

# *Hadronization of heavy-quarks: open questions and perspectives*

Mainly based on the review: Altmann et. al arXiv:2405.19137

**Andrea Dubla**

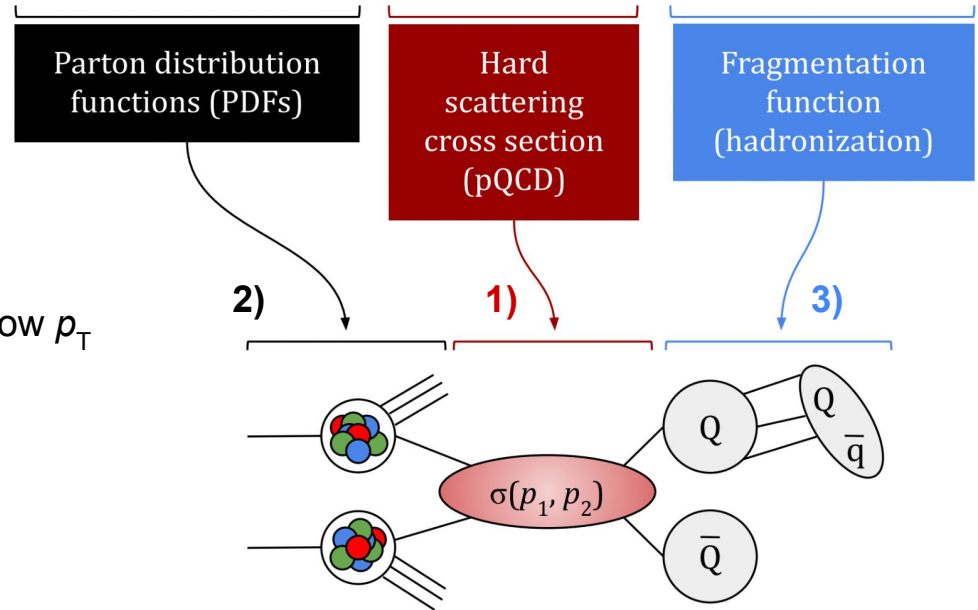
04/09/2024

## Hadronization is relevant:

- 1) **In itself**: how hadron are produced? Is it a universal process in  $e^+e^-$ ,  $e^-p$ ,  $pp$ ,  $pA$  and  $AA$ ?
- 2) **HQ transport properties** → can affect estimates of  $D_s(T)$ : both  $R_{AA}(p_T)$  &  $v_n(p_T)$  affected
- 3) **QGP droplets**: infer properties of medium created in  $pp$  and/or  $pA$
- 4) **Polarization**: underlying the interpretation for light hadrons, open HF and quarkonia
- 5) **Future physics program**: predictions for multi-charm production  $PbPb$  vs  $KrKr$  vs  $ArAr$   
Relevance of HF Hadronization

# How to: one way among many

$$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{H}_c}}{dp_{\text{T}}^{\text{H}_c}}(p_{\text{T}}; \mu_{\text{F}}, \mu_{\text{R}}) = \text{PDF}(x_1, \mu_{\text{F}}) \cdot \text{PDF}(x_2, \mu_{\text{F}}) \otimes \frac{d\sigma^{\text{c}}}{dp_{\text{T}}^{\text{c}}}(x_1, x_2, \mu_{\text{F}}, \mu_{\text{R}}) \otimes D_{\text{c} \rightarrow \text{H}_c}(z = p_{\text{H}_c}/p_{\text{c}}, \mu_{\text{F}})$$



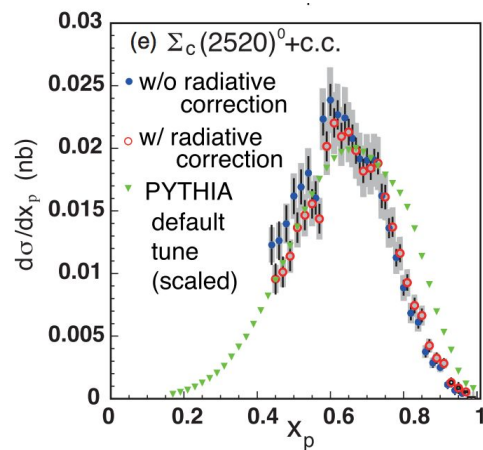
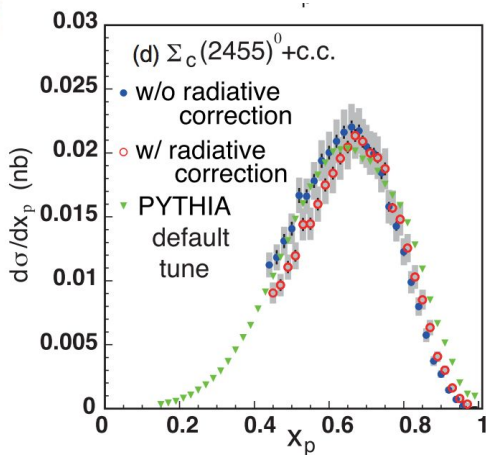
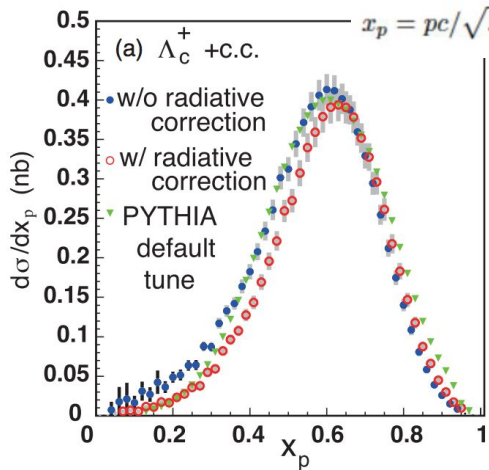
## 1) Hard scattering:

- large quark mass provides hard scale
- pQCD can calculate cross sections down to low  $p_{\text{T}}$

## 2) PDF → from ep collisions

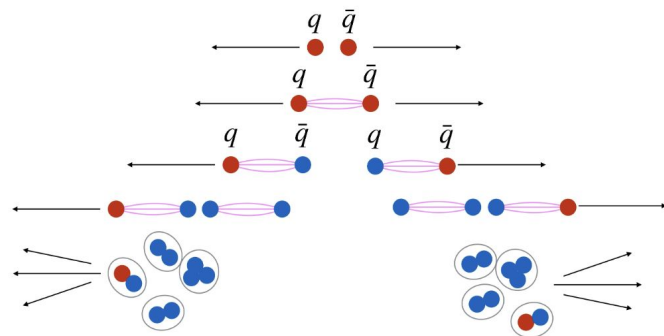
## 3) FF → from $e^+e^-$ collisions

- **To isolate FF: hadron-to-hadron production ratios** are effective for probing hadronisation, PDFs and partonic cross sections cancel in the yield ratios



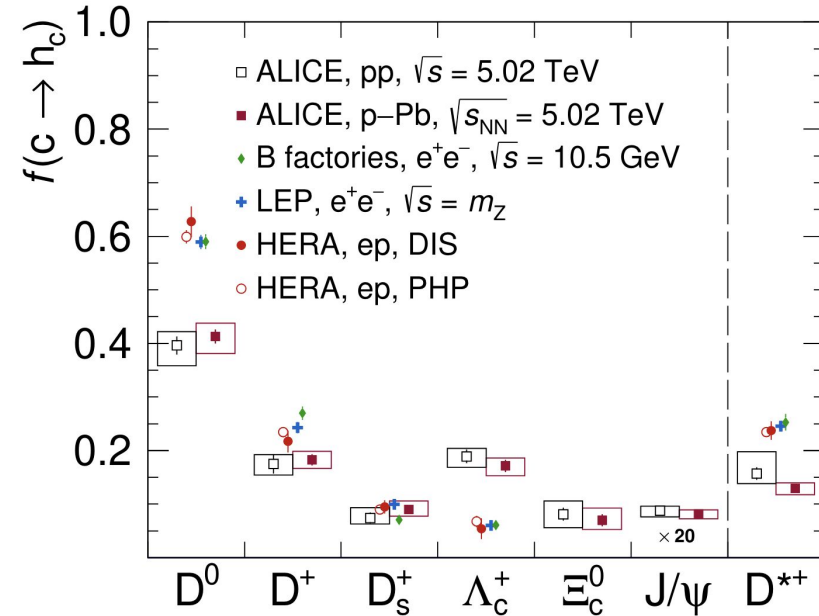
Belle: PRD 97, 072005 (2018)

- Charm baryons vs PYTHIA in  $e^+e^-$ 
  - **Standard PYTHIA** with string fragmentation describe the experimental data



PRD 105 (2022) 1, L011103

arXiv:2405.14571



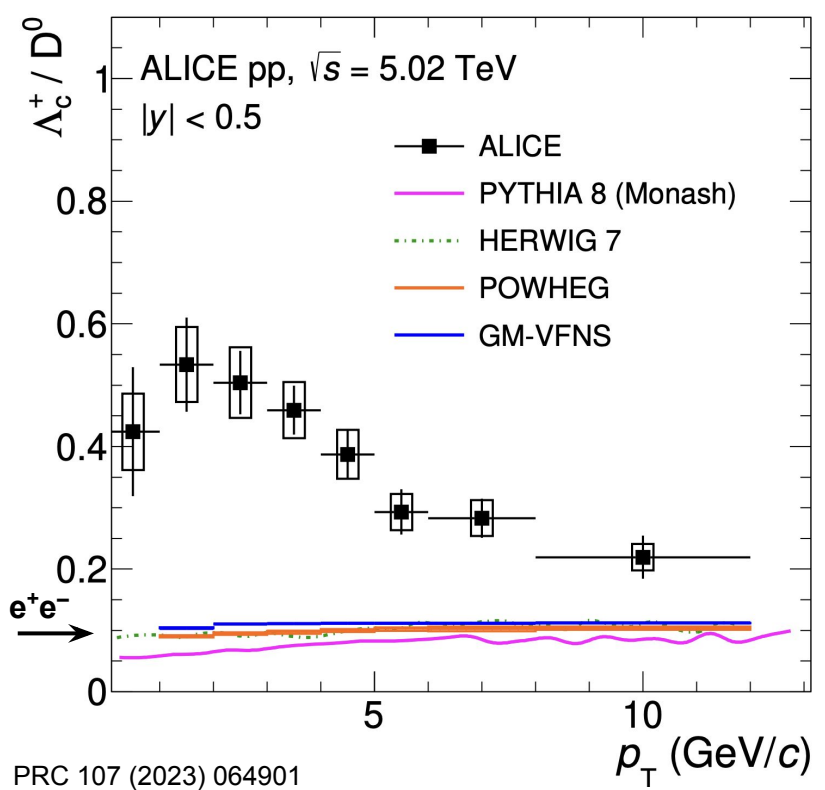
Measurement of fragmentation fractions in pp collisions at LHC compared to  $e^+e^-$  (ep) collisions at lower  $\sqrt{s}$

- Indication that parton-to-hadron fragmentation depends on the collision system
- Assumption of hadronisation universality not supported by the measured cross sections

→ Independent fragmentation picture not valid in partonic-color-rich environment

→ Break-down of hadronisation universality

# How MC generators perform at LHC?

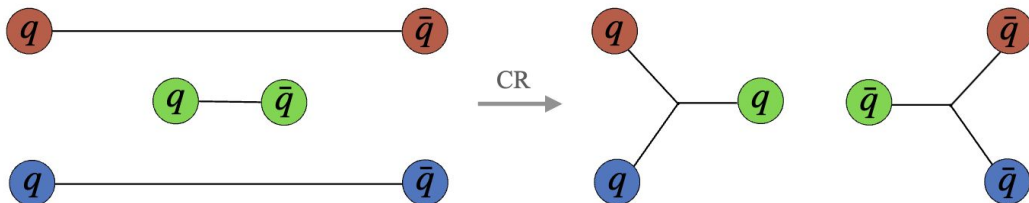


- **PYTHIA 8** with Monash tune and colour reconnection  
 Eur. Phys. J. C74 no. 8, (2014) 3024
  - **HERWIG 7** where hadronisation is implemented via clusters  
 Eur. Phys. J. C58 (2008) 639–707
  - **POWHEG** matched to PYTHIA 6 to generate the parton shower  
 JHEP 09 (2007) 126
  - **GM-VFNS** pQCD calculations → compute the ratios of the  $\Lambda_c$  and  $D^0$  cross sections  
 Phys. Rev. D 101 (2020) 114021
- Fragmentation processes tuned on charm production measurements in  $e^+e^-$  collisions, →  $\Lambda_c / D^0 \sim 0.1$  mild  $p_T$ -dependence.
- Significantly underestimate the data at low  $p_T$ , while at high  $p_T$  the discrepancy is reduced

