

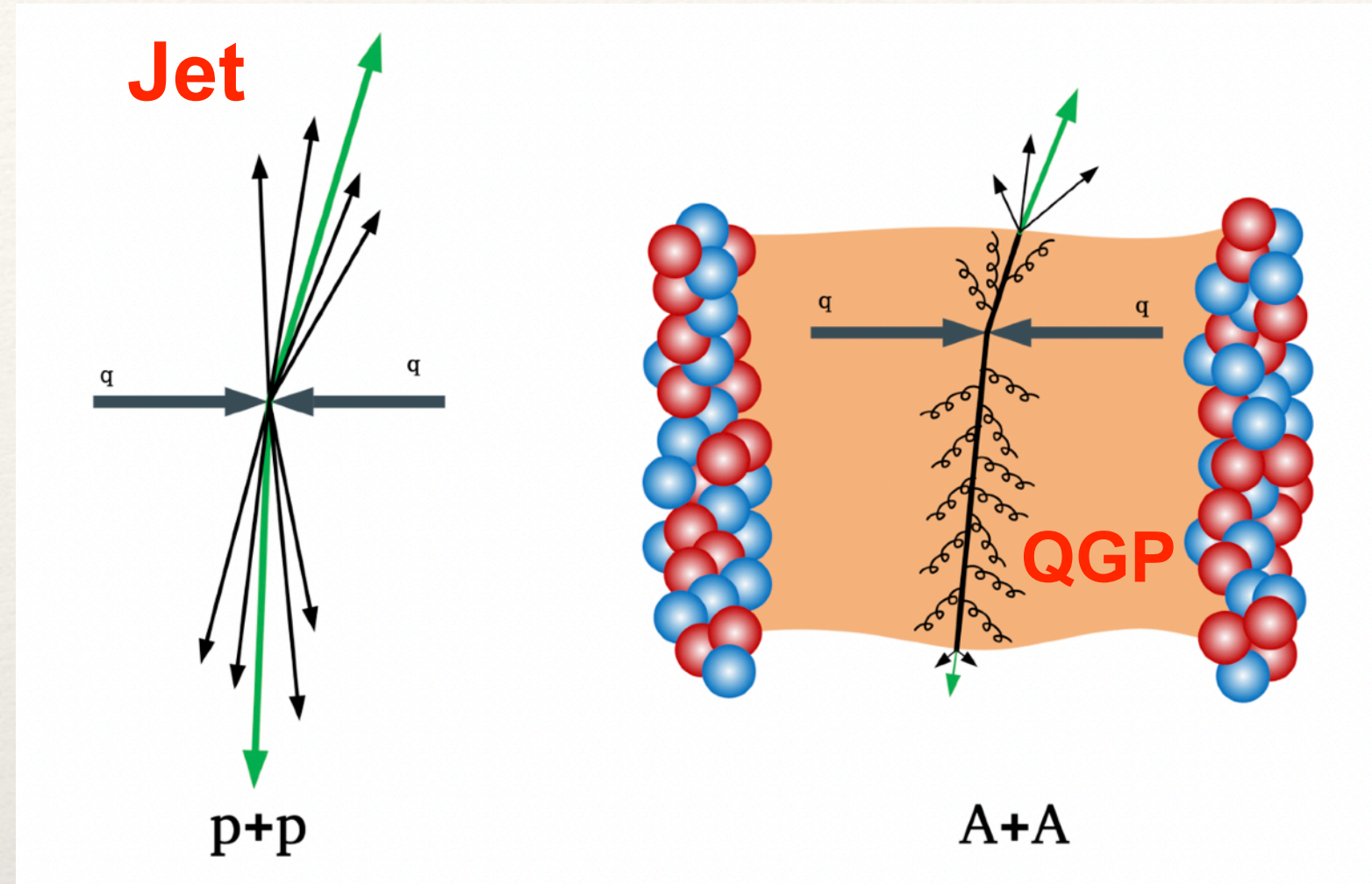
# Jet transport in relativistic nucleus-nucleus collisions



**Shanshan Cao**  
*Shandong University*



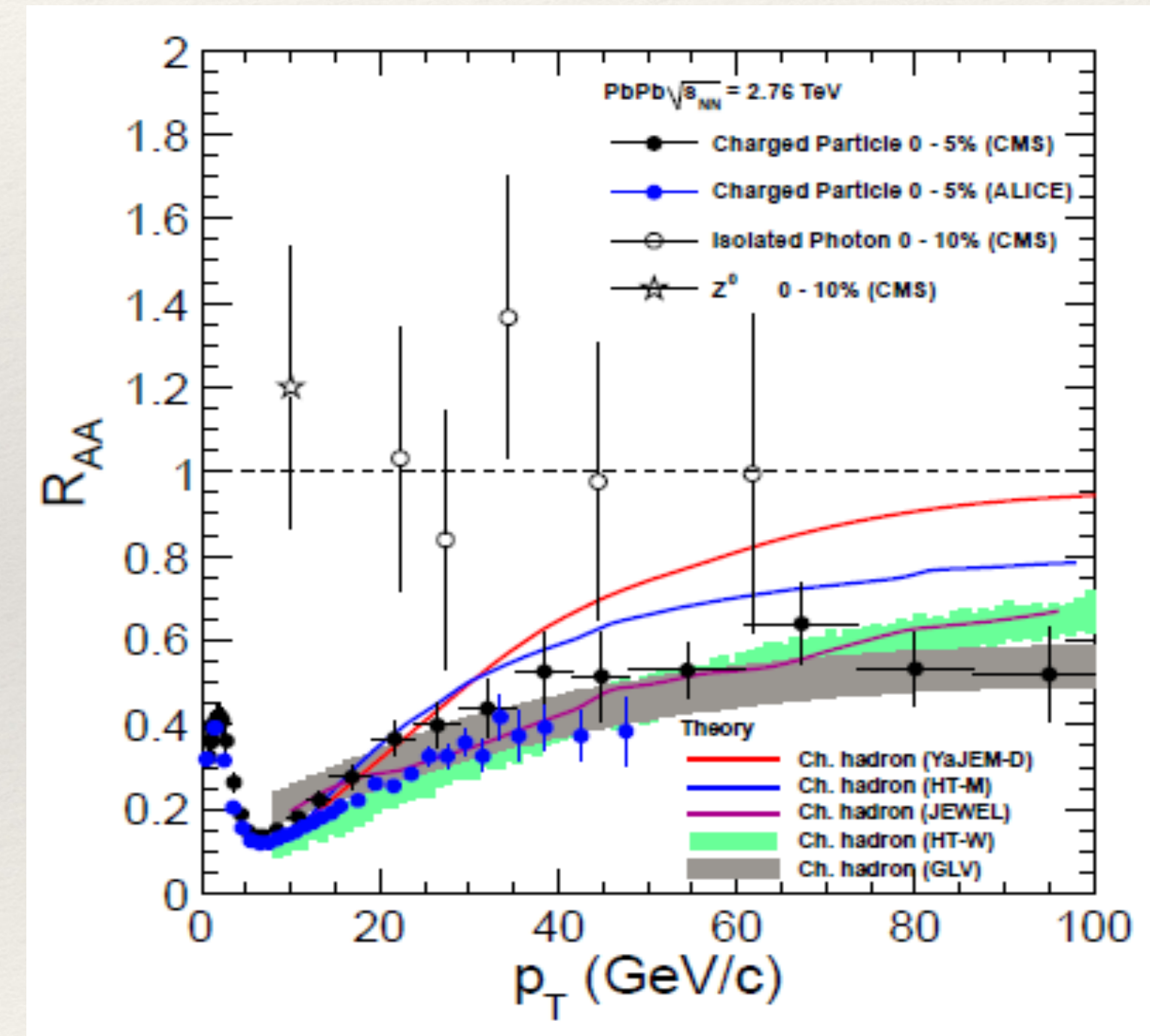
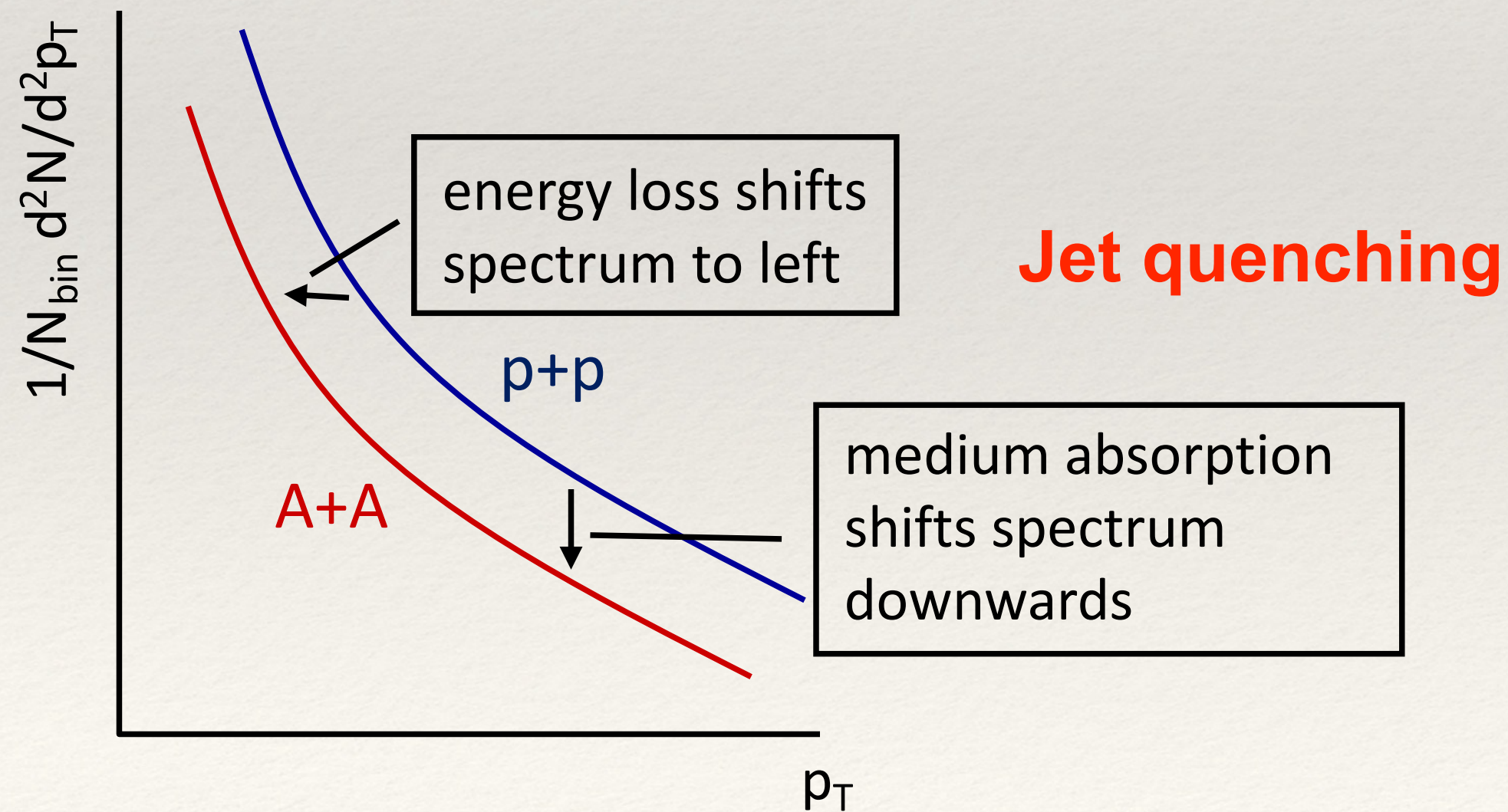
# Jet quenching in high-energy nuclear collisions



