



Based on Eur. Phys. J. C 85, 323 (2025)

Probing QGP formation in pp collisions with Balance Functions

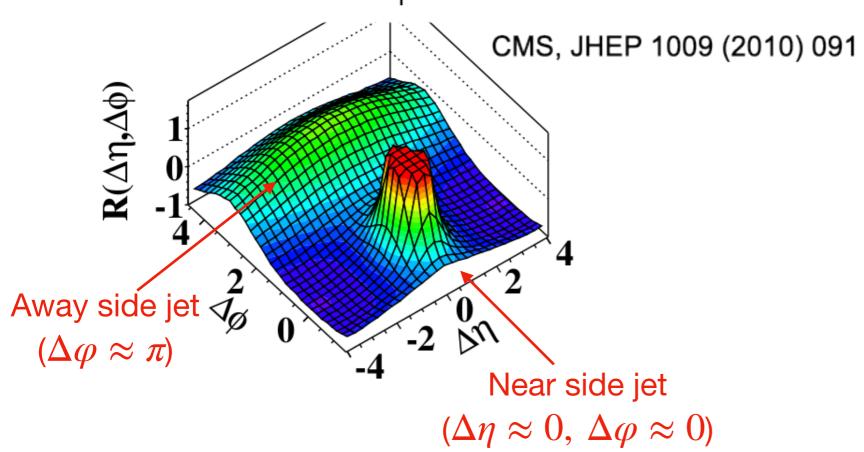
Alexandru Manea*, In collaboration with Sumit Basu, Catalina Brandibur, Andrea Danu, Alexandru Dobrin, Victor Gonzalez, Claude Pruneau

Erice International School of Nuclear Physics



Introduction

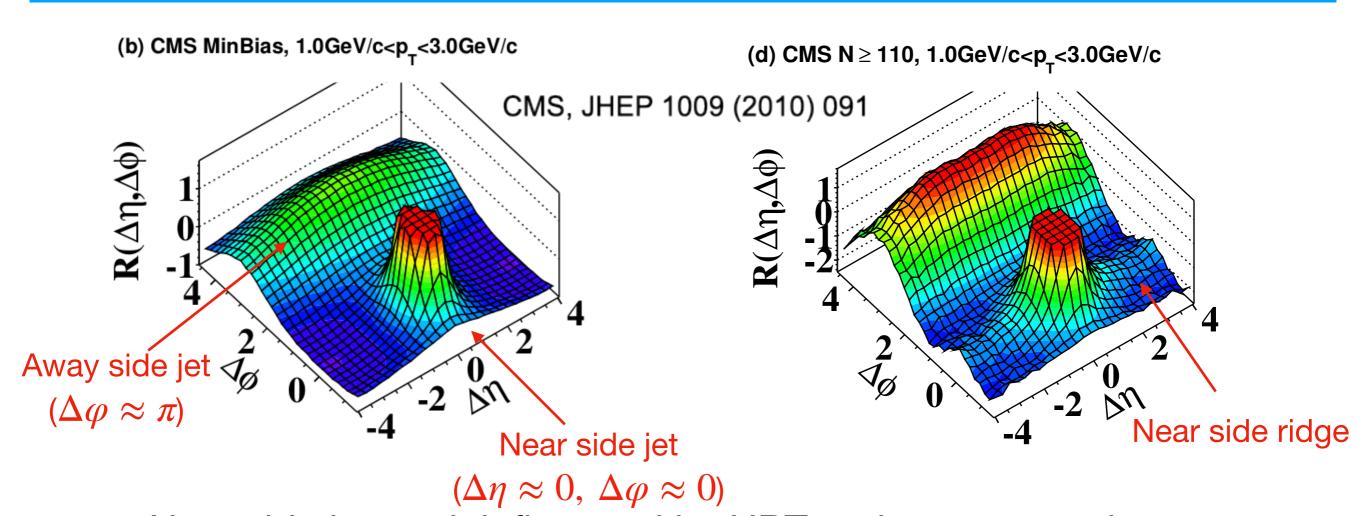
(b) CMS MinBias, $1.0 \text{GeV/c} < p_T < 3.0 \text{GeV/c}$



Near side jet peak influenced by HBT and resonance decay effects



Introduction



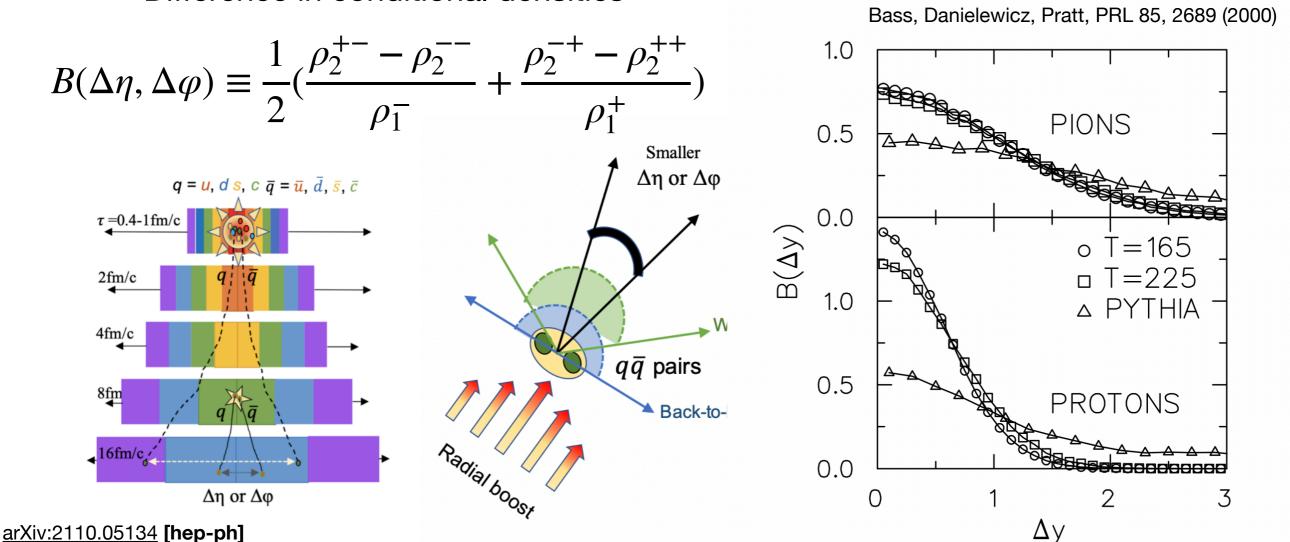
- Near side jet peak influenced by HBT and resonance decay effects
- Collective phenomena shown to exist in small collision systems
- Initial or final state effects?