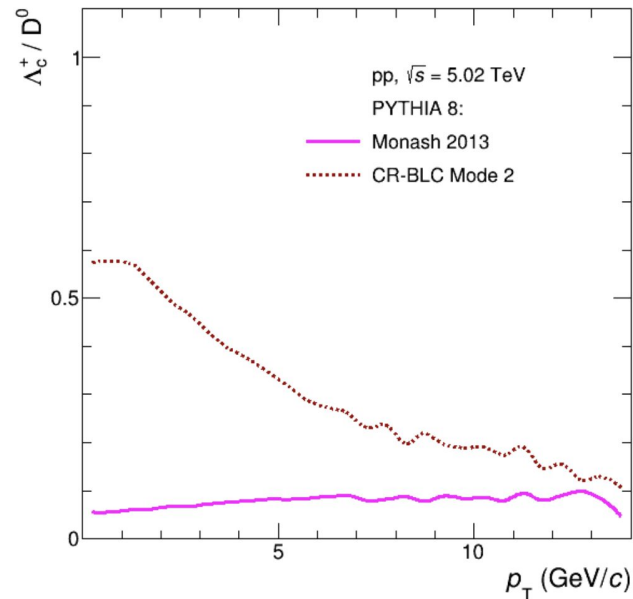
*Can we explain the measured baryon  
enhancement?*

➤ **PYTHIA8 with String Formation beyond Leading Colour (CR-BLC)**

Introduce new 'junction topologies for baryon enhancement'



- CR allows to combine partons from different MPIs to minimize string length → used in Monash tune
- New CR-BLC
  - Minimization of the string length over all possible configurations
  - Include CR with MPIs and with beam remnants





➤ **Statistical Hadronisation Model SHM+RQM**

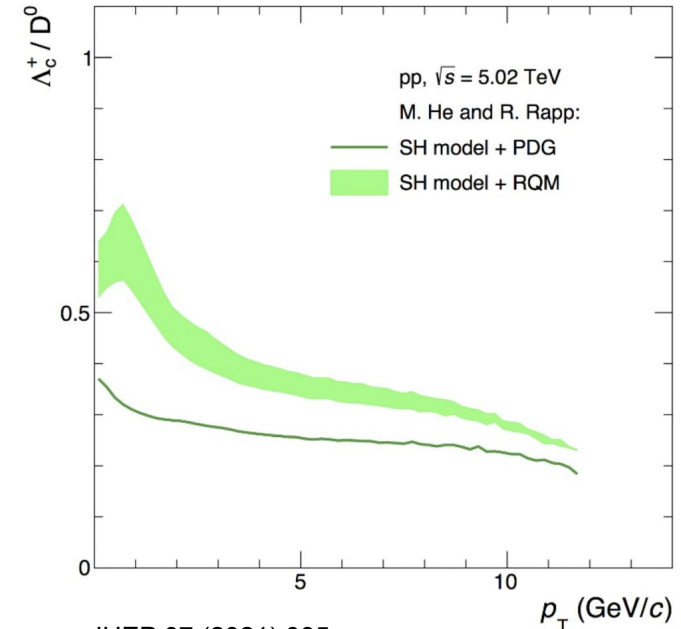
- production via statistical weights (scaling with mass)
- Feed-down from augmented set of charm-baryon states based on Relativistic Quark Model

□ **PDG: 5  $\Lambda_c$  (I=0), 3  $\Sigma_c$  (I=1), 8  $\Xi_c$  (I=1/2), 2  $\Omega_c$  (I=0) → missing baryons?!**  
**RQM: 18 extra  $\Lambda_c$ , 42 extra  $\Sigma_c$ , 62 extra  $\Xi_c$ , 34 extra  $\Omega_c$  up to 3.5 GeV**  
**→ supported by lattice PRD 84 (2011) 014025; PoS LAT. 2014 (2015) 084; PLB 737 (2014) 210**

$n_i$ ( $\cdot 10^{-4} \text{ fm}^{-3}$ )	$D^0$	$D^+$	$D^{*+}$	$D_s^+$	$\Lambda_c^+$	$\Xi_c^{+,0}$	$\Omega_c^0$
PDG(170)	<u>1.161</u>	0.5098	0.5010	0.3165	<u>0.3310</u>	0.0874	0.0064
PDG(160)	0.4996	0.2223	0.2113	0.1311	<u>0.1201</u>	0.0304	0.0021
RQM(170)	<u>1.161</u>	0.5098	0.5010	0.3165	<u>0.6613</u>	0.1173	0.0144
RQM(160)	0.4996	0.2223	0.2113	0.1311	<u>0.2203</u>	0.0391	0.0044

➤ Similar work performed for beauty hadrons and a similar effect is observed

PRL 131 (2023) 1, 012301



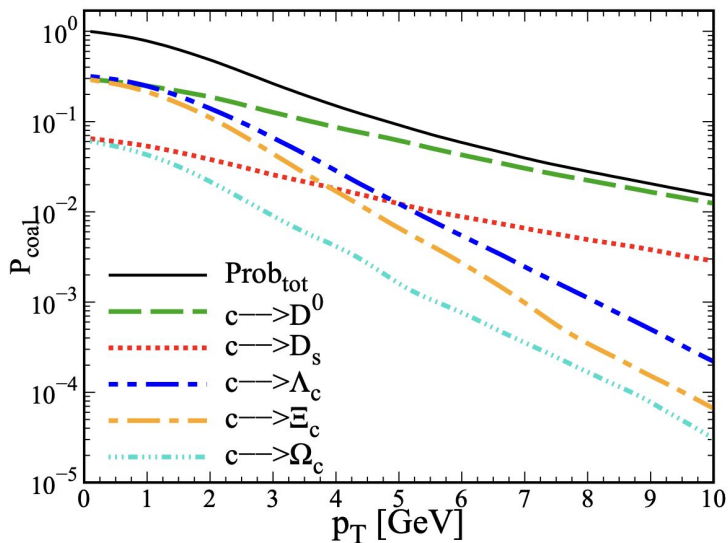
JHEP 07 (2021) 035

PLB 795 117-121 (2019)

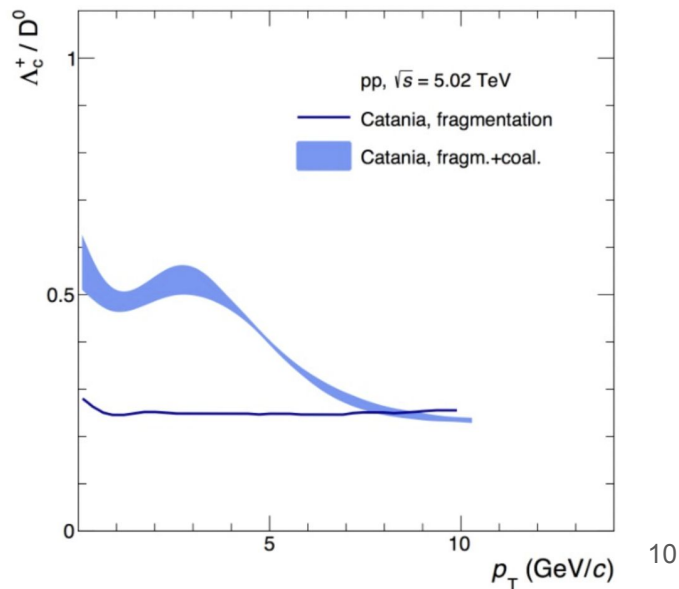
➤ Model with hadronization via coalescence+fragmentation

- **Catania**: Thermal spectra for light quark below 2 GeV/c and charm quark spectrum from FONLL
- **POWLANG**: Charm recombine locally with quarks & diquarks assumed thermally distributed + radial flow
- **EPOS4@HQ**: Similar to Catania but full realistic dynamics from ep, pp to AA

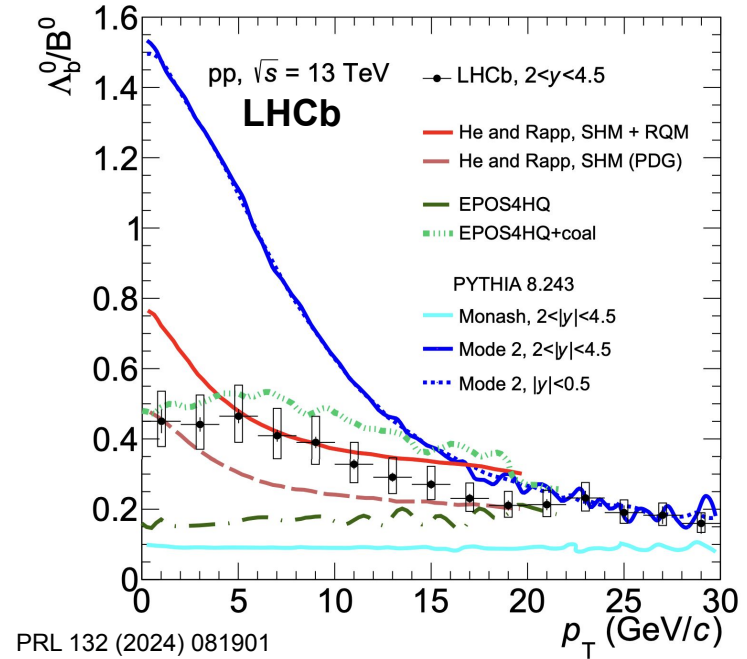
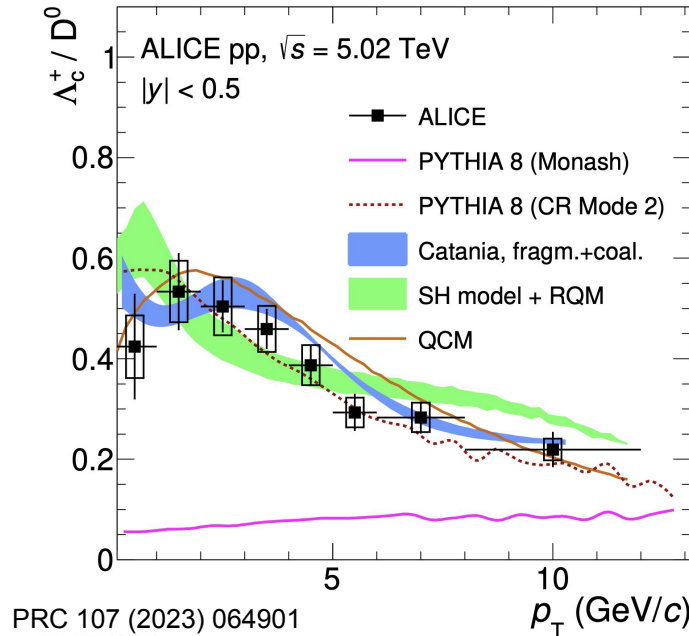
At  $p_T \approx 0$ , a charm quark only hadronize via coalescence, while at high  $p_T$  fragmentation becomes dominant



PLB 821 (2021) 136622  
 PRD 109 (2024) 5, 054011  
 PRD 109 (2024) 1, L011501

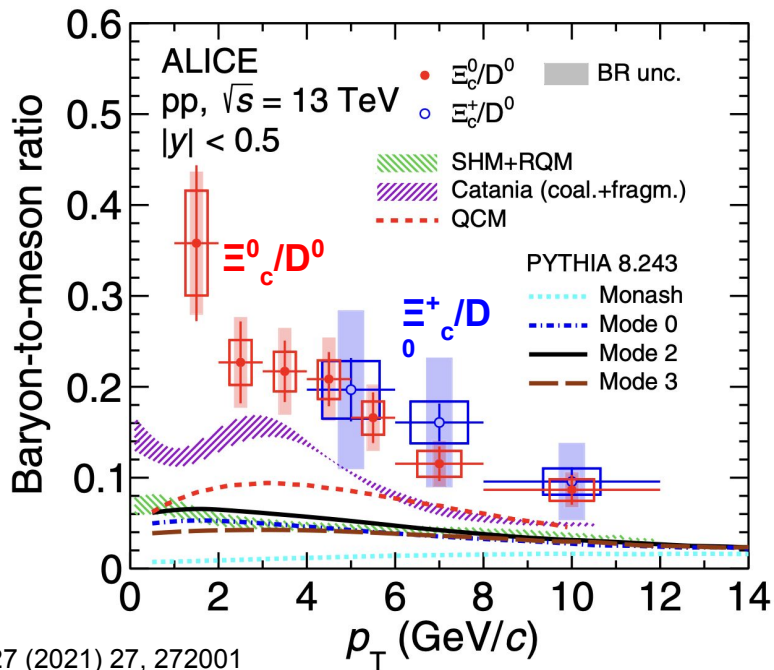


# Baryon/meson ratio in pp

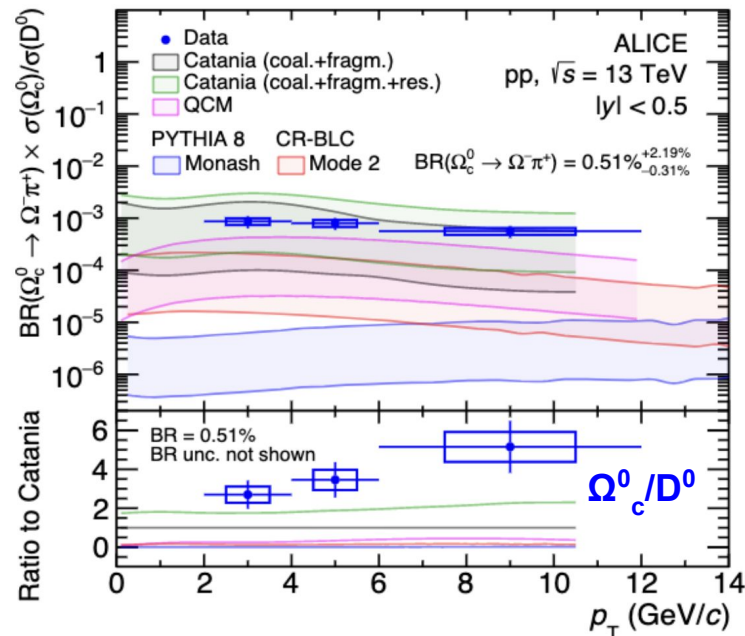


- CR Modes BLC in PYTHIA 8, SHM+RQM, Catania (and QCM) enhance the baryon yield and better describe the data
- **Do the model also describe measurements at forward rapidity?**
  - Is there any obvious difference (parton density, heavy-quark density)?

