

# The statistical hadronization model and the QCD phase diagram: a flavor journey

---

A. Andronic - University of Münster



- Chemical freeze-out of light quark (u,d,s) hadrons
- ...and the connection to the QCD phase diagram
- The heavy quarks (quarkonium): data and models (SHM)
- The “sixth flavor”

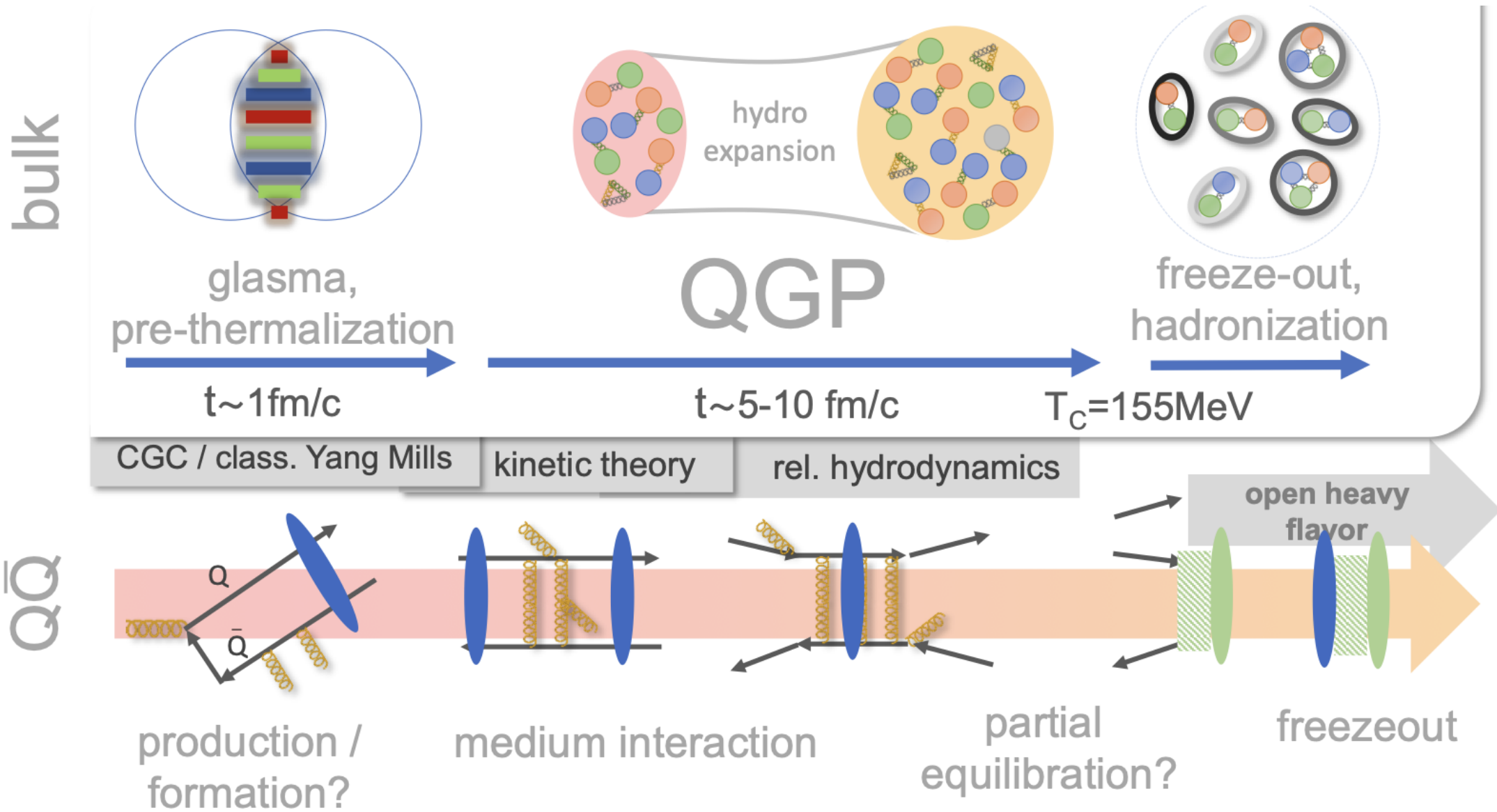
Andronic, Braun-Munzinger, Redlich, Stachel, [Nature 561 \(2018\) 321](#), etc.

...+ Brunßen, Crkovská, Mazeliauskas, Vislavicius, Völkl, [JHEP 07 \(2021\) 035](#); [JHEP 10 \(2024\) 229](#); etc.

# The Quark-Gluon Plasma

A. Andronic

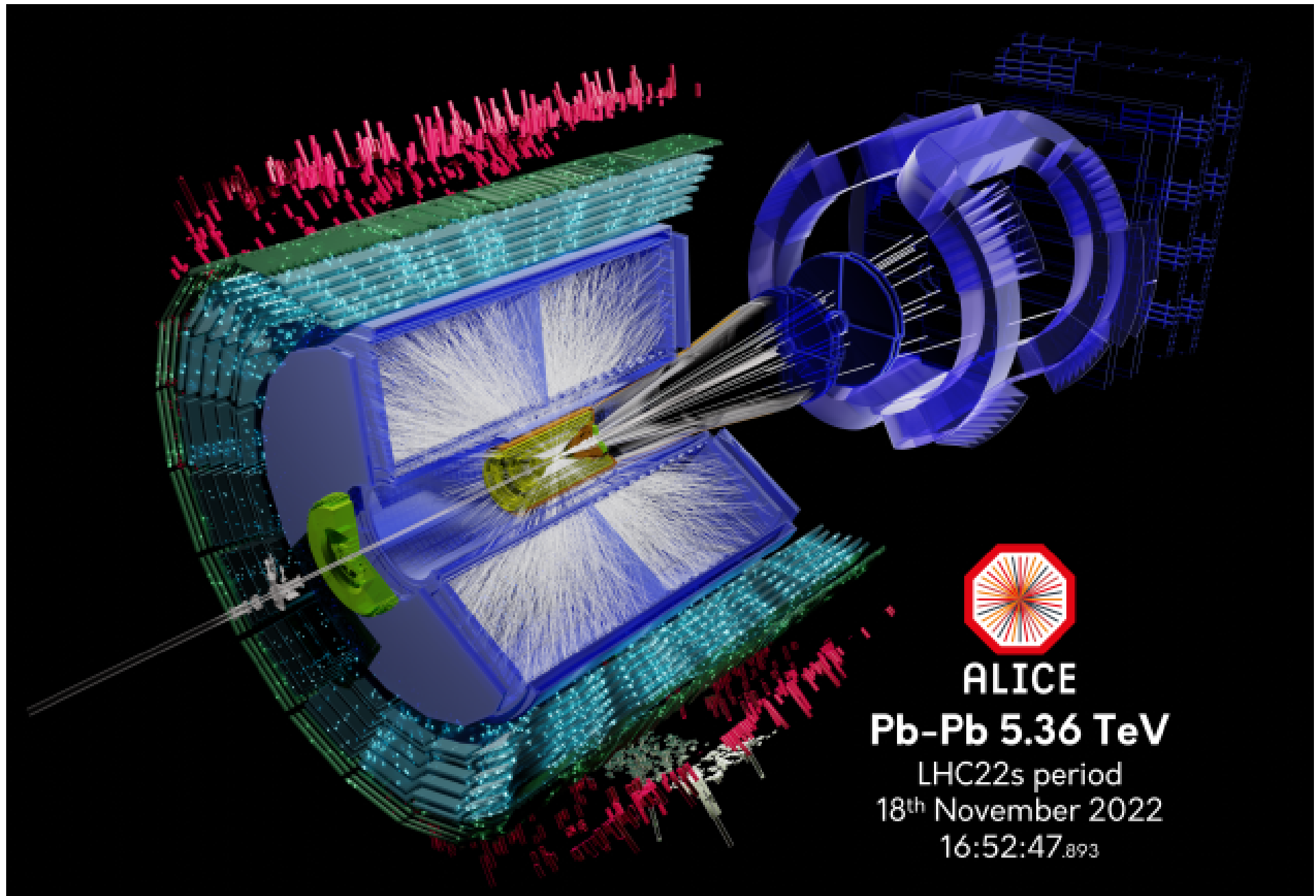
2



# The Quark-Gluon Plasma ...in Pb-Pb collisions

A. Andronic

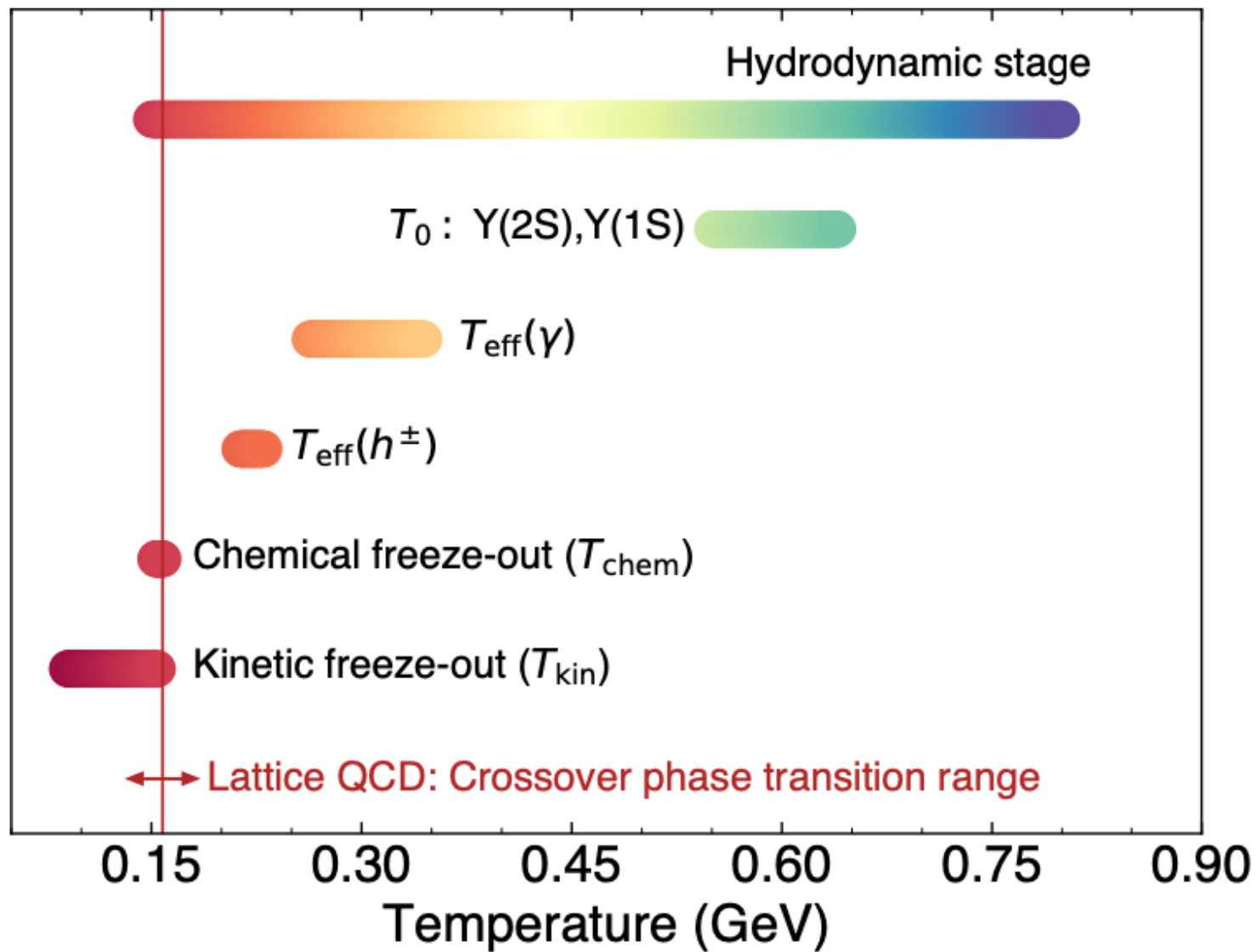
3



# The Quark-Gluon Plasma ...in central Pb-Pb collisions

A. Andronic

4



NB: Some values are probed ranges, some ( $T_{\text{eff}}$ ) are measurement uncertainties



# The Quark-Gluon Plasma: the early years

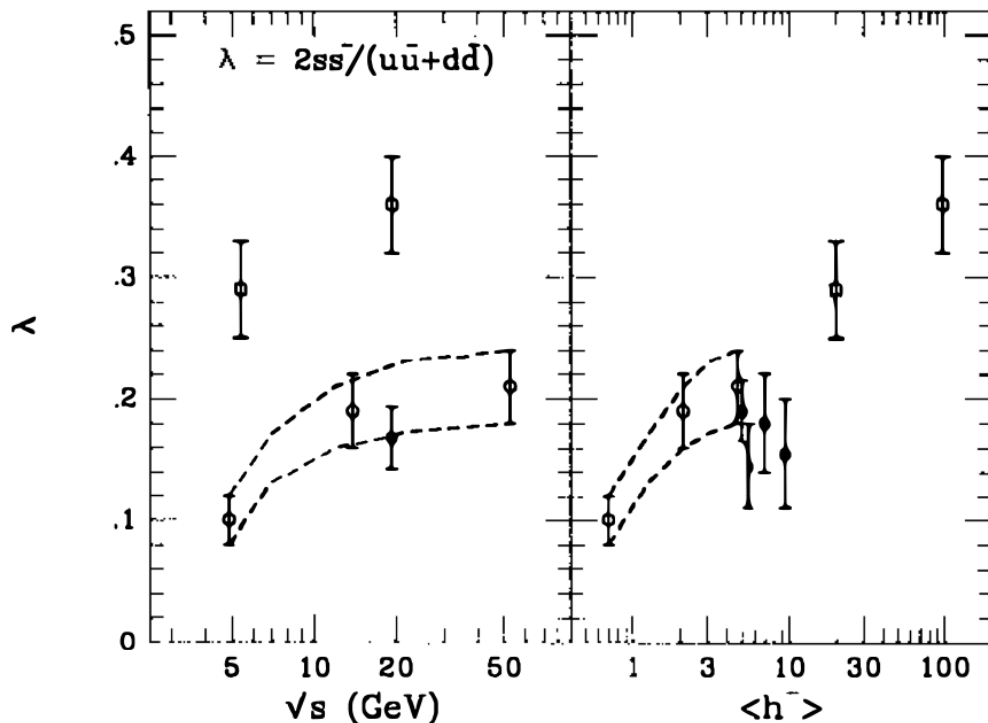
A. Andronic

5

J. Stachel, P. Braun-Munzinger, *Stopping in High-energy Nucleus Nucleus Collisions: Analysis in the Landau Hydrodynamic Model*, *Phys. Lett. B* 216 (1989) 1 [also: QM'88 review: *Nucl. Phys. A* 498 (1989) 33C]

## Relativistic heavy ion physics at CERN and BNL

Stachel, Young, *Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci.* 42 (1992) 537-597 [ Keywords: QCD, quark-gluon plasma, deconfined matter, restoration of chiral symmetry, relativistic heavy ion collisions, AGS, SPS, RHIC ]



The desire to achieve significantly higher energy densities and temperatures and to create a QGP with low net baryon density led to the decision to build the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) at BNL and to discussions concerning acceleration of heavy ions in the proposed Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN. RHIC will attain cm energies per colliding nucleon-nucleon pair of  $s^{1/2} = 250$  GeV for light nuclei and 200 GeV for Au-Au collisions, while LHC might reach 3.8 TeV for Pb-Pb collisions. The construction of RHIC was begun in 1991, with the expectation of colliding beams operating by 1997. RHIC in particular offers operation as a dedicated facility for such research, an important consideration for experiment planning, for observation of several interesting signals of deconfinement (such as vector meson suppression and/or modification), and for modification of parton propagation, all of which have small cross sections and thus must be studied at large integrated luminosity. Present theoretical estimates indicate that only at these colliding beam facilities will the temperature significantly exceed the critical temperature, a likely requirement for the emission of observable amounts of thermal radiation.

squares: Si-Si, S-S; rest: pp, pA

# The Quark-Gluon Plasma: the early years

A. Andronic



ELSEVIER

26 January 1995

PHYSICS LETTERS B

Physics Letters B 344 (1995) 43–48

6

## Thermal equilibration and expansion in nucleus-nucleus collisions at the AGS

P. Braun-Munzinger, J. Stachel, J.P. Wessels, N. Xu <sup>1</sup>

*Department of Physics, State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY 11794–3800, USA*

Received 20 October 1994; revised manuscript received 14 November 1994

Editor: G.F. Bertsch

### Abstract

The rather complete data set of hadron yields from central Si + A collisions at the Brookhaven AGS is used to test whether the system at freeze-out is in thermal and hadro-chemical equilibrium. Rapidity and transverse momentum distributions are discussed with regards to the information they provide on hydrodynamic flow.

We have demonstrated that the presently available AGS data can be consistently described in a thermal model with chemical equilibrium and flow. This includes particle densities, ratios of produced particles, and rapidity and transverse momentum distributions. The thermal parameters describing freeze-out are  $T = 0.12\text{--}0.14$  GeV,  $\mu_b = 0.54$  GeV,  $\langle\beta_l\rangle = 0.52$ , and  $\langle\beta_t\rangle = 0.39 - 0.33$ . Earlier times in the evolution of the fireball need to be probed with different observables to determine the equation of state during the high density phase.

### The fertile ground:

Cleymans, Satz, Suhonen, [PLB 242 \(1990\) 111](#) (AGS:  $93 \leq T \leq 112$  MeV,  $0.2 \leq n_B \leq 0.12$  fm<sup>-3</sup>)

Davidson, Miller, Quick, Cleymans, [PLB 255 \(1991\) 105](#) (SPS:  $T \simeq 170$  MeV,  $n_B \simeq 0.1$  fm<sup>-3</sup>)

Cleymans, Redlich, Suhonen, [ZPC 51 \(1991\) 137](#) (canonical treatment)

Cleymans, Satz, [ZPC 57 \(1993\) 135](#) (SPS:  $T$ ,  $\mu_B$  constraints)

Rischke, Gorenstein, Stöcker, Greiner, [ZPC 51 \(1991\) 485](#) (“excluded volume”)

Letessier, Tounsi, Rafelski, [PLB 292 \(1992\) 417](#) (SPS,  $T \simeq 200\text{--}210$  MeV,  $\lambda_s \simeq 1$ ), etc.

# The Quark-Gluon Plasma: the early years

A. Andronic

4 January 1996



ELSEVIER

Physics Letters B 365 (1996) 1–6

PHYSICS LETTERS B

## Thermal and hadrochemical equilibration in nucleus-nucleus collisions at the SPS

P. Braun-Munzinger, J. Stachel, J.P. Wessels, N. Xu<sup>1</sup>

Department of Physics, State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY 11794 – 3800, USA

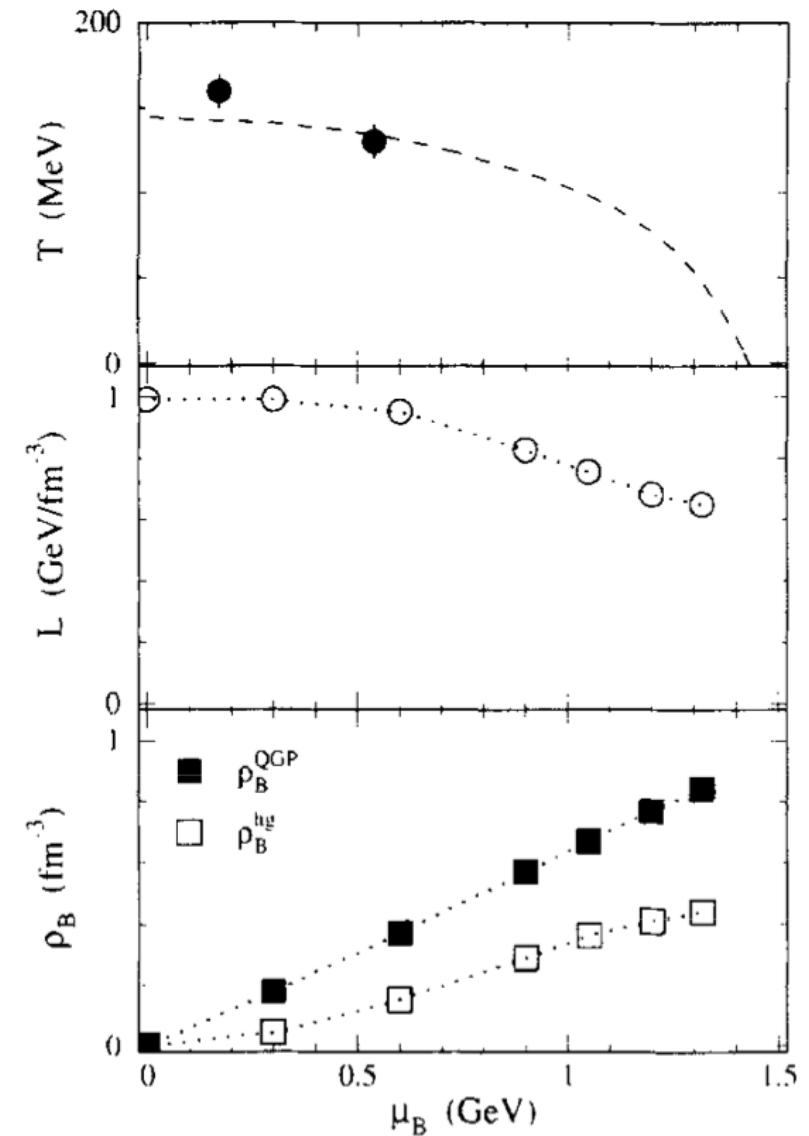
Received 14 August 1995; revised manuscript received 22 September 1995

Editor: G.F. Bertsch

### Abstract

The currently available set of hadron abundances at the SPS for central S + Au(W,Pb) collisions is compared to predictions from a scenario assuming local thermal and hadrochemical equilibrium. The data are consistent with a freeze-out temperature  $T = 160\text{--}170$  MeV. Spectra are consistent with this temperature range and a moderate transverse expansion. The freeze-out points at the AGS and SPS are found to be close to the phase boundary between a hadron gas and an ideal quark-gluon phase.

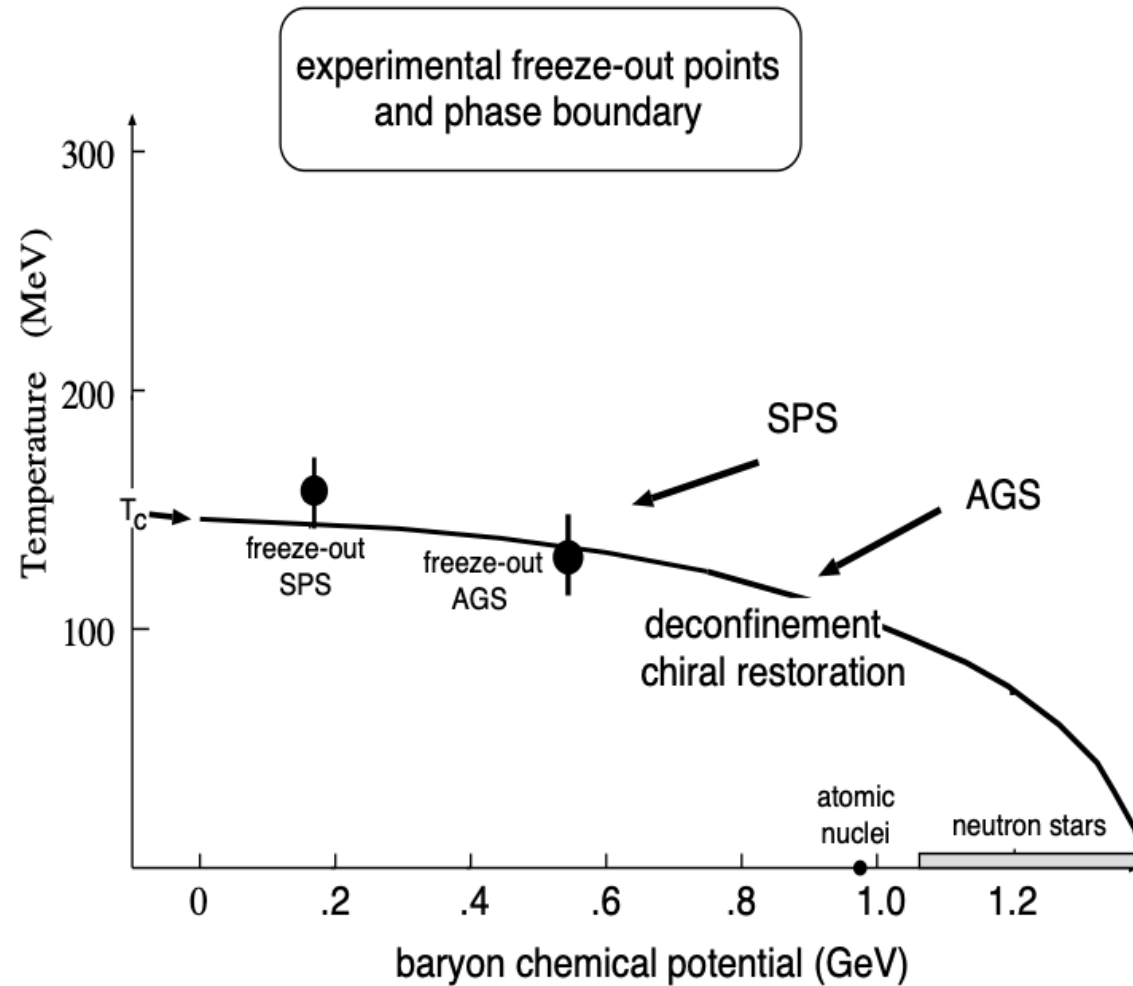
“...after expansion and cooling”



# The Quark-Gluon Plasma: the early years

A. Andronic

8



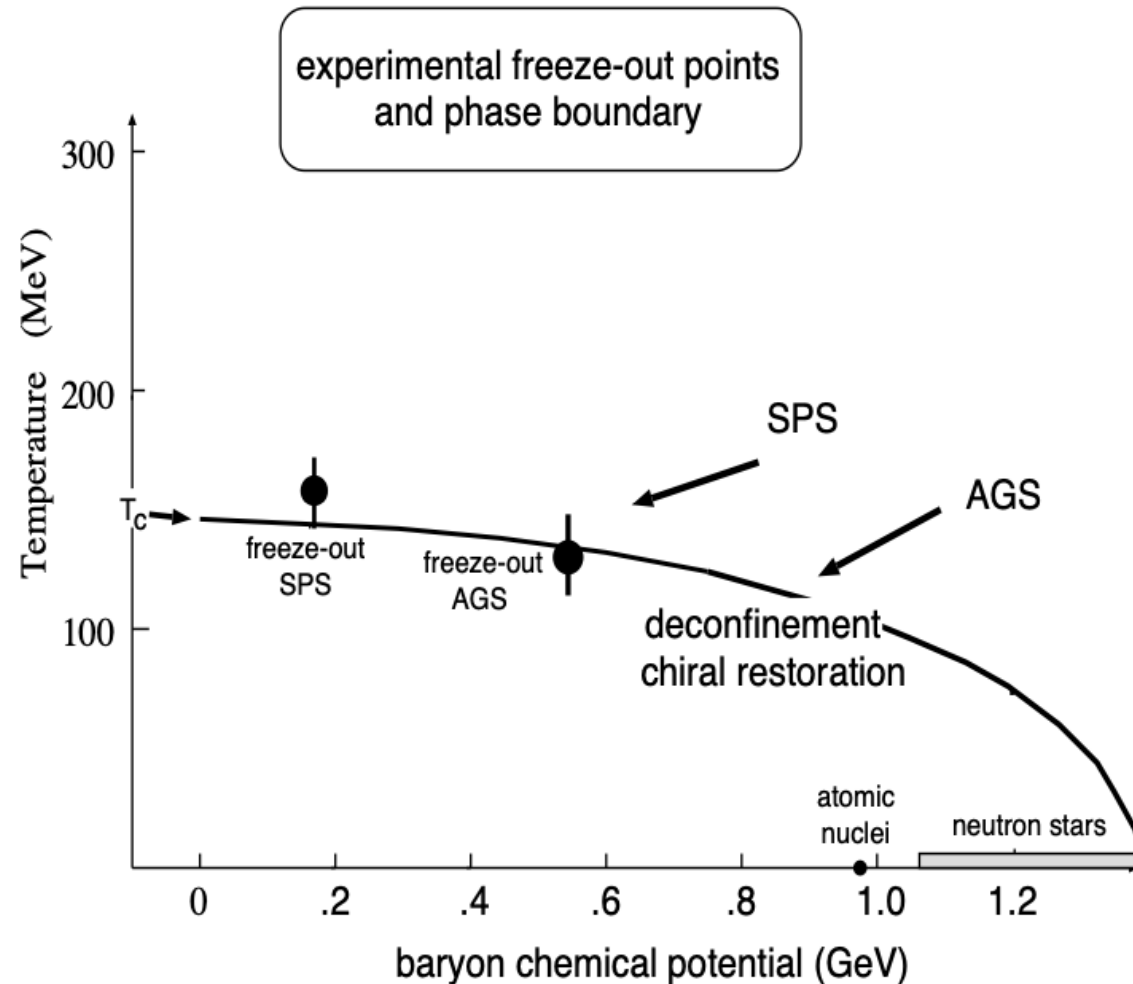
J. Stachel, *Tests of thermalization in relativistic nucleus nucleus collisions* (QM'96 review), Nucl.Phys.A 610 (1996)

509C ...see also: Braun-Munzinger, Stachel, [Nucl.Phys. A606 \(1996\) 320](#)

# The Quark-Gluon Plasma: the early years

A. Andronic

9



J. Stachel, *Tests of thermalization in relativistic nucleus nucleus collisions* (QM'96 review), Nucl.Phys.A 610 (1996)

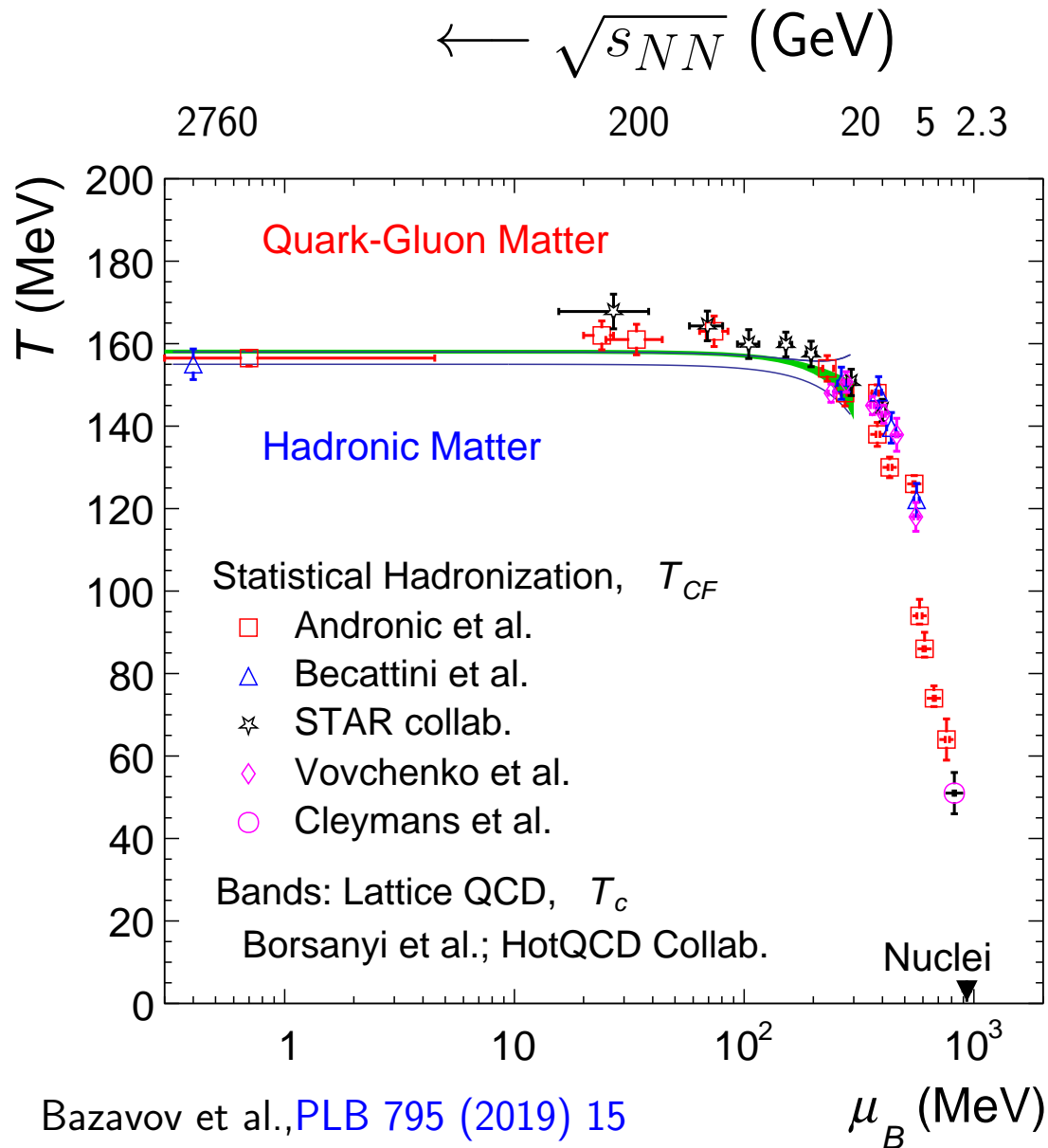
509C ...see also: Braun-Munzinger, Stachel, [Nucl.Phys. A606 \(1996\) 320](#)