Correlation measurements can help to distinguish between the two regimes



Clocking hadronization

Difference in conditional densities



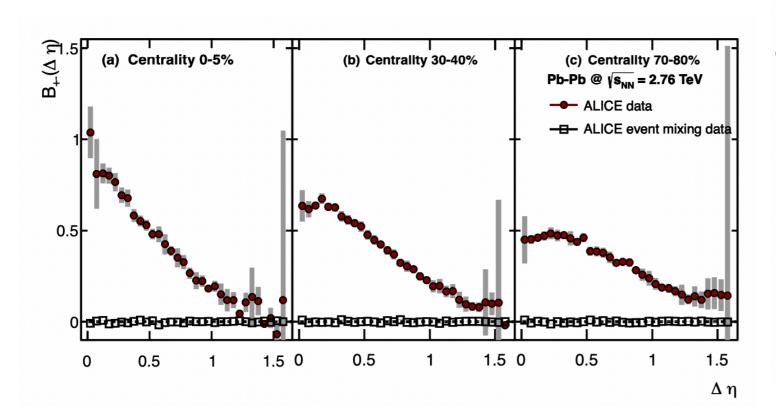
Measurement of correlations of charges with their respective anti-charge

Investigate late-stage hadronization and formation of quark-gluon plasma

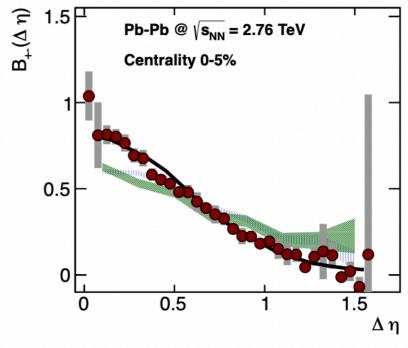


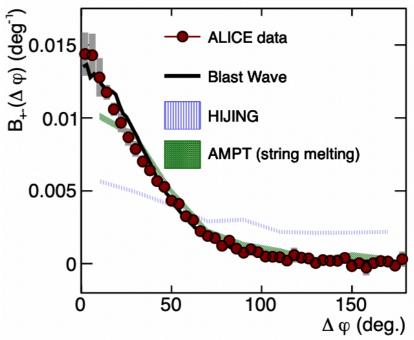
Balance function at ALICE and STAR

- Balance function reproduced by models with hydro evolution of medium
- Do correlations survive in thermal models as in QCD string ones?



<u>arXiv:1509.07255</u> [nucl-ex] <u>arXiv:1301.3756</u> [nucl-ex]



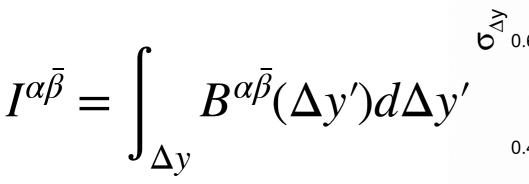


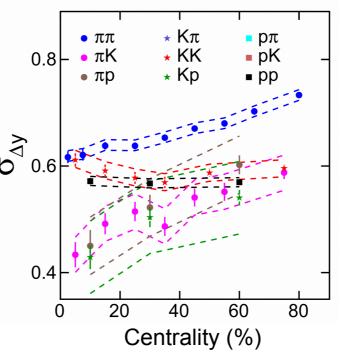


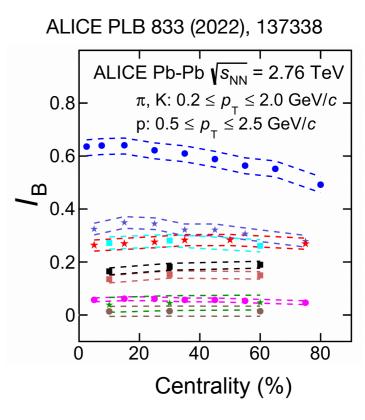
Integrals of Balance Function

• B^{KK} , B^{pp} almost independent of collision centrality in data mesurements of Pb-Pb collisions

 Cumulative integral of balance function







In full acceptance
$$I^{\alpha\beta}(4\pi) \to 1$$

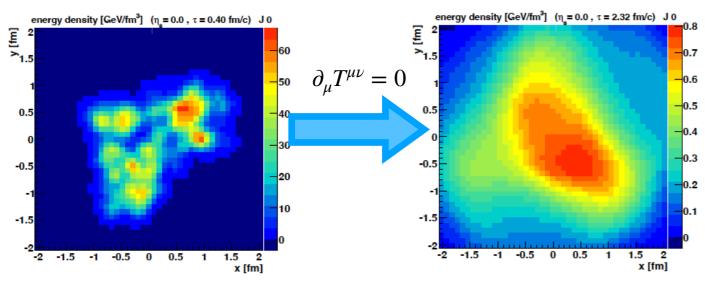
In finite acceptance it shows the degree to which charges are balanced -> affected by production and transport

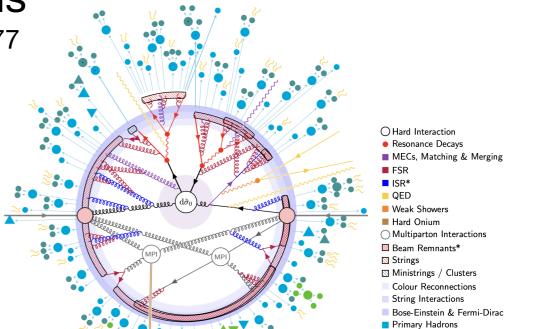


Monte Carlo Models

We look at two state of the art models







C. Bierlich et al., arXiv: 2203.11601

Secondary HadronsHadronic Reinteractions

- Macroscopic model:EPOS4
 - Core-corona model with statistical hadronization
 - Core is micro-canonical and conserves charges