# A common trend for charm baryons



PRL 127 (2021) 27, 272001

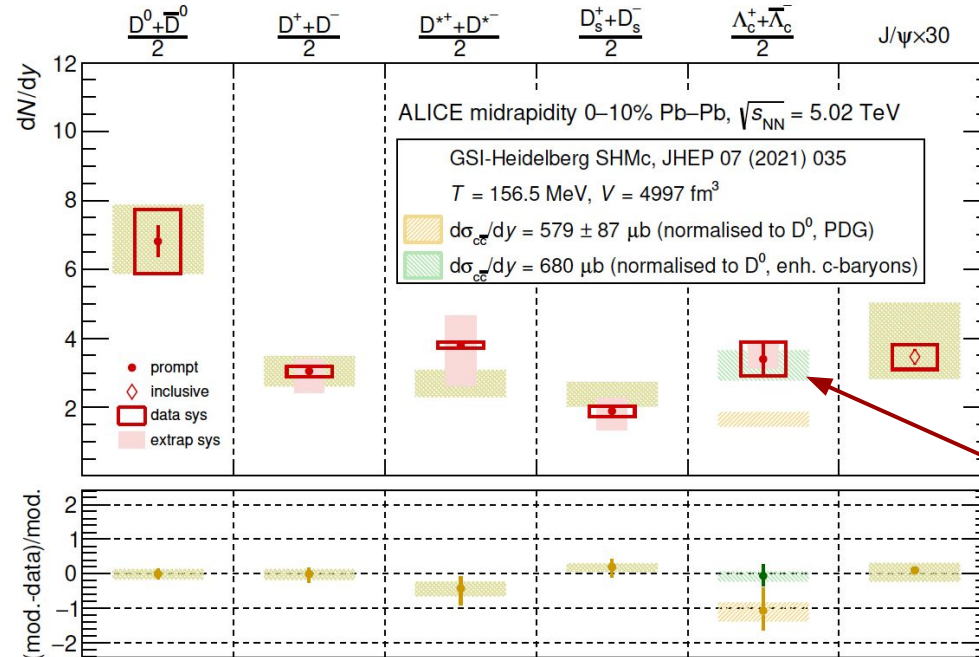


PLB 846 (2023) 137625

➤ **For charm baryons with strange content the enhancement is even larger!**

- Additional challenges from strange-quark production
- Coalescence is the model that gets consistently closer to data

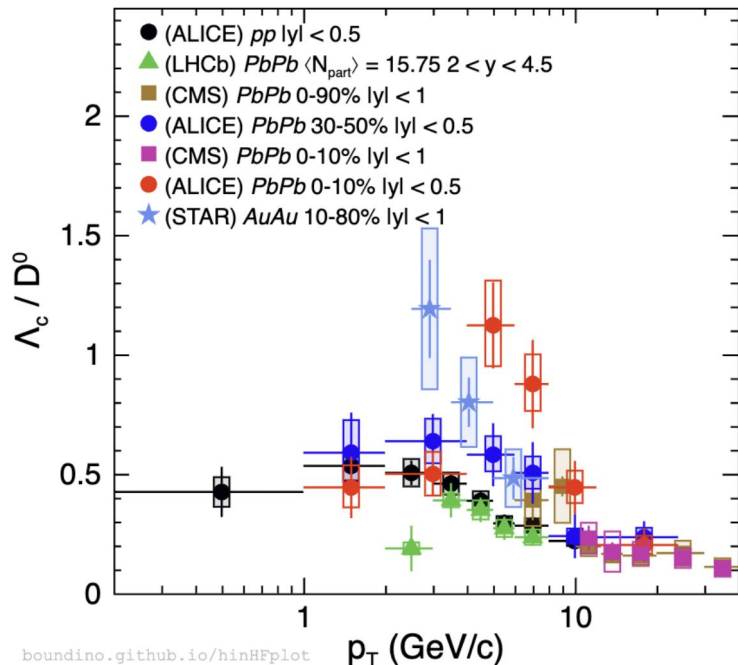
Extremely good description of particle yield in the light flavour sector!



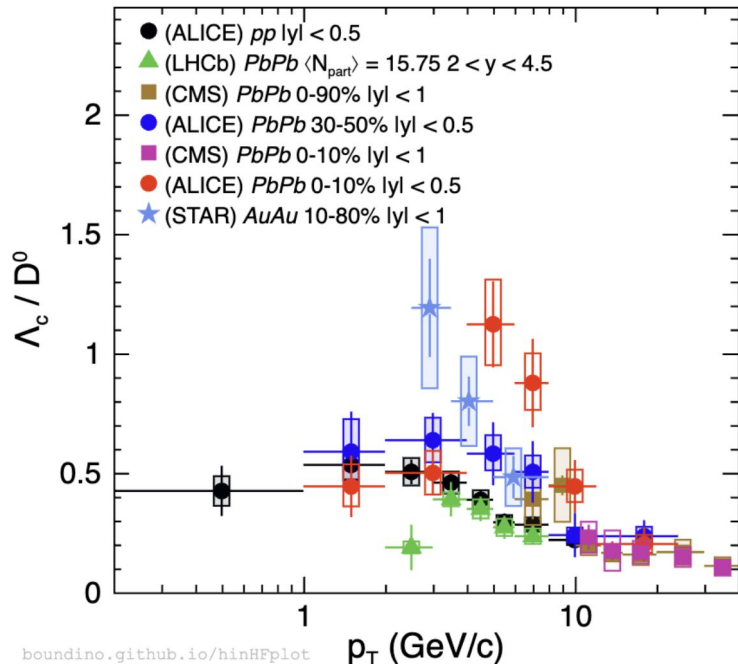
➤ Measured  $p_T$ -integrated yields of open charm mesons and  $J/\Psi$  midrapidity described by SHMc within uncertainties

- Charm content determined by cross section and not by fireball temperature
- Assume (full) charm quark thermalisation in the QGP
- Charm quarks distributed to hadrons according to thermal weights

➤ Yield of  $\Lambda_c$  baryons captured assuming an enhanced production of charmed baryons



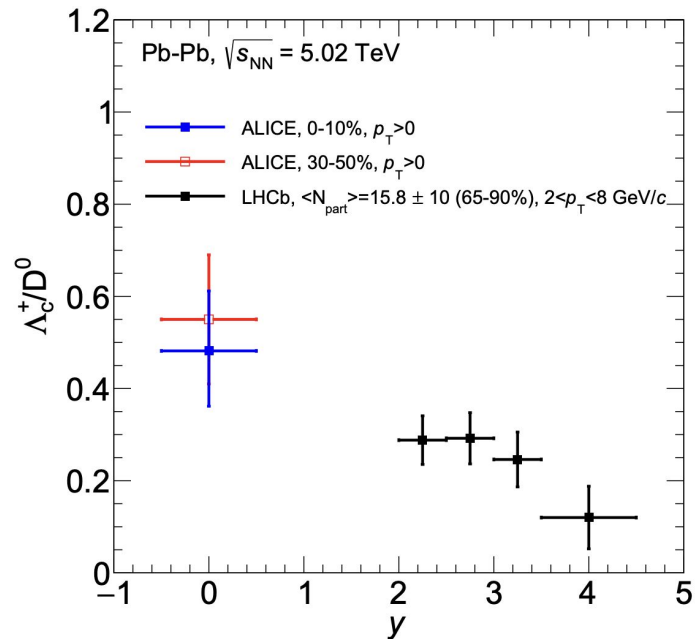
- $\Lambda_c / D^0$  in heavy-ion collision is higher at intermediate  $p_T$  wrt  $e^+e^-$  and  $pp$
- Higher probability to hadronise via coalescence?
  - Radial flow?
  - An interplay of the two effect?



➤ Possible **rapidity dependence** need further investigation - what do models predict?

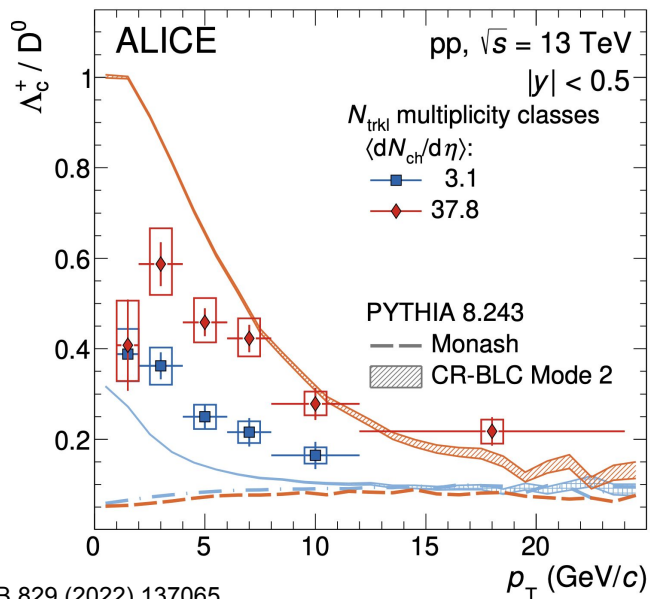
➤  $\Lambda_c / D^0$  in heavy-ion collision is higher at intermediate  $p_T$  wrt  $e^+e^-$  and  $pp$

- Higher probability to hadronise via coalescence?
- Radial flow?
- An interplay of the two effect?

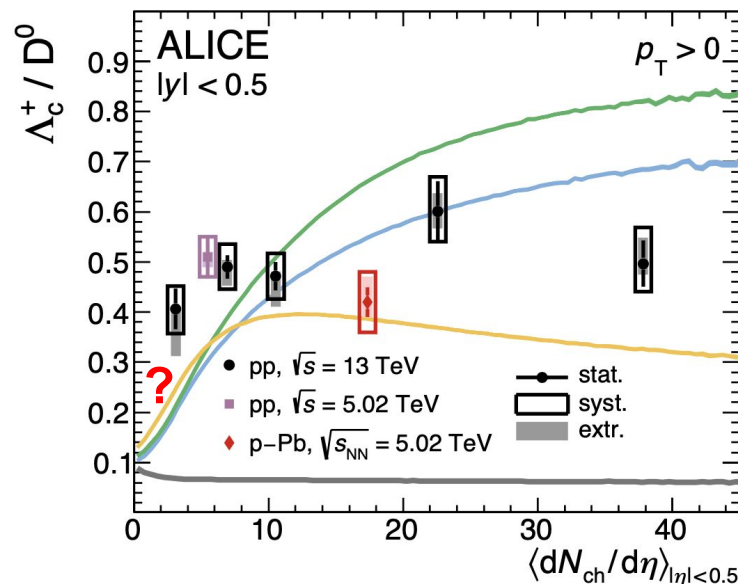




# Baryon-to-meson ratio vs multiplicity

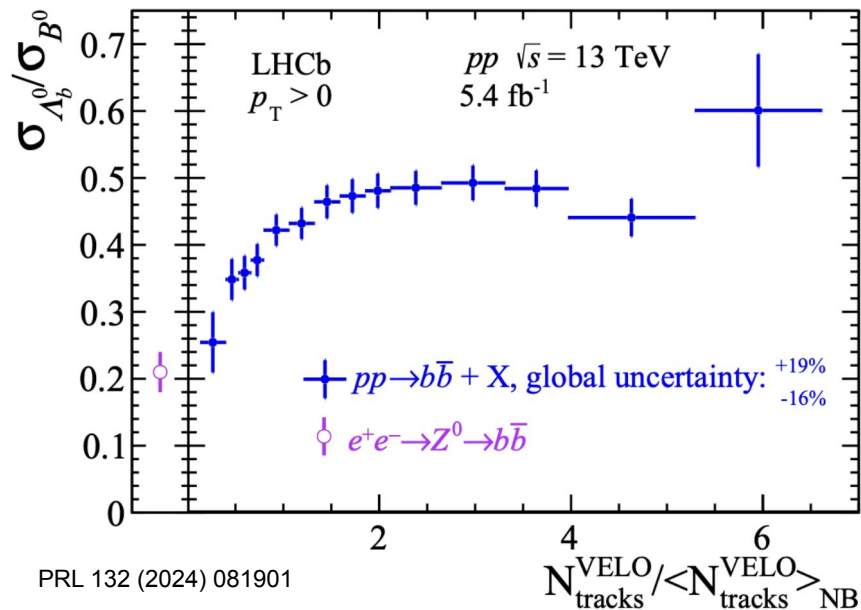
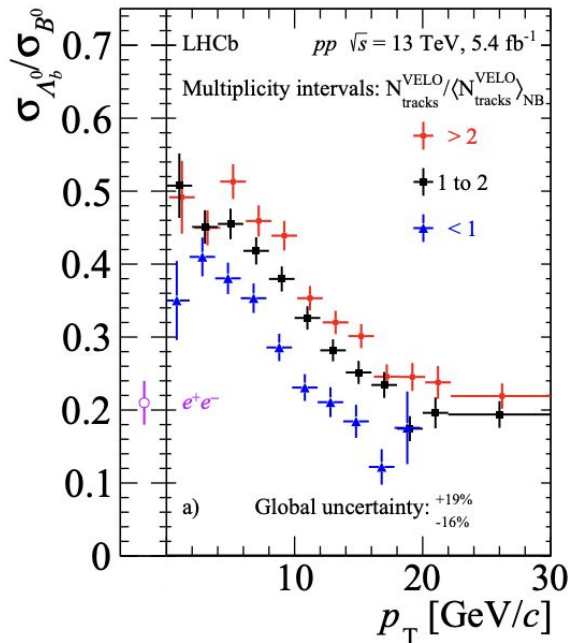


