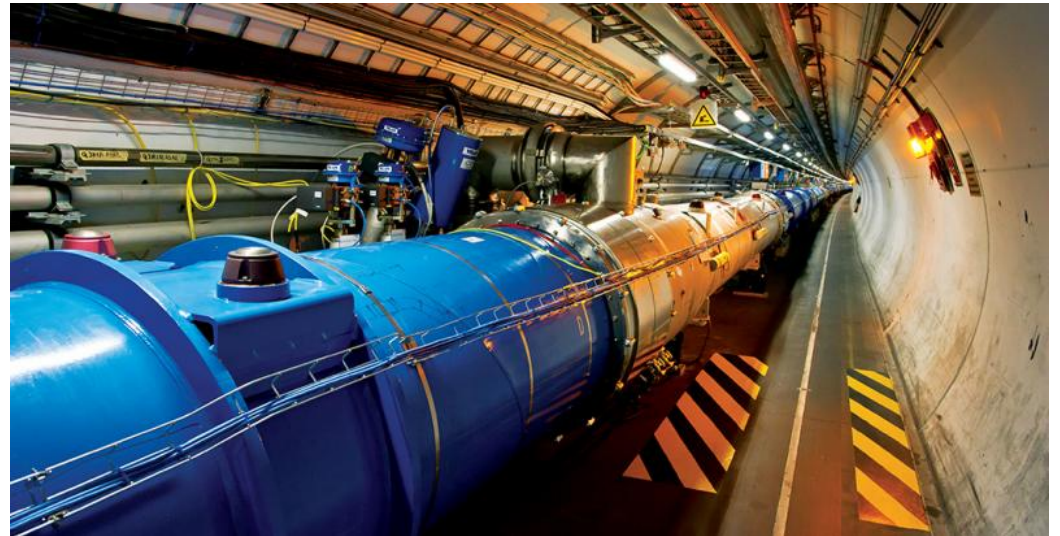


# Cosmic rays and colliders: Impact of particle on astroparticle physics

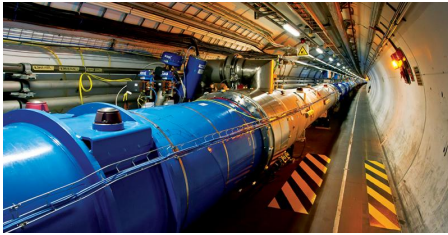
Hans Dembinski, TU Dortmund

*Artist impression of air shower*

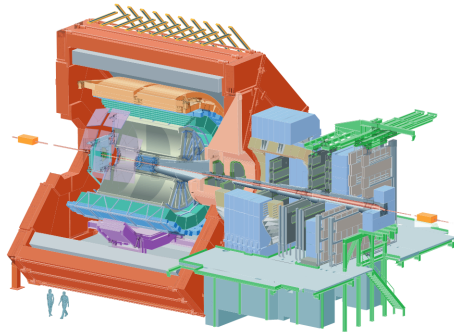
Image credit: Rebecca Pitt, Discovering Particles, CC BY-ND-NC 2.0



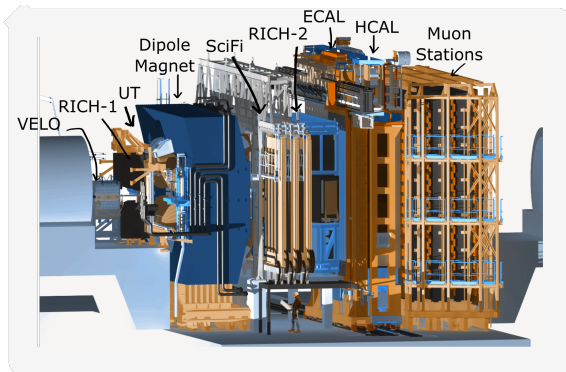
# Take-home message



Light-flavour experiments



Heavy-flavour experiments  
(also forward light flavour!)



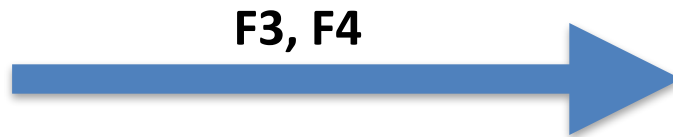
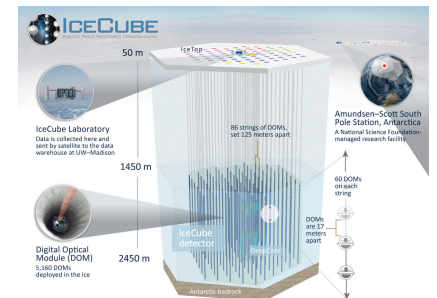
Cosmic anti-proton excess  
Inelastic p-air cross-section  
Atmospheric lepton flux  
Muon puzzle in air showers



Cosmic ray experiments



Neutrino experiments



Air showers



F3, F4

# Astroparticle physics

- Astroparticles are messengers of high-energy non-thermal universe
  - Black holes and neutron stars formation and exotics: dark matter decay...
  - Tremendous energies: GeV    TeV =  $10^3$  GeV    PeV =  $10^6$  GeV    EeV =  $10^9$  GeV

- Messengers

- Gamma rays

- Pointing ☺
- Abundant ☺
- $E_{\max} \sim 100$  TeV ☹

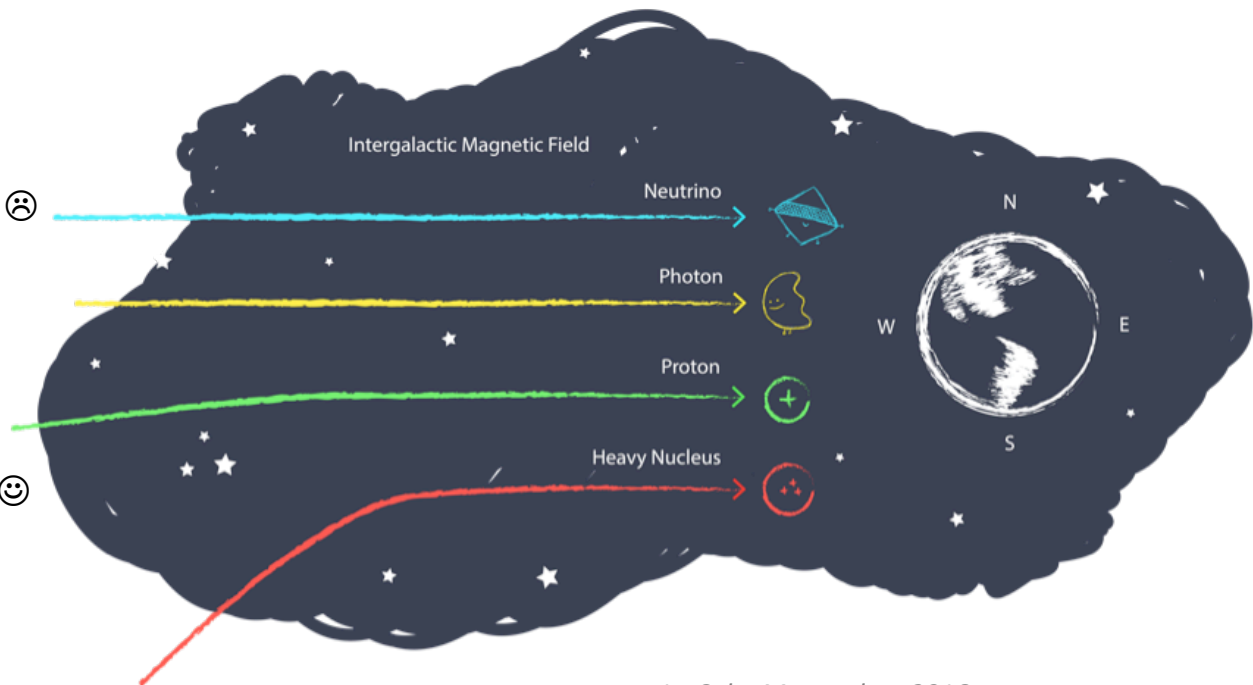
- Neutrinos

- Pointing ☺
- Rare ☹
- $E_{\max} > 100$  EeV ☺

- Cosmic rays (nuclei)

generates  
background

- No pointing ☹
- Abundant ☺
- $E_{\max} > 100$  EeV ☺



*IceCube Masterclass 2016*



# Cosmic-ray induced air showers

*Artist impression of an air shower*

Image credit: Rebecca Pitt, Discovering Particles, CC BY-ND-NC 2.0



10 GeV proton in cloud chamber with lead absorbers at 3027 m altitude

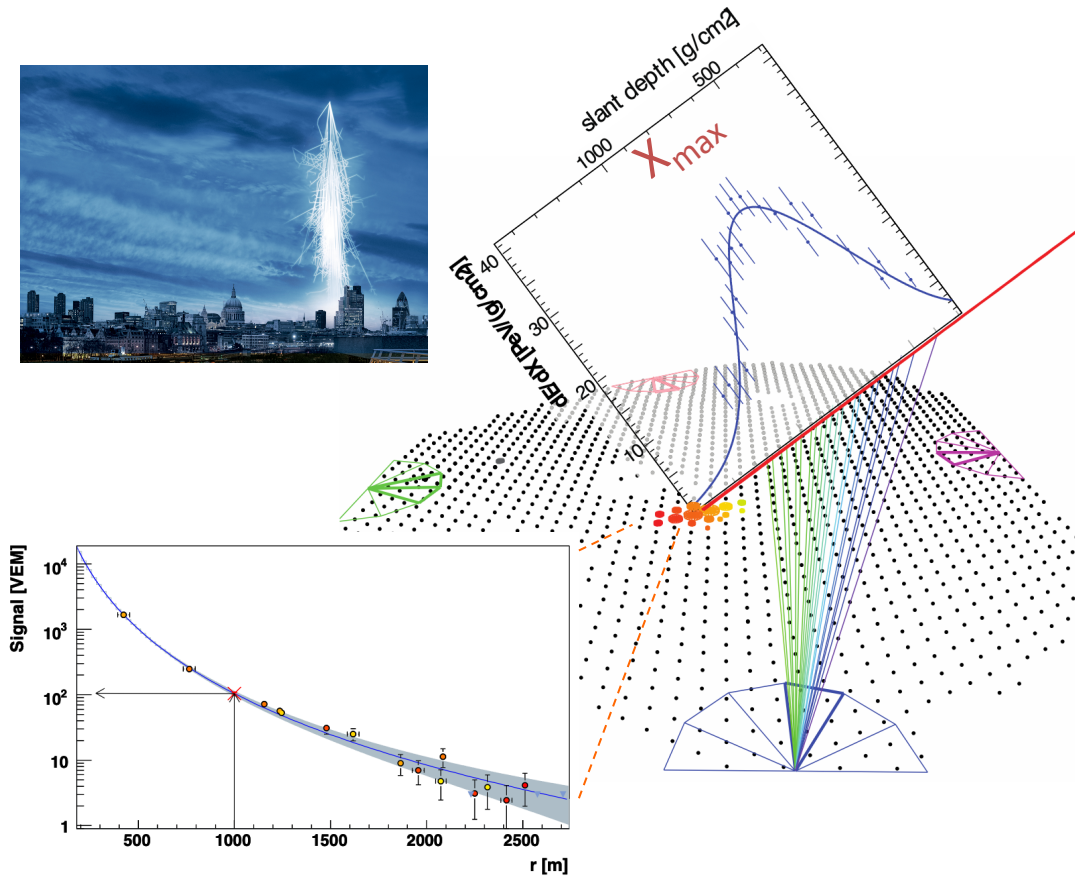


K.-H. Kampert and A.A. Watson,  
Eur. Phys. J. H37 (2012) 359-412



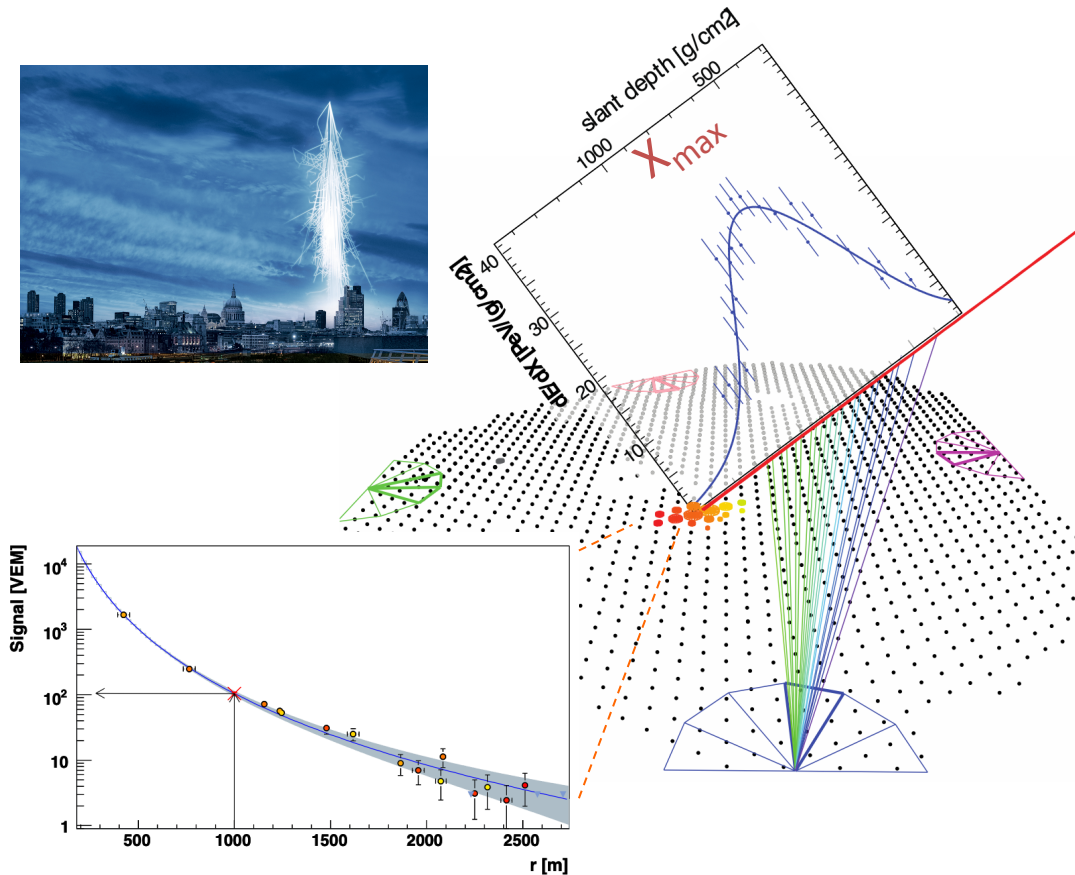
# Air shower measurement

Example: event observed with Pierre Auger Observatory



# Air shower measurement

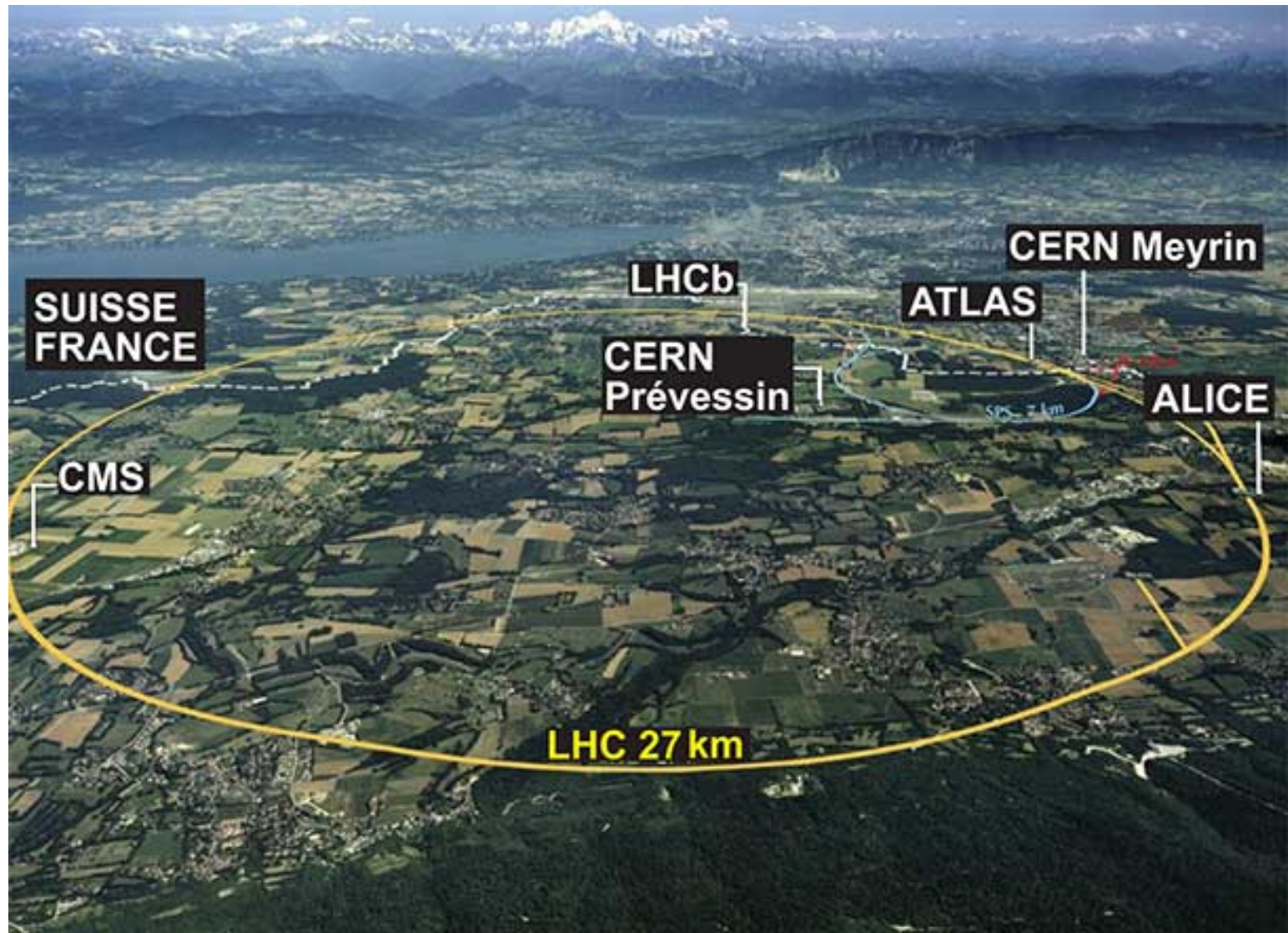
Example: event observed with Pierre Auger Observatory



$$E_{\text{cal}} = \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{dE}{dX} \right)_{\text{ionization}} dX$$

- Direction from particle arrival times
- Energy from integral of light profile
- Mass from
  - Depth of shower maximum  $X_{\text{max}}$
  - Number of produced muons  $N_\mu$

