



**PER ASPERA AD ASTRA: HOW INTERACTION MEASUREMENTS
AT THE LHC CAN HELP UNDERSTANDING NEUTRON STARS**

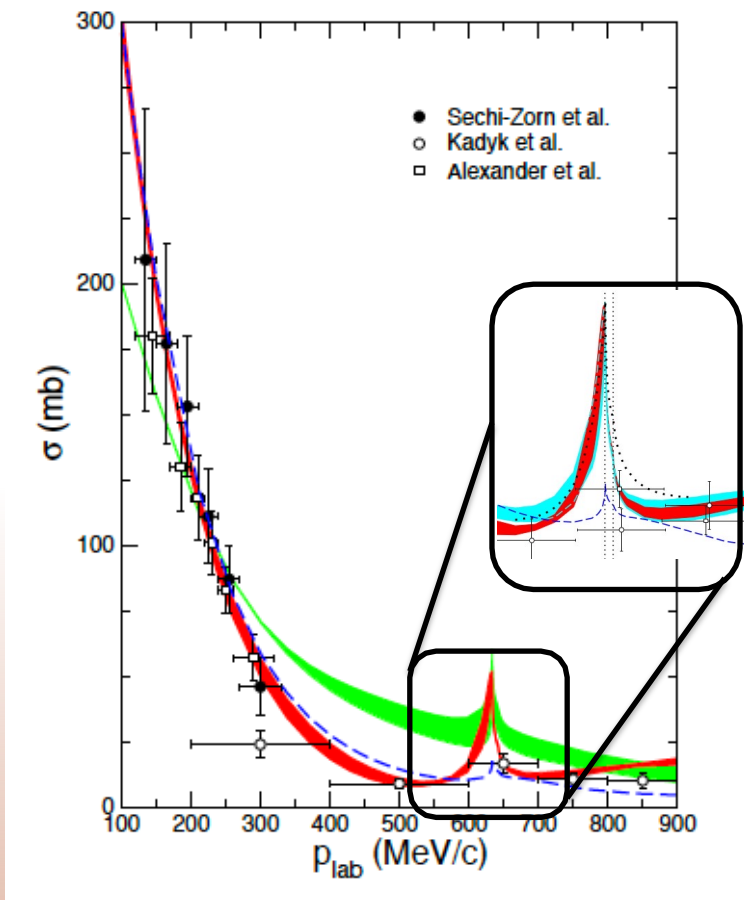
For Johanna's birthday from Laura

EQUATION OF STATE OF DENSE BARYONIC MATTER

- Several approaches to evaluate the EoS
- One considers starting from two- and three-body baryonic interactions
- This family of EoS can currently not reliably be extrapolated to large baryonic densities ($\rho > 2 \rho_0$)
- Several experimental techniques are or have been investigated in our field
 - Scattering experiments
 - Heavy ion collisions at (HADES, CBM)
 - Neutron skin studies (PREX, MREX, R3B)
 - Hypernuclei (JPARC, Hydra@R3B, ALICE, STAR)
 - ..
- This talk is about studies of two- and three-body interactions including nucleons and hyperons using the femtoscopy technique at the LHC. Measurements were carried out by the ALICE collaboration
- Possible implications for the equation of state of dense baryonic matter and neutron stars will be discussed

LANDSCAPE OF HYPERON-NUCLEON SCATTERING

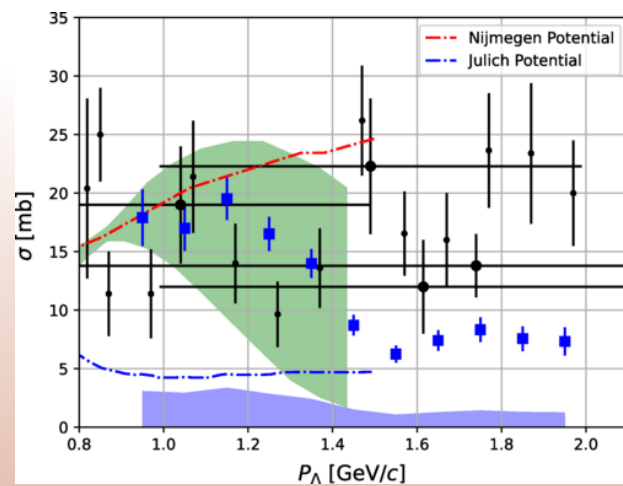
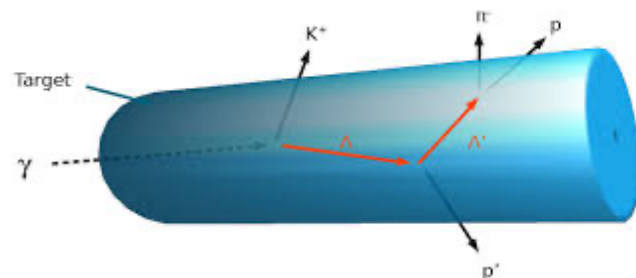
Scattering experiments CERN
Secondary Λ beam, $p > 100$ MeV/c



Sechi-Zorn et al, Phys. Rev. **175** (1968) 1735.
Alexander et al. Phys. Rev. **173** (1968) 1452.

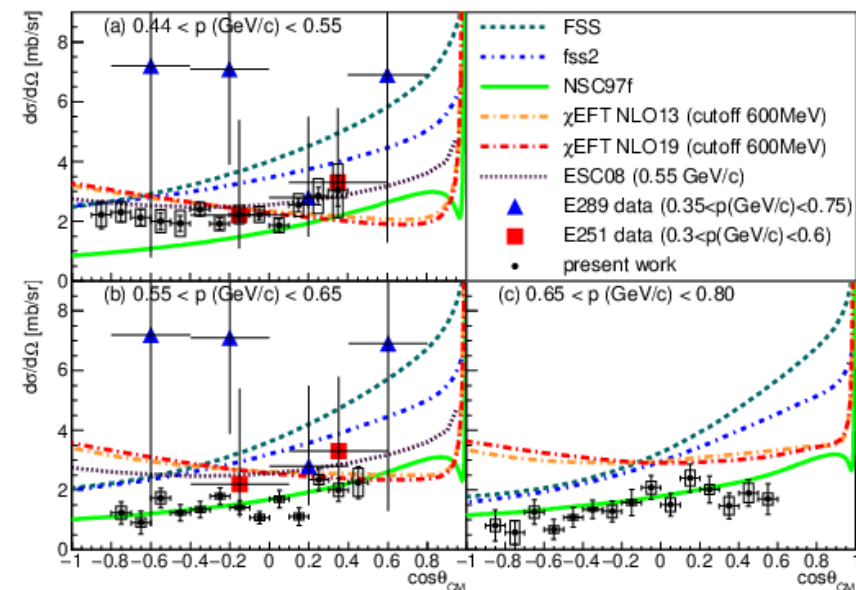
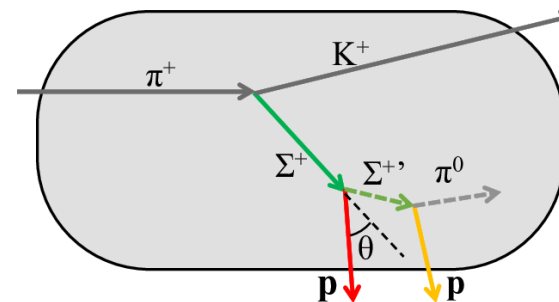
NLO19: J.Haidenbauer, U. Meißner, EPJA 56 (2020), 3, 91
NLO13: J.Haidenbauer, N.Kaiser et al., NPA 915, 24 (2013)

Λ production and tagging @JLAB
 $p > 800$ MeV/c



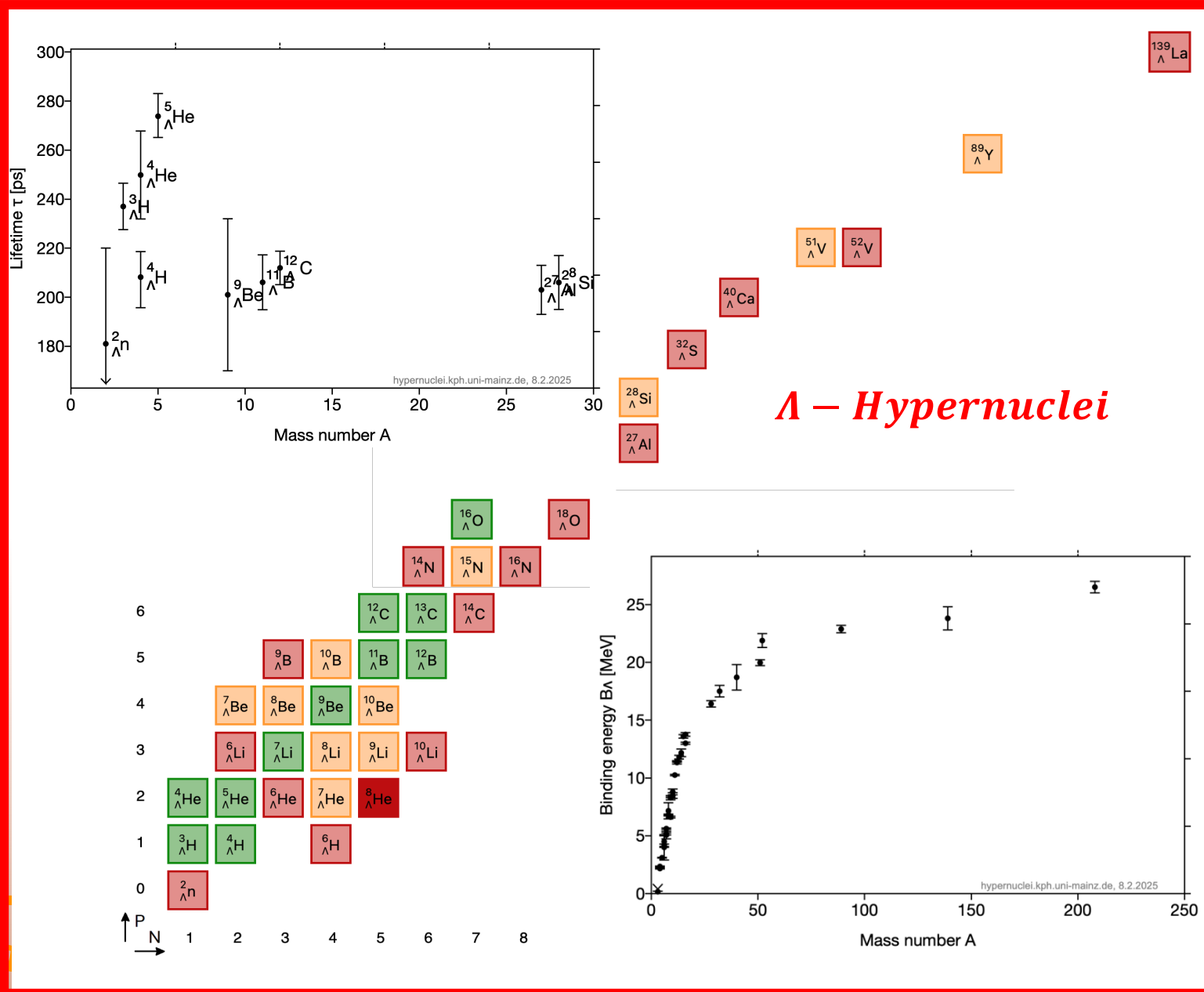
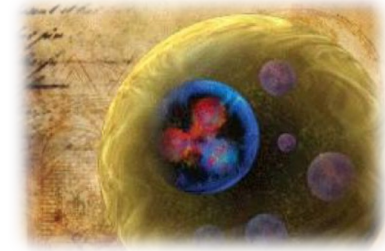
CLAS Coll. PRL 127 (2021)

Σ^+ production and tagging @JPARC
 $p > 400$ MeV/c



E40 Coll. PTEP 2022 (2022) 9, 093D01

LANDSCAPE OF HYPERNUCLEI MEASUREMENTS

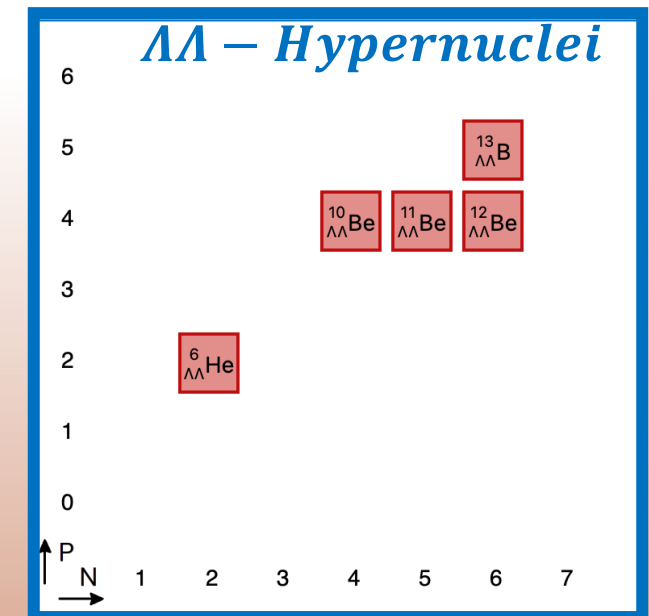


JPARC Experiments

- K-induced

Heavy Ion Experiments

- STAR, ALICE, Hydra, HADES, FOPI, CBM

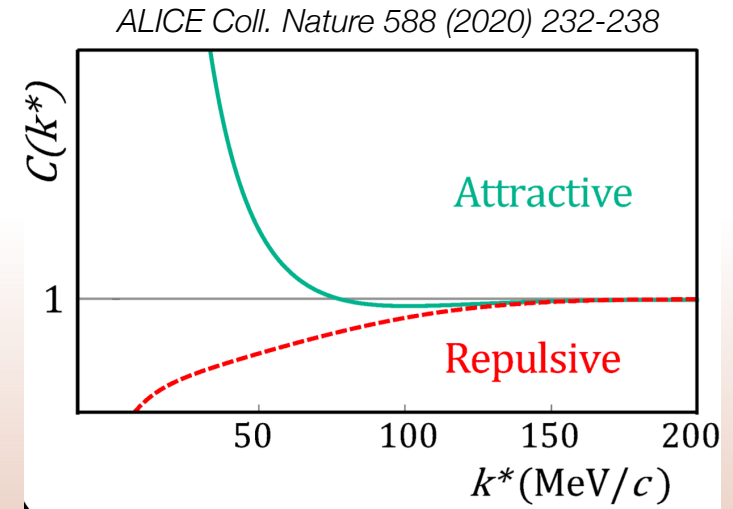
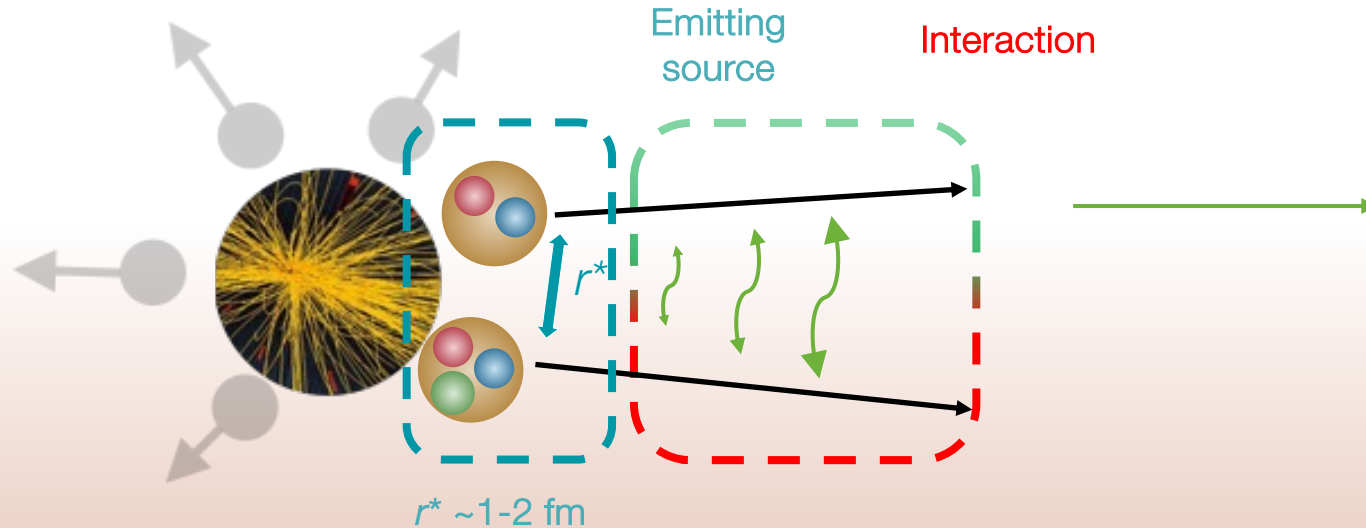


HADRON INTERACTIONS WITH CORRELATIONS

- Accessing hadronic final-state interaction with **correlation functions** measured in **pp collisions**

M.Lisa, S. Pratt et al, ARNPS. 55 (2005), 357-402, LF, V. Mantonvani Sarti and O. Vazquez Doce ARNPS 71 (2021), 377-402