- Microscopic model:PYTHIA8
 - QCD strings with LUND fragmentation
 - Implicit quantum number conservation

Difference in particle production mechanisms and system evolution results in different correlations



Generalized Balance Functions

General Balance Function definition

arXiv:2209.10420 [hep-ph]

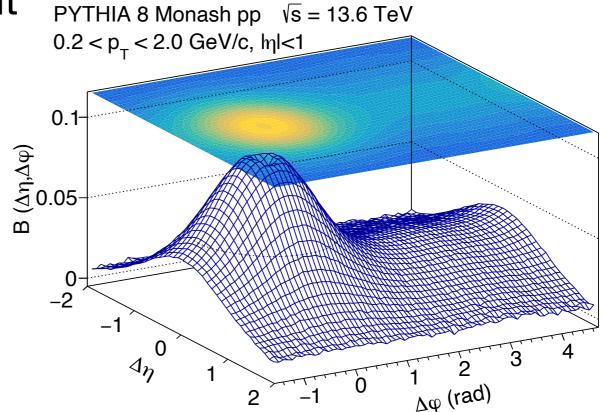
$$B(\Delta\eta,\Delta\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} \{ \rho_1^{\bar{\beta}} (R_2^{\alpha\bar{\beta}} - R_2^{\bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}}) + \rho_1^{\beta} (R_2^{\bar{\alpha}\beta} - R_2^{\alpha\beta}) \}$$

Normalized second order cumulant

$$R_2^{\alpha\beta}(\Delta\eta,\Delta\varphi) = \frac{\rho_2^{\alpha\beta}(\Delta\eta,\Delta\varphi)}{\rho_1^{\alpha}\rho_1^{\beta}} - 1$$

$$\rho_2^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{d^2 N^{\alpha\beta}}{d\Delta \eta d\Delta \varphi}$$

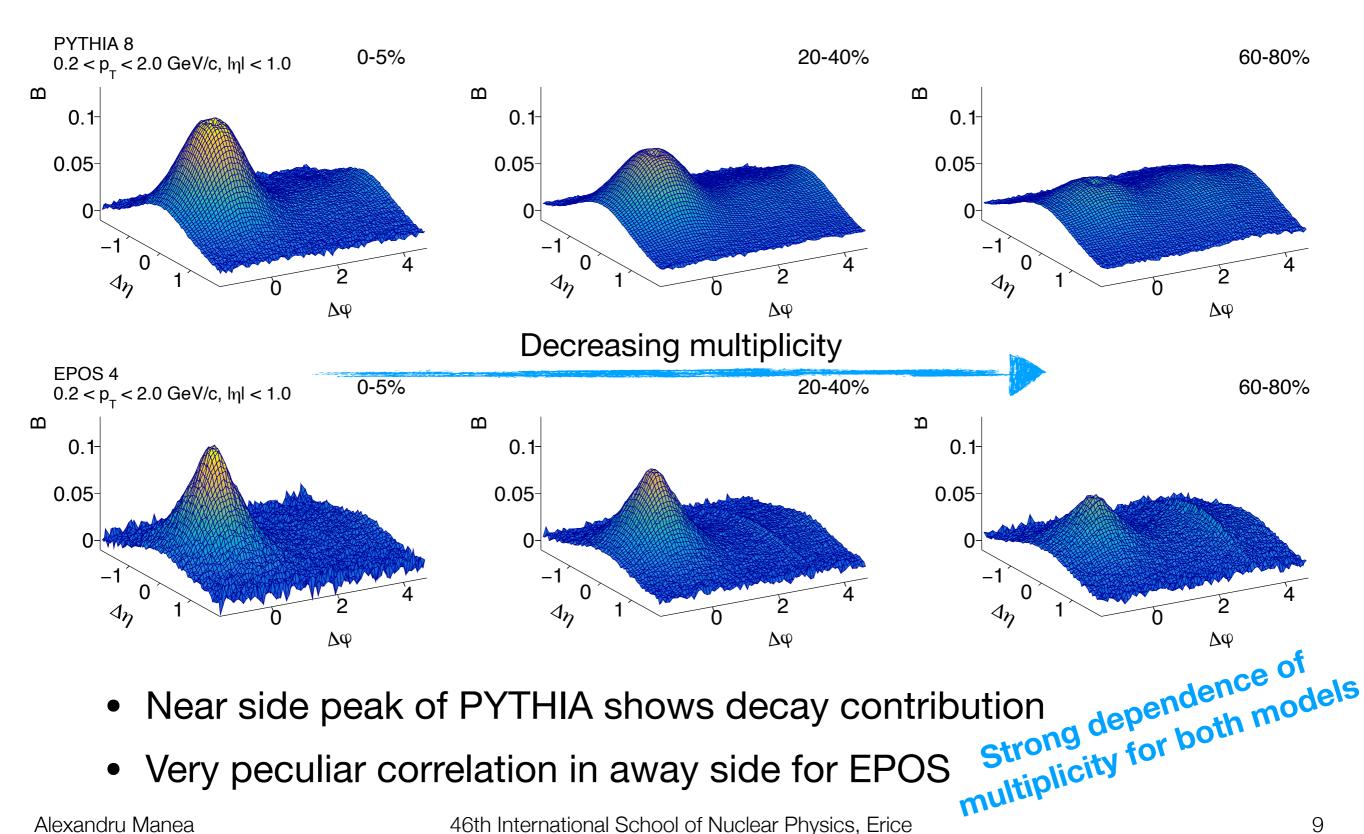
$$\rho_1^{\alpha} = \frac{d^2 N^{\alpha}}{d\eta d\varphi}$$



This method is not affected by acceptance factors and robust against efficiency corrections