[ by M. Rybar / ATLAS ]

## Nuclear modification factor

$$R_{AA} \equiv \frac{d^2 N^{AA} / dy dp_{\perp}}{d^2 N^{pp} / dy dp_{\perp} \times \langle N_{coll}^{AA} \rangle}$$



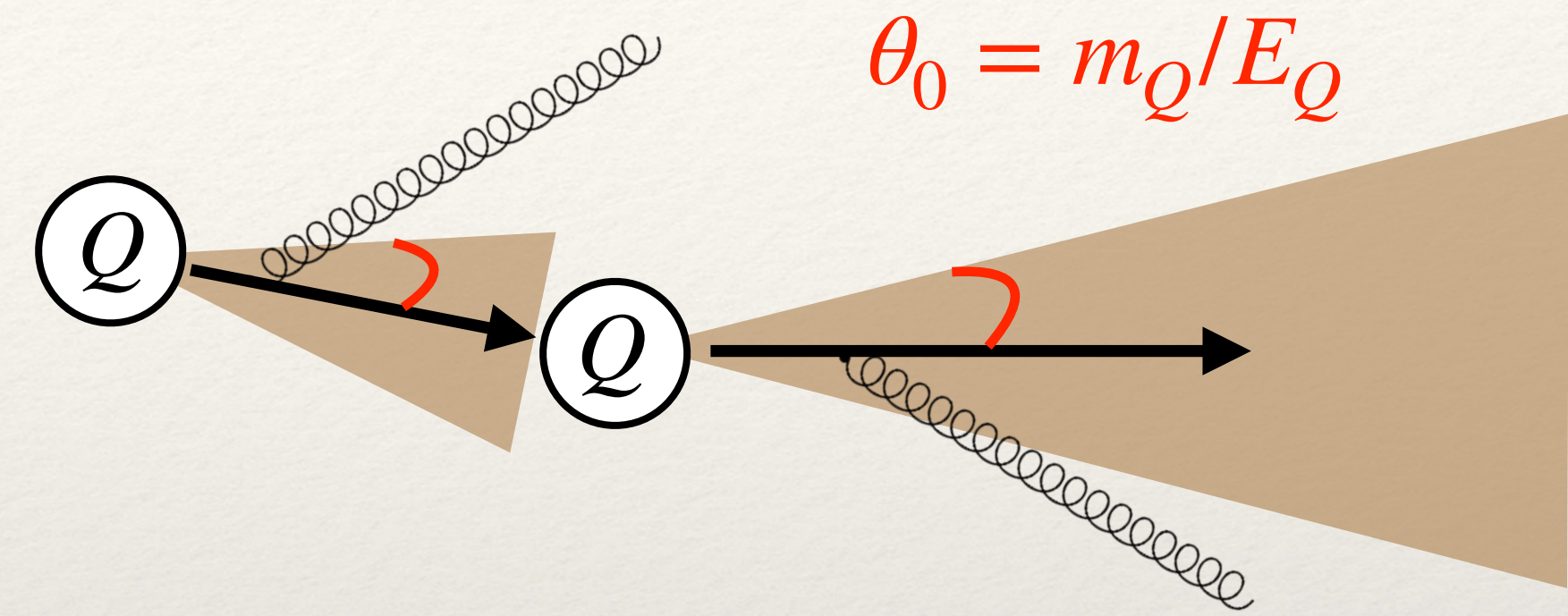
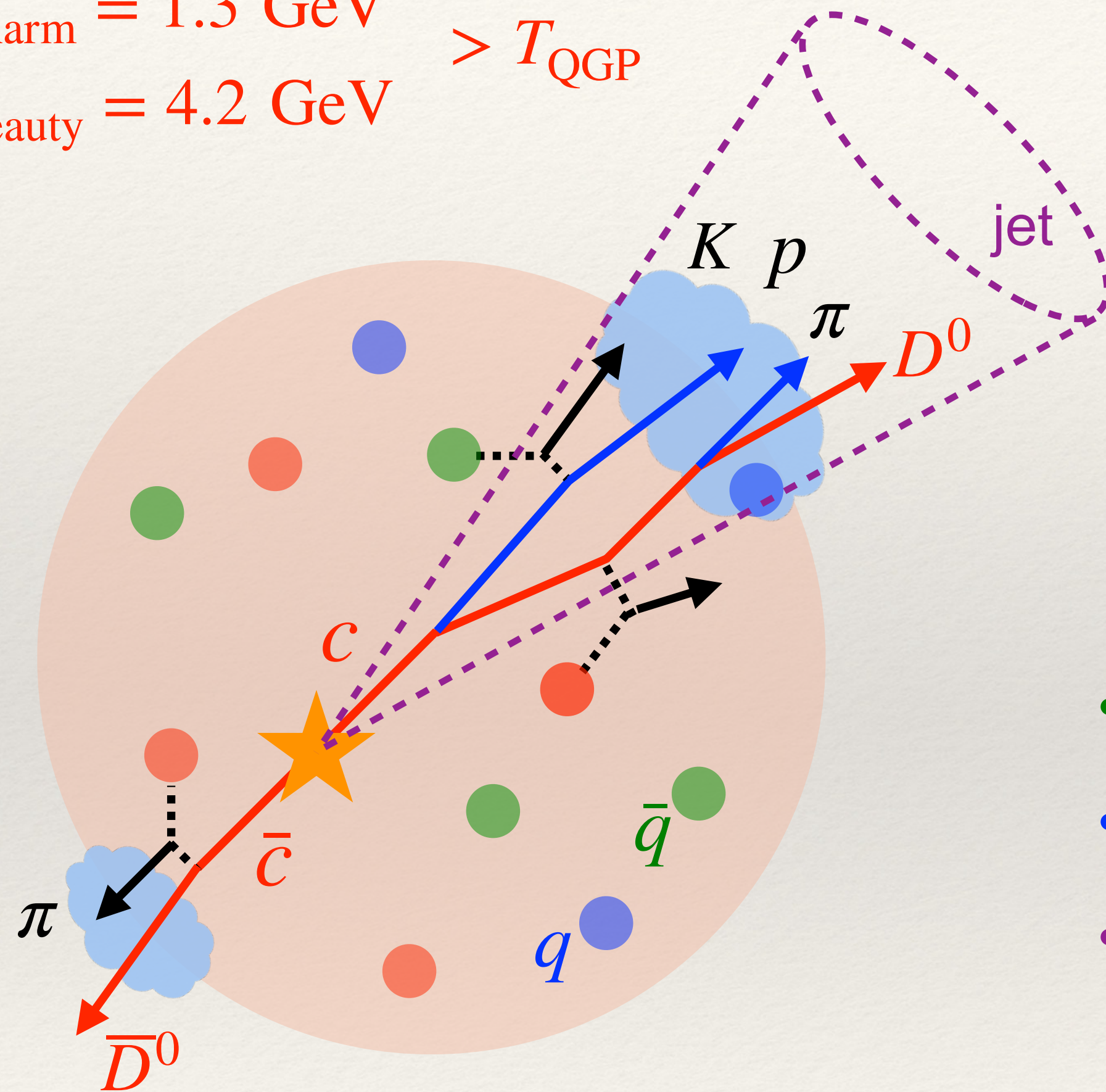
[ Mueller *et al.*, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 62, 361 (2012) ]

