

# Early measurement of $V^0$ production cross-section ratios at LHCb

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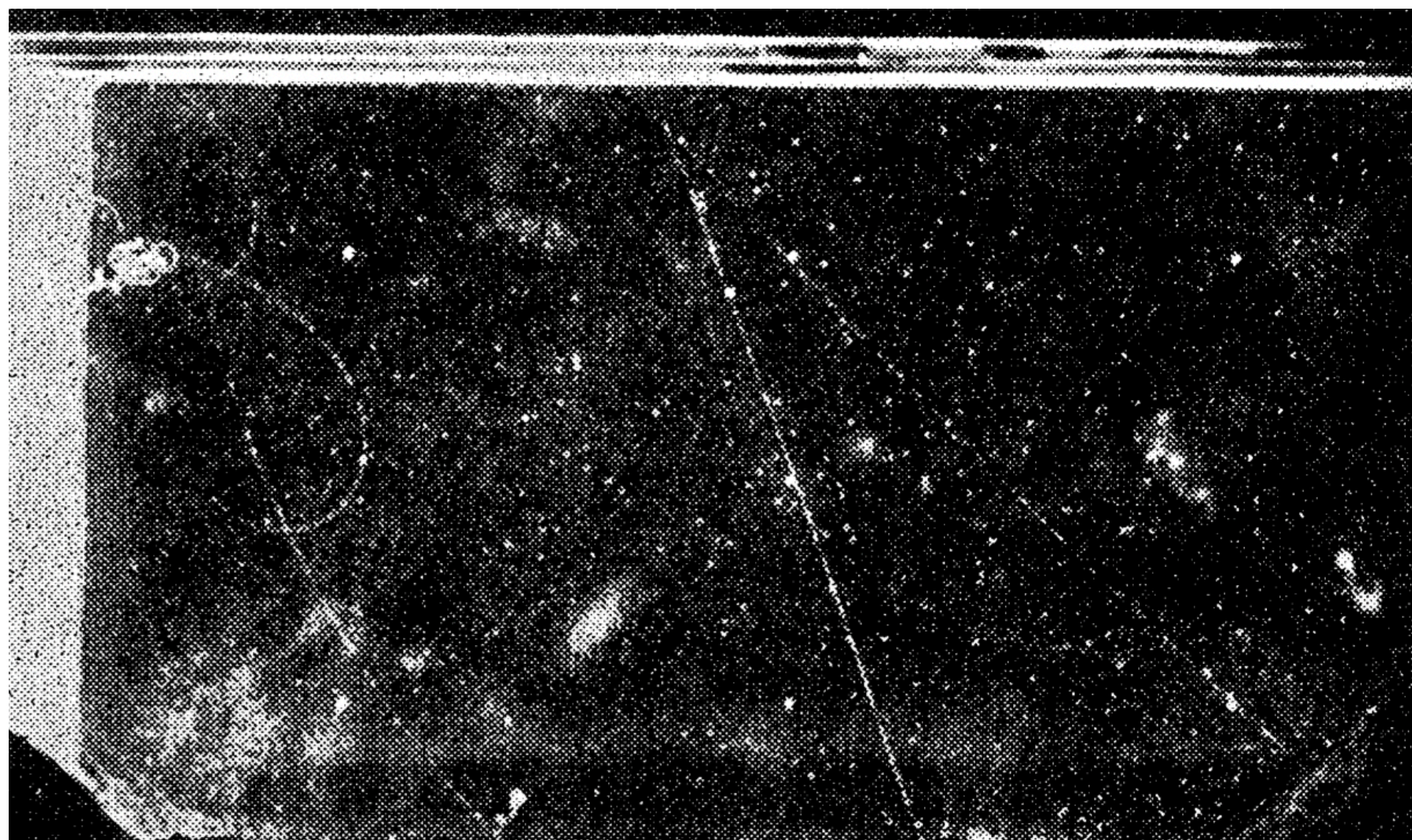
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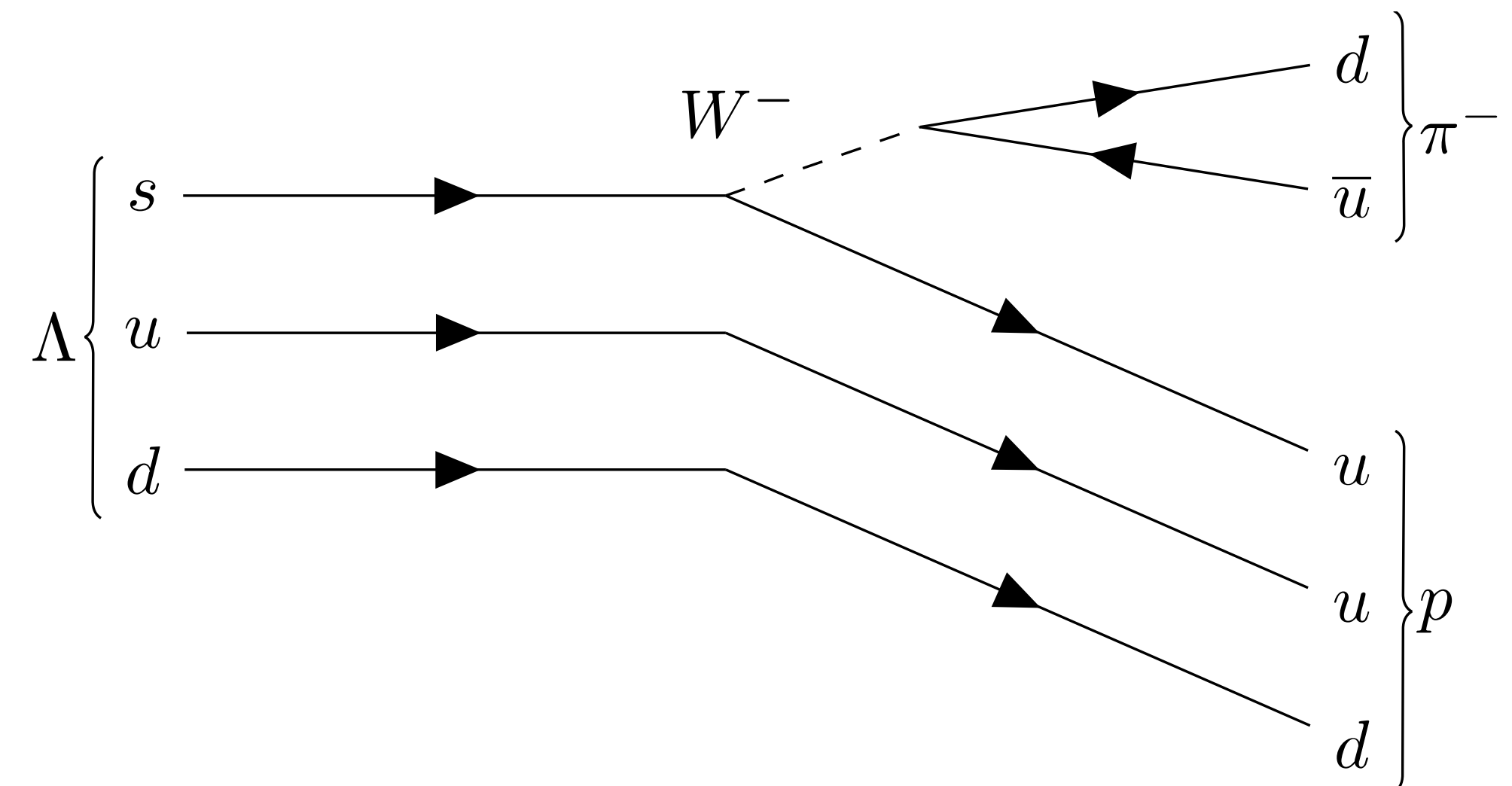
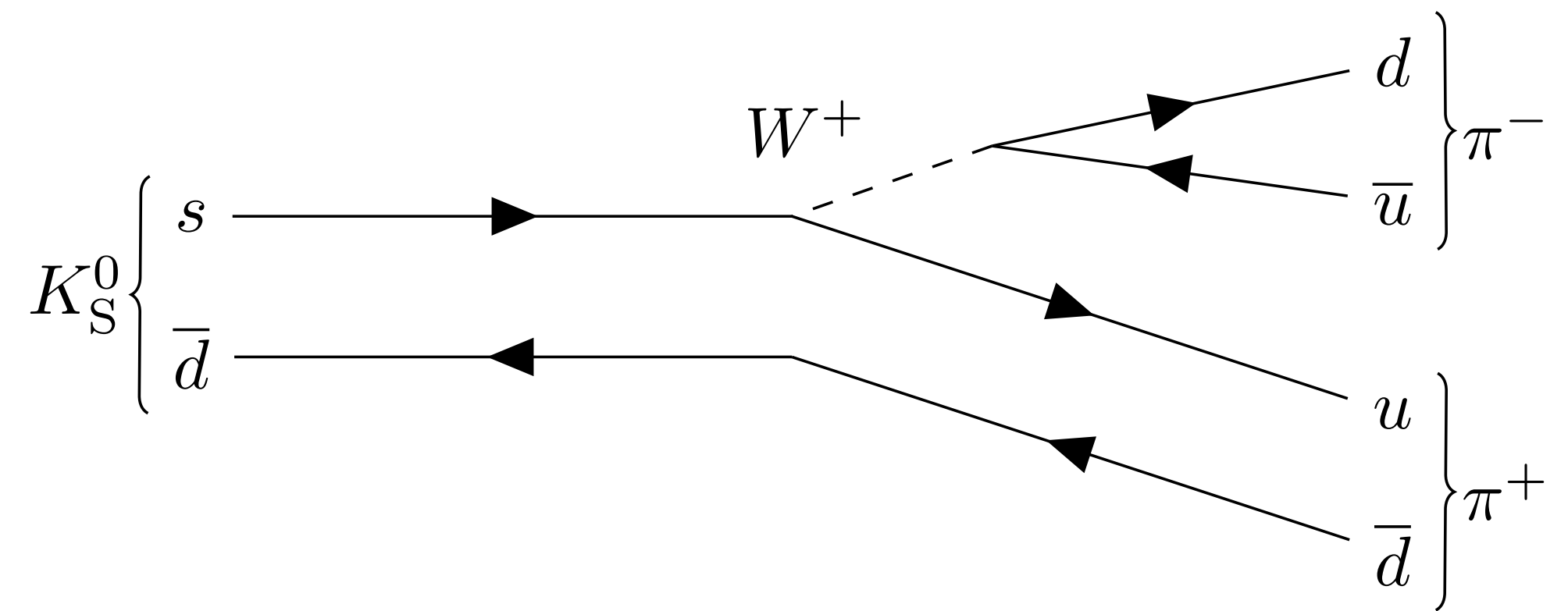
SFB 1491 general assembly, 9th November 2023

# $V^0$ hadrons

- Long-lived neutral particles weakly decaying into two charged hadrons
- Displaced decay topology
  - $\tau(K_S^0/\Lambda^0) \approx 0.9/2.6 \times 10^{-10}$  s vs.  $\tau(B^0) \approx \mathcal{O}(10^{-12})$  s
- Huge cross-sections ( $\mathcal{O}(1$  b) vs.  $\sigma(b) \approx \mathcal{O}(100 \mu\text{b})$ )
  - $K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$  ( $\Gamma_i/\Gamma \approx 69.2\%$ )
  - $\Lambda^0 \rightarrow p\pi^- + \bar{\Lambda}^0 \rightarrow \bar{p}\pi^+$  ( $\Gamma_i/\Gamma \approx 63.9\%$ )
- Small phase space, soft  $p$ ,  $p_T$  spectra
  - Lower reconstruction efficiency than  $b, c$