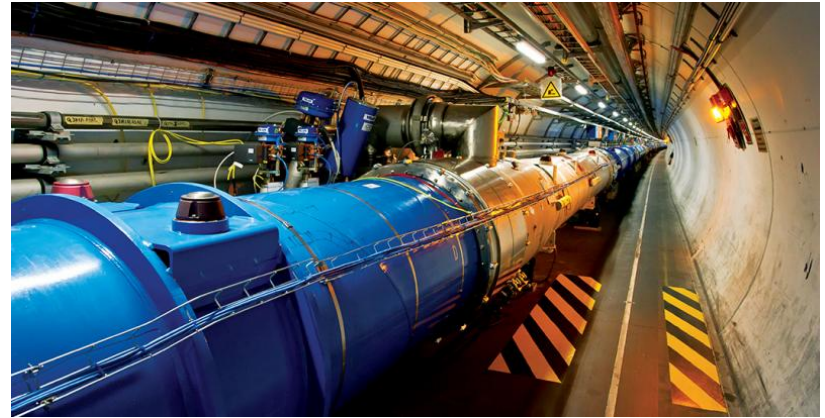
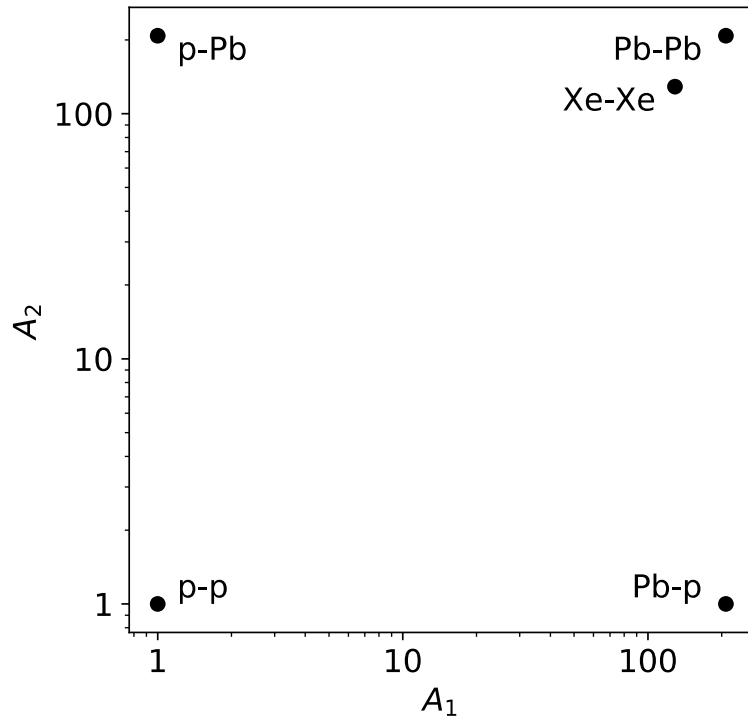
# Large Hadron Collider (LHC)





# LHC collision systems

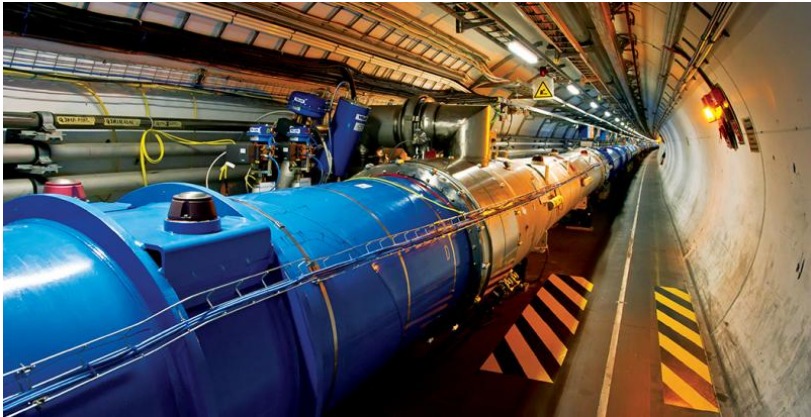
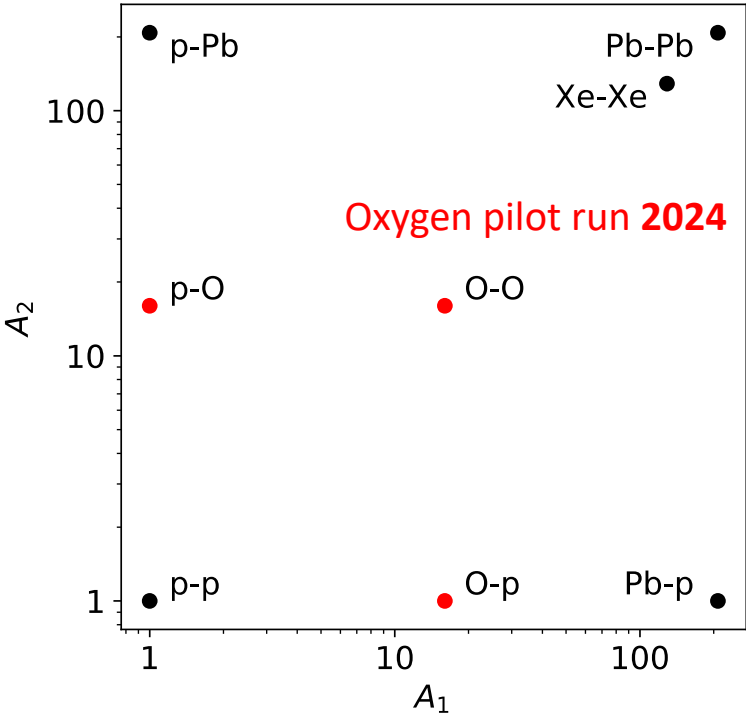
Collision systems at the LHC



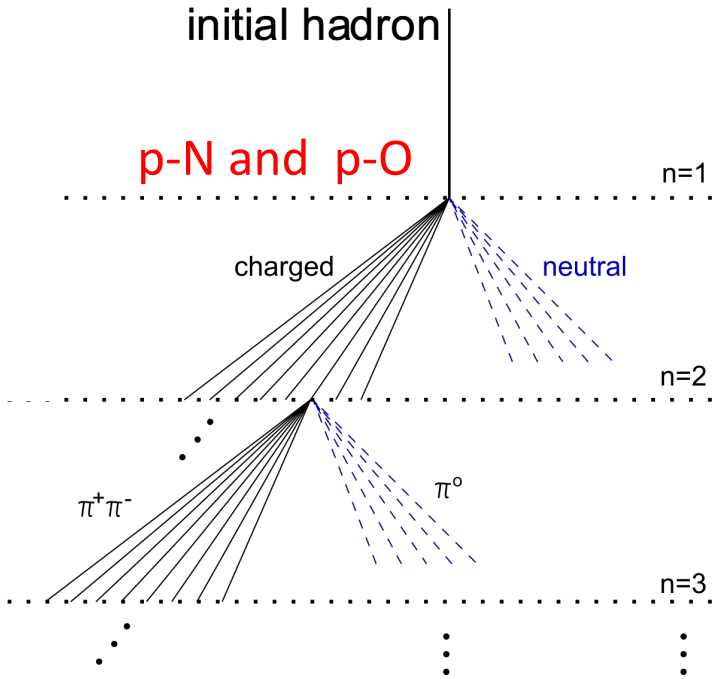
# LHC collision systems

Collision systems at the LHC

Run 3: p-p @ 14 TeV, p-O @ 10 TeV



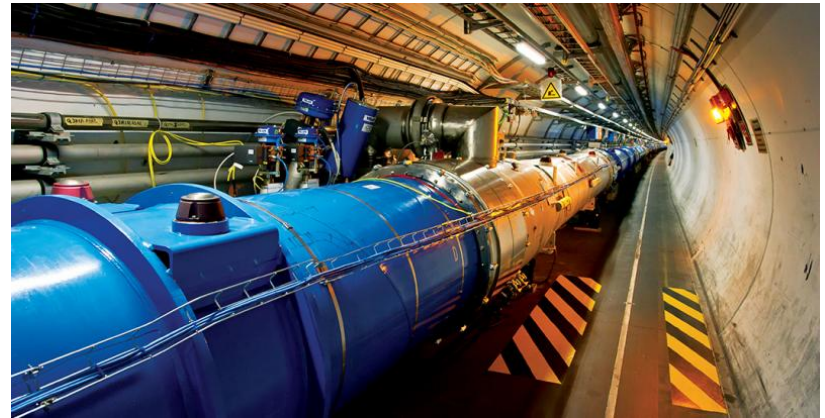
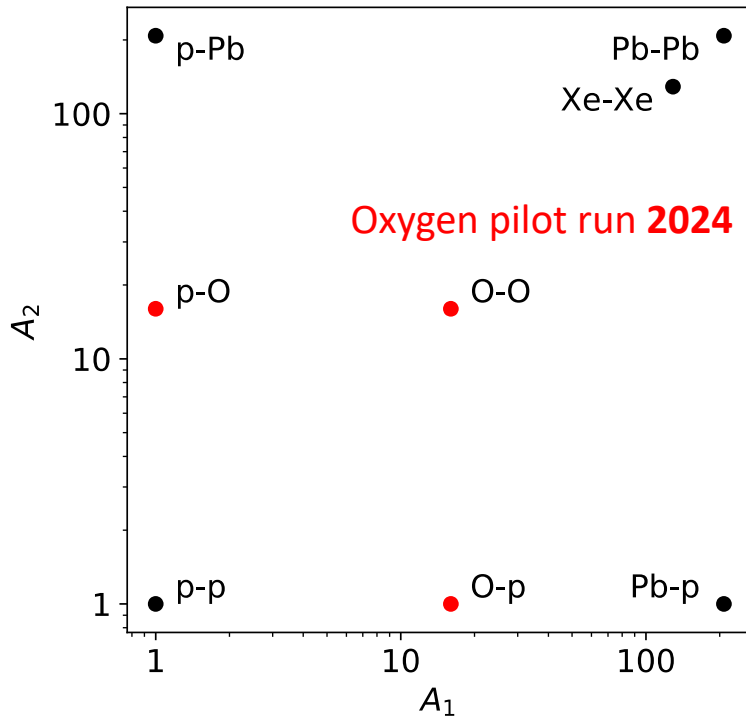
Air shower cascade



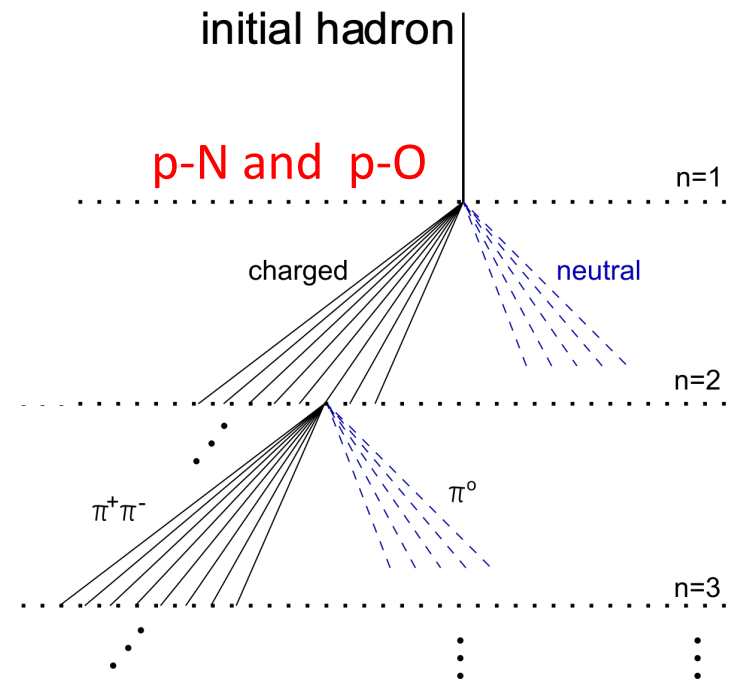
# LHC collision systems

Collision systems at the LHC

Run 3: p-p @ 14 TeV, p-O @ 10 TeV



Air shower cascade



Fixed target data at sub-TeV (LHCb only)

- p+(p,...,O,N,...) @ 0.11 TeV
- Pb+(p,...,O,N,...) @ 0.07 TeV
- O+O, O+p @ 0.08 TeV (in Run 3)



# Topic 1: Cosmic anti-proton excess

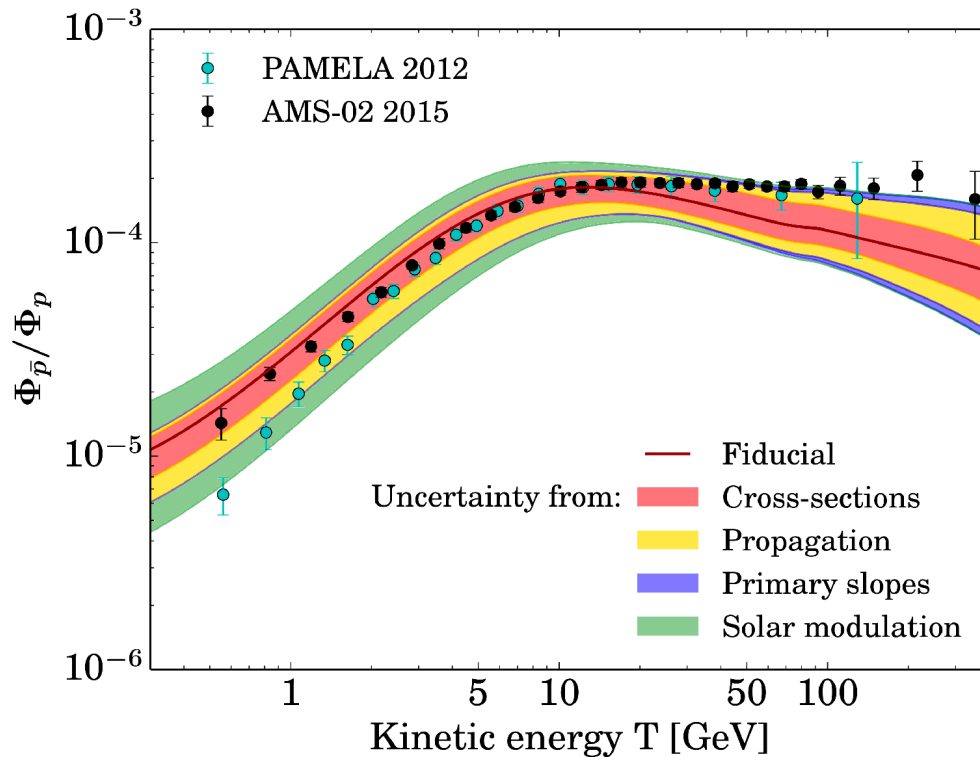
# Cosmic anti-proton flux



- AMS-02 search for **dark matter**
  - **DM** → **standard model particles** → stable SM particles
  - $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ,  $\pi^\pm \rightarrow$  neutrinos,  $p$ ,  $\bar{p}$
- Strategy: look for excess in  $\bar{p}/p$  flux ratio
  - Low  $\bar{p}$  background from **cosmic rays + ISM** →  $\bar{p} + \dots$

# A potential excess?

JCAP 1509 (2015) no.09, 023



- Excess observed by AMS-02 and PAMELA in cosmic  $\bar{p}$  flux
- Conventional  $\bar{p}$  production
  - ISM 91 % p, 9 % He
  - $p + p \rightarrow \bar{p} + X$  **OK**
  - $p + \text{He} \rightarrow \bar{p} + X$  uncertain

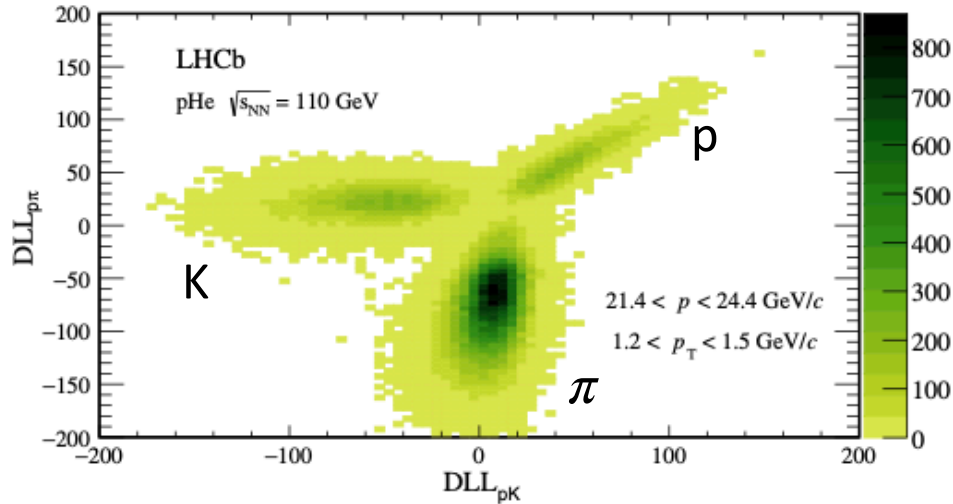
*First direct measurement by LHCb in fixed target mode*



# LHCb measurement of $\bar{p}$ production

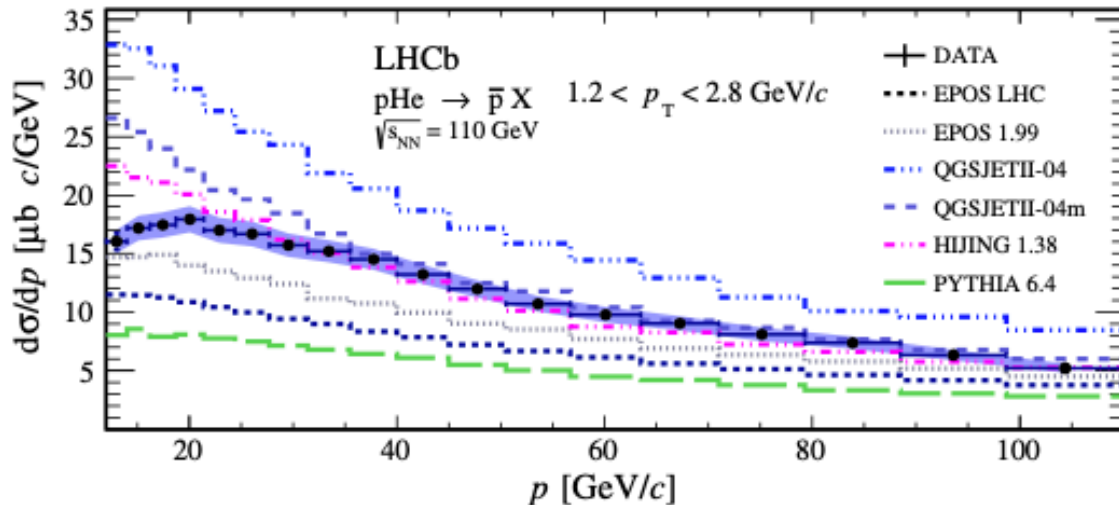
LHCb, *PRL* 121 (2018) 22, 222001

LHCb, *Eur.Phys.J.C* 83 (2023) 6, 543



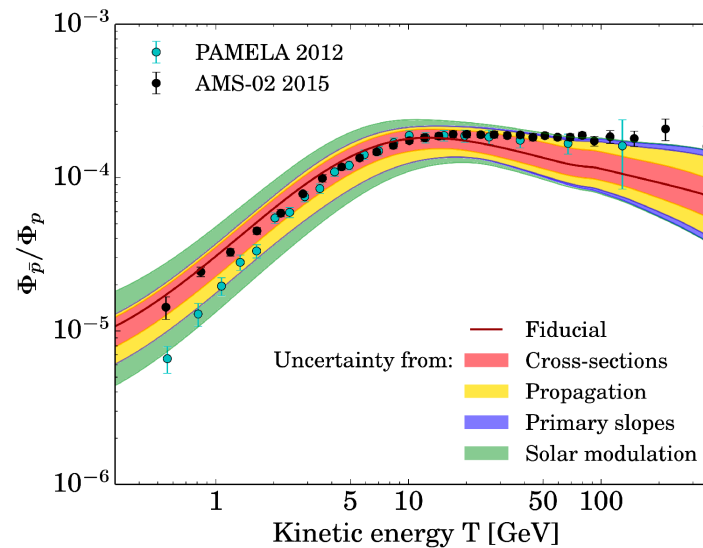
- LHCb run in fixed-target mode with proton beam and He gas
- $\bar{p}$  identification by RICH detectors