# Jets tagged with heavy quarks

$$m_{\text{charm}} = 1.3 \text{ GeV}$$

$$m_{\text{beauty}} = 4.2 \text{ GeV}$$

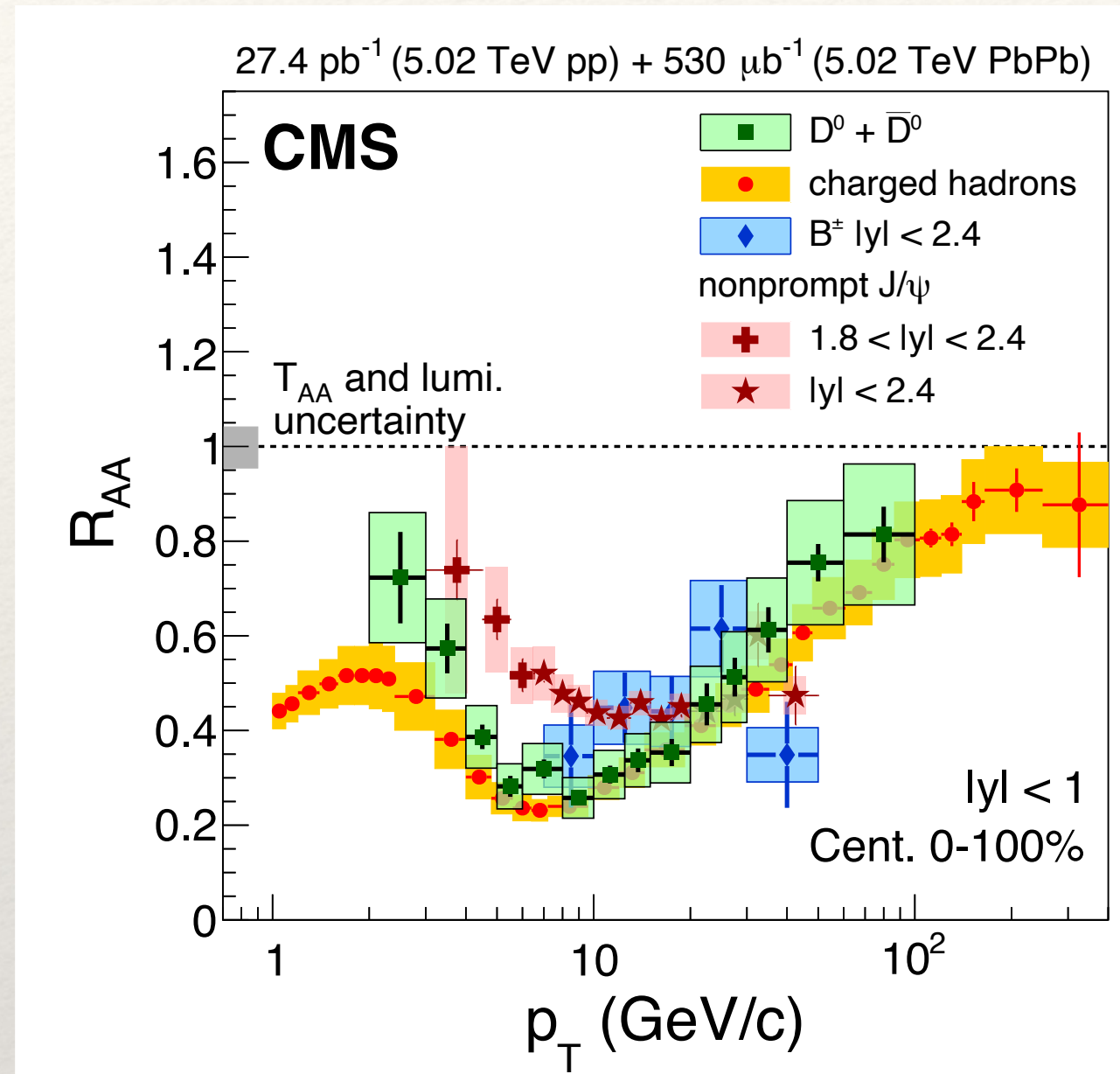
$$> T_{\text{QGP}}$$



- Produced from initial hard scatterings
- Serve as an ideal probe of the QGP properties
- Provide a unique opportunity for studying the flavor dependence of parton splitting (dead cone effect)

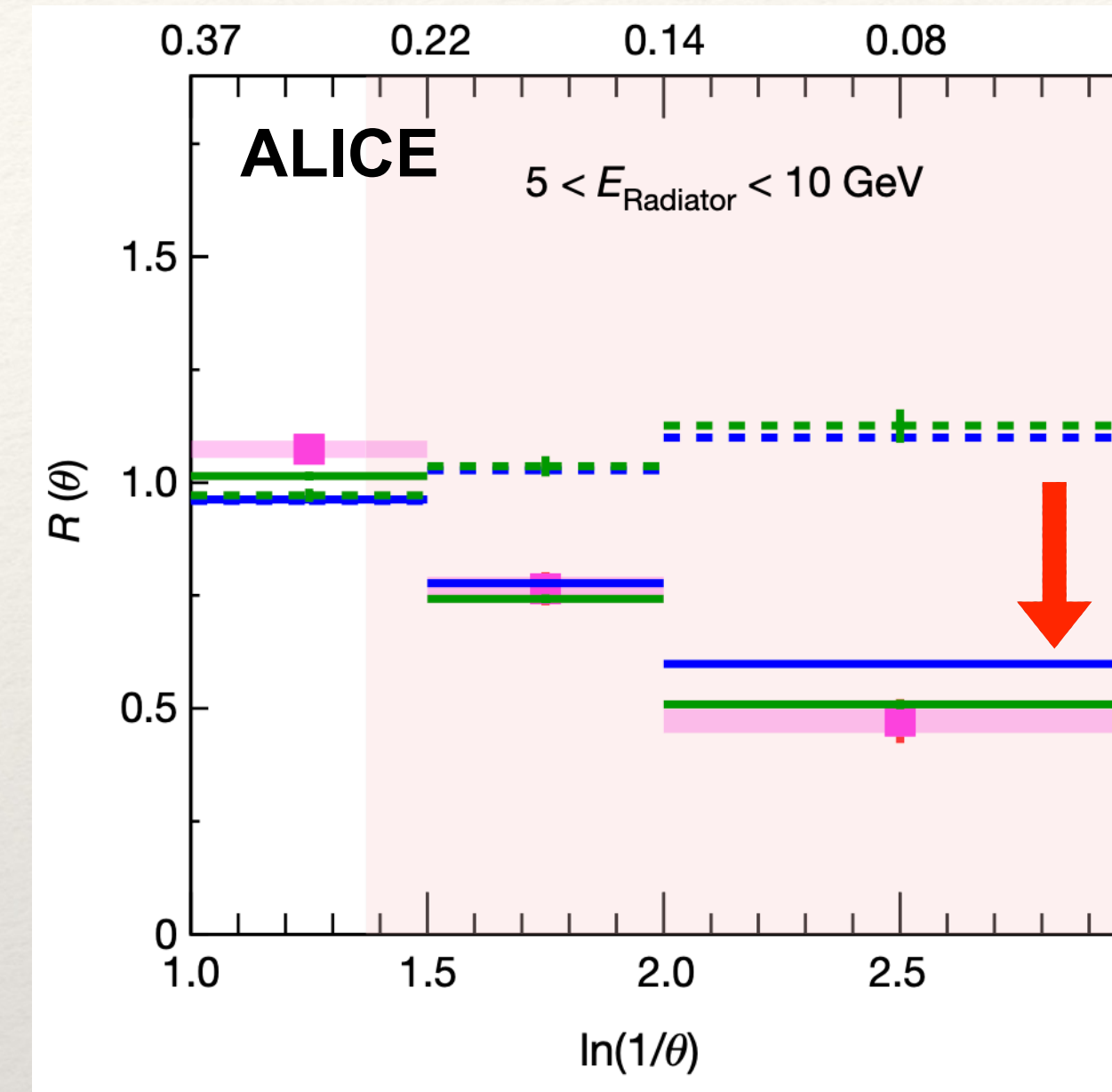
# Searches for the flavor dependence of parton splitting

Hadron  $R_{AA}$  (parton energy loss)



Phys. Lett. B 782  
(2018) 474-496

Distribution of splitting angles in  $pp$



Nature 605  
(2022) 7910

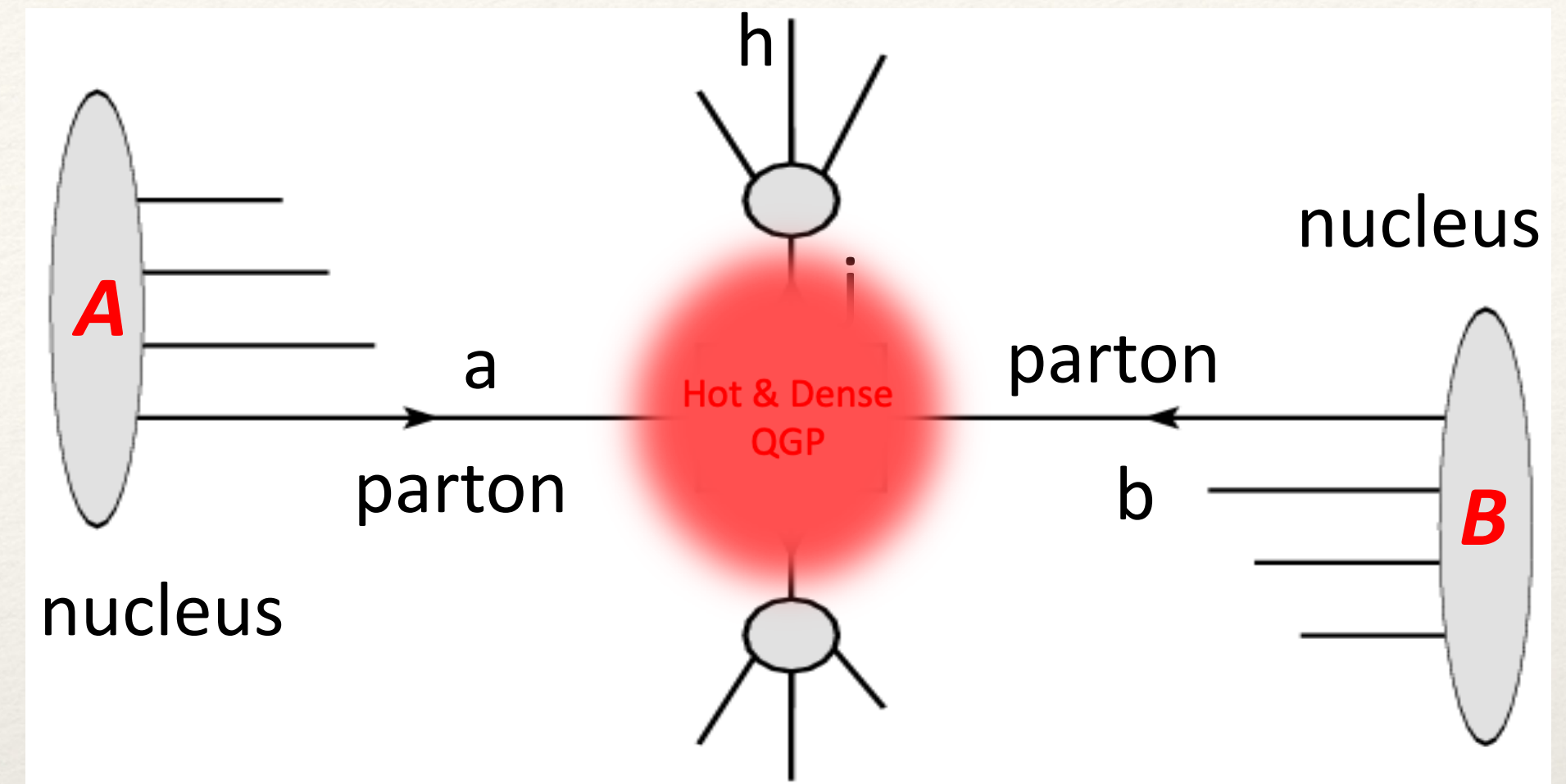
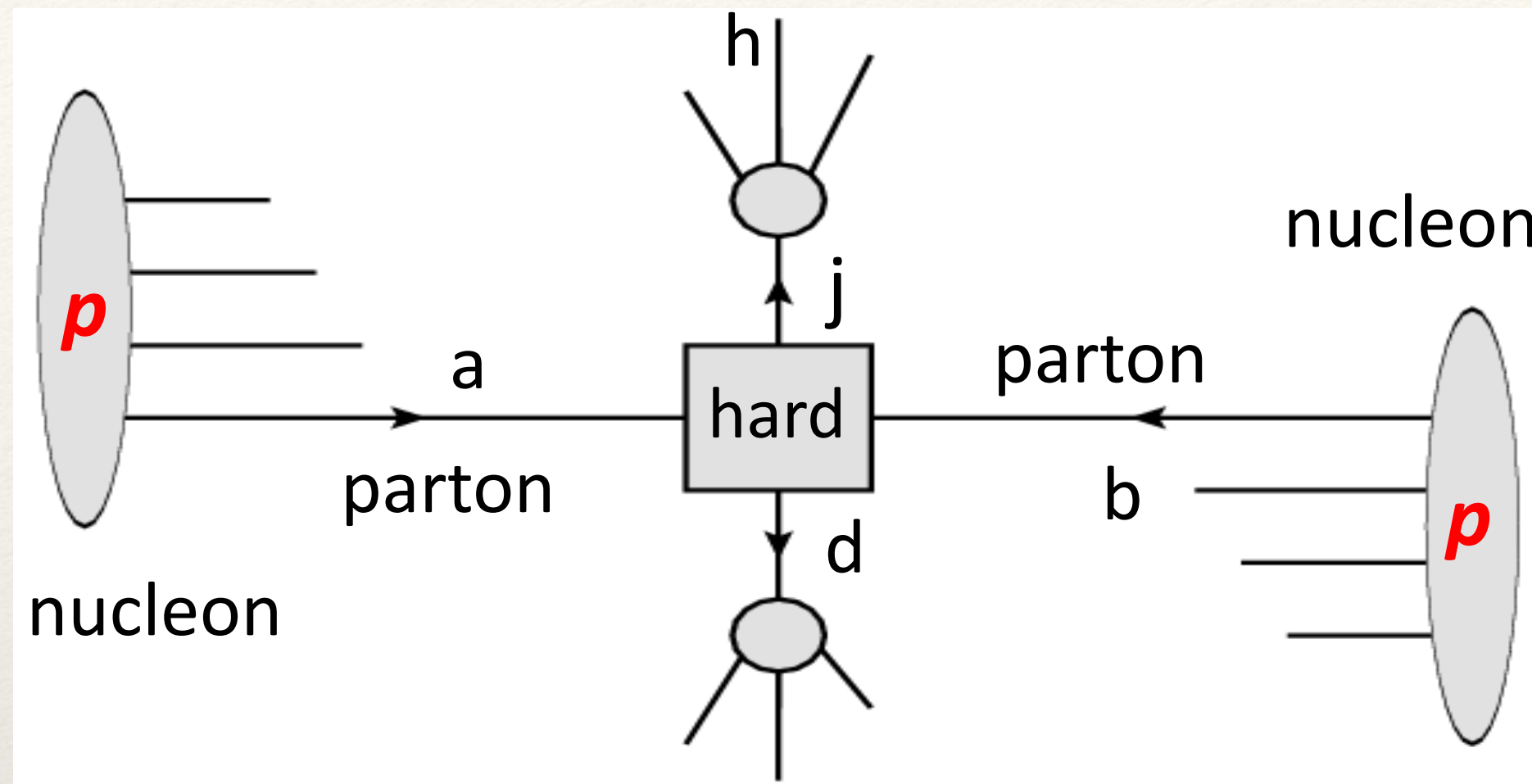
No clear separation between charged hadrons,  $D$ , and  $B$ , except at very low  $p_T$