1996 is also the year I first-time met Johanna (and Peter) ...at the International Workshop "Heavy Ion Physics at Low, Intermediate and Relativistic Energies using  $4\pi$  Detectors", Poiana Brasov, Romania, October 7-14 (1996)

# The phase diagram of QCD

A. Andronic

10



at LHC, remarkable “coincidence” with Lattice QCD results

at LHC ( $\mu_B \simeq 0$ ): purely-produced (anti)matter ( $m = E/c^2$ ), as in the Early Universe

$\mu_B > 0$ : more matter, from “remnants” /stopping of the colliding nuclei

$\mu_B \gtrsim 400$  MeV: *the critical point awaiting discovery*

(RHIC BES / FAIR)

Bazavov et al., [PLB 795 \(2019\) 15](#)

Borsanyi et al., [PRL 125 \(2020\) 052001](#)

see refs. in [Nature 561 \(2018\) 321](#)

points: independent analyses of same data → “model/code uncert.” are small

# Statistical hadronization (“thermal”) fits

$$n_i = N_i/V = -\frac{T}{V} \frac{\partial \ln Z_i}{\partial \mu} = \frac{g_i}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{p^2 dp}{\exp[(E_i - \mu_i)/T] \pm 1}$$

quantum nr. conservation ensured  
via chemical potentials:

$$\mu_i = \mu_B B_i + \mu_{I_3} I_{3i} + \mu_S S_i + \mu_C C_i$$

Initial conditions:  $\mu_{I_3} \sim \mu_B, S=0, C=0$

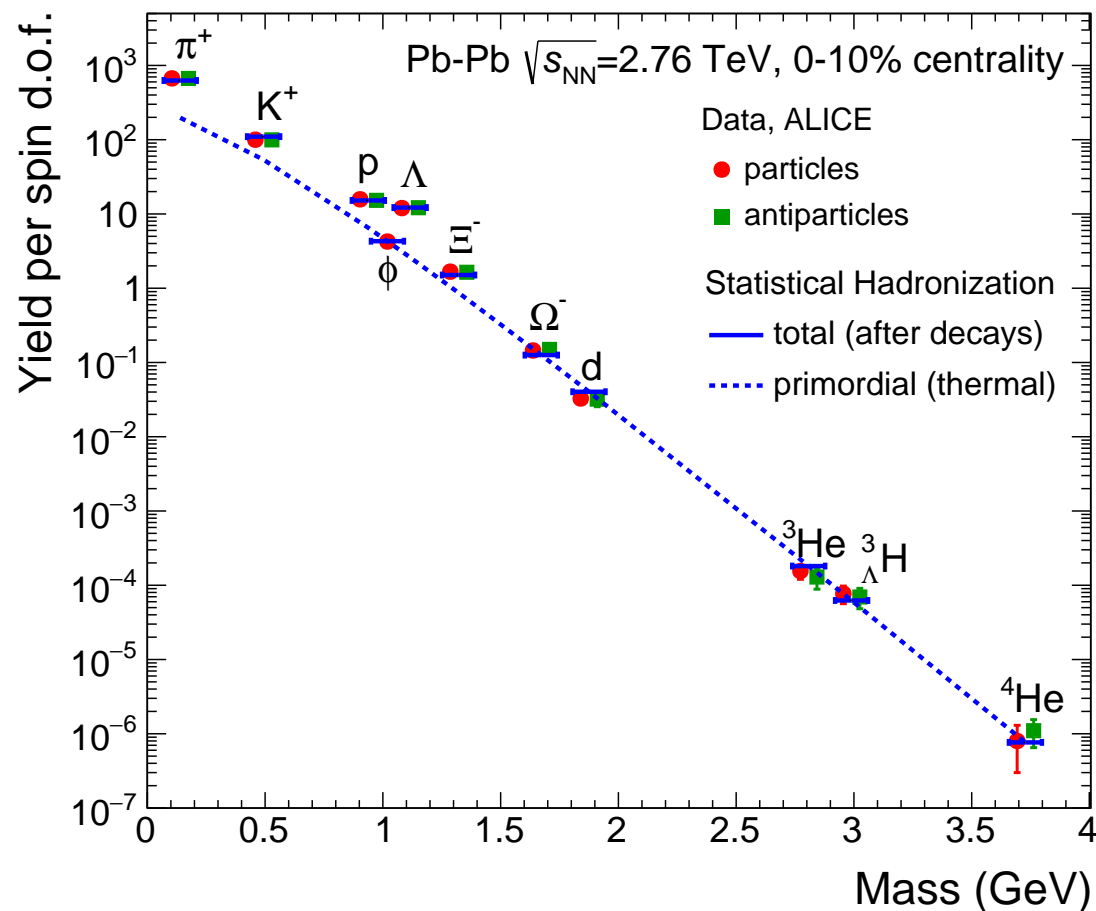
Latest PDG hadron mass spectrum  
(up to 3 GeV, 600 species)

$$\text{Minimize: } \chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{(N_i^{exp} - N_i^{therm})^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

$N_i$ : hadron yield  $\Rightarrow (T, \mu_B, V)$

Strong (and EM, for  $\Lambda$ ) decays play a major role; approx.:  $\ln N \sim \ln(mT) - \frac{m}{T}$

*Even loosely-bound objects ( $d, {}^3_\Lambda H$ ) seem produced at  $T=156$  MeV (?)*

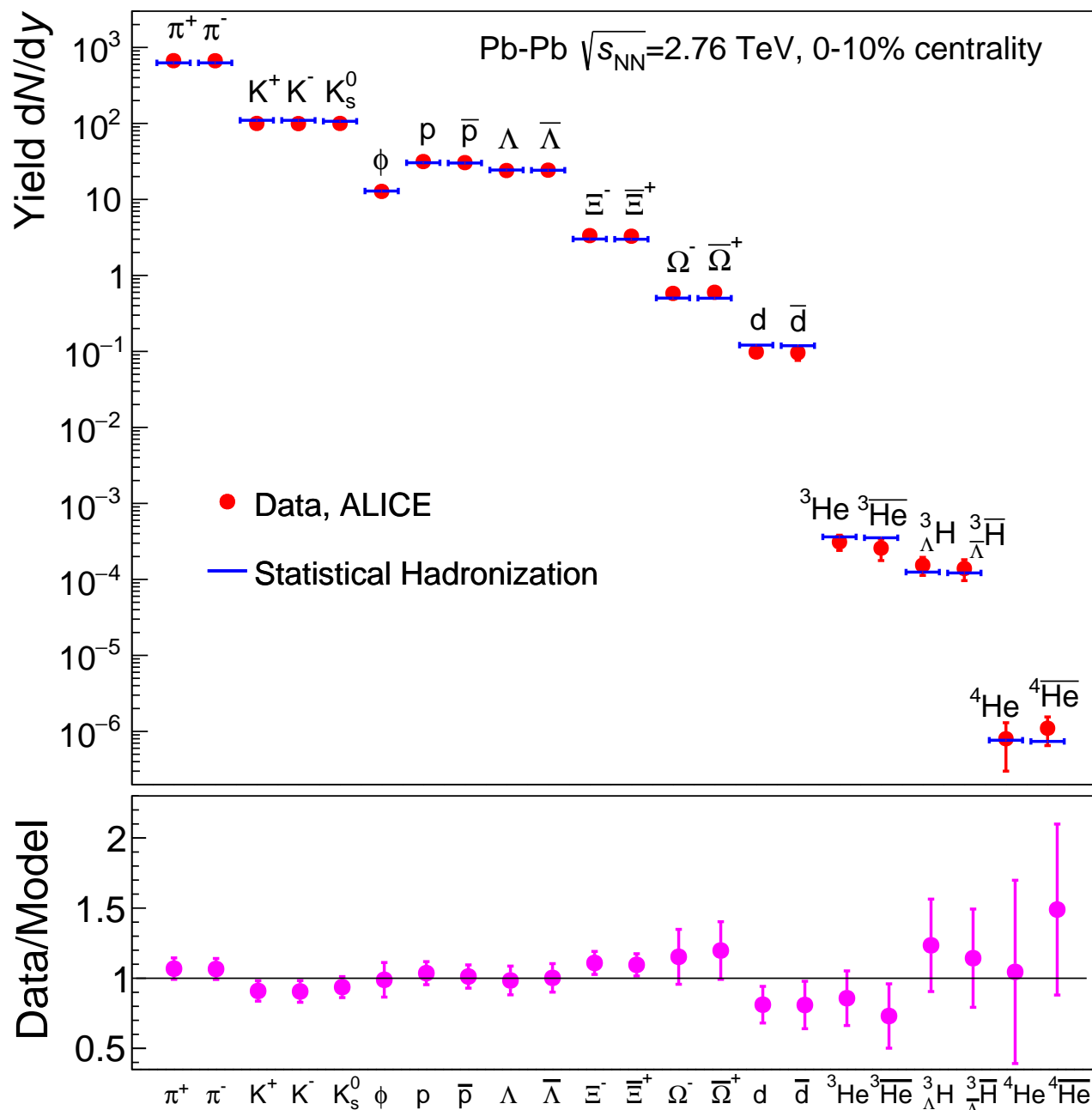




# Thermal fit – LHC, Pb–Pb, 0-10%

A. Andronic

12



matter and antimatter produced in equal amounts

$$T_{CF} = 156.6 \pm 1.7 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\mu_B = 0.7 \pm 3.8 \text{ MeV}$$

$$V_{\Delta y=1} = 4175 \pm 380 \text{ fm}^3$$

$$\chi^2/N_{df} = 16.7/19$$

*S*-matrix treatment ( $p, \bar{p}$ )

+Friman, Lo, Redlich, [PLB 792 \(2019\) 304](#)

remarkably, loosely-bound objects are also well described ( ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ : 25% B.R.)

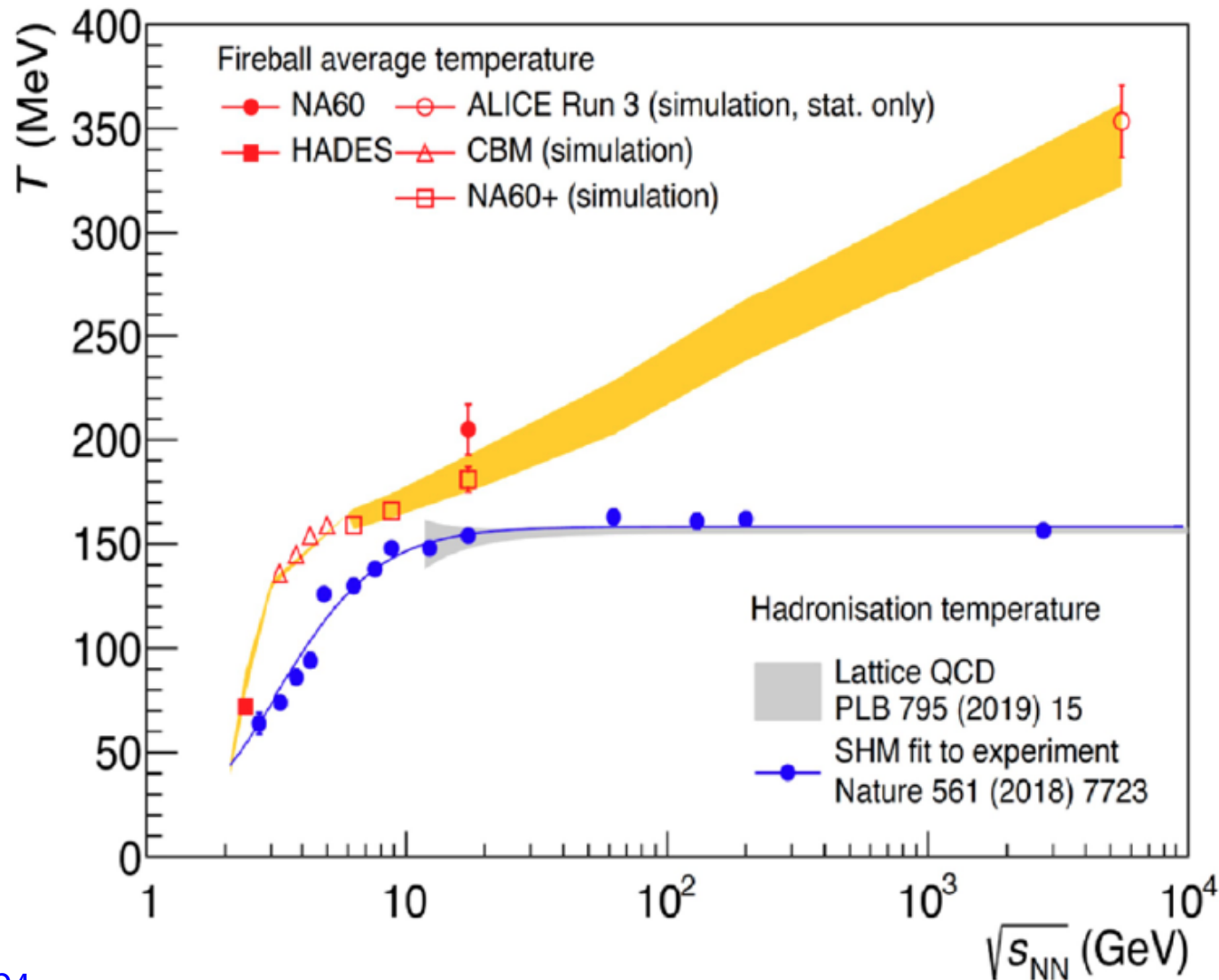
hadronization as bags of quarks and gluons?

hadron spectrum beyond PDG  $\rightarrow$

same  $T_{CF}$  [NPA 1010 \(2021\) 122176](#)



# Two temperatures



NuPECC LRP 2024

Fireball average temperature ...over the lifetime of the fireball (QGP+hadronic phase)

Fit of dilepton inv.mass data with:  $dN/dM \sim M^{3/2} \exp(-M/T)$

# Quark interlude

---

up to now we only considered hadrons built with *up, down, strange* quarks  
...these are light, masses from a few MeV (*u, d*) to  $\sim 90$  MeV (*s*),  $< T_{CF}$

what about heavier ones?

...for instance *charm*, which weights about 1.5 GeV,  $\gg T_{CF}$

produced in pairs ( $c\bar{c}$ ) in initial hard collisions,  $t \sim 1/(2m_c) \leq 0.1$  fm/ $c$

preserve their identity throughout the evolution of the fireball

...ideal messengers of the early stage

# Charmonium and deconfined matter

the original idea: Matsui & Satz, [Phys.Lett. B 178 \(1986\) 178](#)

*"If high energy heavy-ion collisions lead to the formation of a hot quark-gluon-plasma, then color screening prevents  $c\bar{c}$  binding in the deconfined interior of the interaction region."*

Refinements: "sequential suppression":

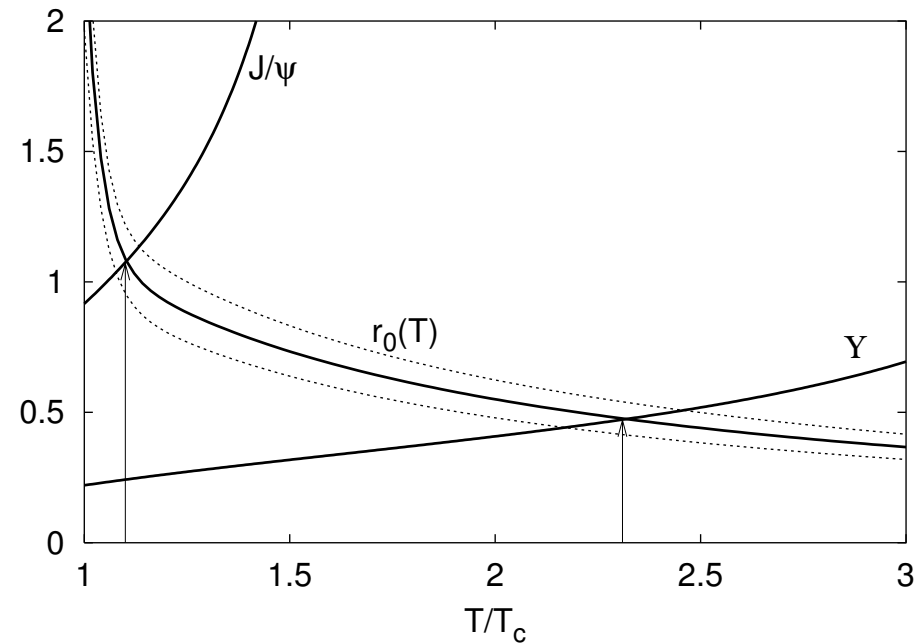
Digal et al., [PRD 64 \(2001\) 75](#)

no  $q\bar{q}$  bound state if

$$r_{q\bar{q}}(T) > r_0(T) \simeq \frac{1}{g(T)T}$$

$r_0$  Debye length in QGP

$\Rightarrow q\bar{q}$  "thermometer" of QGP



Thermal picture ( $n_{partons} = 5.2T^3$  for 3 flavors)

for  $T=500$  MeV:  $n_p \simeq 84/\text{fm}^3$ , mean separation  $\bar{r}=0.2$  fm  $< r_{J/\psi}$



# The statistical hadronization model for charm

## *a new mechanism for charmonium production*

Braun-Munzinger, Stachel, [PLB 490 \(2000\) 196](#), [NPA 690 \(2001\) 119](#) (+K.Redlich)

All charm quarks are produced in primary hard collisions ( $t_{c\bar{c}} \sim 1/2m_c \simeq 0.1 \text{ fm}/c$ )

...survive and thermalize in QGP (thermal, but not chemical equilibrium)

charmed hadrons are formed at chemical freeze-out together with all hadrons

“generation” ...no  $J/\psi$  survival in QGP (full screening)

(if supported by data)  $J/\psi$  loses status as “thermometer” of QGP

...and gains status as a powerful observable for the QCD phase boundary

Predicts  $p_T$  spectra too: hydrodynamics (MUSIC) (input for  $\beta_T$  in blast-wave formula)

[JHEP 07 \(2021\) 035](#), [JHEP 10 \(2024\) 229](#)

# SHM for charm (SHMc)

pQCD production, "throw in":  $N_{c\bar{c}} = 9.6 \rightarrow g_c = 30.1$  ( $I_1/I_0 = 0.974$ )

LHC, central collisions

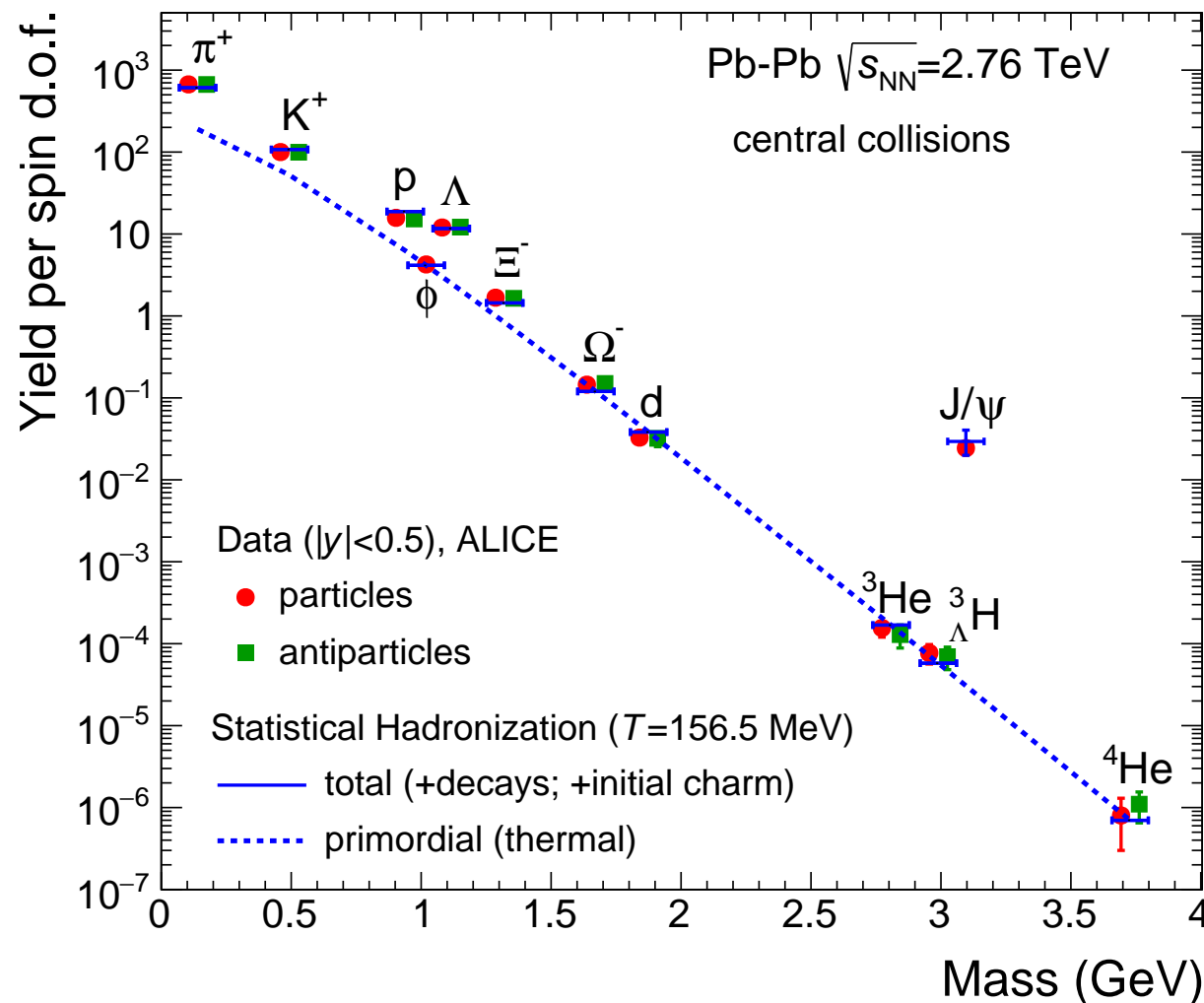
assume:

- full thermalization of  $c, \bar{c}$   
("mobility" in  $V \simeq 4000 \text{ fm}^3$ )

- full color screening  
(Matsui-Satz)

Braun-Munzinger, Stachel, [PLB 490 \(2000\) 196](#)

Model predicts all charm  
chemistry ( $\psi(2S), X(3872)$ )



$\pi, K^\pm, K^0$  from charm included in the thermal fit  
(0.7%, 2.9%, 3.1% for  $T=156.5$  MeV)

# SHMc: method and inputs

Braun-Munzinger, Stachel, [PLB 490 \(2000\) 196](#), [NPA 690 \(2001\) 119](#) (+K.Redlich)

- Thermal model calculation (grand canonical)  $T, \mu_B$ :  $\rightarrow n_X^{th}$

- $N_{c\bar{c}}^{dir} = \frac{1}{2}g_c V (\sum_i n_{D_i}^{th} + n_{\Lambda_i}^{th}) + g_c^2 V (\sum_i n_{\psi_i}^{th} + n_{\chi_i}^{th})$

- $N_{c\bar{c}} \ll 1 \rightarrow$  Canonical (Cleymans, Redlich, Suhonen, [Z. Phys. C51 \(1991\) 137](#)):

Gorenstein, Kostyuk, Stöcker, Greiner, [PLB 509 \(2001\) 277](#)

$$N_{c\bar{c}}^{dir} = \frac{1}{2}g_c N_{oc}^{th} \frac{I_1(g_c N_{oc}^{th})}{I_0(g_c N_{oc}^{th})} + g_c^2 N_{c\bar{c}}^{th} \rightarrow g_c(N_{part}) \text{ (charm fugacity)}$$

---

Outcome:  $N_D = g_c V n_D^{th} I_1/I_0 + N_D^{corona}$ ,  $N_{J/\psi} = g_c^2 V n_{J/\psi}^{th} + N_{J/\psi}^{corona}$

Inputs:  $T, \mu_B$ ,  $V_{\Delta y=1} (= (dN_{ch}^{exp}/dy)/n_{ch}^{th})$ ,  $N_{c\bar{c}}^{dir}$  (exp. or pQCD)

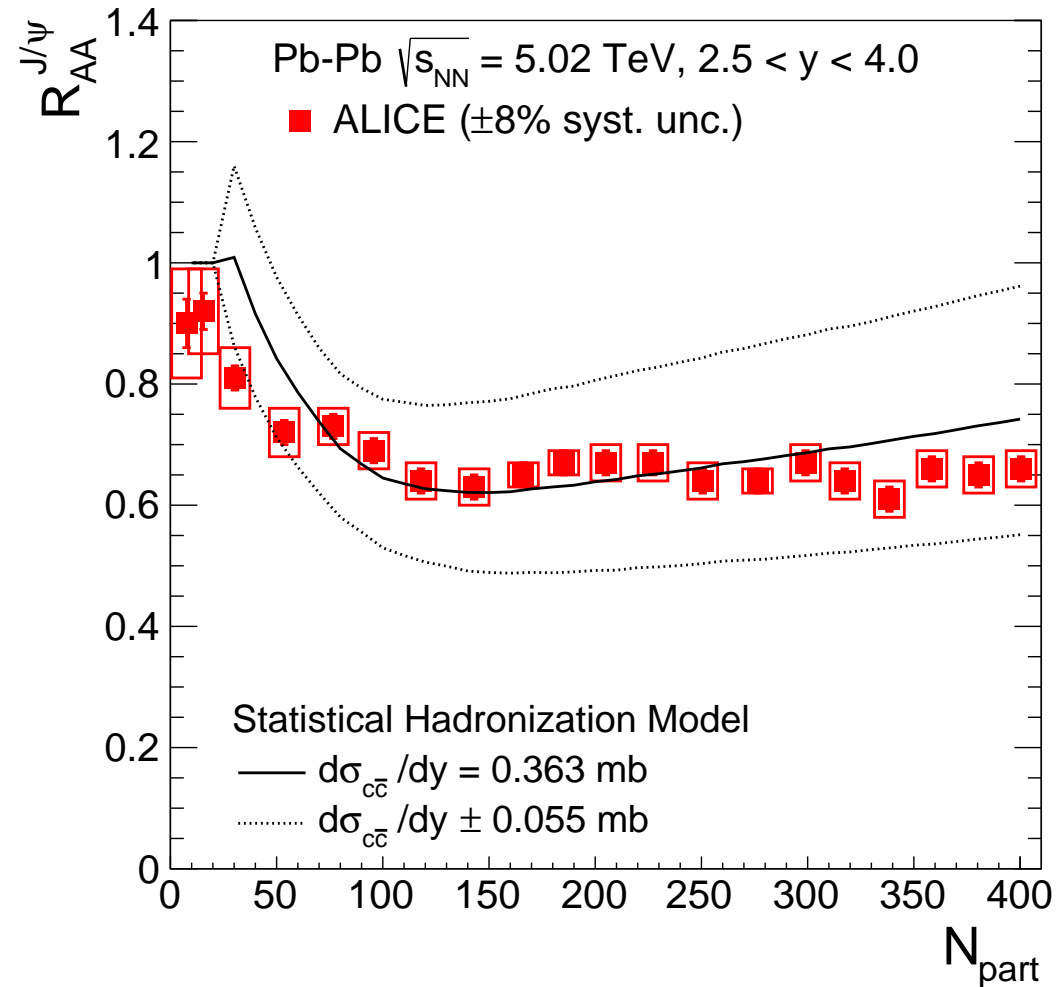
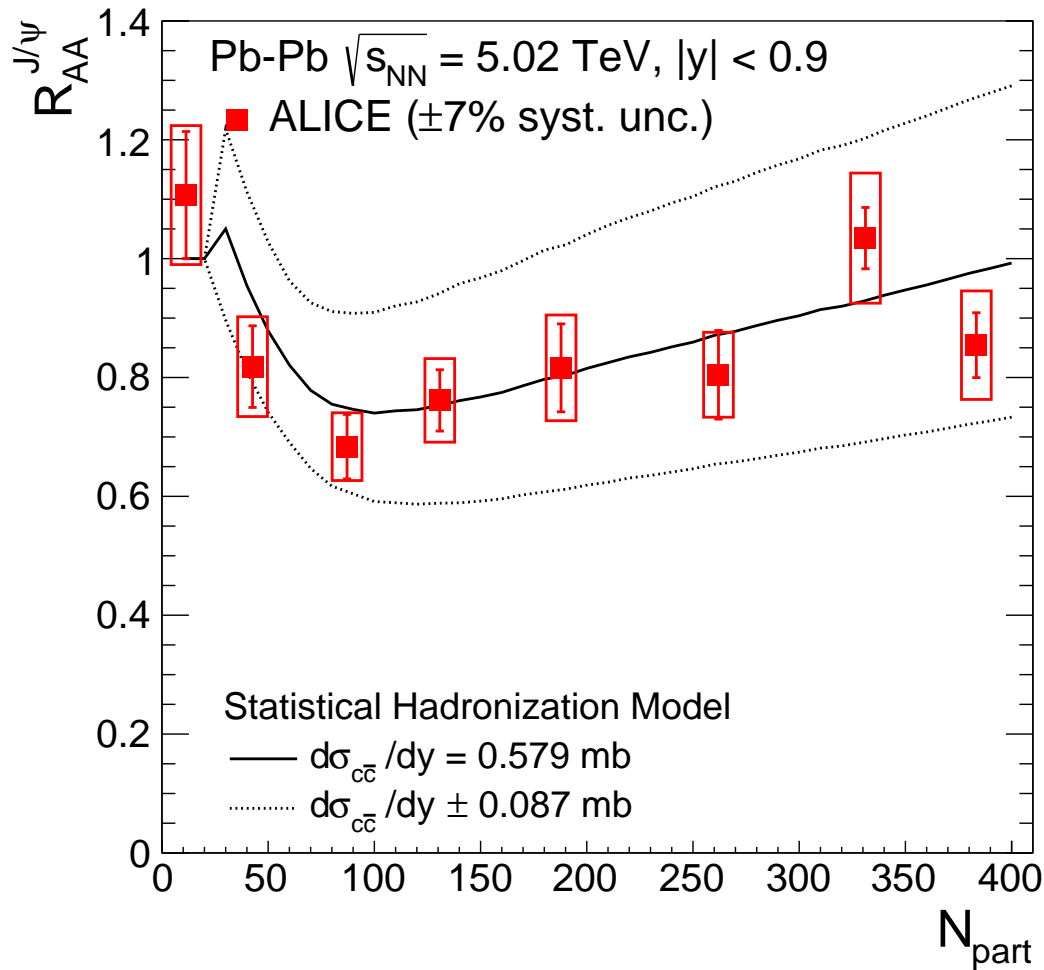
Assumed minimal volume for QGP:  $V_{QGP}^{min} = 200 \text{ fm}^3$

# SHMc and charmonium data at the LHC

A. Andronic

20

*full thermalization of c quarks in QGP, hadronization at chemical freeze-out*

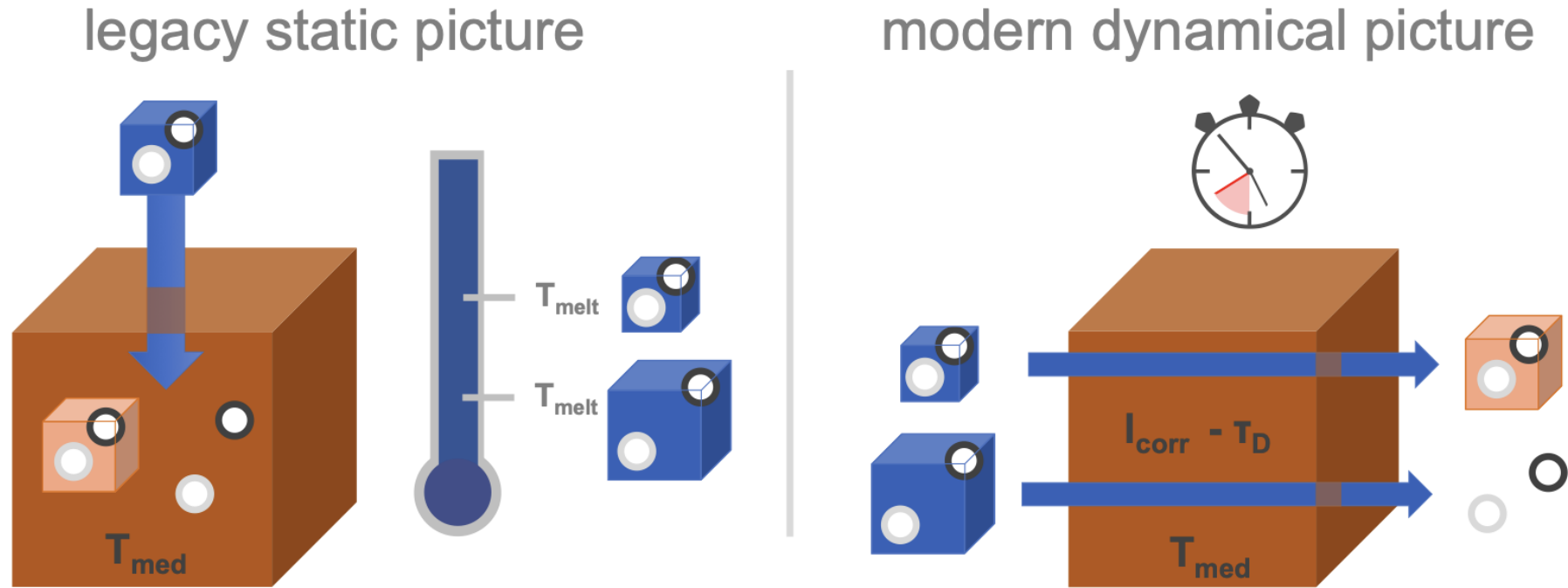


$d\sigma_{c\bar{c}}/dy$  via normalization to  $D^0$  in Pb-Pb 0-10%, ALICE, [JHEP 01 \(2022\) 174](#)