Ring Imaging Cherenkov



- Model spread up to 65 % before measurement
- Measurement precision < 10 % in most bins

# Topic 1: Summary

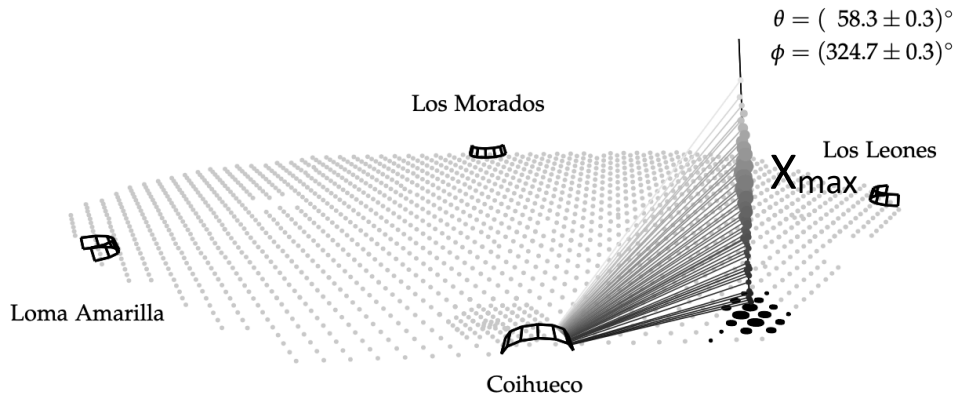


- **Anti-proton flux** measured by **AMS-02** contains excess, cause?
- Conventional **anti-proton production** via cosmic rays uncertain
- Relevant energies accessible by **LHCb in fixed-target mode**
  - Measurement in **p + He(gas)** much better than current model spread
  - LHCb upgrade in Run3: repeat measurement with **p + p(gas)**

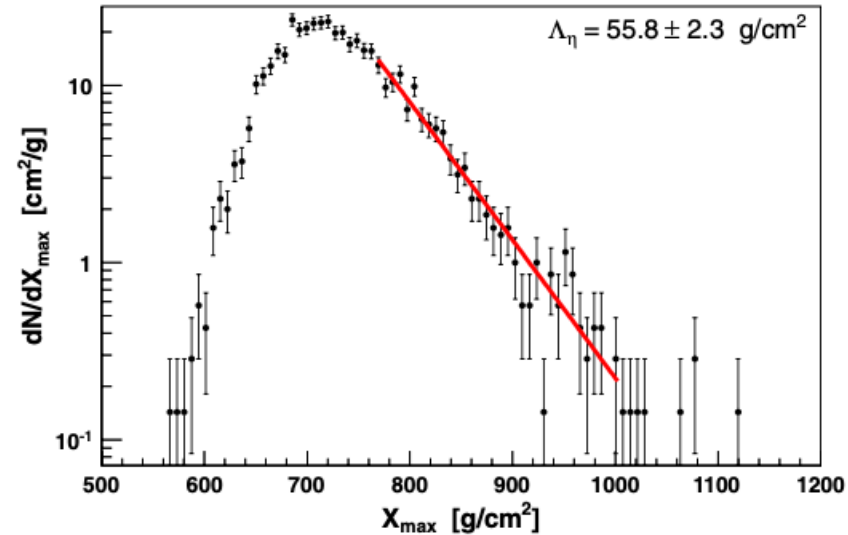
# Topic 2: Inelastic p-air cross-section

# Shower depth and inelastic cross-section

Auger, Phys.Rev.D 90 (2014) 12, 122005



Auger, PRL 109, 062002 (2012)



first interaction

$$X_{\max} = X_0 + \Delta X_{\text{shower}}$$

measurement

air shower development

$$X_0 = \frac{\rho_{\text{air}}}{\sigma_{\text{inel},p-\text{air}}} \ln 2$$

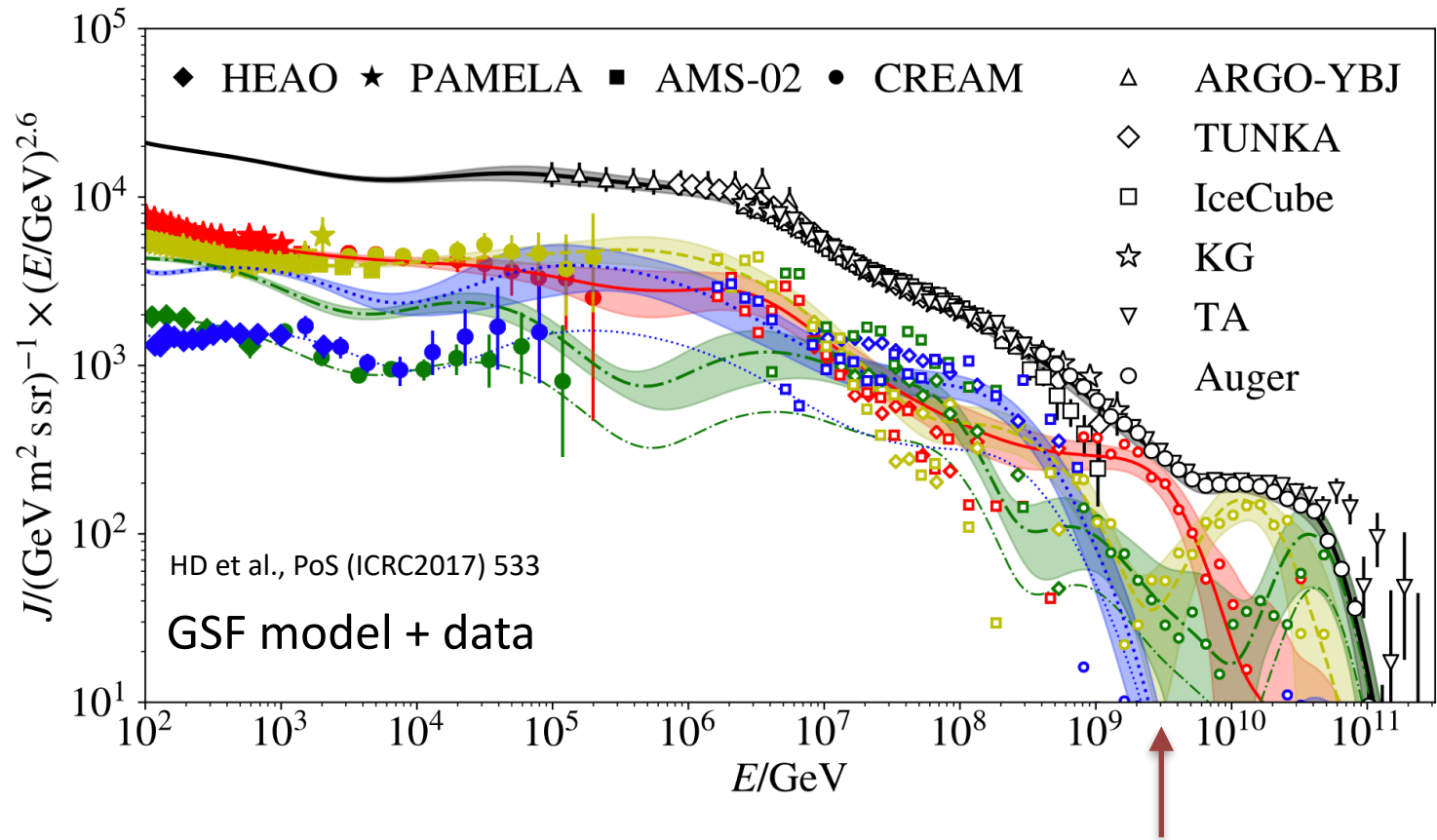
inelastic proton-air cross-section

$$\sqrt{s} = 57 \text{ TeV}$$

$$\frac{dn}{dX_{\max}} \xrightarrow{X_{\max} \rightarrow \infty} e^{-X_{\max}/\Lambda_{\eta}} \quad \Lambda_{\eta} \approx X_0$$



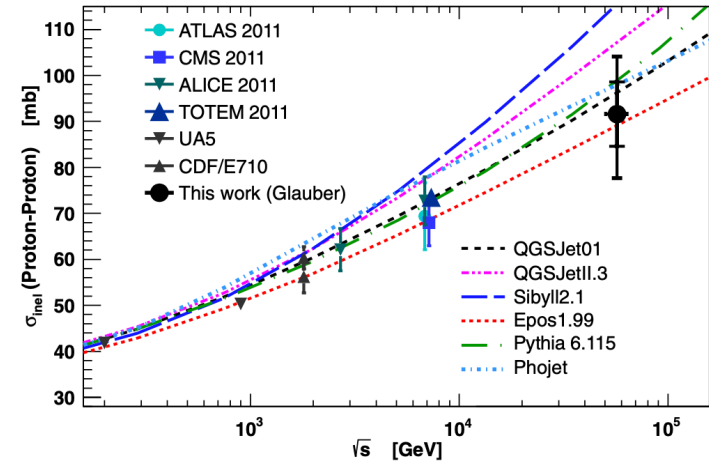
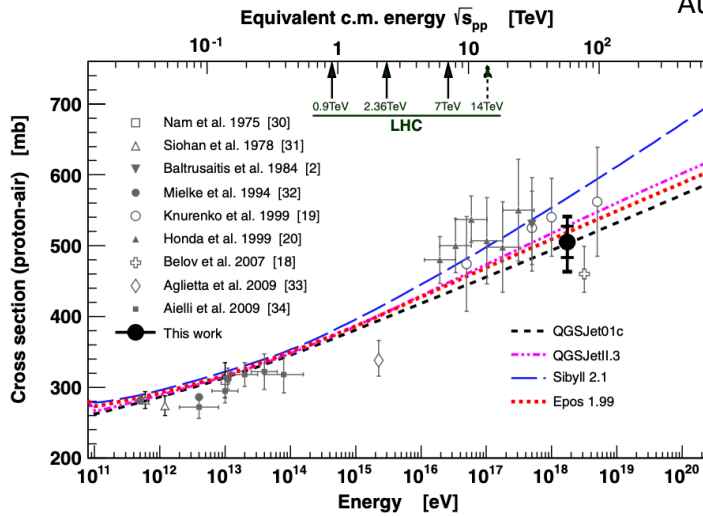
# Unique proton-rich window



- Need **pure proton** cosmic rays to measure **proton-air** cross-section
- **Unique proton-rich energy window** around  $2 \cdot 10^9$  GeV  $\rightarrow \sqrt{s} \approx 60$  TeV

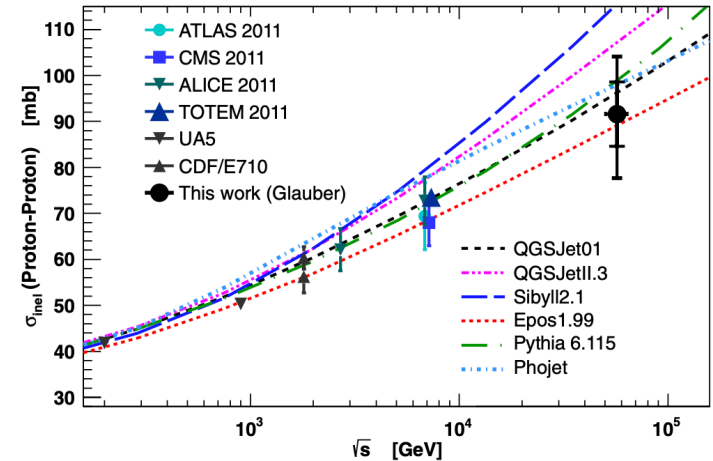
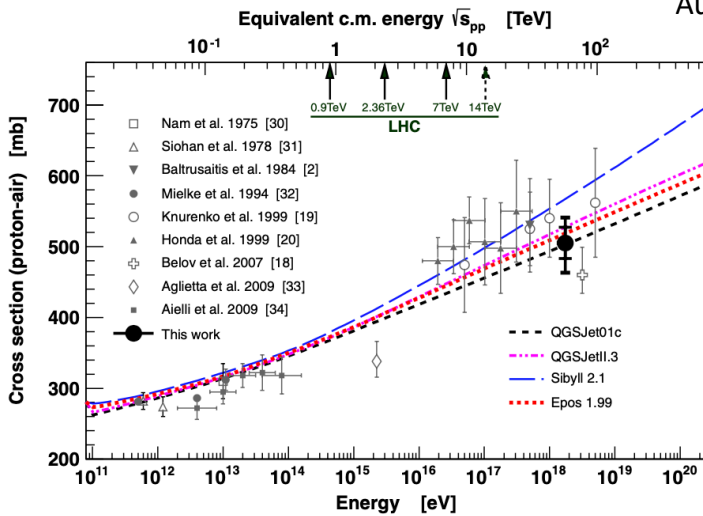
# Cross-sections $p$ -air, $p$ - $p$ , $\pi$ -air

Auger, PRL 109, 062002 (2012)

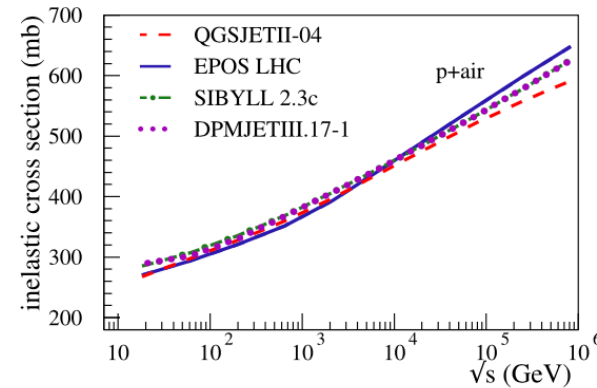
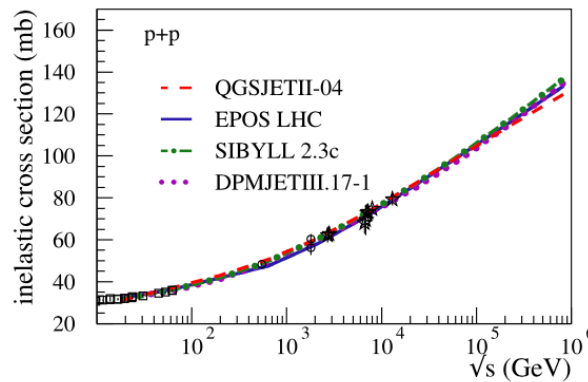


# Cross-sections p-air, p-p, $\pi$ -air

Auger, PRL 109, 062002 (2012)

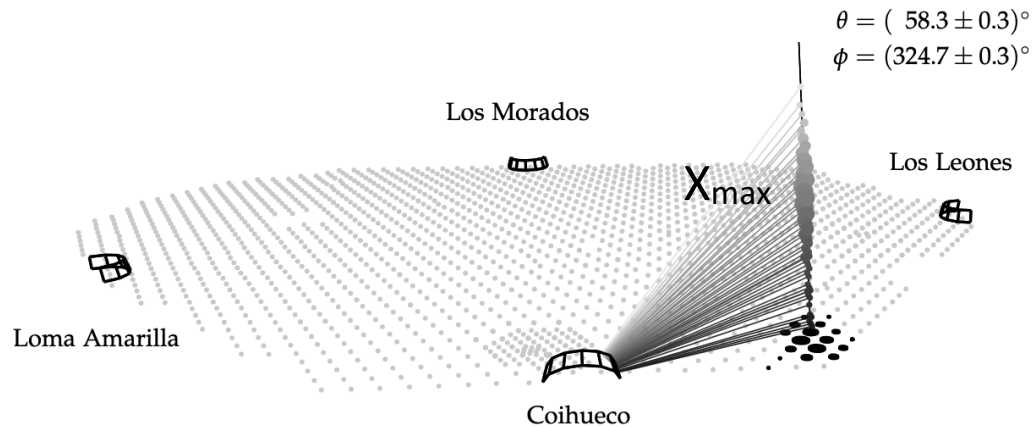


HD, J. Albrecht, W. Rhode, B. Spaan, ..., *Astrophys. Space. Sci.* **367**, 27 (2022) and references therein



- p+p model predictions fixed by precision measurements of TOTEM, ATLAS
- p+air predictions will be fixed by future p+O data

# Topic 2: Summary



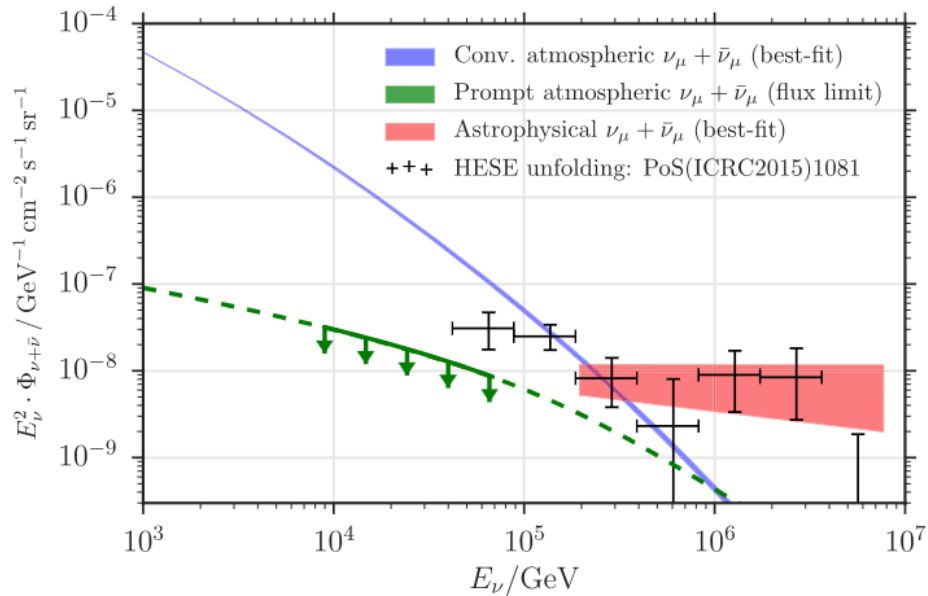
- Depth of shower maximum  $X_{\max}$ 
  - Main observable to infer cosmic ray mass composition (sensitive to CR sources)
  - Very sensitive to  $\sigma_{\text{inel},p\text{-air}}$  and further connected via model to  $\sigma_{\text{inel},p\text{-}p}$
- Measurements to 1 % by ATLAS and TOTEM doubled accuracy of  $X_{\max}$  predictions
- Vice-versa  $\sigma_{\text{inel},p\text{-air}}$  has been inferred from  $X_{\max}$  measurements at  $\sqrt{s} \approx 60$  TeV
  - **Unique energy window for particle physics** with ultra high-energy cosmic rays
- **SFB F3 + F4**
  - Global fits of astro and collider data will further constrain  $\sigma_{\text{inel},p\text{-air}}$
  - Measurement of inelastic cross-section in p-p at 13.6 TeV and p-O at 10 TeV



# Topic 3: Atmospheric lepton flux

# Atmospheric lepton flux

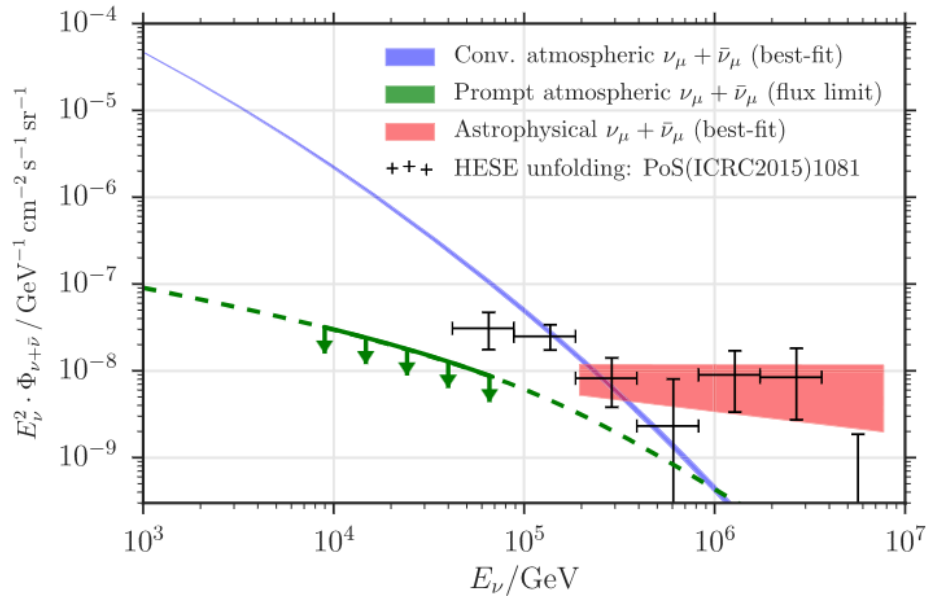
IceCube, *Astrophys.J.* 833 (2016) 18



- $\nu_\mu$  flux = astrophysical + atm. neutrinos
- atm. neutrino flux = conventional + prompt
  - Conventional:  $\pi$ , K decays (long-lived)
  - Prompt: dominantly charm decays (short-lived)

# Atmospheric lepton flux

IceCube, Astrophys.J. 833 (2016) 18



- $\nu_\mu$  flux = astroneutrinos + atm. neutrinos
- atm. neutrino flux = conventional + prompt
  - Conventional:  $\pi$ , K decays (long-lived)
  - Prompt: dominantly charm decays (short-lived)

Approximate solutions to cascade equations (Gaisser, Honda, ...)