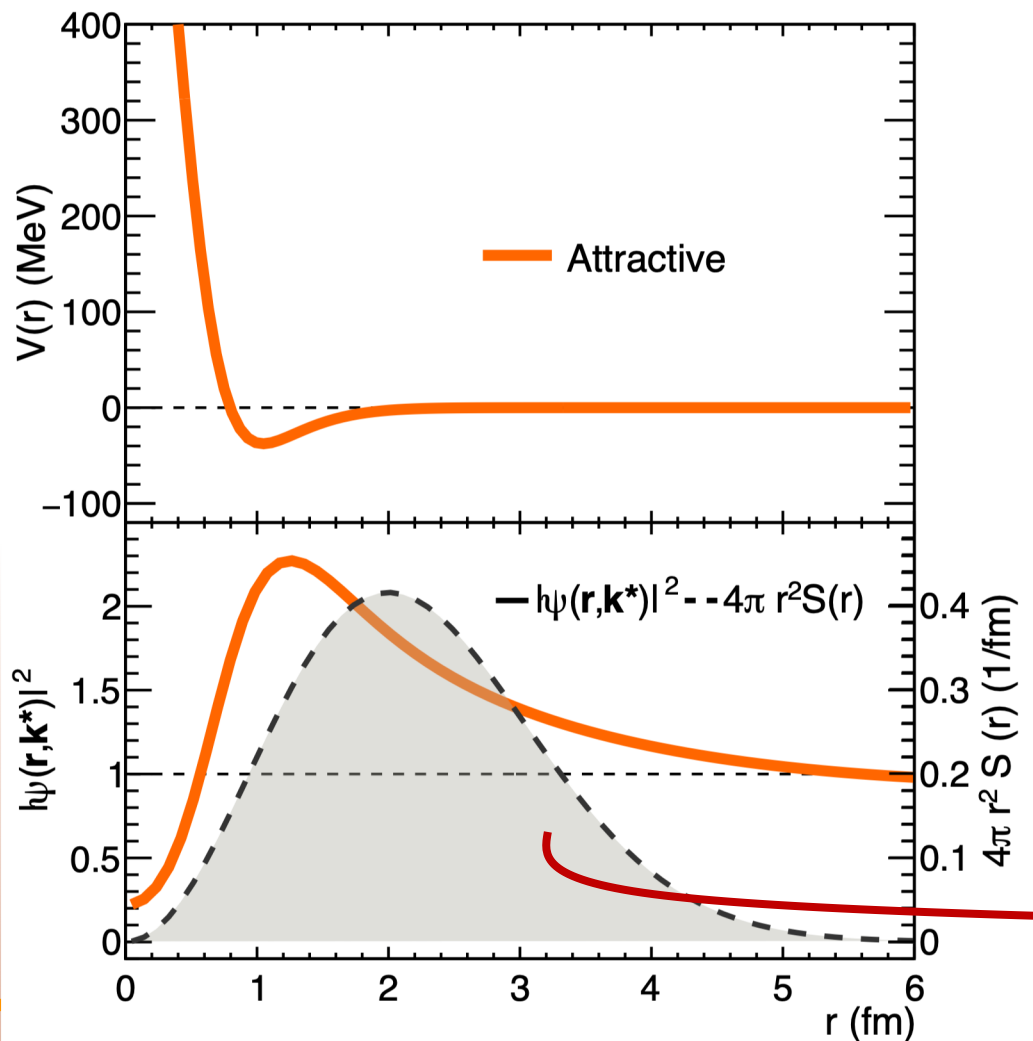
$$C(k^*) = \int \left[S(\vec{r}^*) \right] \left[|\psi(\vec{k}^*, \vec{r}^*)|^2 \right] d^3 \vec{r}^* = \mathcal{N}(k^*) \frac{N_{\text{same}}(k^*)}{N_{\text{mixed}}(k^*)}$$



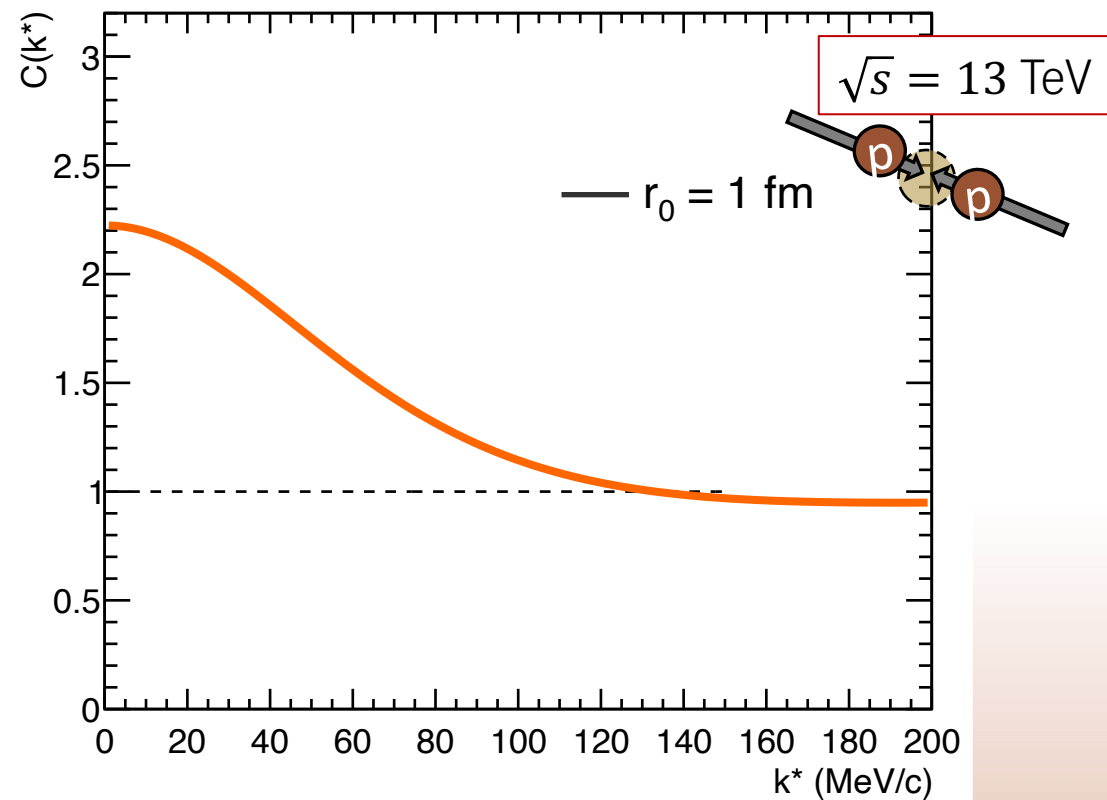
Correlation mapping 1-to-1 the nature of the interaction

FROM SMALL TO LARGE COLLIDING SYSTEMS

“What’s inside the integral“



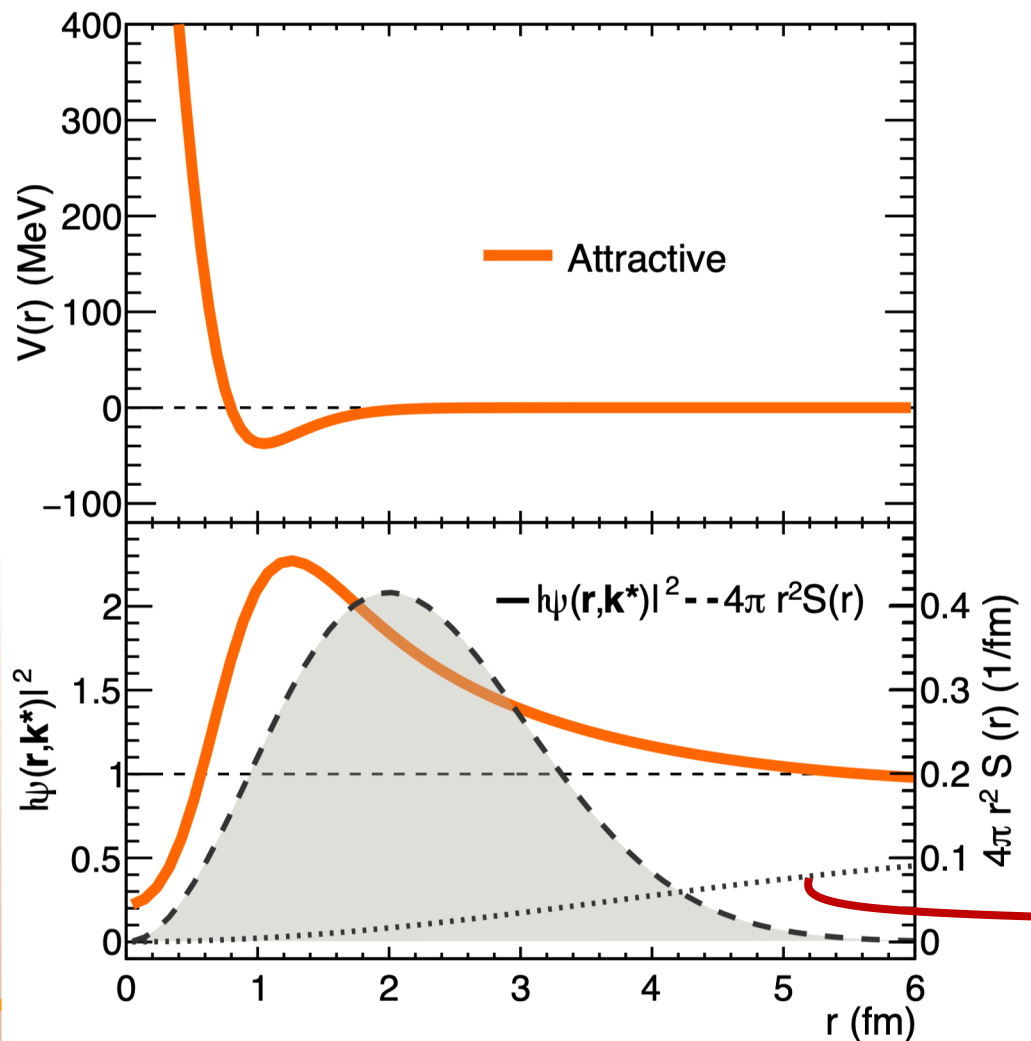
$$C(k^*) = \int S(\vec{r}^*) |\psi(\vec{k}^*, \vec{r}^*)|^2 d^3\vec{r}^*$$



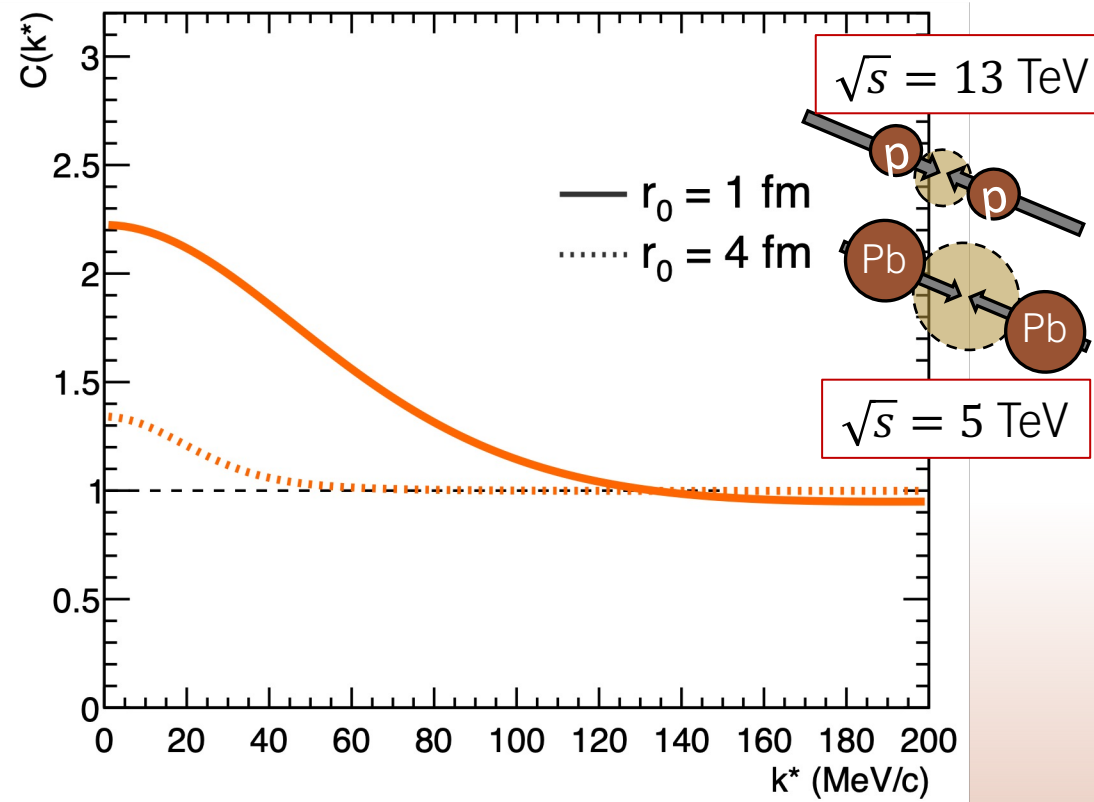
Accessing short-range dynamics
in pp collisions

FROM SMALL TO LARGE COLLIDING SYSTEMS

“What’s inside the integral“



$$C(k^*) = \int S(\vec{r}^*) |\psi(\vec{k}^*, \vec{r}^*)|^2 d^3\vec{r}^*$$

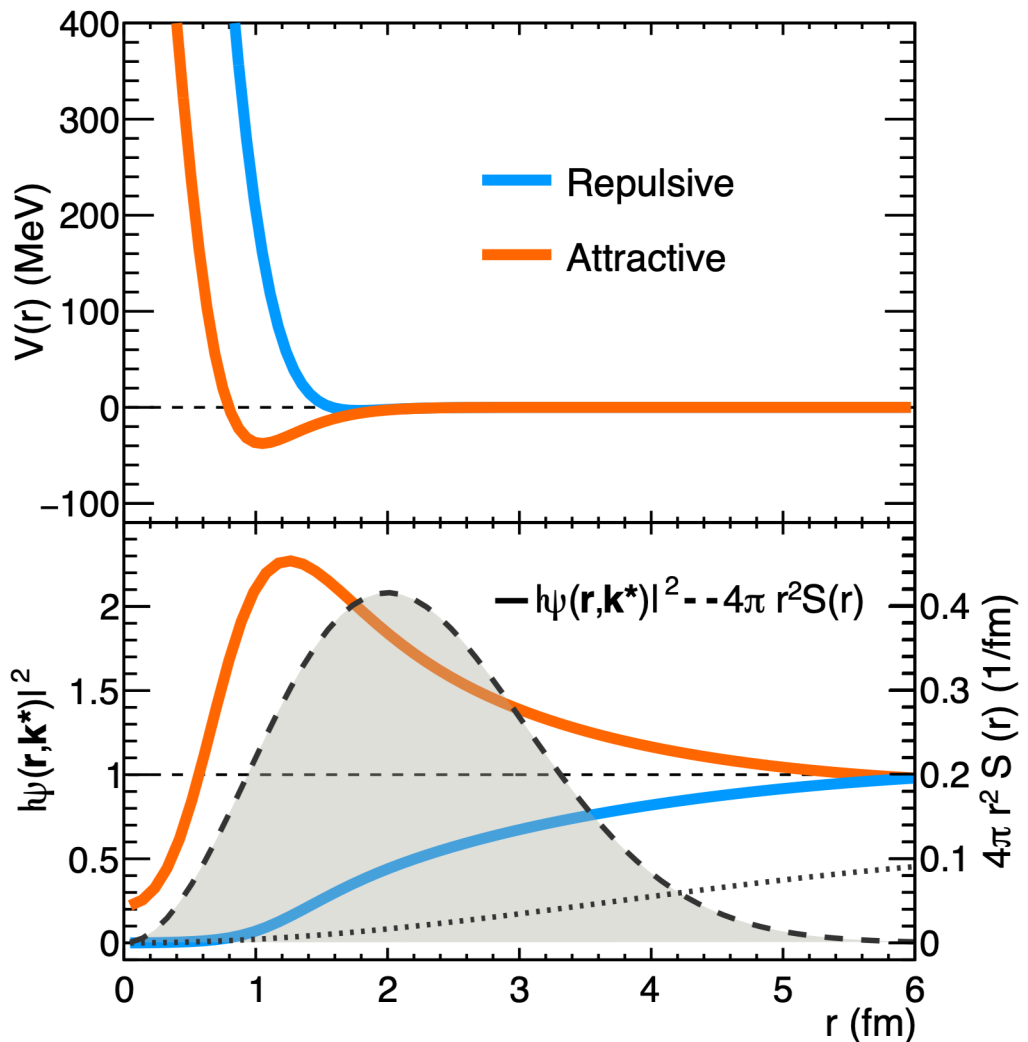


Decrease of signal strength for large source sizes

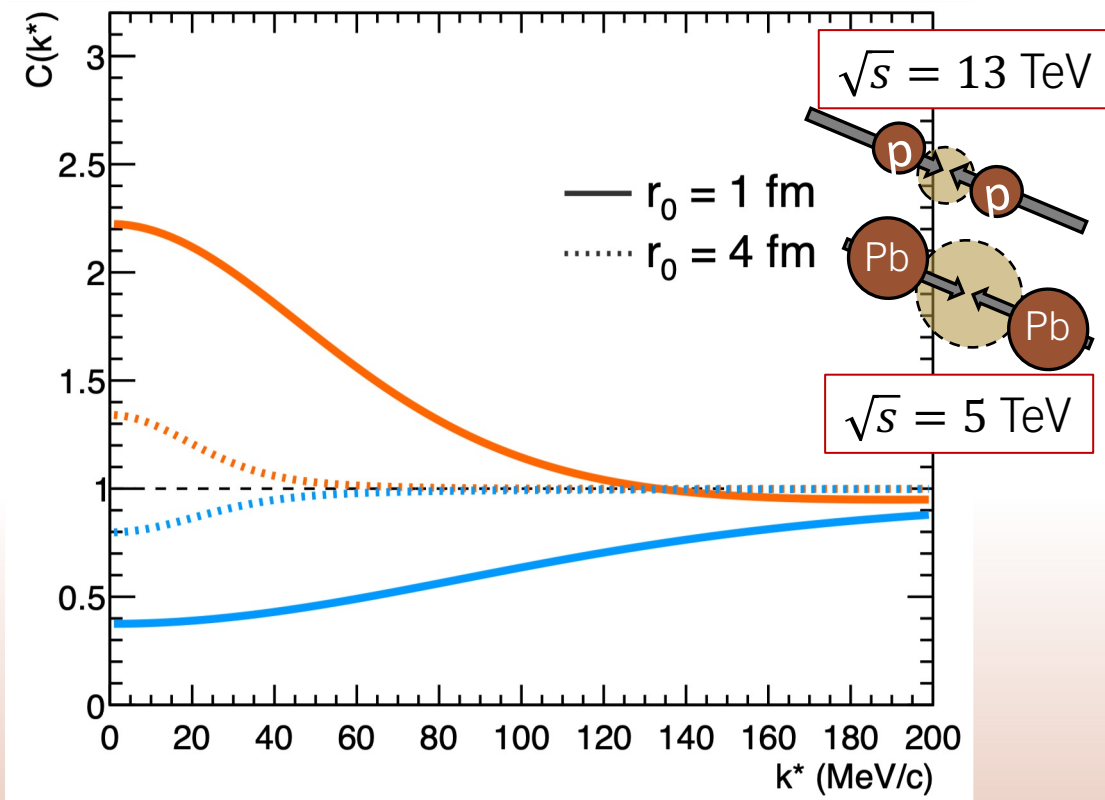


FROM SMALL TO LARGE COLLIDING SYSTEMS

“What’s inside the integral“



$$C(k^*) = \int S(\vec{r}^*) |\psi(\vec{k}^*, \vec{r}^*)|^2 d^3\vec{r}^*$$



$C(k^*) \begin{cases} > 1 & \text{Attractive (no BS)} \\ < 1 & \text{Repulsive} \end{cases}$