$dN/dy = 6.82 \pm 1.03$  ( $|y| < 0.5$ ; FONLL for  $y=2.5-4$ ; assuming hadronization fractions in data as in SHMc)



# Quarkonium pictures

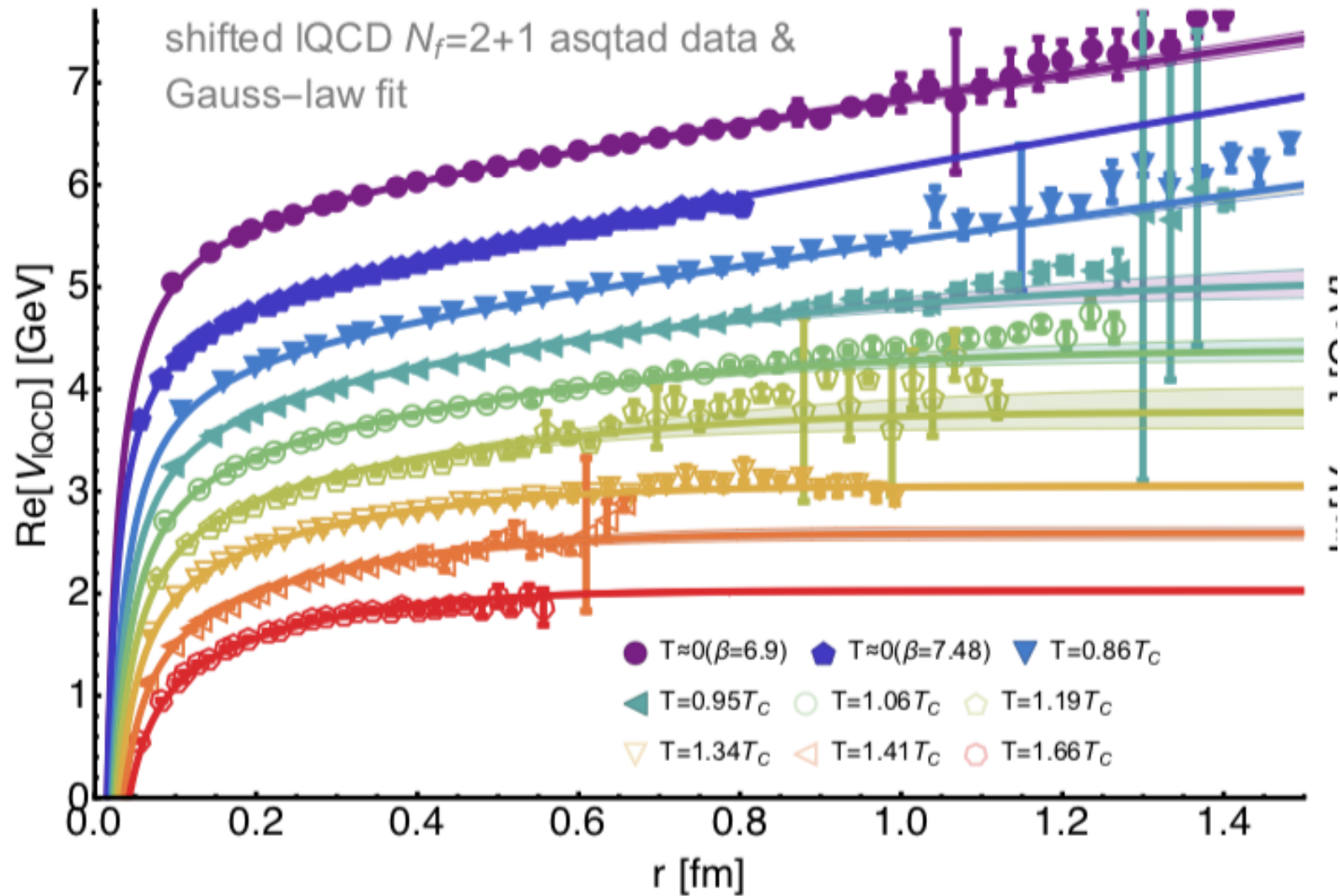


A. Rothkopf, [Phys. Rep. 858 \(2020\) 1](#)

for  $T(\tau)$  we anyway have more basic (bulk) observables (collective flow)

$$T \sim \Lambda_{QCD} \sim E_{b, Q\bar{Q}}^{\text{vac}} \quad (m_Q \gg \Lambda_{QCD})$$

# Heavy-quark potential - Lattice QCD



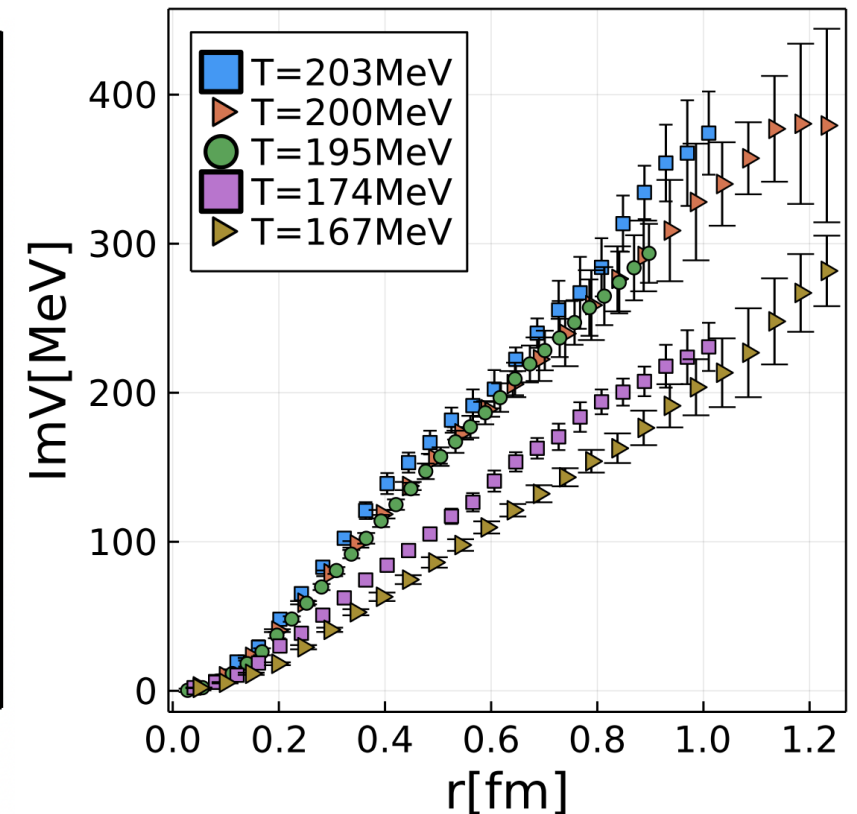
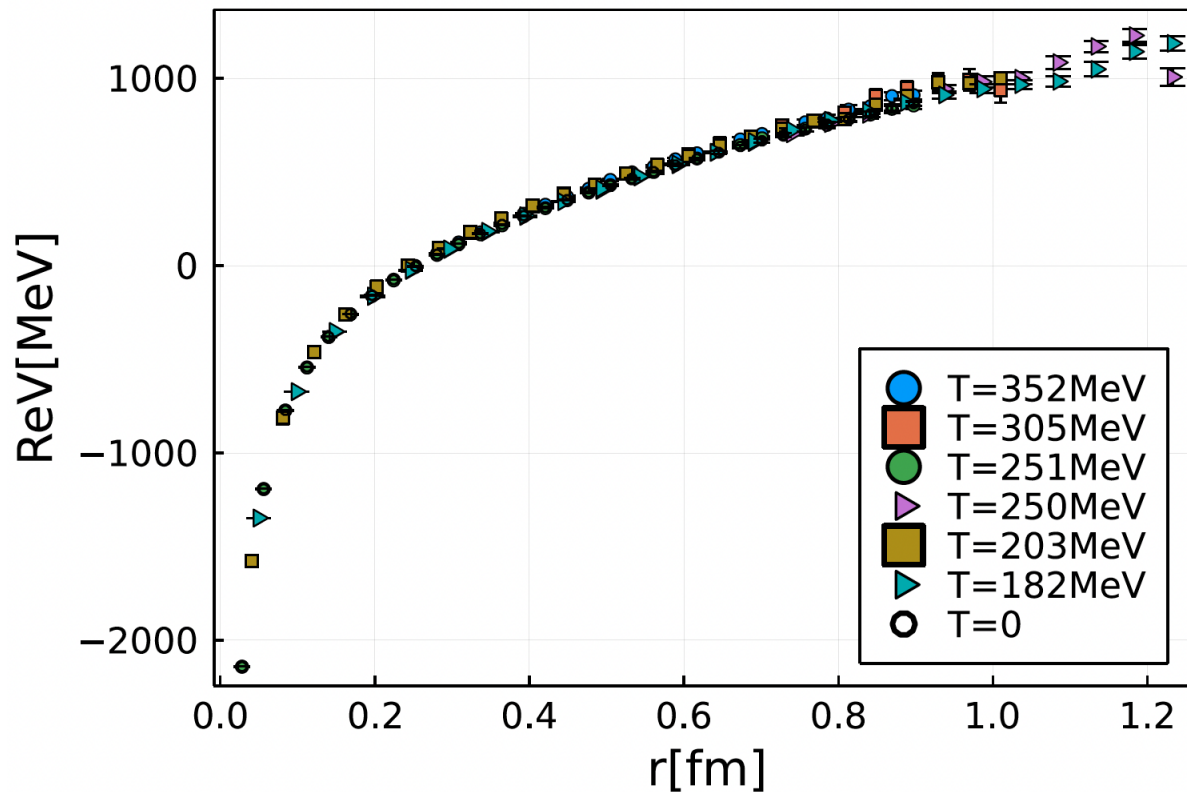
A. Rothkopf, *Phys. Rep.* 858 (2020) 1

$$(T_C \simeq 174 \text{ MeV})$$

# Heavy-quark potential - Lattice QCD

A. Andronic

23



HotQCD coll., [PRD 109 \(2024\) 0745047](#)

$\text{Re}V$ : not screened!

$\text{Im}V$ : large, increases with distance

→ “melting of quarkonium is not related to color screening” (P.Petreczky)

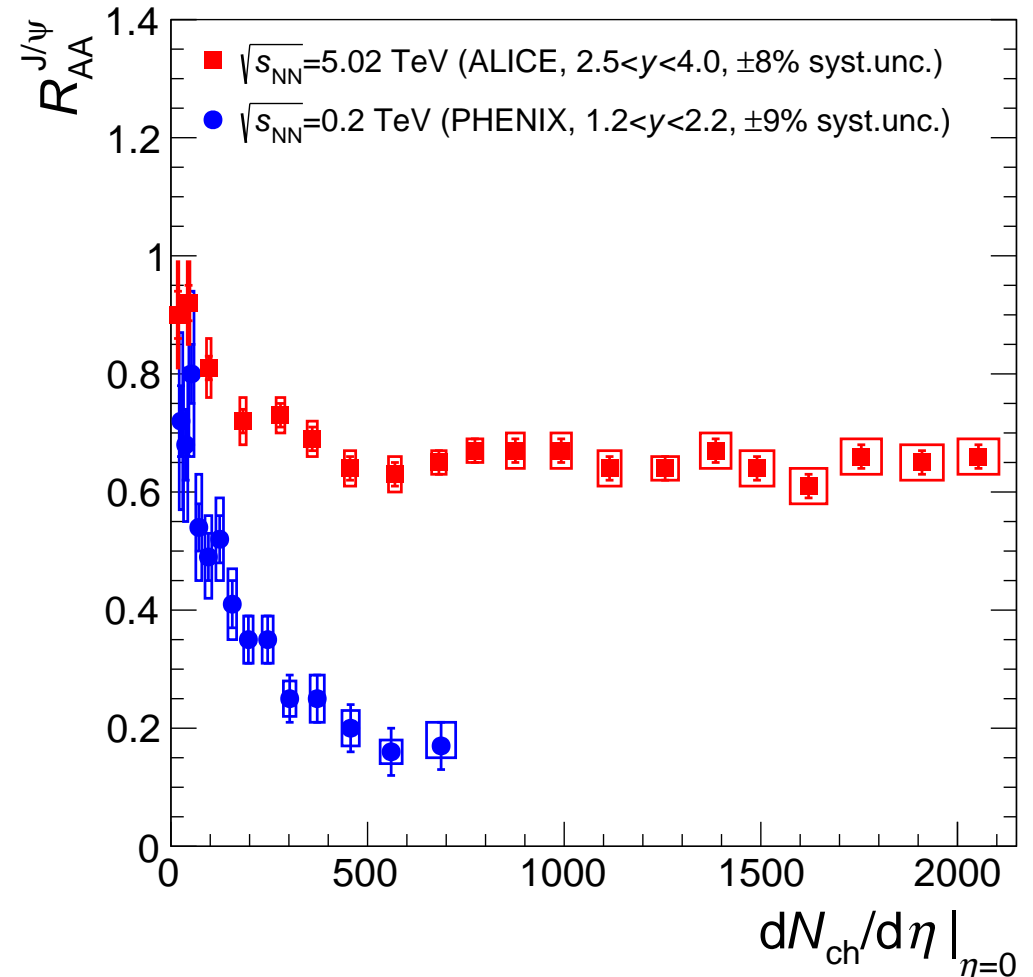
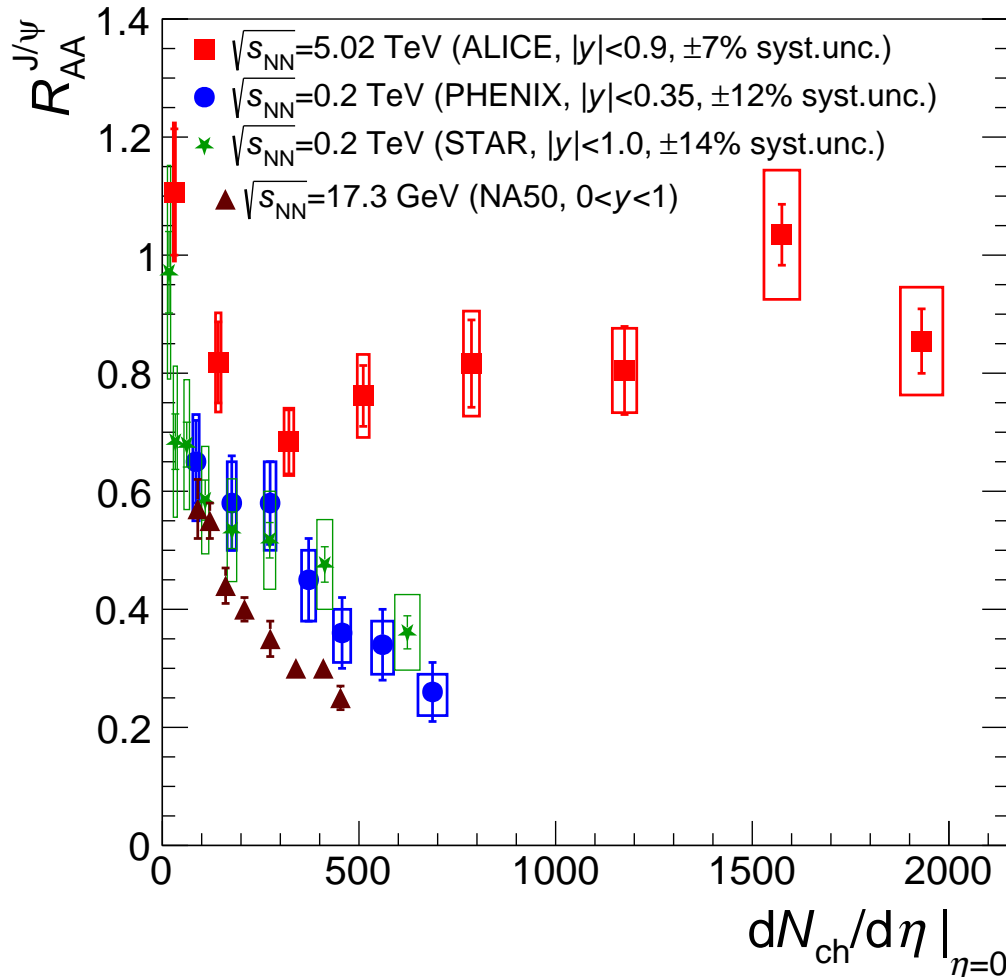
# Charmonium data: SPS, RHIC, LHC

A. Andronic

24

midrapidity

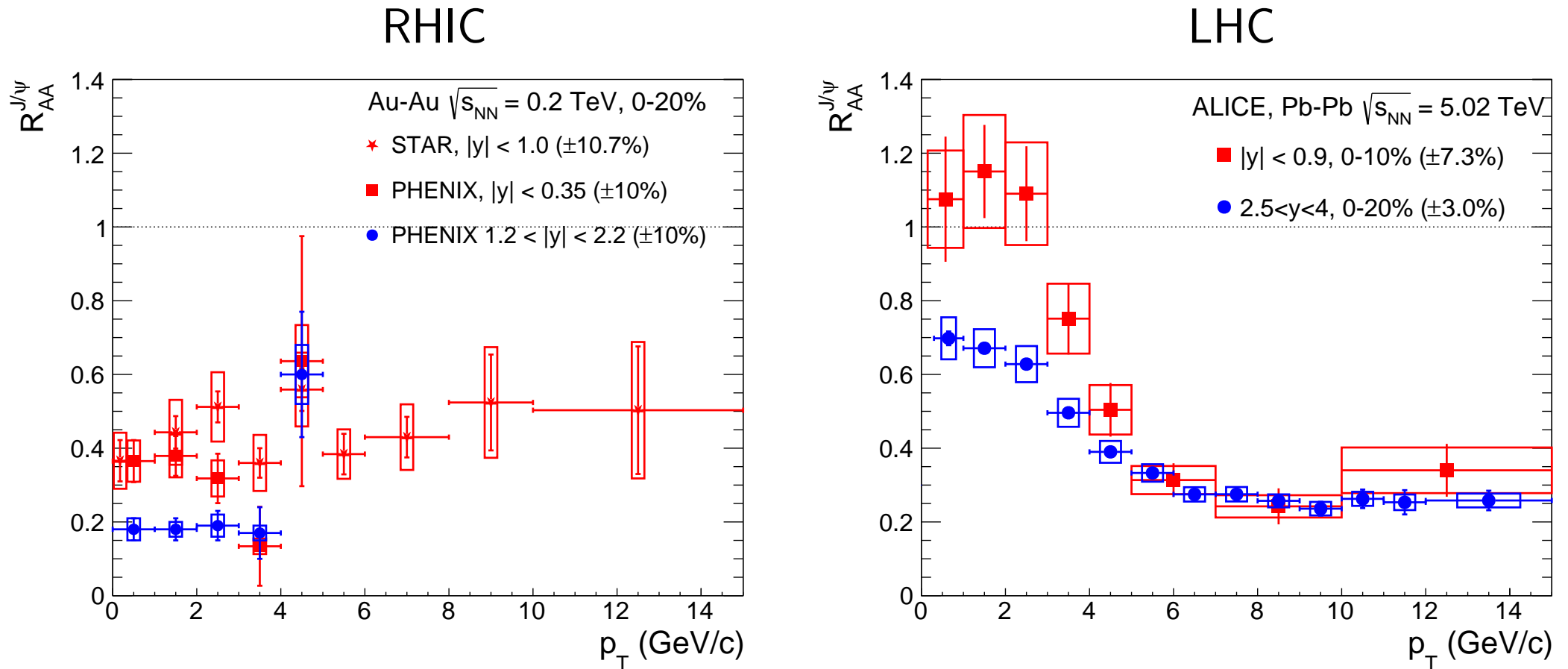
forward rapidity



$$dN_{ch}/d\eta \sim \varepsilon$$

suppression at lower energies, but not obviously a sequential one  
at the LHC: generation (at phase boundary), after (full) dissociation

# Charmonium data: RHIC and LHC



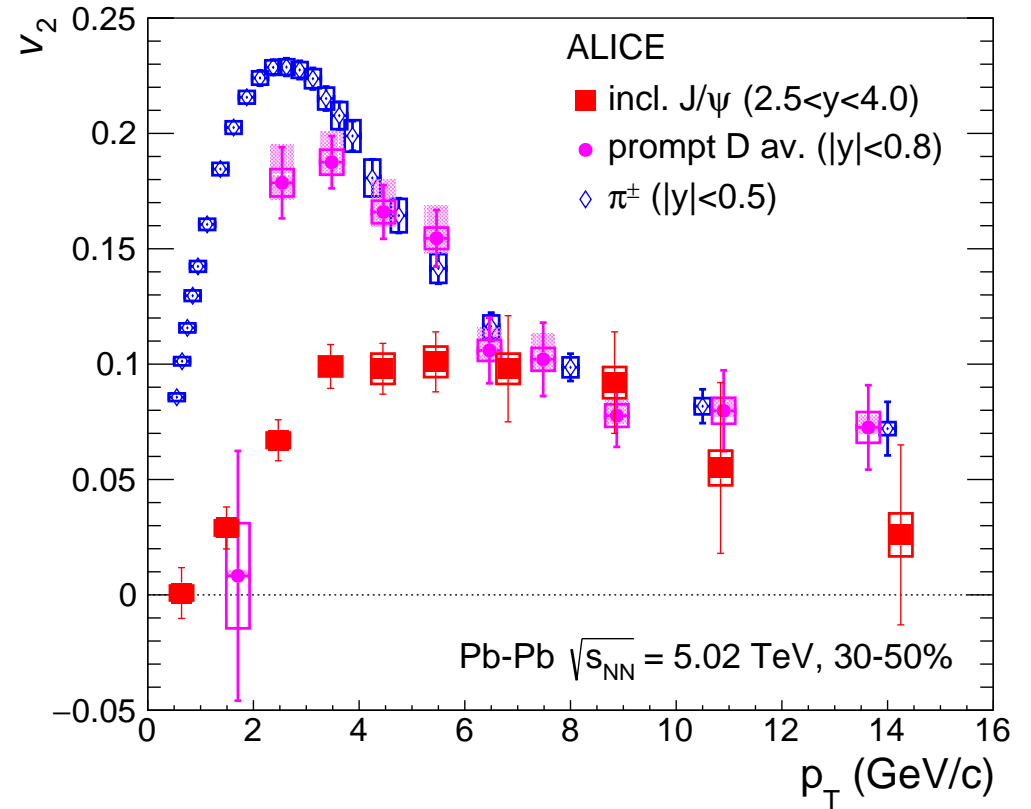
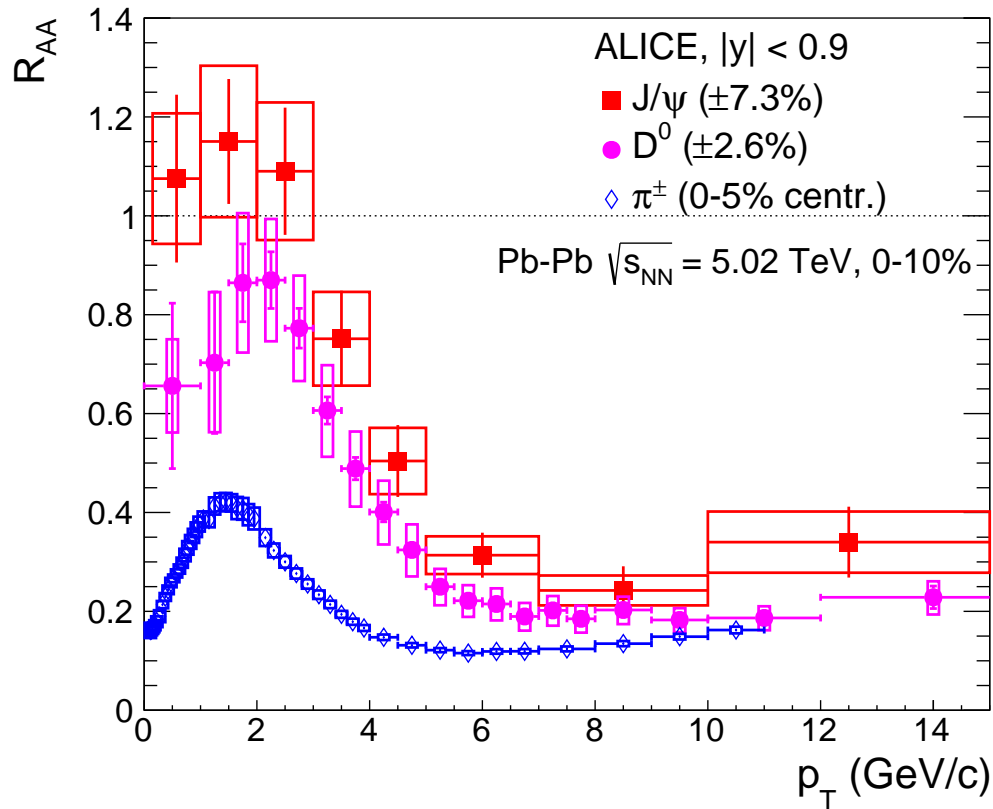
production at low  $p_T$  is enhanced at the LHC compared to RHIC  
...stronger at midrapidity

see quarkonium review: AA, R.Arnaldi, [arXiv:2501.08290](https://arxiv.org/abs/2501.08290)

# Charmonium data at the LHC: in perspective

A. Andronic

26



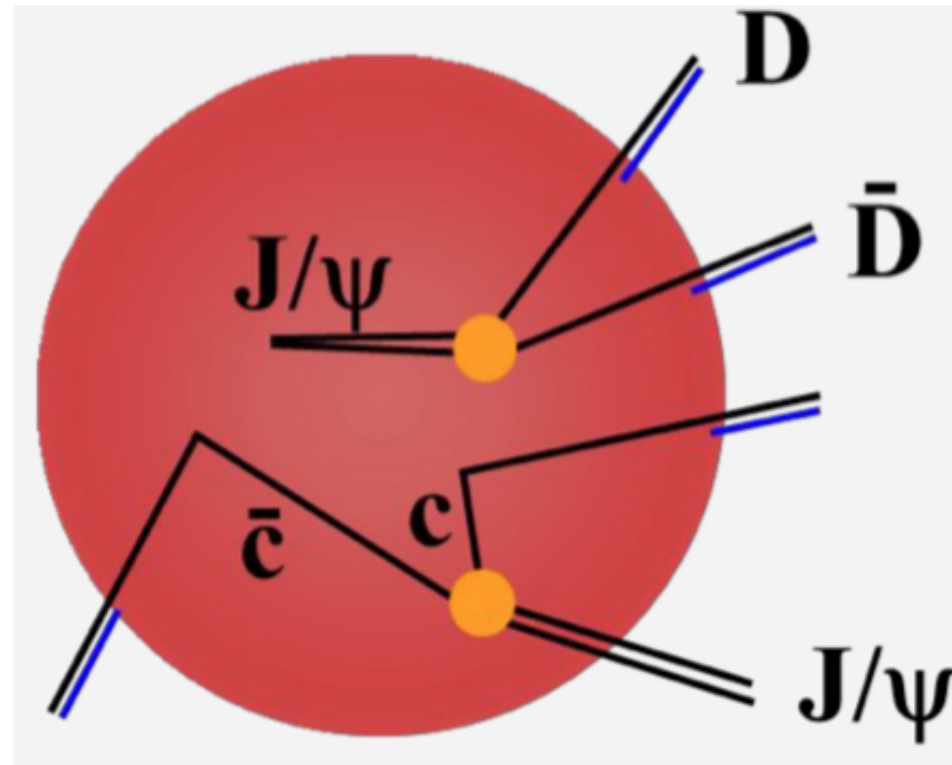
ALICE, PLB 849 (2024) 138451, JHEP 01 (2022) 174, JHEP 11 (2018) 013

a very clear hierarchy at low/intermediate  $p_T$  ( $N_{coll}/N_{part}$  scaling; shadowing)  
charm production is a pQCD process, pion production largely a thermal process

# There is dissociation and there is (re)generation

A. Andronic

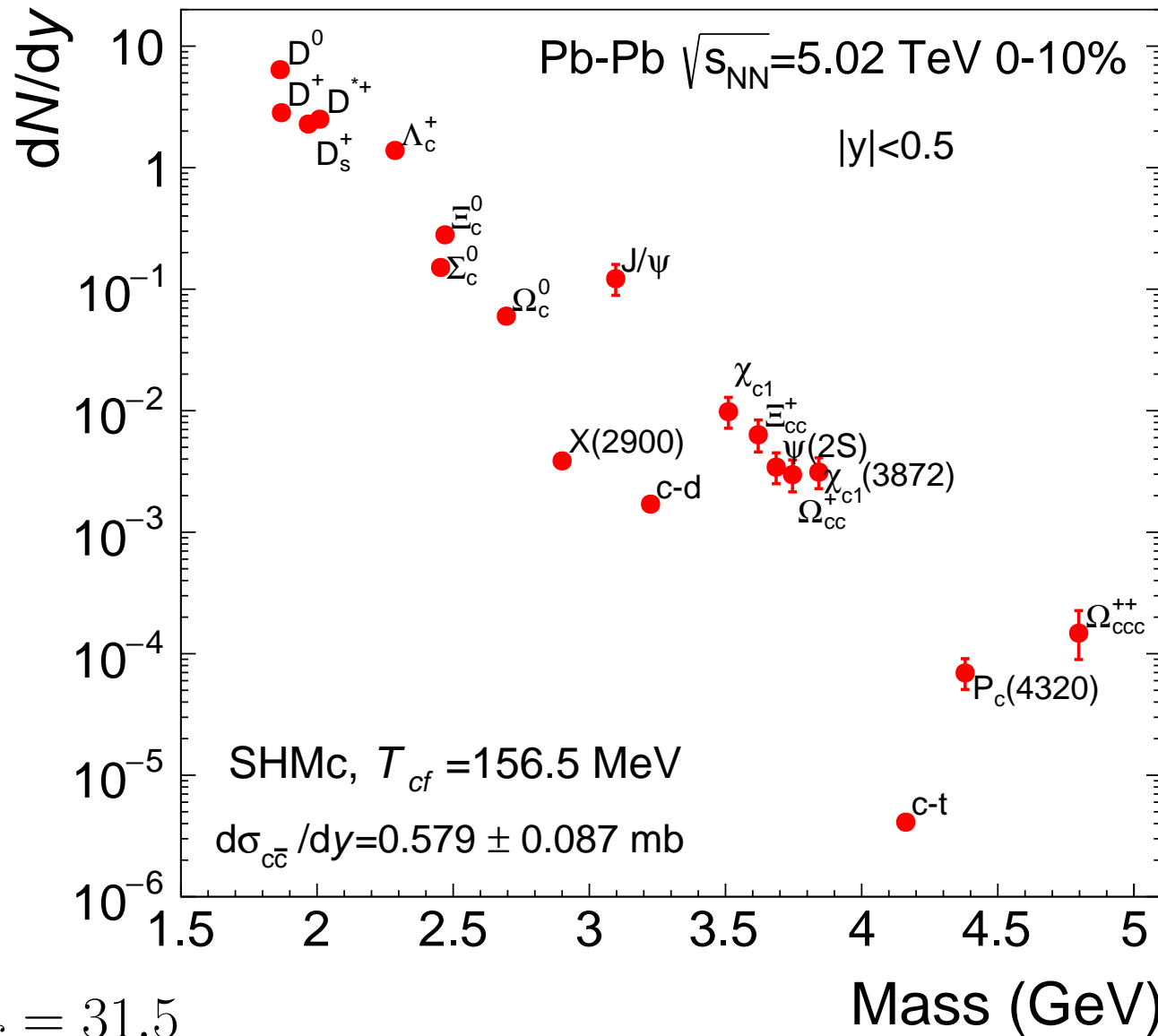
27



This picture is implemented in models in 2 basic ways:

- 1) statistical hadronization: full screening, generation at hadronization ( $c, \bar{c}$  produced in initial scattering and fully thermalized in QGP)
- 2) transport: continuous destruction and (re)generation, also from different  $c, \bar{c}$  (time evolution of  $T$  constrained by other measurements)