R. B. Leighton, S. D. Wanlass, and C. D. Anderson, The decay of  $V^0$  particles, Phys. Rev. 89, 148 (1953).



# Why strangeness → Two motivations

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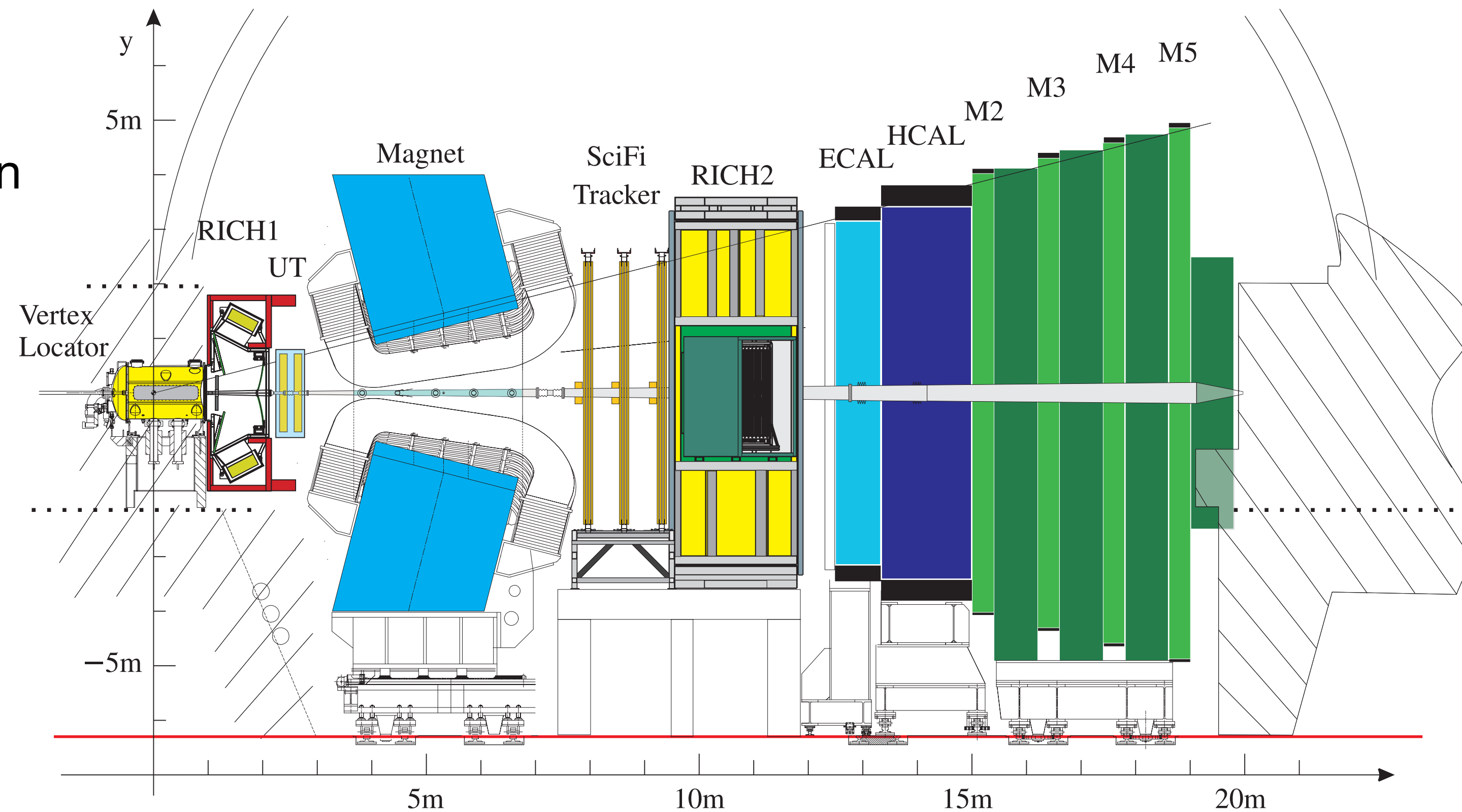
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1. Detector commissioning (short-term)

# Why strangeness → Two motivations

## 1. Detector commissioning (short-term)

- 5x higher  $\mathcal{L}$  in Run 3
  - Major upgrades of hard- and software
- $V^0$  measurement allows unbiased evaluation of detector performance, especially the tracking
- Also analyse Run 2 data for comparison

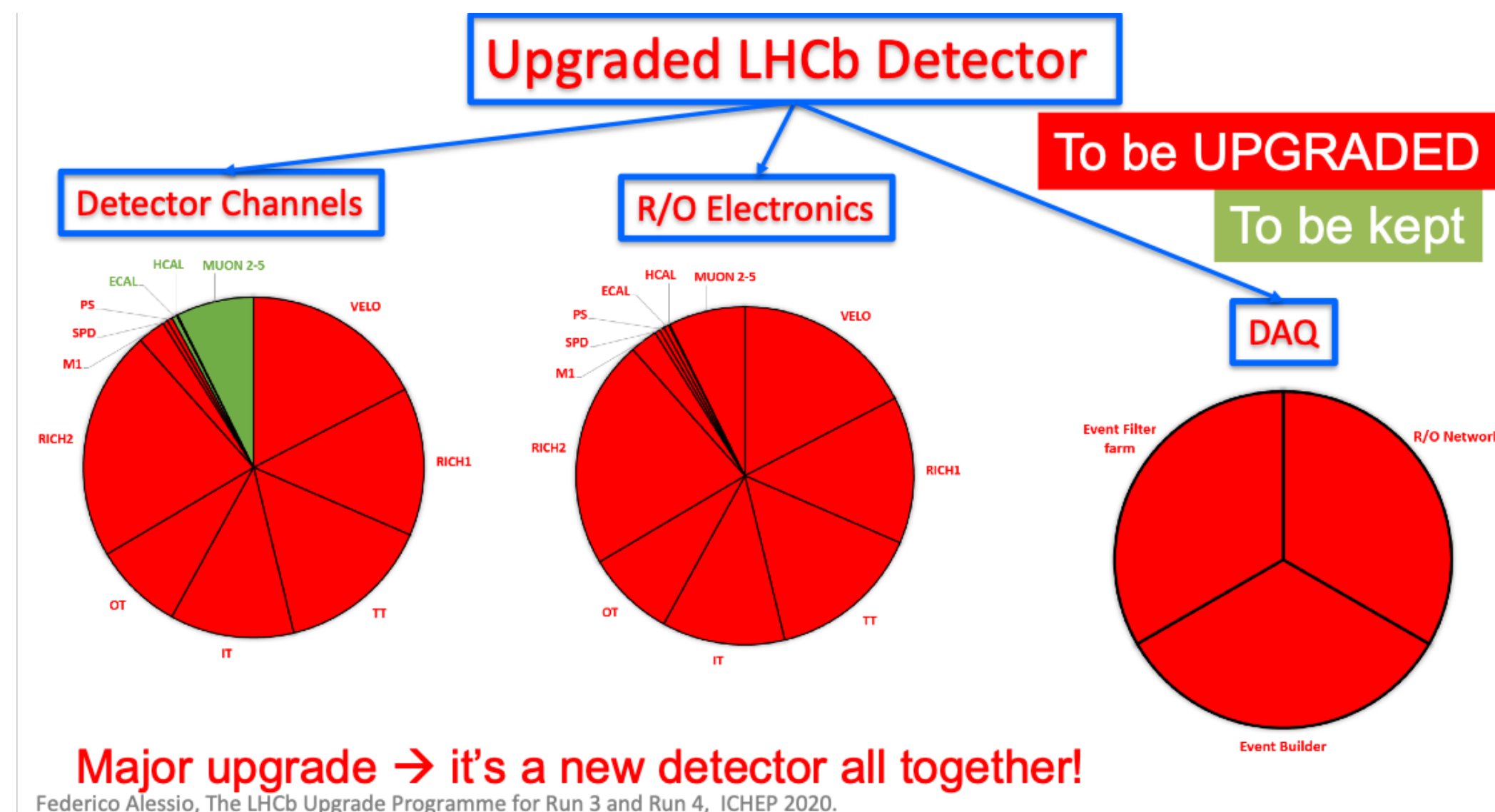
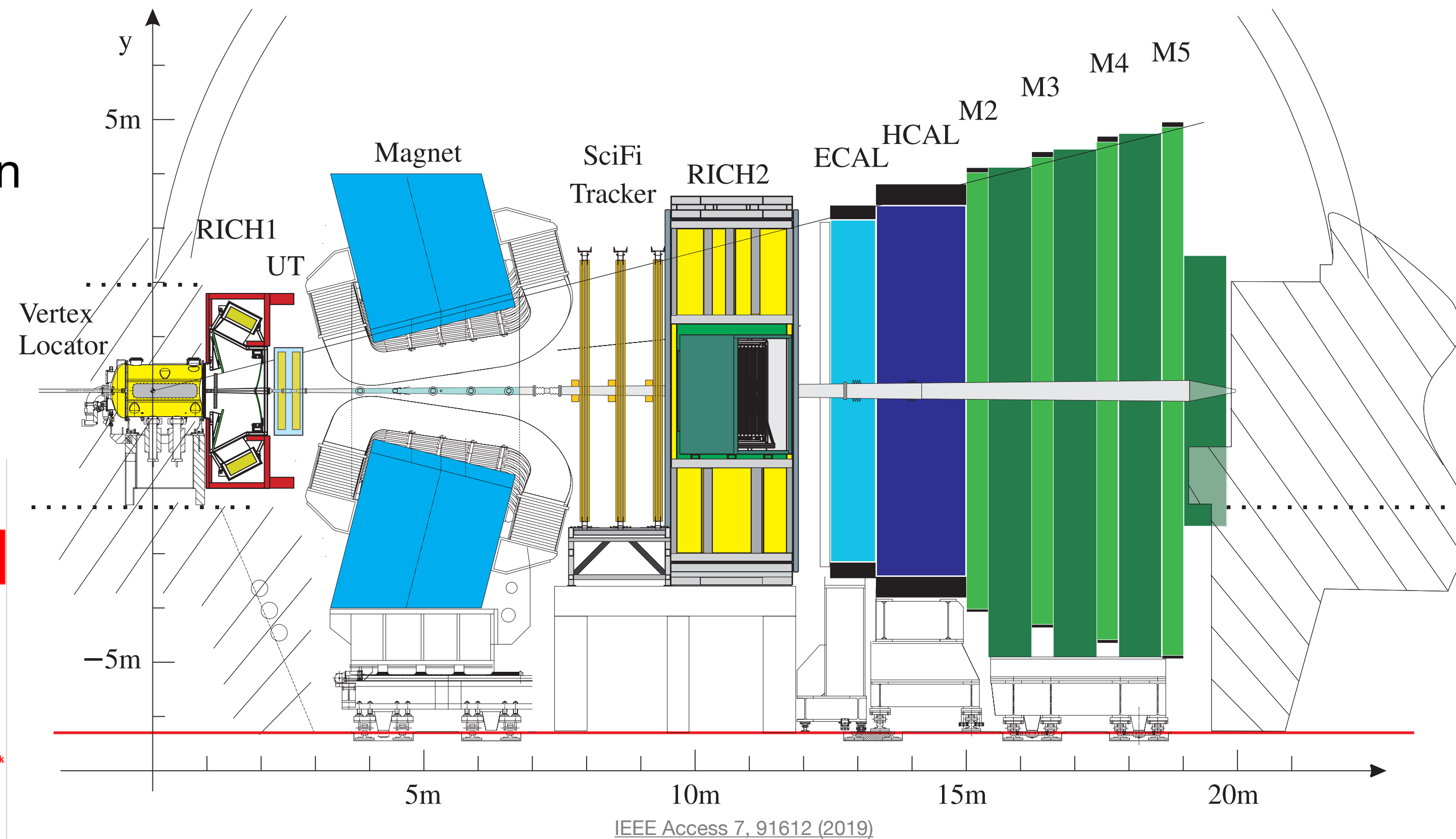


P. Fernandez Declara, D.H. Perez Campora, J. Garcia-Blas, D. Vom Bruch, J.D. Garcia, N. Neufeld, IEEE Access 7, 91612 (2019).