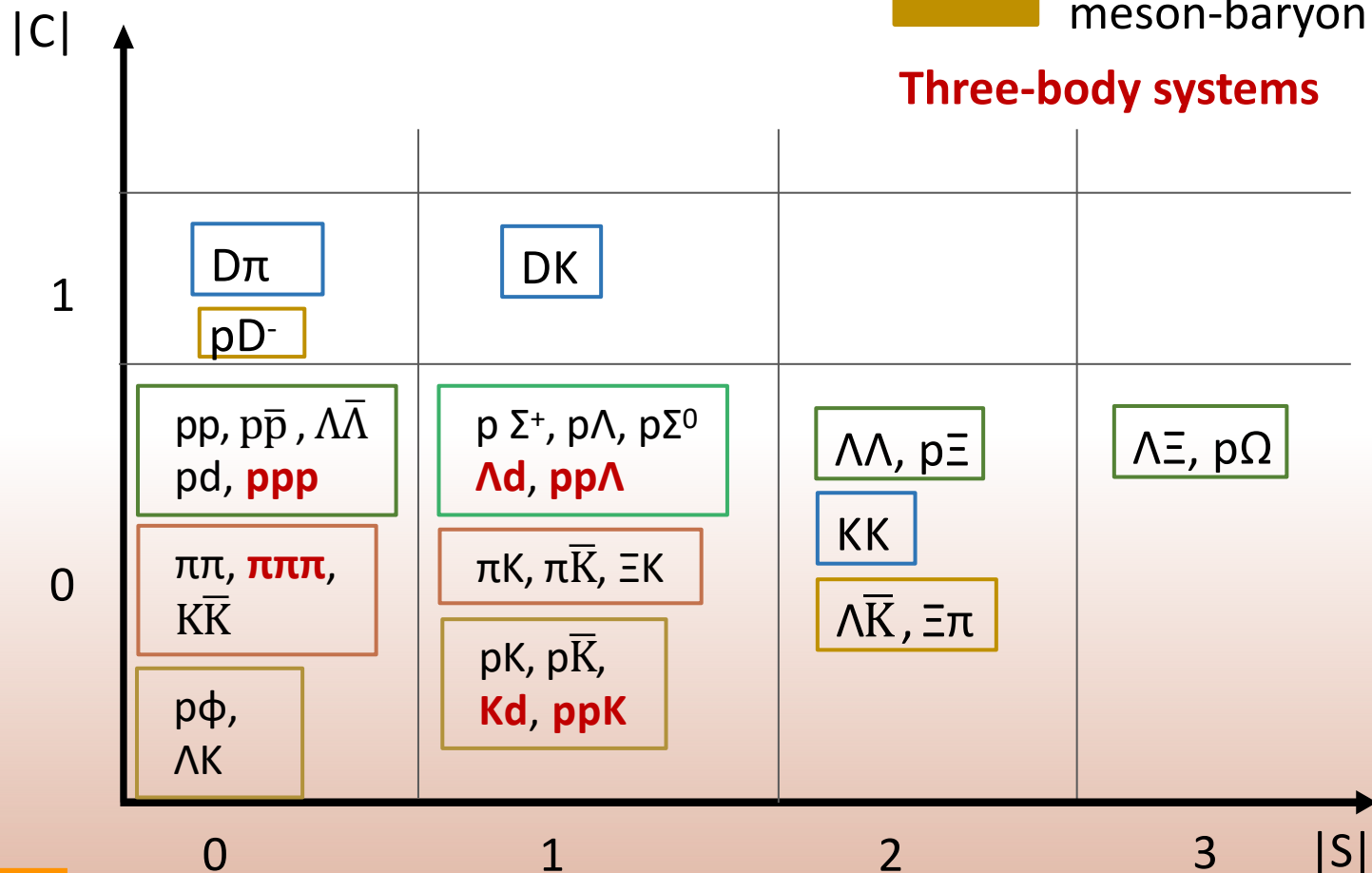
WHAT WAS MEASURED IN THE LAST 6 YEARS?

baryon-baryon

meson-meson

meson-baryon

Three-body systems



p-K: PRL 124 (2020) 9, 092301
 PLB 822 (2021) 136708,
 EPJC 83 (2023) 4, 340

p-p, p-Λ, Λ-Λ: PRC 99 (2019) 024001
 Λ-Λ: PLB 797 (2019) 134822

p-Ξ: PRL 123 (2019) 112002

p-Ξ, p-Ω: Nature 588 (2020) 232–238

p-Σ⁰: PLB 805 (2020) 135419

p-φ: PRL 127 (2021) 172301

Baryon-Antibaryon: PLB 829 (2022) 137272

p-Λ: PLB 832 (2022) 137272

ΛΞ: PLB 844 (2023) 137223

D-p: PRD 106, 052010 (2022)

p-p-p, p-p-Λ: EPJA 59 (2023) 7, 145

ppK: EPJA 59 (2023) 12, 298

D-π, D-K: PRD 110 (2024) 3, 032004

Λ-K: PLB 845 (2023) 138145

p-d, K-d: PRX 14 (2024) 3, 031051

Source studies: PLB 811 (2020) 135849

arXiv:2311.14527



ALICE DETECTOR

- Excellent tracking and particle identification (PID) capabilities
- Most suitable detector at the LHC to study (anti-)nuclei production and annihilation
- Results in this talk refer to pp HM at 13 TeV, Run2
- Major upgrade of the TPC (GEM read out) and ITS2
- Factor 100 in data taking rate w.r.t to Run 2
- Run 3 started in 2022-(2025)

Inner Tracking System

Tracking, vertex, PID (dE/dx)

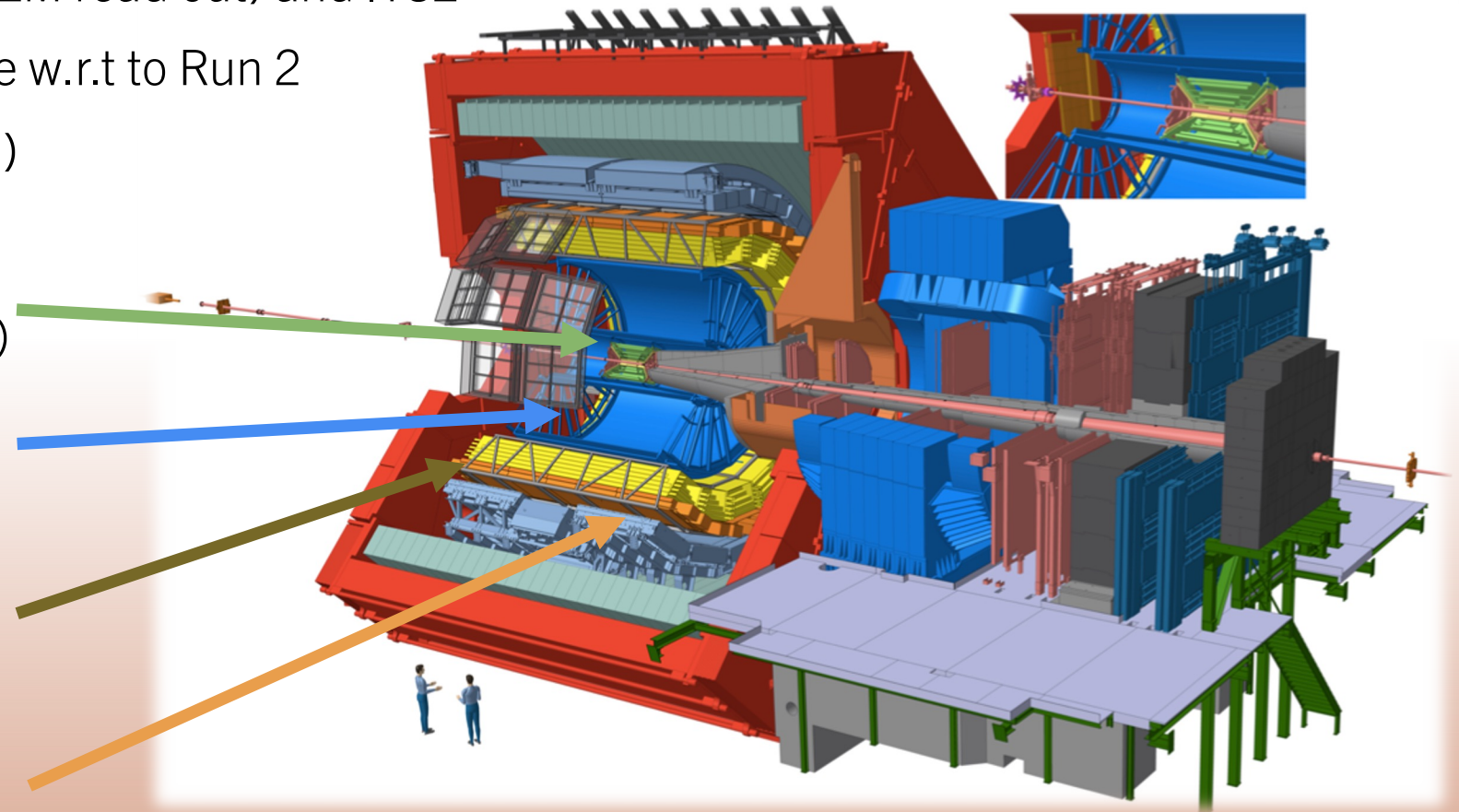
Time Projection Chamber

Tracking, PID (dE/dx)

Transition Radiation Detector

Time Of Flight detector

PID (TOF measurement)



SOURCE FUNCTION IN PP COLLISIONS AT THE LHC



- Emitting source function anchored to p-p correlation function

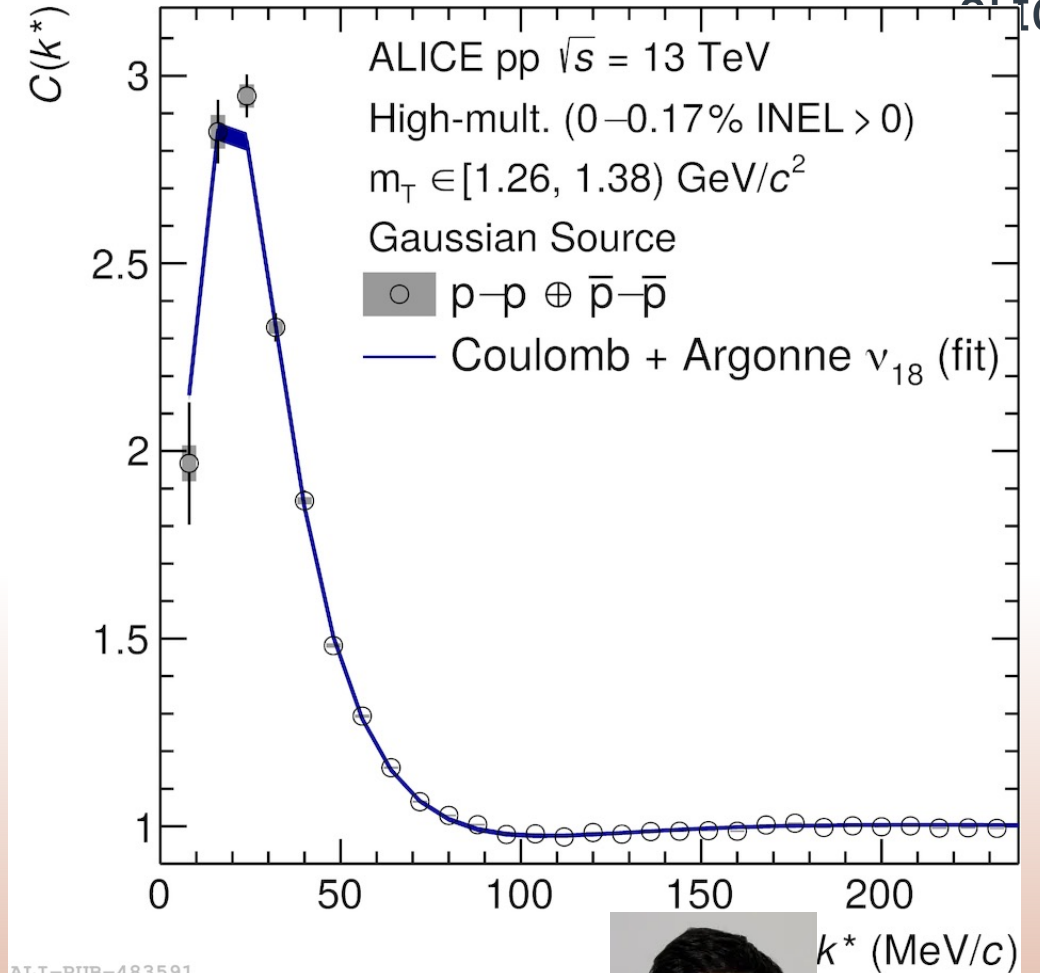
$$C(k^*) = \int S(\vec{r}) |\psi(\vec{k}^*, \vec{r})|^2 d^3\vec{r}$$

measured known interaction

- Gaussian parametrization

$$S(r) = \frac{1}{(4\pi r_{core}^2)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{4r_{core}^2}\right) \times \text{Effect of short lived resonances } (c\tau \sim 1 \text{ fm})$$

ALICE Coll., PLB, 811 (2020), 135849



ALI-PUB-483591

ALICE Coll., PLB, 811 (2020)



D. Mihaylov
TUM/Sofia Uni



SOURCE FUNCTION IN PP COLLISIONS AT THE LHC

- Emitting source function anchored to p-p correlation function

$$C(k^*) = \int S(\vec{r}) |\psi(\vec{k}^*, \vec{r})|^2 d^3\vec{r}$$

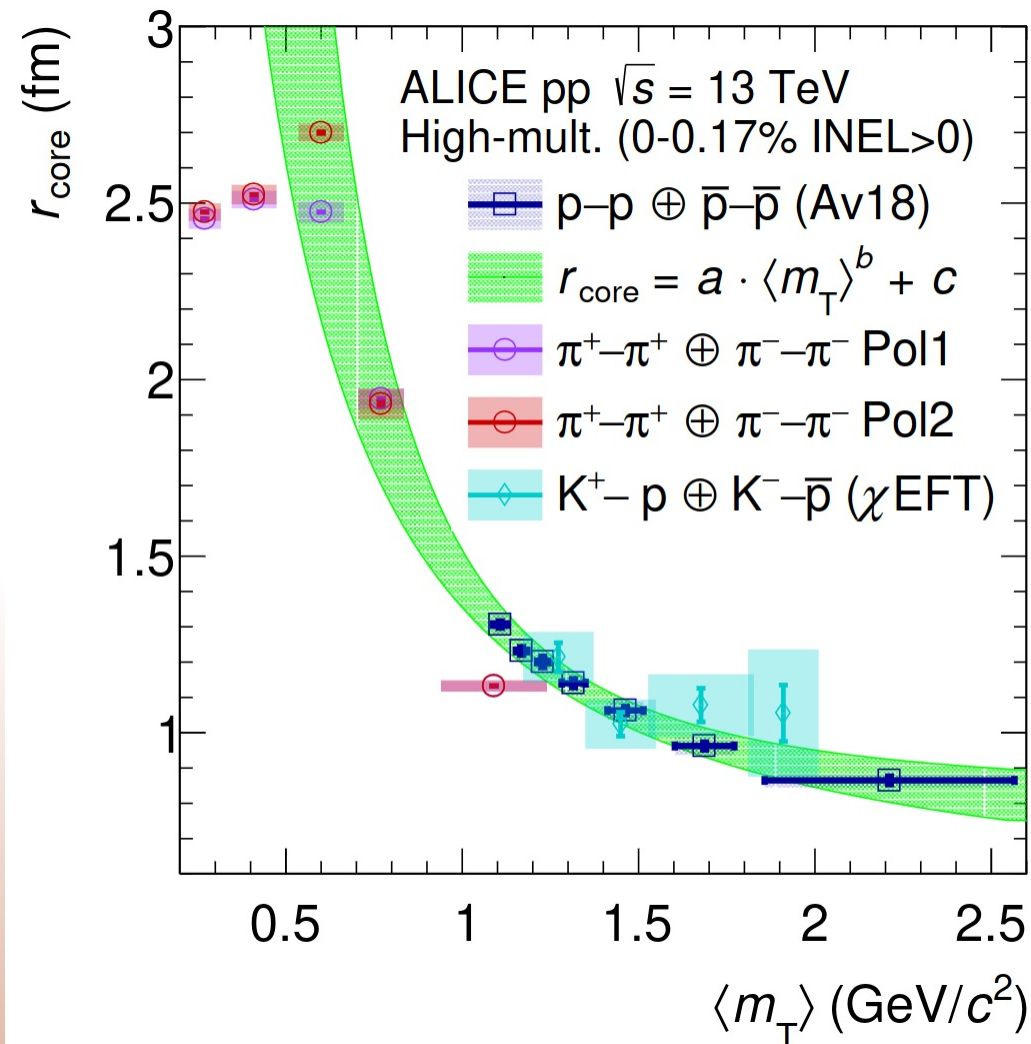
measured
known interaction

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$$S(r) = \frac{1}{(4\pi r_{core}^2)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{4r_{core}^2}\right) \times \text{Effect of short lived resonances (} c\tau \sim 1 \text{ fm)}$$