Clear suppression of splitting at small  $\theta$  in  $D$ -jets vs. inclusive jets

## Goals:

- Understand flavor hierarchies embedded in both hadrons and jets
- Use hadron and jet observables to probe the QGP properties

# Theoretical framework of jet quenching



$$d\sigma_h = \sum_{abjd} f_{a/p} \otimes f_{b/p} \otimes d\sigma_{ab \rightarrow jd} \otimes D_{h/j}$$

$$d\tilde{\sigma}_h = \sum_{abjd} f_{a/A} \otimes f_{b/B} \otimes d\sigma_{ab \rightarrow jd} \otimes \tilde{D}_{h/j}$$

- $f_{a/p}, f_{b/p} \rightarrow f_{a/A}, f_{b/B}$ : cold nuclear matter (initial state) effect, e.g., shadowing, Cronin, ... , measured in  $pA$  collisions
- $D_{h/j} \rightarrow \tilde{D}_{h/j}$ : medium modified fragmentation function, hot nuclear matter (final state) effect
- Factorization assumption:  $\tilde{D}_{h/j} = \sum_{j'} P_{j \rightarrow j'} \otimes D_{h/j'}$ , nuclear modification of parton  $j$

# Parton transport inside the QGP

## Linear Boltzmann Transport (LBT)

$$p_a \cdot \partial f_a(x_a, p_a) = E_a (\mathcal{C}_a^{\text{el}} + \mathcal{C}_a^{\text{inel}})$$

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## Elastic scattering ( $ab \rightarrow cd$ )

$$\mathcal{C}_a^{\text{el}} = \sum_{b,c,d} \int \prod_{i=b,c,d} \frac{d[p_i]}{2E_a} (\gamma_d f_c f_d - \gamma_b f_a f_b) \cdot (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_a + p_b - p_c - p_d) \left| \mathcal{M}_{ab \rightarrow cd} \right|^2$$

2 → 2 scattering matrices

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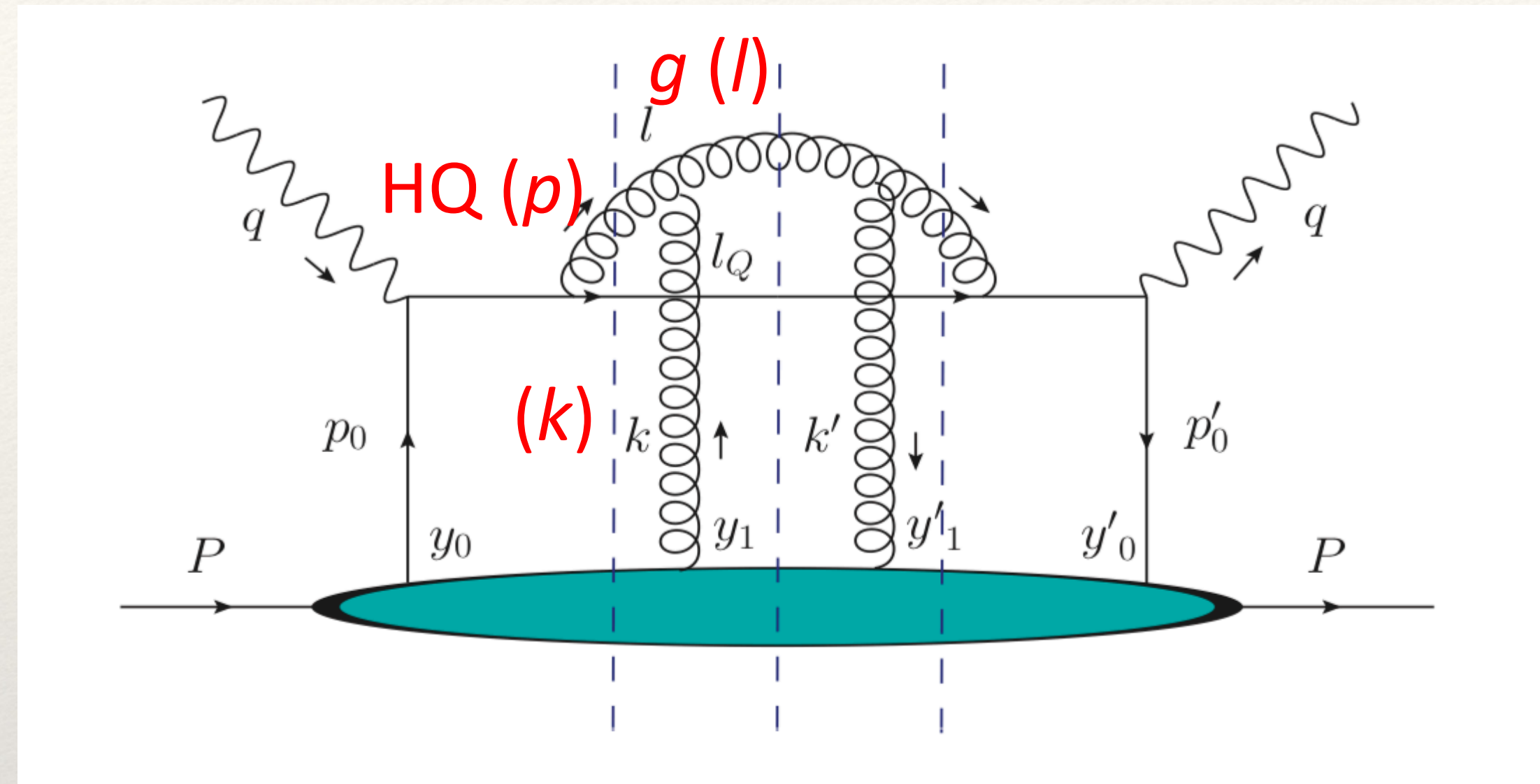
2 → 2 scattering matrices

loss term: **scattering rate**  
(for Monte-Carlo simulation)

$$\Gamma_a^{\text{el}}(\mathbf{p}_a, T) = \sum_{b,c,d} \frac{\gamma_b}{2E_a} \int \prod_{i=b,c,d} d[p_i] f_b \cdot (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(p_a + p_b - p_c - p_d) \left| \mathcal{M}_{ab \rightarrow cd} \right|^2$$



# Inelastic scattering



Majumder PRD 85 (2012);  
Zhang, Wang and Wang,  
PRL 93 (2004)

- **Higher-twist formalism:** collinear expansion (  $\langle k_{\perp}^2 \rangle \ll l_{\perp}^2 \ll Q^2$  )