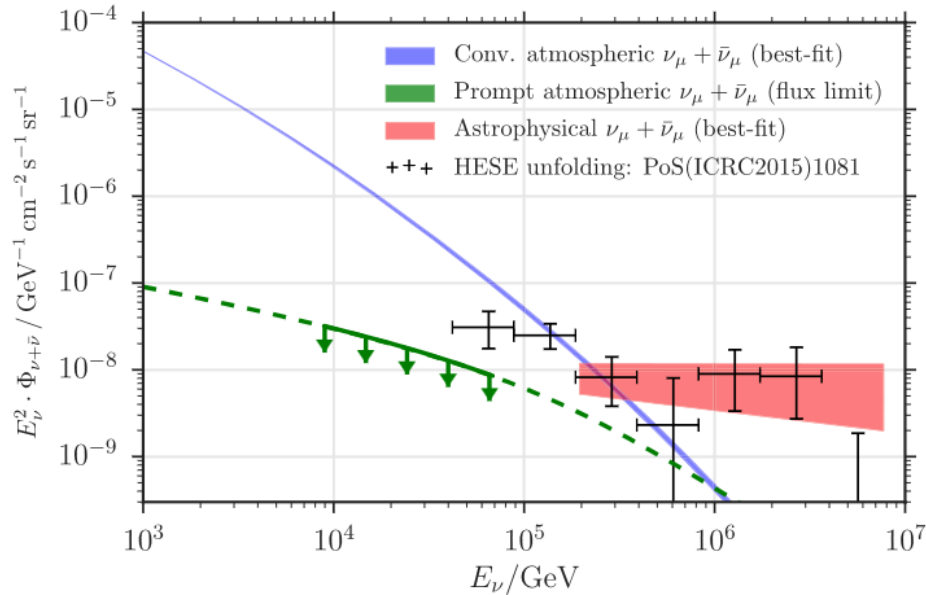
cosmic ray flux      CR spectrum weighted moments

$$\phi_l(E) \propto \phi_N(E) \sum_h \frac{Z_{N \rightarrow h} Z_{h \rightarrow l}}{1 + E \cdot C_h}$$

$\propto$  life-time

# Atmospheric lepton flux

IceCube, Astrophys.J. 833 (2016) 18



- $\nu_\mu$  flux = astroneutrinos + atm. neutrinos
- atm. neutrino flux = conventional + prompt
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Approximate solutions to cascade equations (Gaisser, Honda, ...)

cosmic ray flux      CR spectrum weighted moments

$$\phi_l(E) \propto \phi_N(E) \sum_h \frac{Z_{N \rightarrow h} Z_{h \rightarrow l}}{1 + E \cdot C_h}$$

$\propto$  life-time

$$Z_{N \rightarrow h} = \int_0^1 dx_{\text{lab}} x_{\text{lab}}^{\gamma-1} \frac{dn_{N \rightarrow h}}{dx_{\text{lab}}}$$

$$x_{\text{lab}} = E_{\text{lab},h} / E_{\text{lab},N}$$

$$\frac{dn_{N \rightarrow h}}{dx_{\text{lab}}} \sim \sigma_{p+p \rightarrow h+X}$$

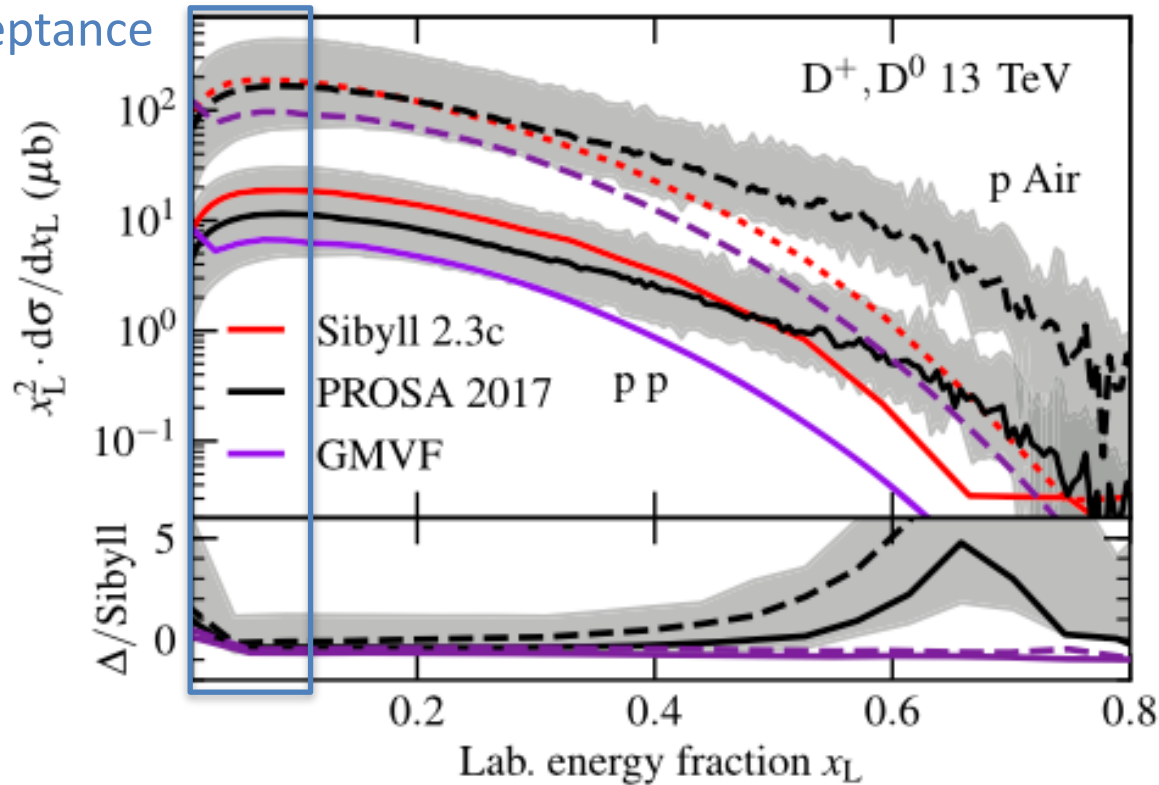
collider data



# Importance of forward acceptance at LHC

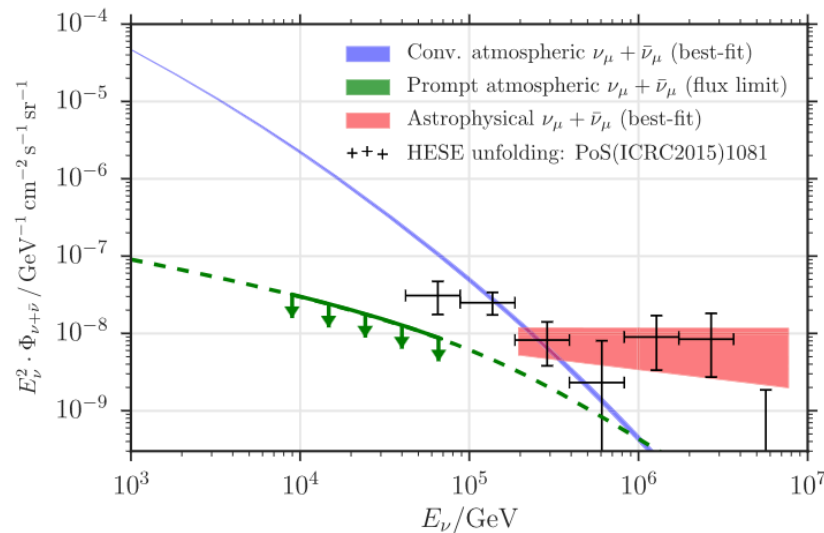
A. Fedynitch et al., Phys.Rev.D 100 (2019) 103018

LHCb acceptance



- LHCb covers largest fraction of charm production cross-section among LHC experiments but atm. flux sensitive to unobserved extreme forward production
- Extrapolation to full cross-section still model-dependent, needs input from astro

# Topic 3: Summary



- IceCube neutrino flux = astro + conventional + prompt
  - Conventional flux sensitive to light-flavour production:  $\pi$ , K
  - Prompt flux sensitive to charm production: D mesons
- Best experimental constraints from LHCb, but very forward production unobservable at the LHC
- **SFB F3 + F4: Constrain very forward phase-space of D production with global fits of astro and collider data**

# Topic 4: Muon puzzle in air showers

# Muon puzzle in air showers

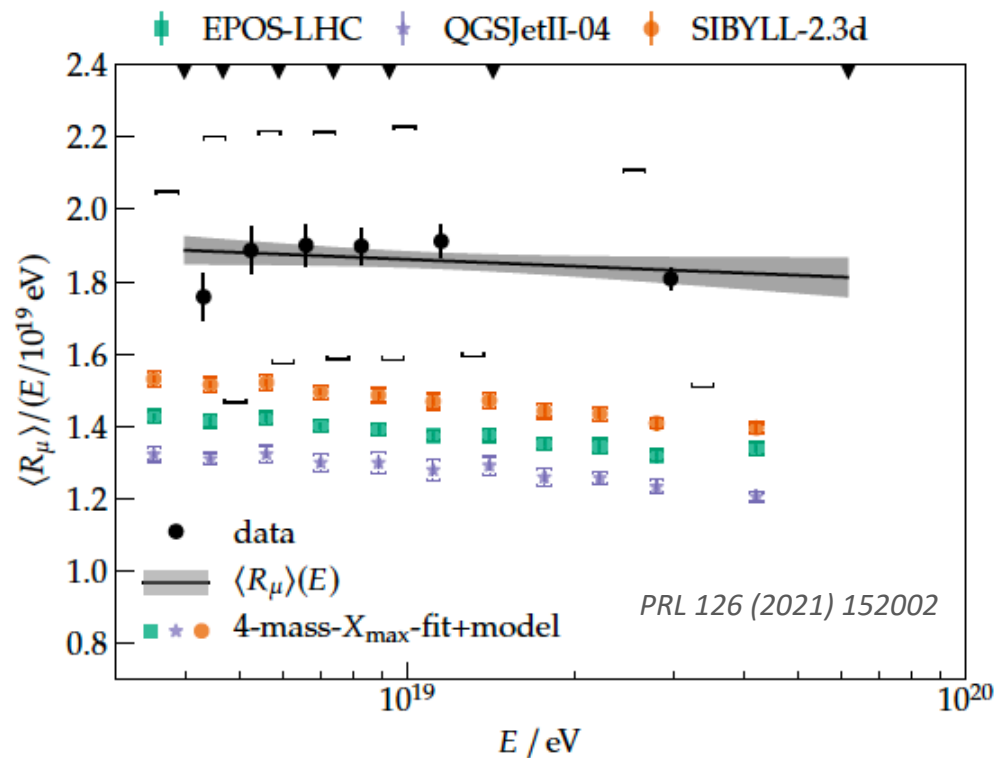
## Pierre Auger Observatory

PRD 91 (2015) 032003

PRL 117 (2016) 192001

Eur. Phys. J. C (2020) 80:751

PRL 126 (2021) 152002



## WHISP meta analysis

HD et al., *EPJ Web Conf.* 210 (2019) 02004

L. Cazon et al., *PoS ICRC2019* (2020) 214

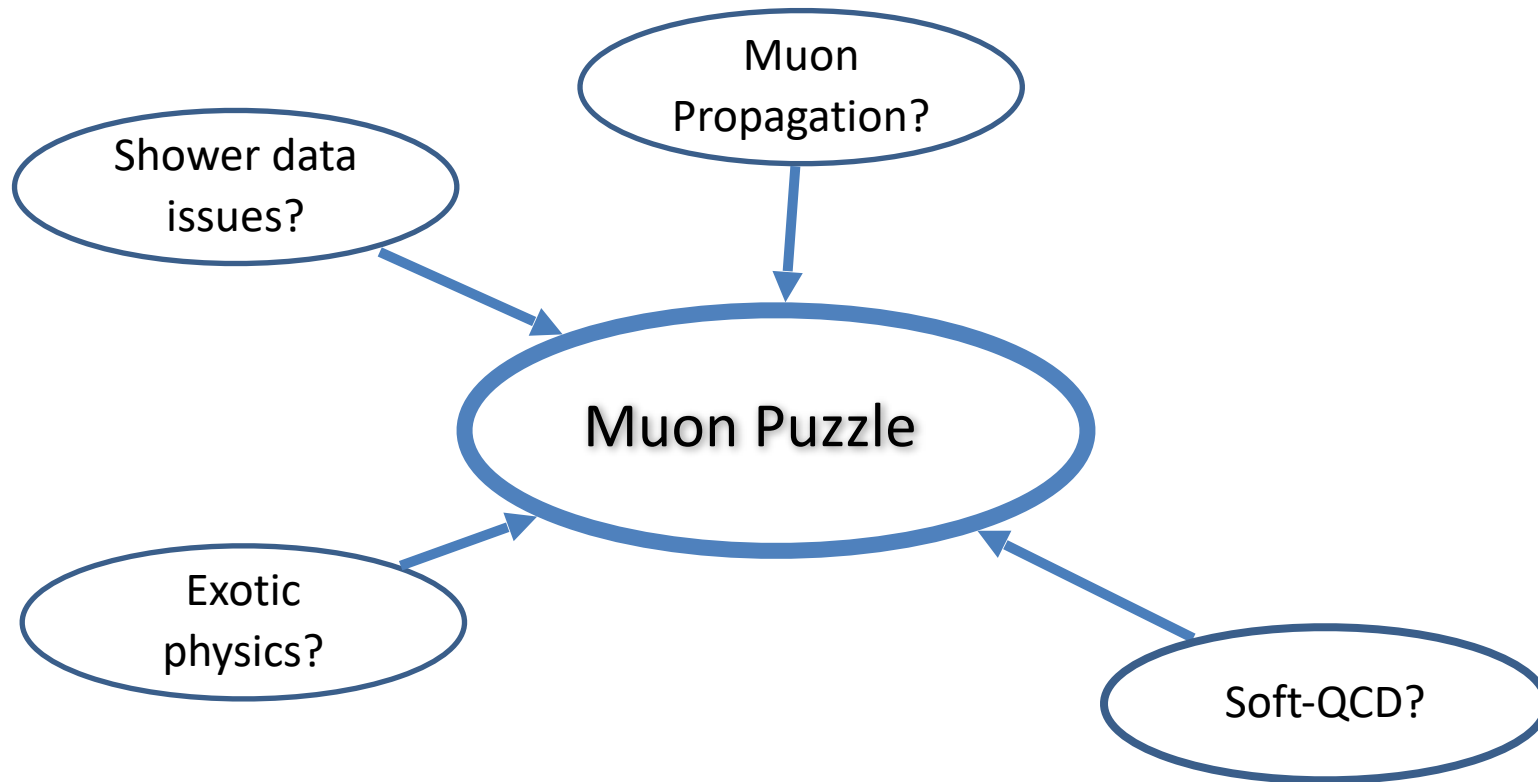
D. Soldin et al., *PoS ICRC2021* (2021) 349

J.C. Arteaga-Velazquez et al,

*PoS ICRC2023* (2023) 466

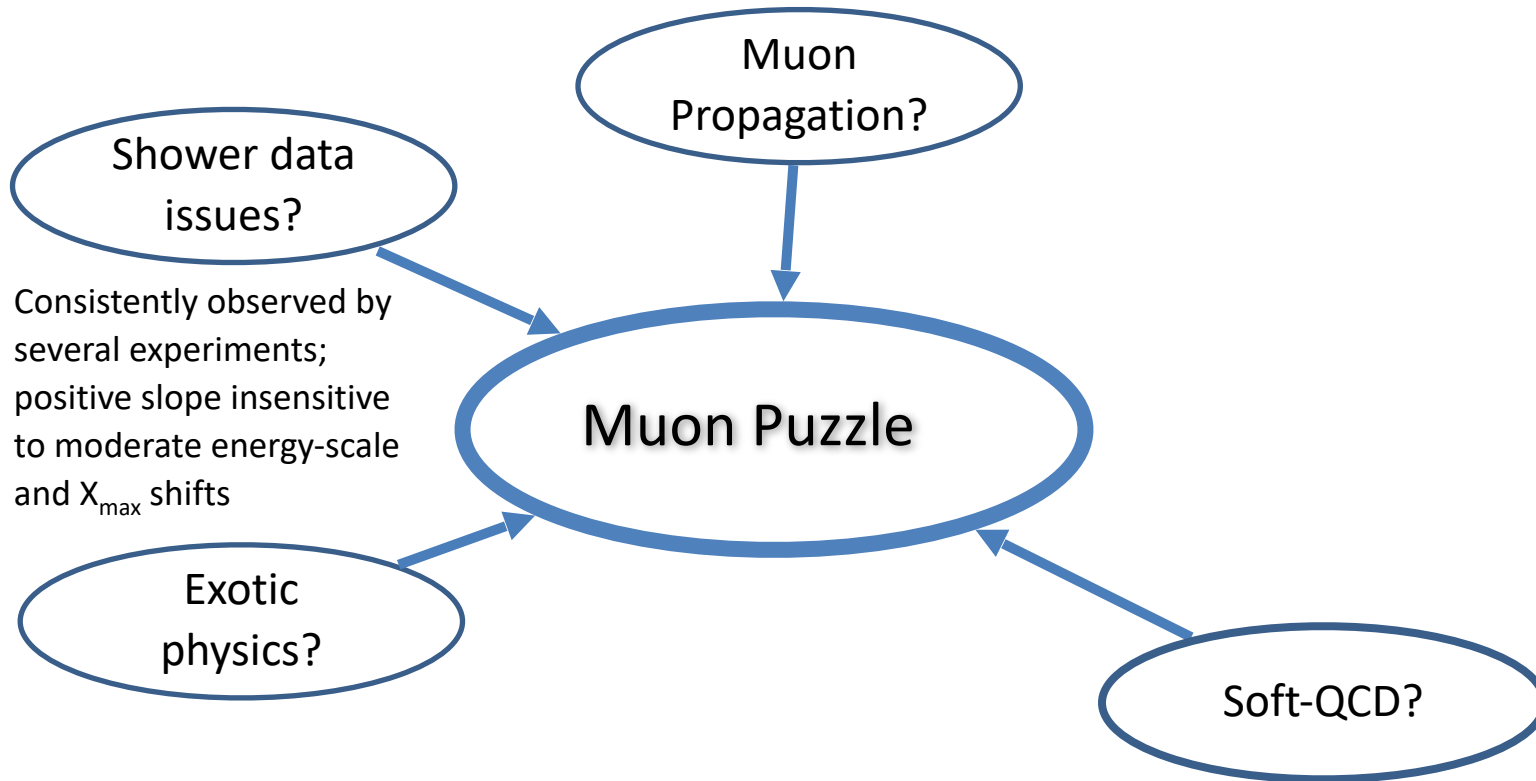
- Muon deficit observed in air shower simulations
- Impact on mass reconstruction and indirectly on atm. lepton flux