ALICE Coll., PLB, 811 (2020), 135849

- One universal source for all hadrons (cross-check with $K^+ - p$, $\pi - \pi$, $p - \Lambda$, $p - \pi$)
- Small particle-emitting source created in pp collisions at the LHC



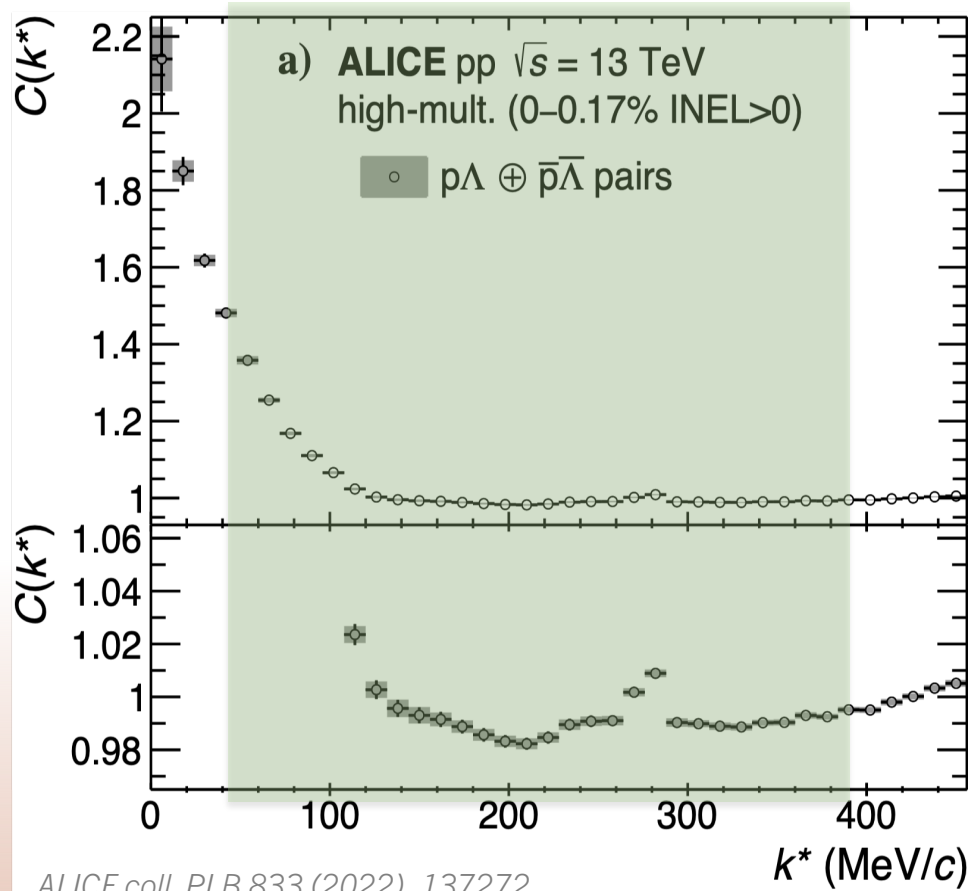
M. Korwieser
TUM



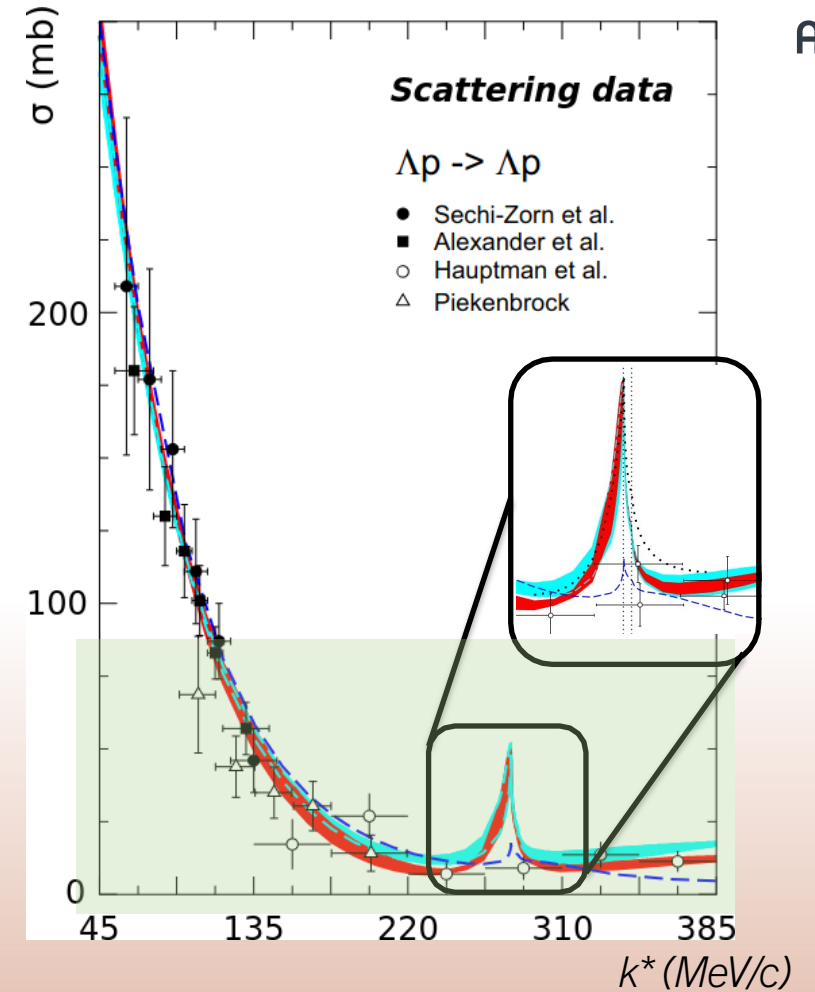
ALICE Coll., PLB, 811 (2020), 135849; ALICE Coll., arXiv:2311.14527

THE $p\Lambda$ FEMTOSCOPY CORRELATION

$\sim 7 \cdot 10^5$ $p\Lambda$ pairs with $k^* < 200$ MeV/c



- Measurement down to zero momentum
- Factor >20 improved precision ($<1\%$)
- First experimental evidence of ΛN - ΣN opening in 2-body channel



NLO19: J.Haidenbauer, U. Meißner, EPJA 56 (2020), 3, 91

NLO13: J.Haidenbauer, N.Kaiser et al., NPA 915, 24 (2013)

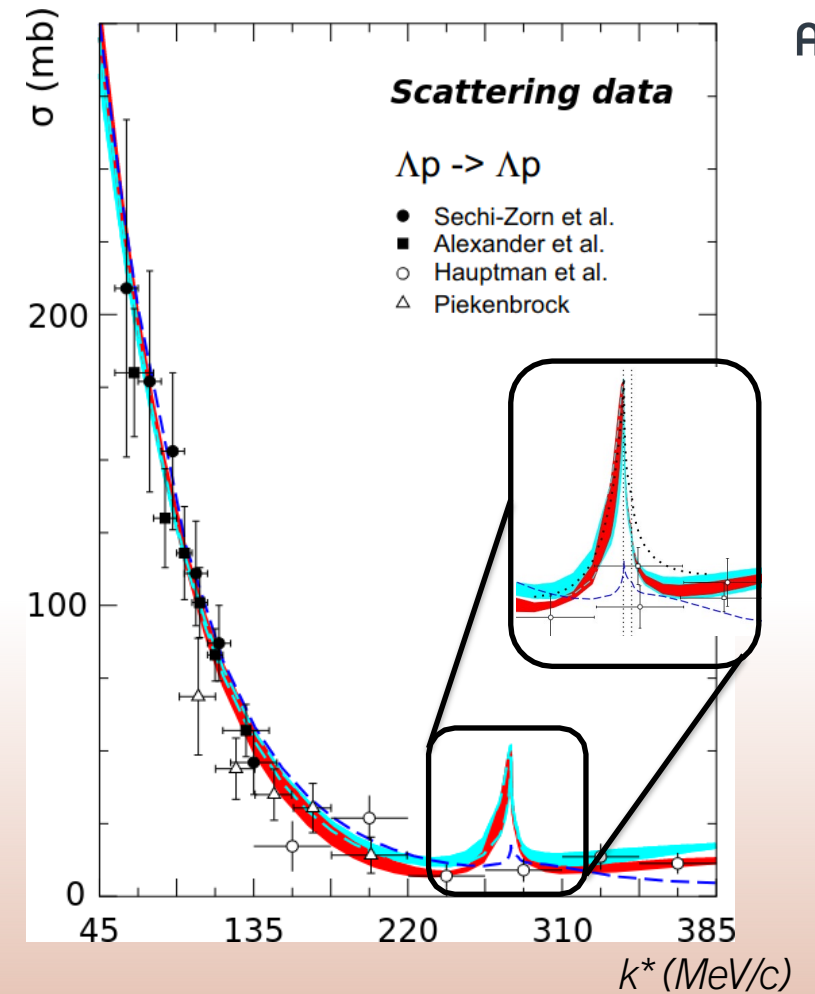
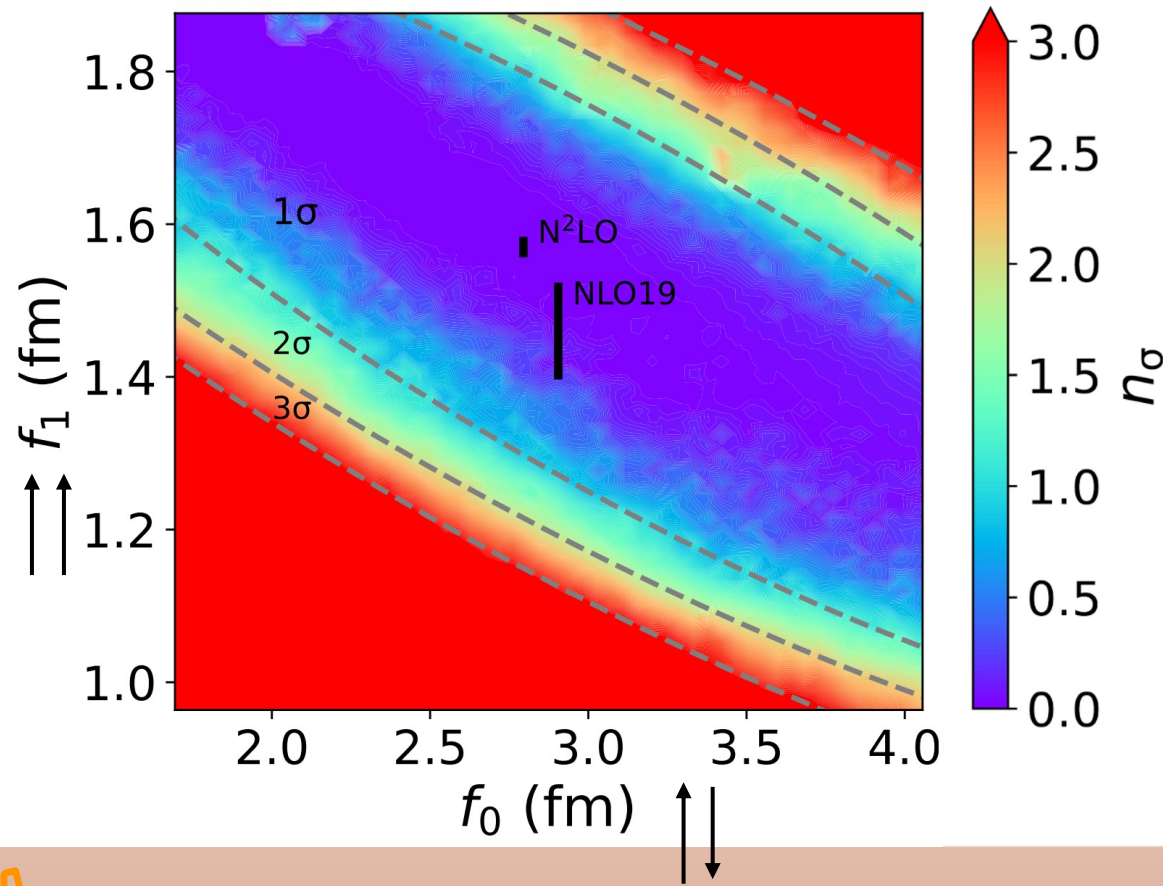
D.Mihaylov
TUM/Sofia Uni



PA SCATTERING PARAMETERS

- Spin-0 and Spin-1 scattering length from scattering data
- Agreement with N²LO and NLO19

D. Mihaylov, J. Haidenbauer and V. Mantovani Sarti, PLB 850 (2024) 138550



NLO19: J.Haidenbauer, U. Meißner, EPJA 56 (2020), 3, 91

NLO13: J.Haidenbauer, N.Kaiser et al., NPA 915, 24 (2013)

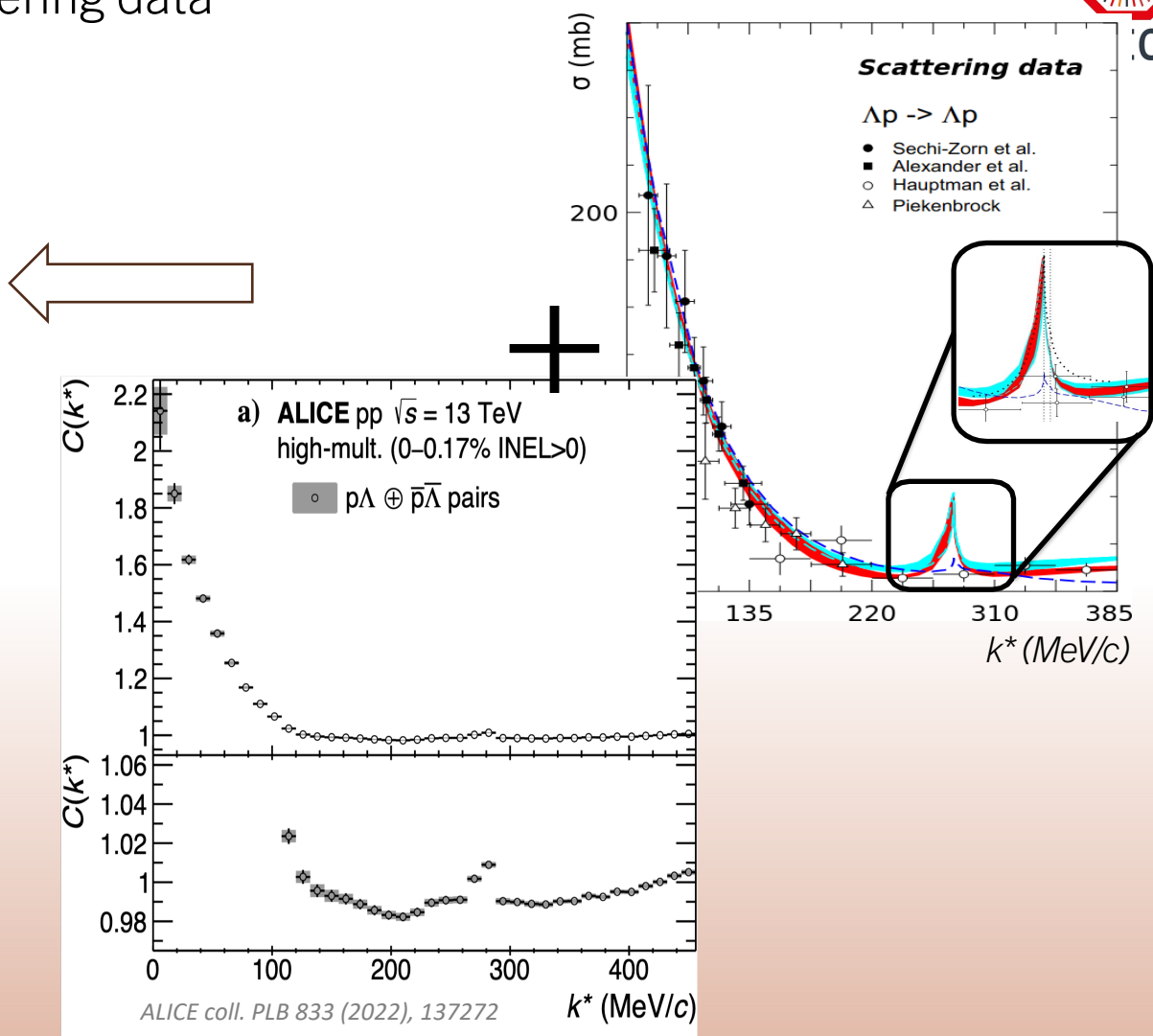
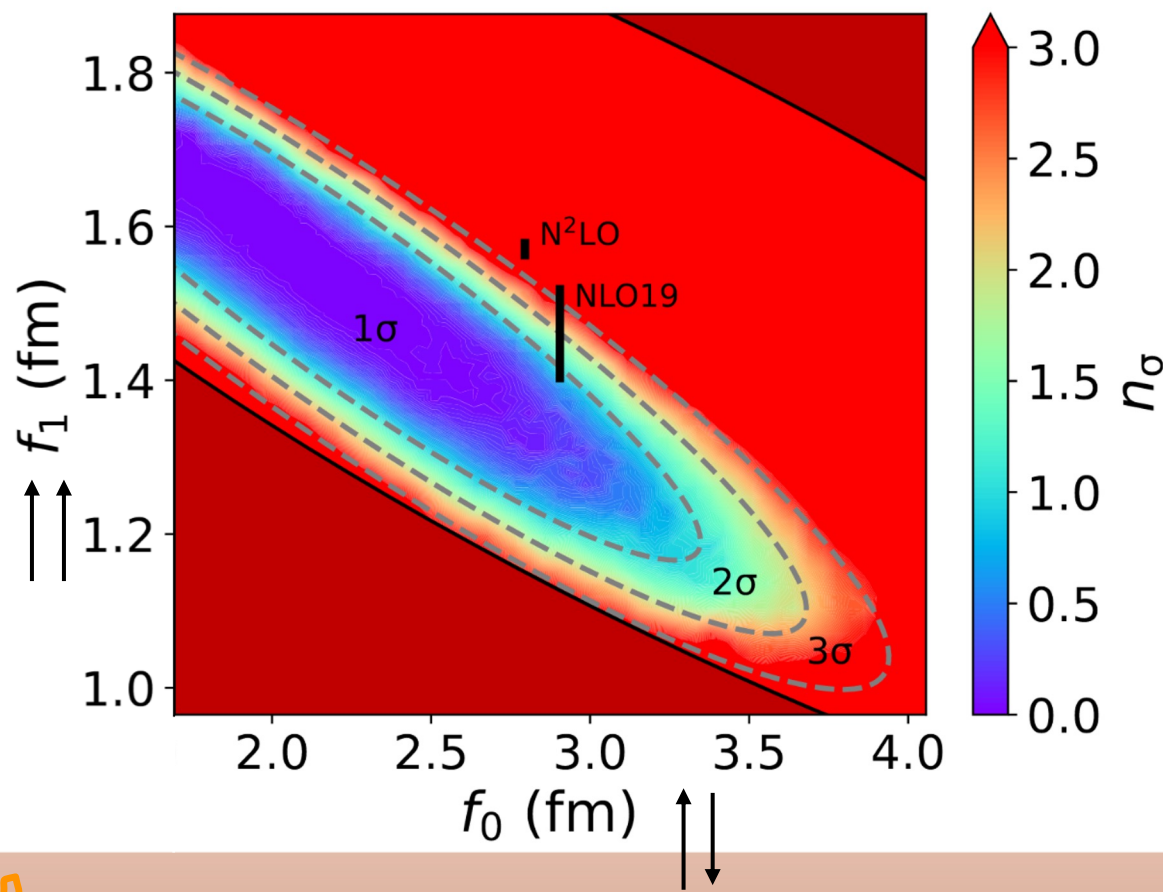
FIRST SIMULTANEOUS FIT OF SCATTERING AND FEMTO DATA