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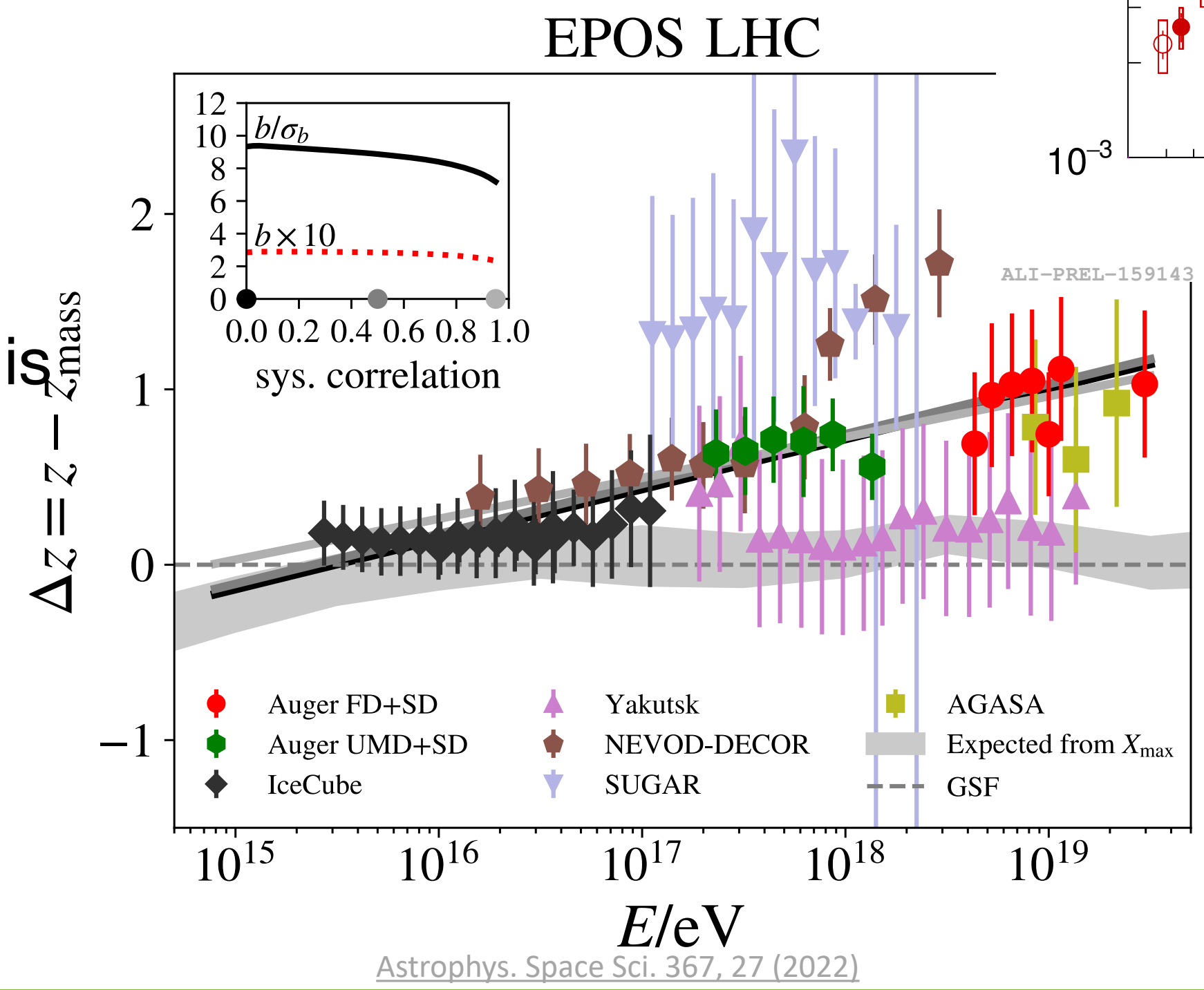
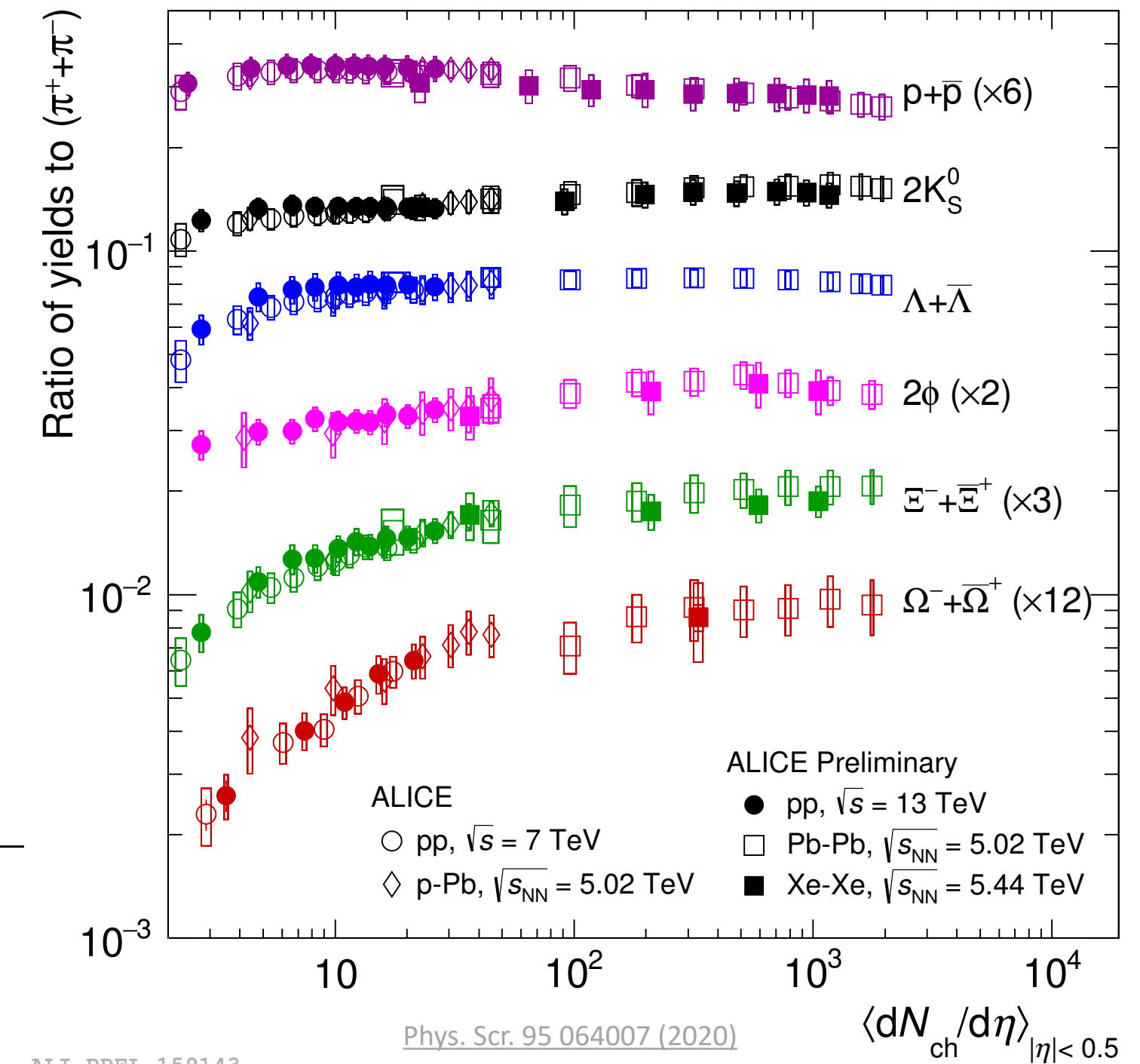
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2. Strangeness enhancement (long-term)

# Why strangeness → Two motivations

1. Detector commissioning (short-term)
2. Strangeness enhancement (long-term)

- Strange hadron production → non-perturbative QCD
- Enhancement of strange-hadron production in high-multiplicity events observed by ALICE Nature Phys. 13 (2017) 535-539
- Possible solution of “muon puzzle” in astroparticle physics
- Muon number also sensitive to meson-to-baryon-ratio

→ LHCb offers unique environment to test this



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# $V^0$ cross-section ratios