# Origin of muon puzzle?

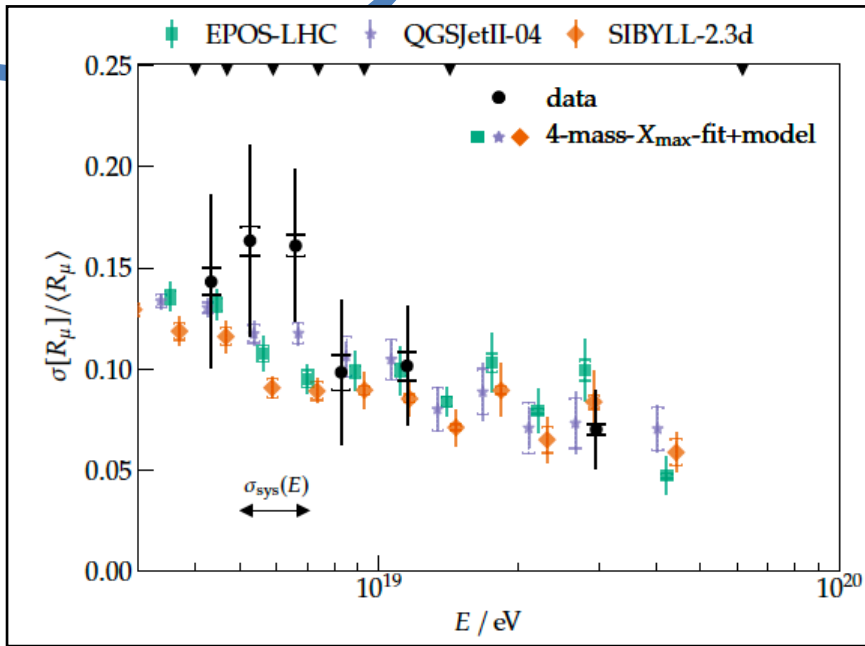
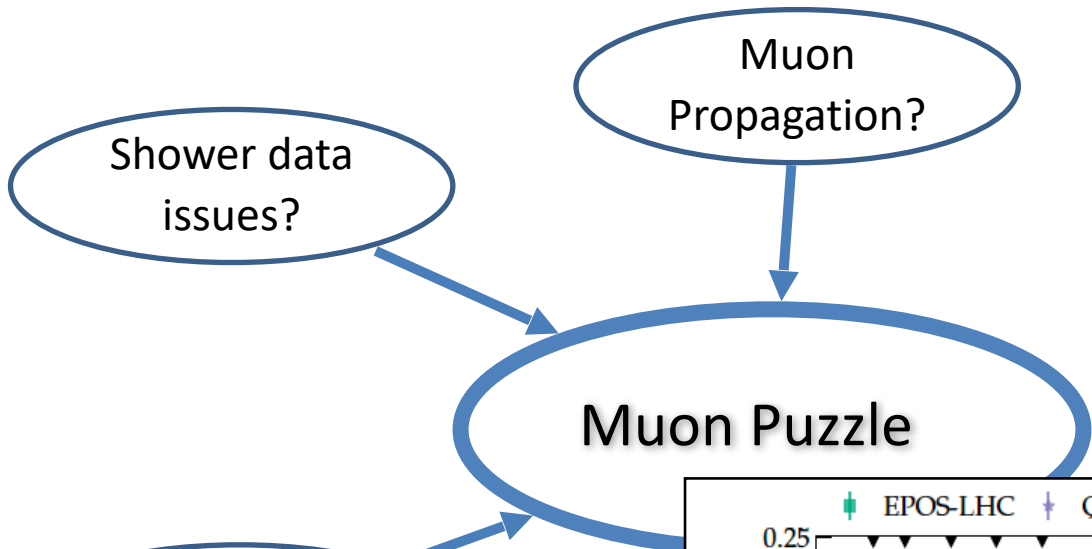




# Origin of muon puzzle?



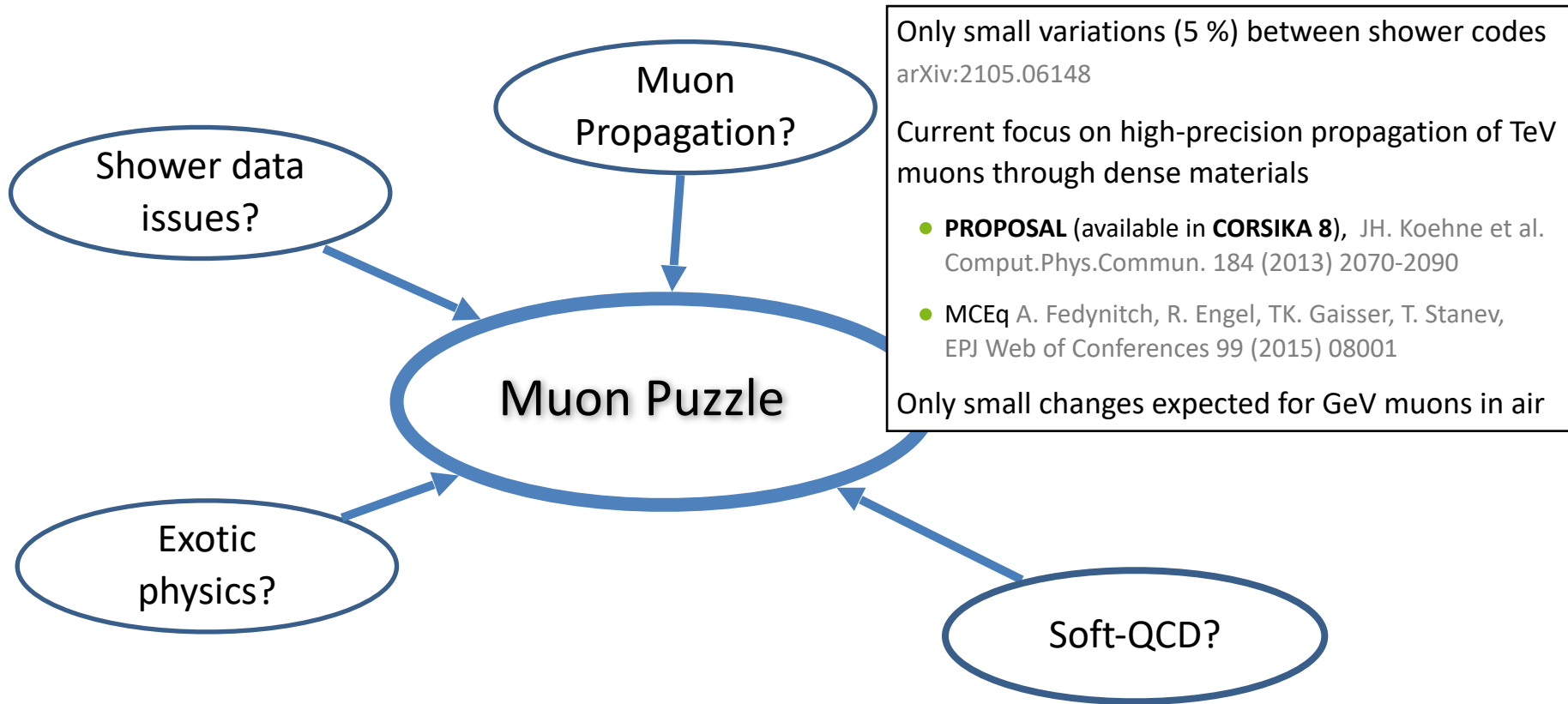
# Origin of muon puzzle?



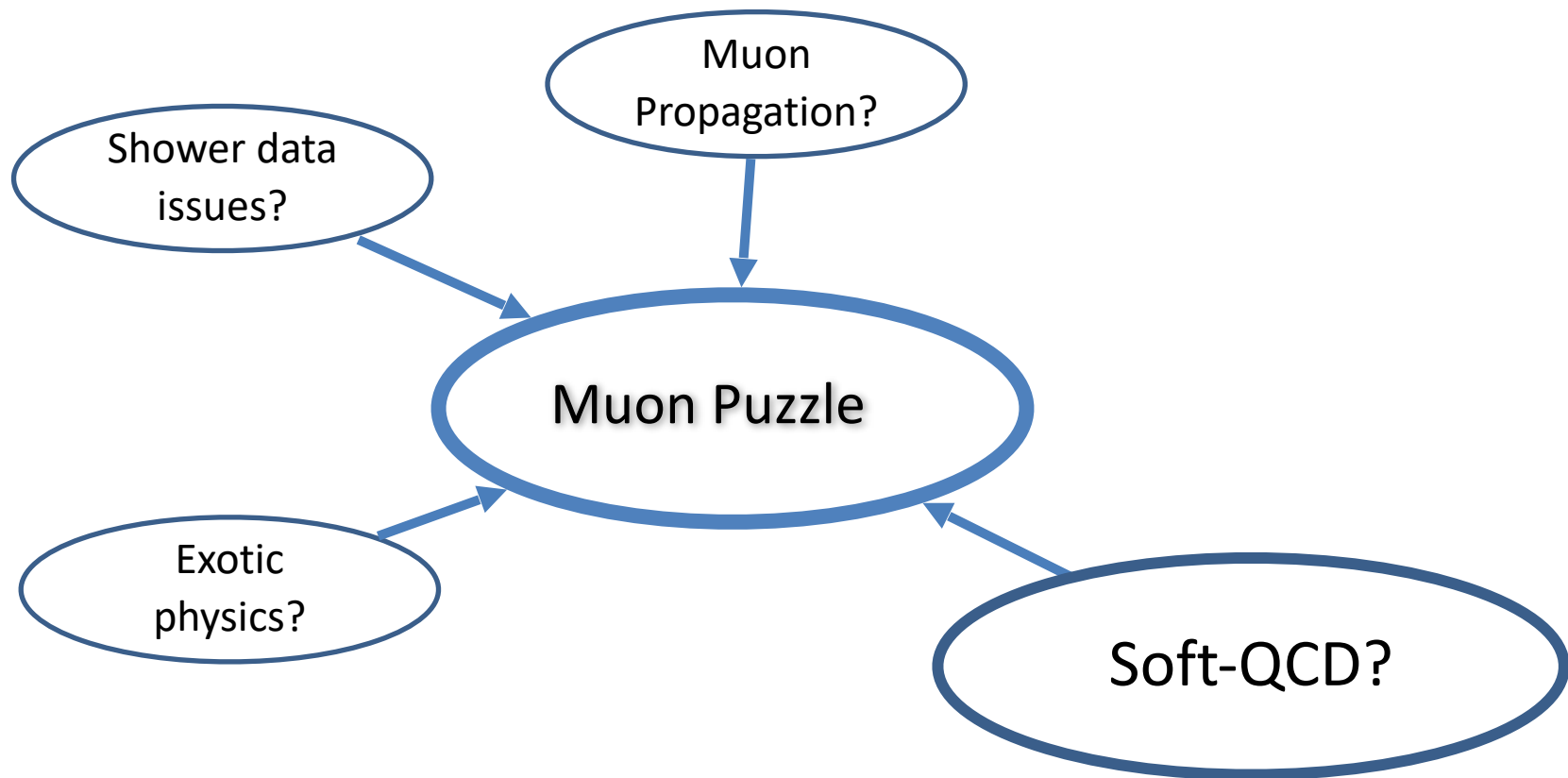
Difficult to change only mean muon number, but keep fluctuations of  $X_{\max}$  and  $N_\mu$  same; early onset of muon discrepancy

First measurement of muon fluctuations Pierre Auger collab., PRL 126 (2021) 15, 152002

# Origin of muon puzzle?



# Origin of muon puzzle?



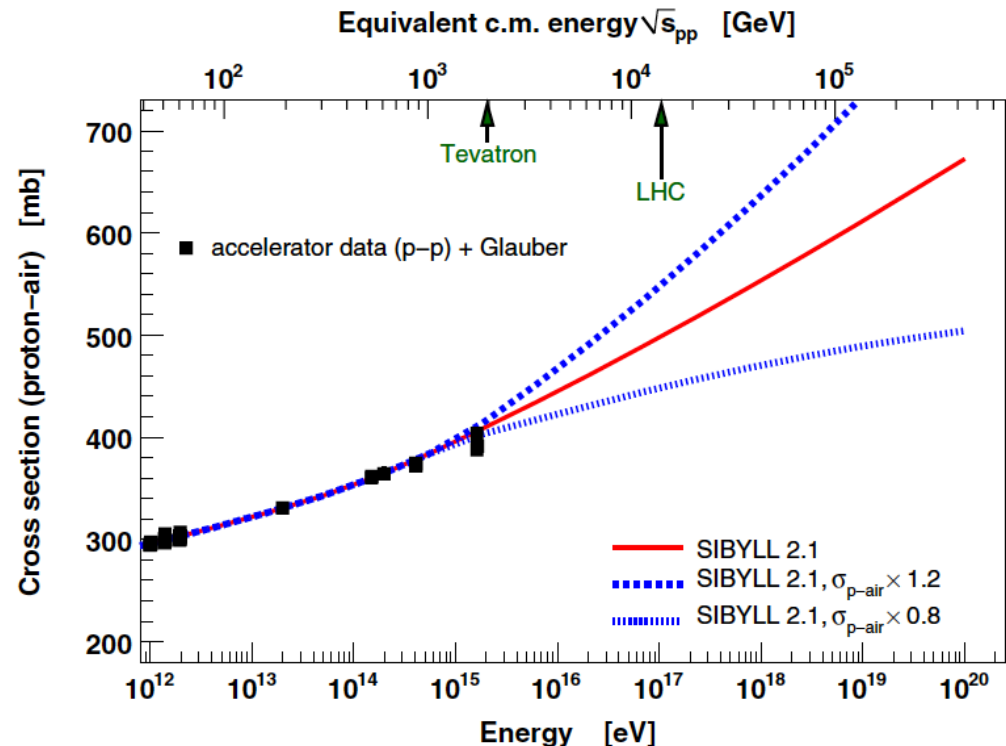
# From shower muons to QCD

R. Ulrich, R. Engel, M. Unger, PRD 83 (2011) 054026

- **Modify hadronic features with energy-dependent factor  $f(E)$  in event generator**
- Study impact on air shower simulations at ultra-high energies

## Modified features

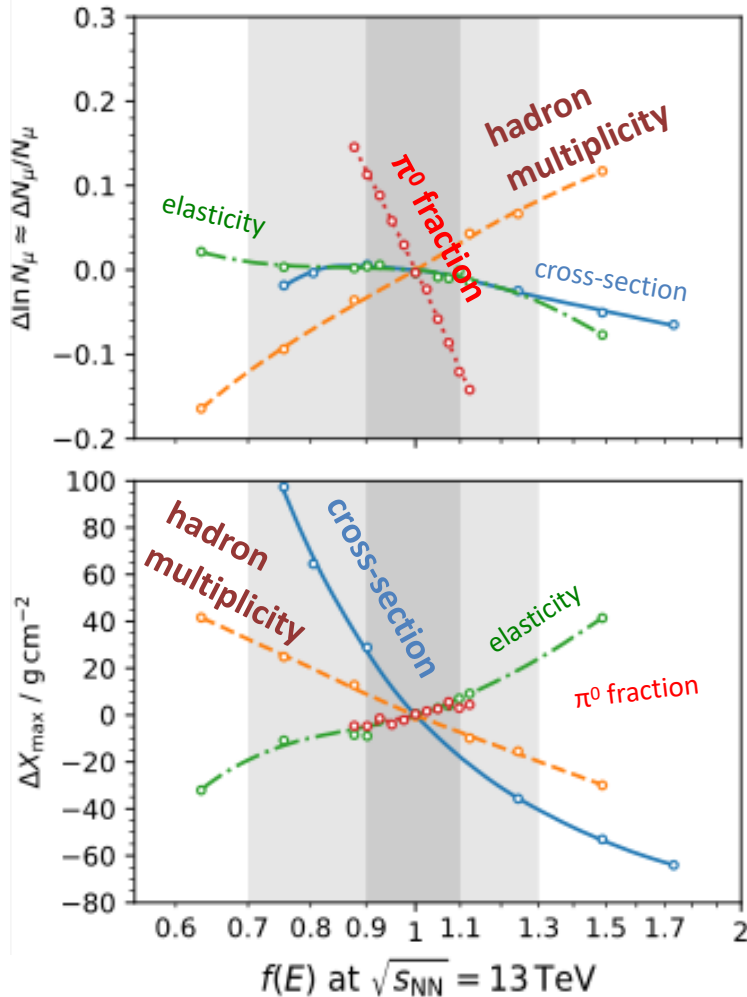
- **cross-sections**  
inelastic cross-section of all interactions
- **hadron multiplicity**  
total number of secondary hadrons
- $\pi^0$  fraction
- **elasticity** =  $E_{\text{max}} / E_{\text{all}}$



# From shower muons to QCD

R. Ulrich, R. Engel, M. Unger, *Phys.Rev.D* 83 (2011) 054026

CONEX, SIBYLL-2.1 p @  $10^{19.5}$  eV



S. Baur, HD, M. Perlin, T. Pierog, R. Ulrich, K. Werner, *Phys.Rev.D* 107 (2023) 9, 094031

$$R = \frac{E_{\pi^0}}{E_{\text{other hadrons}}}$$

- Only changes to  $R$  can solve muon puzzle
- $R$  needs to be known to about 5 % at TeV scale