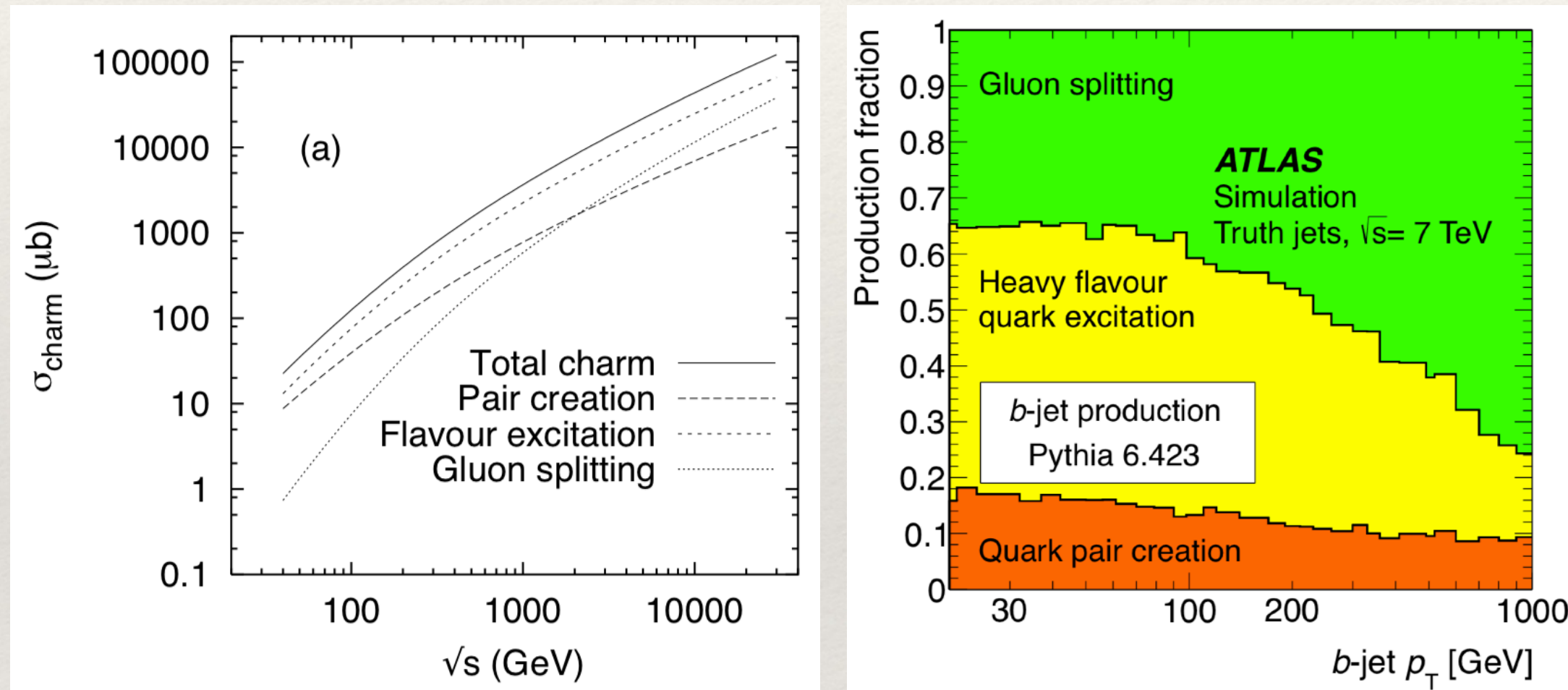
$$\frac{d\Gamma_a^{\text{inel}}}{dz dl_{\perp}^2} = \frac{dN_g}{dz dl_{\perp}^2 dt} = \frac{6\alpha_s P(z) l_{\perp}^4 \hat{q}}{\pi(l_{\perp}^2 + z^2 M^2)^4} \sin^2 \left( \frac{t - t_i}{2\tau_f} \right)$$

- Medium information absorbed in  $\hat{q} \equiv d\langle p_{\perp}^2 \rangle / dt$

# Flavor hierarchy of hadron suppression

- Hadron production in  $pp$  collisions: NLO production + fragmentation

## NLO contribution to HQ production in Pythia simulation (gluon splitting)

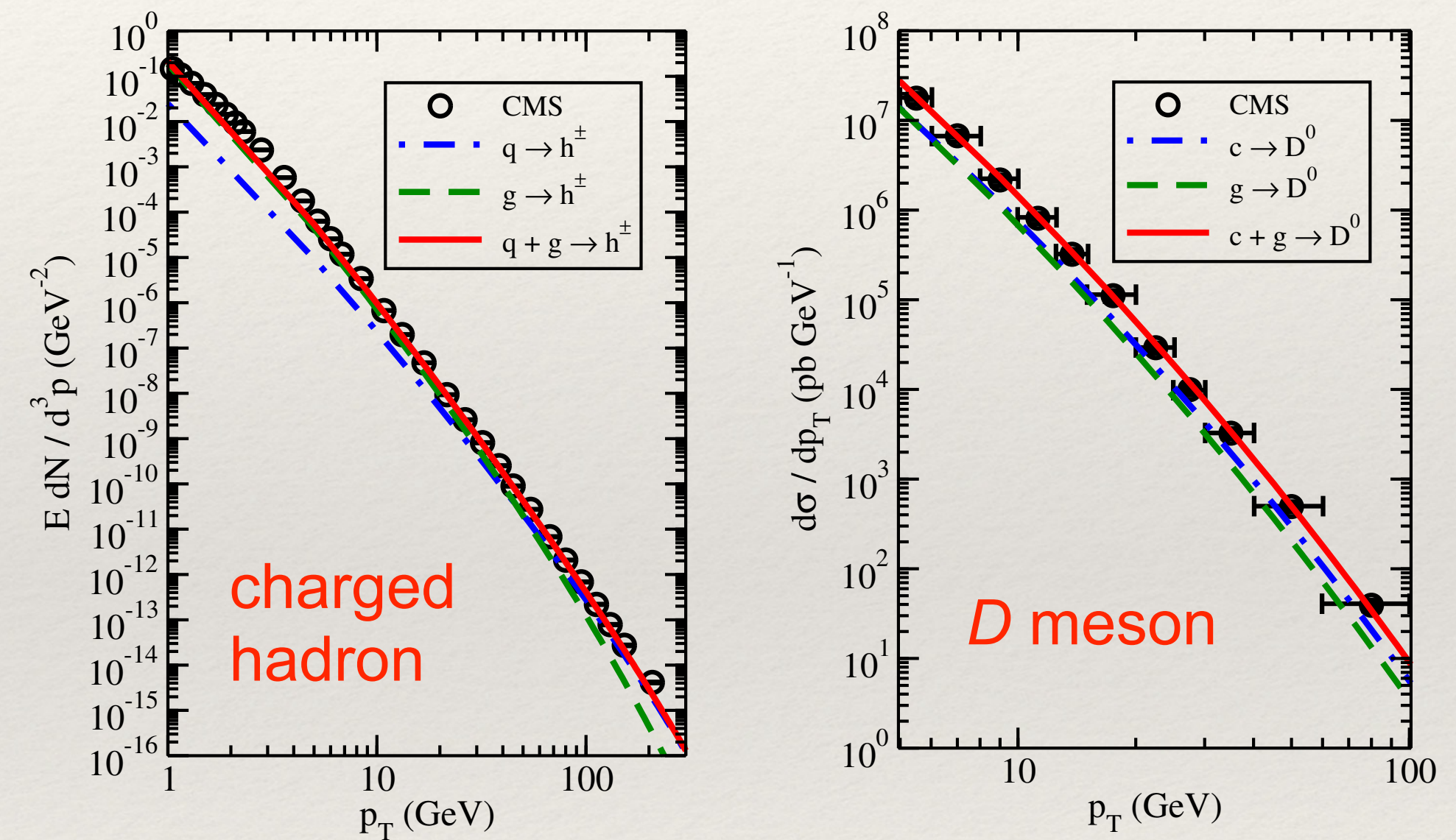


[ Norrbin and Sjostrand, EPJC 17 (2000) ]

[ ATLAS, EPJC 73 (2013) ]

- NLO contribution increases with  $\sqrt{s}$
- NLO contribution increases with  $b$ -jet  $p_T$