# SHMc: the full charm zoo



$$\frac{dN_{c\bar{c}}}{dy} = 13.8$$

$$\rightarrow g_c = 31.5$$

$$T_{cc}^+ \simeq 0.9 \cdot \chi_{c1}(3872)$$

$$X(6900) \sim 10^{-8}$$

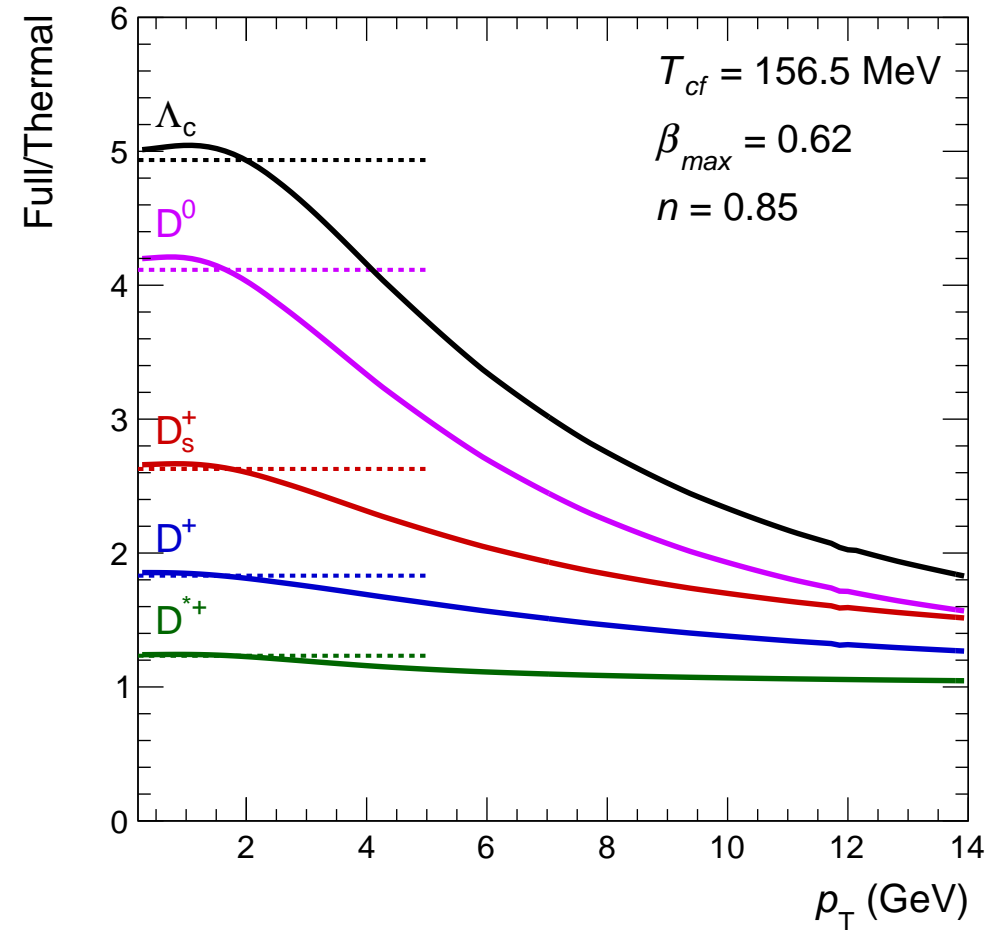
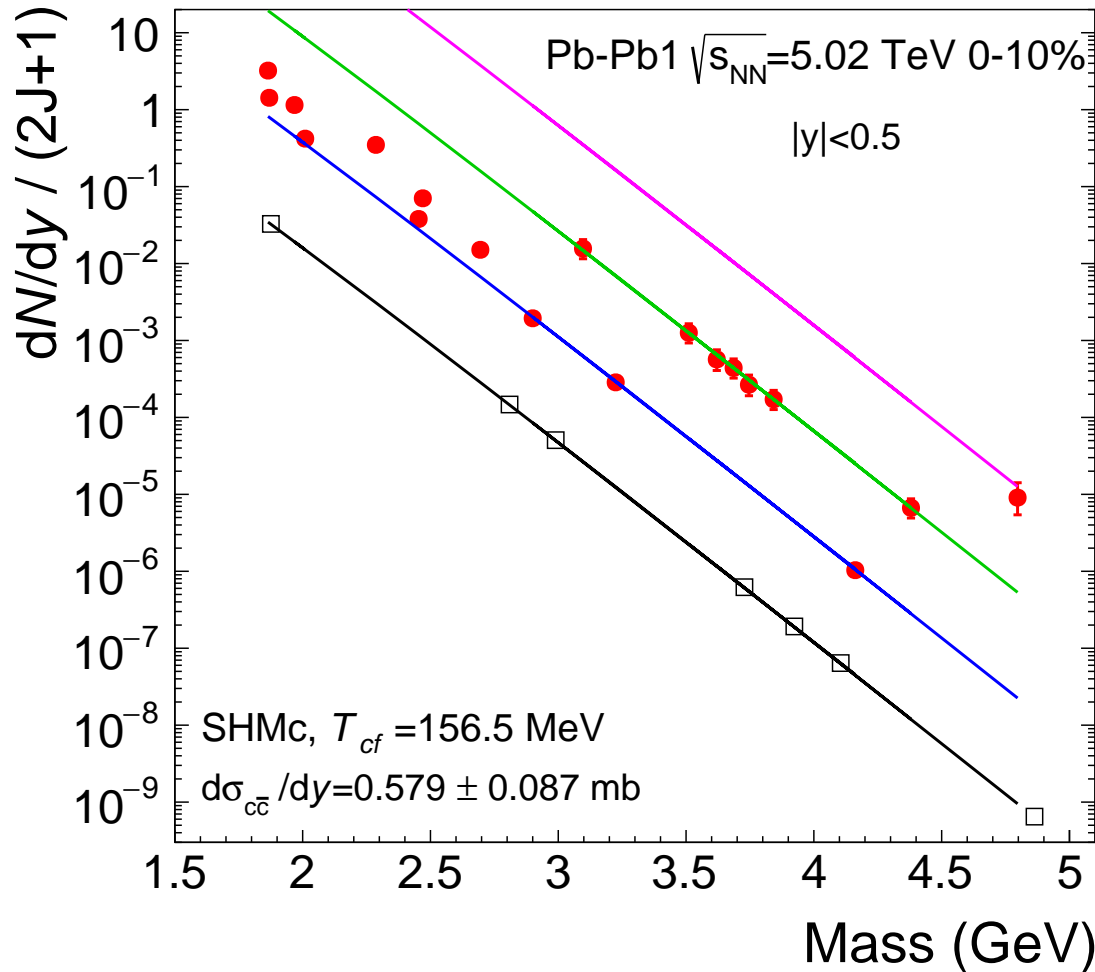
The power of the model: predicting the full suite of charmed hadrons



# Full charm predictions for the LHC

A. Andronic

29



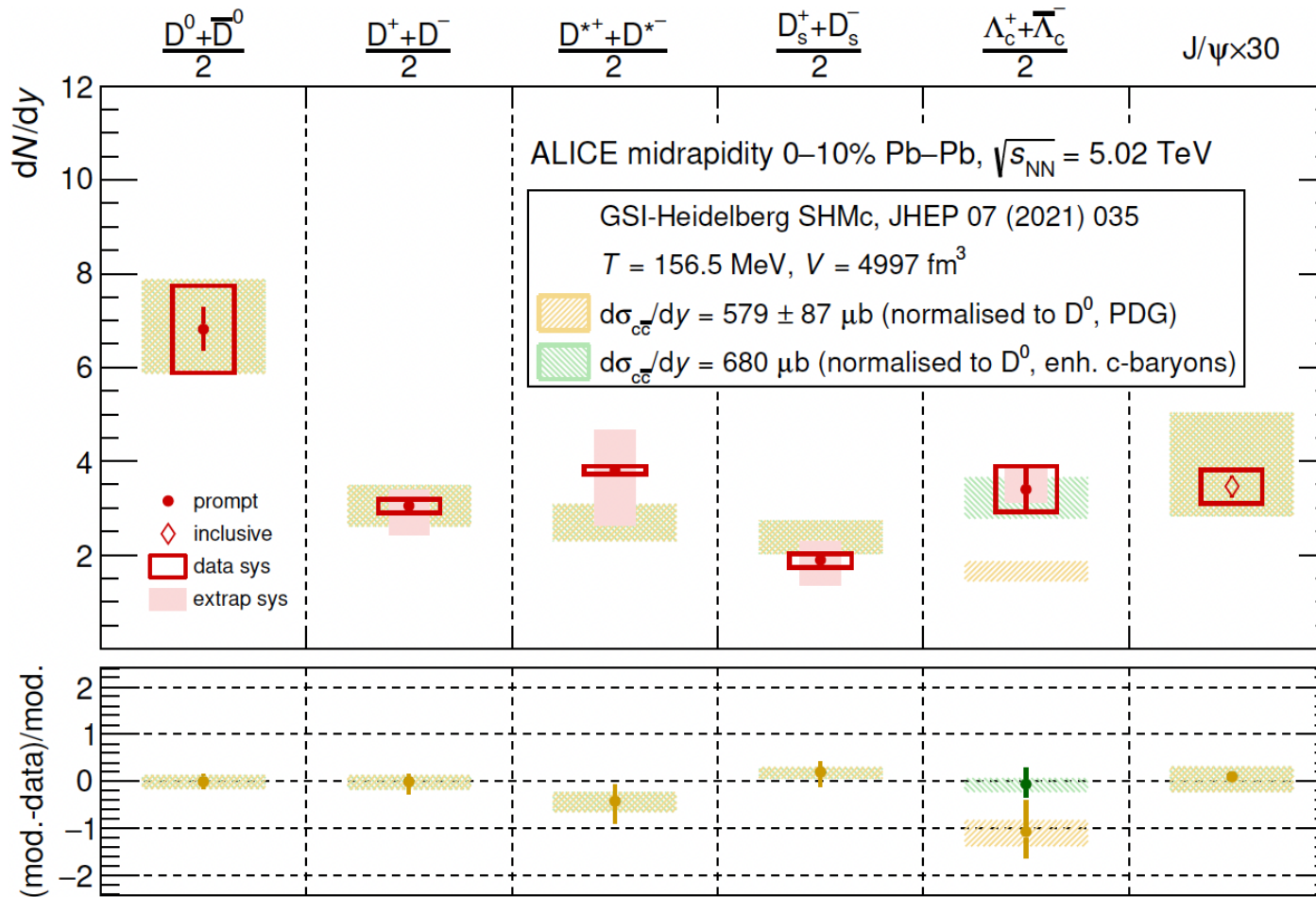
Charm-hadron spectrum as in PDG: 55 c-mesons, 74 c-baryons (part.+antipart.)

...large, but may not be complete

# Charm data and SHMc model

A. Andronic

30



ALICE, EPJC 24 (2024) 813

Enh. c-baryons: *tripled* the excited charm-baryon states, *and*  $d\sigma_{c\bar{c}}/dy$ : +19%

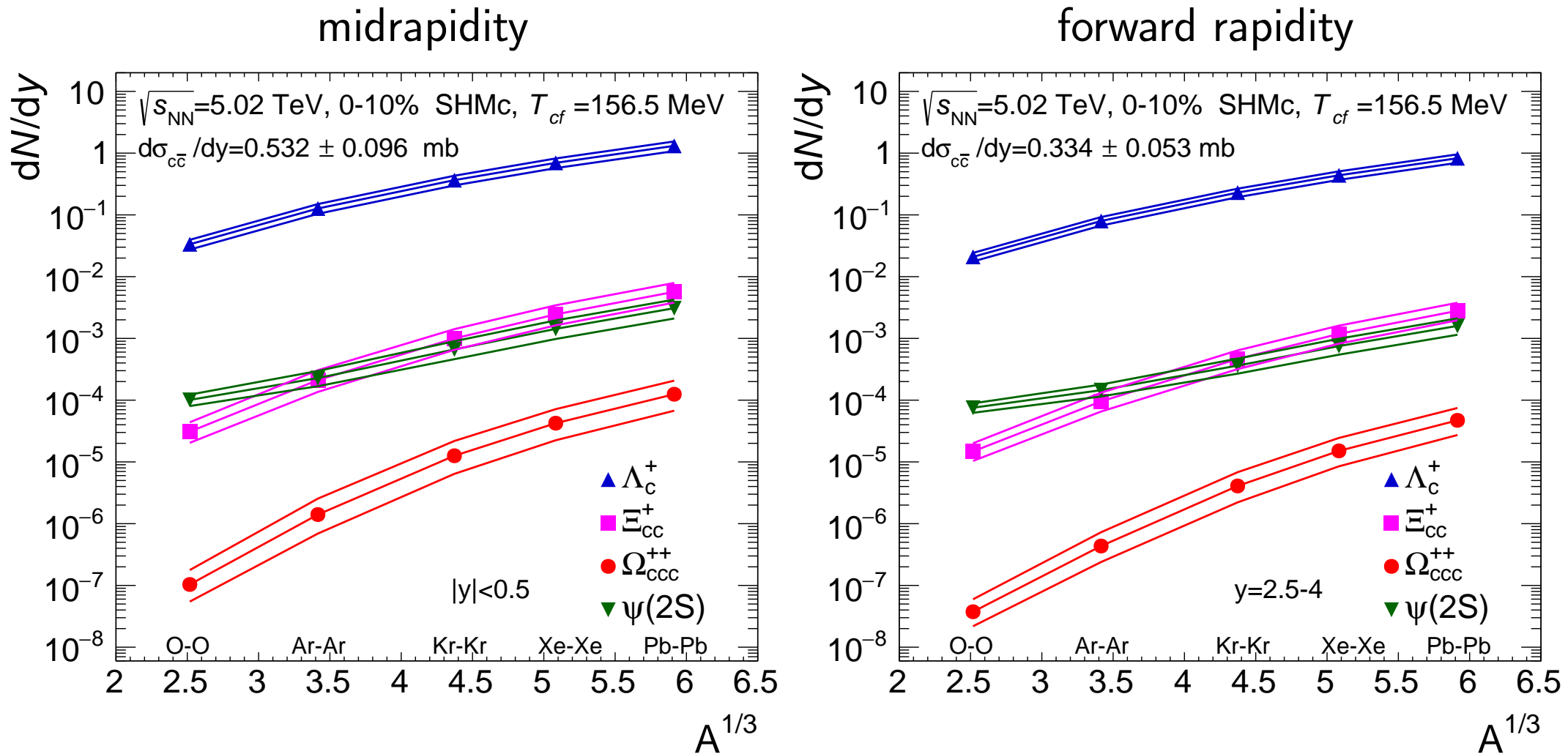
RQM: He,Rapp, PLB 795 (2019) 117; LQCD, Bazavov et al., PLB 737 (2014) 210, PLB 850 (2024) 138520

leaves the mesonic sector unaffected, for the commensurately larger  $\sigma_{c\bar{c}}$

# SHMc: system-size dependence (central, 0-10%)

A. Andronic

31



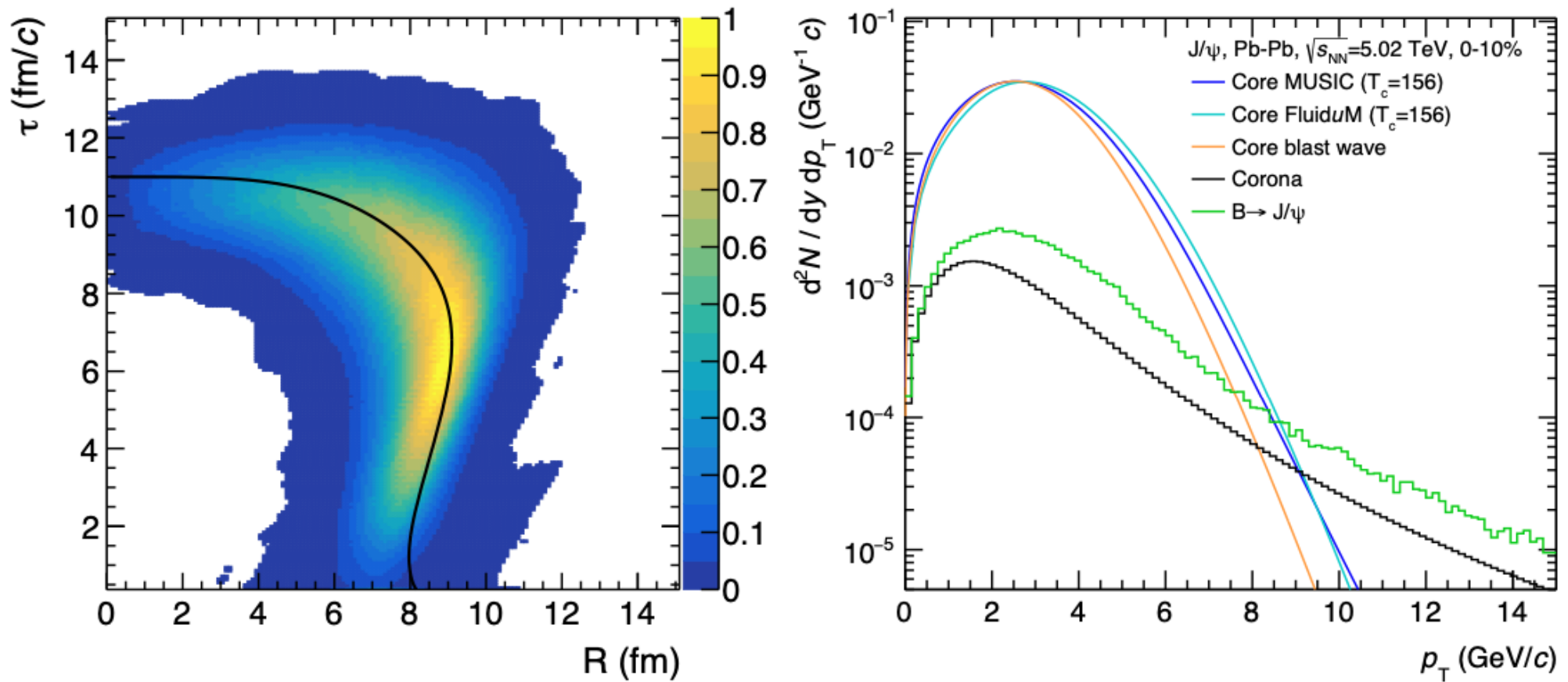
JHEP 07 (2021) 035

SHMc describes pp data vs.  $N_{ch}$ , PBM, Redlich, Sharma, Stachel, [arXiv:2408.07496](https://arxiv.org/abs/2408.07496)

# SHMc - coupling to hydrodynamics

A. Andronic

32



[JHEP 10 \(2024\) 229](#)

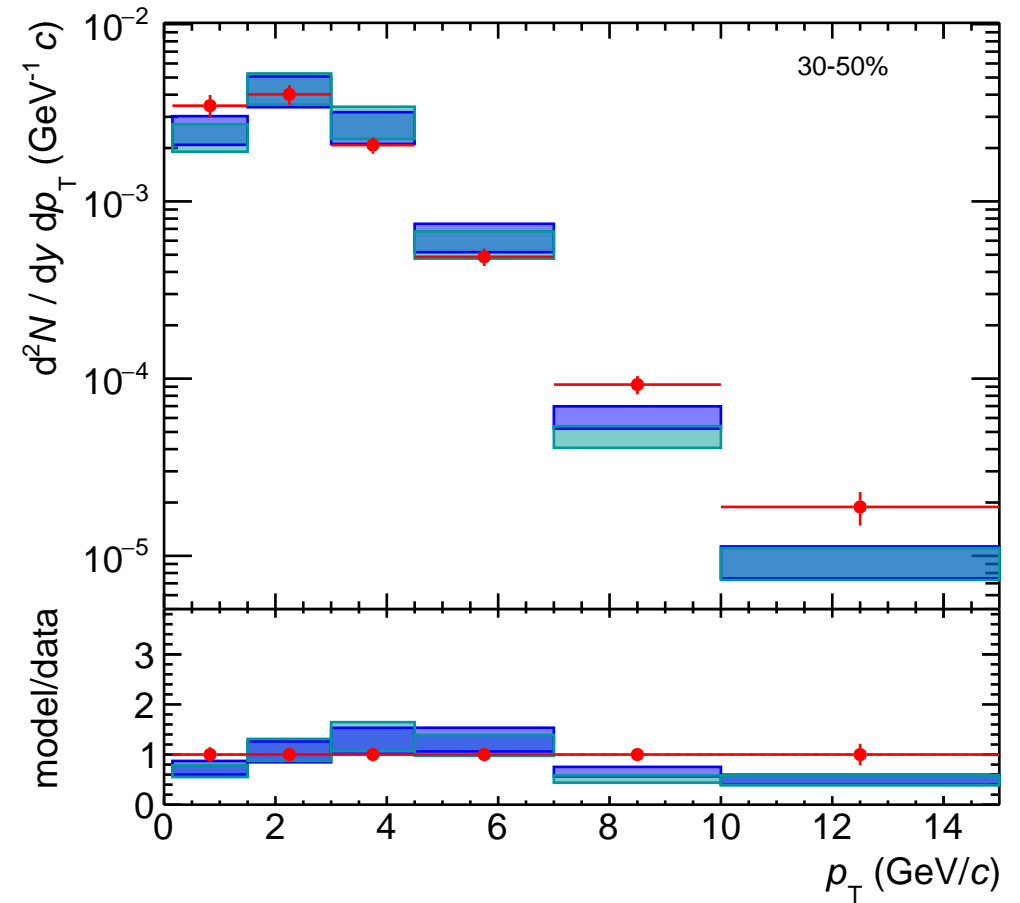
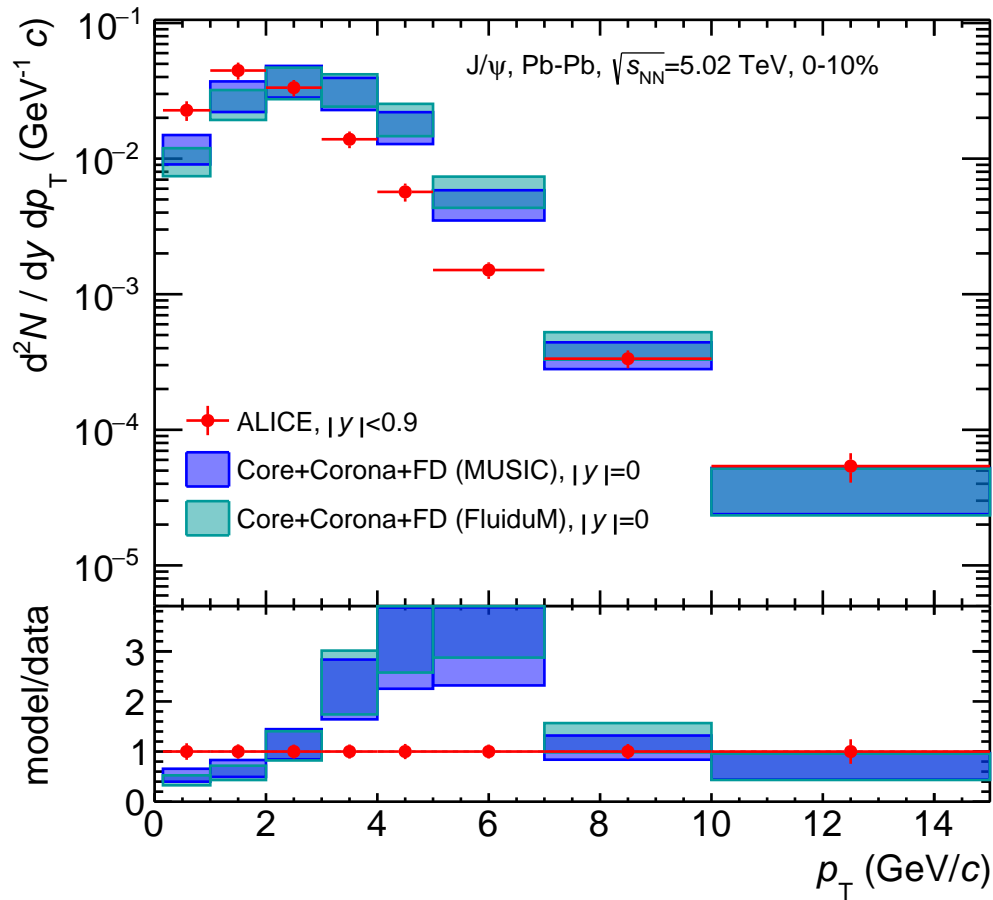
Distribution: MUSIC (IP-Glasma;  $\tau_0=0.4$  fm/c)

Line: Fluid $u$ M ( $T_{R}$ ENTO;  $\tau_0=0.18$  fm/c)

# SHMc: $p_T$ spectra

A. Andronic

33



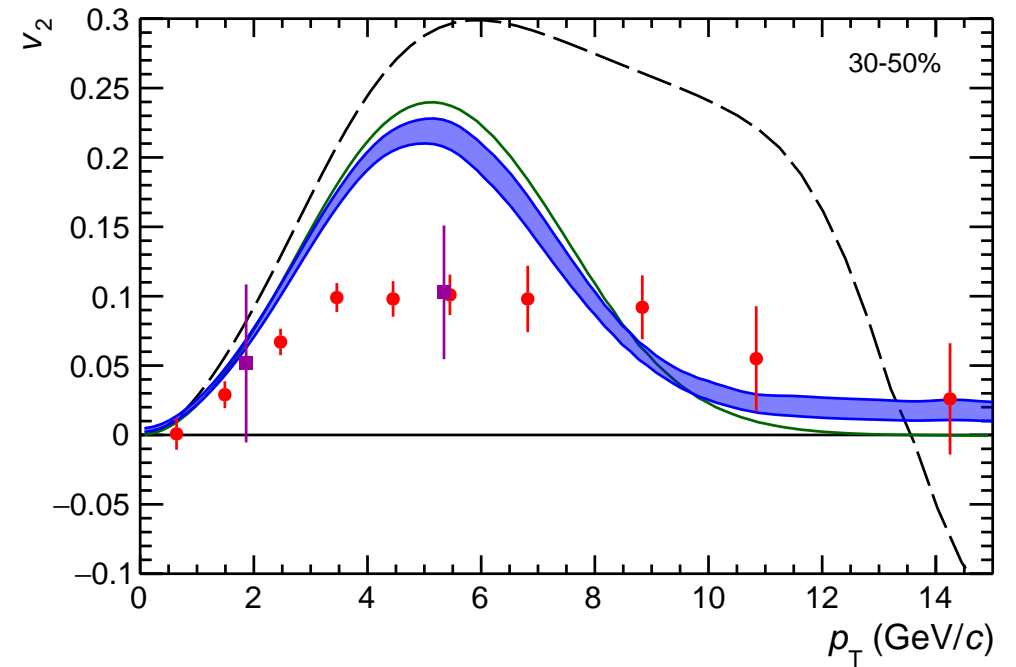
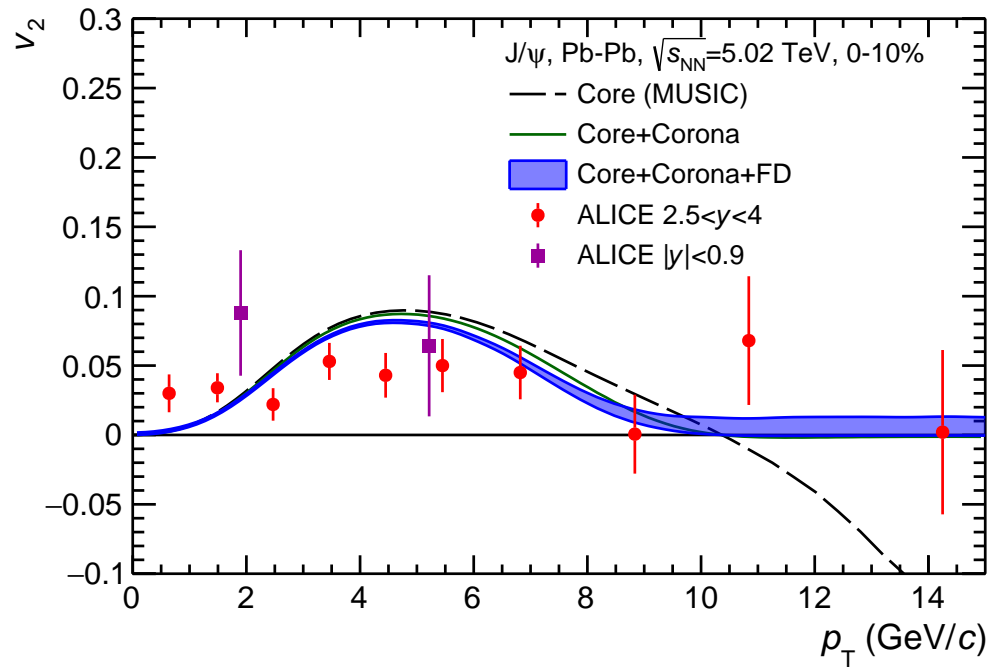
JHEP 10 (2024) 229

Too strong flow in 0-10% centrality

# SHMc: $v_2$ distributions

A. Andronic

34



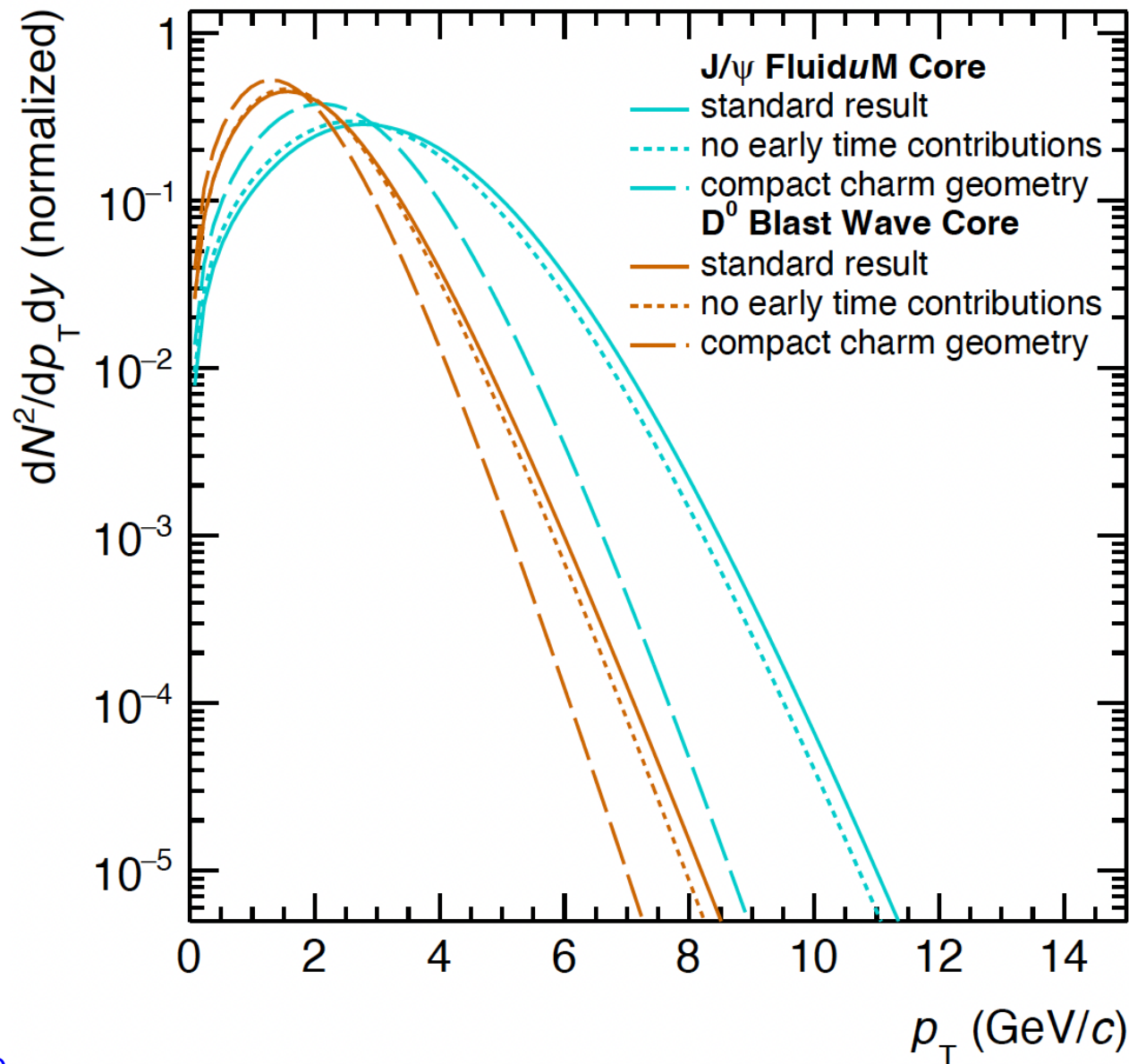
JHEP 10 (2024) 229

again, we predict too much flow ( $v_3$  is also overpredicted)

# SHMc - coupling to hydrodynamics, refinements

A. Andronic

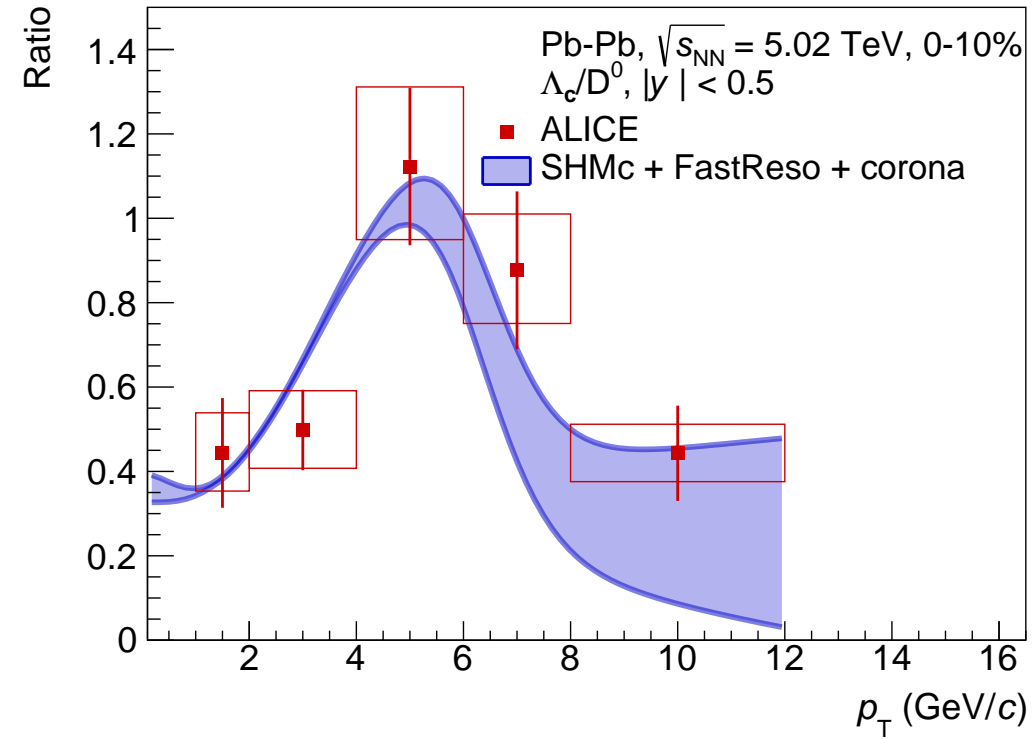
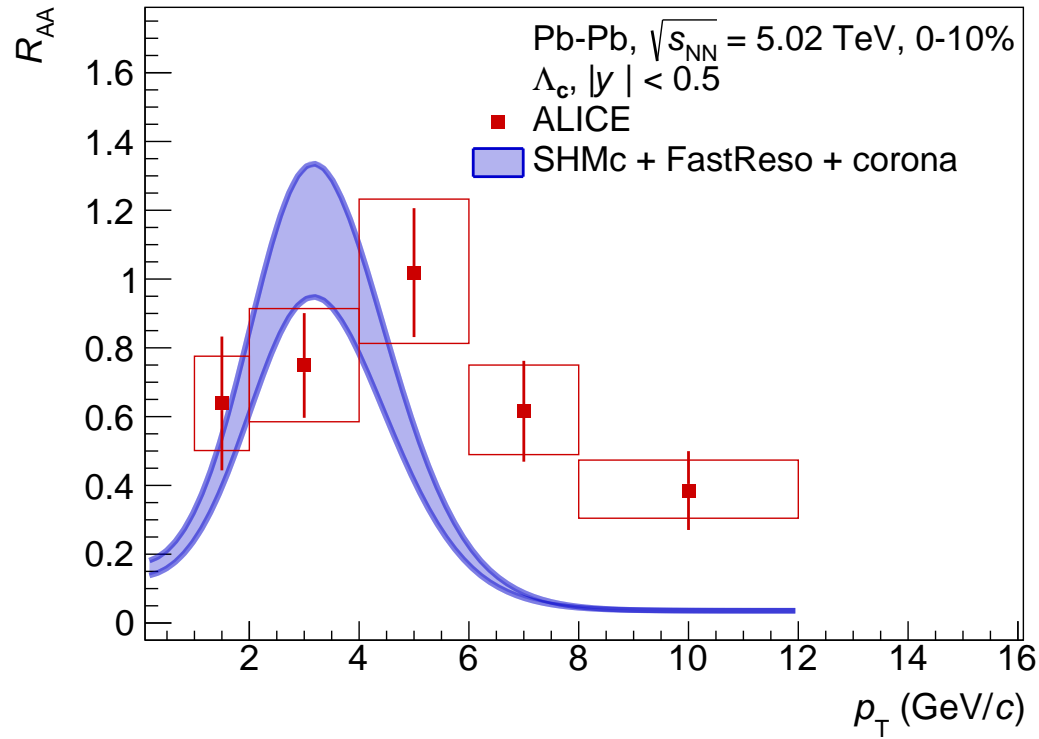
35



JHEP 10 (2024) 229

A spatially-mapped  $N_{coll}$  distribution needs to be implemented in addition.