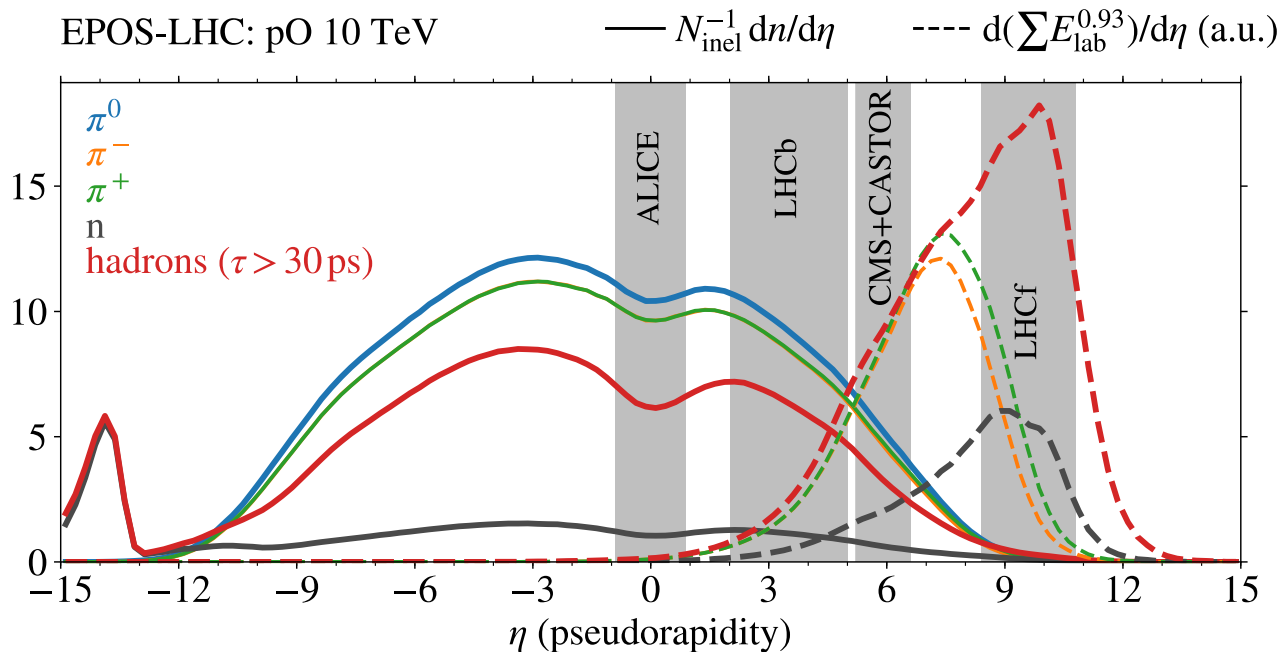
# Importance of forward acceptance

HD, J. Albrecht, W. Rhode, B. Spaan, ..., *Astrophys. Space. Sci.* **367**, 27 (2022)

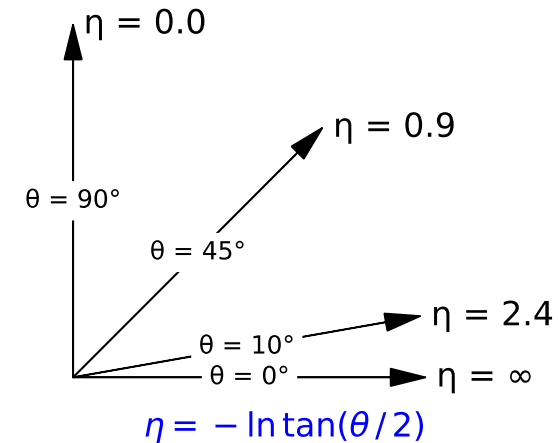
Also see PoS(ICRC2021)463 in arXiv:2112.11761

„Muon production weight“

how many muons would be produced in shower by secondaries in this collision



$\eta$  related to emission angle

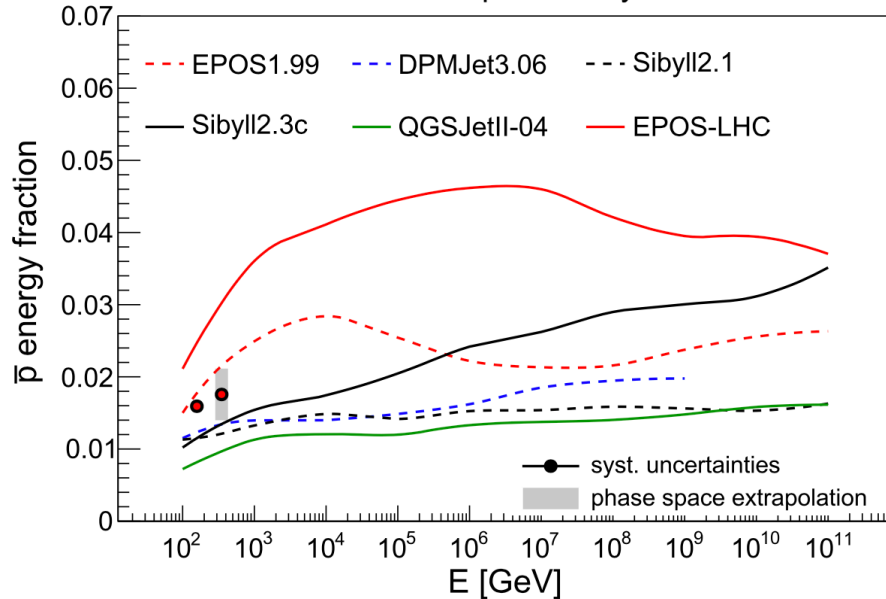


- LHCb is most forward **general purpose** experiment
- Only specialised detectors (calorimeters) cover very forward

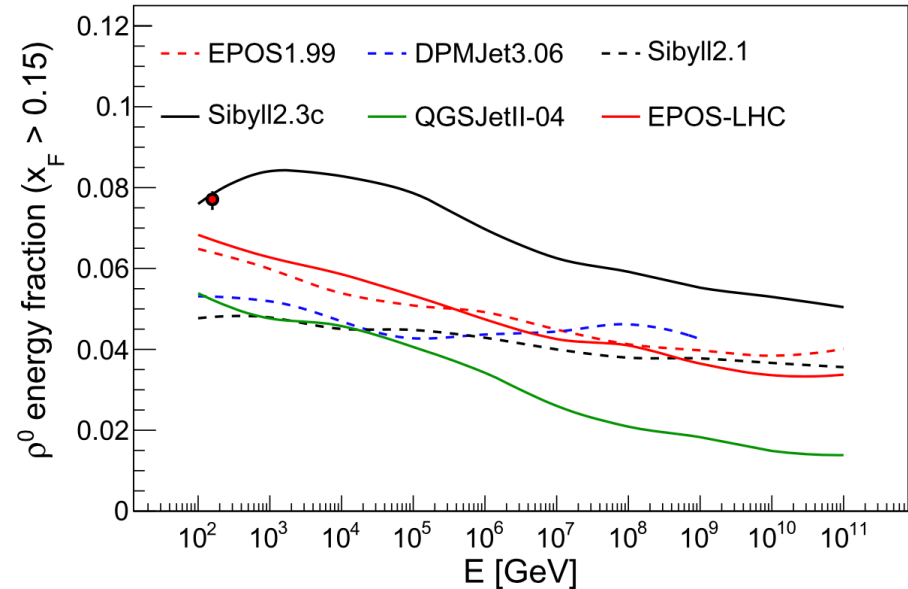
# How to reduce energy ratio R?

- Enhanced forward baryon and  $\rho^0$  production in  $\pi$ -air collisions

NA61/SHINE preliminary



NA61/SHINE preliminary



- More baryons and  $\rho^0 \rightarrow$  less  $\pi^0$   
 $\rightarrow$  **more muons** in air showers

- Not enough to solve muon puzzle**

T. Pierog, K. Werner, PRL 101 (2008) 171101

M. Unger for NA61/SHINE, PoS ICRC2019 (2020) 446

R. Prado for NA61/SHINE, EPJ Web Conf. 208 (2019) 05006

F. Riehn, R. Engel, A. Fedynitch, TK. Gaisser, T. Stanev, Phys.Rev.D 102 (2020) 6, 063002

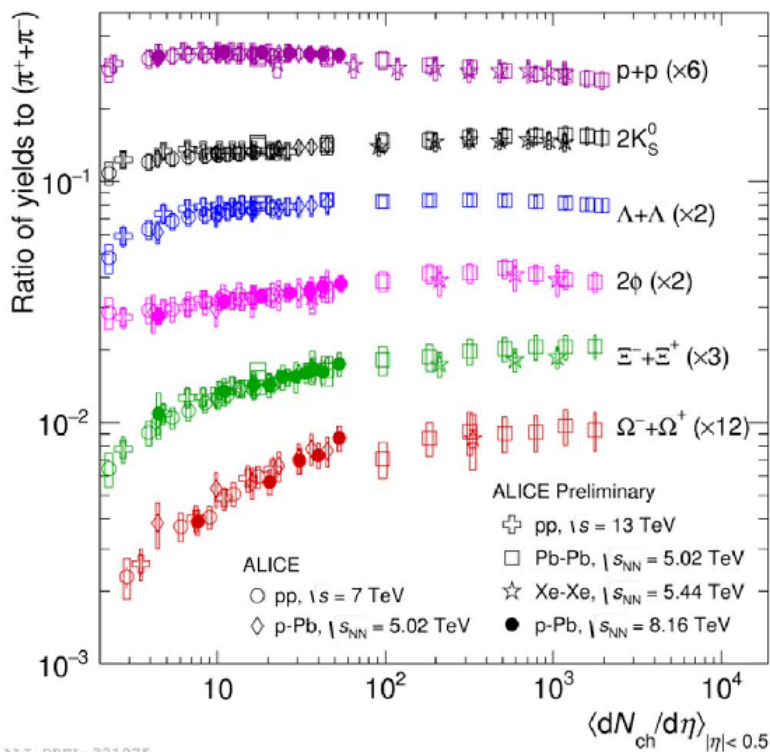
F. Riehn et al. PoS ICRC2023 (2023) 429

# How to reduce energy ratio R?

- Enhanced strangeness production in high-multiplicity events

M. Vasileiou for ALICE, Phys. Scr. 95 (2020) 064007

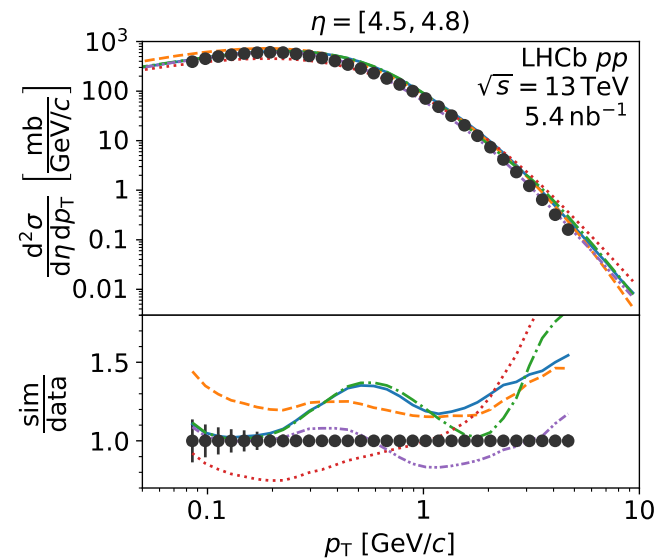
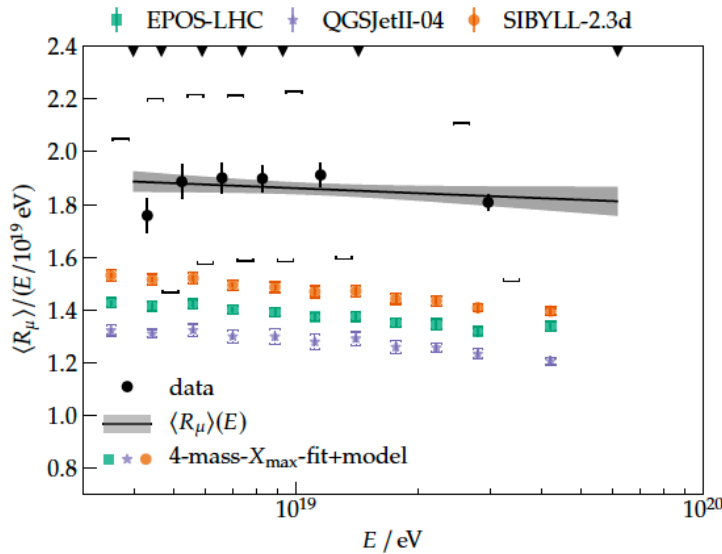
high "multiplicity" = high particle density



ALI-PREL-321075

- ALICE discovered density-dependent enhancement of strangeness production ALICE, Nature Phys. 13 (2017) 535
- More strangeness  $\rightarrow$  less  $\pi^0$  S. Baur, HD, et al, *Phys.Rev.D* 107 (2023) 9, 094031  
 $\rightarrow$  more muons in air showers L. Anchordoqui et al. *JHEAp* 34 (2022) 19-32
  - $R$  reduced by **20 %** in high density events
- Open question: effect in forward region  $\eta \gg 1$  strong enough to solve muon puzzle?**

# Topic 4: Summary



LHCb-PAPER-2021-010,  
arXiv:2107.10090  
p-p @ 13 TeV

- **Muon puzzle:** deficit of GeV muons in simulated air showers
  - If solved, huge impact on cosmic ray research due to **shifts in CR mass composition**
  - Indirect implications for atmospheric lepton flux
- Muon production connected to microscopic variable  $R = E_{\pi^0} / E_{\text{other hadrons}}$
- Only LHCb and LHCf constrain  $R$  in forward region relevant for air showers
- **SFB F4**
  - Multiplicity-dependent analysis of identified hadrons & strangeness production in **p-p @ 13 TeV, p-Pb @ 8.16 TeV, p-He(gas), p-Ne(gas)**

# Community-wide projects

- **SFB F3 + F4: CORSIKA 8 + PROPOSAL**

- CORSIKA: standard air shower simulation code used in astroparticle physics
- PROPOSAL: high precision muon propagation in different materials
- Pythia 8 integration is ongoing
- Essential for global fits and SFB tuning efforts

- **Chromo** HD, A. Fedynitch, A. Prosekin, *PoS ICRC2023* (2023) 189

- Fast unified frontend to event generators used in astroparticle and particle physics in Python

- **RIVET**

- Maps output from event generators to collider measurements; essential for generator tuning
- **SFB F3 + F4**
  - Added relevant LHCb results to RIVET database
  - Long-term plan to integrate astroparticle data into RIVET

- **CRDB** D. Maurin, HD, ..., *Eur.Phys.J.C* 83 (2023) 971

- Community database (300k+ data points) of cosmic ray measurements usable for fits/tuning

- **MCPlots**

- Website to show global agreement of models and collider data
- With SFB person power could add latest relevant LHCb and astroparticle data

# Conclusions and Outlook

- Deep connections between astroparticle experiments...
  - **Pierre Auger Observatory, IceCube, AMS-02, KM3Net, ...**
- ... and collider experiments
  - **LHCb, ALICE, NA61, ...**
- SFB F3 and F4 work combining data of collider and astroparticle experiments with **global fits**
- Support/build/contribute to **tools** essential for global fits