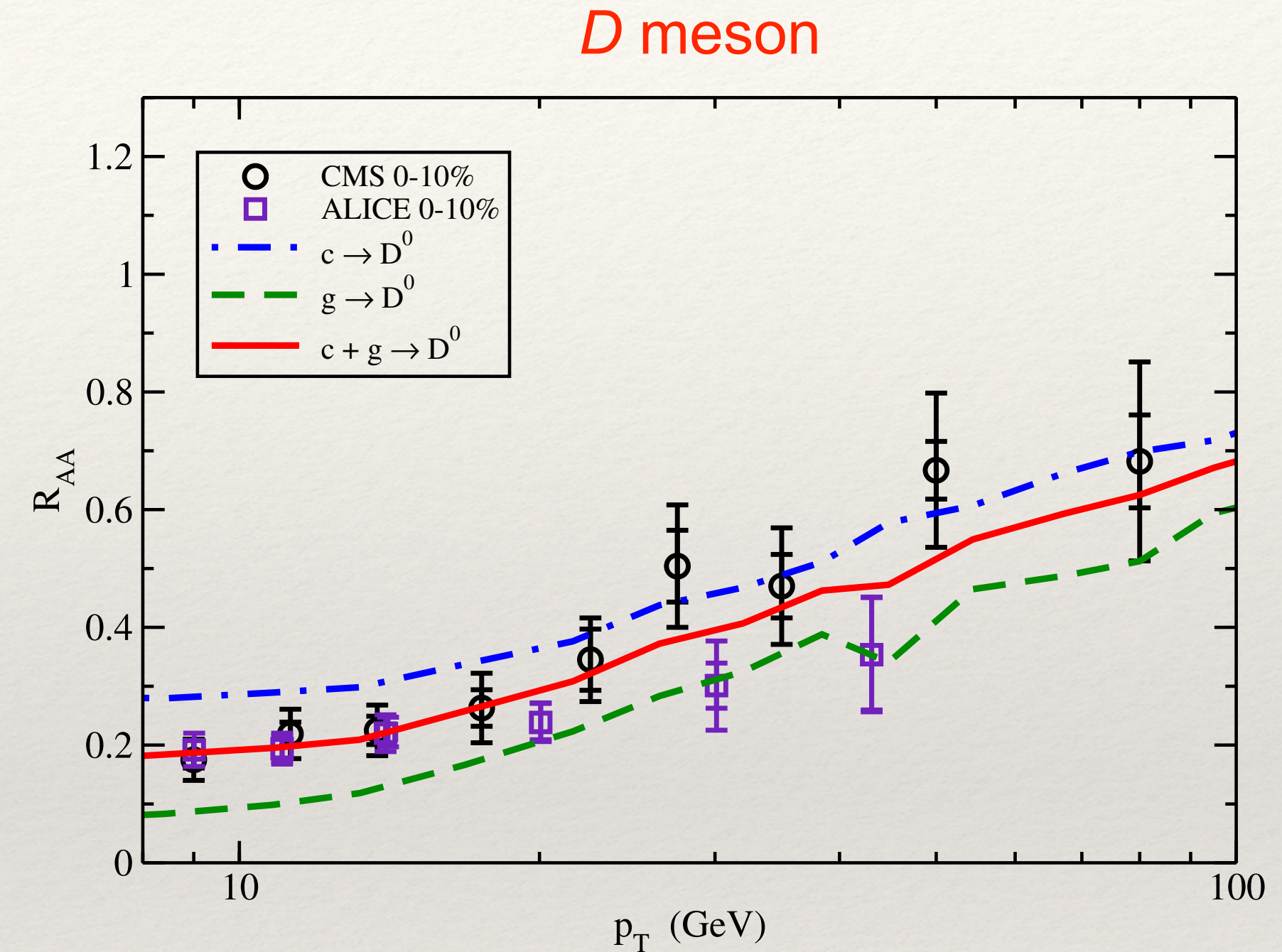
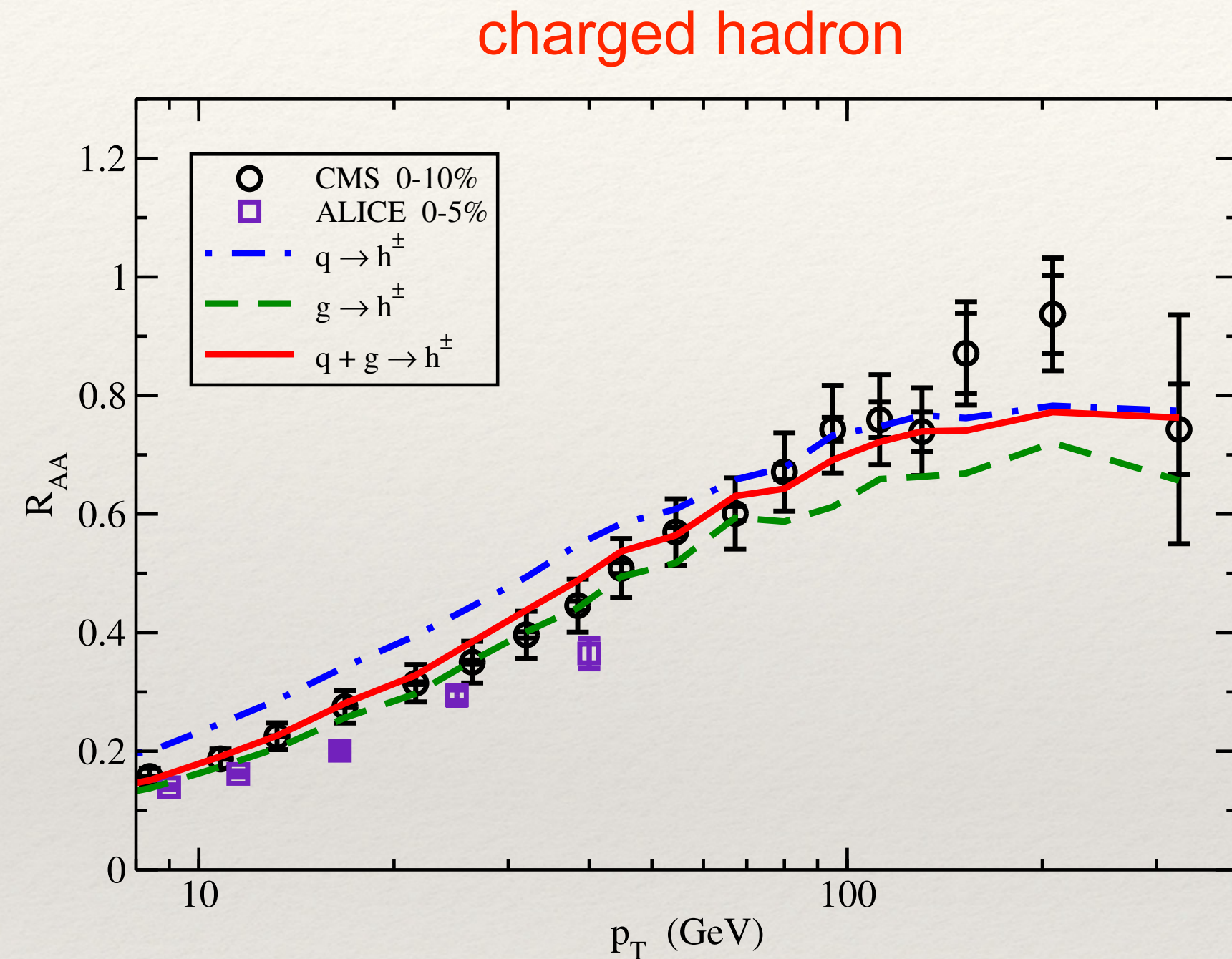
## Different NLO contributions to light and heavy flavor hadrons



- dominates  $h^\pm$  production up to 50 GeV
- contributes to over 40%  $D$  up to 100 GeV

# Flavor hierarchy of hadron suppression

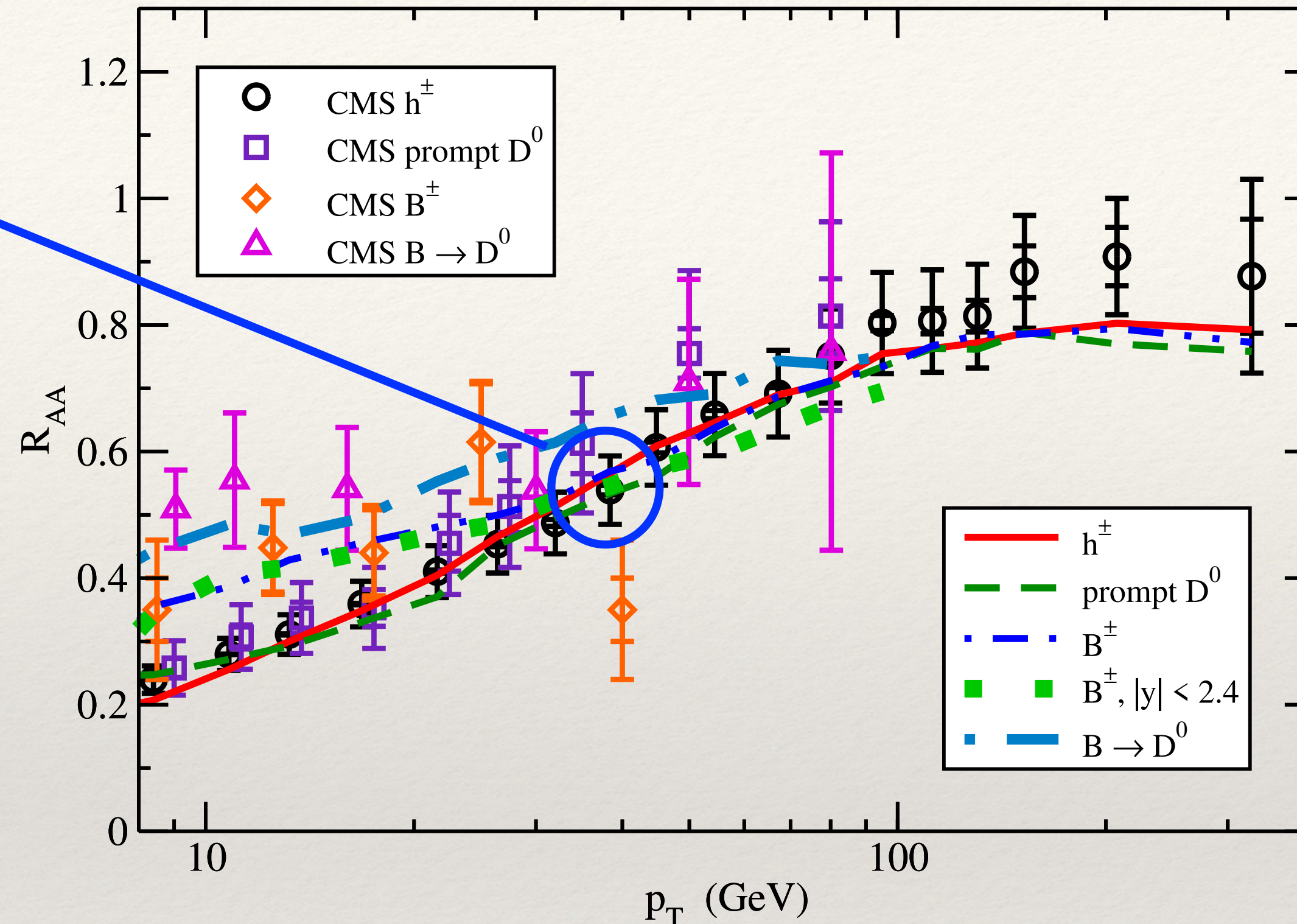
NLO initial production and fragmentation + Boltzmann transport + hydrodynamic medium for QGP



- $g$ -initiated  $h$  &  $D$   $R_{AA} < q$ -initiated  $h$  &  $D$   $R_{AA}$  [ $\Delta E_g > \Delta E_{q/c}$ ]
- $R_{AA}(c \rightarrow D) > R_{AA}(q \rightarrow h)$  [ $\Delta E_q > \Delta E_c$ ],  $R_{AA}(g \rightarrow D) < R_{AA}(g \rightarrow h)$  [different FFs]  $\Rightarrow R_{AA}(h) \approx R_{AA}(D)$
- Signature of flavor hierarchy of parton  $\Delta E$  offset by NLO production/fragmentation in hadron  $R_{AA}$

# Flavor hierarchy of hadron suppression

Merging of  $D$  and  $B$   
 $R_{AA}$  at  $p_T \sim 40$  GeV



Xing, SC, Qin and Xing, Phys. Lett. B  
805 (2020) 135424

- A simultaneous description of charged hadron,  $D$  meson,  $B$  meson,  $B$ -decay  $D$  meson  $R_{AA}$ 's starting from  $p_T \sim 8$  GeV
- Predict  $R_{AA}$  separation between  $B$  and  $h / D$  below 40 GeV, but similar values above – **wait for confirmation from future precision measurement**

# Extraction of parton energy loss from hadron $R_{AA}$

NLO initial production and fragmentation + **Parametrized** parton energy loss inside the QGP

$$\frac{d\sigma_{AA \rightarrow hX}}{dp_T^h} = \sum_j \int_0^\infty dp_T^j \int_0^{\frac{p_T^j}{\langle \Delta p_T^j \rangle}} dx \int_0^1 dz \frac{d\hat{\sigma}_{p'p' \rightarrow jX}}{dp_T^j}(p_T^j) W_{AA}(x) D_{j \rightarrow h}(z) \delta \left[ p_T^h - z \left( p_T^j - x \langle \Delta p_T^j \rangle \right) \right]$$