# SHMc: $p_T$ , open charm





# Transport models

A. Andronic

37

Implement screening picture with space-time evolution of the fireball (hydro-like)

Continuous destruction and “(re)generation” (“recombination”)

Semi-classical: Boltzmann eq. (loss and gain terms) / Quantum transport

Thews et al., PRC 63 (2001) 054905 ...

“TAMU”, PLB 664 (2008) 253, NPA 859 (2011) 114, EPJA 48 (2012) 72

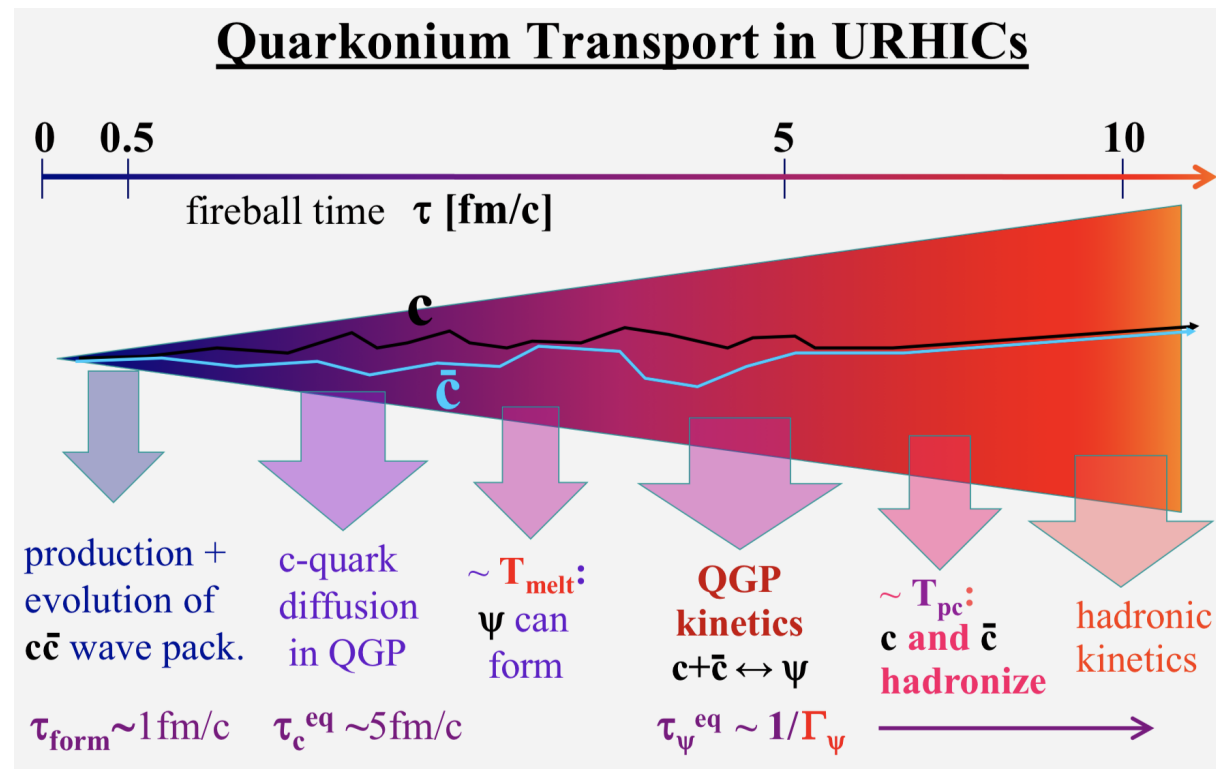
“Tsinghua”, PLB 607 (2005) 107, PLB 678 (2009) 72, [PRC 89 \(2014\) 054911](#)

Predict  $R_{AA}, v_2(p_T)$

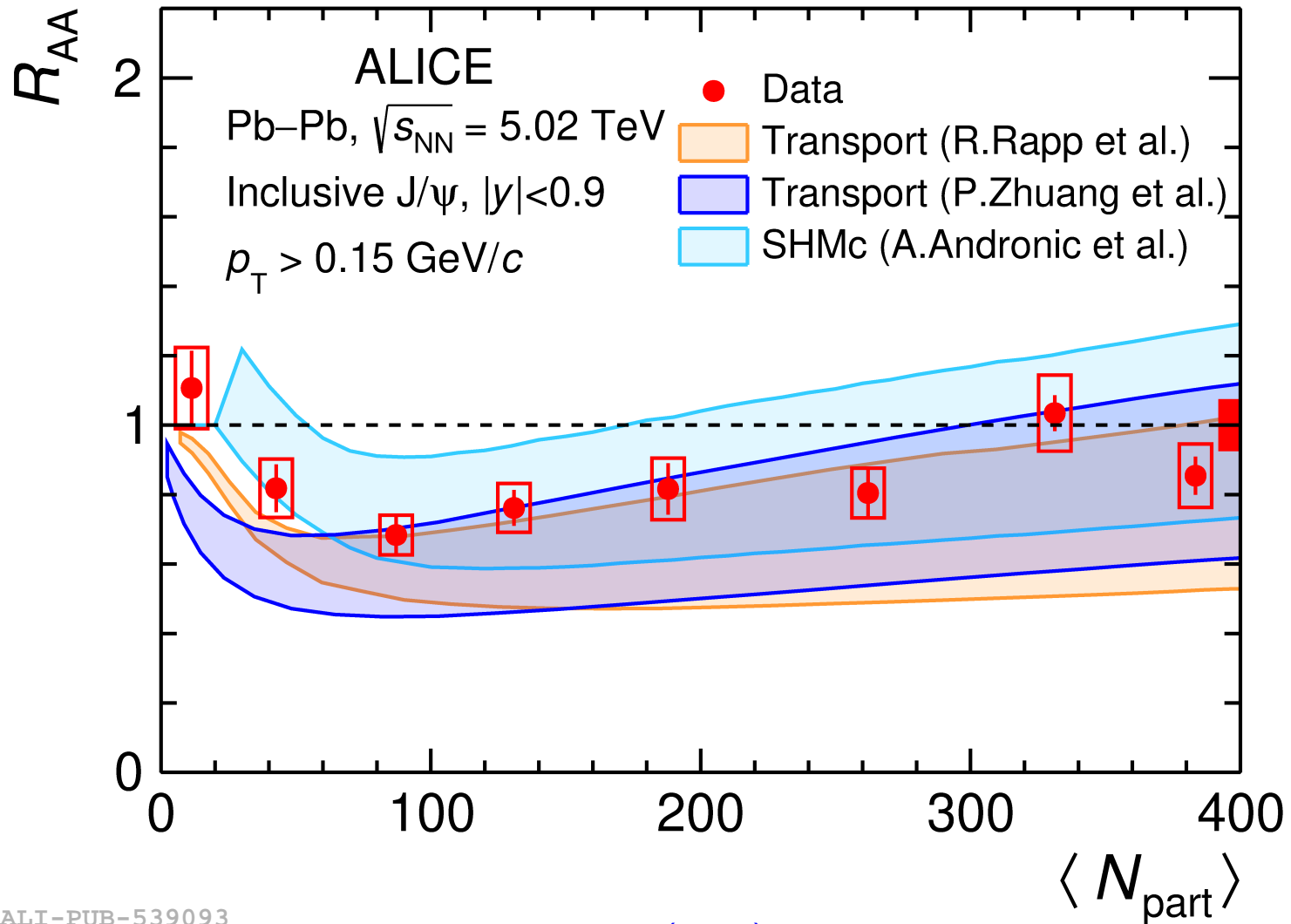
Model-intercomparison

EMMI RRTF, [EPJA 60 \(2024\) 88](#)

Rapp, Du, [arXiv:1704.07923](#)



# SHMc vs. transport models



ALI-PUB-539093

ALICE, PLB 849 (2024) 138451

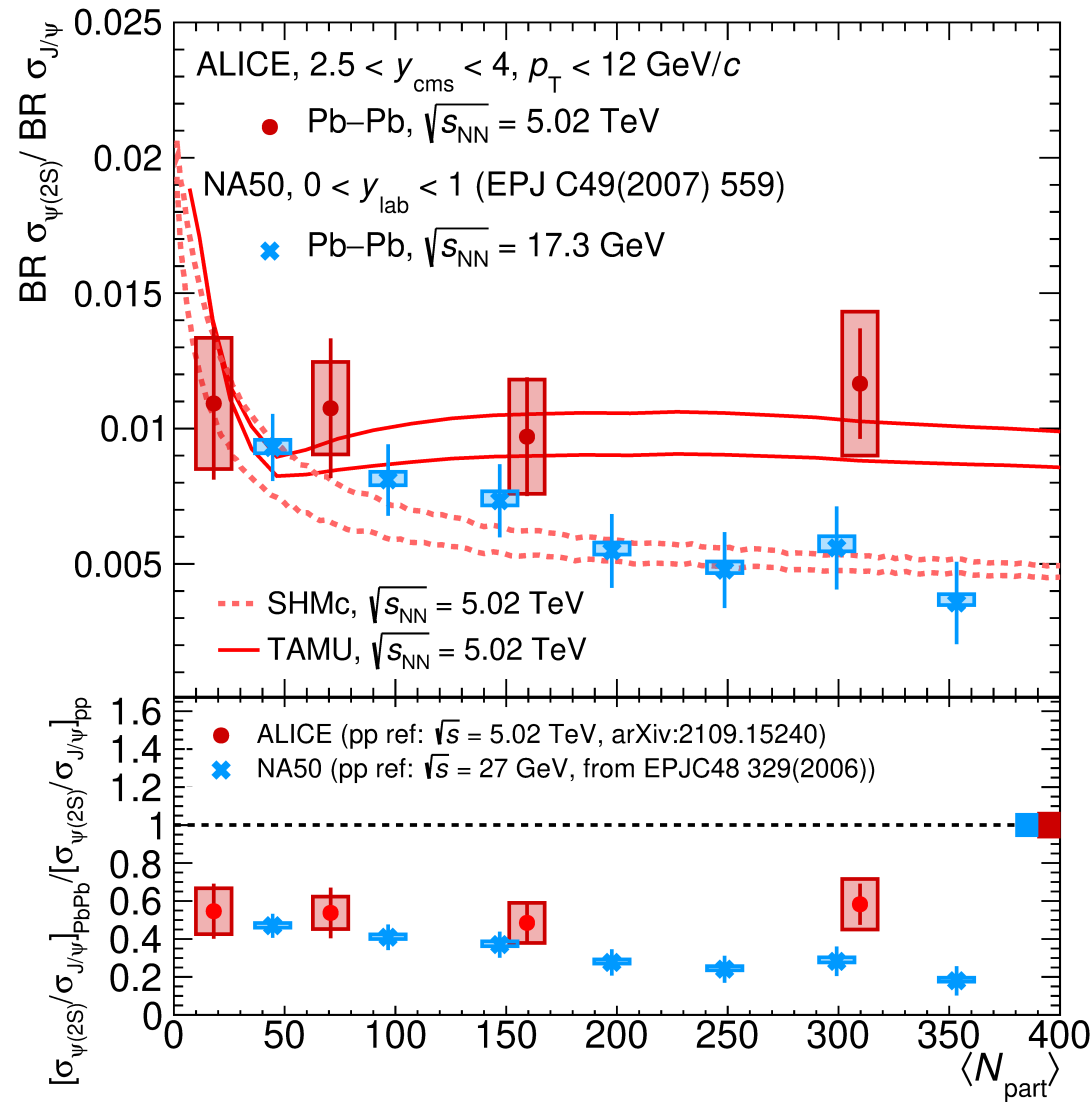
SHMc:  $d\sigma_{c\bar{c}}/dy$  via normalization to  $D^0$  in Pb–Pb 0-10%,

ALICE, JHEP 01 (2022) 174

# $\psi(2S)/J/\psi$ at the LHC (and SPS)

A. Andronic

39



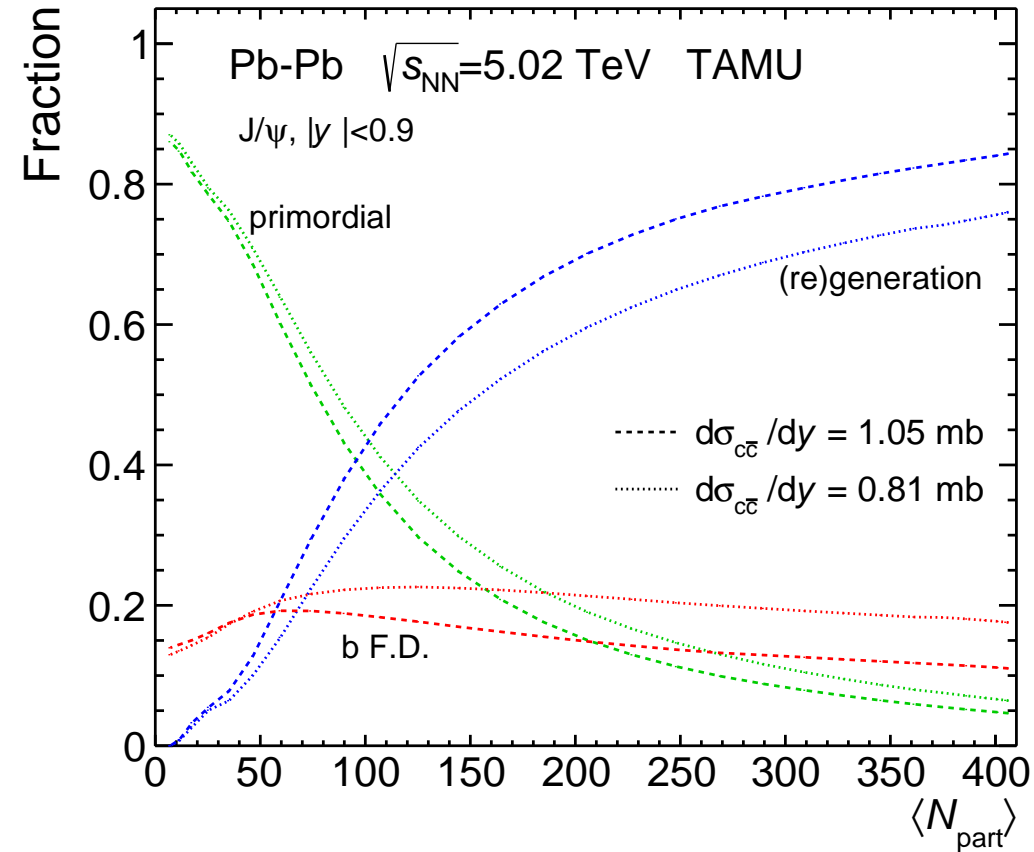
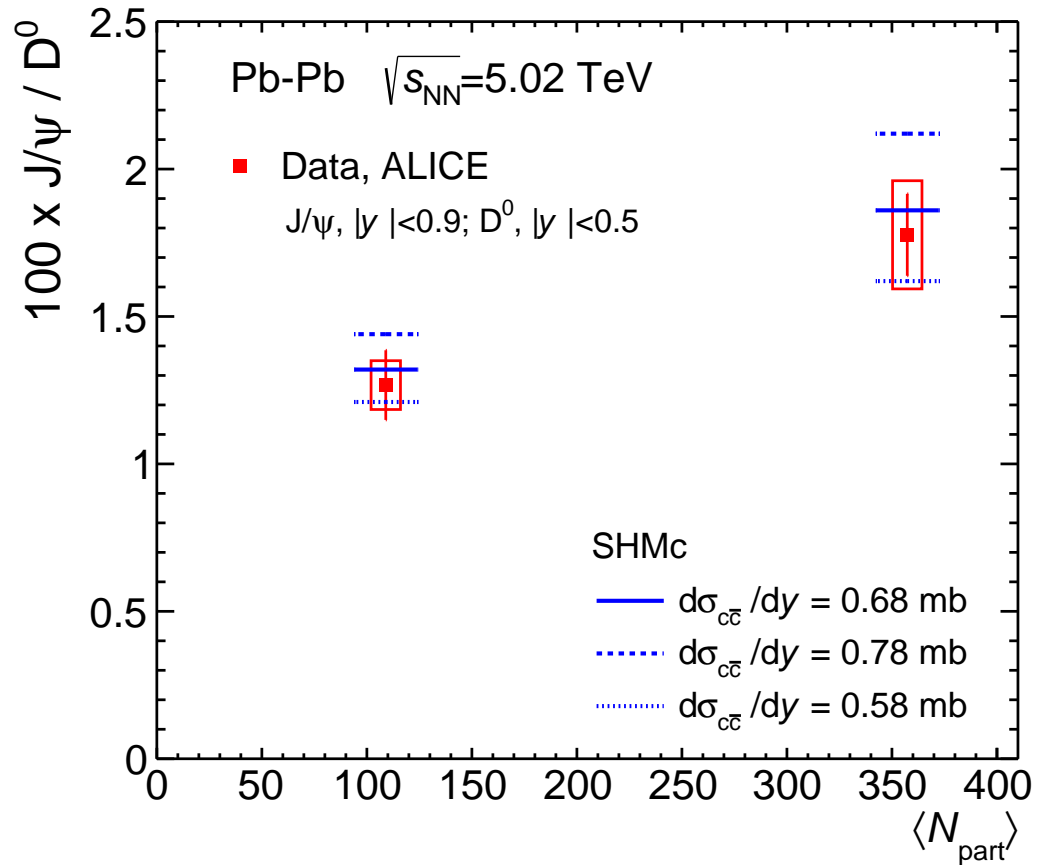
ALI-PUB-528400

In SHMc uncertainty only due to nuclear-corona  
 ( $\sigma_{c\bar{c}}$  cancels out completely)

# SHMc vs. transport

A. Andronic

40



AA, R.Arnaldi, [arXiv:2501.08290](https://arxiv.org/abs/2501.08290)

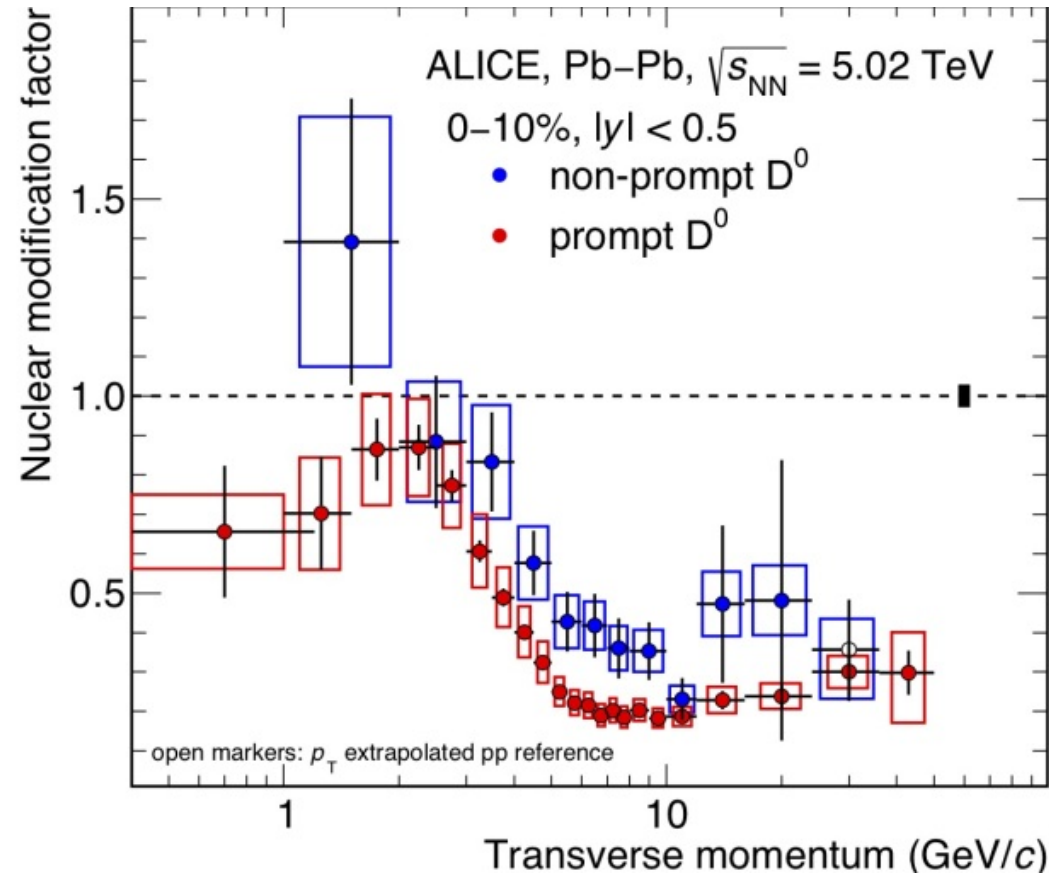
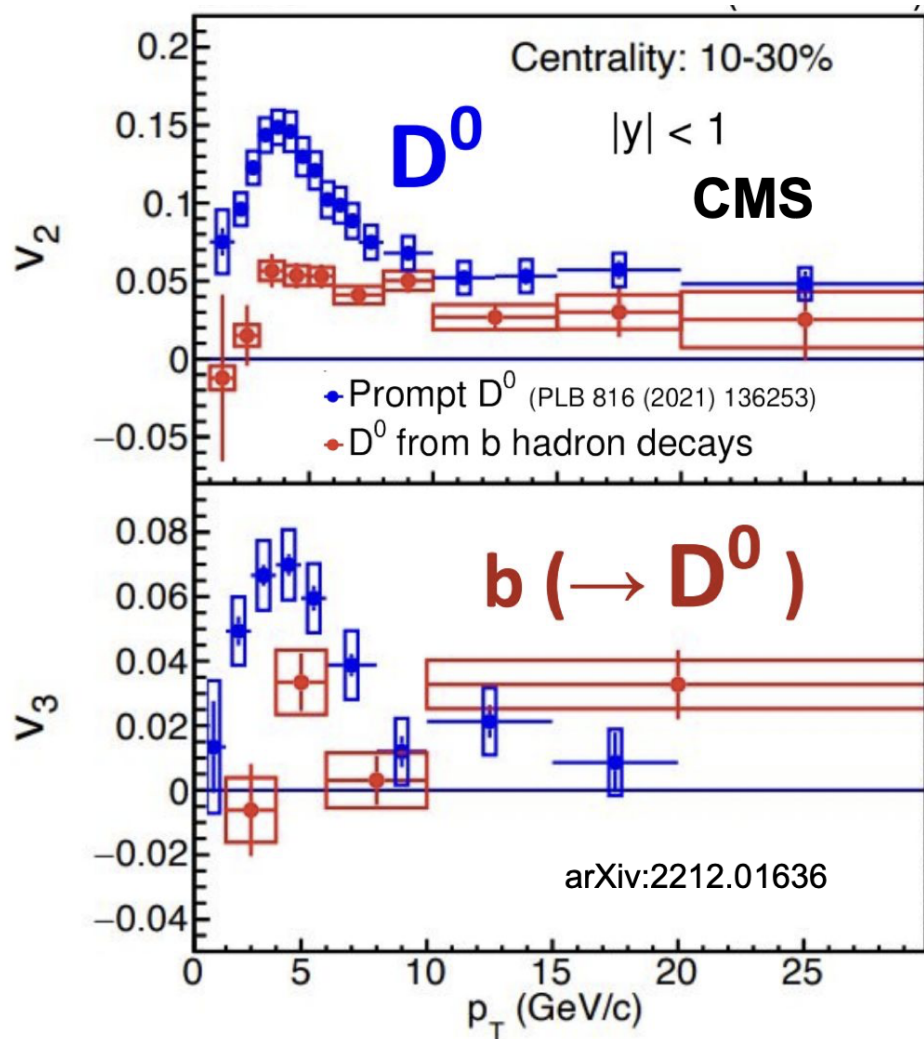
Central collisions: (re)generation dominant in transport models (100% in SHMc)

Mid-central ( $N_{part} \simeq 100$ ): 50-50 in transport, still 100% in SHMc

# Beauty quark thermalization?

A. Andronic

41



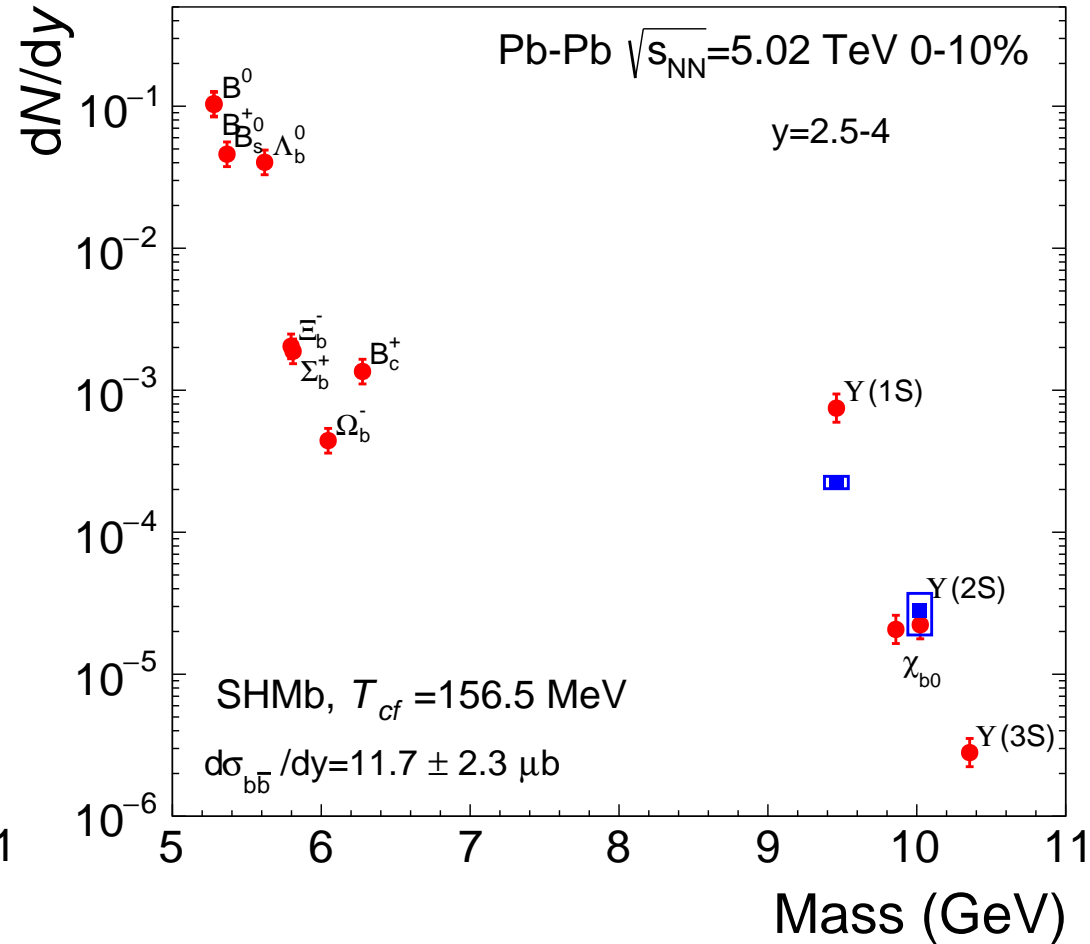
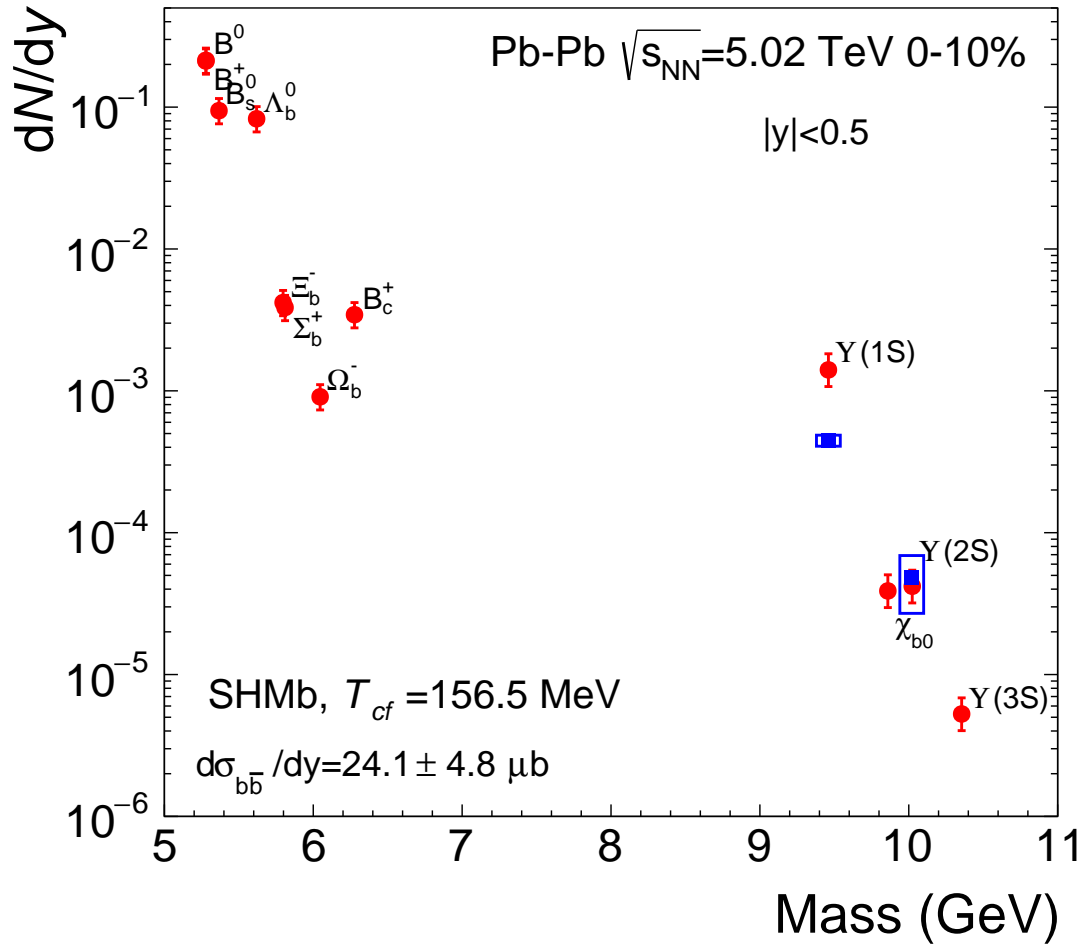
CMS, PLB 850 (2024) 138389,