Cancels in ratios

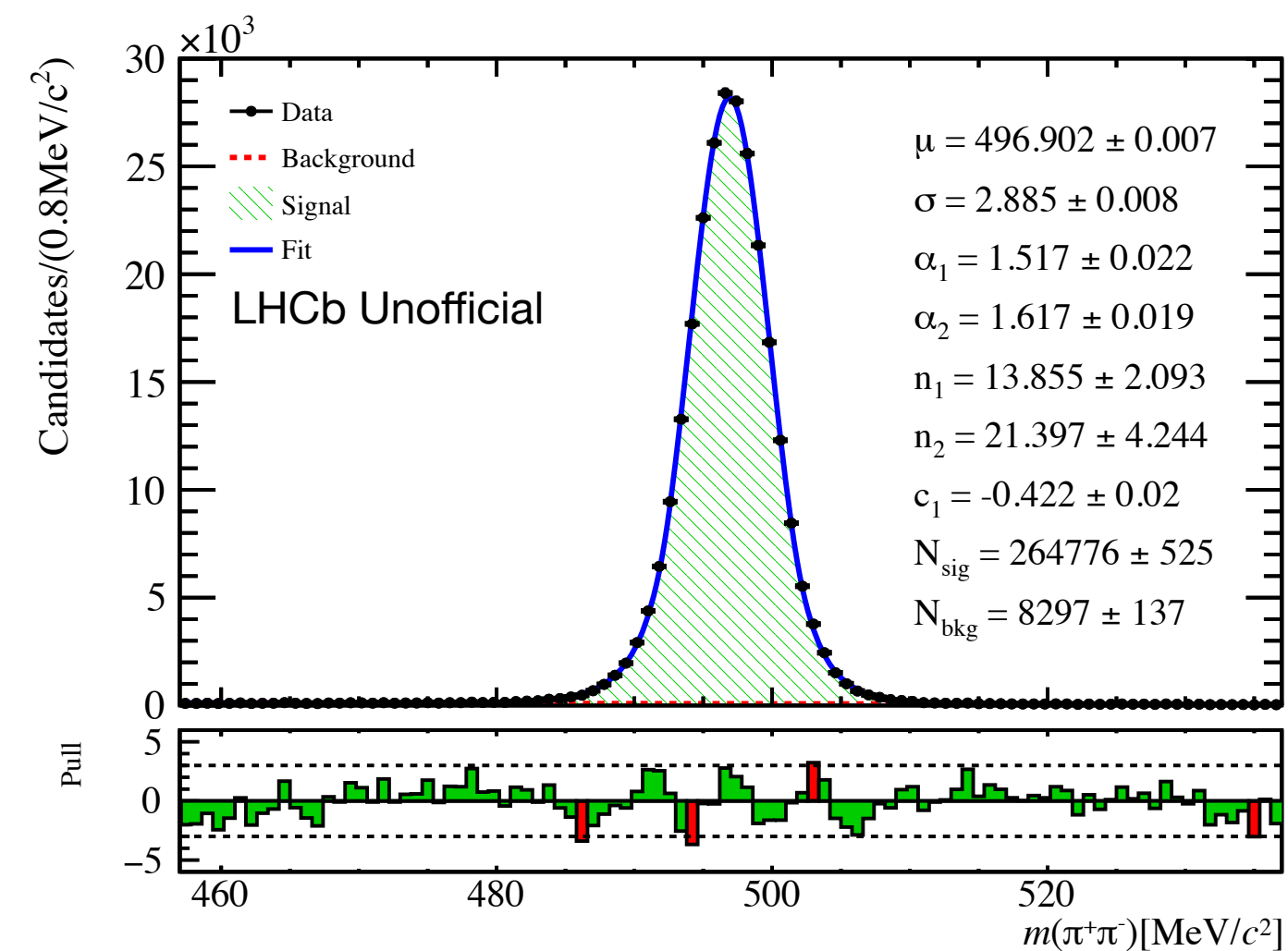
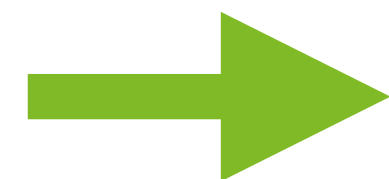
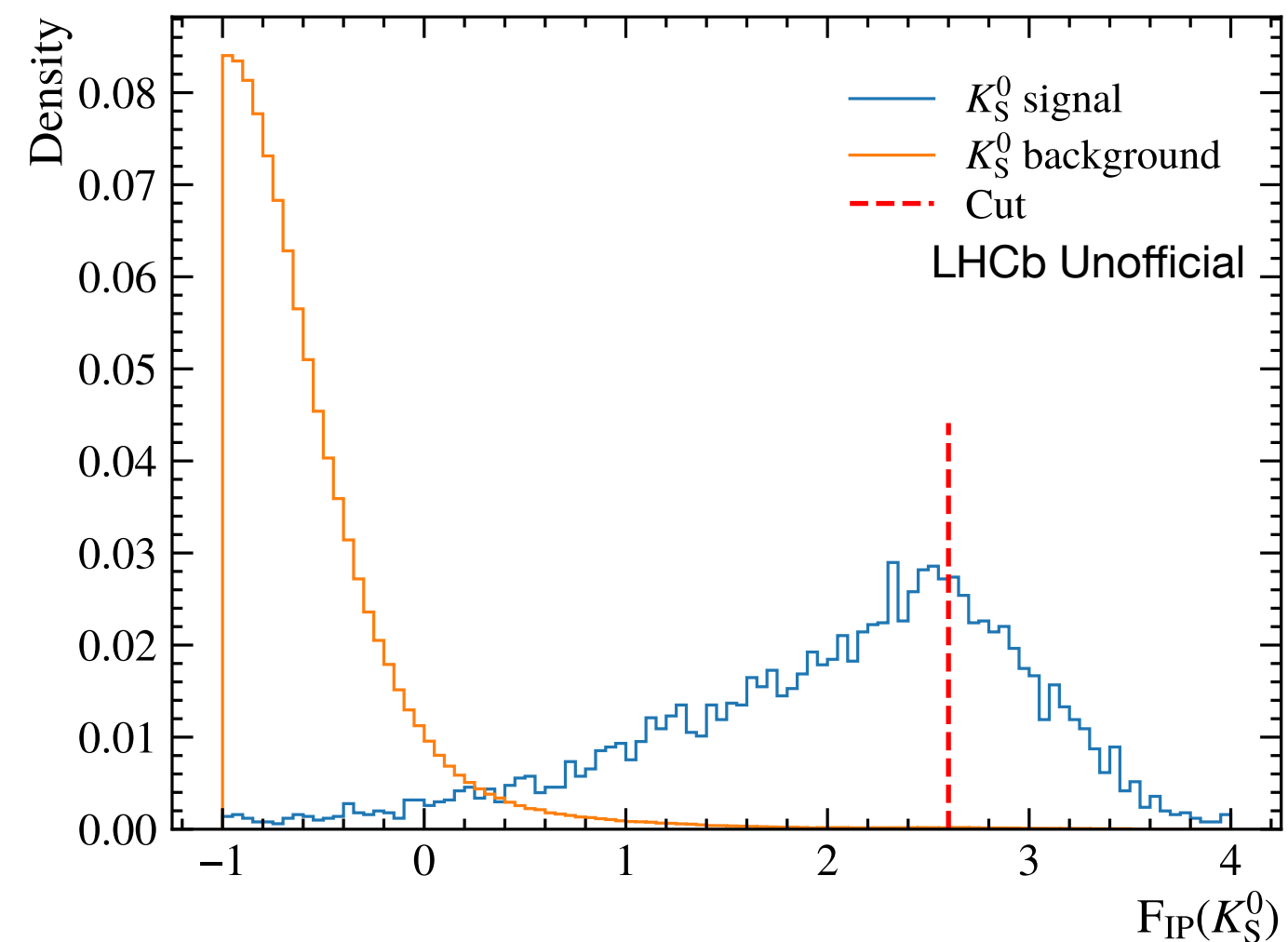
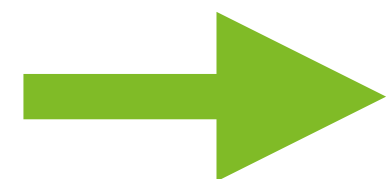
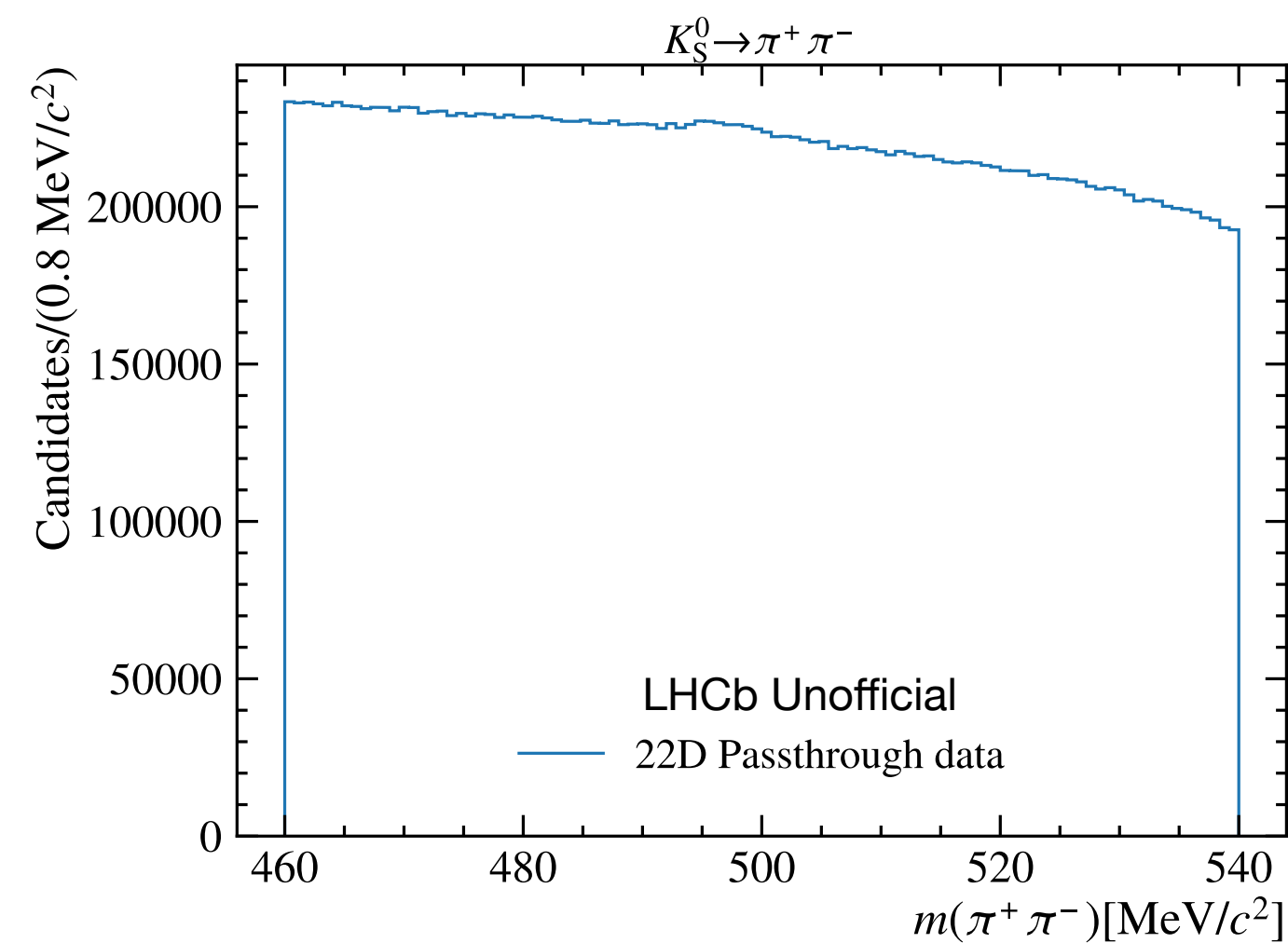
>1M  $V^0$  decays from few minutes  
of data taking in nominal conditions  
+ good background rejection

No trigger efficiencies

$$R(\bar{\Lambda}^0, K_S^0) = \frac{\sigma(pp \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda}^0 X)}{\sigma(pp \rightarrow K_S^0 X)} = \frac{\mathcal{L} N(\bar{\Lambda}^0 \rightarrow \bar{p}\pi^+) \epsilon_{K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-} \mathcal{B}(K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-)}{\mathcal{L} N(K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-) \epsilon_{\bar{\Lambda}^0 \rightarrow \bar{p}\pi^+} \mathcal{B}(\bar{\Lambda}^0 \rightarrow \bar{p}\pi^+)}$$

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# $V^0$ candidates



- Data recorded in 90 s ( $78 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ )
- Pairs of tracks leaving hits in VELO + SciFi and forming vertex

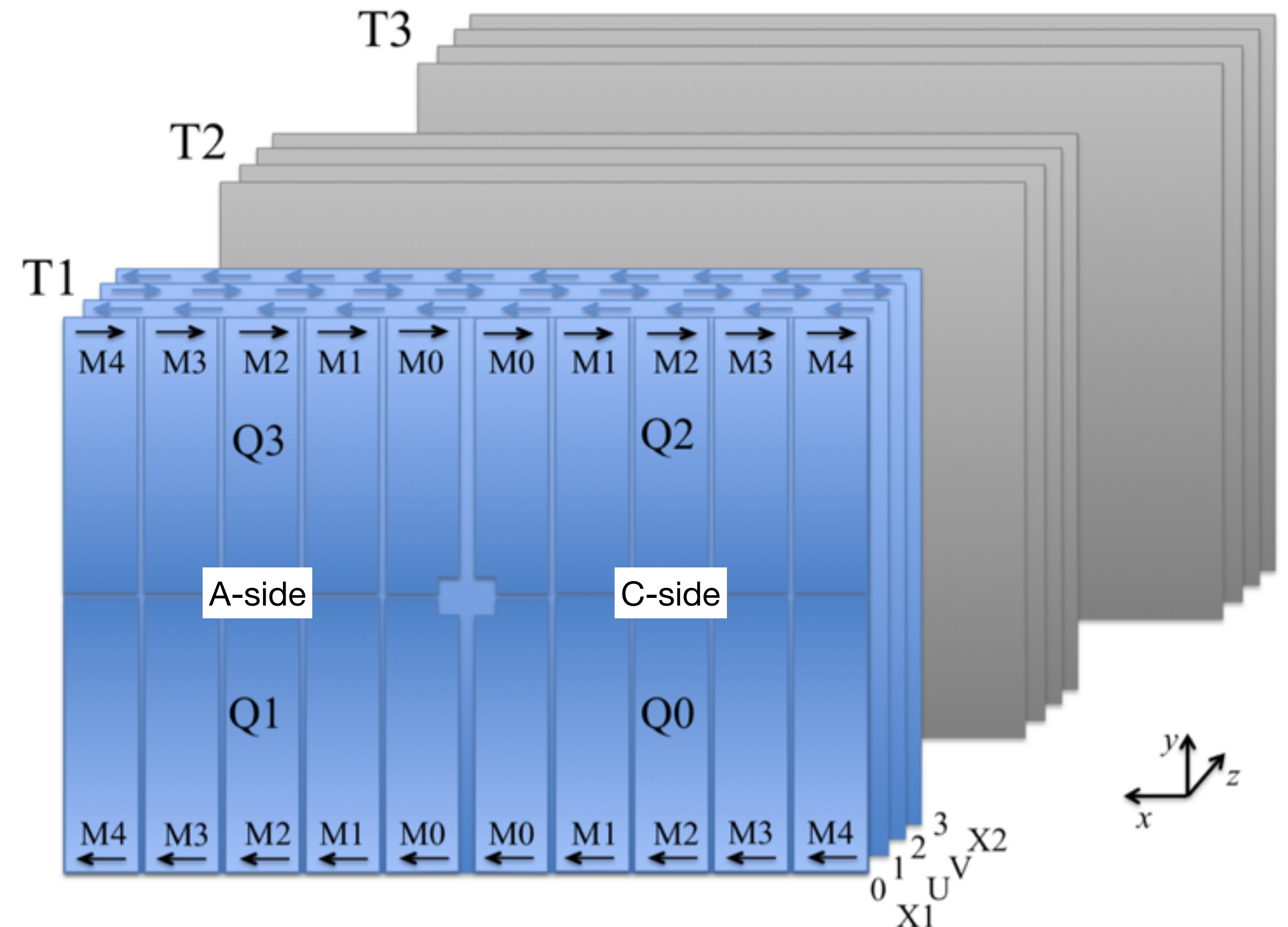
- Cut optimised in Run 2 analysis
- $\mathcal{F}_{\text{IP}}(K_S^0/\Lambda^0) > 2.6/1.5$
- Additional cut  $\text{IP}(\Lambda^0) < 0.13 \text{ mm}$  to suppress hyperon ( $\Xi^0, \Xi^-$ ) contributions

- Signal yield + mass resolution highly dependent on spatial detector alignment

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{IP}}(V^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^{(\prime)-}) = \log_{10}(\text{IP}(h^+)) + \log_{10}(\text{IP}(h^{(\prime)-})) - \log_{10}(\text{IP}(V^0))$$