- NEW: combined analysis of femtoscopic and scattering data
- Less attractive ΔN interaction

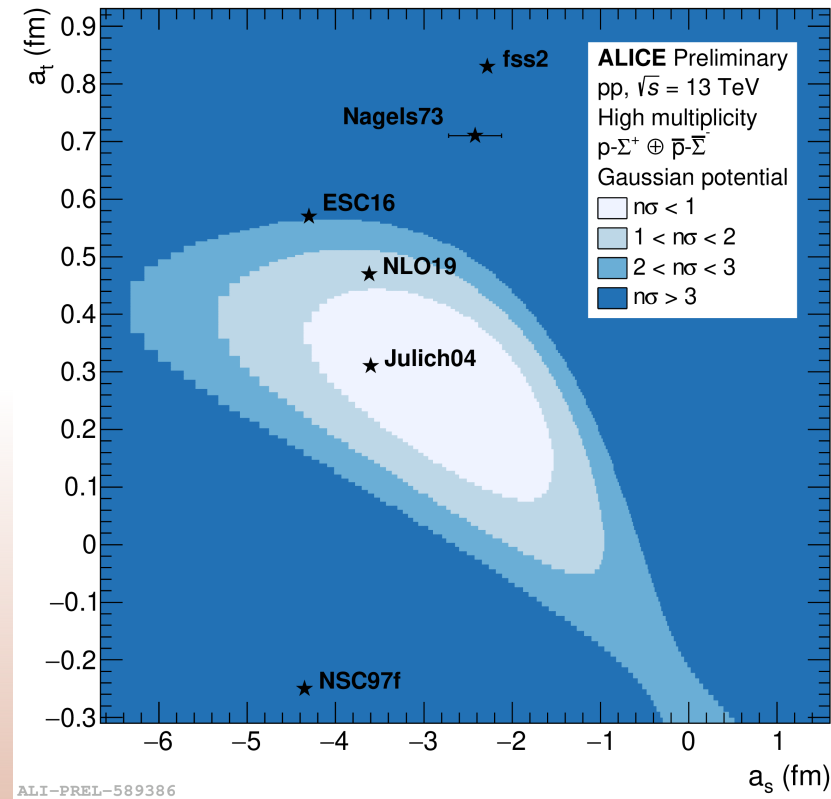
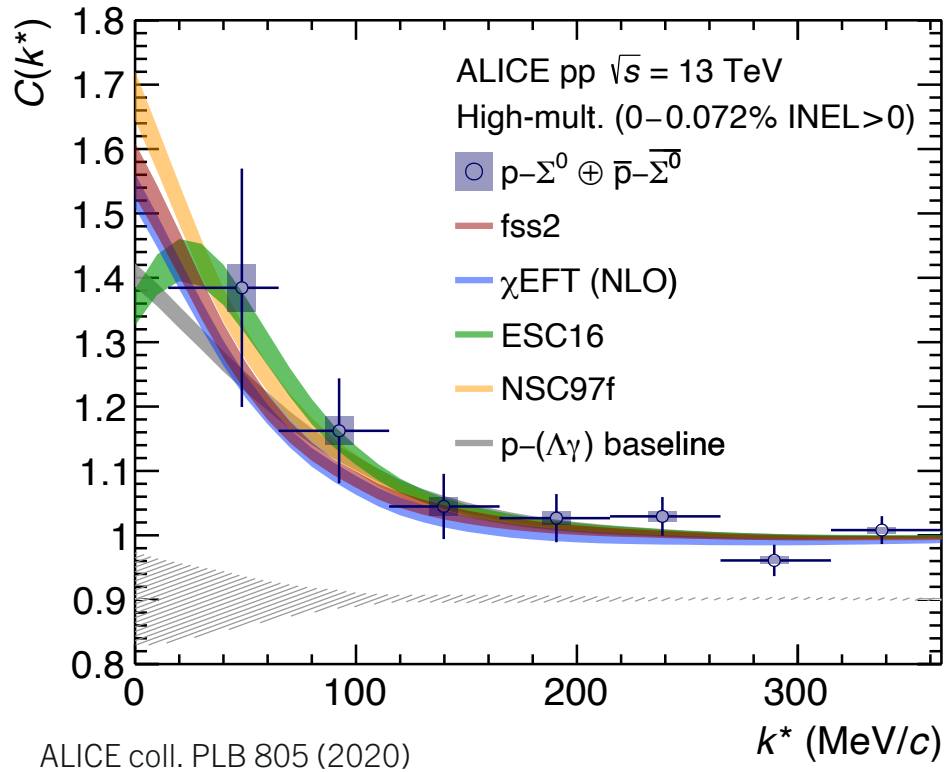
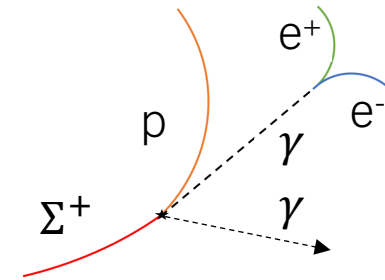
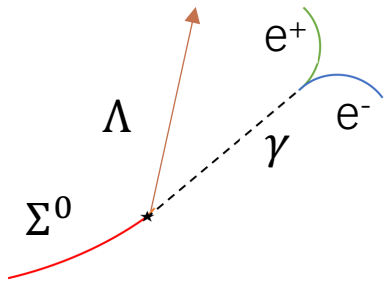


CE

D. Mihaylov, J. Haidenbauer and V. Mantovani Sarti, PLB 850 (2024) 138550



$|S|=1: P\Sigma^0$ AND $P\Sigma^+$



A. Mathis
TUM



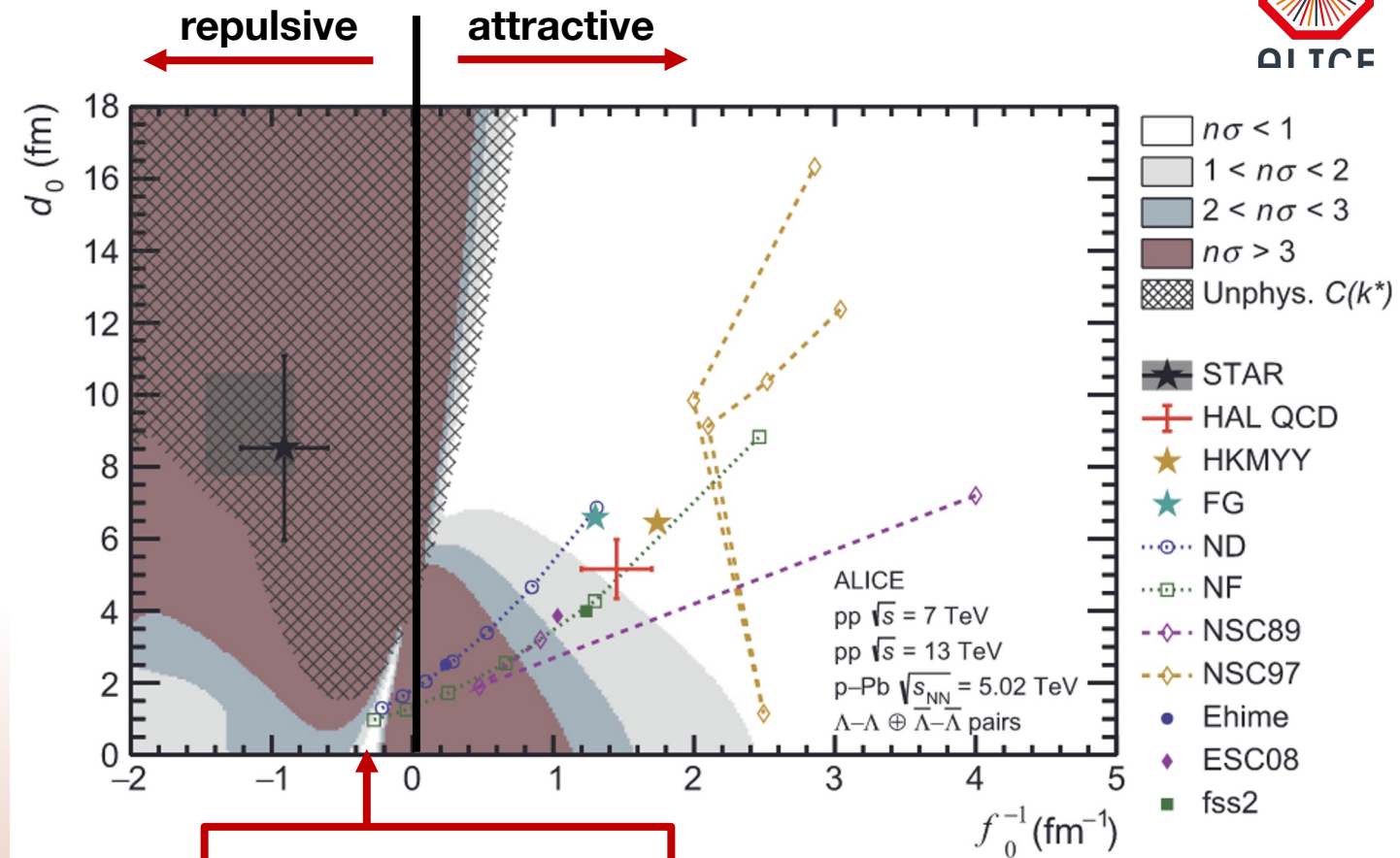
B. Heybeck
Uni. Frankfurt



$|S|=2$: $\Lambda\Lambda$ SCATTERING PARAMETERS

- Important for existence of H-dibaryon
- $\Lambda\Lambda$ correlation measured in pp MB 7, 13 TeV and p-Pb 5.02 TeV
- Scan in scattering parameter space (f_0^{-1} , d_0) and express agreement data/model in number of σ deviations
- Agreement with hypernuclei data and lattice predictions
- Most precise upper limit on the binding energy of the H-dibaryon

$$B_{\Lambda\Lambda} = 3.2_{-2.4}^{+1.6}(\text{stat})_{-1.0}^{+1.8}(\text{syst}) \text{ MeV}$$



Room for a shallow bound state

ALICE Coll. Phys.Lett.B 797 (2019) 134822



D. Mihaylov
TUM/Sofia Uni

$|S|=2: p\bar{e}^-$ TEST LATTICE POTENTIALS

- Observation of the strong interaction beyond Coulomb
- Agreement with lattice calculations confirmed in pp and p-Pb colliding systems

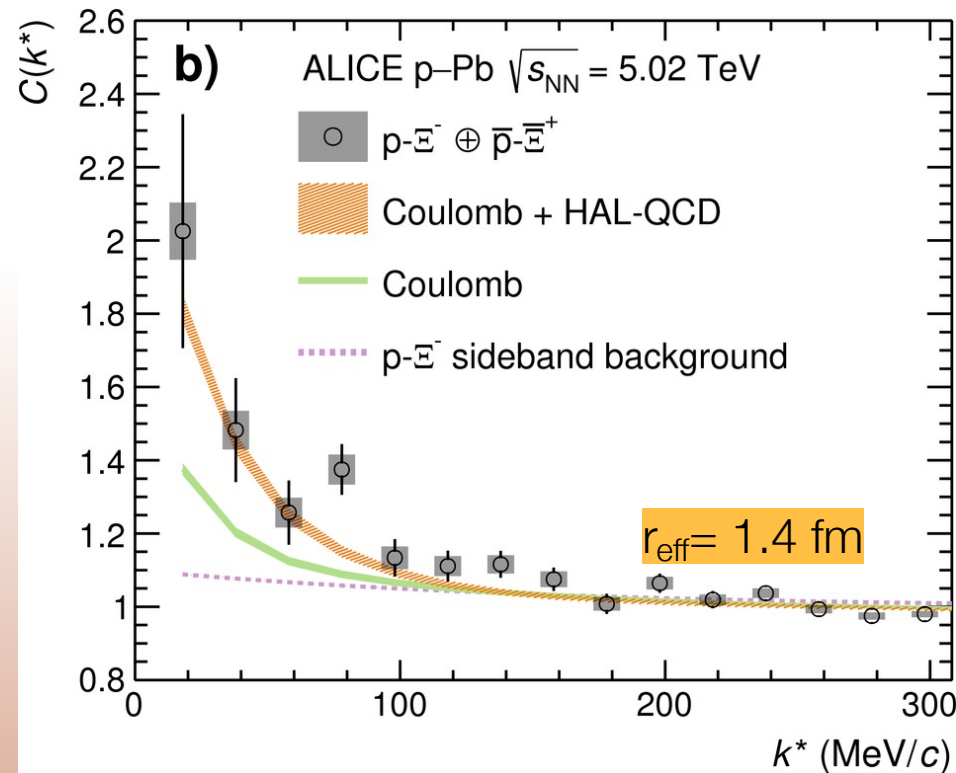
O. Vazquez-Doce
INFN Frascati



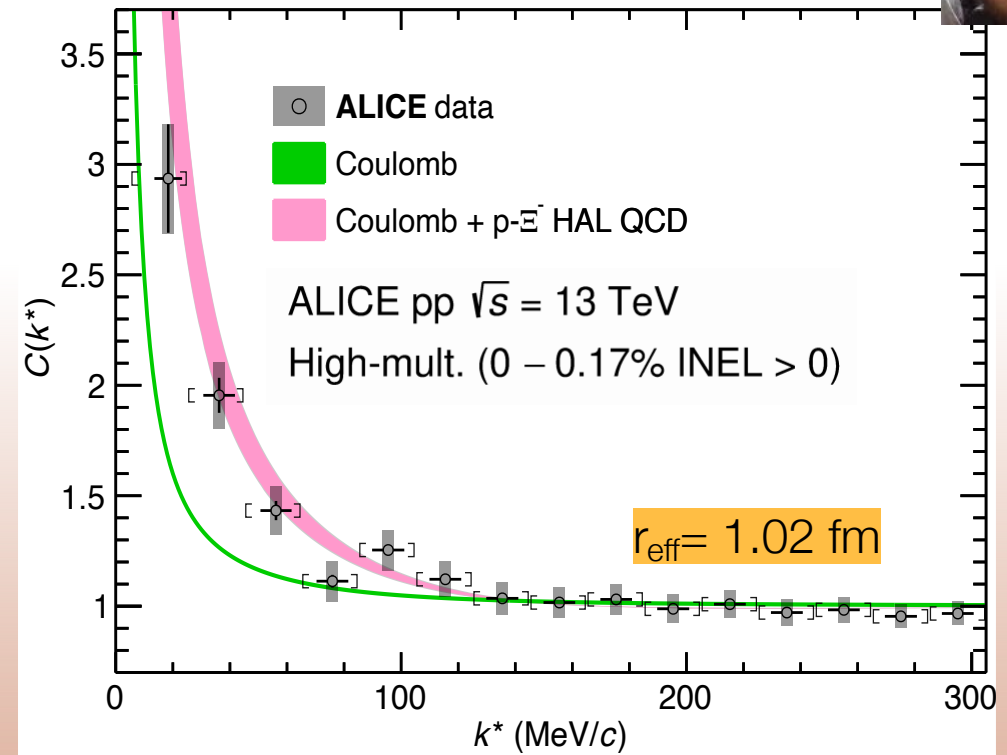
B. Holweger
TUM



ALICE Coll, Phys. Rev. Lett 123, (2019) 112002



ALICE Coll. Nature 588, 232–238 (2020)



(*) HAL QCD Coll., PoS INPC2016 (2016) 277

WHAT ABOUT NEUTRON STARS ?