**SFB workshop on the tuning of hadronic interaction models**

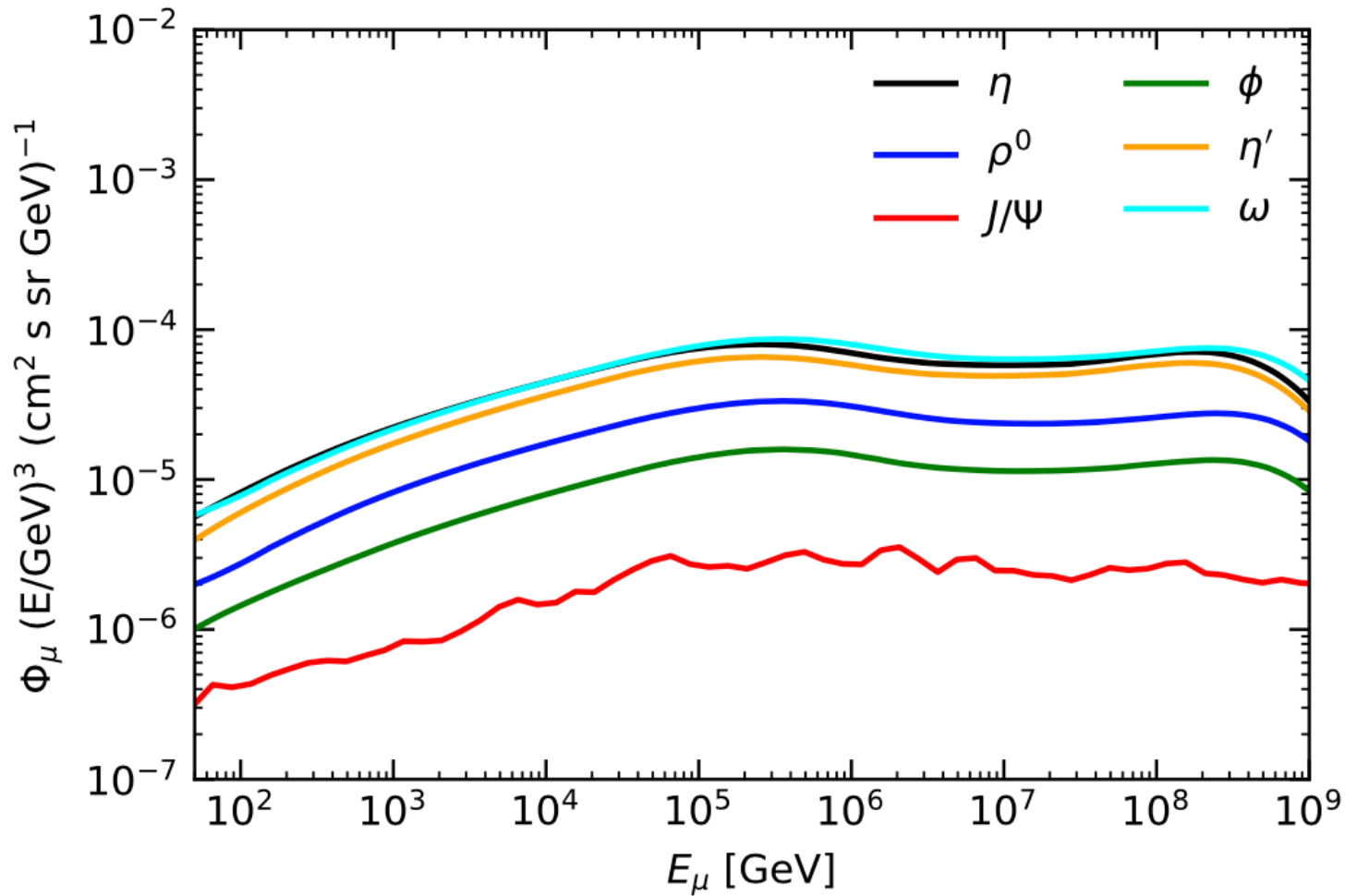
Jan 22-26 2024, Wuppertal

<https://indico.uni-wuppertal.de/event/284/>

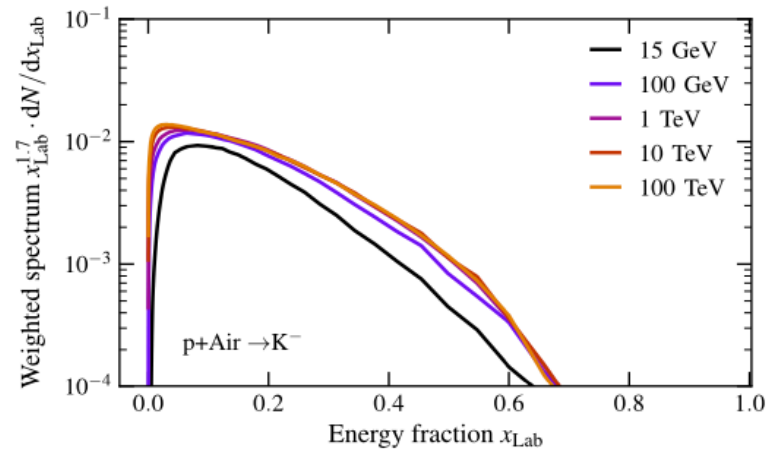
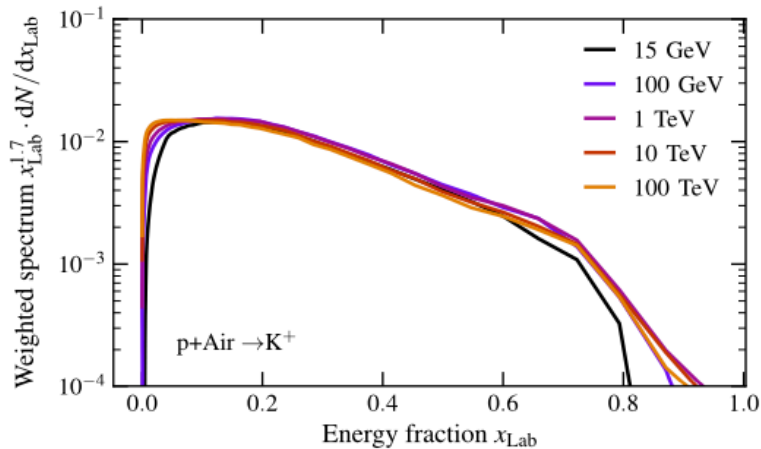
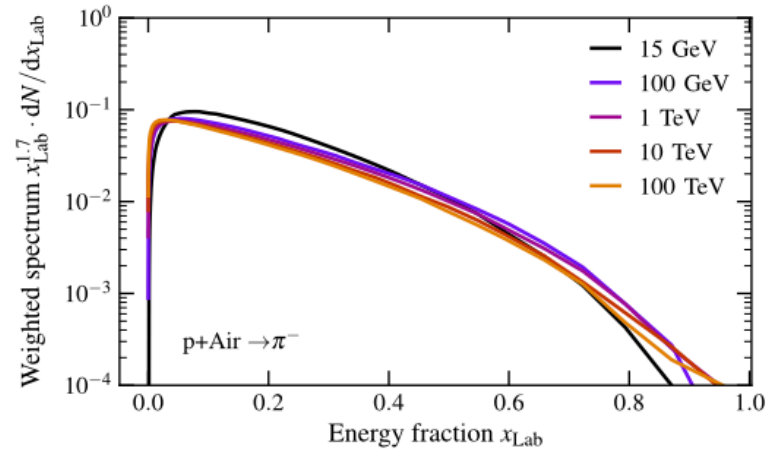
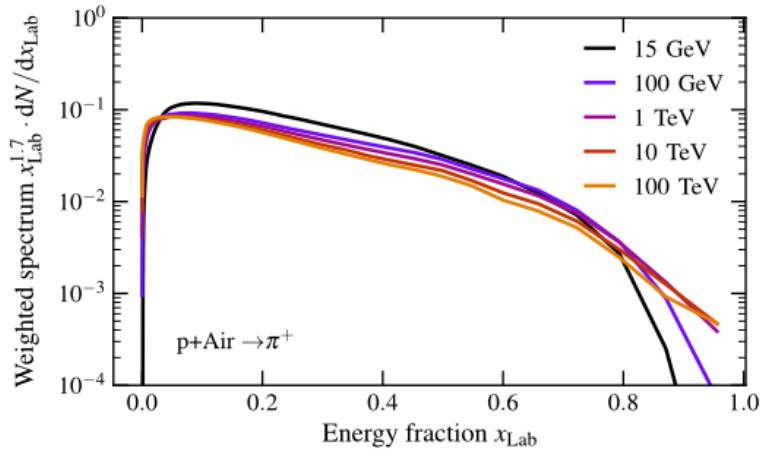


# Backup

# $\mu$ flux from unflavoured



# Feynman scaling violations



- Feynman scaling: cross-section should be approximately independent of  $\sqrt{s}$
- Violations due to multi-parton interactions

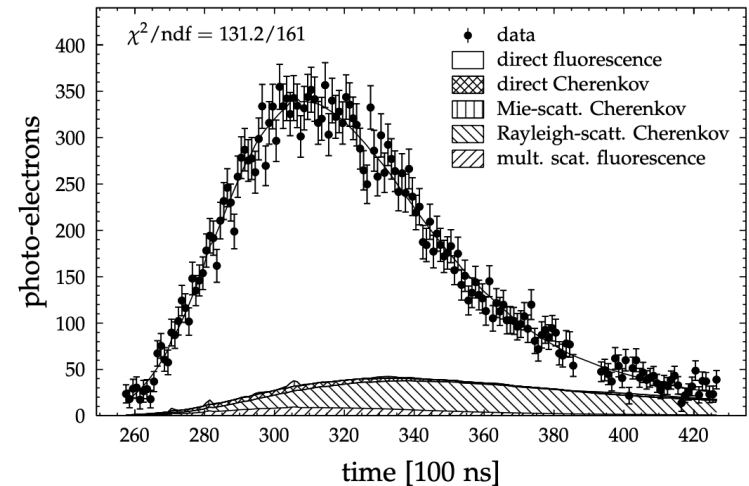
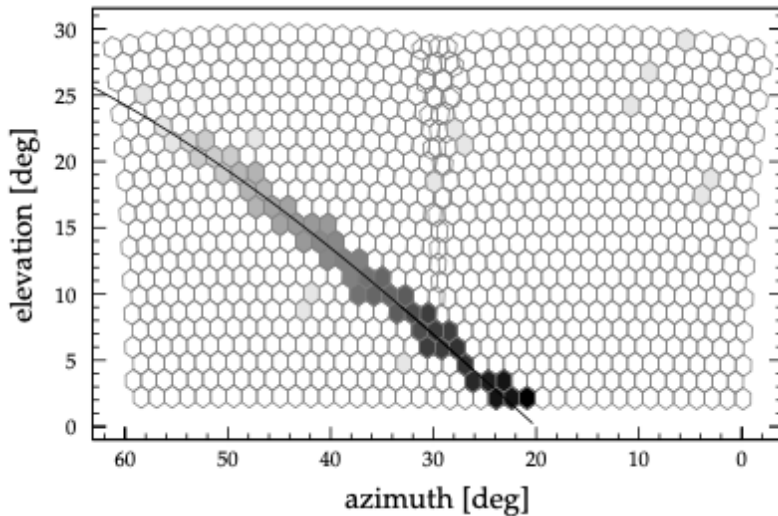
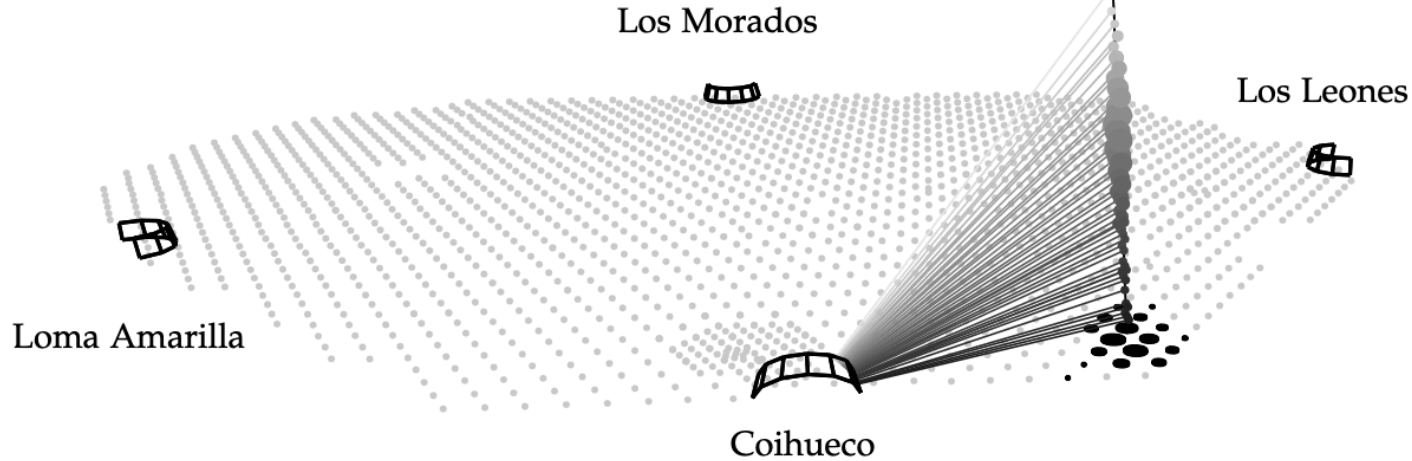
# $x_F$ coverage of experiments

Name	$P_{\text{Lab}}$ (GeV)	$\sqrt{s}$ (GeV)	$x_F$ spectrum	$x_F$ coverage	Beam config.	Ref.
E-769	250	22	yes	$-0.1 < x_F < 0.8$	p-Nuc	[52,63]
EHS	400	27.4	yes	$0 < x_F < 0.6$	p-p	[53,64]
MPS	800	39	yes	$-0.1 < x_F < 0.4$	p-p	[54]
HERA-B	920	42	no	$-0.1 < x_F < 0.05$	p-Nuc	[55]
STAR	21 TeV	200	no	$-0.03 < x_F < 0.03$	p-p	[57]
PHENIX	21 TeV	200	no	$-0.003 < x_F < 0.003$	p-p	[58]
ALICE	4 PeV	2.76 TeV	no	$-0.005 < x_F < 0.005$	p-p	[59]
	26 PeV	7 TeV	no	$-0.004 < x_F < 0.004$	p-p	[60]
LHCb	26 PeV	7 TeV	no	$0.002 < x_F < 0.1$	p-p	[61]
	90 PeV	13 TeV	no	$0.002 < x_F < 0.1$	p-p	[62]

# Shower depth measurement

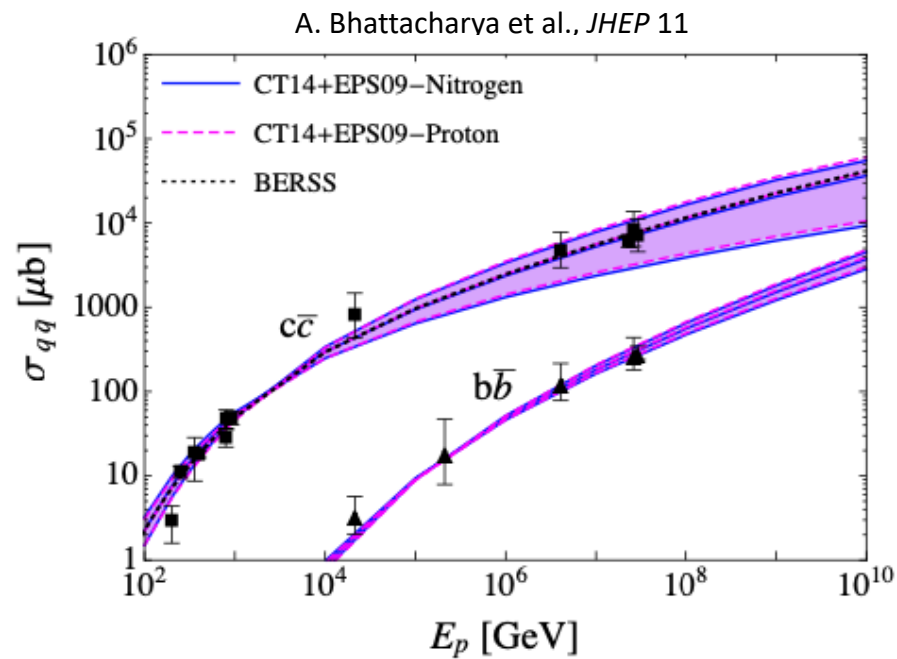
$$\theta = (58.3 \pm 0.3)^\circ$$

$$\phi = (324.7 \pm 0.3)^\circ$$



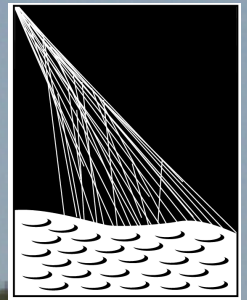
- Challenge: extract unbiased measurement of  $X_{\max}$  distribution
- Cuts on observation quality, (clouds, brightness), fiducial acceptance

# Charm vs. bottom production





# Pierre Auger Observatory



PIERRE  
AUGER  
OBSERVATORY

## **Fluorescence Detector**

UV light from excited  $N_2$

4 x 6 telescopes,  $30^\circ \times 30^\circ$

+ 3 high-elevation telescopes

## **Surface Detector Array**

charged particle + photon detector

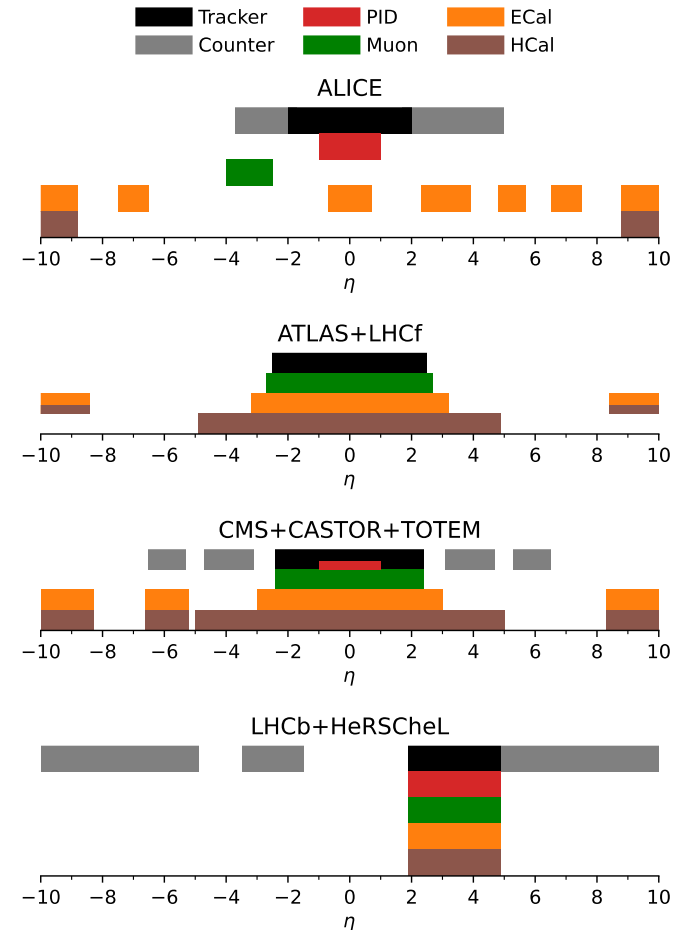
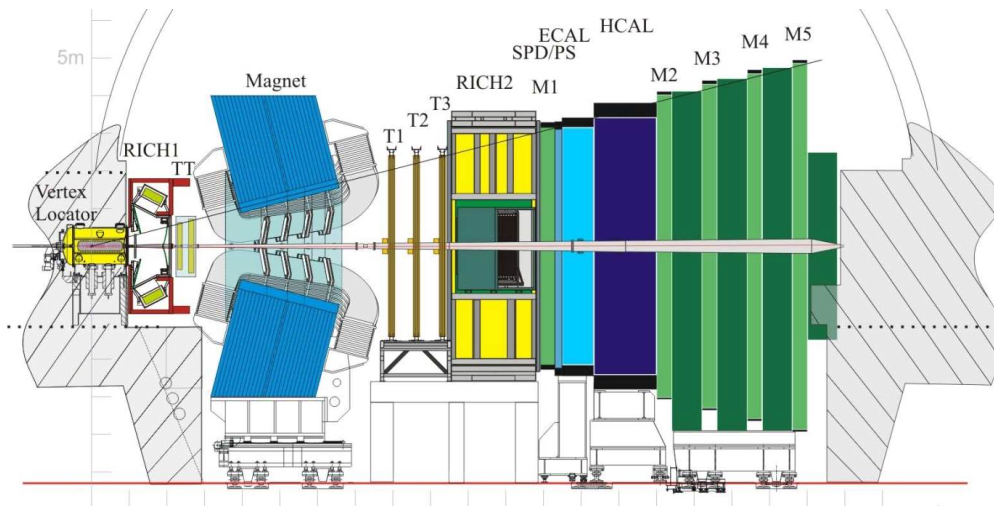
1500 m grid: 1660 stations (3000 km<sup>2</sup>)

+ 750 m grid: 71 stations, (25 km<sup>2</sup>)



# LHCb detector

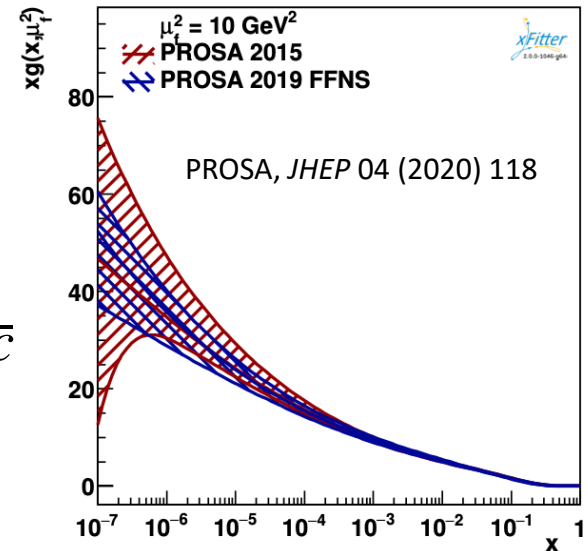
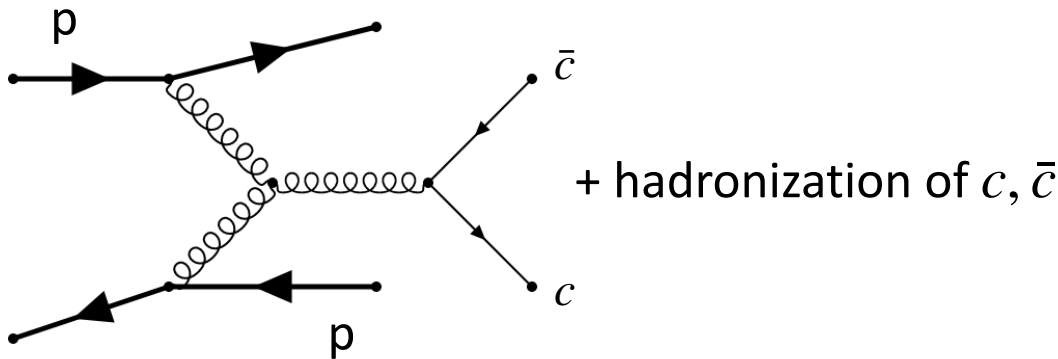
JINST 3 (2008) S08005  
IJMP A 30 (2015) 1530022



## General-purpose forward spectrometer

- Forward acceptance  $2 < \eta < 5$
- Very good momentum and vertex resolution
  - Acceptance down to  $p_T \sim 0.1 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Particle identification: essential to measure  $\pi^\pm, K^\pm, p, \bar{p}$  production cross-sections