PLB 829 (2022) 137065



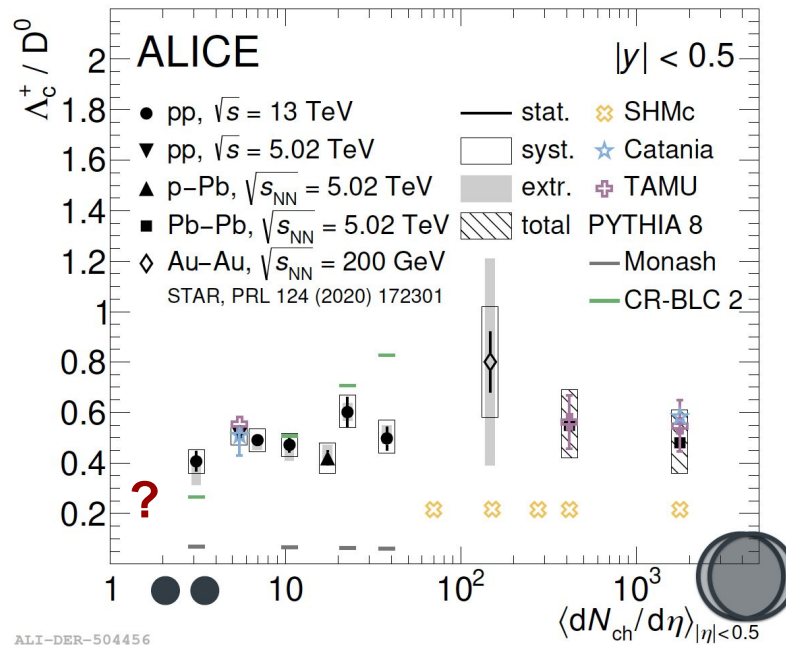
- Baryon/meson ratios in pp collisions: different  $p_T$  trend depending on multiplicity
  - Larger baryon production at intermediate  $p_T$  with increasing multiplicity
- No modification of  $p_T$ -integrated  $\Lambda_c/D^0$  as a function of multiplicity
- **Towards very low multiplicity** - would it be possible to reach the  $e^+e^-$  limit?





PRL 132 (2024) 081901

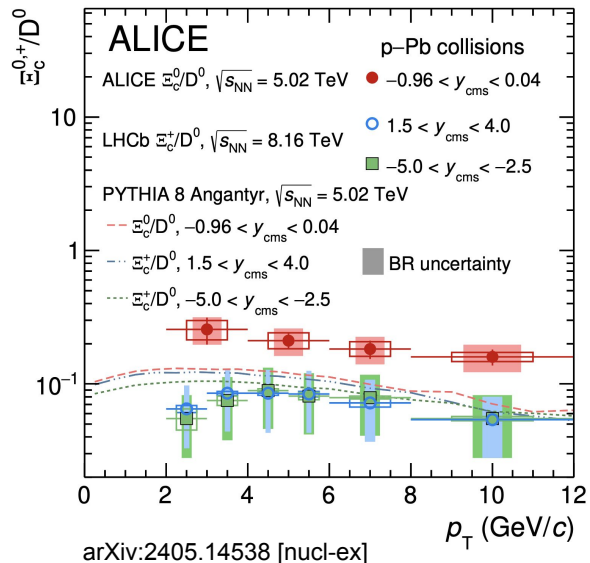
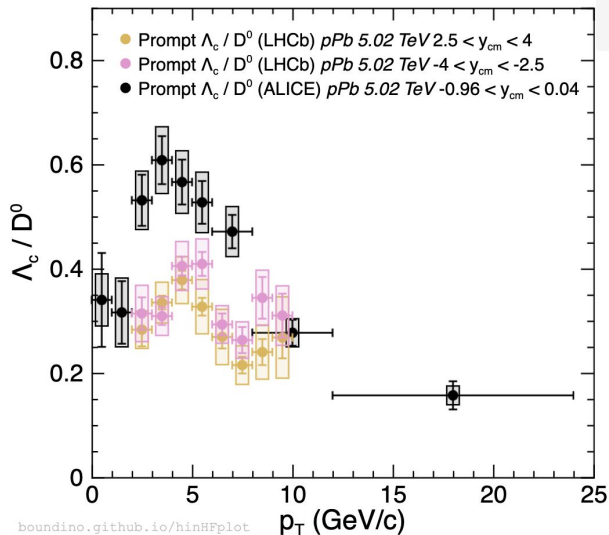
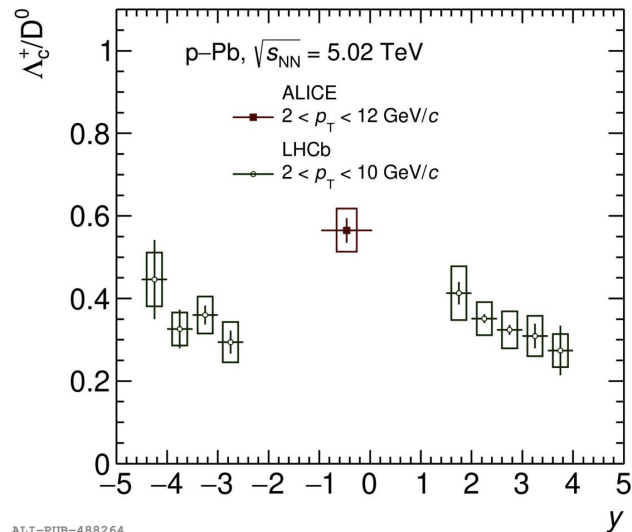
- Baryon/meson ratios in pp collisions: different  $p_T$  trend depending on multiplicity
  - Larger baryon production at intermediate  $p_T$  with increasing multiplicity
- **In the beauty sector the  $e^+e^-$  limit is reached**



ALI-DER-504456

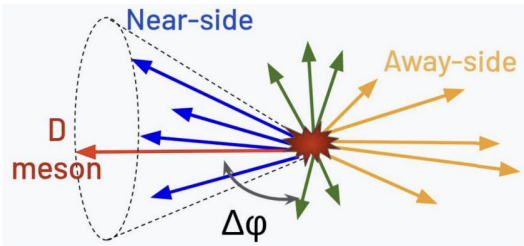
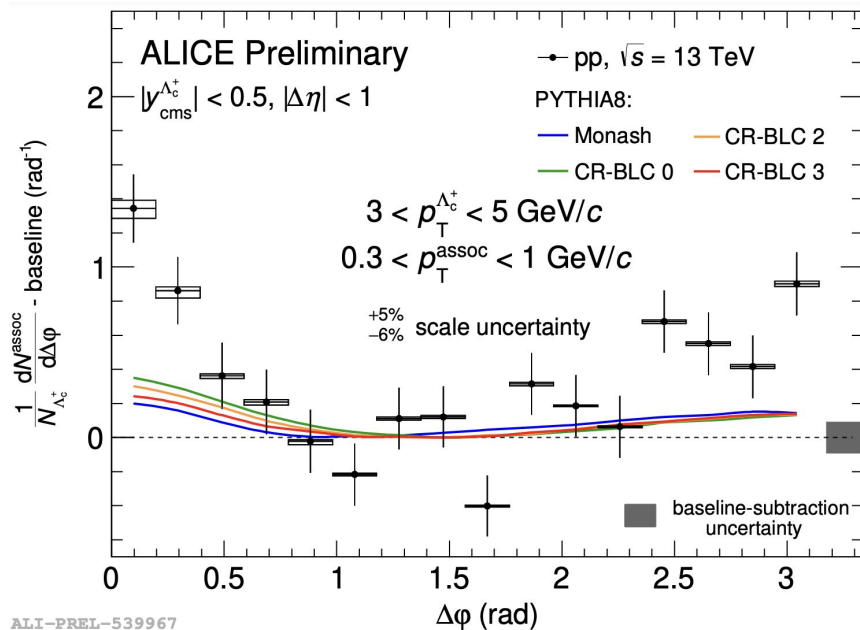
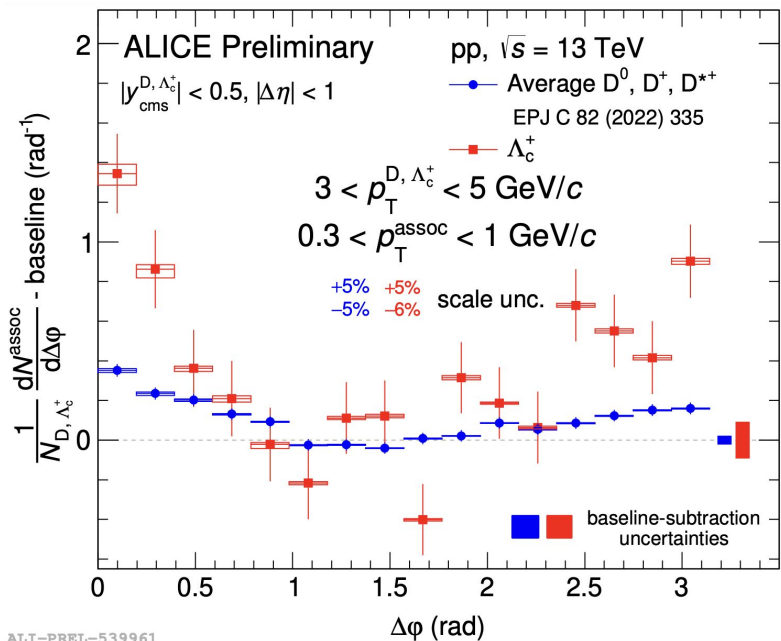
- No modification of  $p_T$ -integrated  $\Lambda_c/D^0$  from pp to Pb-Pb
- **Towards very low multiplicity** - would it be possible to reach the  $e^+e^-$  limit?
- **Prospect:** measure  $\Xi_c$  and  $\Omega_c$  baryons in heavy-ion collisions

# *Perspectives*



- **Recurrent picture:** stronger enhancement at midrapidity than at forward rapidity  
 → Possible trend to be revisited with Run 3 data (also in pp)
- What should we expect in coalescence models and SHMc? Flat in rapidity?