ALICE, JHEP 12 (2022) 126

definitely strong flow but clearly less strong than for charm (CMS, QM'22, HIN-21-003)

...and a strong coupling with the medium (less energy loss than charm,  $p_T \simeq 10$  GeV/c)

# The limiting case: full beauty thermalization



$$g_b = 1.05 \cdot 10^9 \quad \left( \frac{dN_{b\bar{b}}}{dy} = 0.57 \right)$$

$$B_c : 3.44 \cdot 10^{-3}$$

$$g_b = 0.86 \cdot 10^9 \quad \left( \frac{dN_{b\bar{b}}}{dy} = 0.28 \right)$$

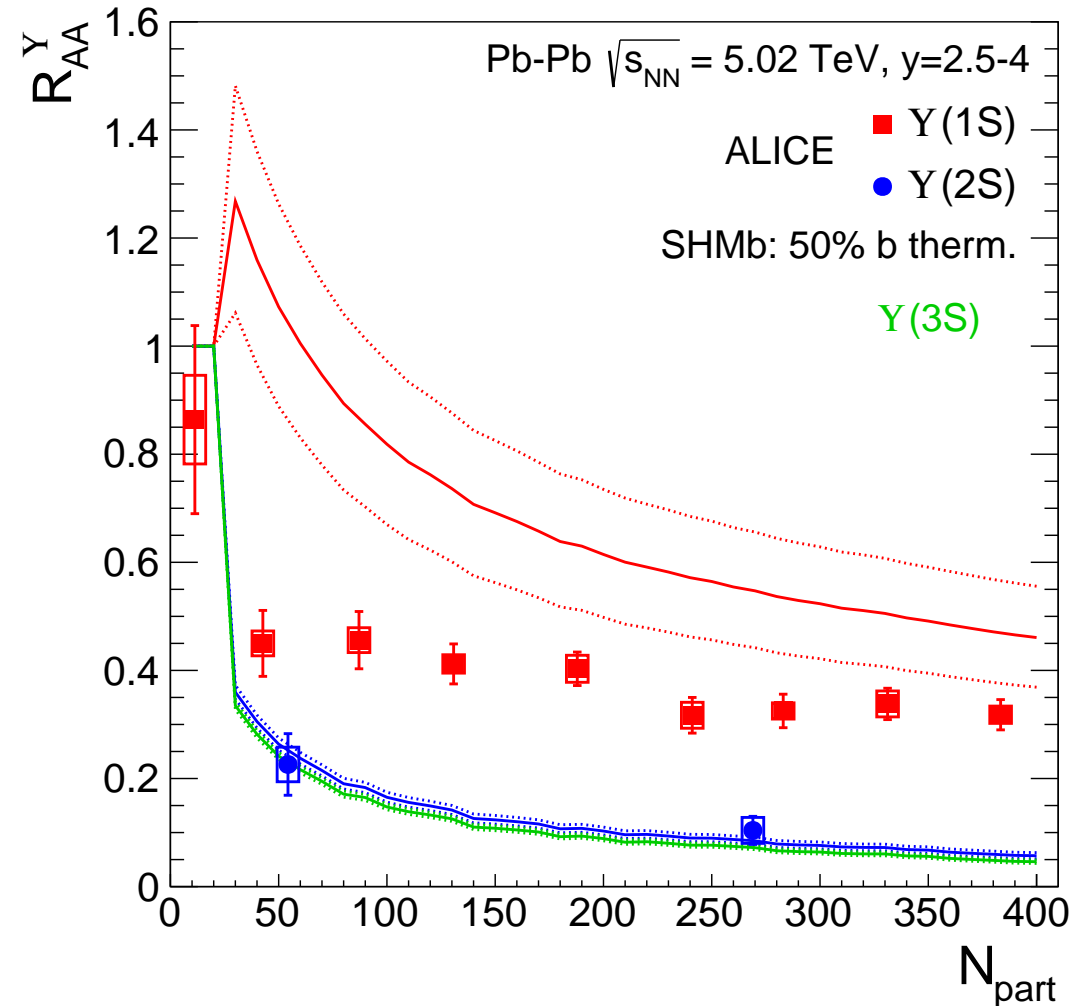
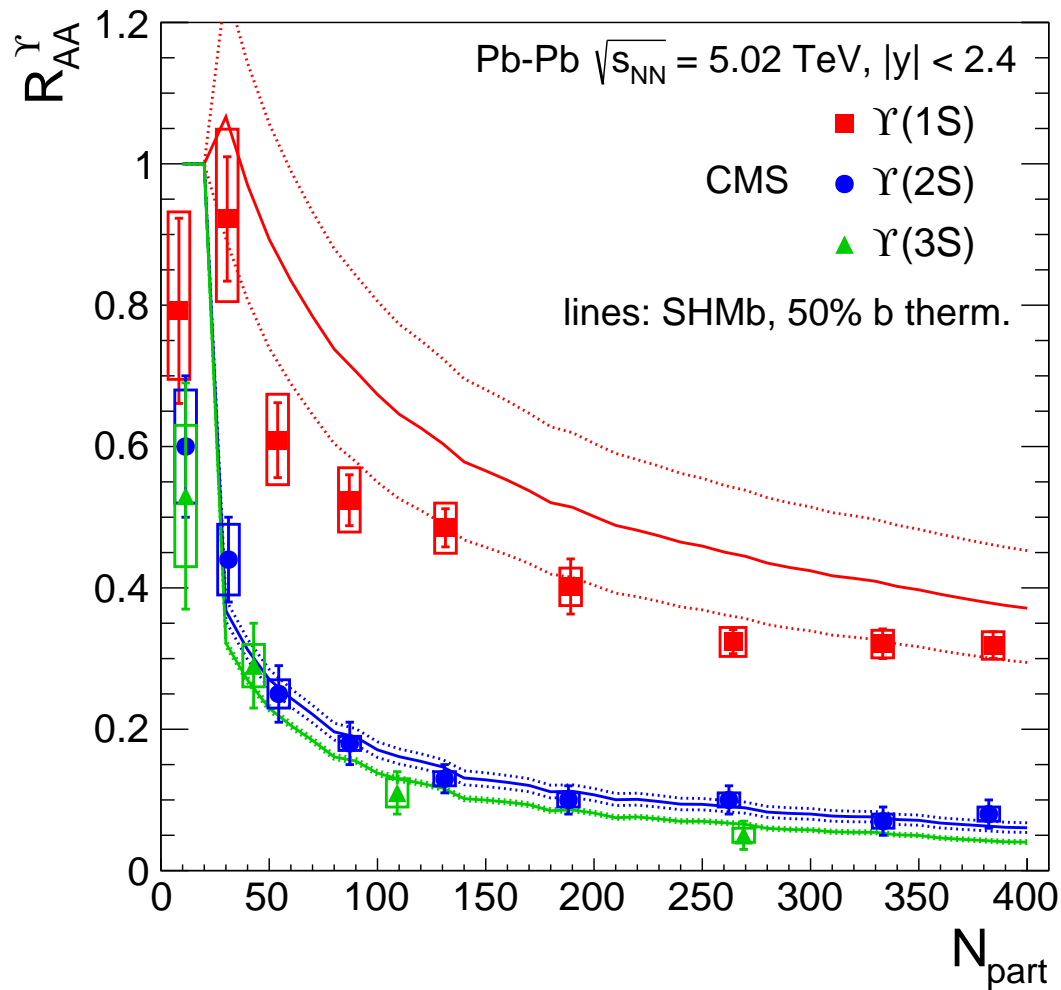
$$B_c : 1.36 \cdot 10^{-3}$$

Blue:  $\Upsilon$  data (CMS, ALICE): calc. based on  $R_{AA}$  and pp (would be nice to include in publications  $dN/dy$ )

# $R_{AA}$ , 50% $b\bar{b}$ thermalized

A. Andronic

43



CMS, PRL 120 (2018) 142301

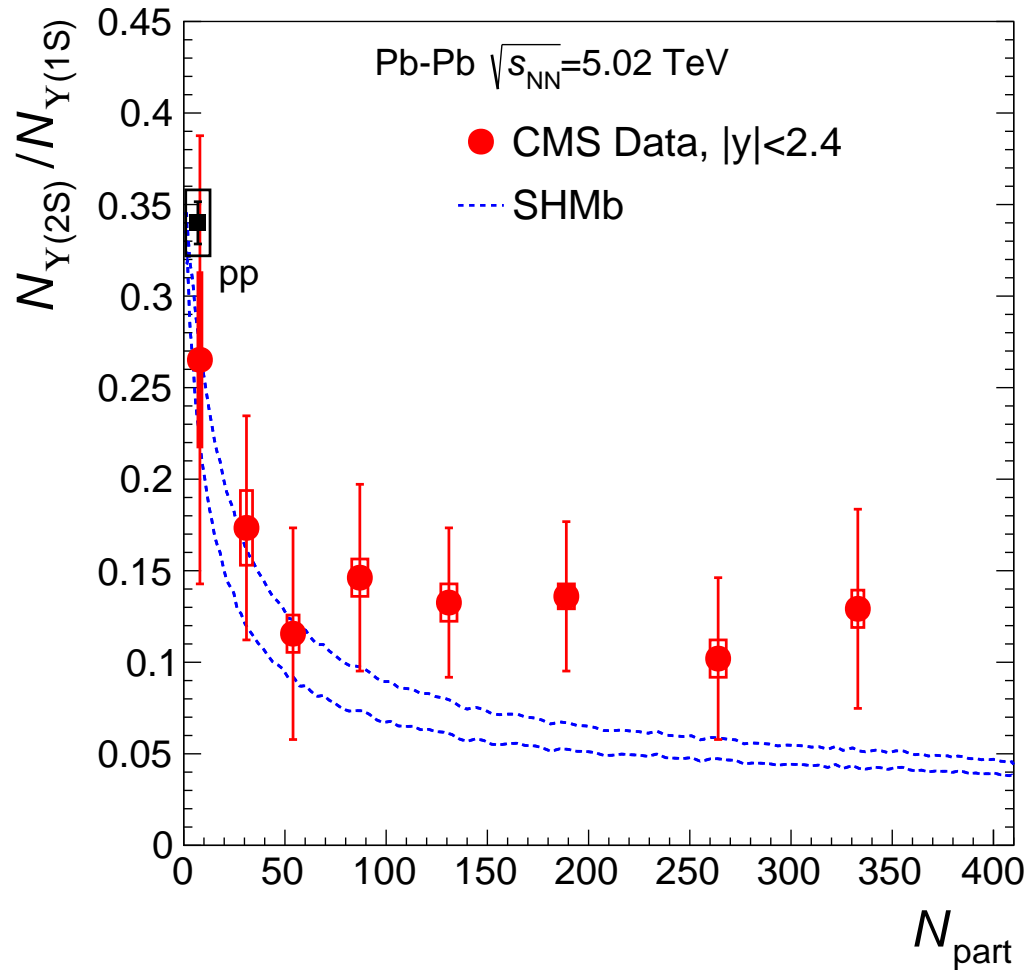
ALICE, PLB 822 (2021) 136579

*What does non-thermalized beauty produce? (no room for it in SHM**b**)*

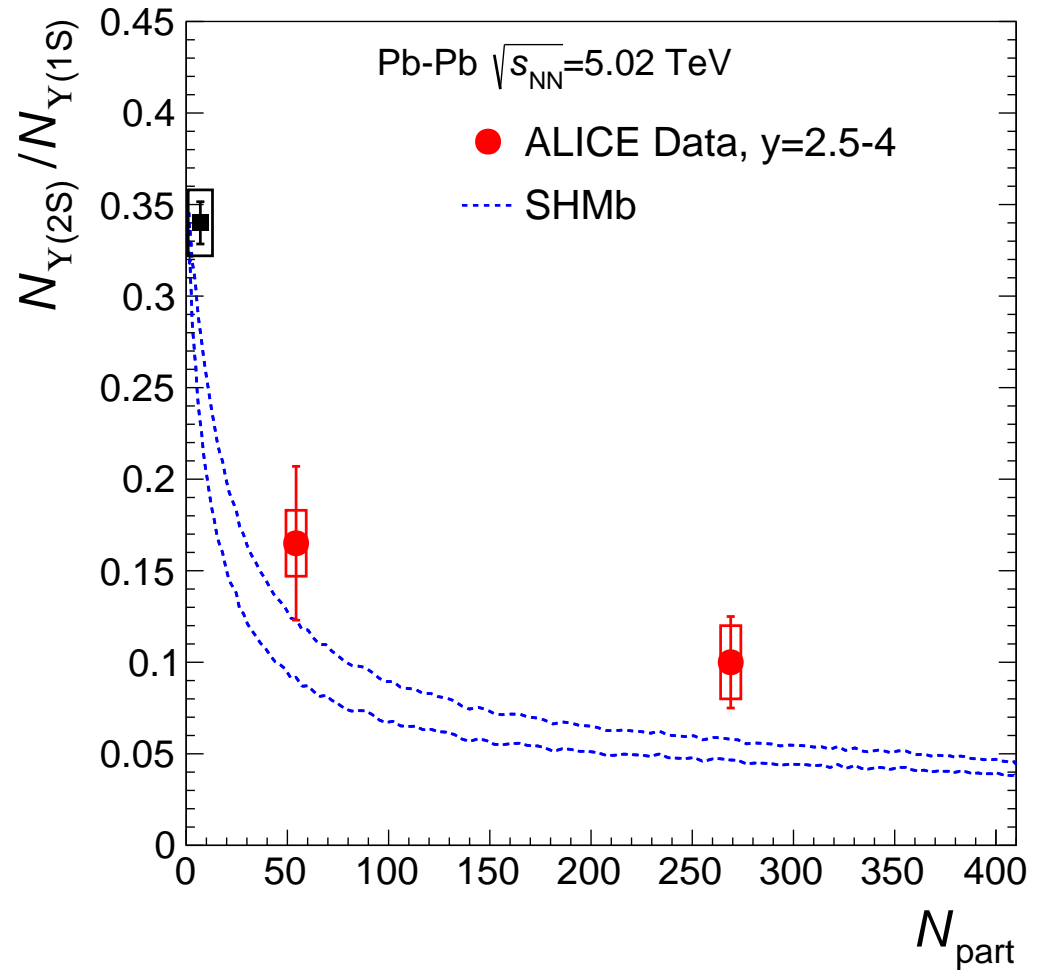
# $\Upsilon(2S)/\Upsilon(1S)$ ratio (100% b thermalization)

A. Andronic

44



CMS, [PRL 120 \(2018\) 142301](#)



ALICE, [PLB 822 \(2021\) 136579](#)

ALICE pp:  $\Upsilon(2S)/\Upsilon(1S) = 0.5 \pm 0.1$ , [arXiv:2109.15240](#)

SHMb uncert.: nuclear-corona (fraction)



# Summary / Conclusions: *up to charm*

- SHM describes  $u, d, s$ -hadron yields ...produced at the QCD phase boundary
- *Charm quarks* seem to thermalize very effectively (close to 100%) in QGP
- SHM: all charmonium and open charm states are generated exclusively at hadronization (chemical freeze-out) ...full color screening

The model is very successful in reproducing the  $J/\psi$  and open charm data  
*...with  $c$  and  $\bar{c}$  quarks deconfined in a volume of  $5000 \text{ fm}^3$  ...QGP proof*  
*A handle for hadronization  $T$  with a mass scale well above  $T$*

- Transport models: continuous  $J/\psi$  destruction and (re)generation in QGP  
(up to 80% of the  $J/\psi$  yield at LHC (central collisions) originates from deconfined  $c$  and  $\bar{c}$  quarks)

*Discriminating the two pictures implies providing an answer to fundamental questions related to the fate of hadrons in a hot deconfined medium.*

A precision ( $\pm 10\%$ ) measurement of  $d\sigma_{c\bar{c}}/dy$  in Pb-Pb (Au-Au) collisions needed for a stringent test  
(within reach with the upgraded detectors at the LHC)

# Summary / Conclusions: beauty

- Full beauty thermalization seems not realized in nature  
...with 30-50% of beauty quarks fully thermalized SHM can explain the  $\Upsilon$  data  
...but this fraction is (significantly) dependent on the b-hadron spectrum

What does non/partially-thermalized beauty produce?

no  $\Upsilon$  because strong coupling with the medium destroys the  $b\bar{b}$  correlation?

- Transport and Hydro models are successfully reproducing  $\Upsilon$  suppression  
Transport: regeneration important for  $\Upsilon(2S)$  (at the LHC)
- Quantum approaches on strong rise

# The sixth flavor

A. Andronic

47

“getting hands dirty” ...by doing (transition radiation) detectors

Johanna was ALICE TRD's Project Leader (& ALICE MB member) for 25 years

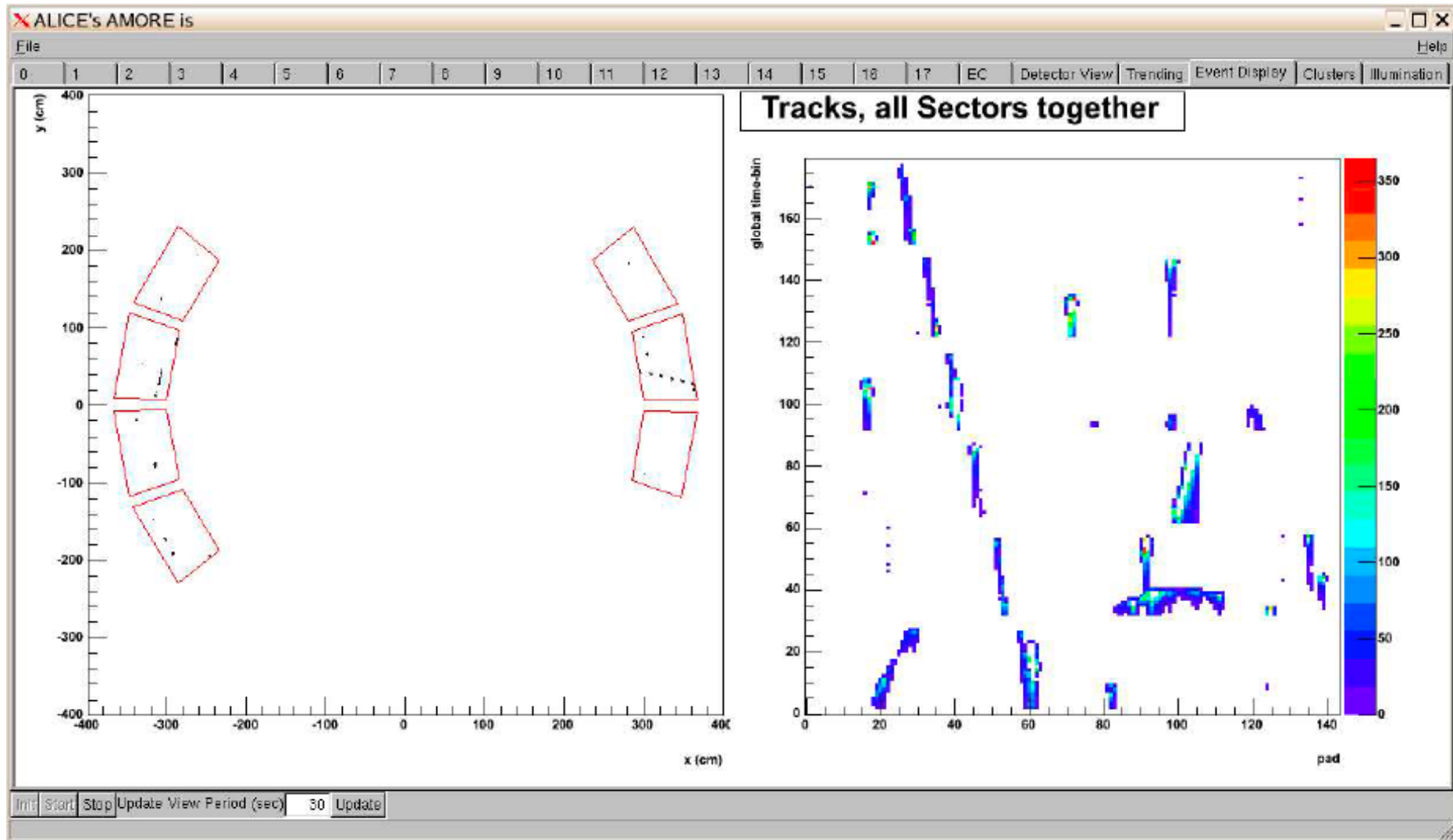


Oct.2006, CERN, 1st TRD supermodule installation

# ALICE TRD (Sun, 6 Dec 2009 08:53)

A. Andronic

48



Johanna's energy pushed it through LoI, Sept. 1998; TDR, Oct. 2001; completion, Dec. 2014  
(...the hidden part of the iceberg)

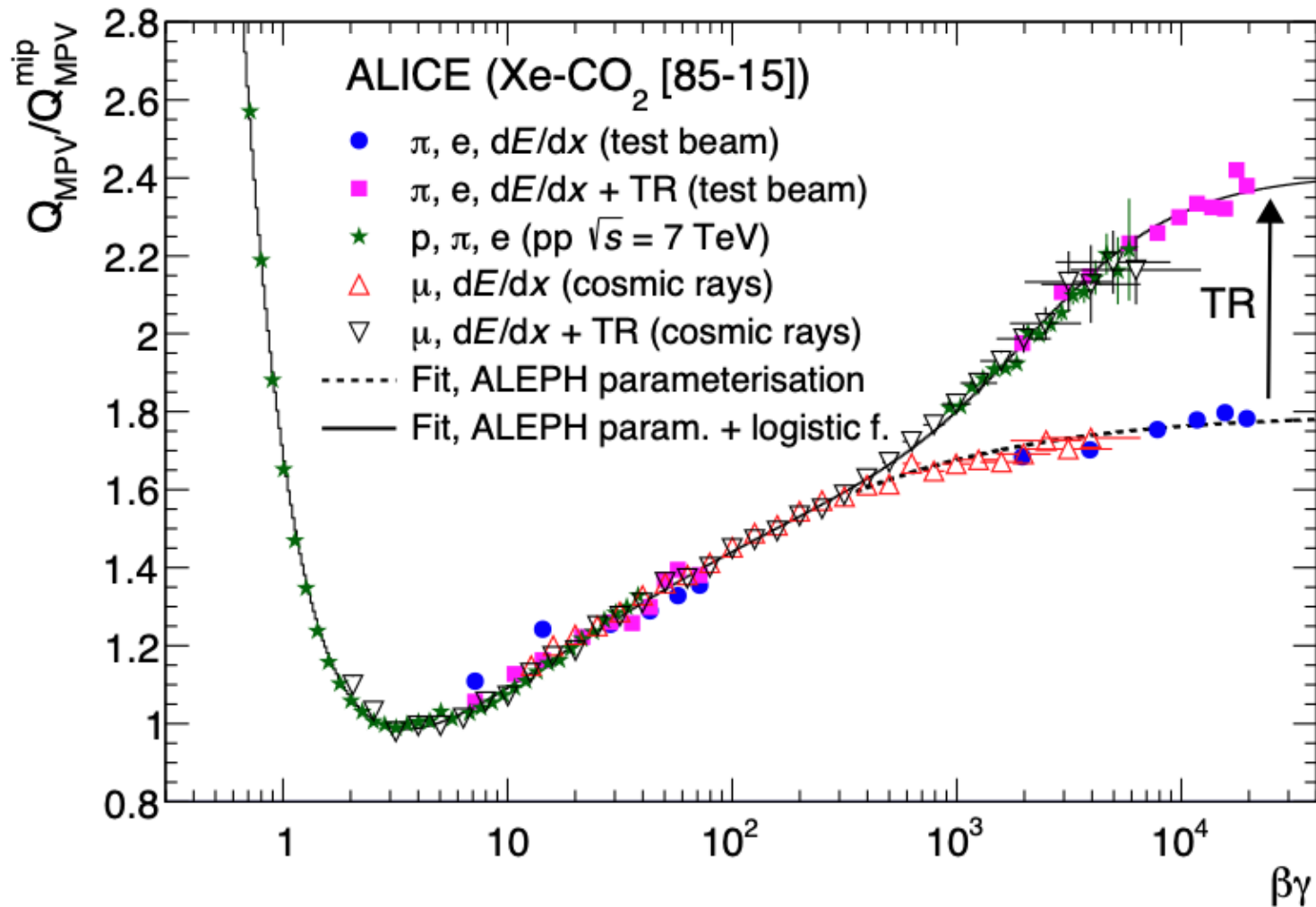
## ...although we did write papers on it:)

- *Prototype tests for the ALICE TRD*, A. Andronic et al. (ALICE Collaboration), IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci. 48 (2001) 1259 [[arXiv:nucl-ex/0102017](https://arxiv.org/abs/nucl-ex/0102017)]
- *Pulse height measurements and electron attachment in drift chambers operated with Xe,CO<sub>2</sub> mixtures*, A. Andronic et al. (ALICE Collaboration), Nucl. Instr. Meth. A 498 (2003) 143 [[arXiv:physics/0303059](https://arxiv.org/abs/physics/0303059)]
- *Energy loss of pions and electrons of 1 to 6 GeV/c in drift chambers operated with Xe,CO<sub>2</sub>(15%)*, A. Andronic et al. (ALICE TRD collaboration), Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 519 (2004) 508 [[arXiv:physics/0310122](https://arxiv.org/abs/physics/0310122)]
- *Space charge in drift chambers operated with the Xe,CO<sub>2</sub>(15%) mixture*, A. Andronic et al. (ALICE TRD collaboration), Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 525 (2004) 447 [[arXiv:physics/0402043](https://arxiv.org/abs/physics/0402043)]
- *Position reconstruction in drift chambers operated with Xe,CO<sub>2</sub>(15%)*, C. Adler et al. (ALICE TRD Collaboration), Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 540 (2005) 140 [[arXiv:physics/0511233](https://arxiv.org/abs/physics/0511233)]
- *Electron/pion identification with ALICE TRD prototypes using a neural network algorithm*, C. Adler et al. (ALICE TRD Collaboration), Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 552 (2005) 364 [[arXiv:physics/0506202](https://arxiv.org/abs/physics/0506202)]
- *Transition radiation spectra of electrons from 1 to 10 GeV/c in regular and irregular radiators*, A. Andronic et al. (ALICE TRD Collaboration), Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 558 (2006) 516 [[arXiv:physics/0511229](https://arxiv.org/abs/physics/0511229)]
- *The ALICE Transition Radiation Detector: construction, operation, and performance*, ALICE Collaboration, Nucl. Instr. Meth. A 881 (2018) 88, [[arXiv:1709.02743](https://arxiv.org/abs/1709.02743)]

...our least-cited papers:)



# What is Transition Radiation?



X-ray photons emitted by charged particles with  $\gamma \gtrsim 1000$  at interface of 2 media allows pion rejection in ALICE by a factor of up to 500 (momentum-dependent)



# 2005 - Cheile Gradistei (TRD workshop)

A. Andronic

51





# 2008 - Jaipur

A. Andronic

52

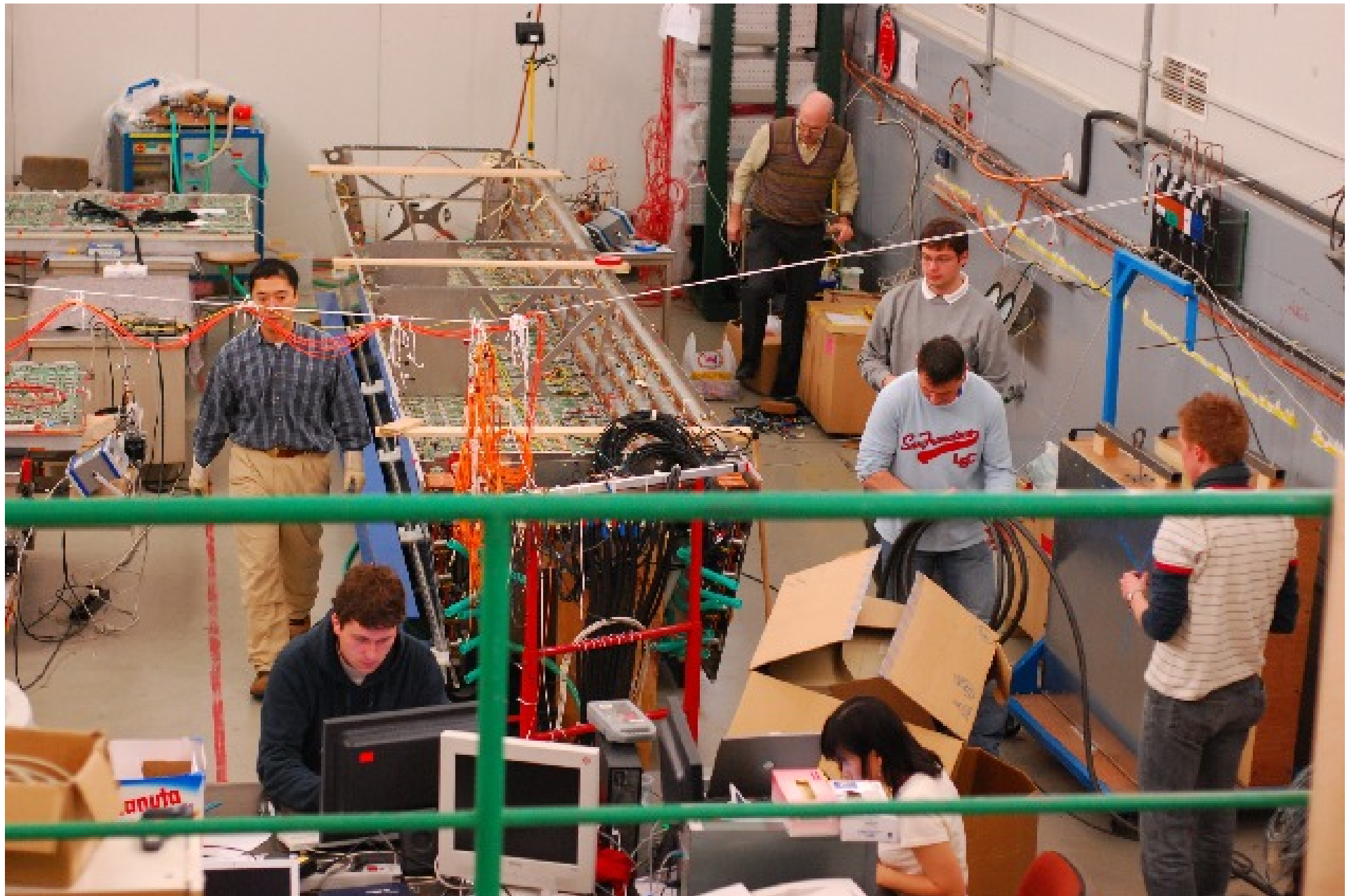




# 2008 - CERN, Point 2

A. Andronic

53





# 2008 - Draisinentour (thanks Dariusz!)

A. Andronic

54





# 2008 - GSI (chamber completion party)

A. Andronic

55





# 2013 - Bautzen

A. Andronic

56



# 2014 - Schmitt

A. Andronic

57





# 2014 - CERN, Point 2 (last supermodule installed)

A. Andronic

58



[more photos](#)



# 2015 - Münster (supermodule completion party)

A. Andronic

59





# 2015 - München

A. Andronic

60





# 2016 - Altensteig-Wart

A. Andronic

61





# 2017 - Schloss Buchenau

A. Andronic

62





# 2018 - “Nature quartet” (GSI)

A. Andronic

63



## “Never at rest”

---

Johanna served (and still serves/leads) in numerous scientific committees

President of the German Physics Society (DPG), 2012-2014

(first female in this prestigious role)

Lise Meitner Prize of EPS, 2014 (w. Jürgen S., Paolo G., Peter)

Stern-Gerlach Medal of DPG, 2019 (w. Peter)

Bundesverdienstkreuz 1. Klasse, 2021

Member of the Leopoldina Academy, since 2015

# “Never at rest”

---

Johanna served (and still serves/leads) in numerous scientific committees

President of the German Physics Society (DPG), 2012-2014

(first female in this prestigious role)

Lise Meitner Prize of EPS, 2014 (w. Jürgen S., Paolo G., Peter)

Stern-Gerlach Medal of DPG, 2019 (w. Peter)

Bundesverdienstkreuz 1. Klasse, 2021

Member of the Leopoldina Academy, since 2015

Thank you for the wonderful time (working) together!