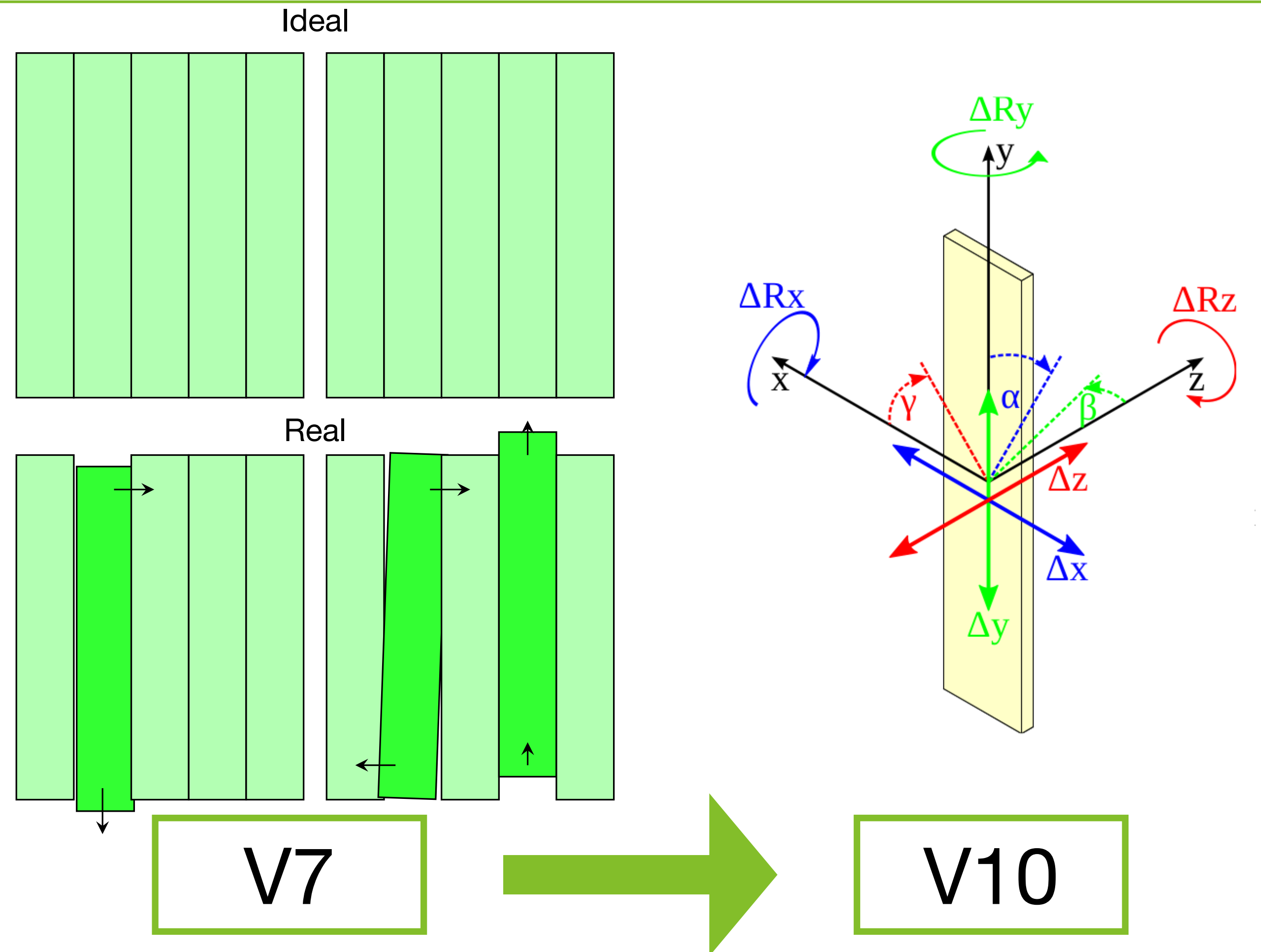
# SciFi Tracker

- 3 tracking stations
- 4 layers per station
  - U, V rotated by  $\mp 5^\circ$
- Divided into 4 quarters in  $x$ - $y$ -plane
  - A- ( $x > 0$ ) and C-side ( $x < 0$ )
  - Top ( $y > 0$ ) and bottom half ( $y < 0$ )
- Each side persists of 5 modules (6 for T3) with 2x4 fibre mats each separated by a mirror at  $y = 0$



# SciFi Spatial Alignment

- Real detector does not resemble ideal detector perfectly
  - Need to find translations and rotations of detector elements from ideal position (applies to all subdetectors)

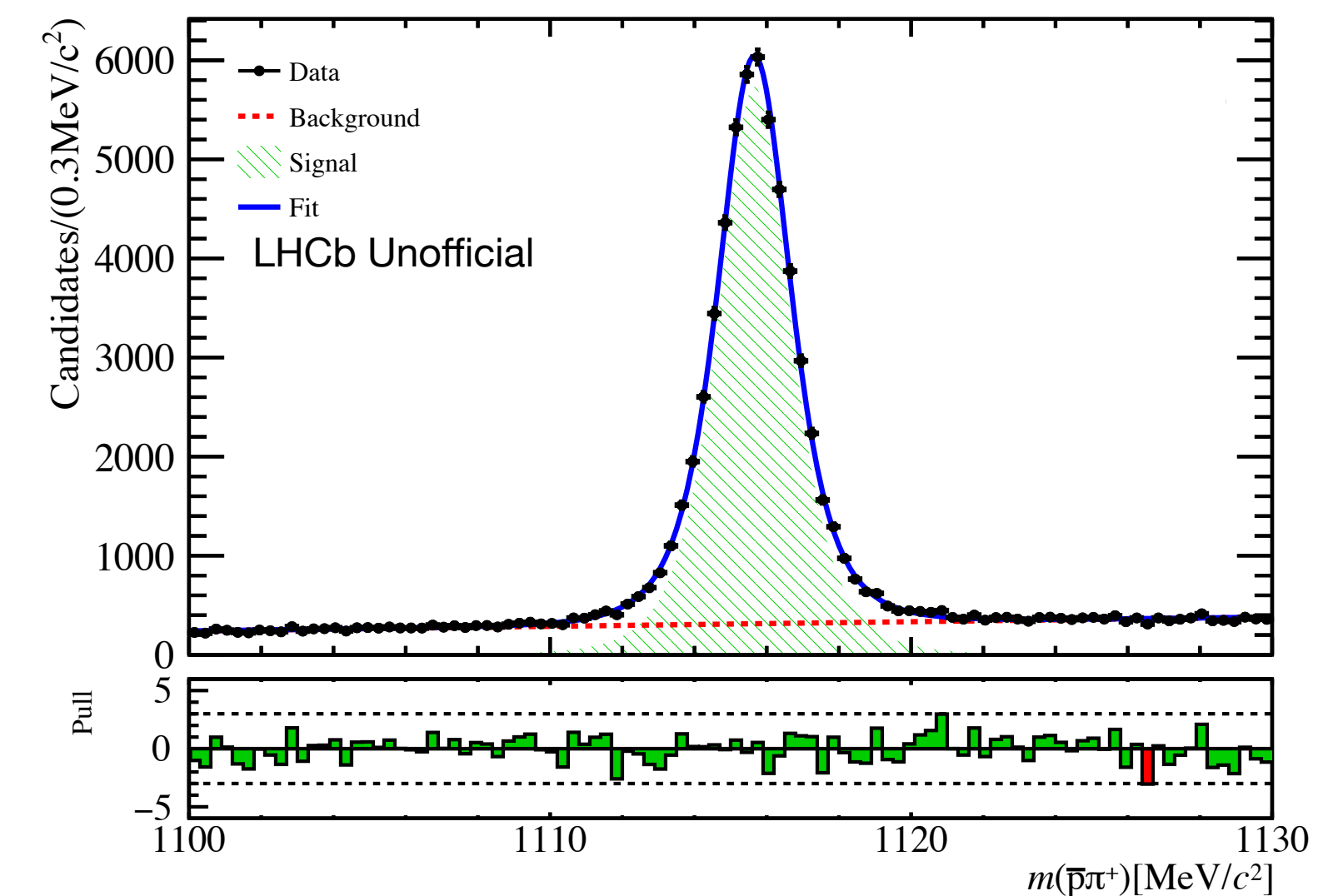
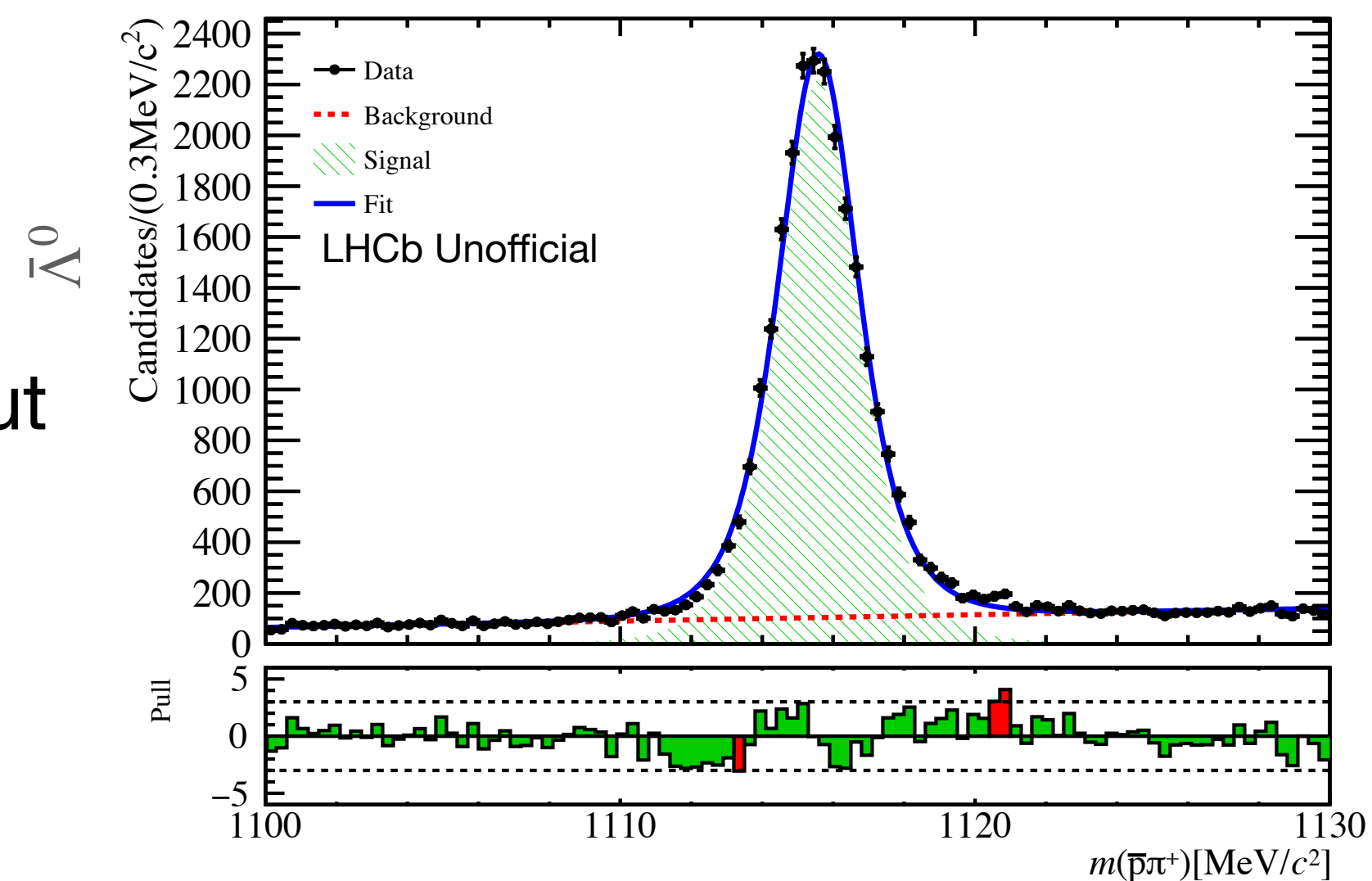
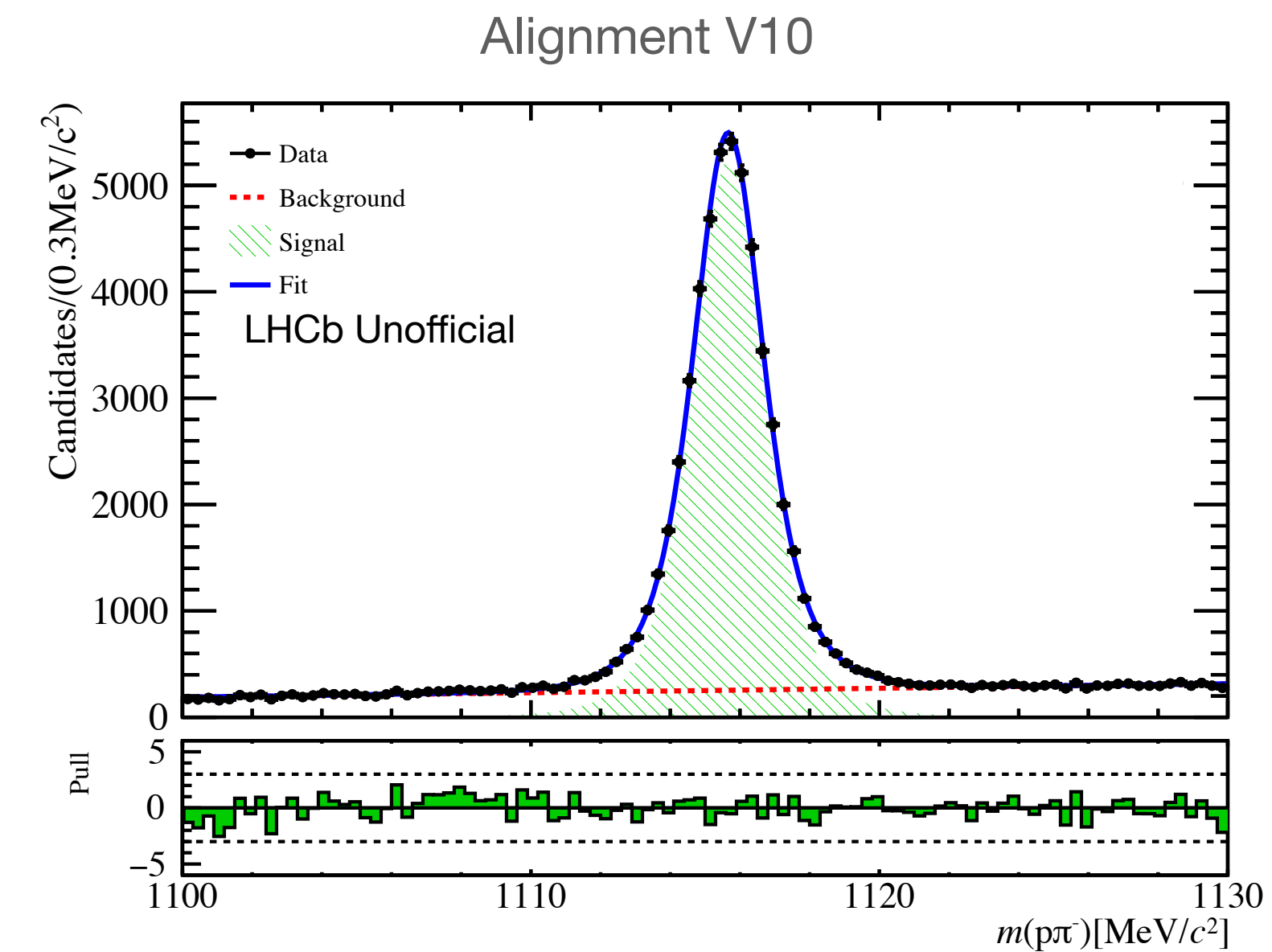
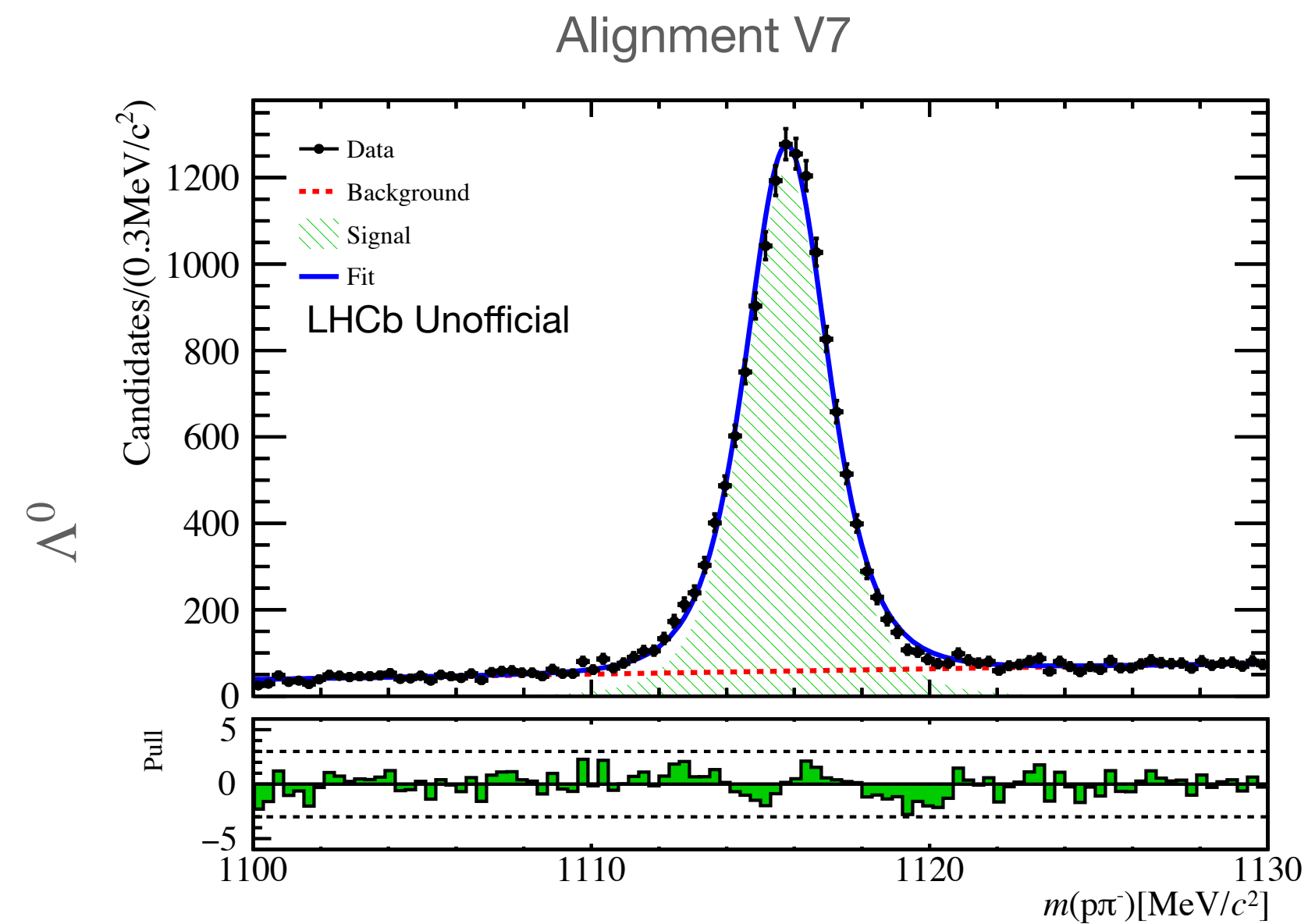