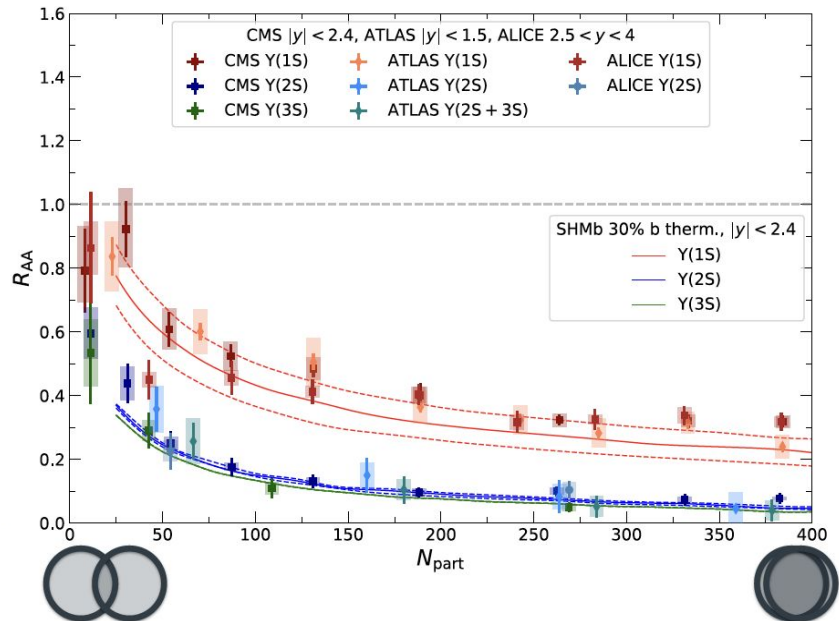
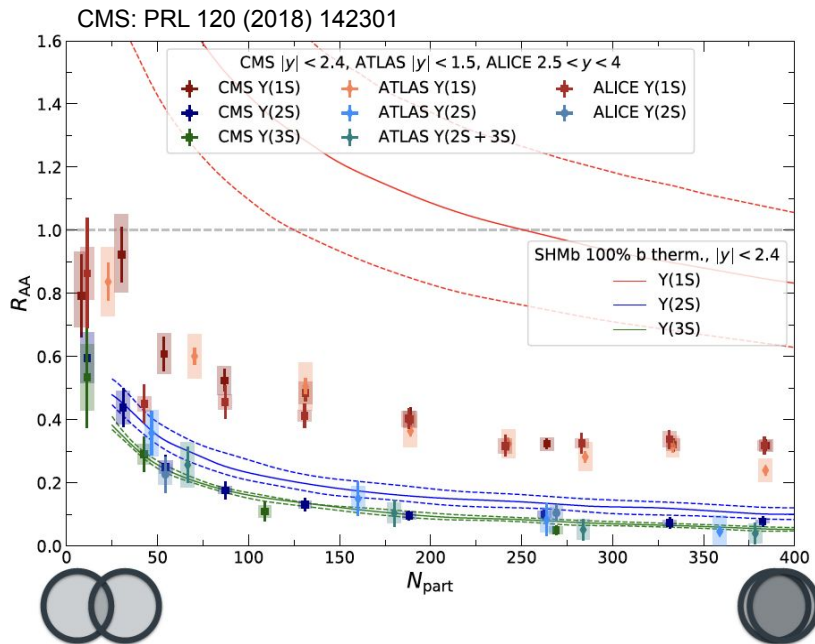
# More differential - correlations and jets

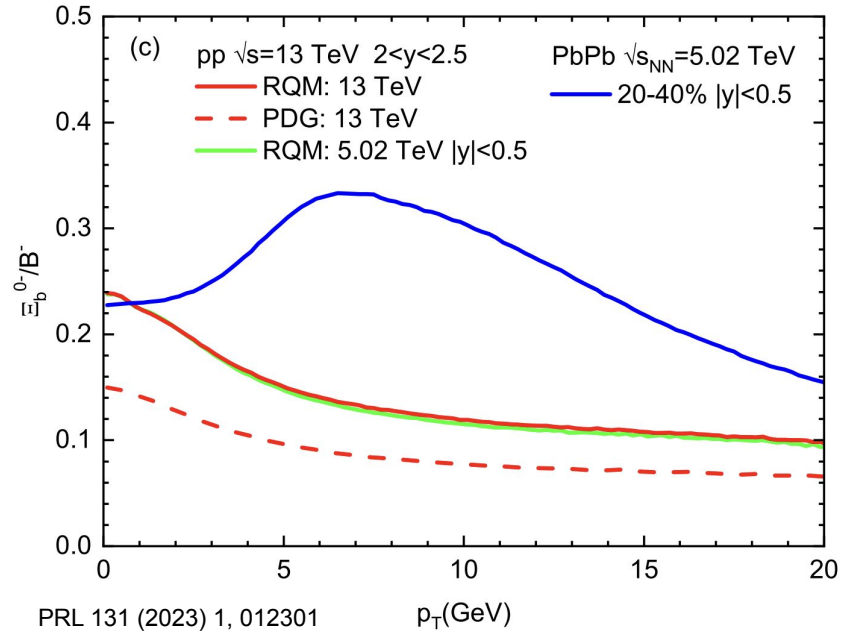
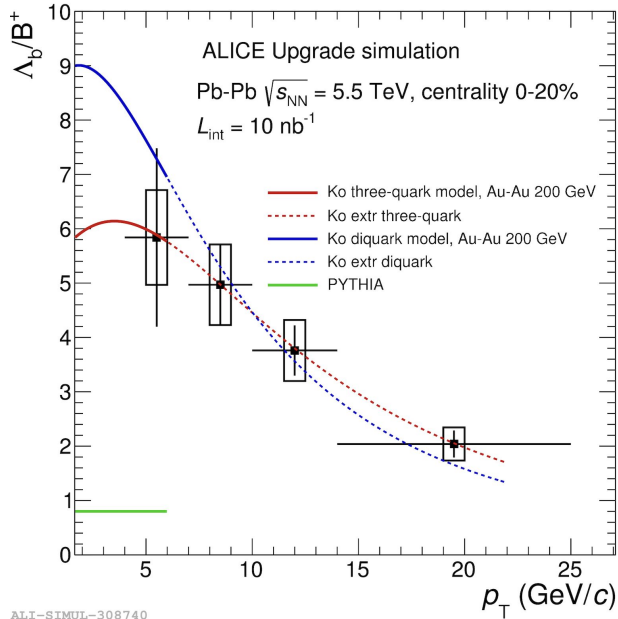


- Near-side and away-side peak yields larger for  $\Lambda_c$ -h than D-h  
→ not described by PYTHIA
- Impact of softer  $\Lambda_c$  fragmentation?  
→ hints from  $\Lambda_c$ -tagged jets analysis: arXiv:2301.13798

- $Y$  largely overestimated if 100% of beauty quarks assumed to be thermalized.
  - Does beauty quark reach thermal equilibrium
  - $v_2$  is compatible with zero

- $Y$  described if 30% of beauty quarks assumed to thermalize.
  - Reach partial equilibrium?
  - **Presence of currently unknown open beauty states will lead to a reduction of the bottomonia yields.**

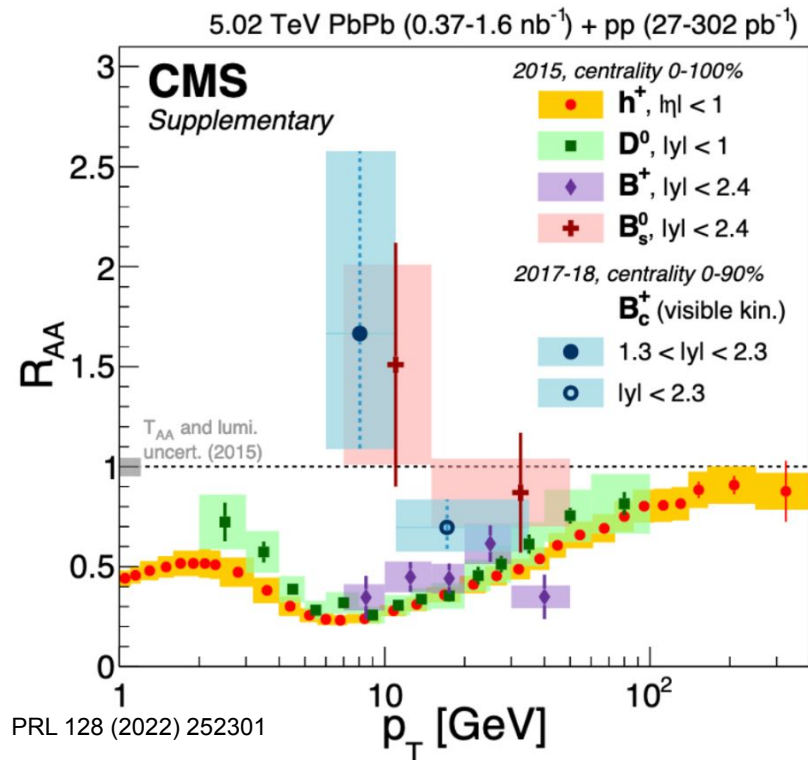
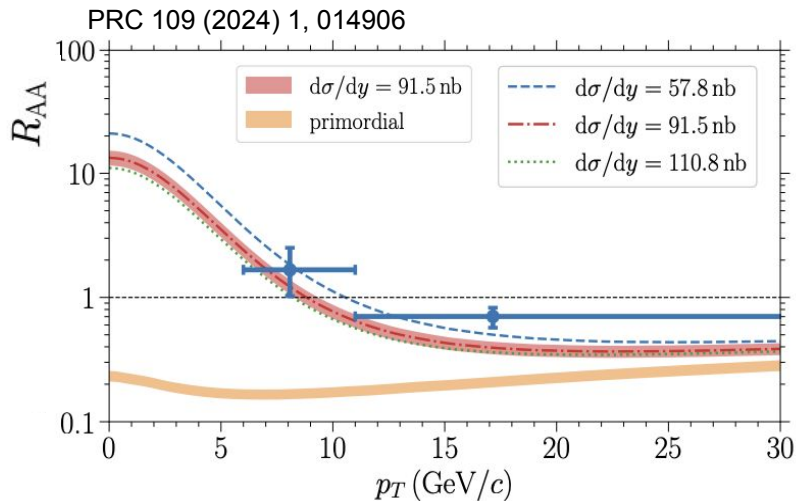




➤ **Full reconstruction of beauty hadrons will be at reach in Run 3-4**

- Reconstruction of  $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda_c^+ \pi^-$  (BR =  $4.9 \cdot 10^{-3}$ )
  - Will be affected by large uncertainties and limited to  $p_T > 4-5$  GeV/c in Run 3 and Run 4
- Enhancement expected also for beauty-strange baryons

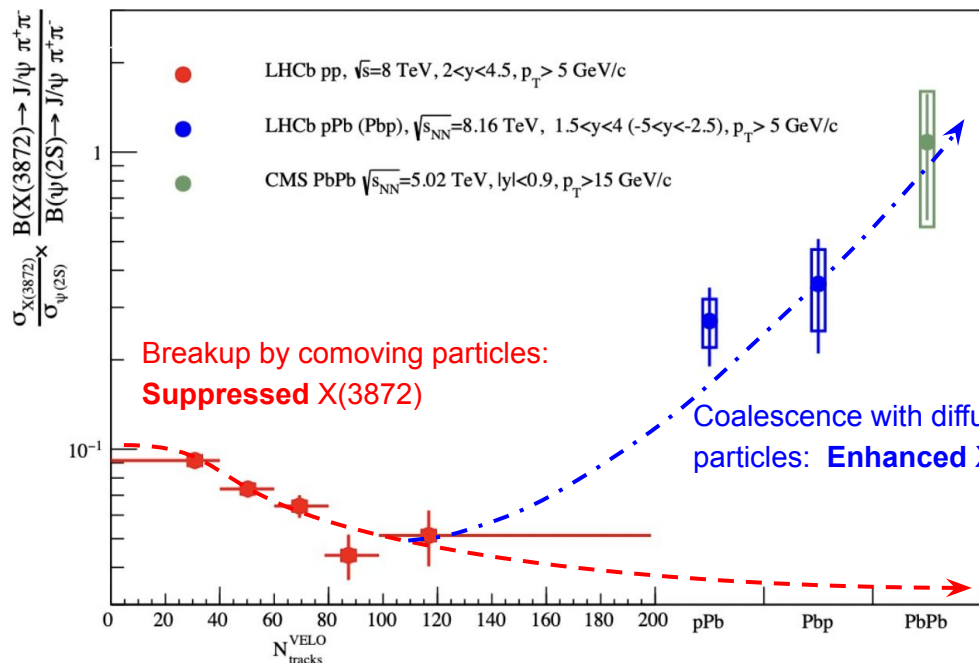
- $B_c^+$  production in heavy-ion collisions is an ideal probe to be sensitive both to dead cone effect and statistical recombination
  - CMS: used 2018 Pb-Pb data!
  - ALICE, LHCb: Possible first look with Run 3/4
- **Largest contribution from recombination**





## ➤ Relevance of coalescence in large systems?

- X(3872) → form from suppression to enhancement?
- Stress test with system size scan:  $ep \rightarrow eA \rightarrow pp \rightarrow pO \rightarrow OO \rightarrow pA \rightarrow ArAr \rightarrow XeXe \rightarrow PbPb$



- Extension of measurements toward **low  $p_T$  is crucial**
- Centrality dependence

- Further studies might shed light on the **internal structure** of these exotic objects

Loi: CERN-LHCC-2022-009

H. Zhang et al., PRL 126(2021) 012301

B. Wu et al., EPJA 57(2021) 122

LHCb:

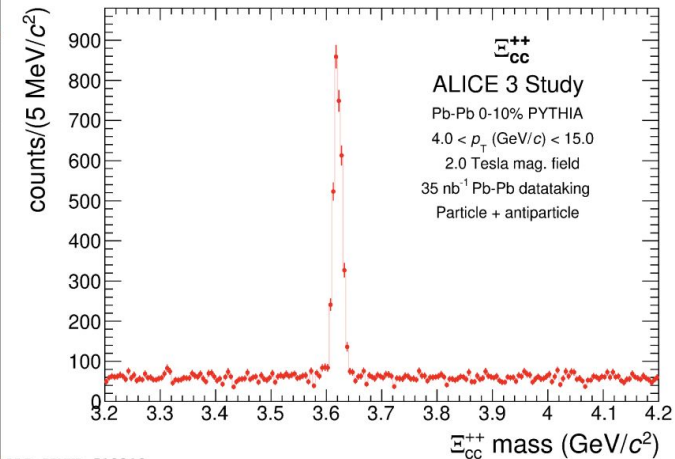
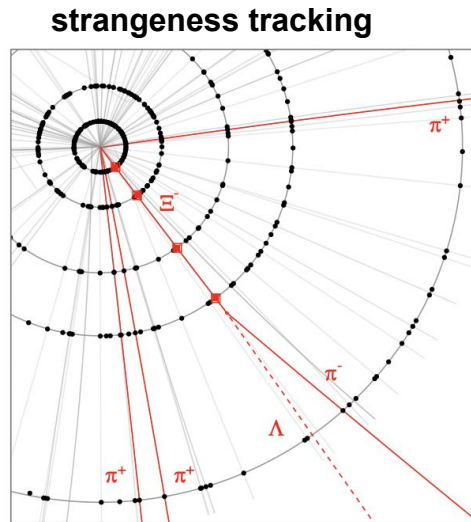
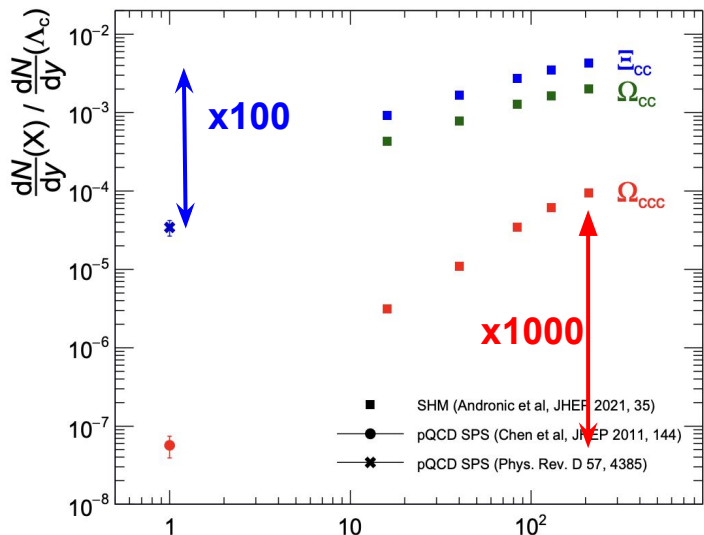
- PRL 126 (2021) 092001

- PRL 132 (2024) 24, 242301

CMS:

- PRL 128 (2022) 3, 032001

- Crucial new insight by measuring baryons containing multiple charm quarks ( $\Xi_{cc}^+$ ,  $\Xi_{cc}^{++}$ ,  $\Omega_{cc}^+$ ,  $\Omega_{ccc}^{++}$ )
- Yields of multi-charm/single-charm hadrons predicted to be largely enhanced in A-A compared to pp collisions in SHM and coalescence models - production in single hard scattering disfavored
- **Direct window on hadron formation from QGP and unique testing ground for charm deconfinement and thermalisation**



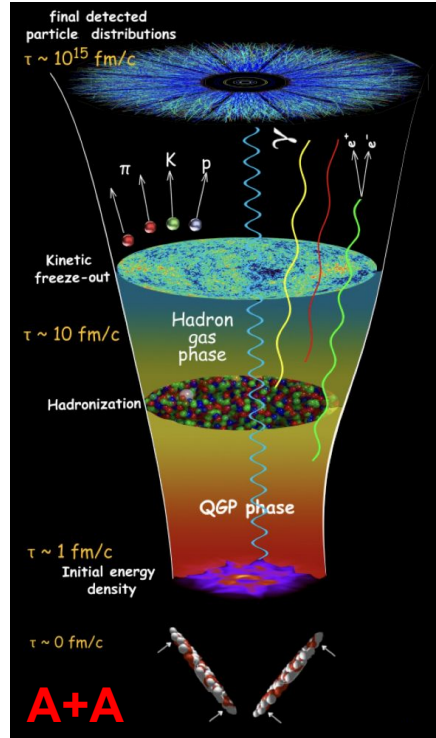
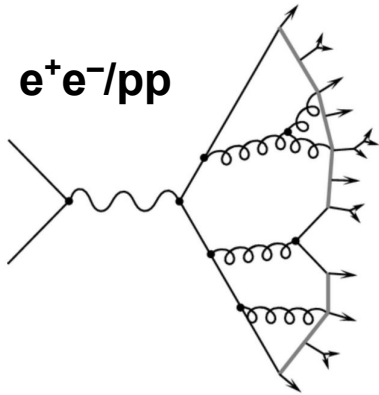
➤ **Hadronisation studied with heavy-flavour hadrons**

- LHC data challenge the universality of hadronisation
- Clear signs of coalescence in open charm measurements (and in  $J/\Psi$  - not shown today)
- Baryon enhancement present even at low mult.  $pp - e^+e^-$  limit in  $pp$  has been reached

**Outlook:**

- **Short term goal:** understanding the possible rapidity dependence, if any!
- **Beauty:** need of precise measurements of hadrochemistry,  $p_T$  spectra for different hadrons
  - Accessible with precision with future large  $pp$  and Pb-Pb data samples
- **Multi-charm hadron,  $B_c$ , and exotica** will 'soon' be at reach
  - They can open a new window for further testing coalescence and statistical hadronization

*Thank you all for the attention*

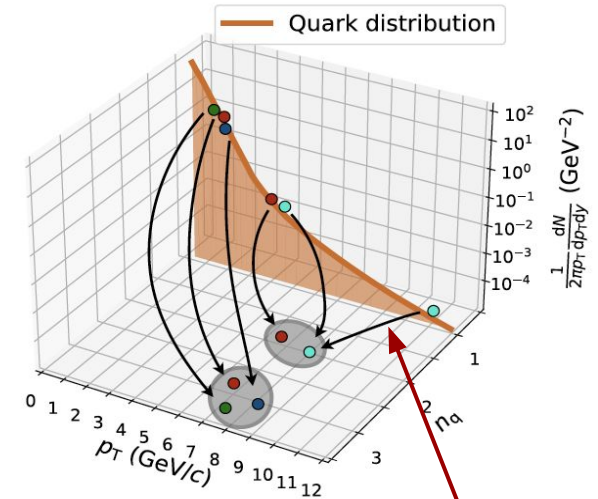


- **Hadronisation in elementary reactions:** the mechanism by which quarks and gluons produced in hard partonic scattering processes form hadrons
- **No first-principle description of hadron formation**
  - Non-perturbative problem, not calculable with pQCD
  - Necessary to resort to models and make use of phenomenological parameters
- **Hadronisation of the QGP medium**
  - Transition from a deconfined medium composed of quarks, antiquarks and gluons to color-neutral hadronic matter

➤ Hadronization of QGP: is it different from  $e^+e^-/pp$  in which no thermalized partons are formed?

## ➤ Independent fragmentation:

- Phenomenological functions to parameterize the *non-perturbative parton-to-hadron transition*  $D_{q \rightarrow h}(z)$
- $z$  is the fraction of the parton momentum taken by the hadron  $h$
- Parameterized on data ( $e^+e^-$ ) and assumed to be “**universal**”
- Event generators: string fragmentation



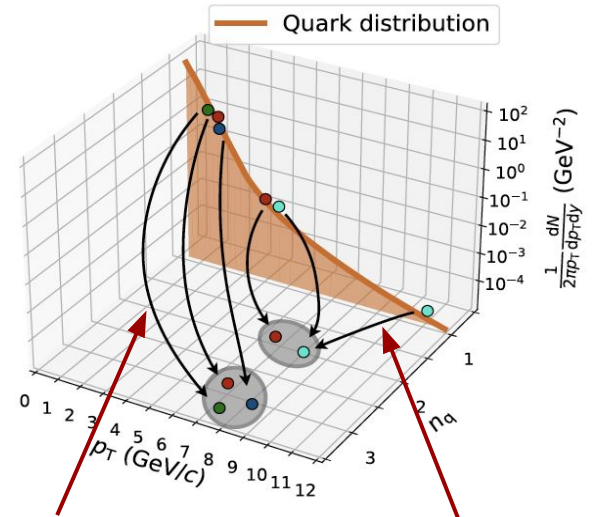
**Fragmenting** parton:  
 $p_h = z \cdot p_q$  with  $z < 1$

## ➤ Independent fragmentation:

- Phenomenological functions to parameterize the *non-perturbative parton-to-hadron transition*  $D_{q \rightarrow h}(z)$
- $z$  is the fraction of the parton momentum taken by the hadron  $h$
- Parameterized on data ( $e^+e^-$ ) and assumed to be “**universal**”
- Event generators: string fragmentation

## ➤ Coalescence/recombination:

- Single parton description is not be valid anymore
- No need to create  $q\bar{q}$  pairs via string fragmentation
- Partons that are “*close*” to each other in phase space (position and velocity) can **recombine** into hadrons



**Recombining** quarks:

$$p_{\text{meson}} = p_{q1} + p_{q2}$$

$$p_{\text{baryon}} = p_{q1} + p_{q2} + p_{q3}$$

**Fragmenting** parton:

$$p_h = z \cdot p_q \quad \text{with } z < 1$$

## ➤ Independent fragmentation:

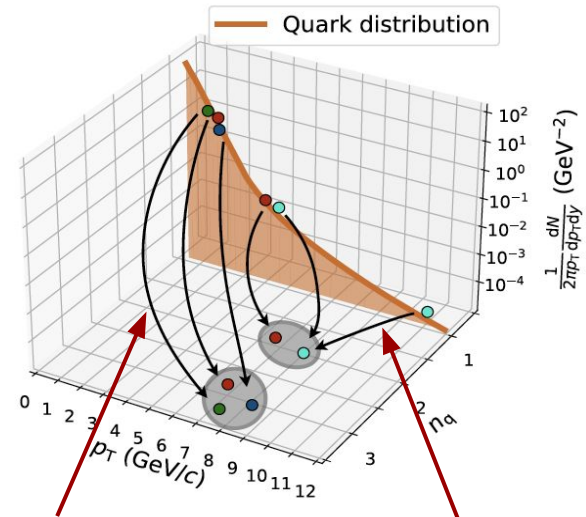
- Phenomenological functions to parameterize the *non-perturbative parton-to-hadron transition*  $D_{q \rightarrow h}(z)$
- $z$  is the fraction of the parton momentum taken by the hadron  $h$
- Parameterized on data ( $e^+e^-$ ) and assumed to be “**universal**”
- Event generators: string fragmentation

## ➤ Coalescence/recombination:

- Single parton description is not be valid anymore
- No need to create  $q\bar{q}$  pairs via string fragmentation
- Partons that are “*close*” to each other in phase space (position and velocity) can **recombine** into hadrons

## ➤ Coalescence vs. fragmentation:

- Competing mechanisms, dominant in different  $p_T$  regions
- **Recombination depends on “environment”**, i.e. density and momentum distribution of surrounding (anti)quarks