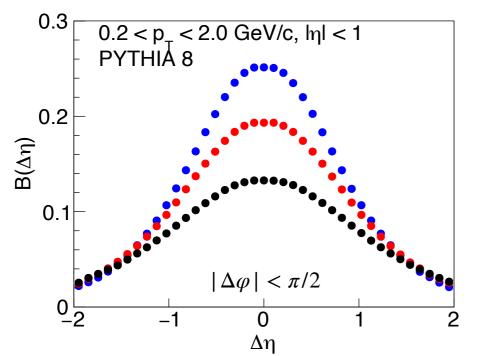
Charge Balance Function

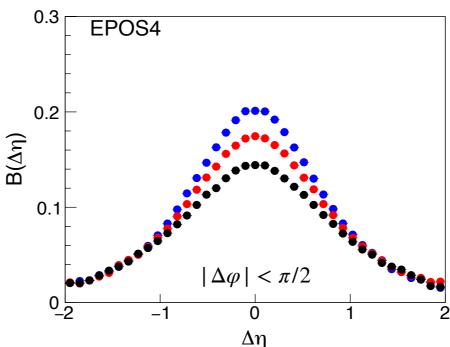


- Near side peak of PYTHIA shows decay contribution
- Very peculiar correlation in away side for EPOS



Projections of Charge BF



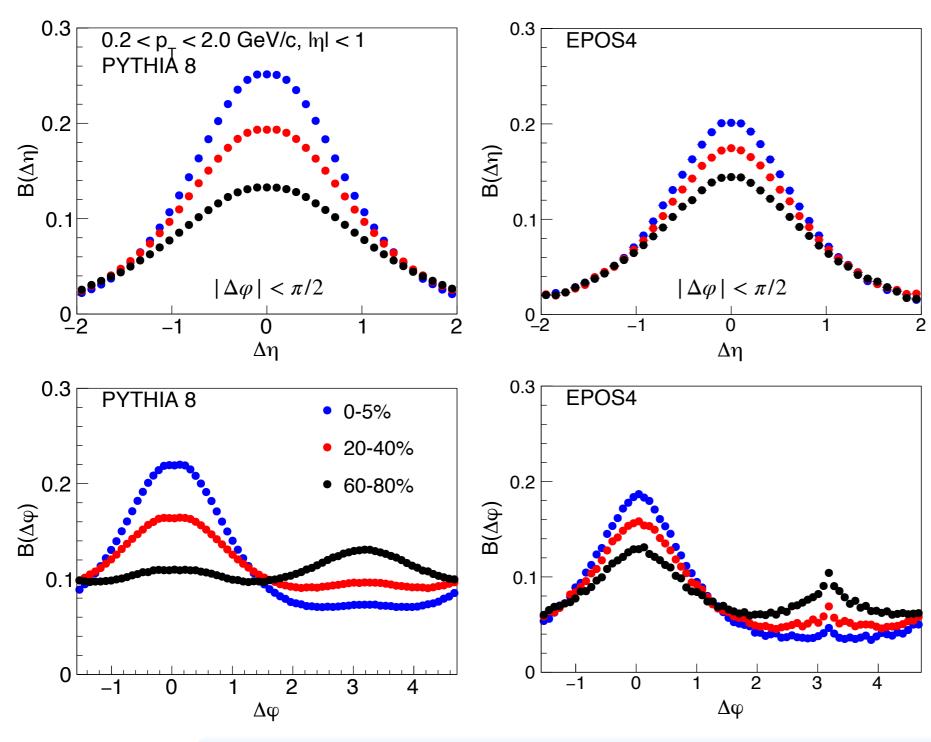


Scaling of near side peak is different

Widths of projections are similar but evolve differently with multiplicity



Projections of Charge BF



Scaling of near side peak is different

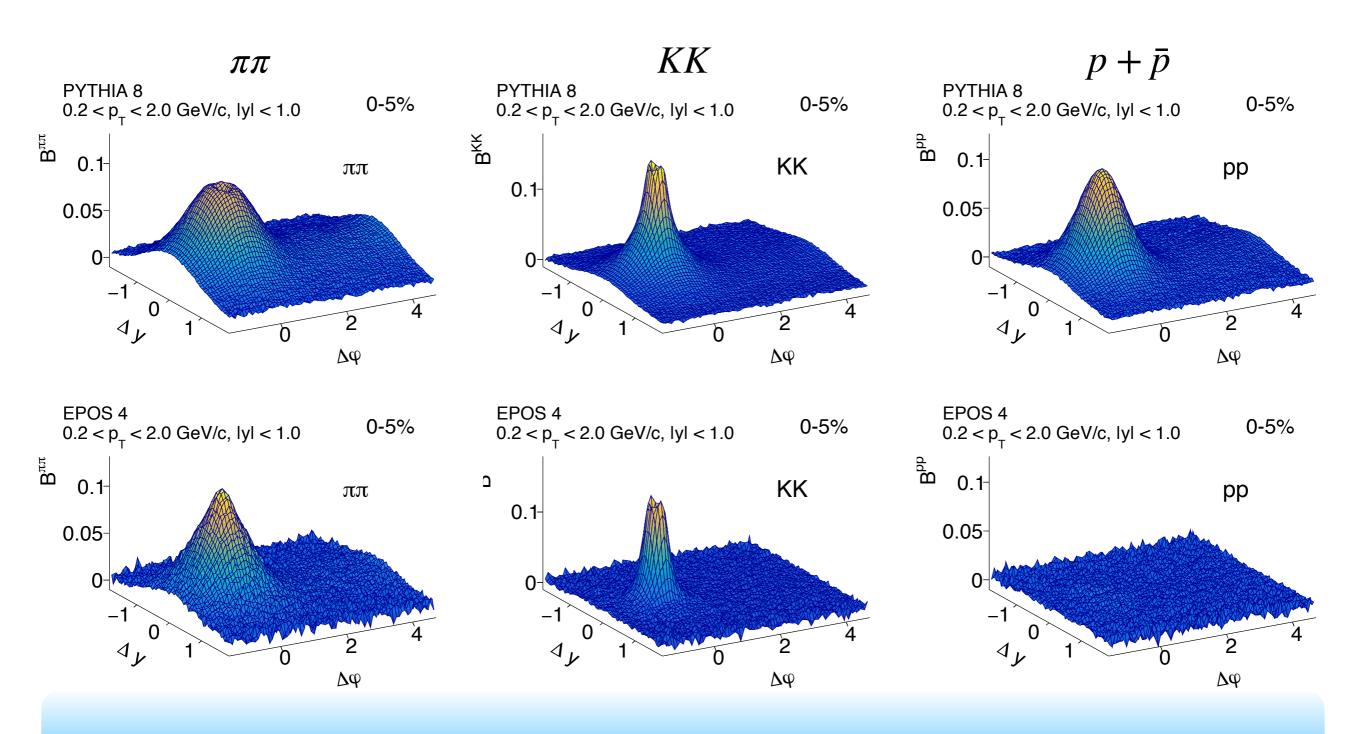
Widths of projections are similar but evolve differently with multiplicity

Unexpected structure in away side seen in EPOS -> depends on multiplicity

Impact of micro-canonical decay in EPOS?