- SciFi v2 half-module alignment ( $\Delta x, \Delta R_z$ )

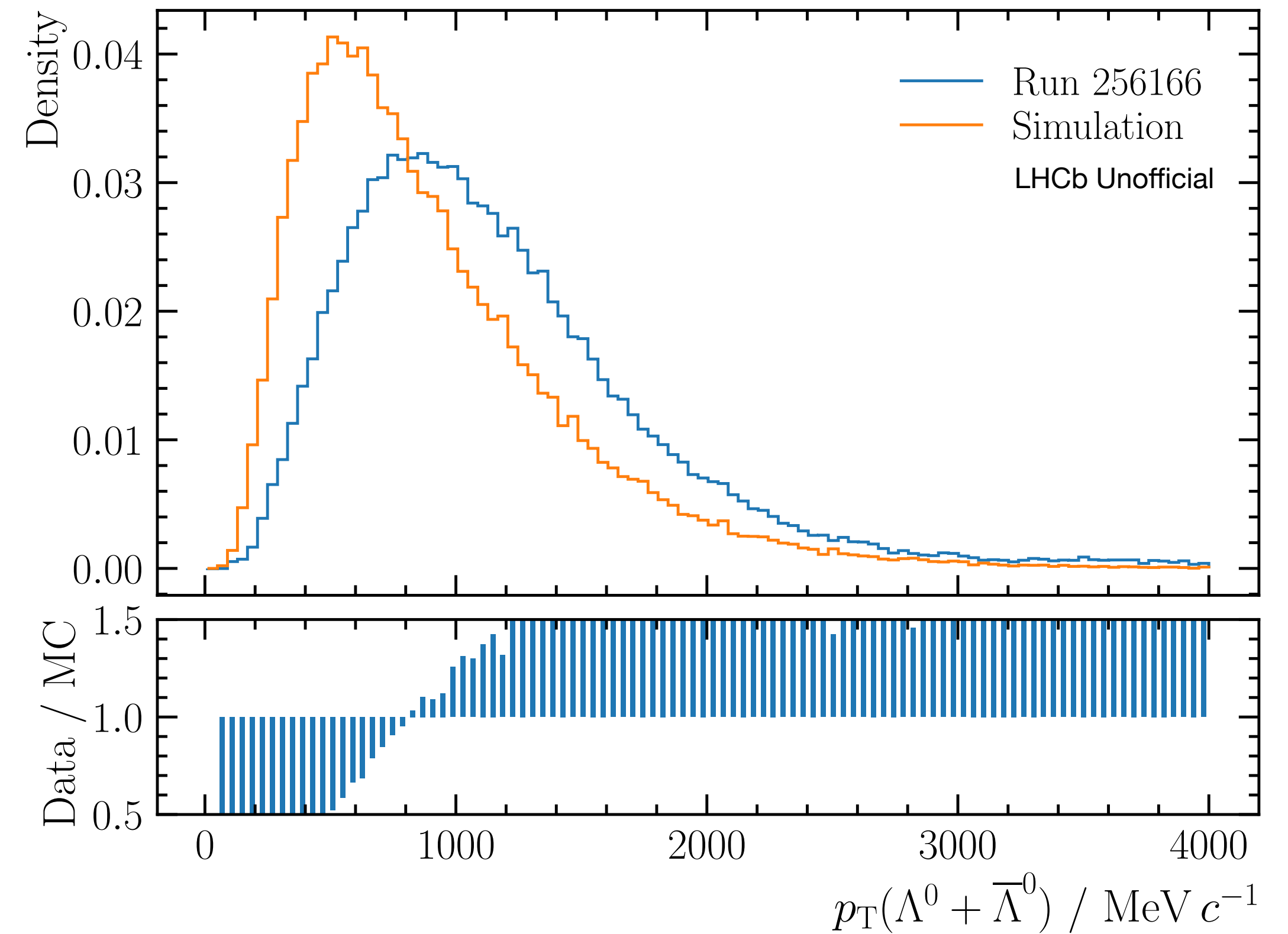
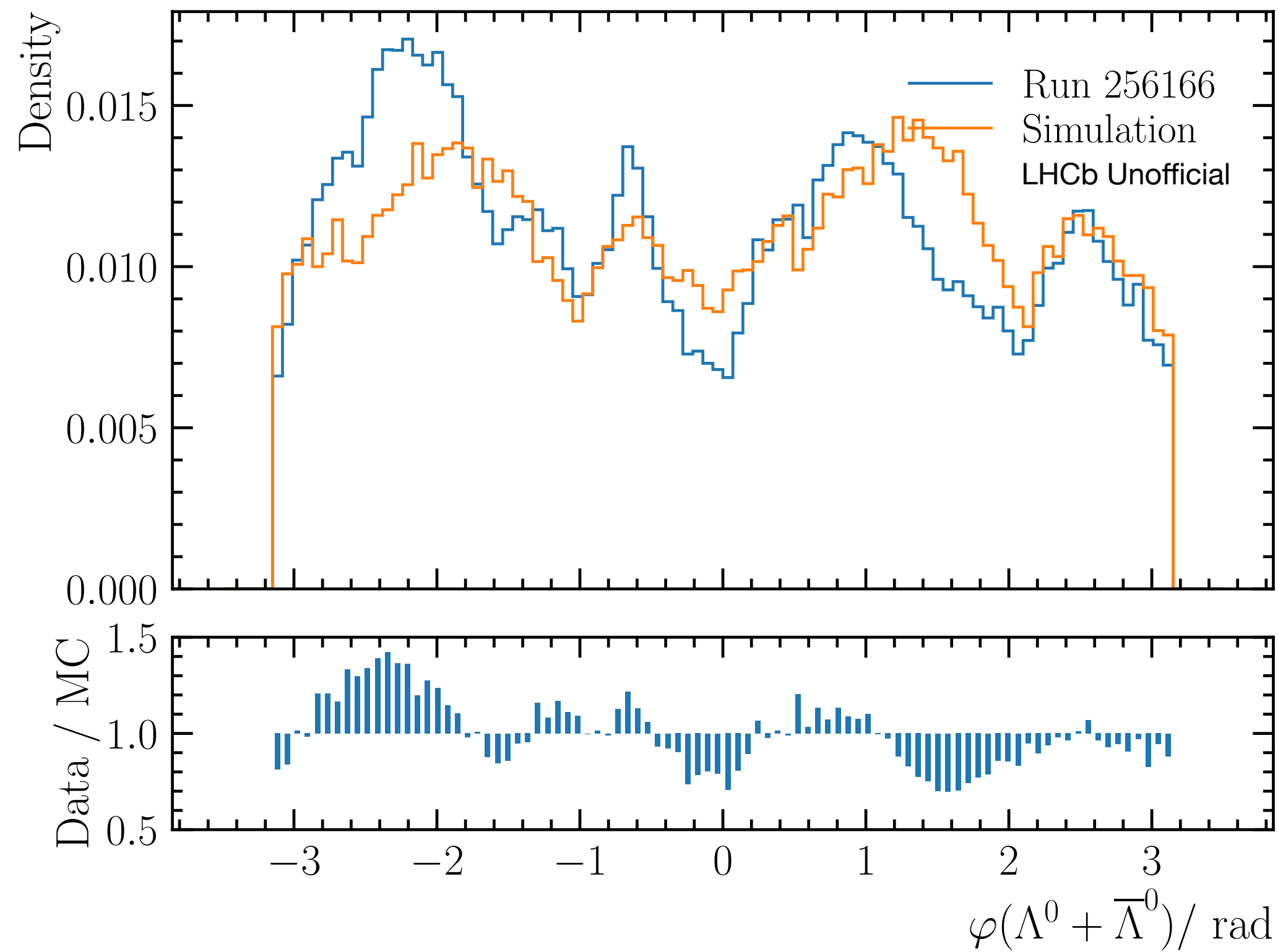
- SciFi v3 half-module alignment ( $\Delta x, \Delta z, \Delta R_z$ )
- SciFi mat alignment ( $\Delta x, \Delta z$ )