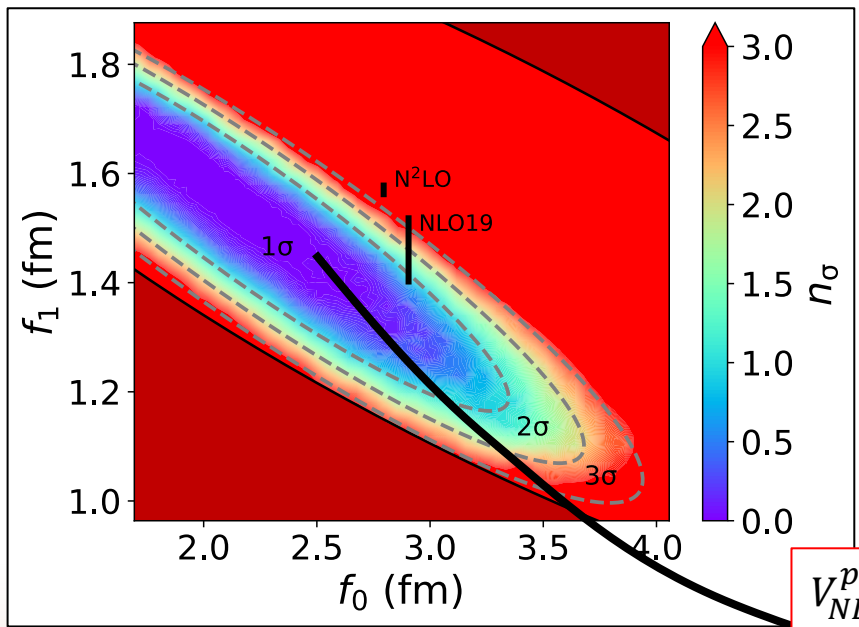


FROM SCATTERING PARAMETERS TO SINGLE PARTICLE POTENTIALS



D. Mihaylov, J. Haidenbauer and V. Mantonvani Sarti PLB 850 (2024) 138550

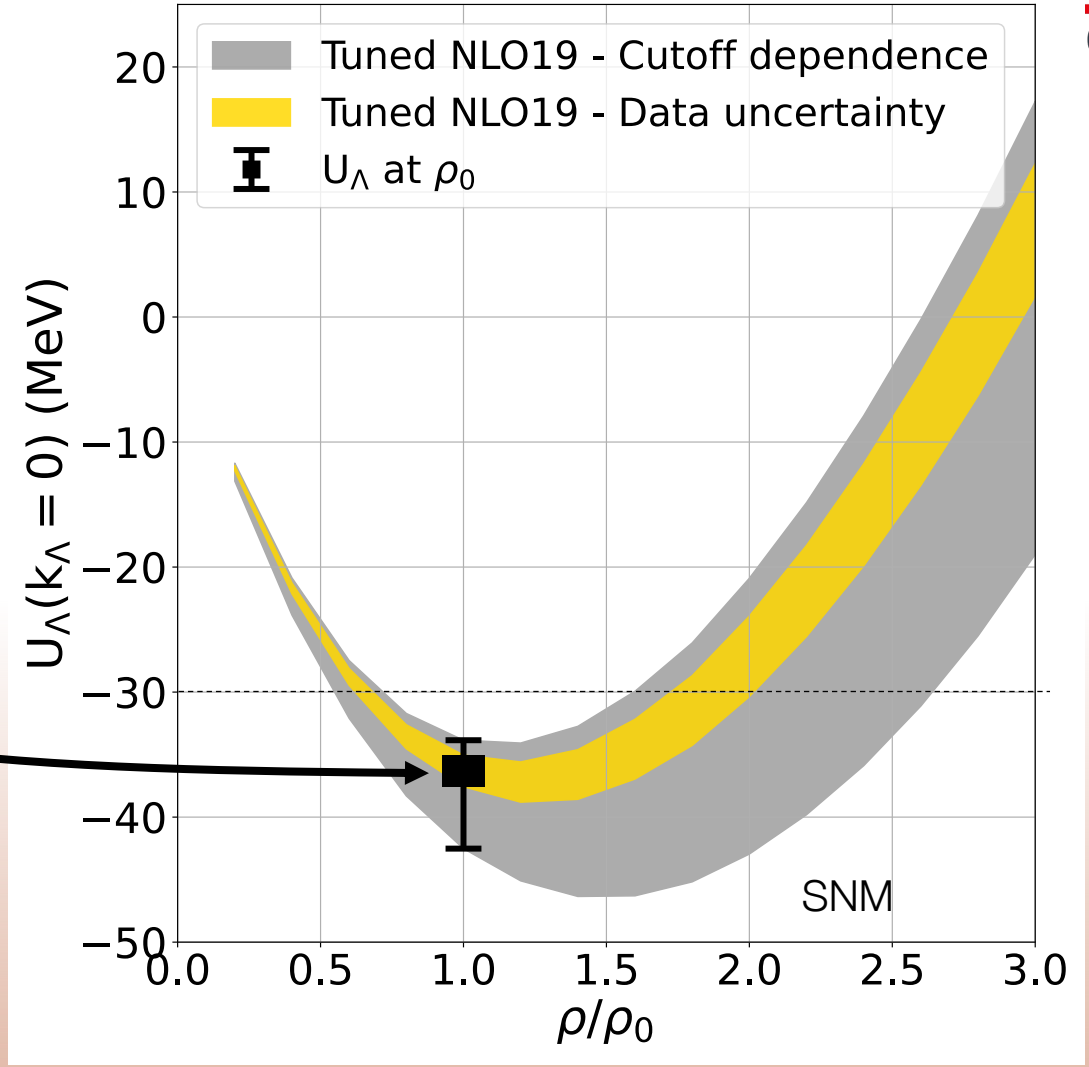
Combined fit



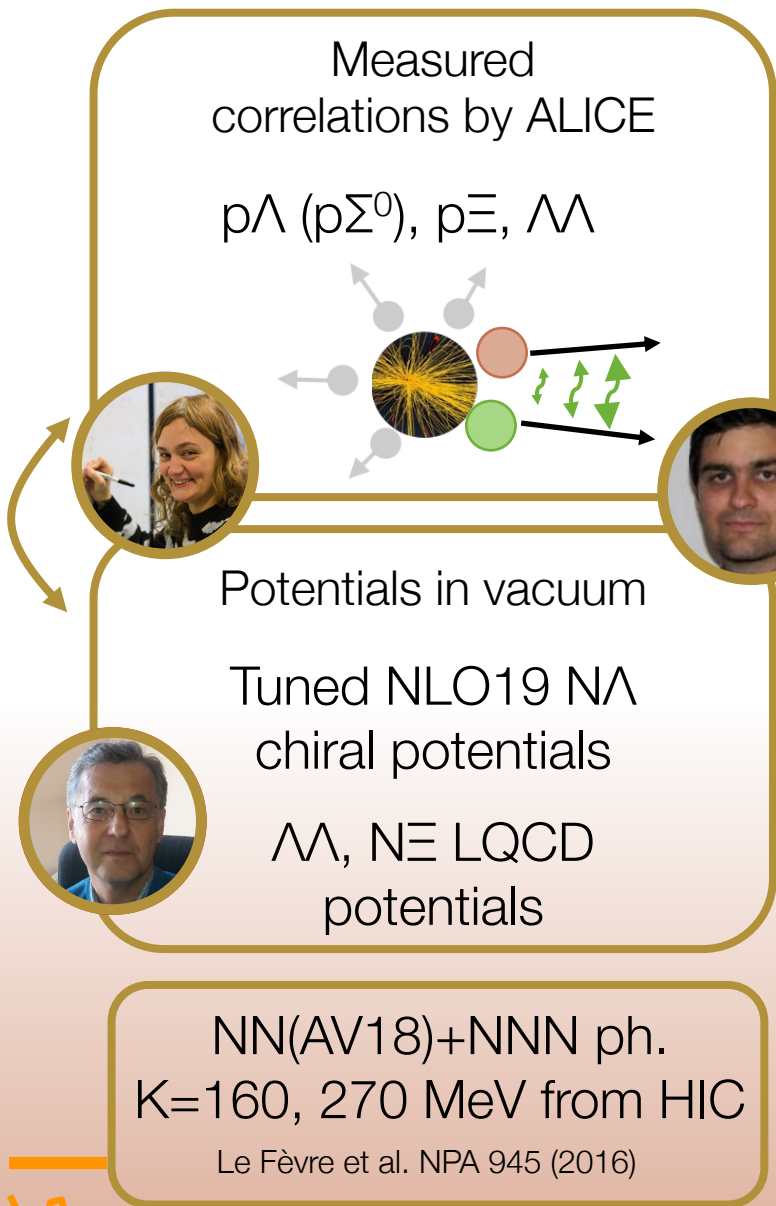
$V_{NLO19}^{p\Lambda}$ in mom. space via G-matrix approach

$$U_{\Lambda}^{2BF}(\rho_0) = -36.3 \pm 1.3(stat)^{+2.5}_{-6.2}(syst) \text{ MeV}$$

Quantitative estimate of repulsion from 3BF ANN at ρ_0 !



A BOTTOM-UP APPROACH FOR A EOS WITH HYPERONS



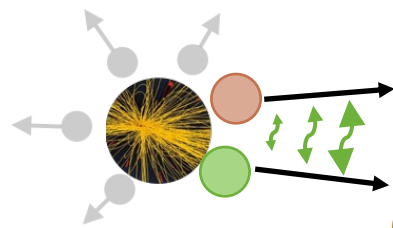
A BOTTOM-UP APPROACH FOR A EOS WITH HYPERONS



ALICE

Measured correlations by ALICE

$p\Lambda$ ($p\Sigma^0$), $p\Xi$, $\Lambda\Lambda$



V. Mantovani Sarti
TUM



Potentials in vacuum

Tuned NLO19 $\Lambda\Lambda$ chiral potentials

$\Lambda\Lambda$, $N\Xi$ LQCD potentials

J. Haidenbauer



NN(AV18)+NNN ph.
K=160, 270 MeV from HIC

Le Fèvre et al. NPA 945 (2016)



EoS with 2-body YN, YY

Mass vs Radius NSs



BB interactions at finite ρ

Brueckner-Hartree-Fock theory with detailed propagation of input uncertainties!!

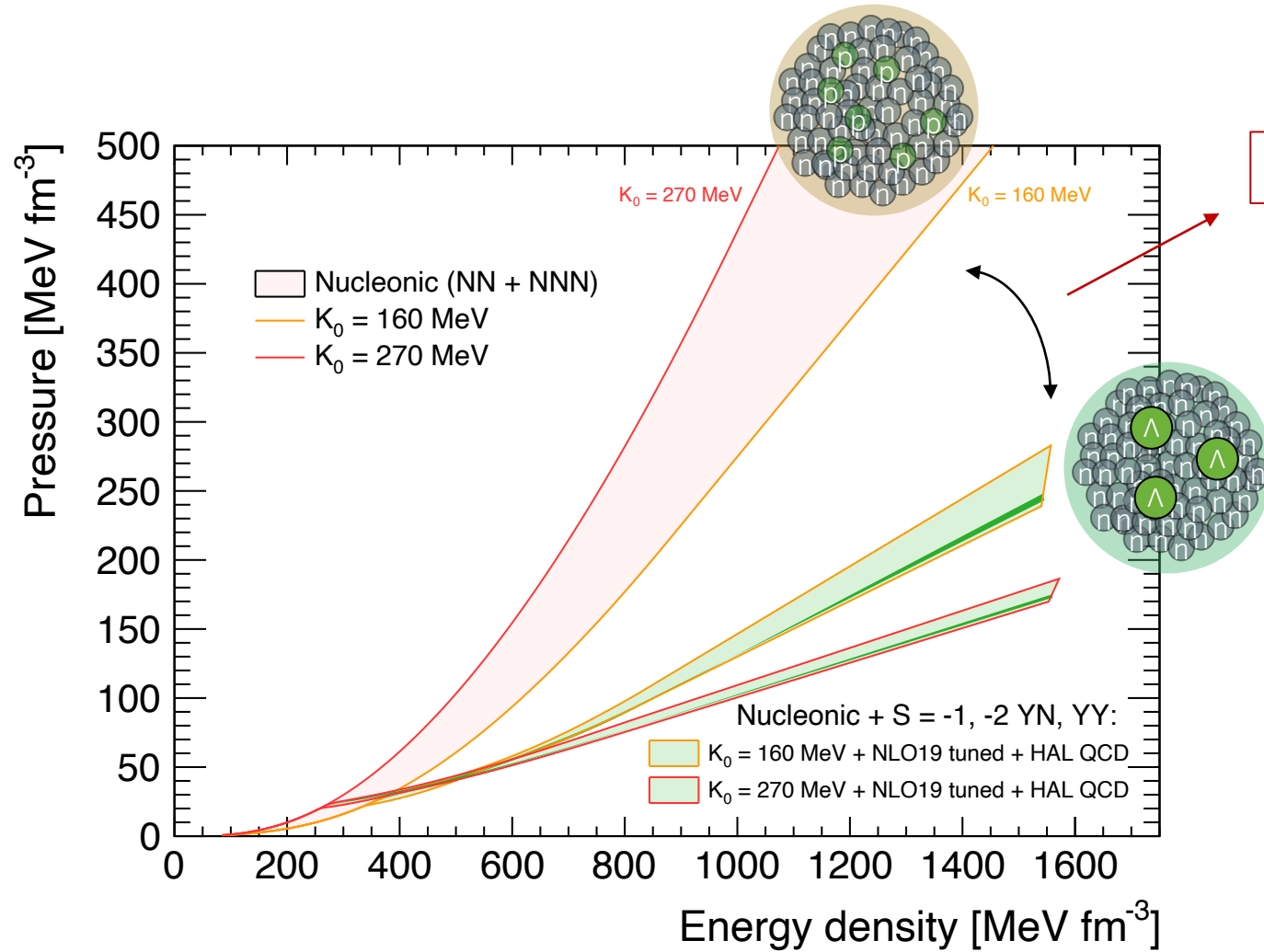
Schulze et al. PLB 355 (1995)



I. Vidana
INFN Catania



IMPACT ON NUCLEAR EOS AND NEUTRON STARS



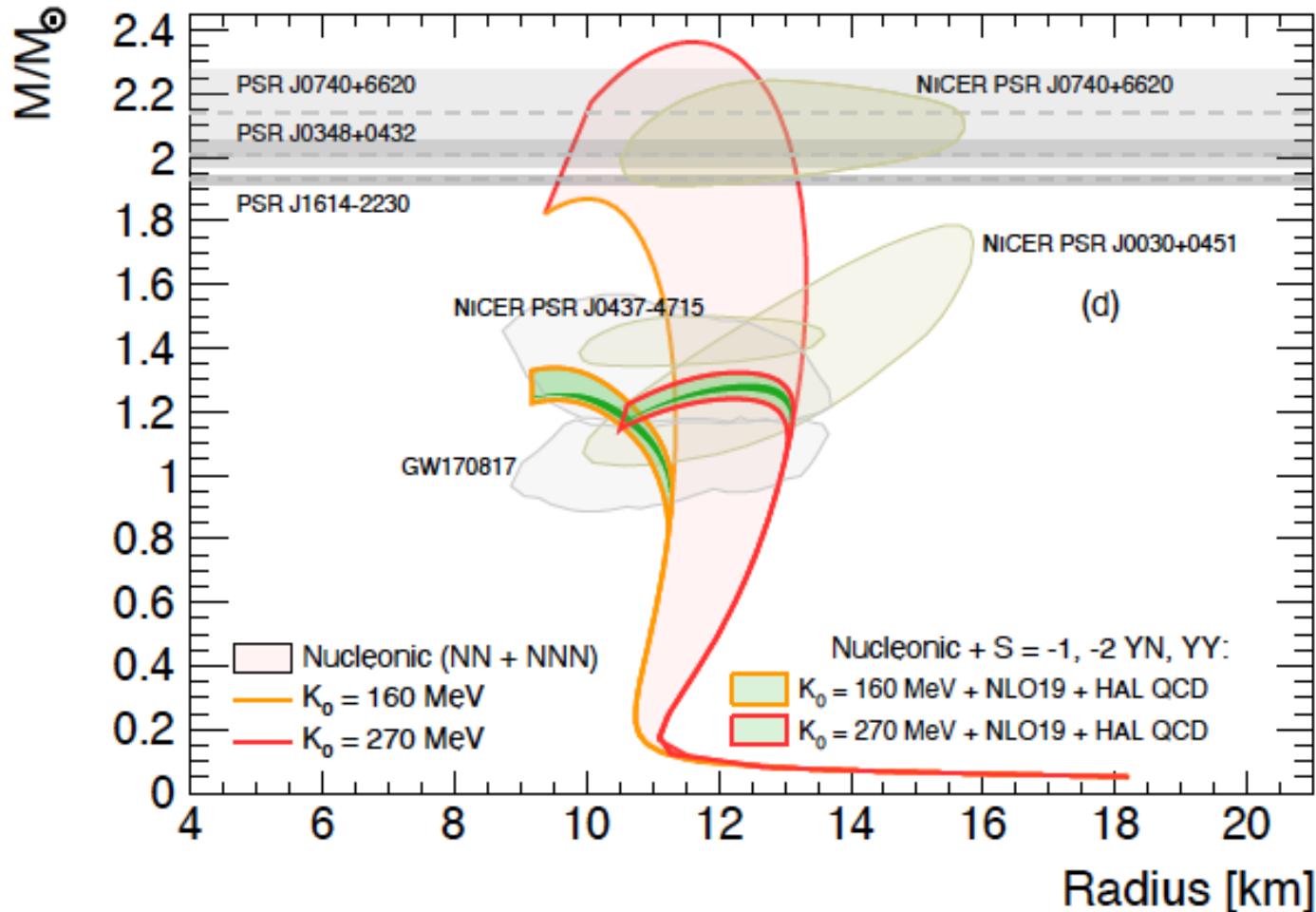
Inclusion of S=-1, -2 YN softens the EoS!