- Mean  $p_T$  loss:  $\langle \Delta p_T^j \rangle = C_j \beta_g p_T^\gamma \log(p_T)$

- $\beta_g$ : overall magnitude for  $g$
- $C_j$ : flavor dependence
- $\gamma$ :  $p_T$  dependence

- $p_T$  loss distribution:  $W_{AA}(x) = \frac{\alpha^\alpha x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\alpha x}}{\Gamma(\alpha)}$

$$x \equiv \Delta p_T / \langle \Delta p_T \rangle$$

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 $x \equiv \Delta p_T / \langle \Delta p_T \rangle$

## Bayesian calibration of parameter set $\theta$

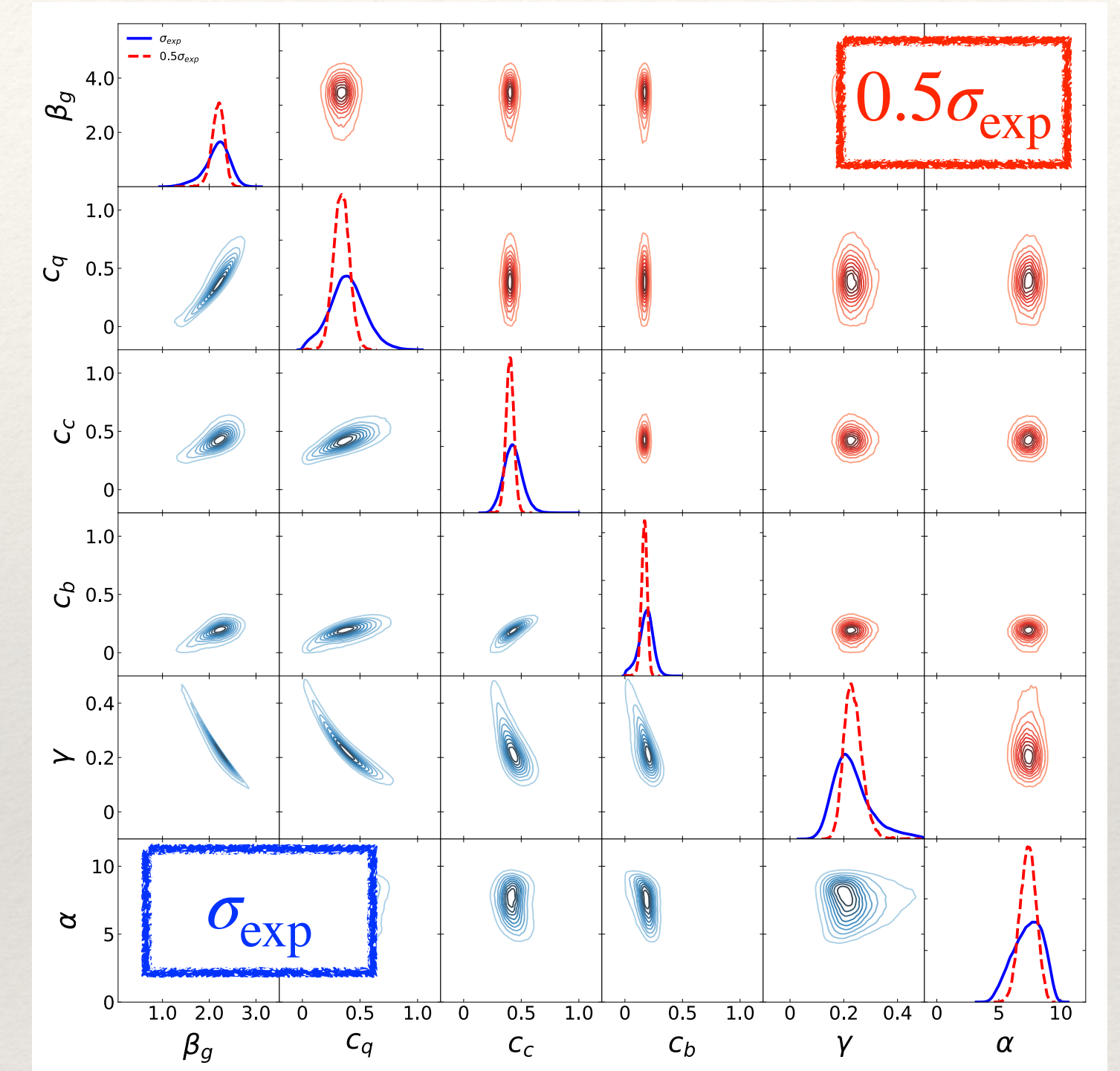
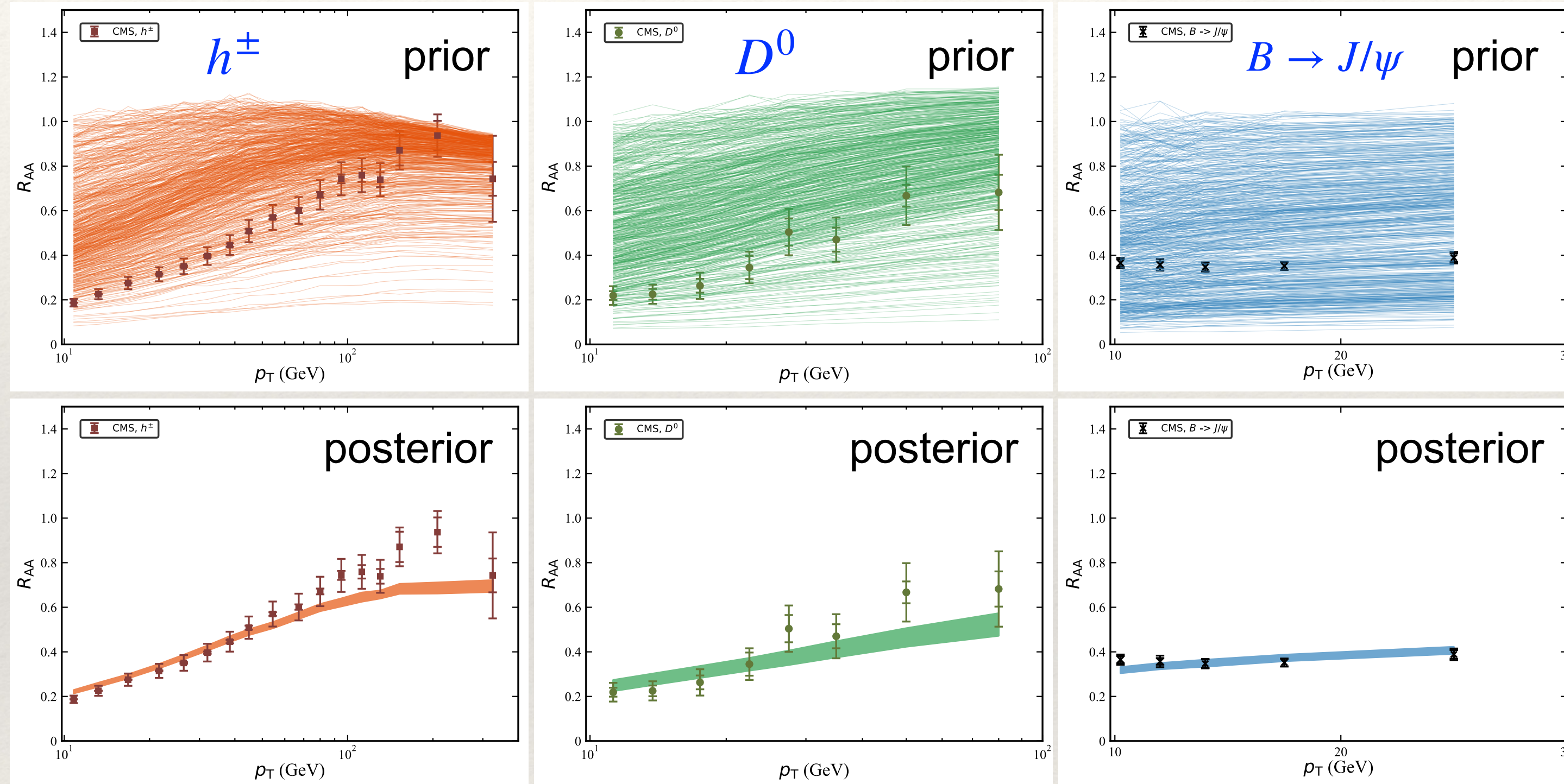
$$\underbrace{P(\theta | \text{data})}_{\text{posterior distribution}} \propto \underbrace{P(\text{data} | \theta)}_{\text{model-to-data comparison}} \underbrace{P(\theta)}_{\text{prior distribution}}$$

$$P(\text{data} | \theta) = \prod_i e^{-\frac{[y_i(\theta) - y_i^{\text{exp}}]^2}{2\sigma_i^2}}$$