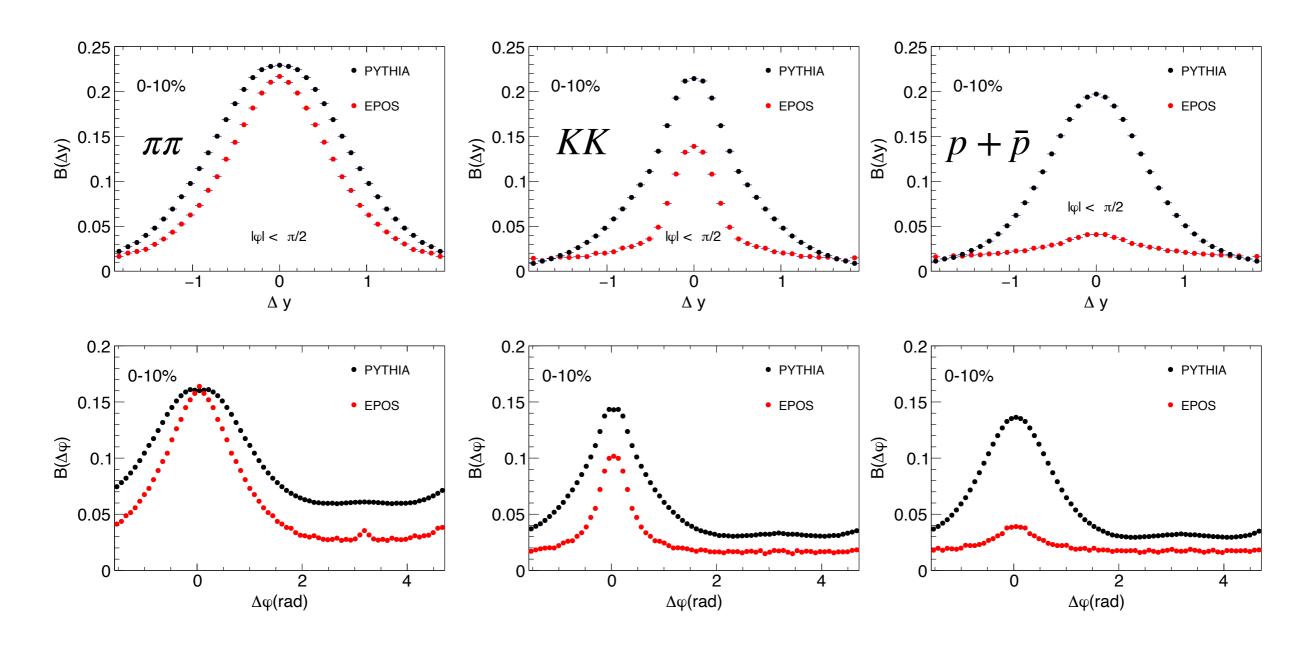
Identified Particle BF



Particle balancing shows underlying production mechanisms



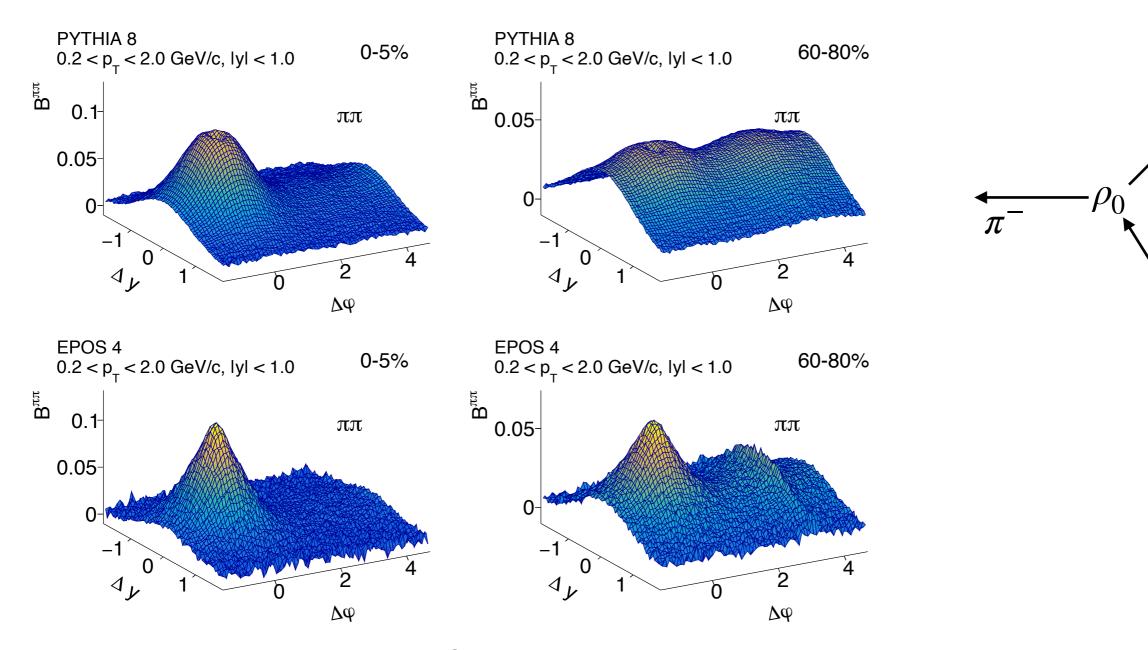
Identified Particle BF



- Essentially flat away side for kaons and protons in EPOS
- Proton balancing shows divergence of models for baryon balancing