...and looking forward to our next projects!



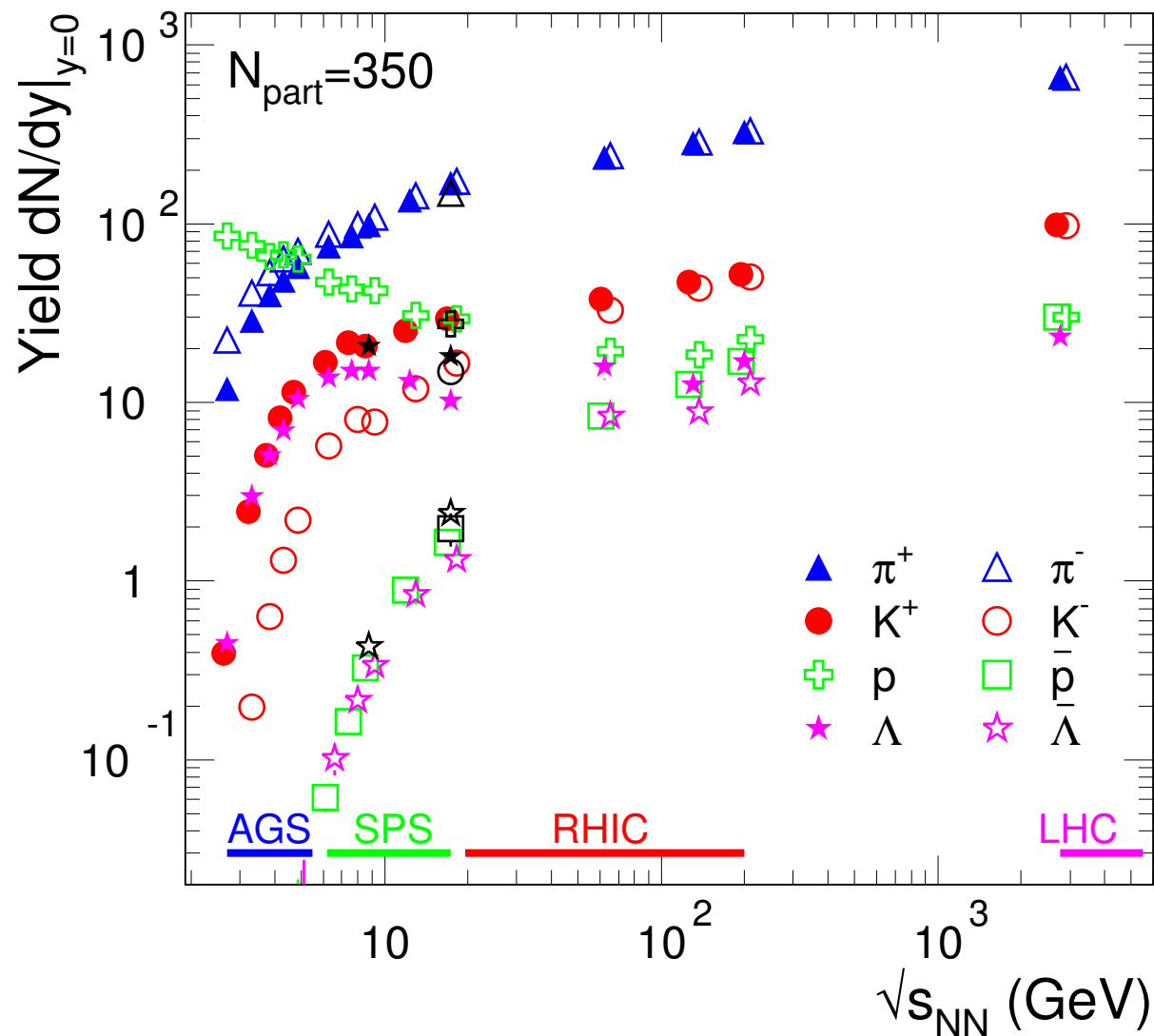
# Additional material

---

# Hadron yields at midrapidity (central collisions)

A. Andronic

1



- lots of particles, mostly newly created ( $m = E/c^2$ )
- a great variety of species:
  - $\pi^\pm$  ( $u\bar{d}$ ,  $d\bar{u}$ ),  $m=140$  MeV
  - $K^\pm$  ( $u\bar{s}$ ,  $\bar{u}s$ ),  $m=494$  MeV
  - $p$  ( $uud$ ),  $m=938$  MeV
  - $\Lambda$  ( $uds$ ),  $m=1116$  MeV
  - also:  $\Xi(dss)$ ,  $\Omega(sss)$ ...
- mass hierarchy in production at high energies ( $e^{-m/T}$ )

AA, [arXiv:1407.5003](https://arxiv.org/abs/1407.5003)

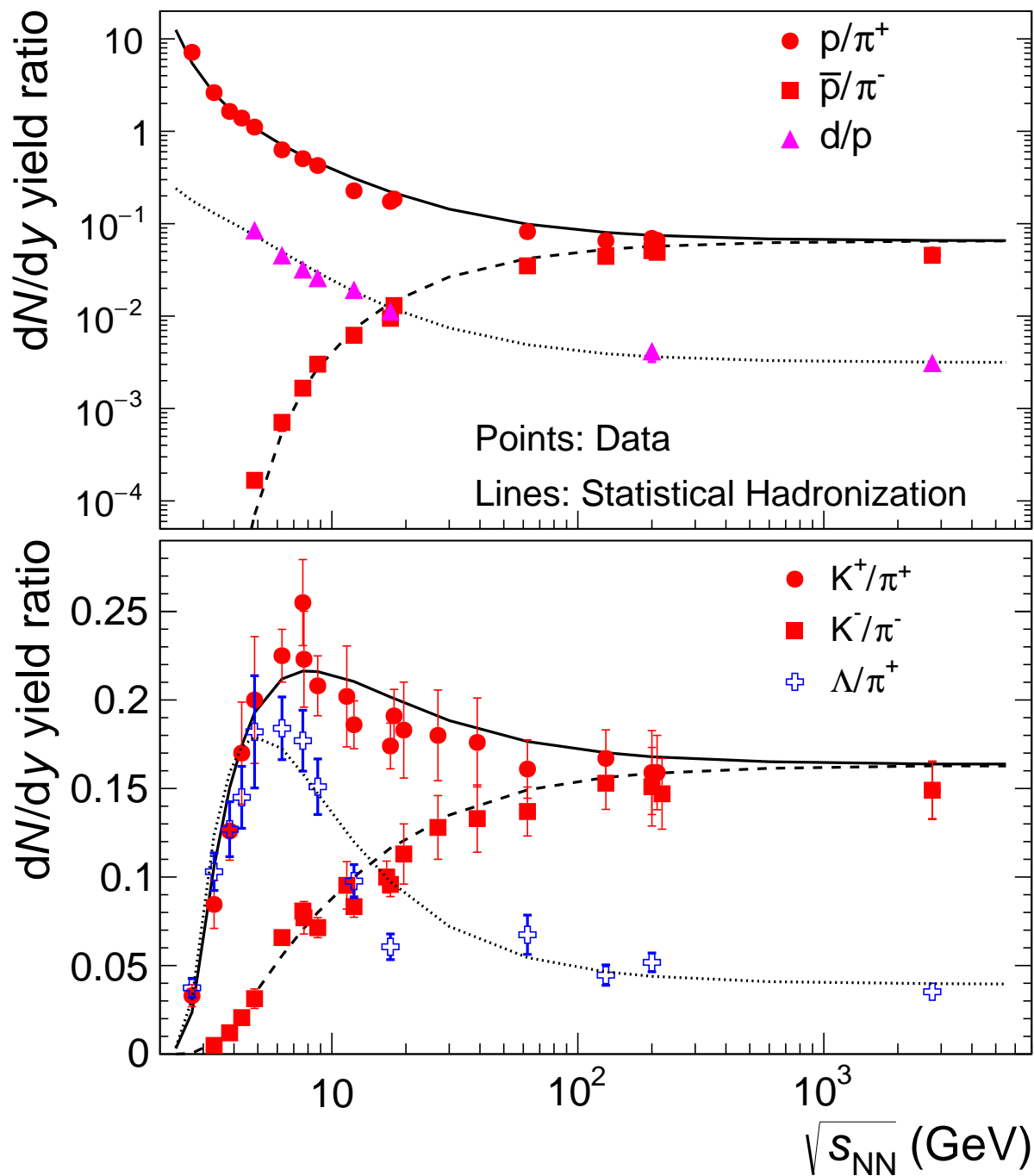
at lower energies:  $u, d$  quarks as "remnants" (stopped) from the incoming nuclei



# The grand (albeit partial) view

A. Andronic

2



Data:

AGS: E895, E864, E866, E917, E877

SPS: NA49, NA44

RHIC: STAR, BRAHMS

LHC: ALICE

NB: no contribution from weak decays

no S-matrix correction ( $p, \bar{p}$ )

$d/p$  ratio is well described for all energies

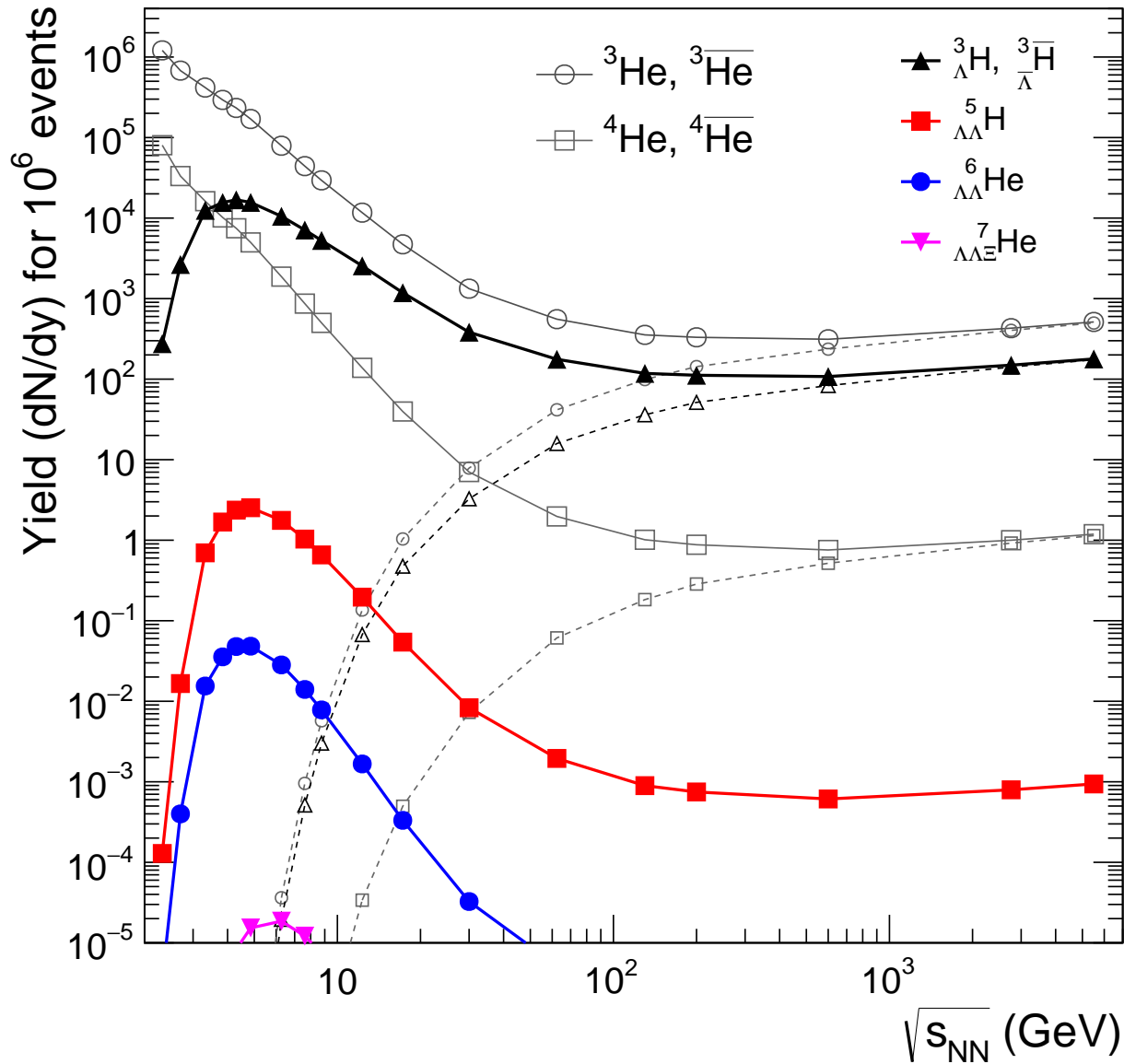
“structures” described by SHM  
...determined by strangeness conservation

$\Lambda/\pi$  peak reflects increasing  $T$   
and decreasing  $\mu_B$



# Complex objects

...are copiously produced at low (RHIC-BES/FAIR) energies

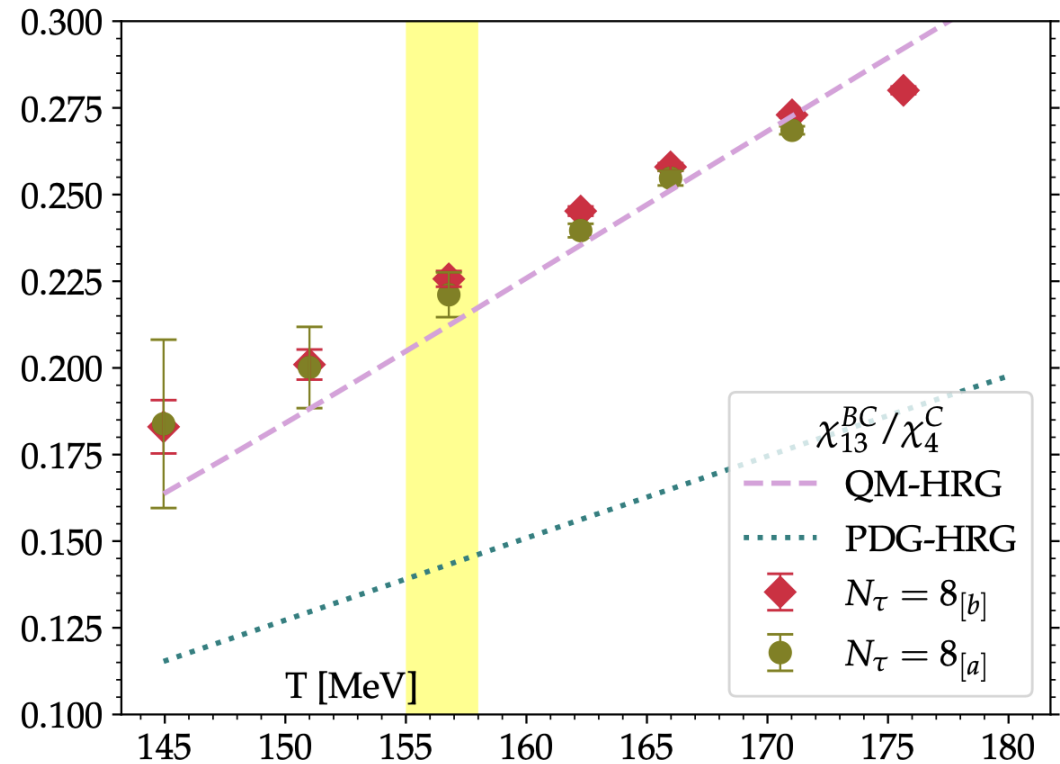
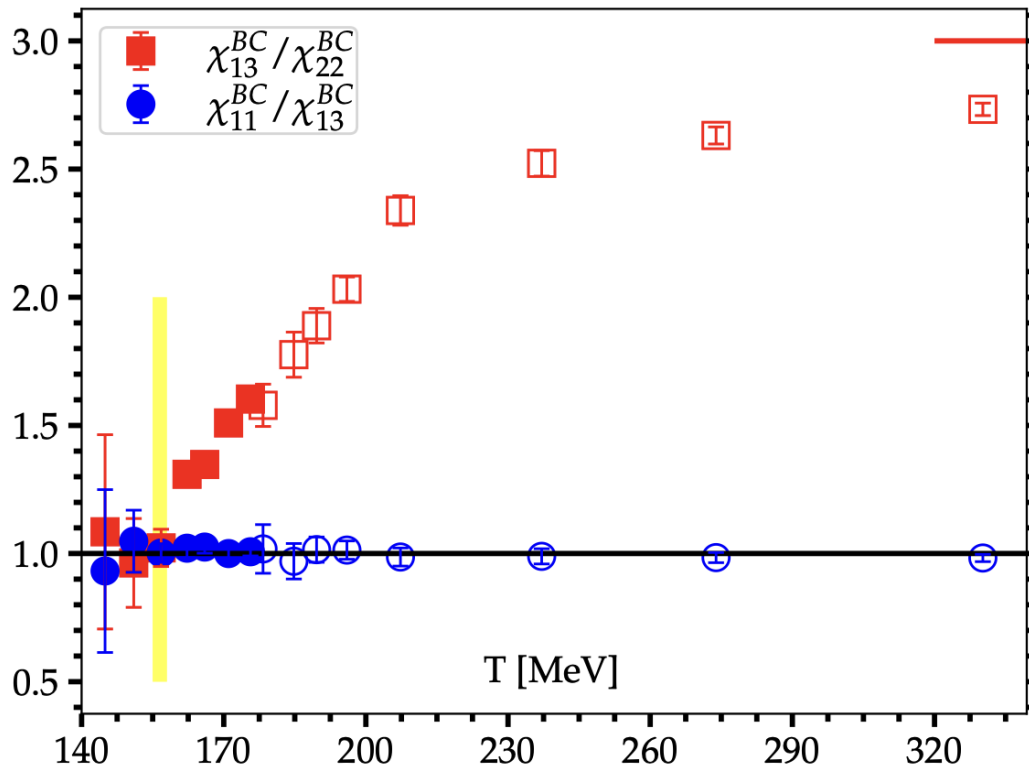


...some to be discovered

# Charm in QGP - the LQCD view

A. Andronic

4



Bazavov et al., [PLLB 850 \(2024\) 138520](#)

$$\chi_{11}^{BC} = \chi_{1m}^{BC} = P_B^C, \quad m \text{ odd};$$

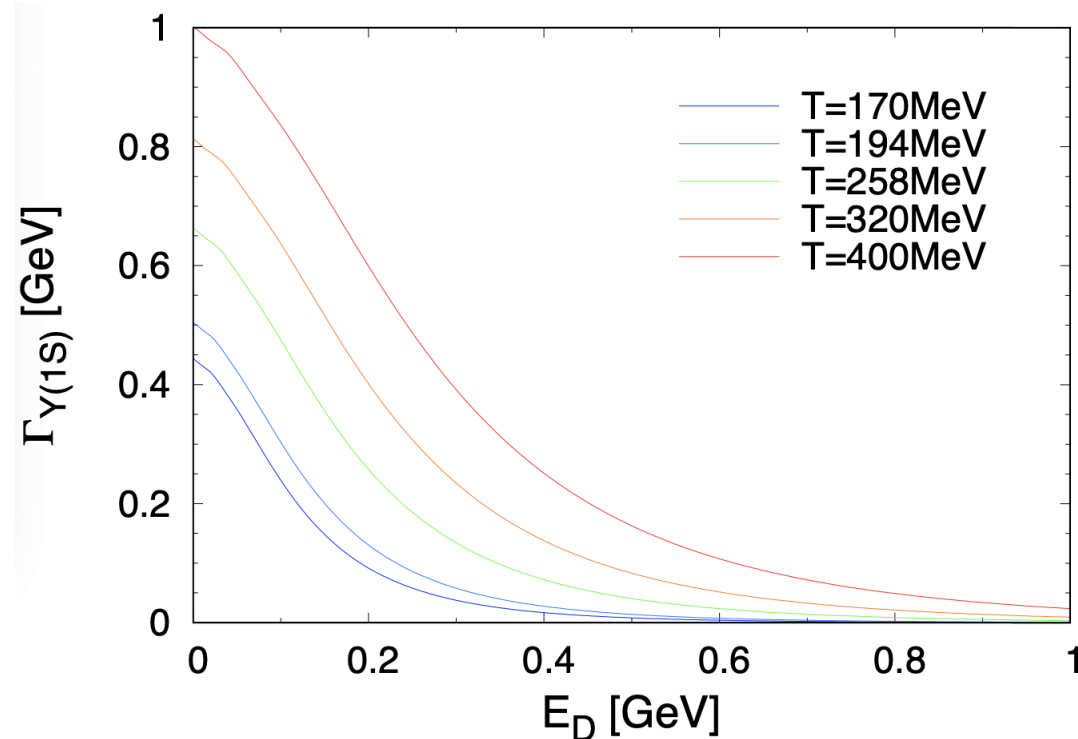
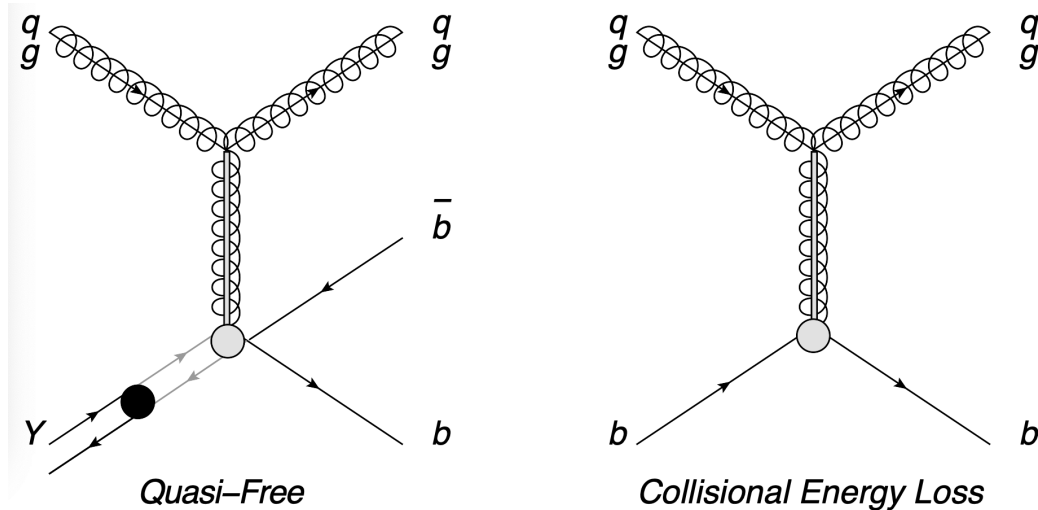
$$\chi_{13}^{BC} / \chi_4^C \sim P_B^C / P^C$$

Indication of charm-quark dofs at  $T_c$ , but “pure-quark” state at  $\simeq 200$  MeV

Clear need of an enhanced charm-baryon spectrum wrt PDG

# Transport models - the essentials

$$\frac{dN_\Upsilon}{d\tau} = -\Gamma(T(\tau)) [N_\Upsilon(\tau) - N_\Upsilon^{eq}(T(\tau))]$$



Du, Liu, Rapp, *Phys. Lett. B* 796 (2019) 20

Quasi-free = inelastic (dissociation) [imaginary part of HQ potential?]

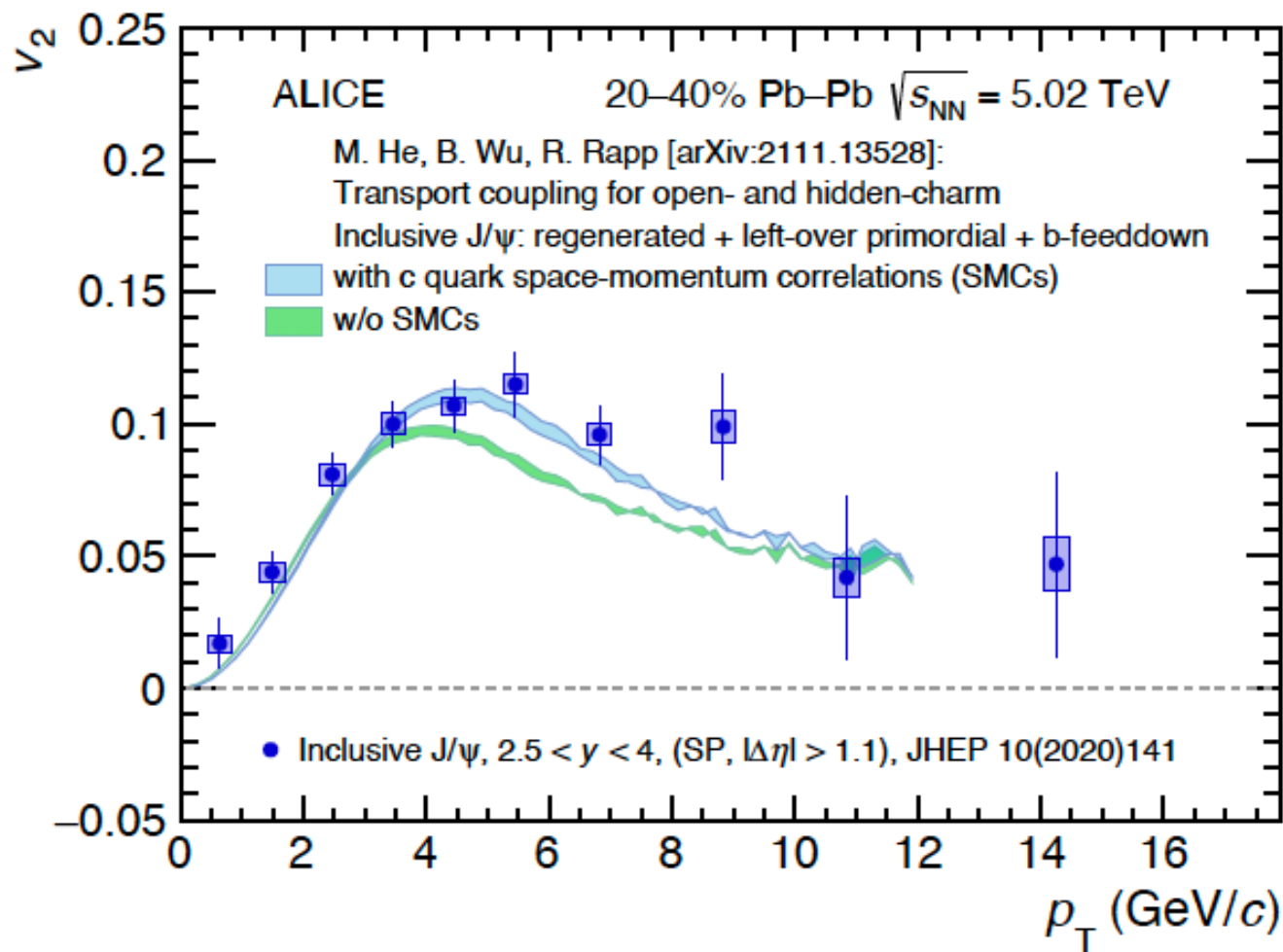
$K$  factor: enhancement over perturbative results ( $K = 5$  in  $\Gamma_{\Upsilon(1S)}$  above)

$N^{eq}$ : SHM generation

# J/ $\psi$ elliptic flow: data and transport model

A. Andronic

6



ALICE, [arXiv:2212.04348](https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.04348)

a very good description of data by the TAMU model [PRL 128 \(2022\) 162301](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.13528)

## 2 other models

- “Comovers” model (Santiago):  
( invented to describe suppression in the (final-state) hadronic medium at SPS  
 $J/\psi + \pi \rightarrow D + \bar{D}$  )

at LHC: gluo-dissociation and a (re)generation component (dominant for  $J/\psi$ )  
(the Boltzmann equation of the transport model is also in the comoving system)

E. Ferreiro et al., PLB 731 (2014) 57

- Hydrodynamic model (Kent State Univ.)  
hydro gives energy density vs. space-time  
suppression probability vs.  $\varepsilon$  gives  $R_{AA}$  (of  $Y$ )

Strickland, Bazow, NPA 879 (2012) 25

# ...and one more: the quantum approach

---

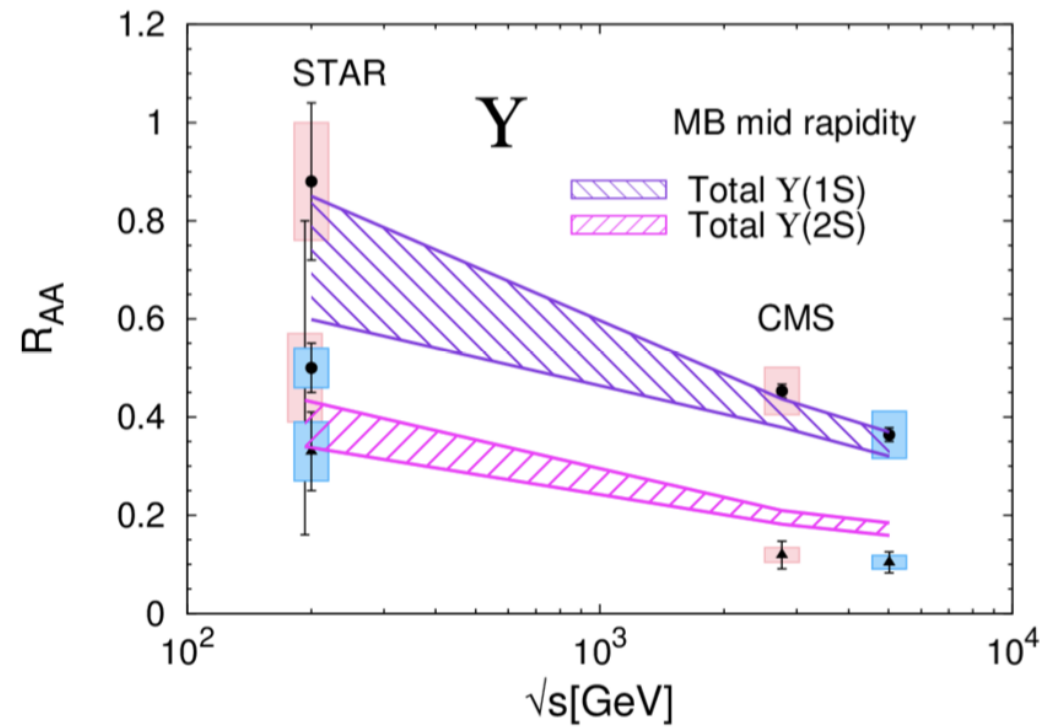
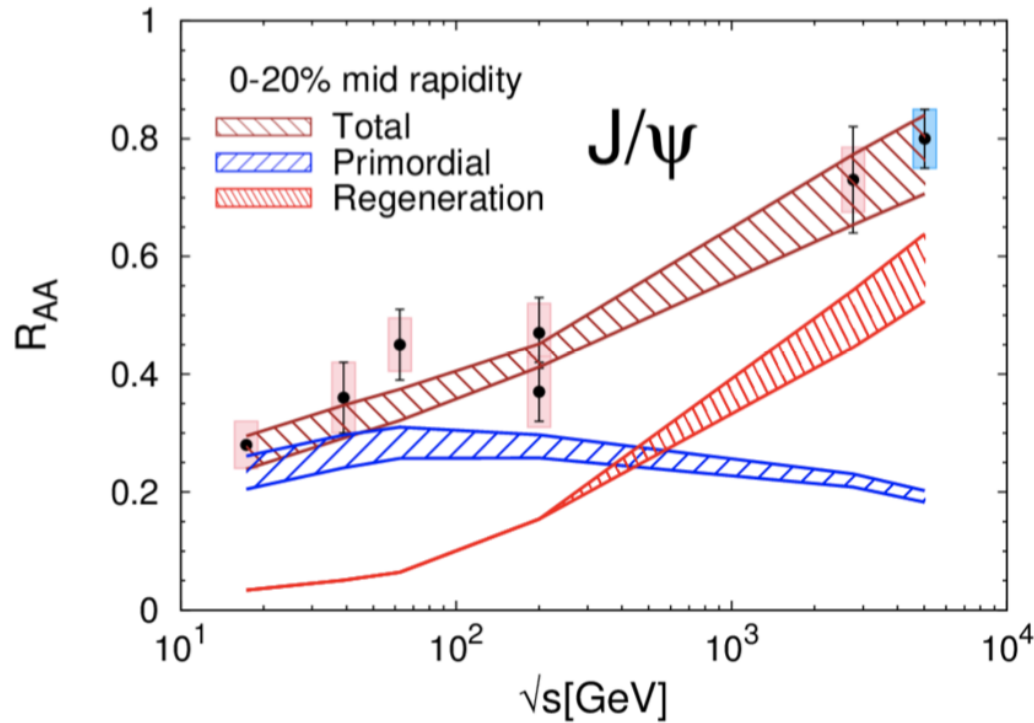
Open quantum systems description + Effective NRQCD theory  
quantum evolution of the  $b\bar{b}$  pair in QGP (heat bath; hydrodynamics)  
Lindblad equation (accuracy: at NLO in the binding energy over temperature)