Light shade: theoretical uncertainty (cut-off)

Dark shade: experimental uncertainty (comb. fit scatt. + femto)

I. Vidana, V. Mantovani Sarti, J. Haidenbauer, D. L. Mihaylov, LF arXiv:2412.12729v1

IMPACT ON NUCLEAR EOS AND NEUTRON STARS



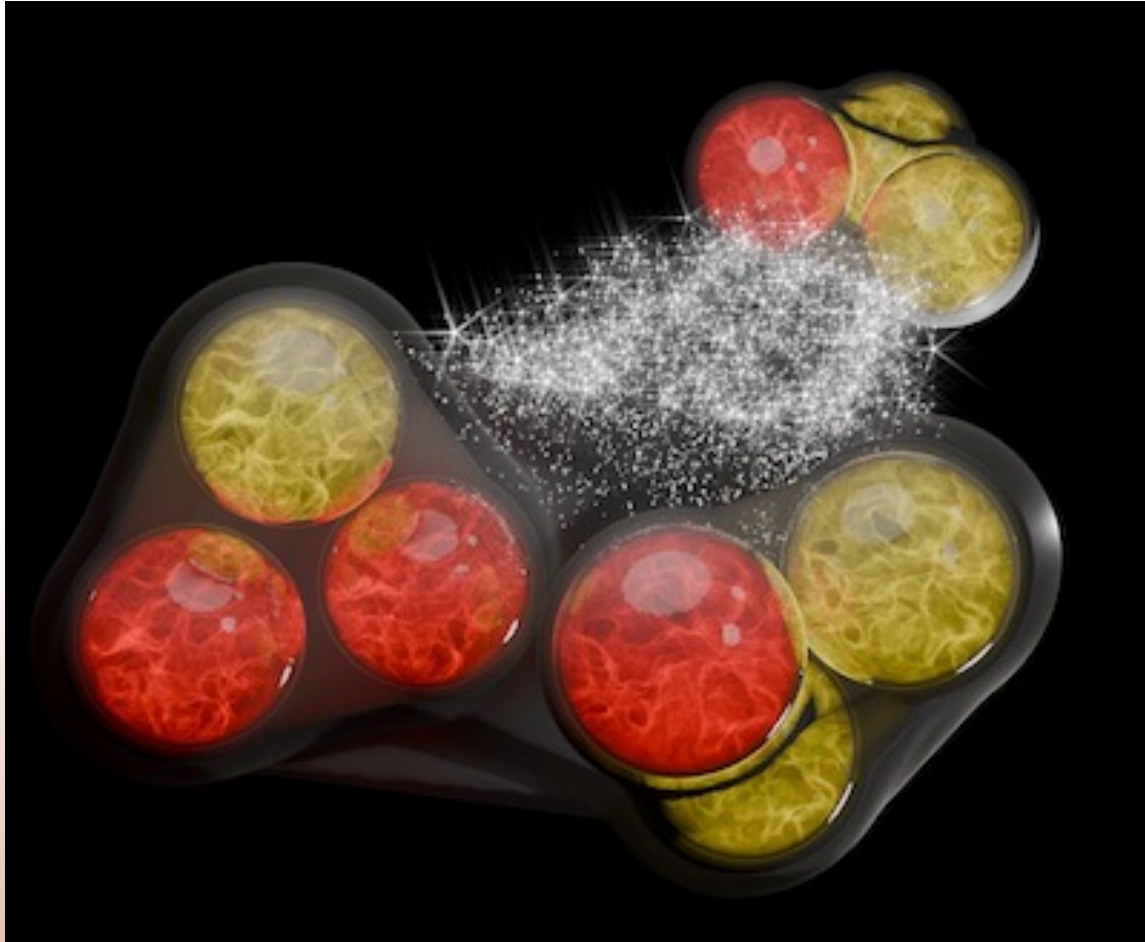
Upper limit of EoS with hyperons is too soft to reach $2M_{\odot}$

Additional repulsion among hadrons or new degree of freedom is needed

Three body hyperon nucleon interactions?

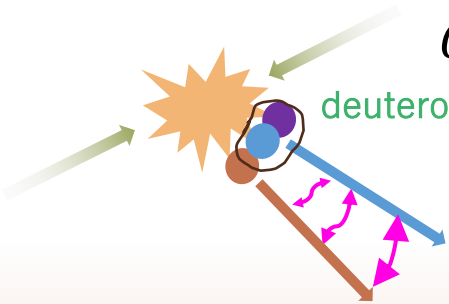
Axions in Neutron stars ?
K. Springmann et al. arXiv:2410.10945

THREE BODY INTERACTION AT THE LHC

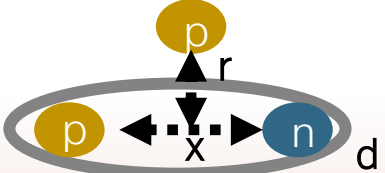


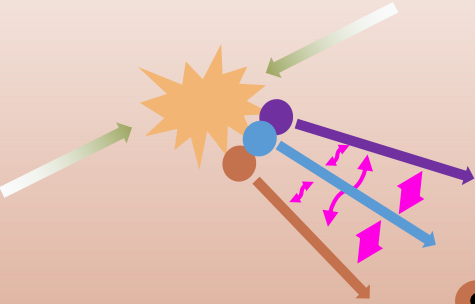
Two methods are currently studied

- Deuteron-baryon correlations
- Three-baryons correlations

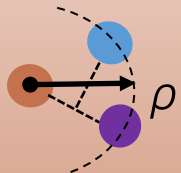


$$C(k^*) = \int S(r) |\psi(k^*, r)|^2 4\pi r^2 dr$$





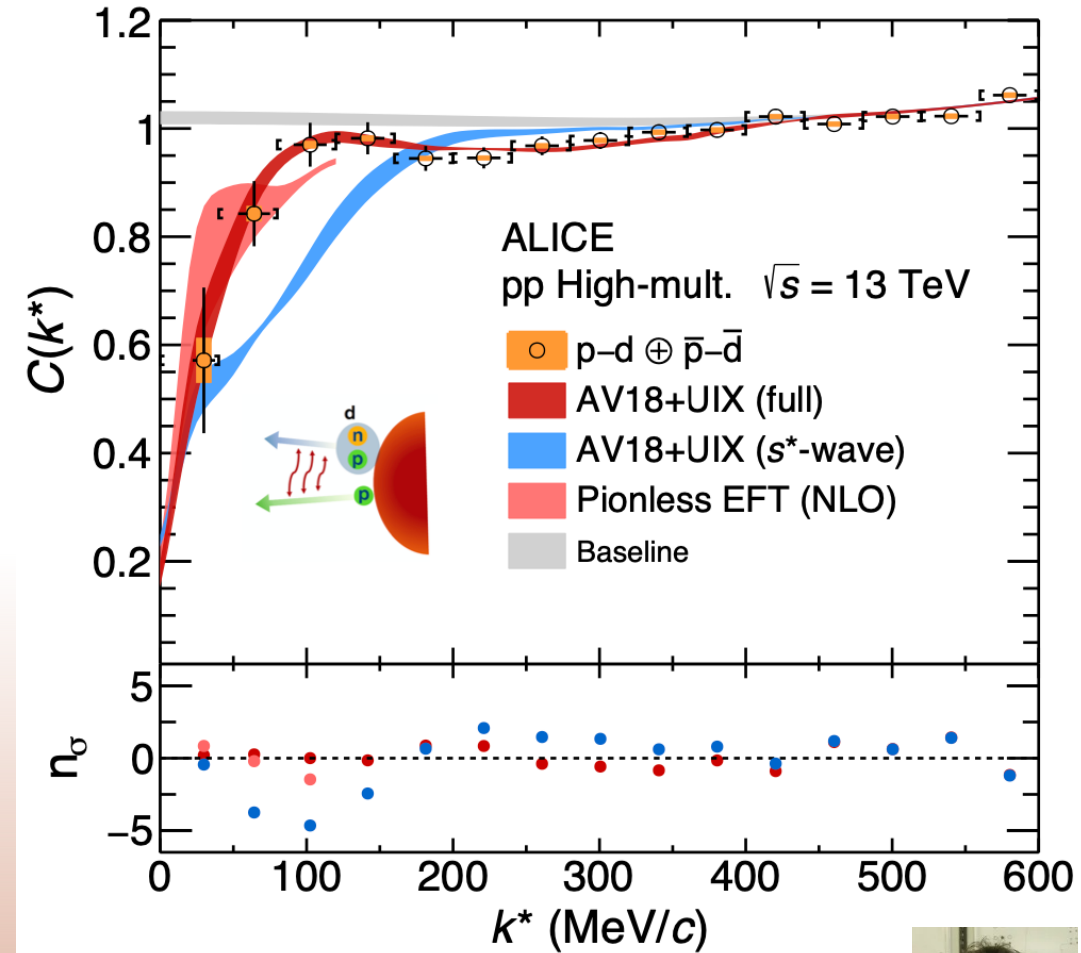
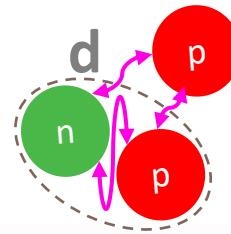
$$C(Q_3) = \int S(\rho) |\psi(Q_3, \rho)|^2 \rho^5 d\rho$$



$$Q_3 = \sqrt{-q_{ij}^2 - -q_{ik}^2 - q_{kj}^2}$$

NNN USING PROTON-DEUTERON CORRELATIONS

- Full three-body calculations are required (NN + NNN + Quantum Statistics)



ALICE Coll., PRX 14 (2024) 3, 031051

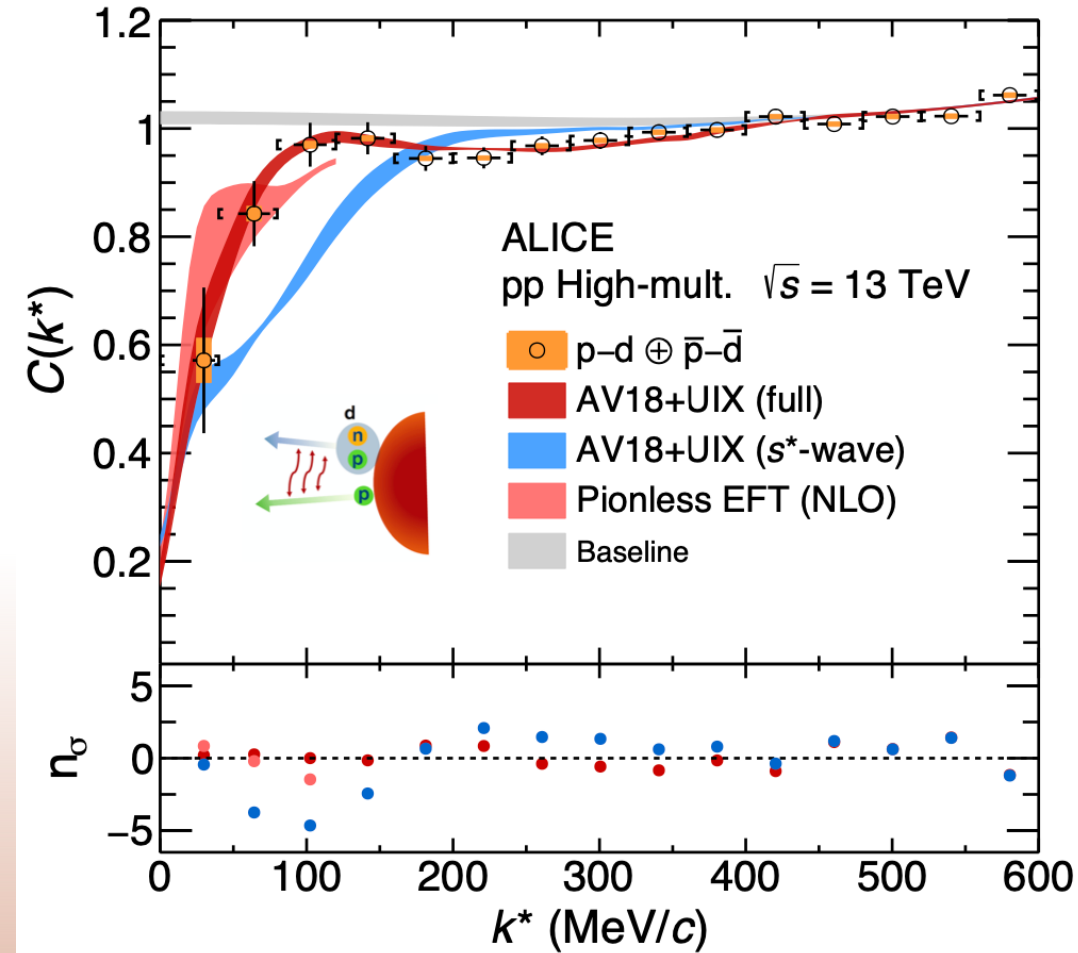
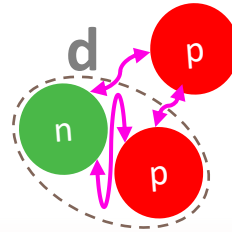
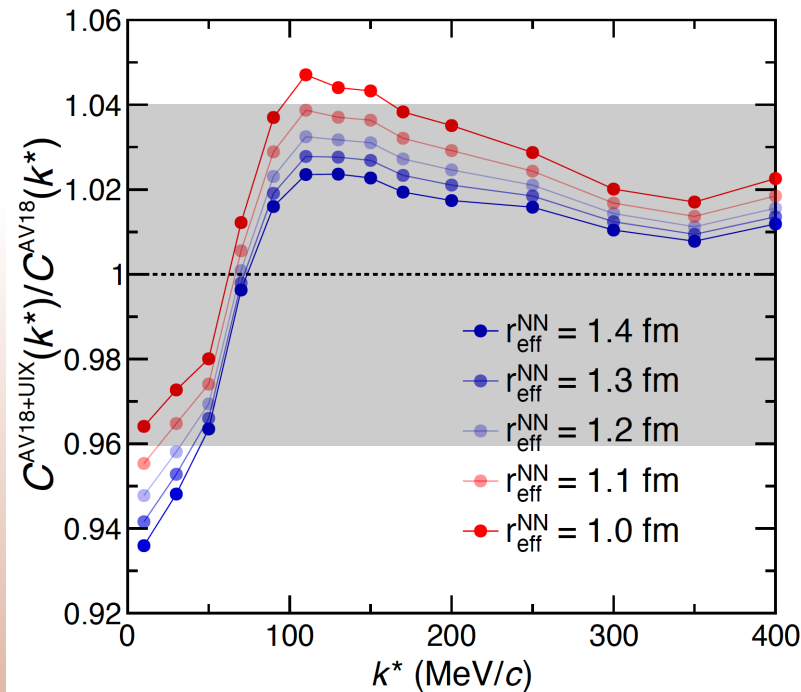
M. Viviani et al, Phys.Rev.C 108 (2023) 6, 064002

B. Singh
TUM



NNN USING PROTON-DEUTERON CORRELATIONS

- Full three-body calculations are required (NN + NNN + Quantum Statistics)
- Hadron-nuclei correlations at the LHC can be used to study many-body dynamics
- Sensitivity to three-body forces up to 5%