# Impact of spatial alignment: V7 vs. V10

- $\Lambda^0$ 
  - $N_{\text{sig}} : 13582 \rightarrow 49971$
  - $\sigma : 1.262 \rightarrow 1.07$
  - SciFi hits( $p$ ) : 11.04 → 11.33
  - SciFi hits( $\pi^-$ ) : 10.18 → 10.92
- $\bar{\Lambda}^0$ 
  - $N_{\text{sig}} : 23187 \rightarrow 53879$
  - $\sigma : 1.18 \rightarrow 1.055$
  - SciFi hits( $\bar{p}$ ) : 10.82 → 11.12
  - SciFi hits( $\pi^+$ ) : 10.79 → 11.06
- Remaining charge asymmetries, but smaller
- No improvement found in further checks

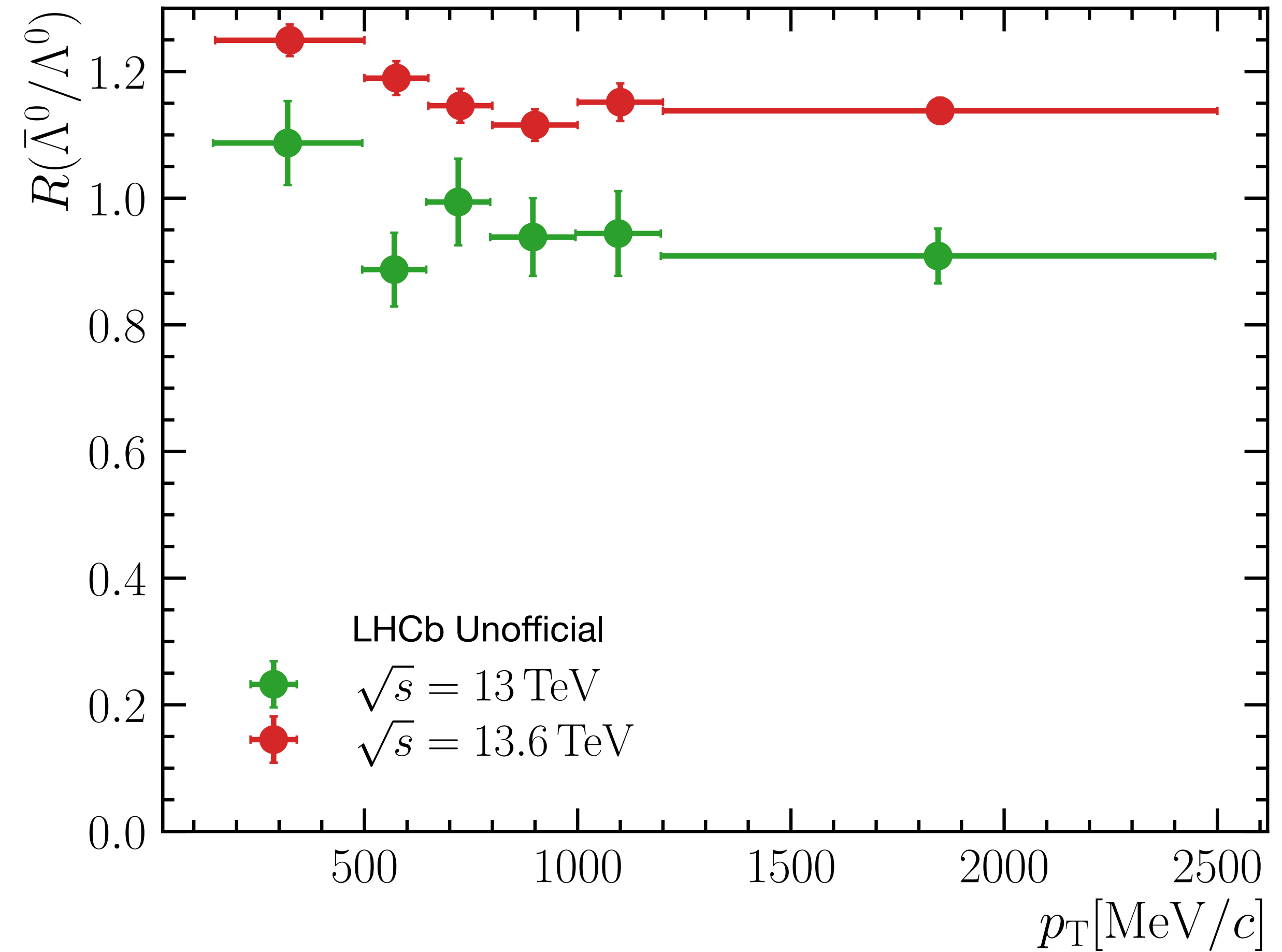
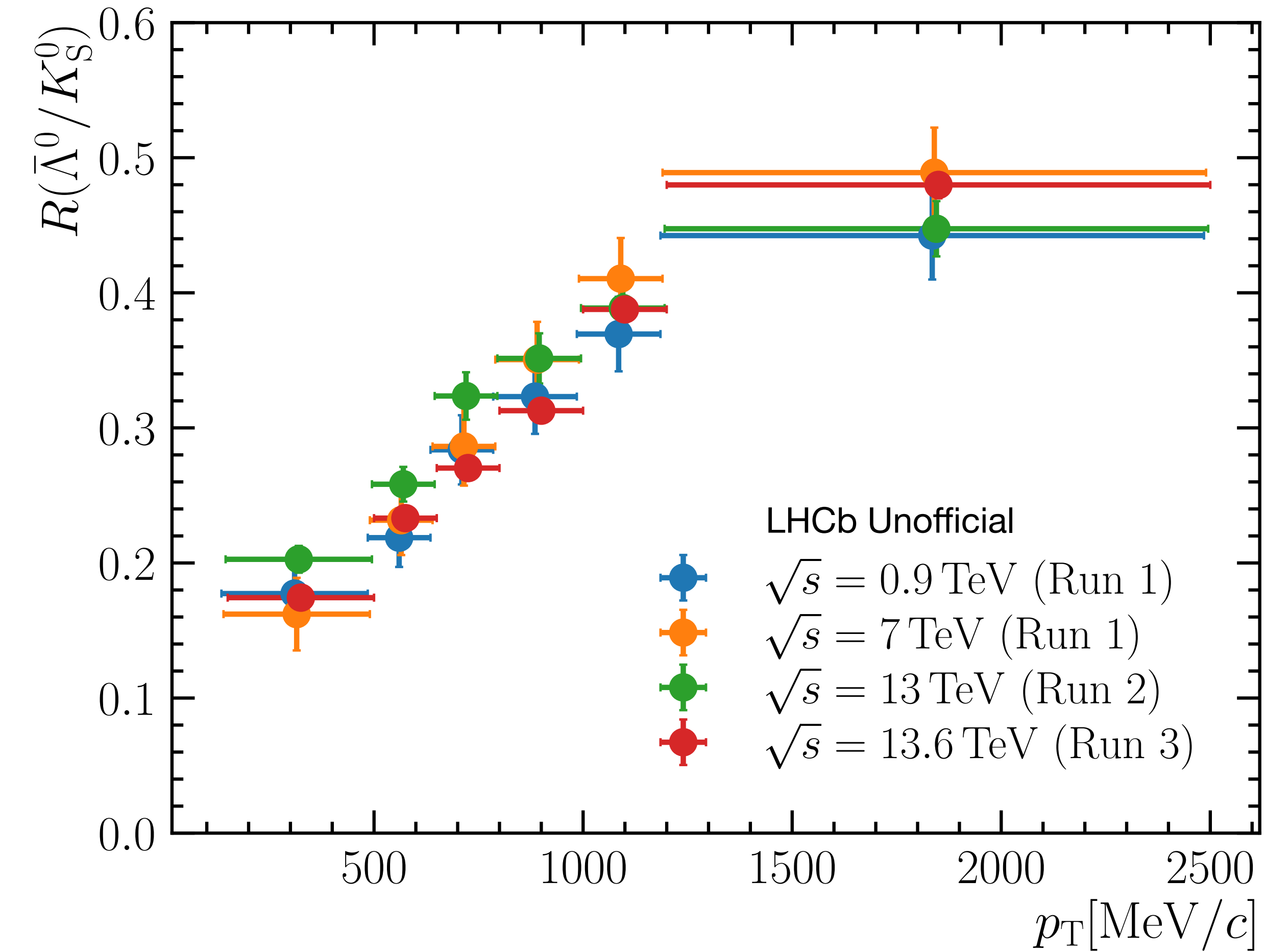