$\pi\pi$ balance with multiplicity



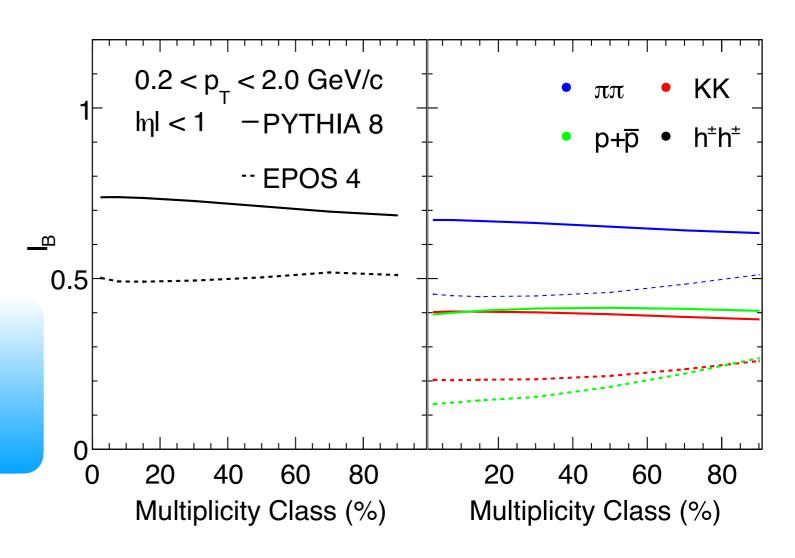
- Anti-correlation for pions in low multiplicity collisions
- EPOS increases correlation strength in the away side



Integrals of Balance Function

 Cumulative integral of balance function

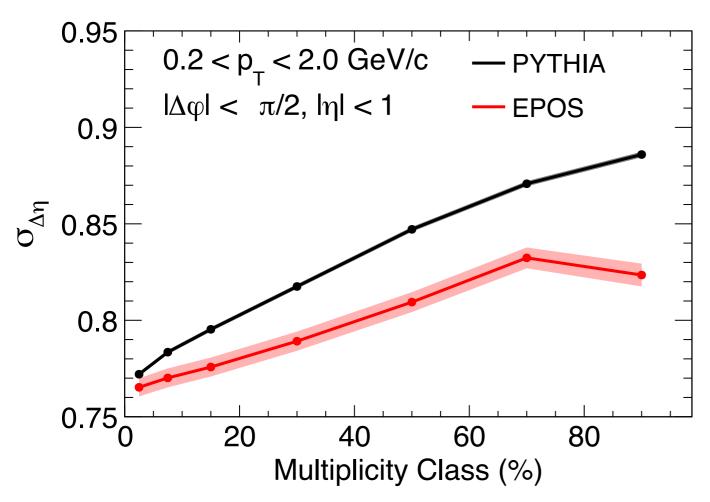
$$I^{\alpha\bar{\beta}} = \int_{\Delta y} B^{\alpha\bar{\beta}}(\Delta y') d\Delta y'$$



 Charged particles almost independent of collision multiplicity Different balancing trends for PYTHIA and EPOS with growing multiplicity



Longitudinal width of charge BF



$$\sigma_{\Delta\eta}^{2} = \frac{\sum_{i,j} [O(\Delta\eta_{i}, \Delta\varphi_{j}) - O_{offset}] \Delta\eta_{i}^{2}}{\sum O(\Delta\eta_{i}, \Delta\varphi_{j})}$$

- Width evolution with multiplicity is showing unexpected trend in PYTHIA
- Widths estimate the near side peak



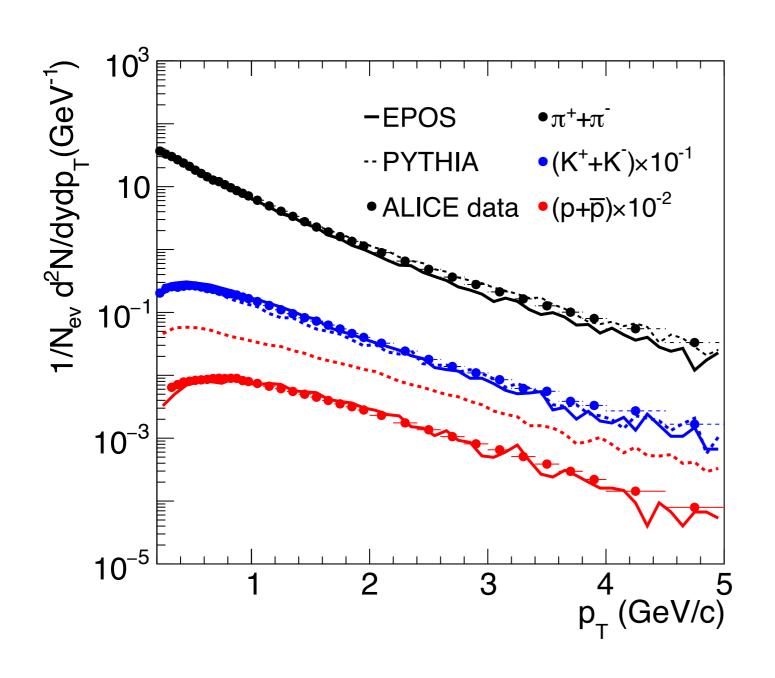
Summary

- Different models can be distinguished from balance function measurements
- Evidence for different decay mechanisms
- Opposite trends for integrals
- Extensive measurements of balance functions can improve models