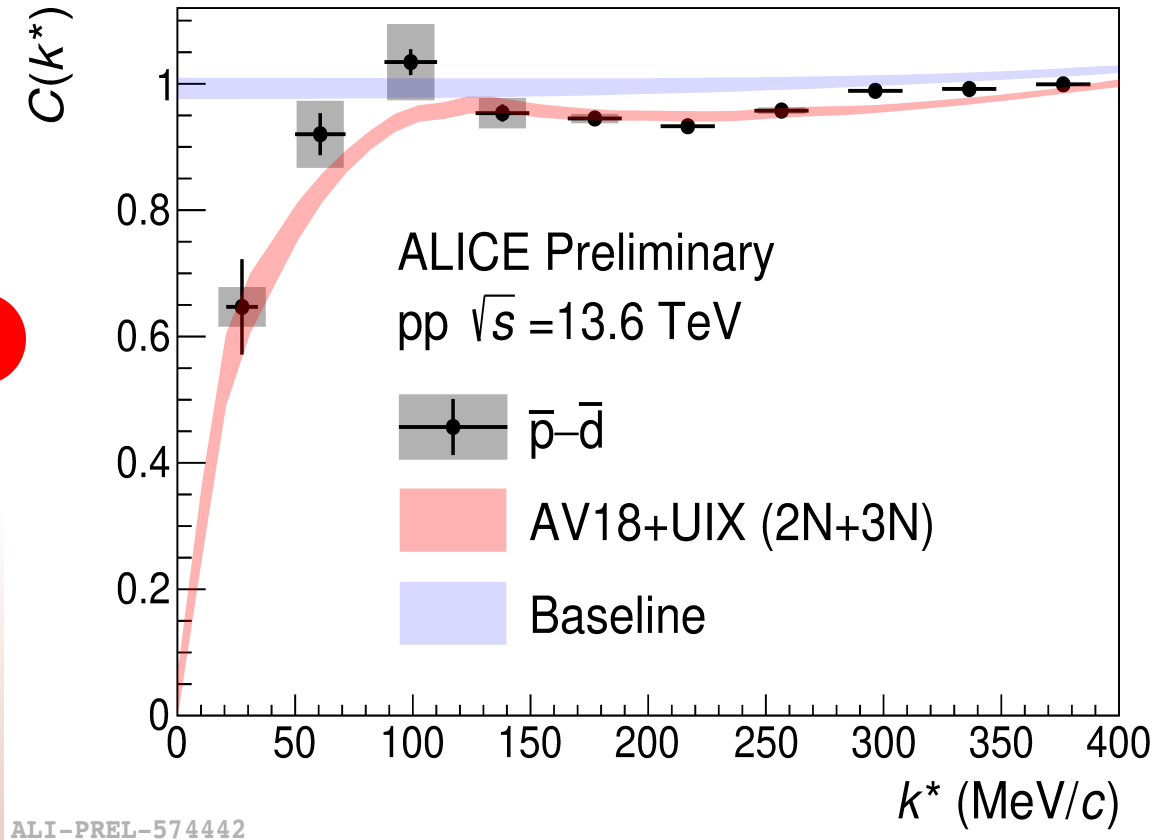
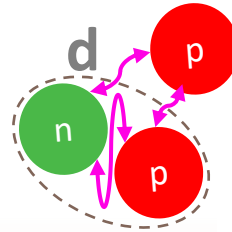
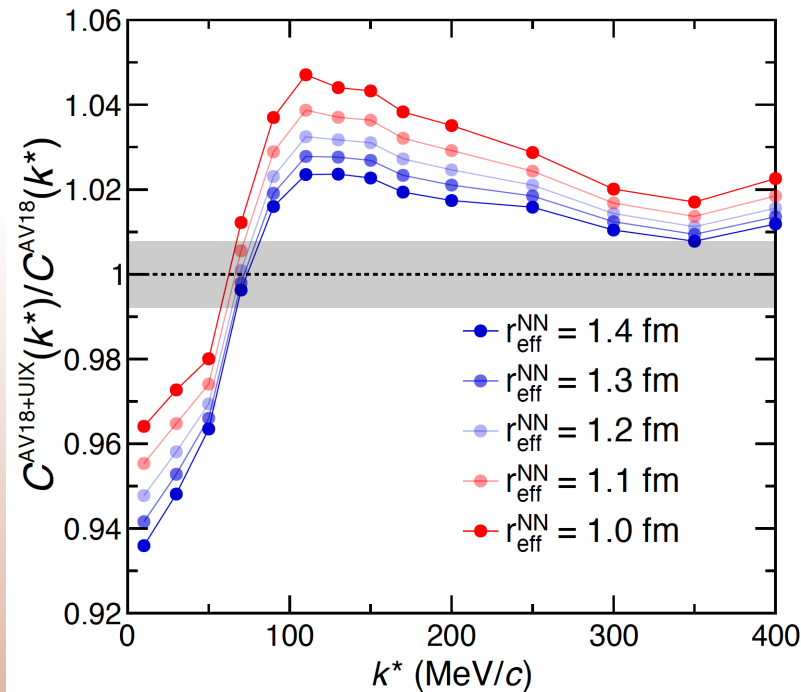


ALICE Coll., PRX 14 (2024) 3, 031051

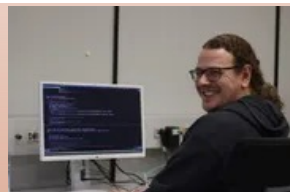
M. Viviani et al, Phys.Rev.C 108 (2023) 6, 064002

NNN USING PROTON-DEUTERON CORRELATIONS

- Full three-body calculations are required (NN + NNN + Quantum Statistics)
- Hadron-nuclei correlations at the LHC can be used to study many-body dynamics
- Sensitivity for Run 3 ~1%



A. Riedel
TUM

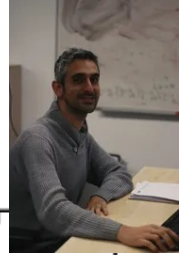
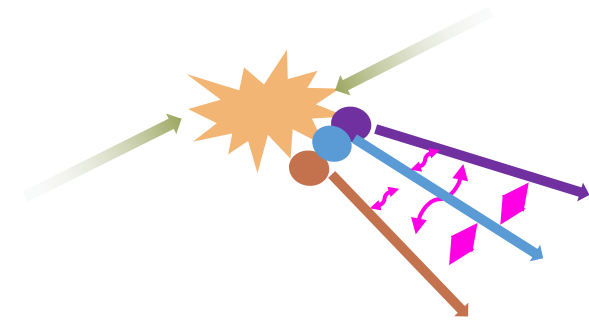


PP Λ CORRELATION

Run 2 data limited in statistics

First calculation : \rightarrow N Λ interaction from fit of scattering & femto data

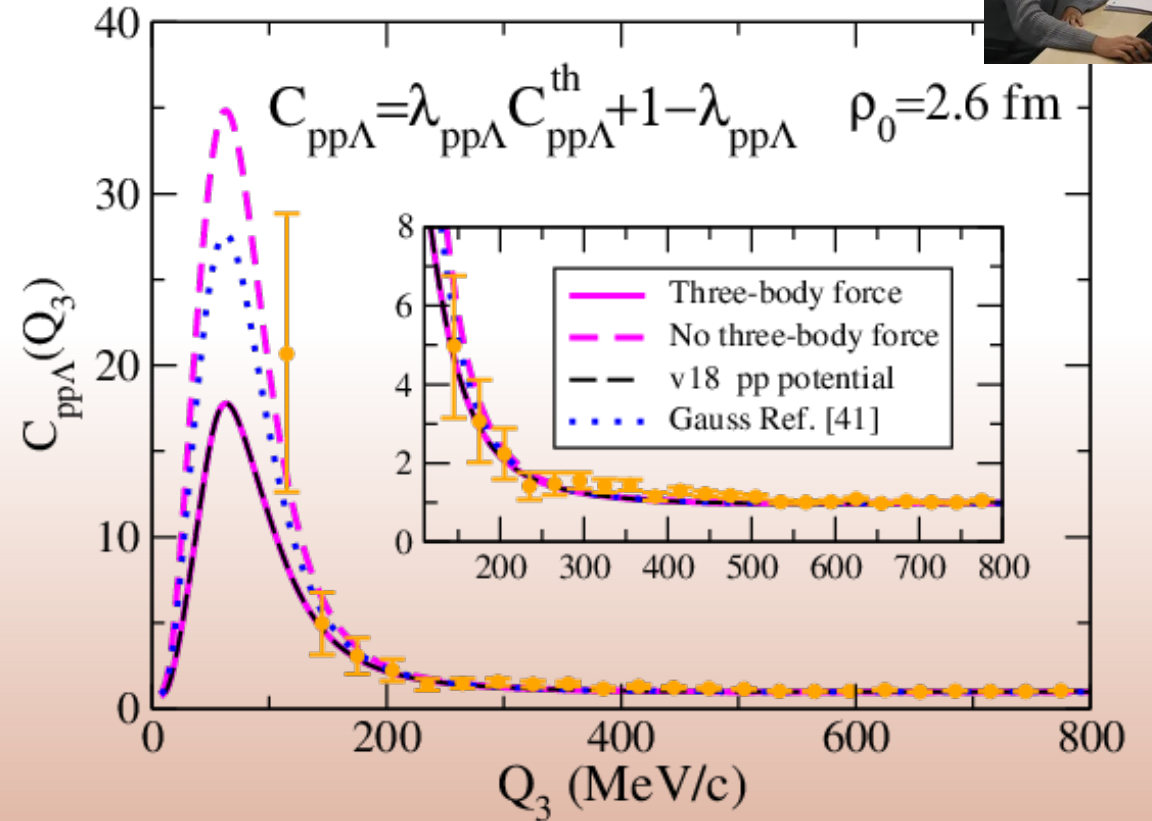
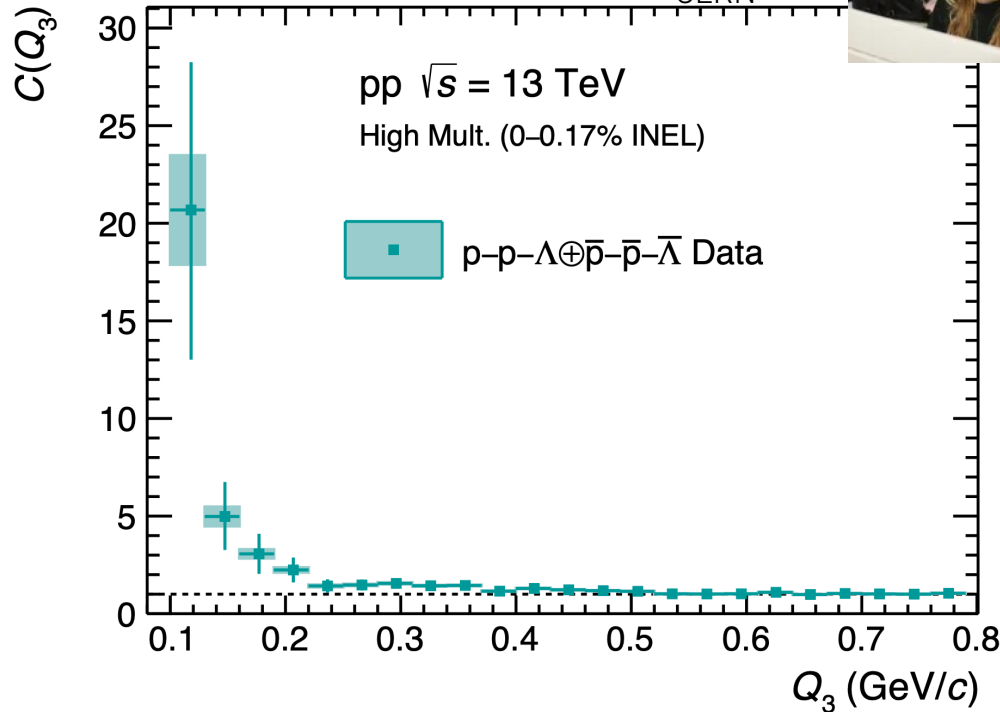
\rightarrow hypertriton BE reproduced with 2B interaction



R. Del Grande
CTU Prague

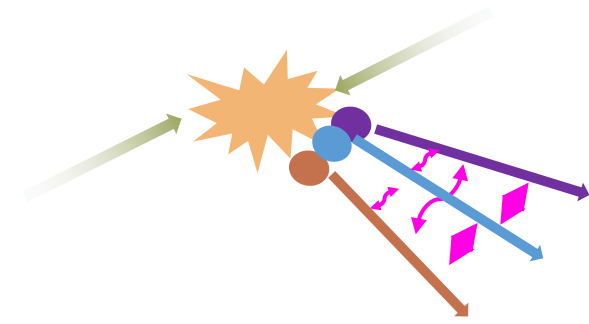


L. Serksnyte
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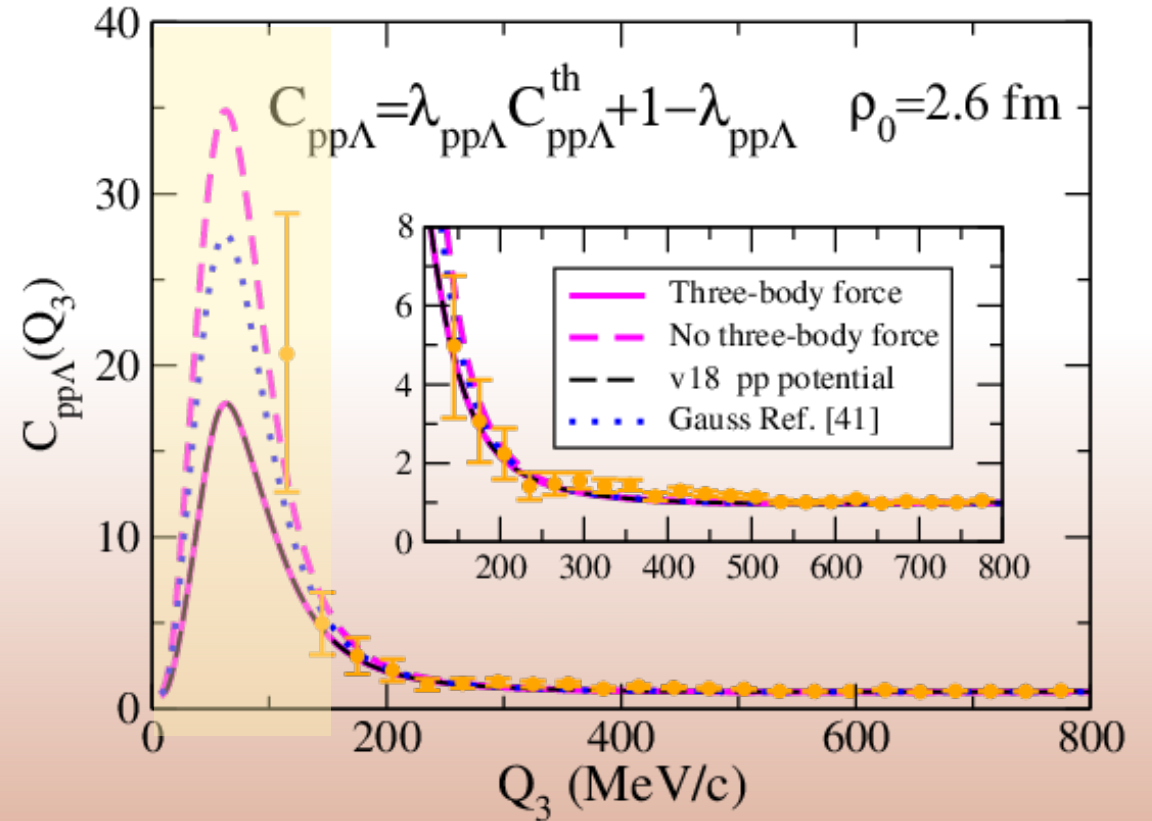
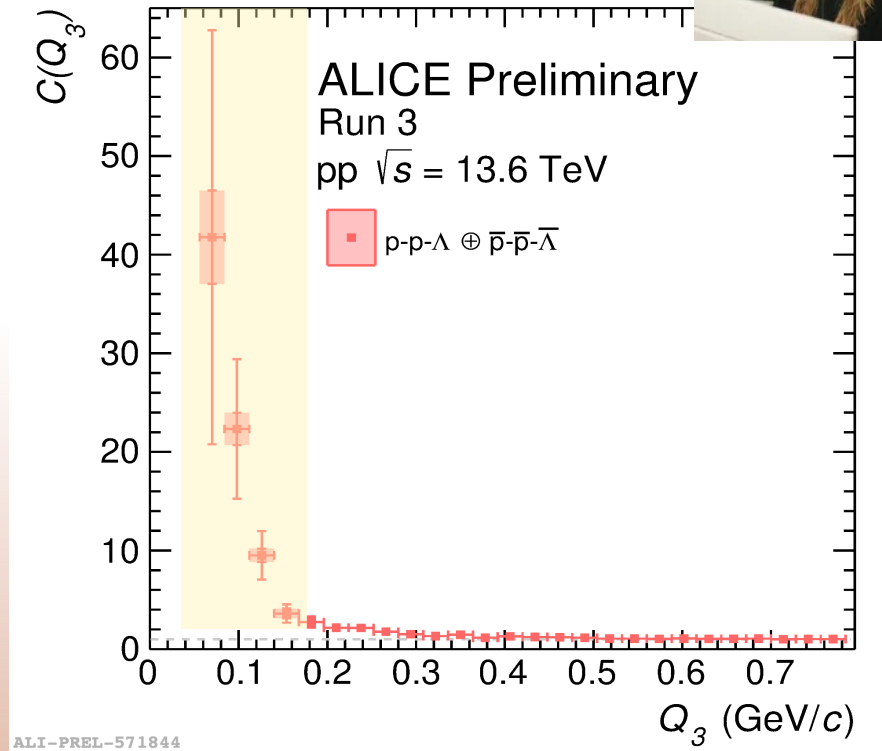
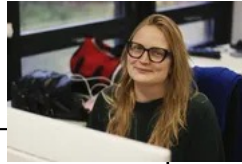


PPΛ CORRELATION

- Dedicated three body triggers for pp collisions at Run 3
- By the end of 2026 100 times more statistics



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Only 2022 data!
Stay tuned for 2022-2024 results at QM2025

SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

- Feasibility of high precision measurement for hadron-hadron interactions by means of the femtoscopy technique applied to pp and p-Pb collisions at the LHC has been demonstrated.
- Close collaboration with theoreticians in the interpretation of the correlation functions.
- New hyperon-nucleon scattering parameters haven been extracted and a new EoS for baryonic matter containing hyperons has been calculated. Experimental uncertainties on two-body interactions are propagated.
- The largest neutron star mass obtained with such an approach is still far from the heaviest masses measured.
- The feasibility of the direct measurement of three body effects by means of three baryons correlation is under study.
- The wonder of Run3 in numbers (2022-2024)
 - $p\Lambda$ pairs $k^* < 200$ MeV/c : 10^6 (Run2) - 10^7 (Run3)
 - $pp\Lambda$ triplets $Q_3 < 600$ MeV/c: 3500 (Run2) 135.000 (Run3)

Stay tuned for much more to be discovered.



*'If you can't stand the heat you should stay
out of the kitchen'*
JS