**Recombining** quarks:

$$p_{\text{meson}} = p_{q1} + p_{q2}$$

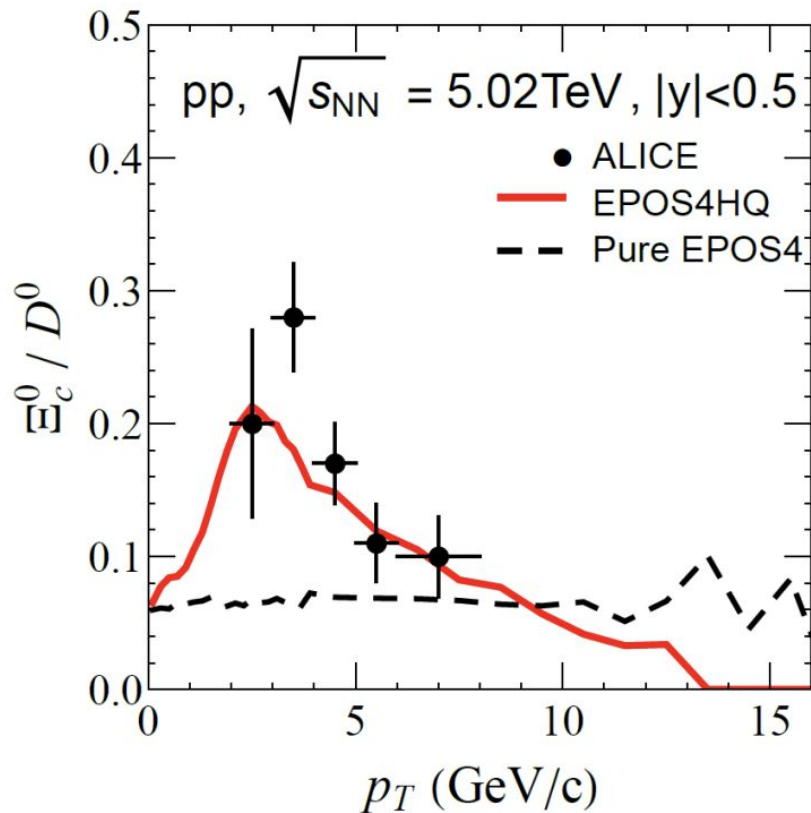
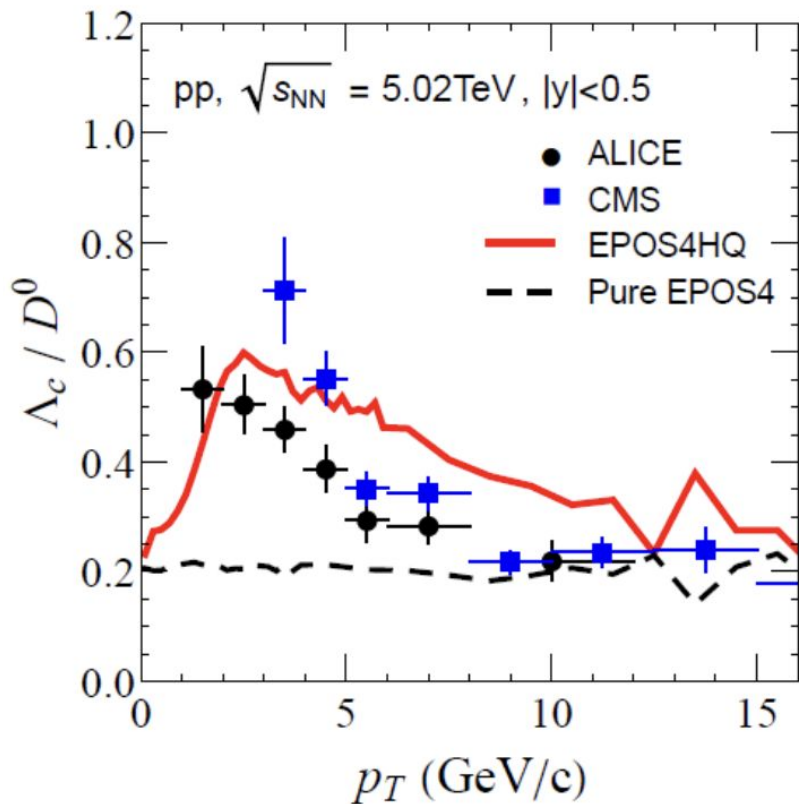
$$p_{\text{baryon}} = p_{q1} + p_{q2} + p_{q3}$$

**Fragmenting** parton:

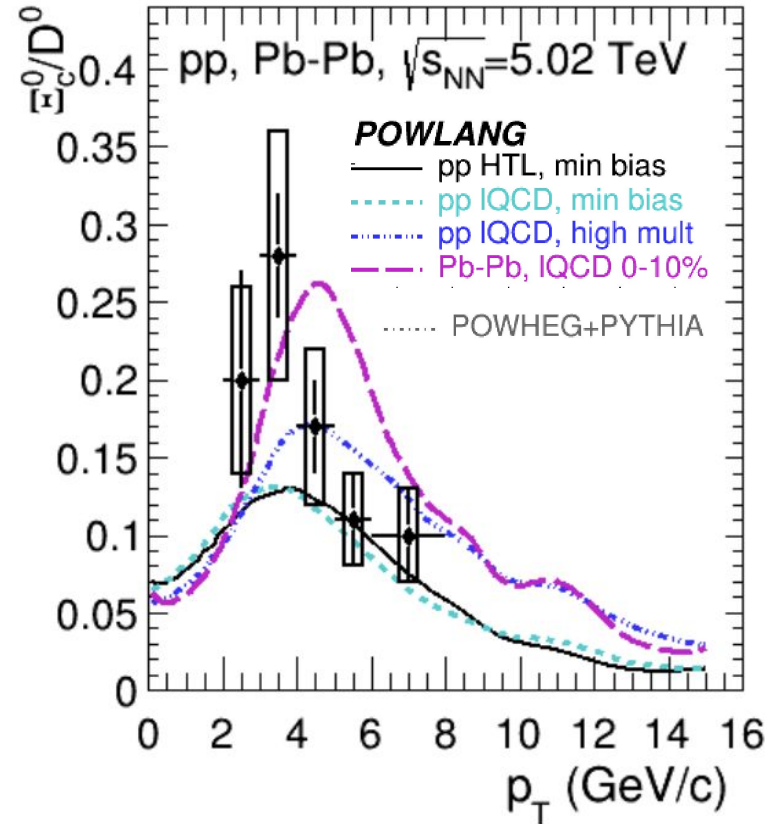
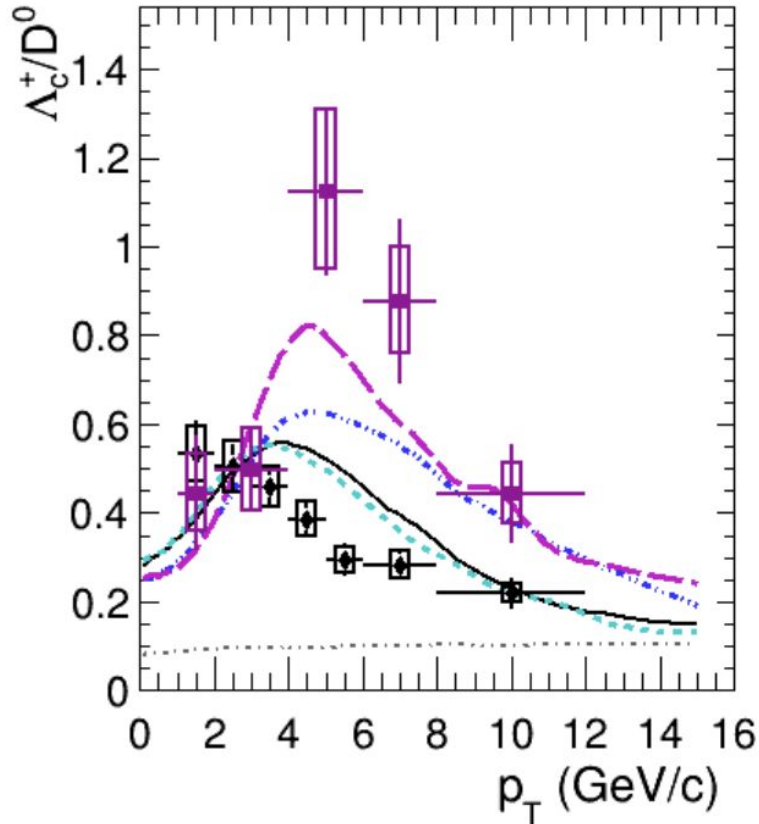
$$p_h = z \cdot p_q \quad \text{with } z < 1$$



# Baryon/meson ratio in pp

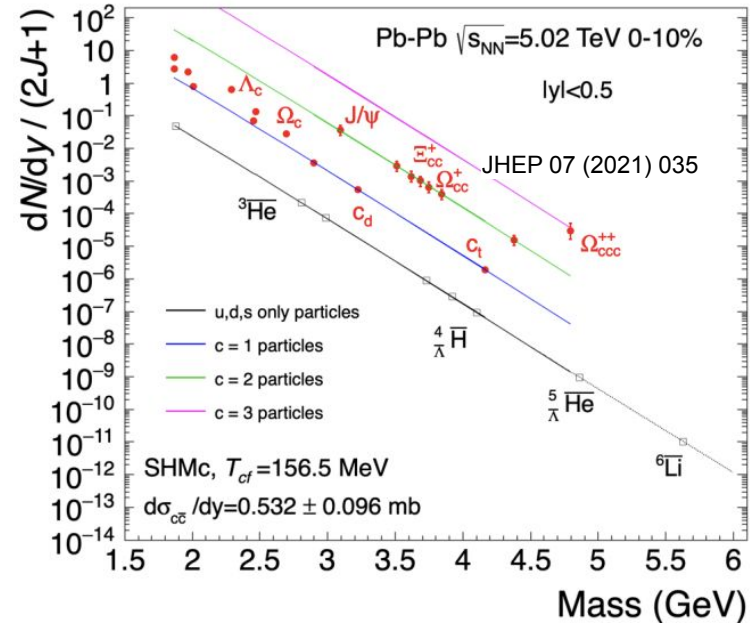
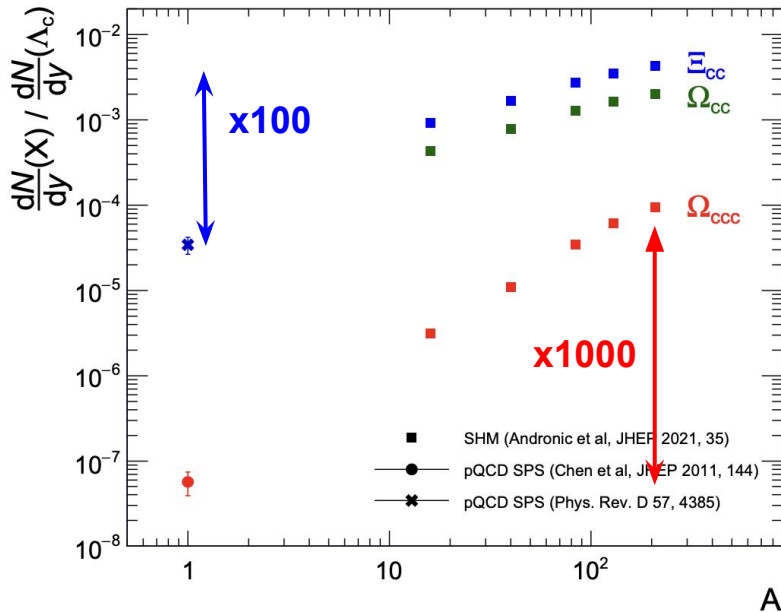


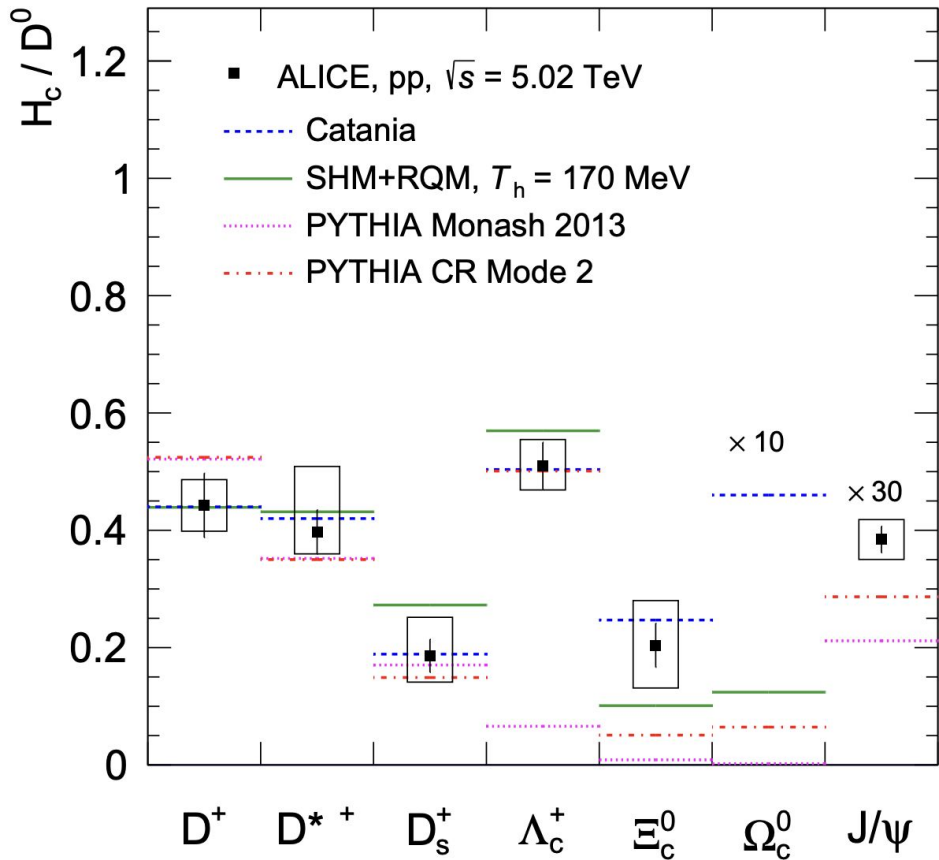
# Baryon/meson ratio in pp

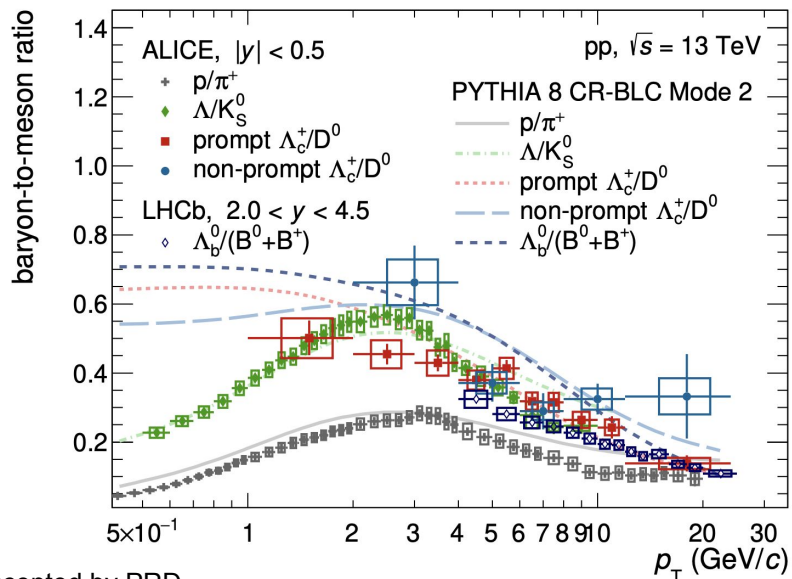


- Crucial new insight by measuring baryons containing multiple charm quarks ( $\Xi_{cc}^+$ ,  $\Xi_{cc}^{++}$ ,  $\Omega_{cc}^+$ ,  $\Omega_{ccc}^{++}$ )
- Yields of multi-charm/single-charm hadrons predicted to be largely enhanced in A-A compared to pp collisions in SHM and coalescence models - production in single hard scattering disfavored