# PROSA approach



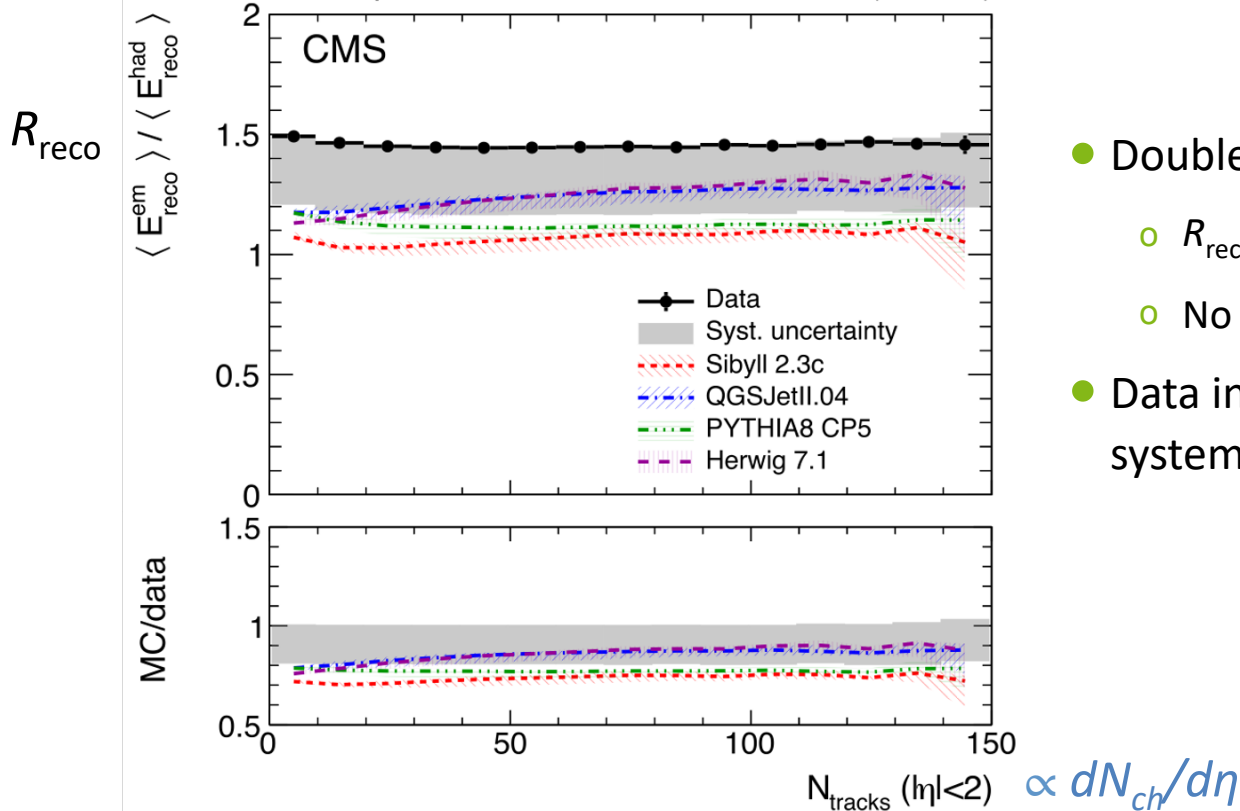
- SIBYLL: direct constraints from LHCb charm production cross-sections
  - Caveat: phase-space  $x_{lab} > 0.1$  not covered
- PROSA: indirect constraints from LHCb and other experiments
  - Calculate charm production using QCD factorisation theorem, ingredients:
    - Gluon PDF
    - Perturbative QCD cross-section  $gg \rightarrow c\bar{c}$
    - Hadronization model
  - Caveat: model-dependent gluon PDF and hadronization
  - **Tightest constrains from LHCb** for gluon PDF at small  $x$ , down to  $5 \times 10^{-6}$

# Direct forward measurement of R

CMS, Eur.Phys.J. C79 (2019) no.11, 893

p-p @ 13

$-6.6 < \eta < -5.2$  TeV  $0.22 \text{ nb}^{-1}$  (13 TeV)



- Double surprise
  - $R_{\text{reco}}$  higher than predicted in p-p
  - No dependence on event multiplicity
- Data inconclusive due to large systematic uncertainties

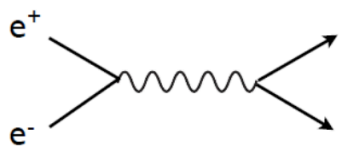
$R_{\text{reco}} > R$  here, because of detector effects

# Possibilities to reduce energy ratio R

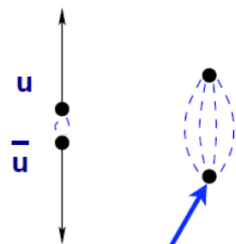
- Difficult to change  $R$  within standard QCD
  - Standard theory: hadron composition **independent** of initial state
  - Iso-spin symmetry:  $\pi^+ : \pi^- : \pi^0 \sim 1 : 1 : 1$

T. Pierog, K. Werner, NA61-theory talk (2015); figure from R. Engel

Annihilation at high energy

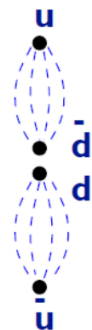


Quarks together are color-neutral system

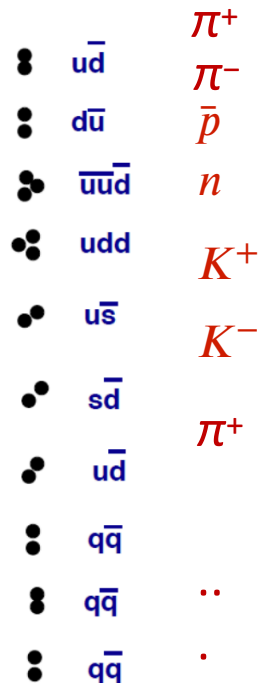


color field

time →



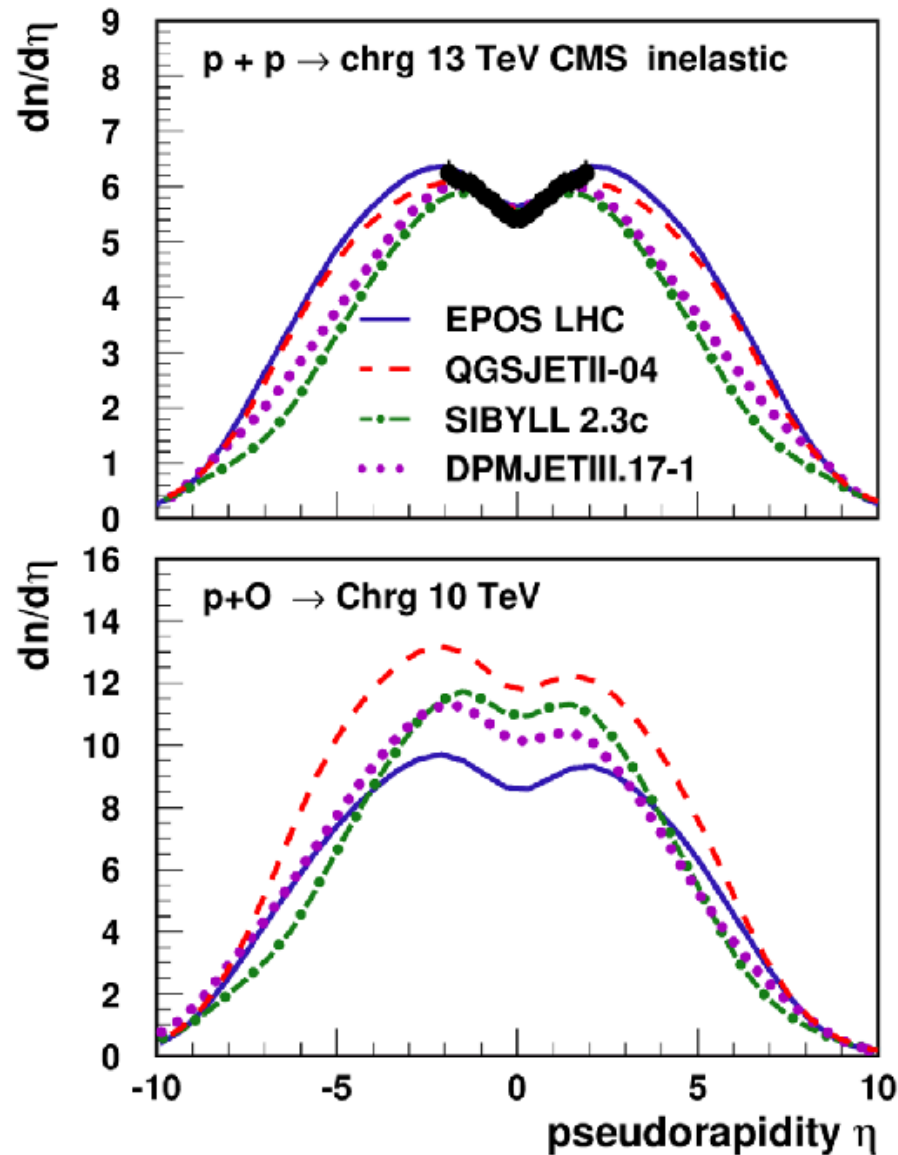
.....



Chain of hadrons

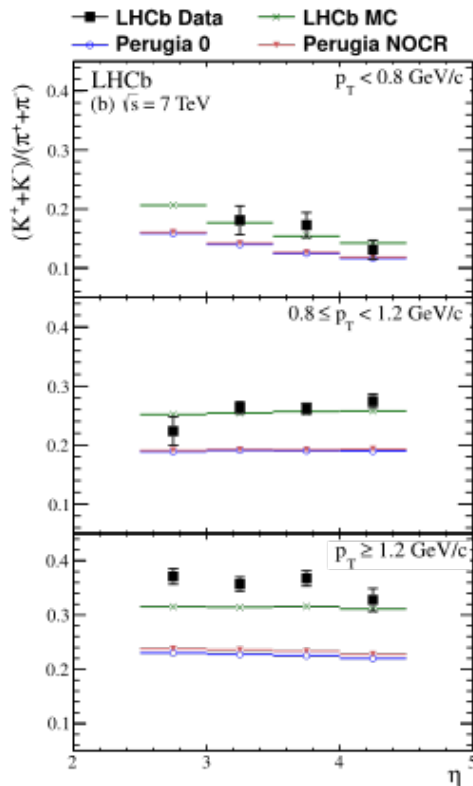
String fragmentation

# Proton+oxygen collisions at the LHC



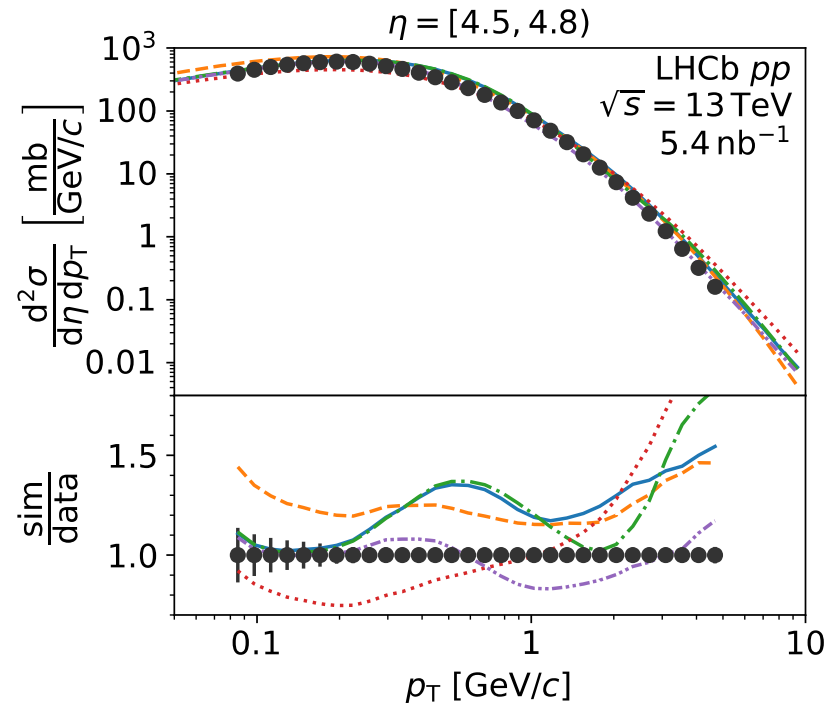
# Forward identified hadron spectra

LHCb, EPJC (2012) 72:2168  
p-p @ 0.9, 7 TeV



LHCb-PAPER-2021-015,  
arXiv:2107.10090  
p-p, p-Pb @ 5 TeV

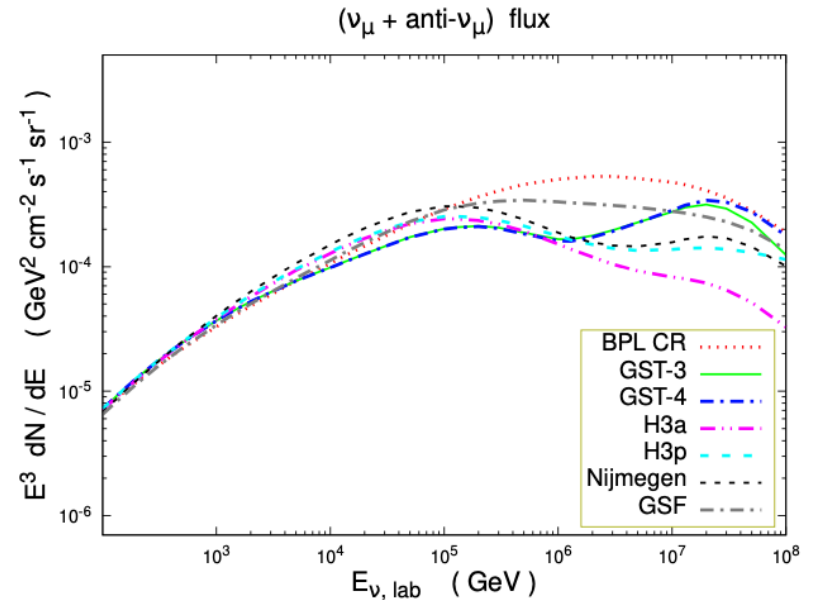
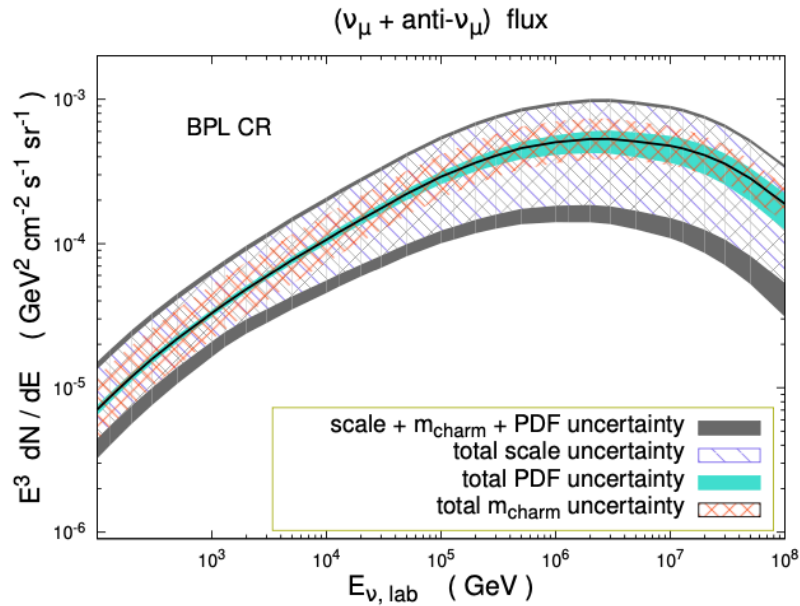
LHCb-PAPER-2021-010,  
arXiv:2107.10090  
p-p @ 13 TeV



- $R$  constrained by  $\pi$ ,  $K$ ,  $p$  ratios measured in p-p at 0.9 and 7 TeV by LHCb
- In progress: analysis of identified hadrons in p-p @ 13 TeV, p-Pb @ 8.16 TeV, p-He(gas), p-Ne(gas)

# Systematic uncertainties

PROSA, *JHEP* 04 (2020) 118



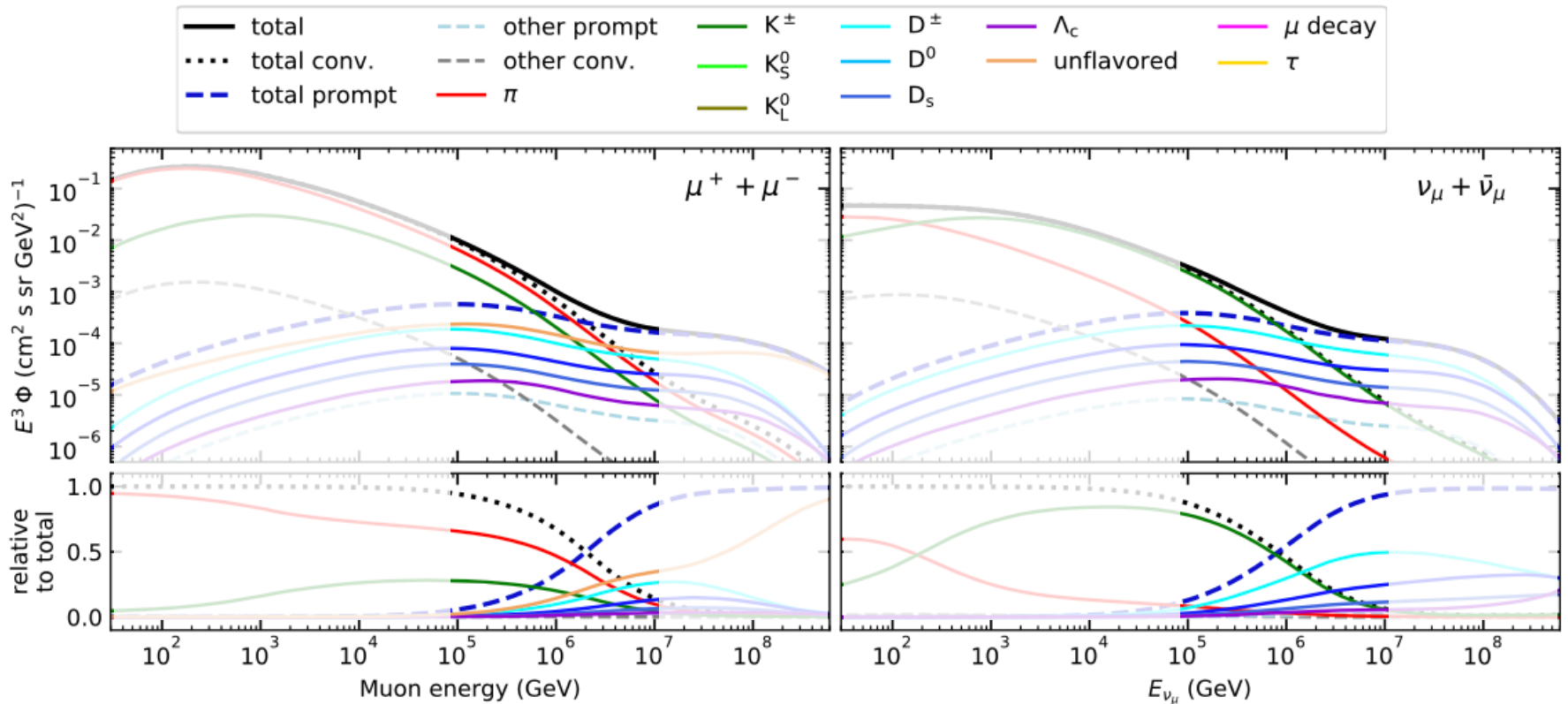
## SFB F3 + F4

Constrain sources of uncertainties with global fits of IceCube + LHCb data



# Leading contributions to prompt atm. flux

A. Fedynitch et al., Phys.Rev.D 100 (2019) 103018



- $\mu$  flux

- conventional:  $\pi$ ,  $K^\pm$
- prompt: unflavoured ( $\eta$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\eta'$ ,  $\rho^0$ , ...), D mesons

- $\nu_\mu$  flux

- conventional:  $K^\pm$
- prompt: D mesons