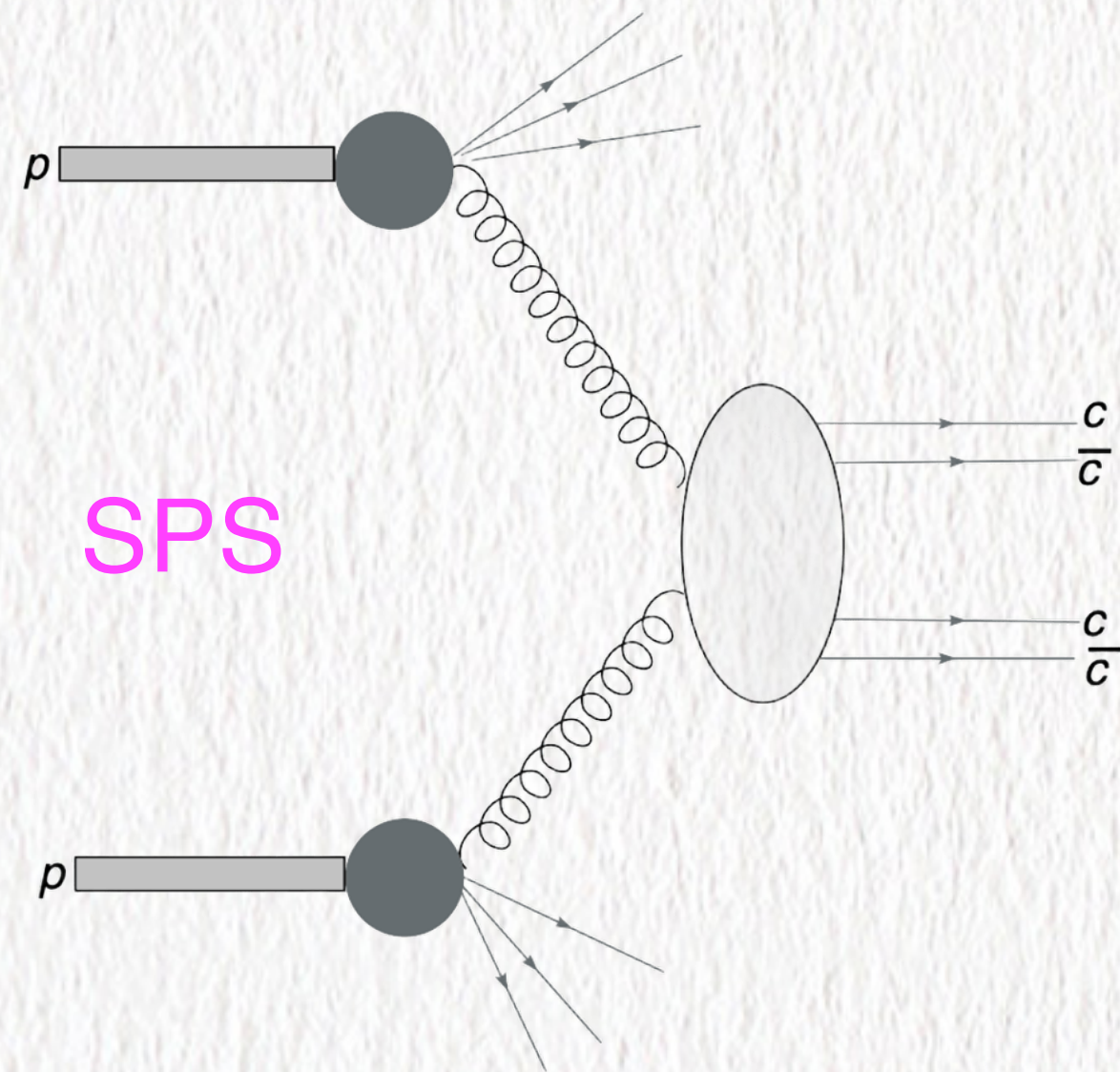
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ALI-PREL-609939

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Double charm production in p–Pb collisions



Enhancement of DPS is expected in pA w.r.t pp

- The double c -hadron are correlated in SPS, uncorrelated in DPS
- Correlations can be modified relative to pp due to the nuclear effects:
 - Modifications of the nuclear PDF?
 - Cronin effect, energy loss crossing nucleus, hydrodynamic effects?