Back-up



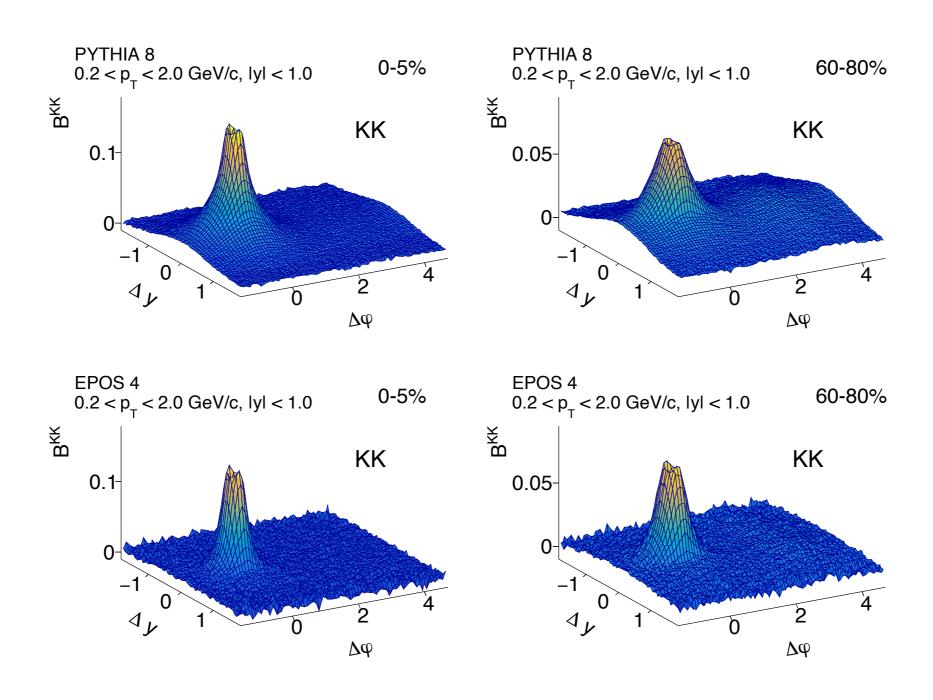


Multiplicity Class	$\langle p_T angle$		$\sigma_{\Delta\eta} \ ({ m GeV}/c)$	
Model	PYTHIA	EPOS	PYTHIA	EPOS
0-5%	0.680	0.688	0.772	0.765
5-10%	0.669	0.671	0.783	0.770
10-20%	0.655	0.659	0.795	0.775
20-40%	0.627	0.638	0.817	0.789
40-60%	0.592	0.597	0.847	0.809
60-80%	0.564	0.556	0.870	0.832
80-100%	0.547	0.533	0.885	0.823

 $\langle p_{\rm T} \rangle$ evolution with multiplicity -> decrease with multiplicity