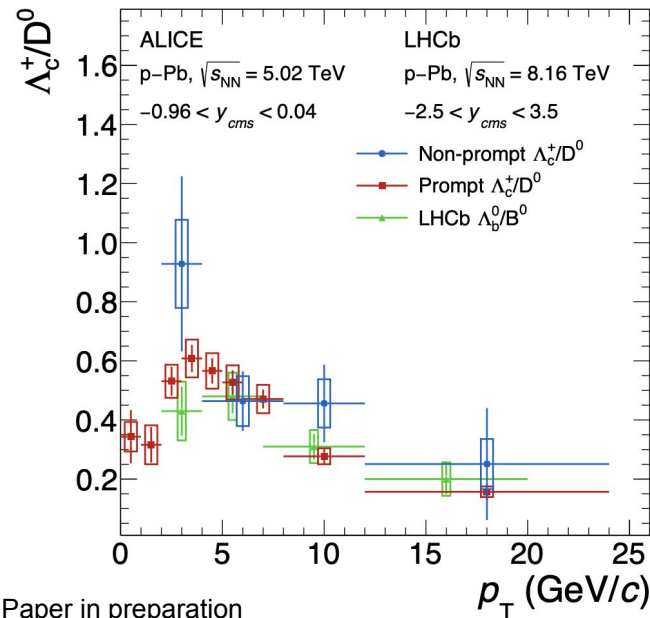
➤ **Direct window on hadron formation from QGP and unique testing ground for charm deconfinement and thermalisation**







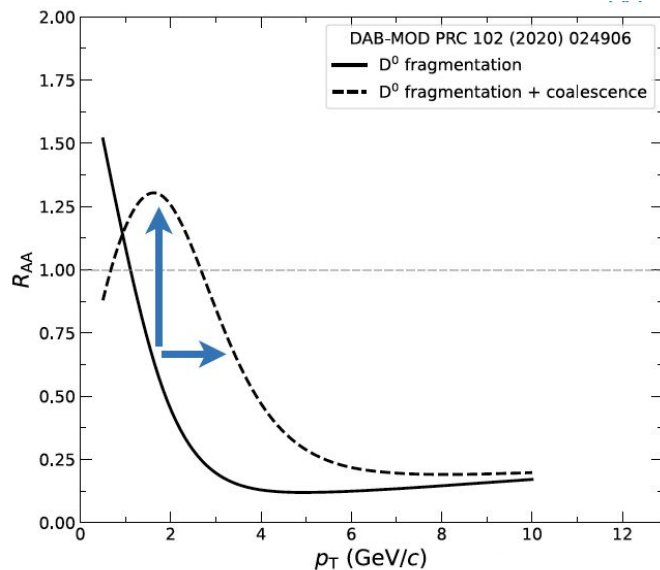
Accepted by PRD



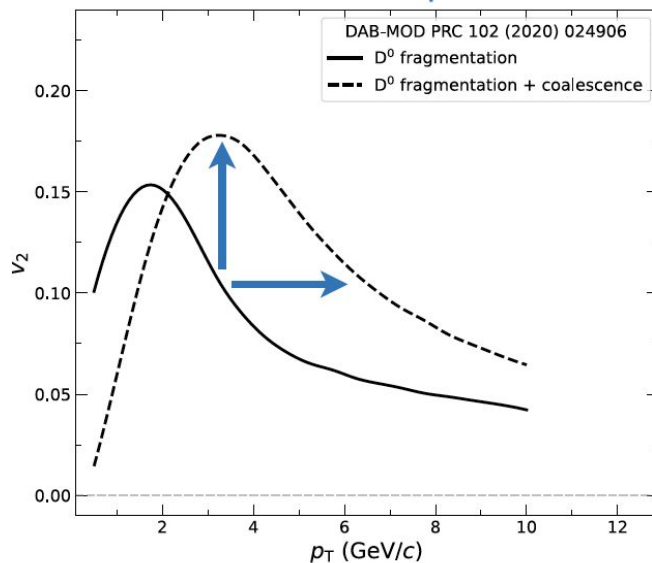
Paper in preparation

- First measurement of non-prompt charm-baryon production ( $|y| < 0.5$ ) in pp and p-Pb collisions
- Prompt and non-prompt  $\Lambda_c^+/D^0$  ratio similar in both pp and p-Pb collisions
  - similar baryon-to-meson enhancement compared to  $e^+e^-$

## Nuclear modification factor

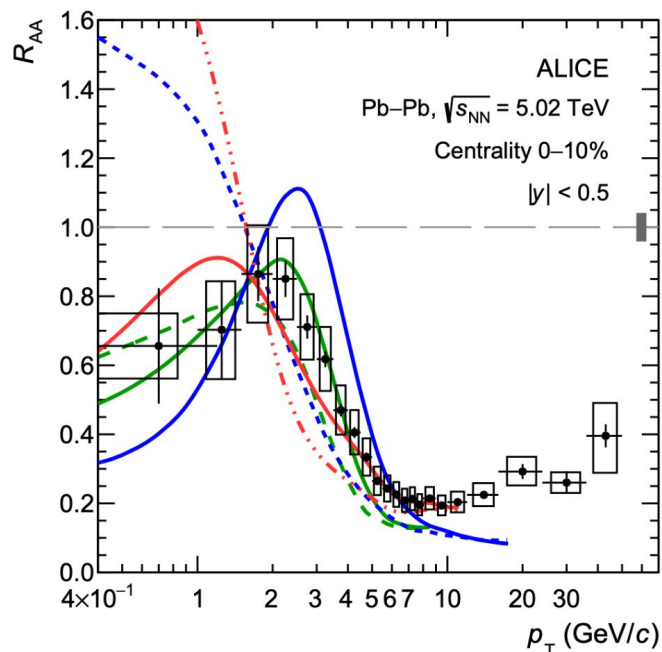


## Elliptic flow

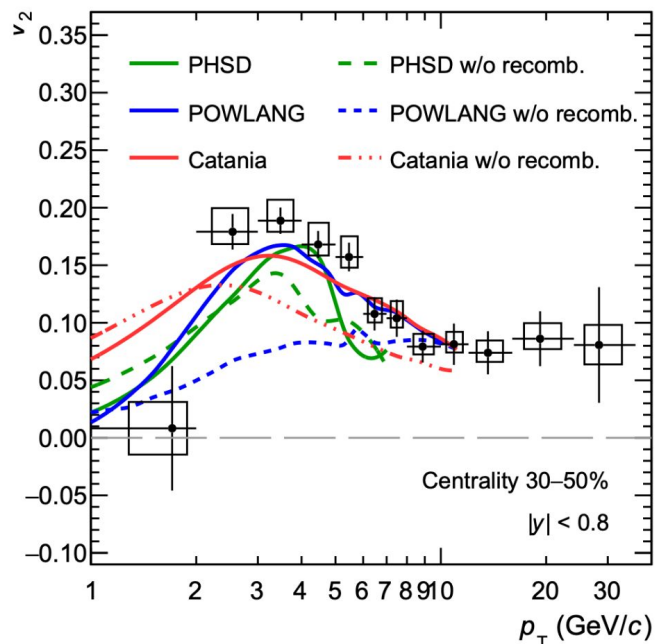


- **Coalescence** of heavy quarks with light quarks from the QGP affects **HF hadron momentum distributions**
  - HF hadrons pick-up the radial and elliptic flow of the light quark

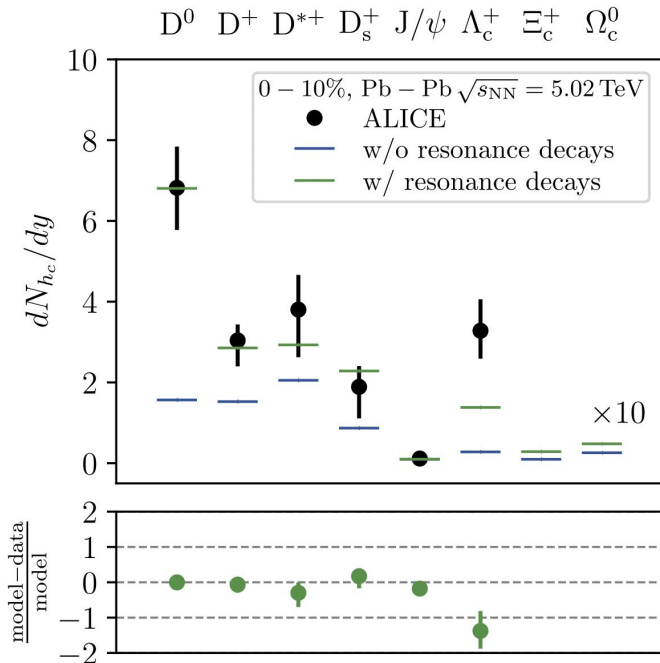
## Nuclear modification factor



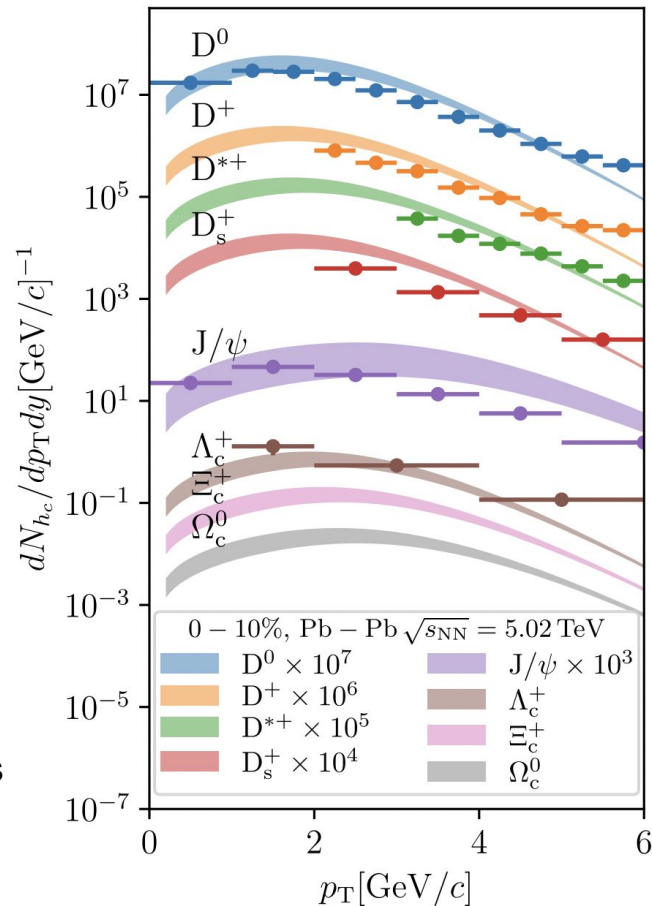
## Elliptic flow



- Coalescence component is crucial to describe the data at low/mid  $p_T$



- Cooper-Frye prescription + resonance decays at  $T_{fo} = 156.5$  MeV
- Expected deviation for  $\Lambda_c$  as in SHM w/o additional resonances
- Deviation for  $J/\psi$  : primordial  $J/\psi$  at high  $p_T$ ?





- $Y$  largely overestimated if 100% of beauty quarks assumed to be thermalized.
  - Does beauty quark reach thermal equilibrium
  - $v_2$  is compatible with zero

- **$Y$  described if 30% of beauty quarks assumed to thermalize.**
  - Reach partial equilibrium?
  - **Presence of currently unknown open beauty states will lead to a reduction of the bottomonia yields.**

CMS: PRL 120 (2018) 142301