Strickland, Thapa, [PRD 108 \(2023\) 014031](#) and refs therein

# Fractions primordial, (re)generated - energy dependence

A. Andronic

9

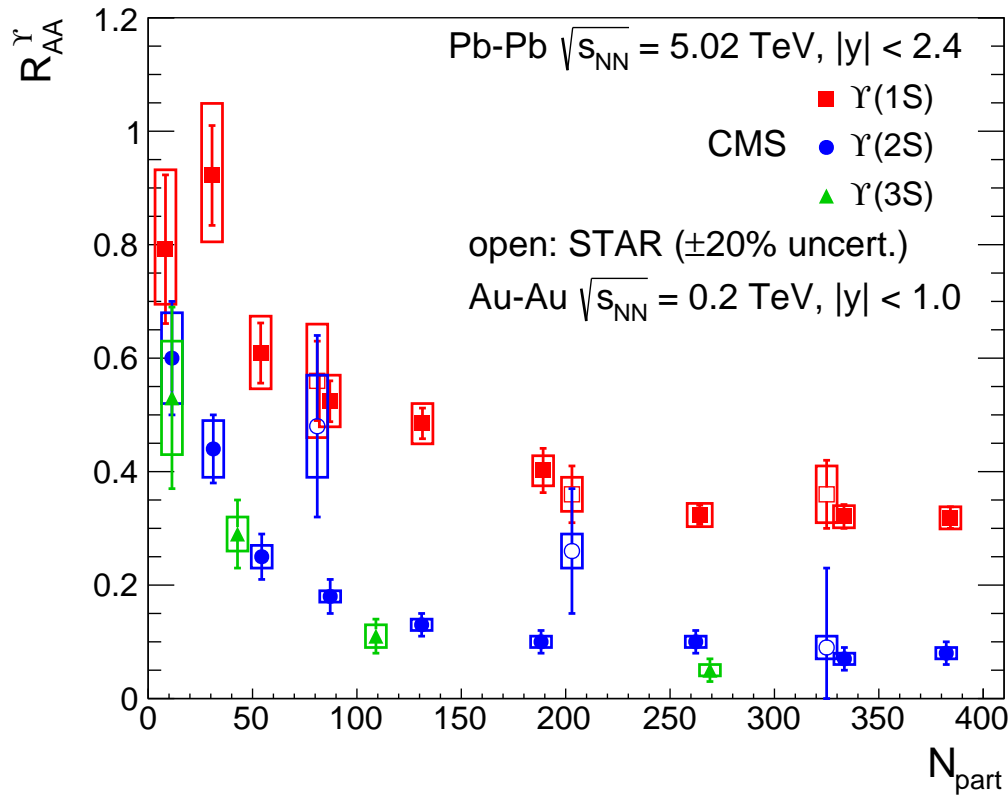


Rapp, Du, [arXiv:1704.07923](https://arxiv.org/abs/1704.07923)

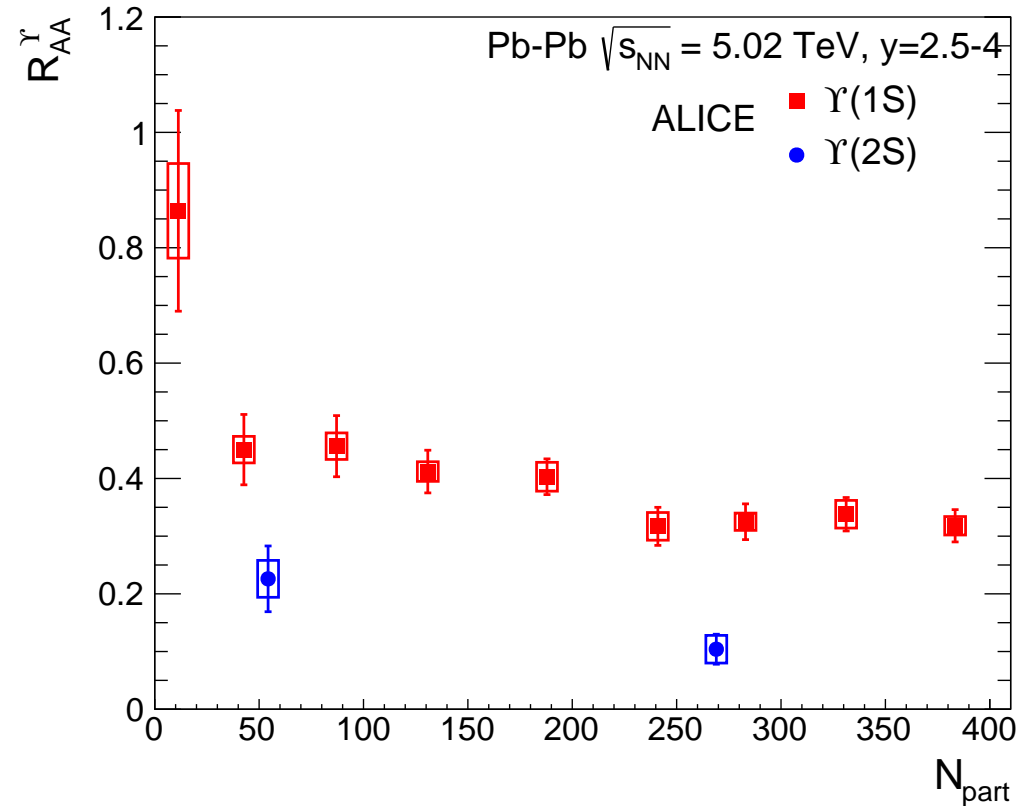


# Bottomonium data: RHIC and LHC

midrapidity



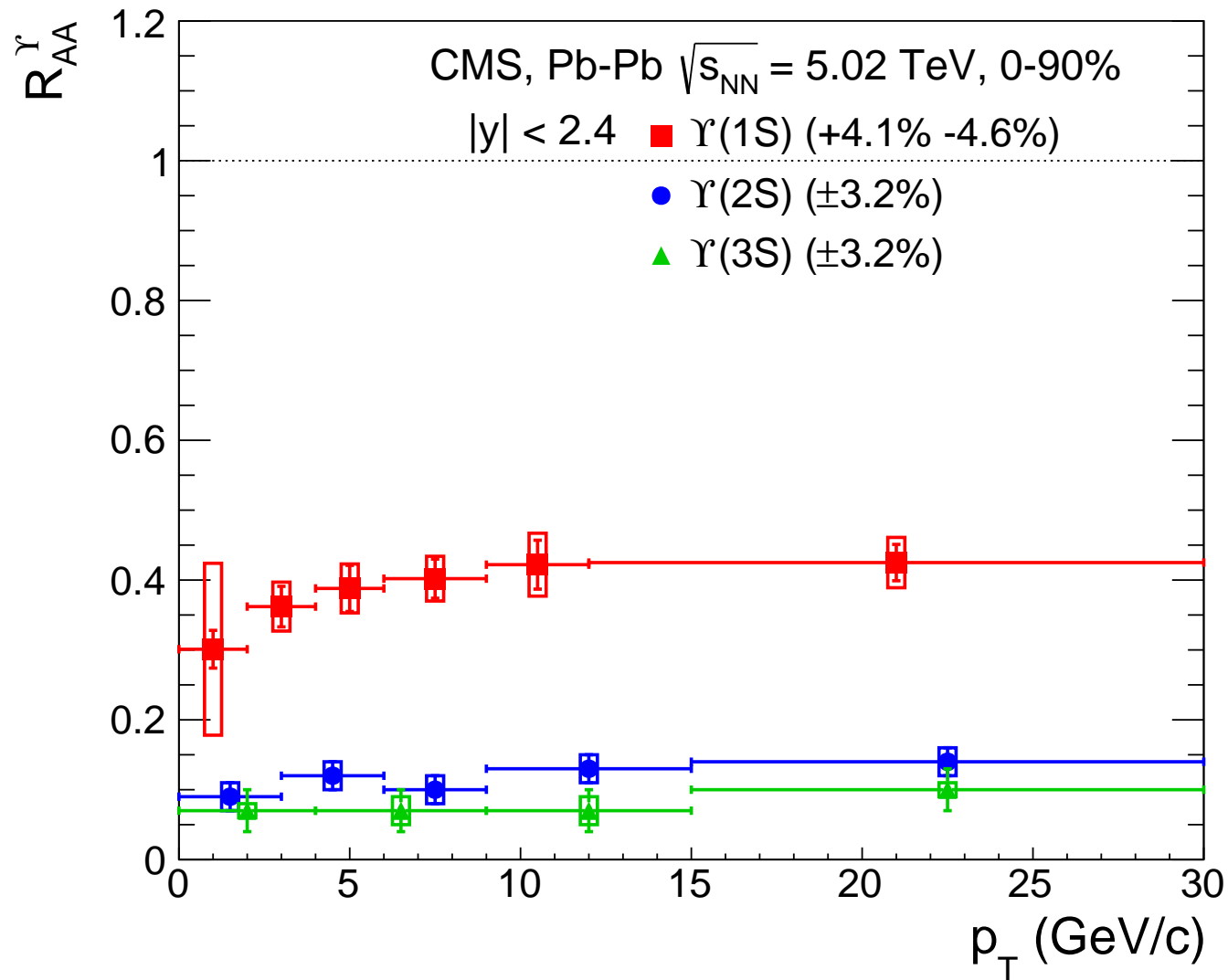
forward rapidity



significant suppression, hierarchy between states (sequential?)

not significantly different at LHC and RHIC (except perhaps  $\Upsilon(2S)$ )

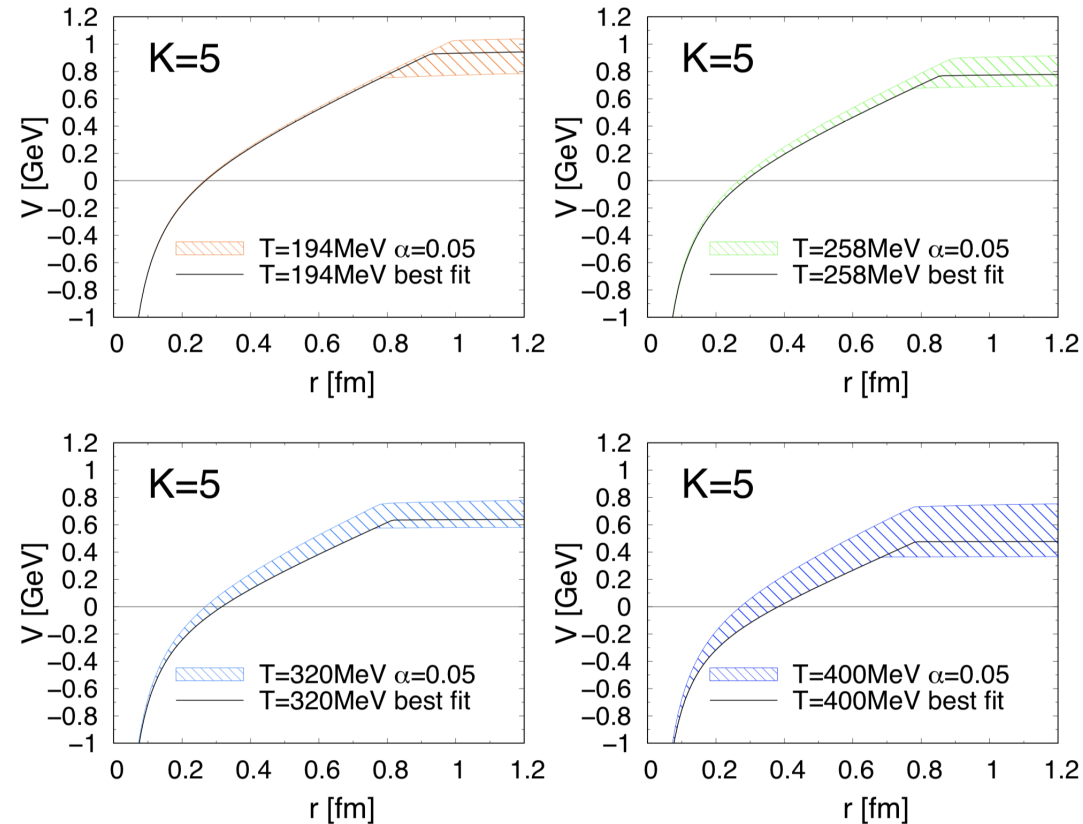
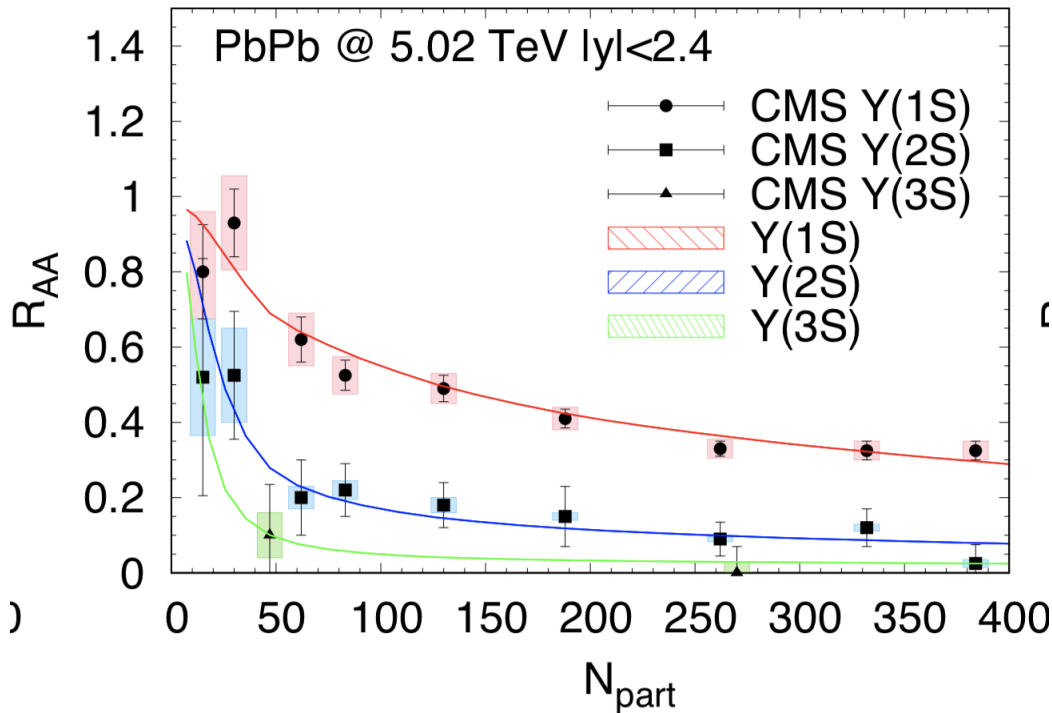
# Bottomonium data at the LHC



weak  $p_T$  dependence (dissociation expected to be stronger at low  $p_T$ )

# $\Upsilon$ description in the transport model

...is very good; allows extraction of in-medium (Cornell) potential

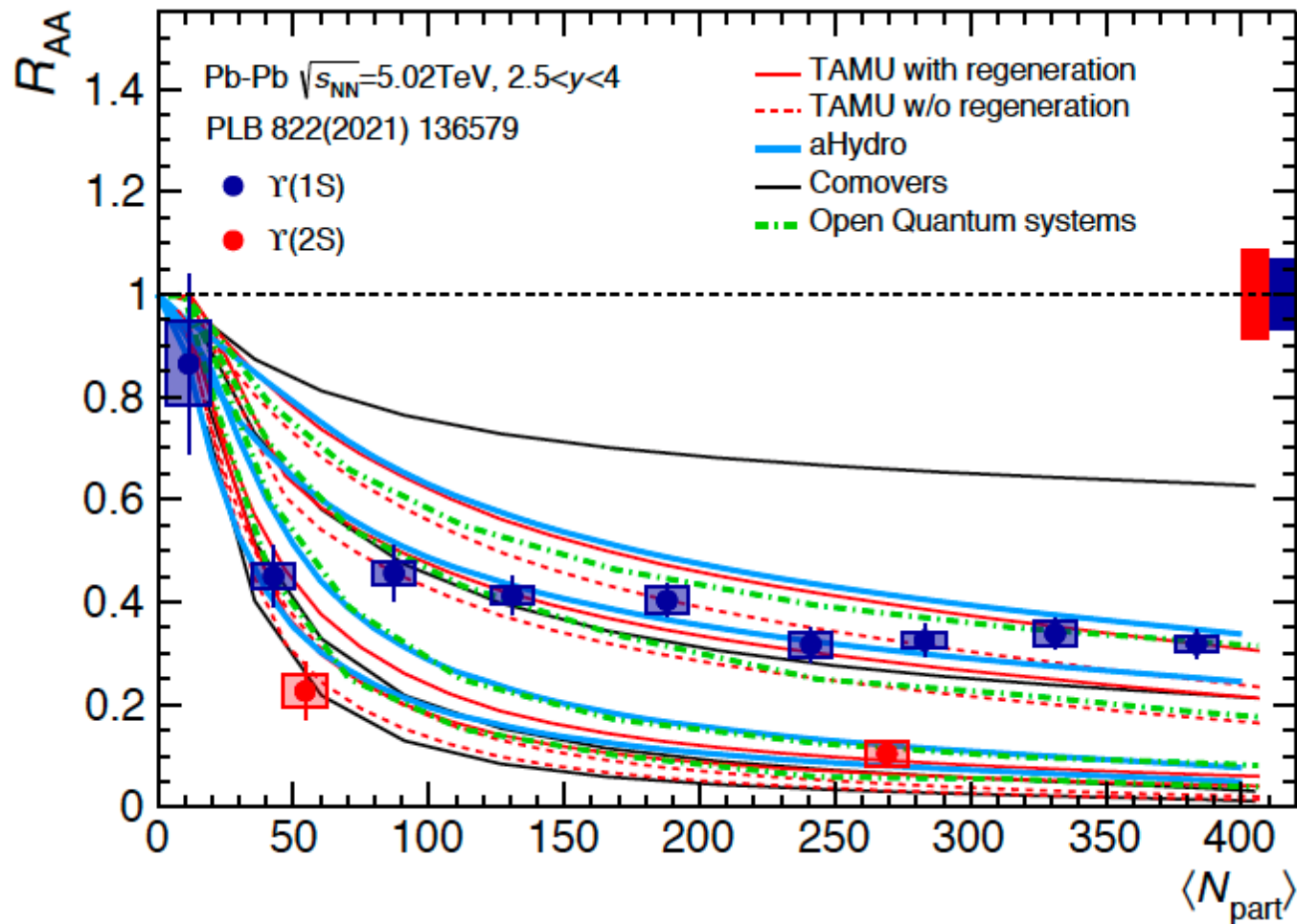


(re)generation important for  $\Upsilon(2S)$

Transport Model (TAMU), Du, Liu, Rapp, [PLB 796 \(2019\) 20](#)

*Substantial remnants of the long-range color confining force in QGP*

# $\Upsilon$ suppression data and models



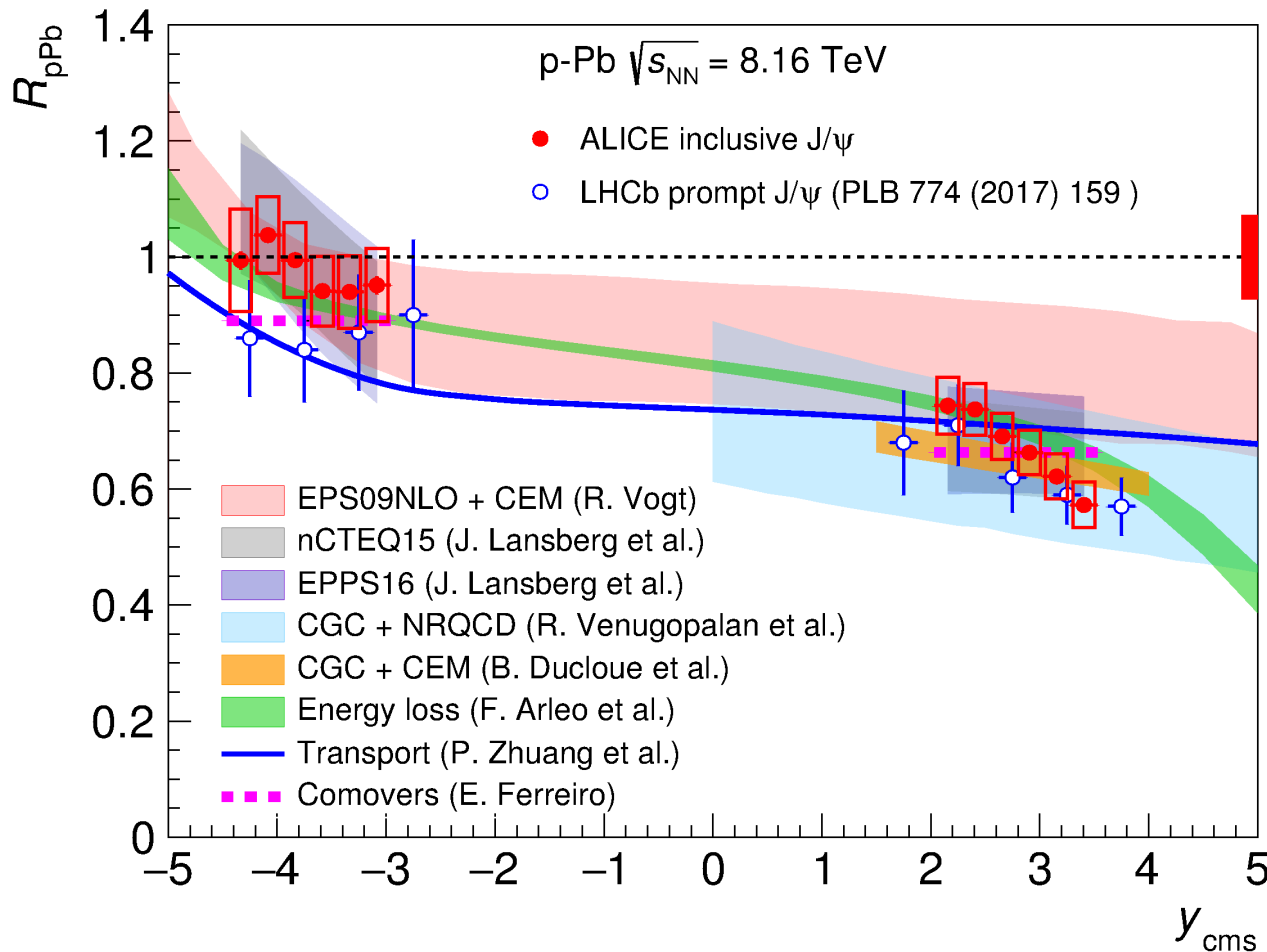
ALICE, [arXiv:2212.04348](https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.04348)

All models (except perhaps Comovers ...large uncert.) reproduce the data well  
TAMU: Regeneration important for  $\Upsilon(2S)$

# J/ψ production in p–Pb collisions

A. Andronic

14



$$7 \cdot 10^{-3} \lesssim x \lesssim 3 \cdot 10^{-2}$$

$$10^{-5} \lesssim x \lesssim 5 \cdot 10^{-5}$$

$$R_{pPb} = \frac{dN_{pPb}/dp_T dy}{\langle N_{coll}^{pPb} \rangle \cdot dN_{pp}/dp_T dy}$$

$$\langle N_{coll}^{pPb} \rangle \simeq 7$$

Shadowing describes data  
(shadowing uncert. are large)

Color Glass Condensate also  
successful

ALICE, [JHEP 07 \(2018\) 160](#)

LHCb, [PLB 774 \(2017\) 159](#)

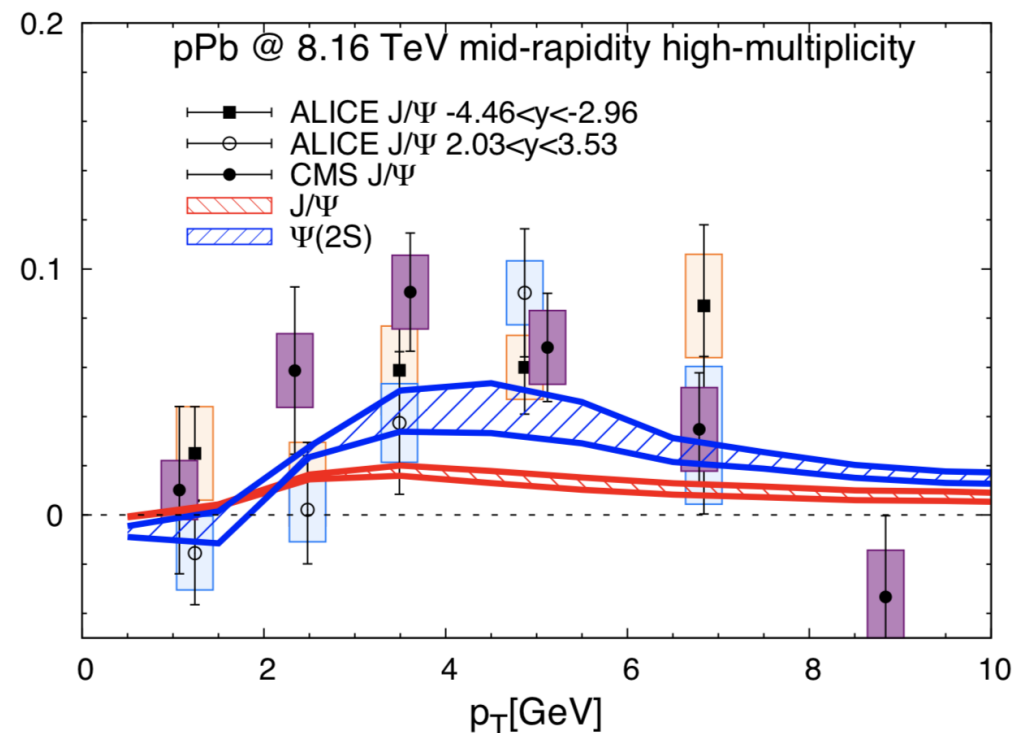
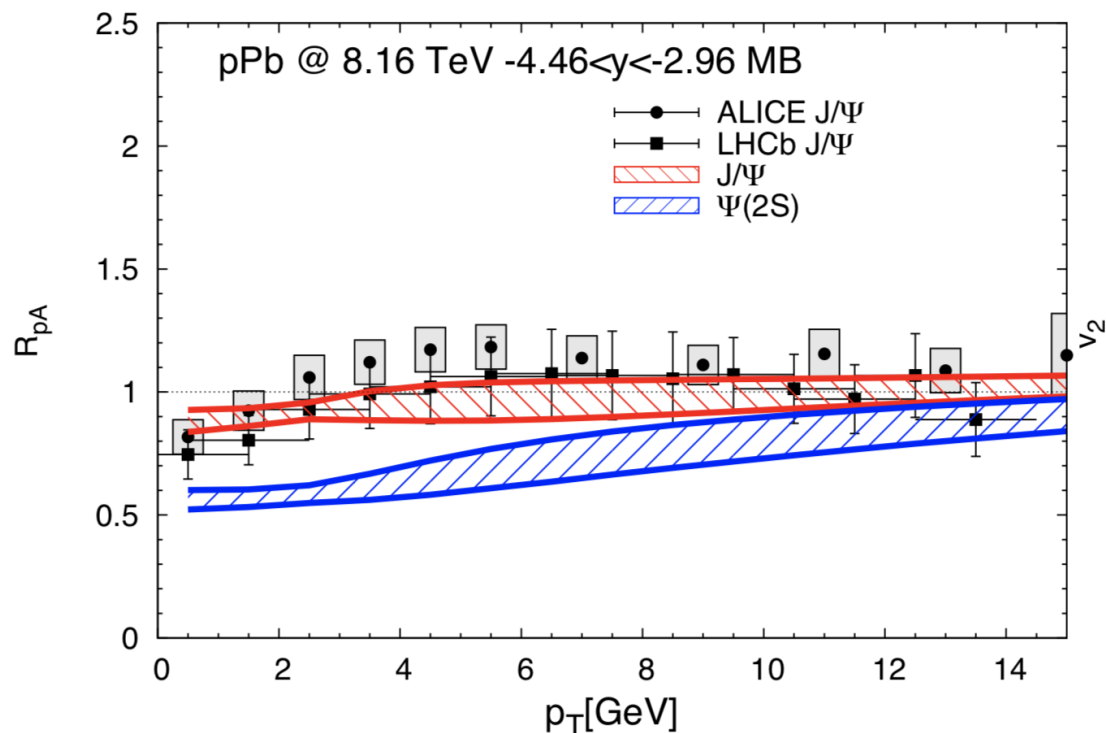
Seen also with Run 1 data (5.02 TeV): ALICE, [JHEP 02 \(2014\) 073](#), [06 \(2015\) 55](#)



# J/ $\psi$ production in p-Pb collisions

A. Andronic

15



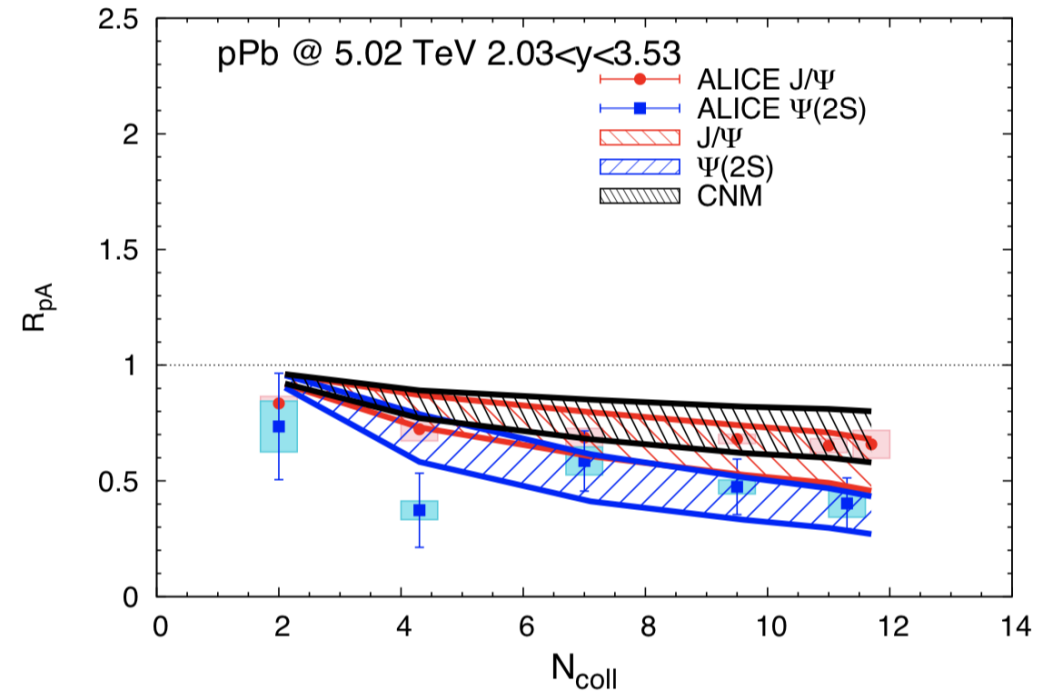
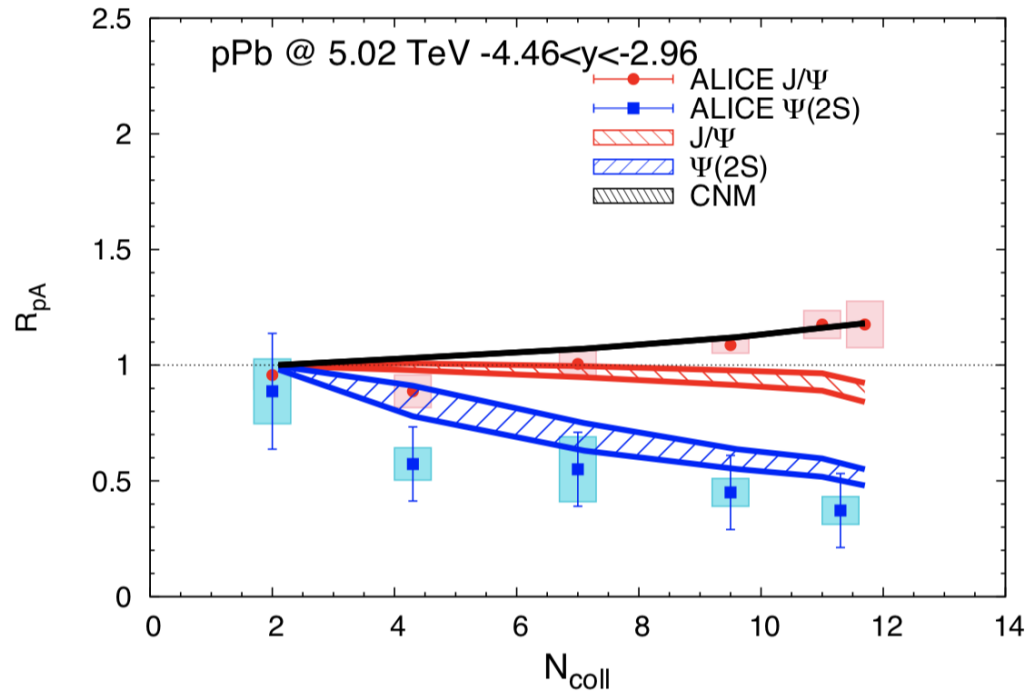
Bands: Transport Model, TAMU  $D_u$ , Rapp, [JHEP 1903 \(2019\) 015](#)

*Need experimentally* (in reach for Run 3,4): better precision; also  $v_3$ ;  
separate  $B$  component;  $v_2$  of  $\psi(2S)$  ?

# $J/\psi$ and $\psi(2S)$ production in p-Pb collisions

A. Andronic

16



Du, Rapp, [JHEP 1903 \(2019\) 015](#)