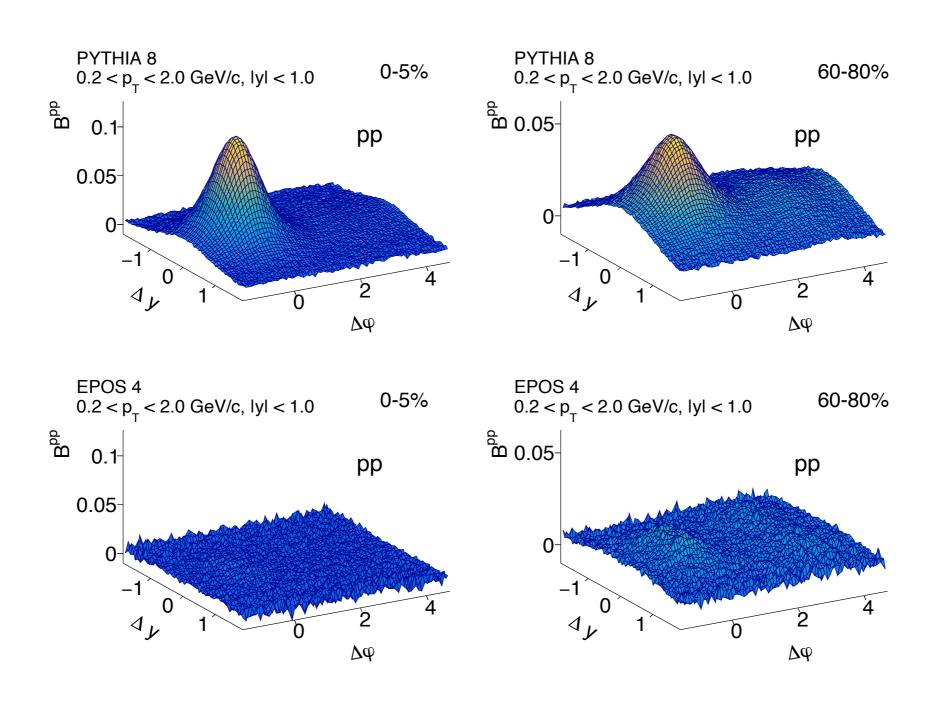
KK balance with multiplicity



EPOS increases correlation strength in the away side



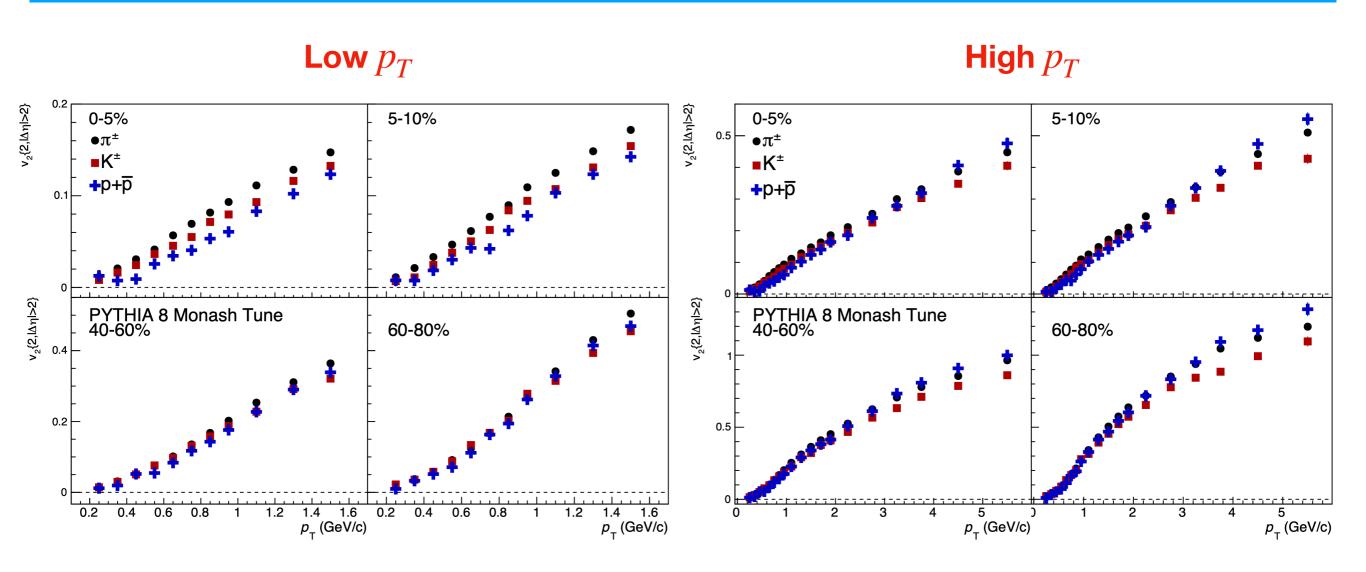
$p + \bar{p}$ balance with multiplicity



PYTHIA is very different from EPOS



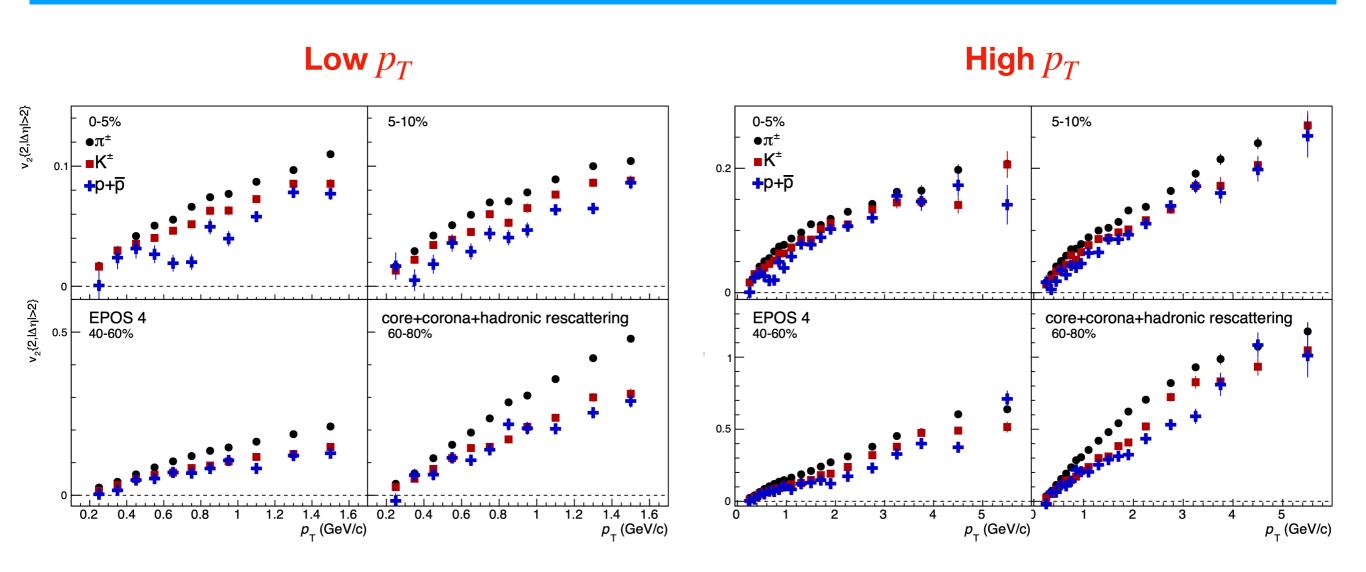
$v_2\{2, |\Delta\eta| > 2\}$ Monash tune



- Mass ordering at low p_T at high ullet multiplicity
- Crossing between baryon and meson v_2
- Evolution with multiplicity class
 No particle type grouping



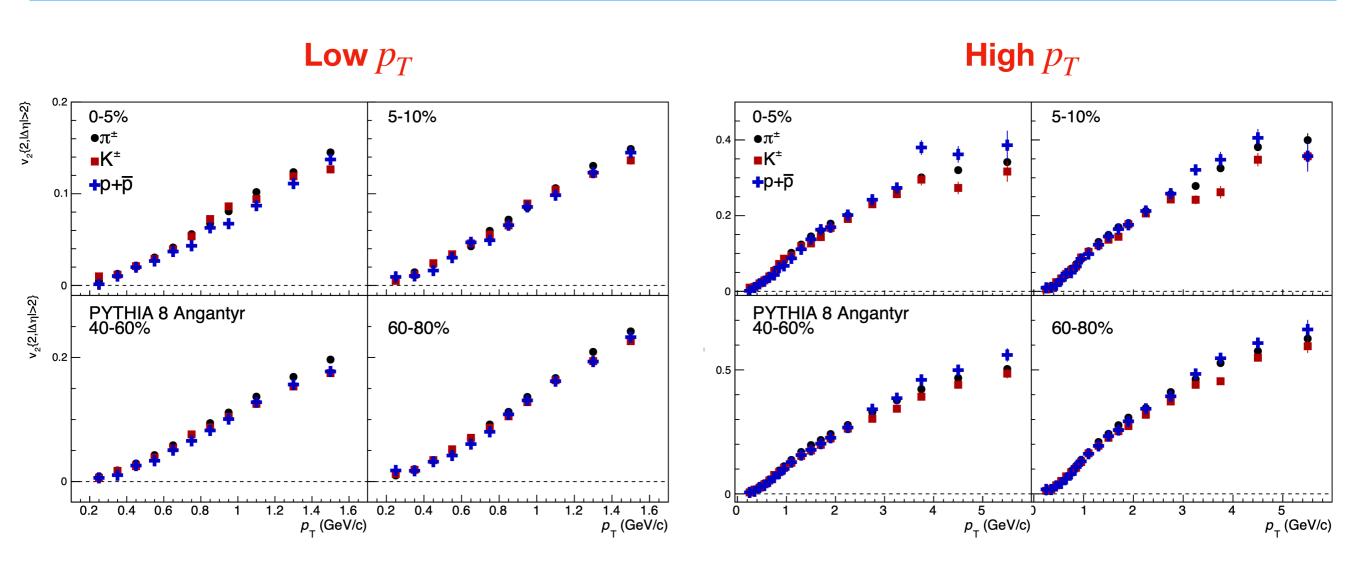
$v_2\{2, |\Delta \eta| > 2\}$ EPOS 4



- Mass ordering at low p_T at high multiplicity
- No crossing between pion and proton v_2
- Evolution with multiplicity class
 No particle type grouping



$v_2\{2, |\Delta\eta| > 2\}$ Angantyr



- Heavier particles have smaller v_2 than lighter ones
- Similarities between multiplicity classes
- Crossing between pion and proton v_2
- No particle type grouping