# Agreement between data and MC

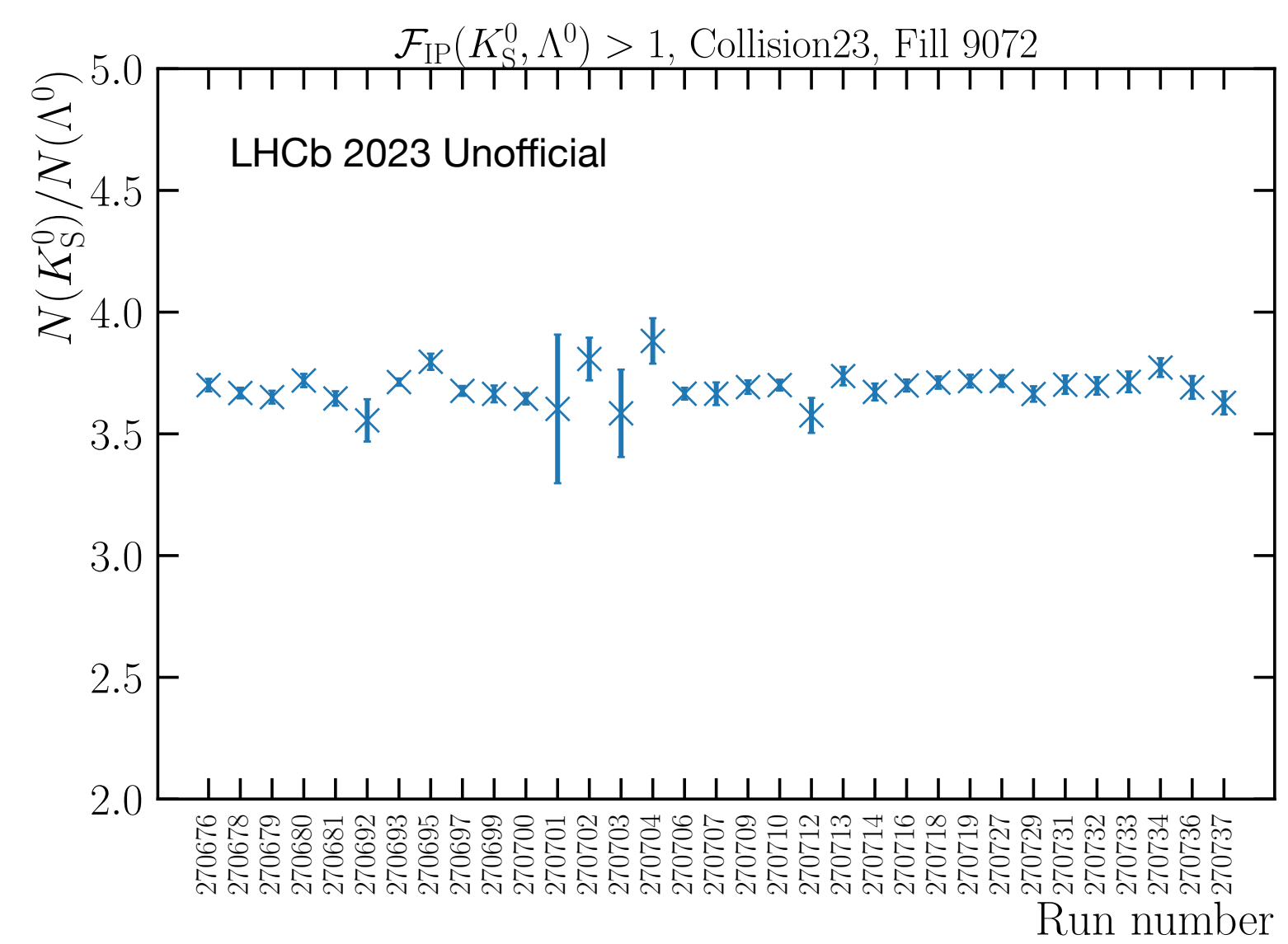
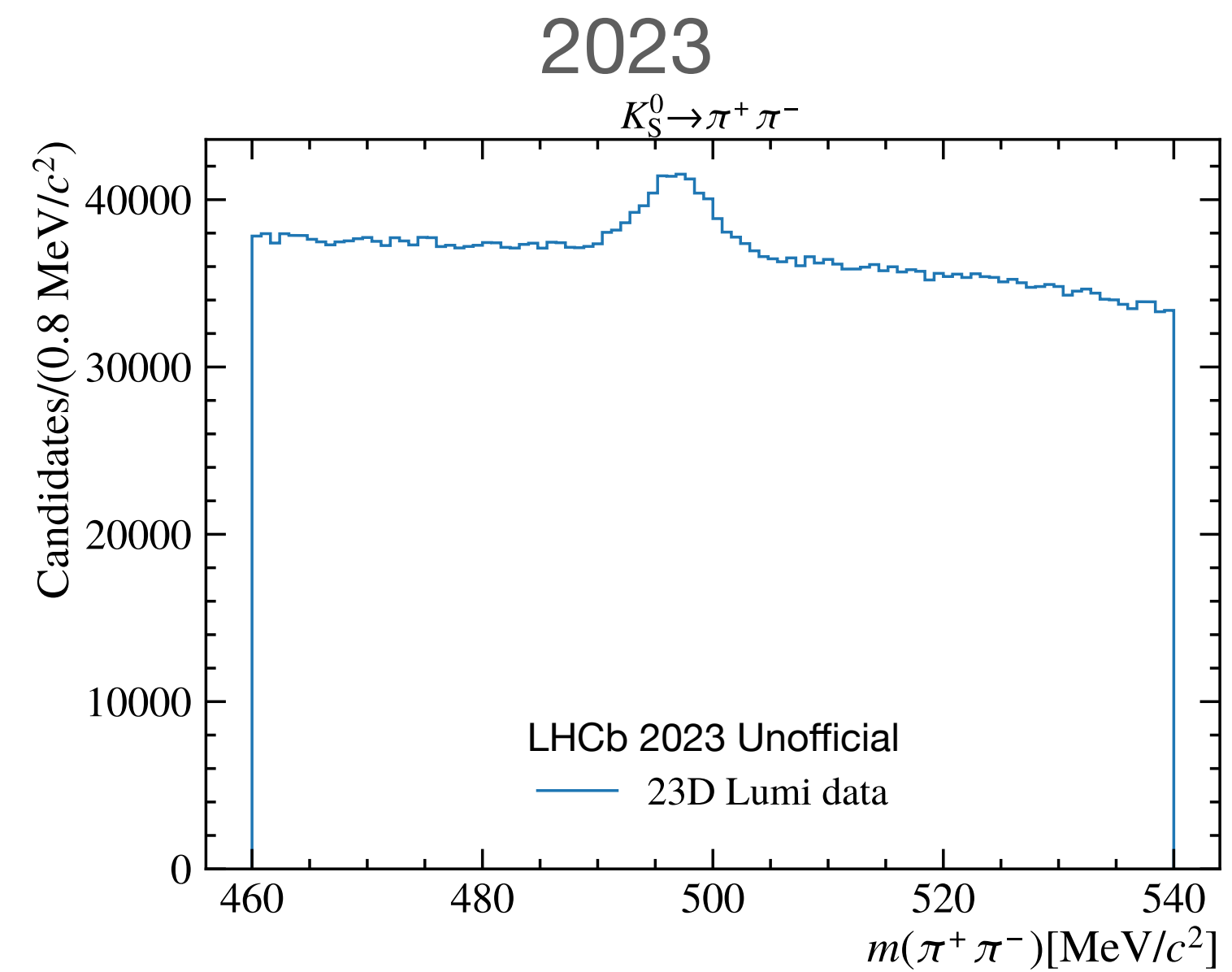
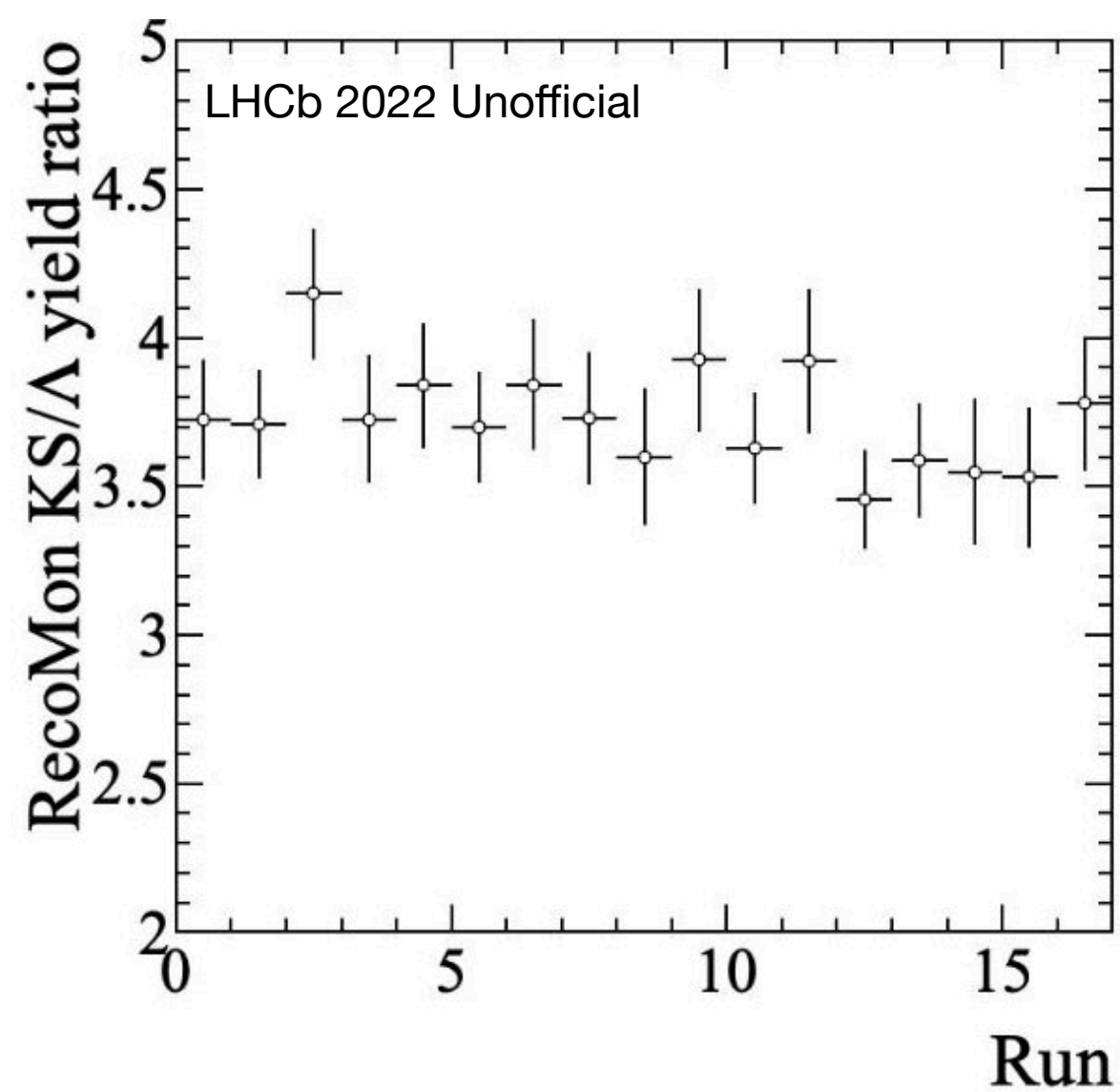
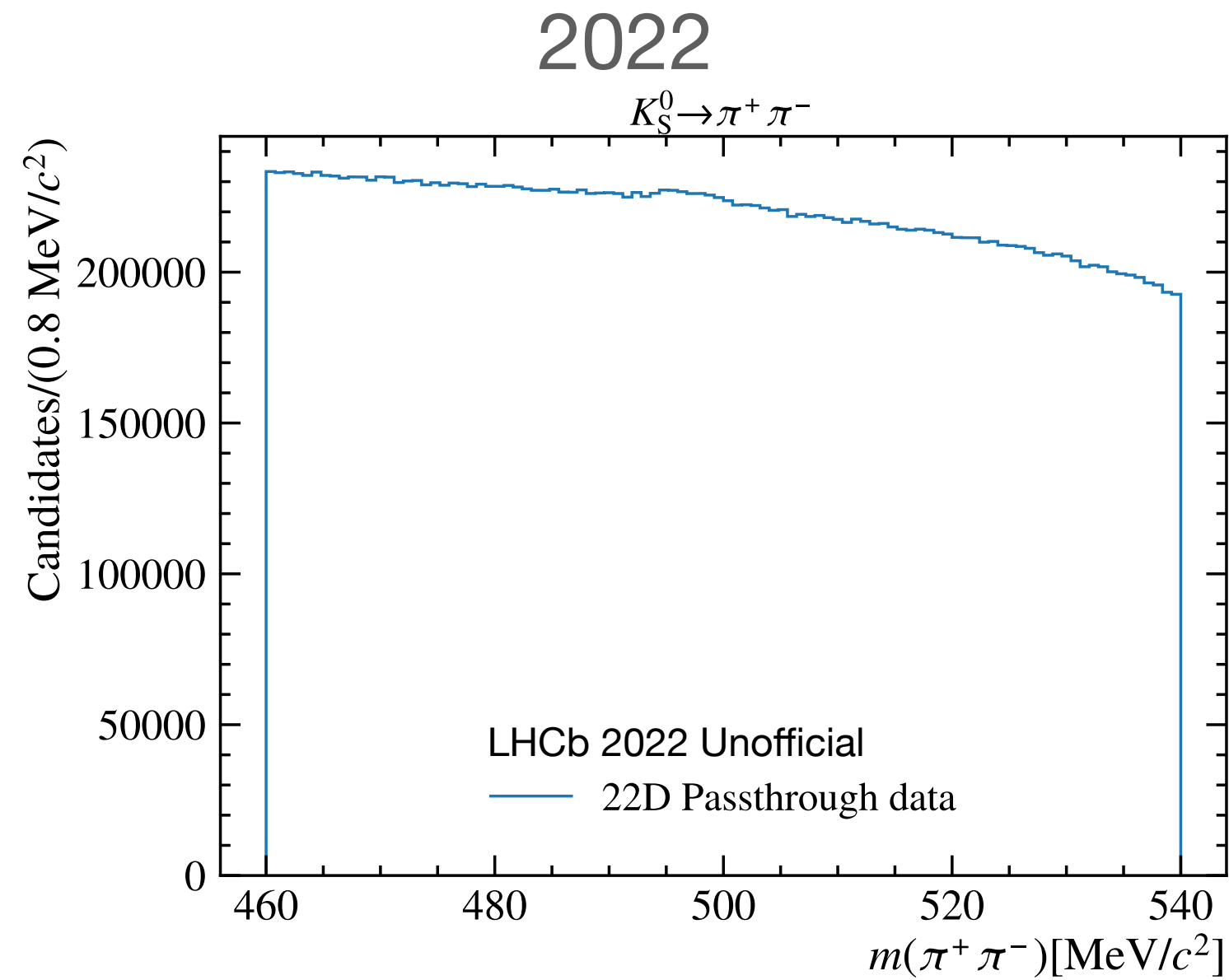


- Disagreement between data and simulation in key variables
- Not fully clear whether only due to detector misalignments
- Efficiencies estimated on simulation
- Corrections to reconstruction and tracking efficiencies in the works

# Preliminary ratio comparison



# Prospects for 23 data





- $V^0$  production cross-section ratios contribute to validation of the LHCb Upgrade I detector paving the way towards stable physics programme in Run 3
  - Presented current status of one of the first Run 3 measurements
  - Crucial for precision measurements by LHCb in Run 3 contributing to F4
- Emphasis on future measurements of strangeness enhancement in intersection of particle and astroparticle physics
  - Baryon-meson-ratio measurement in the forward region as input for generator tunings of atmospheric showers
  - Possible solution to muon puzzle

**Thanks for your  
attention!**