# Bayesian calibration

Calibration on  $\theta = (\beta_g, C_q, C_c, C_b, \gamma, \alpha)$

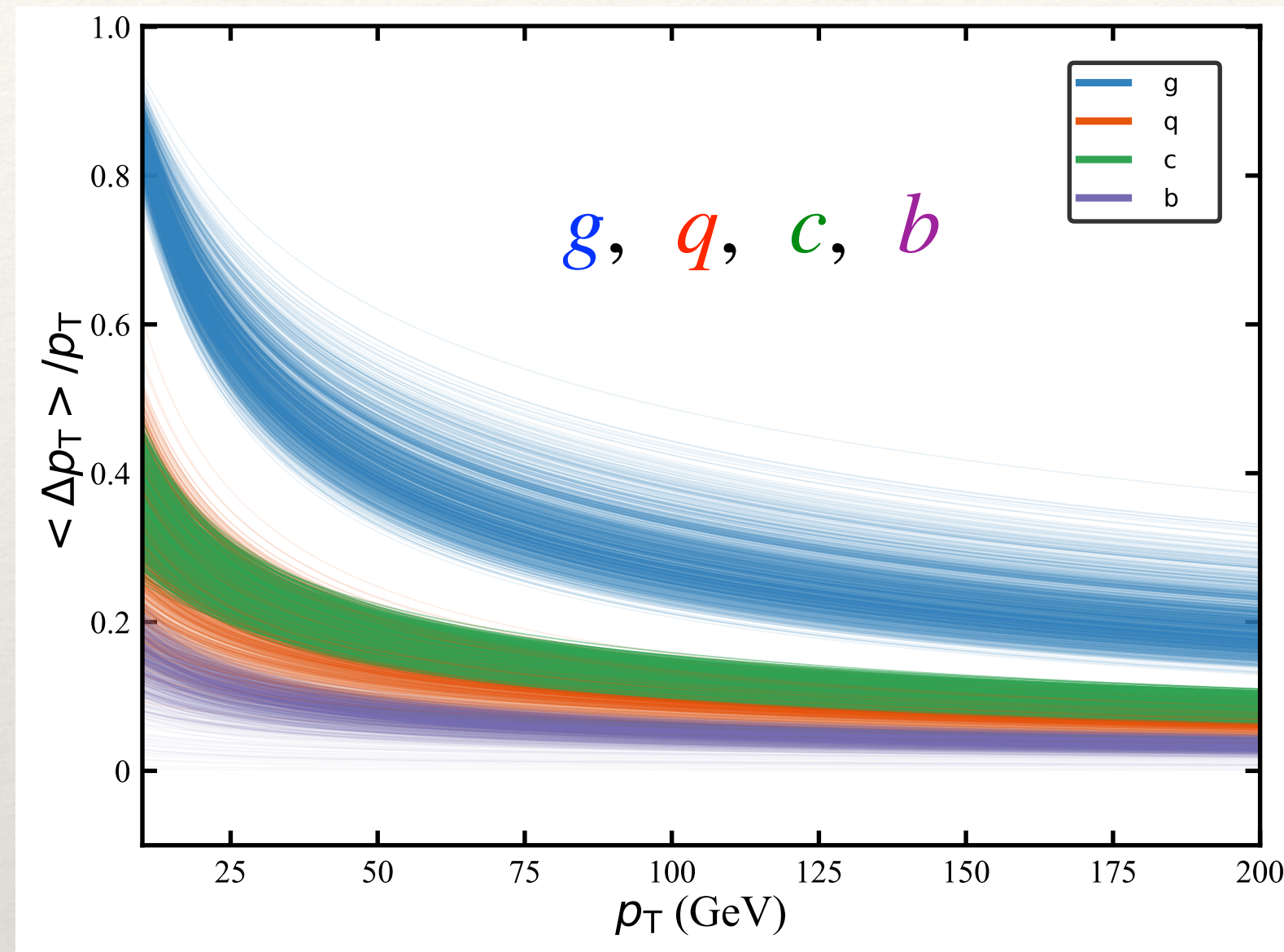
Posterior distribution of  $\theta$



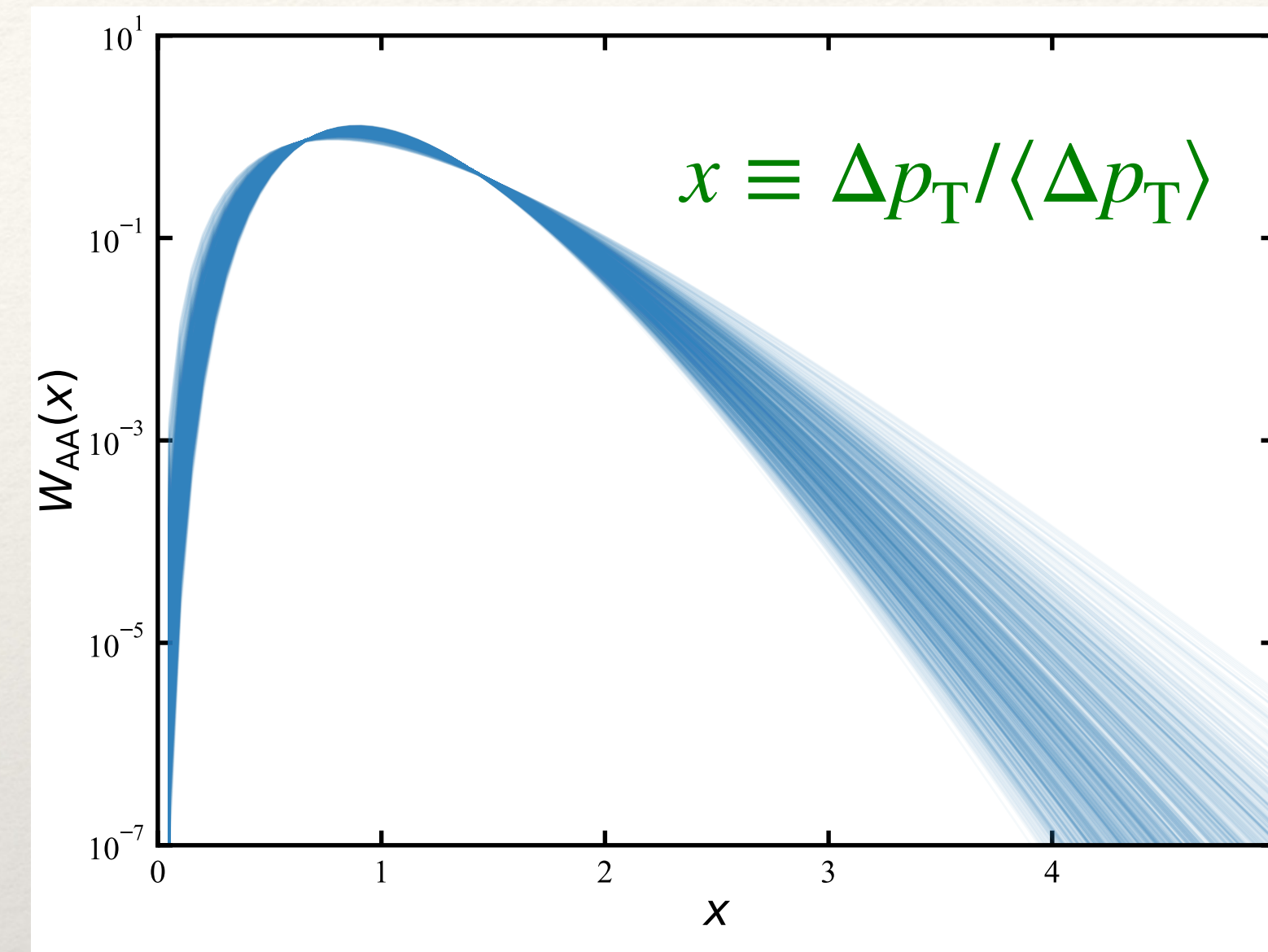
- A simultaneous calibration on the  $R_{AA}$  of charged hadrons,  $D$  mesons and  $B$ -decay  $J/\psi$
- Halved experimental errors would provide tighter constraints on model parameters

# Extraction of parton energy loss from hadron $R_{AA}$

Average energy loss



Energy loss distribution

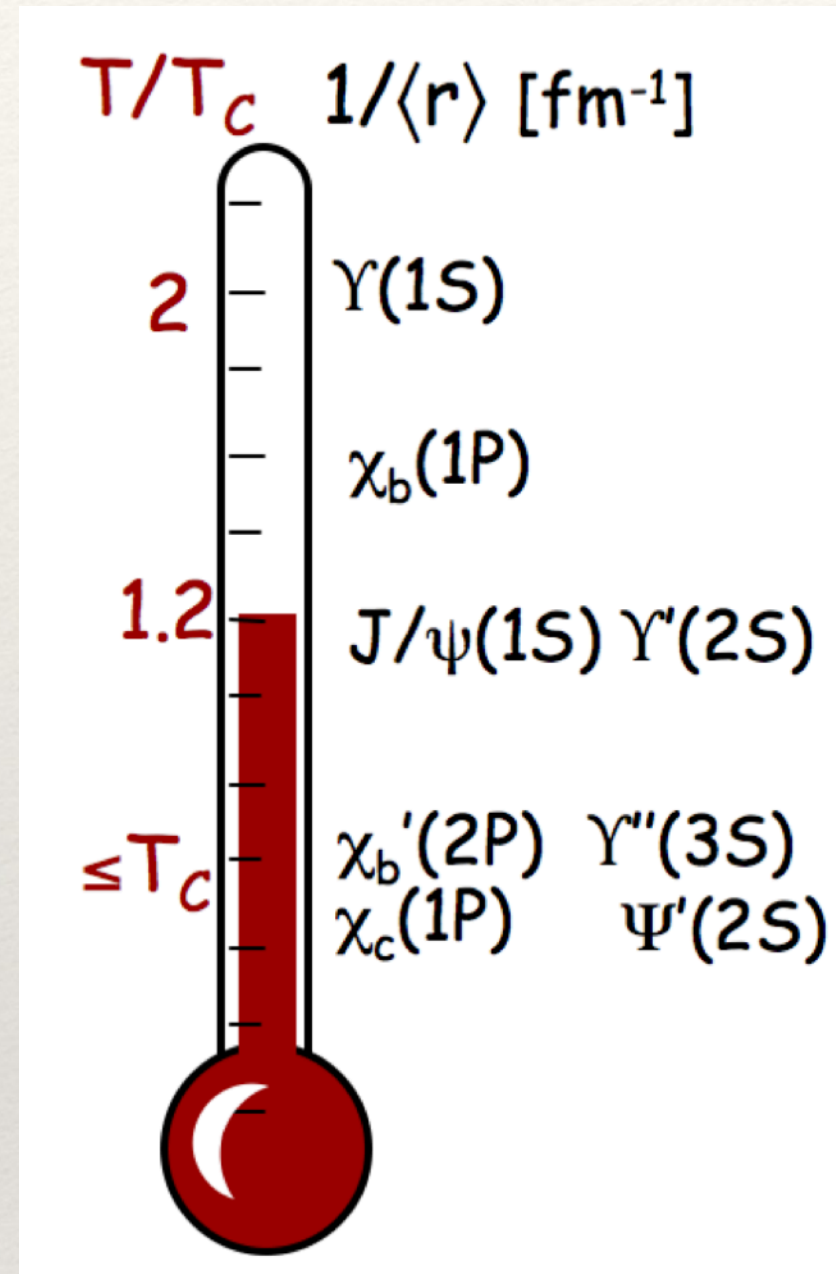
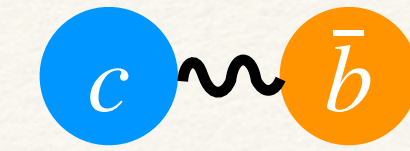
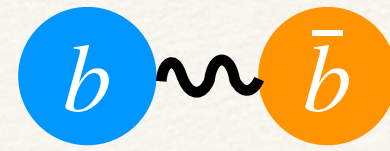
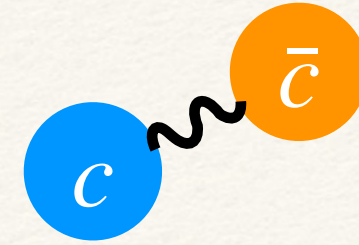


Xing, SC, Qin,  
Phys. Lett. B 850  
(2024) 138523

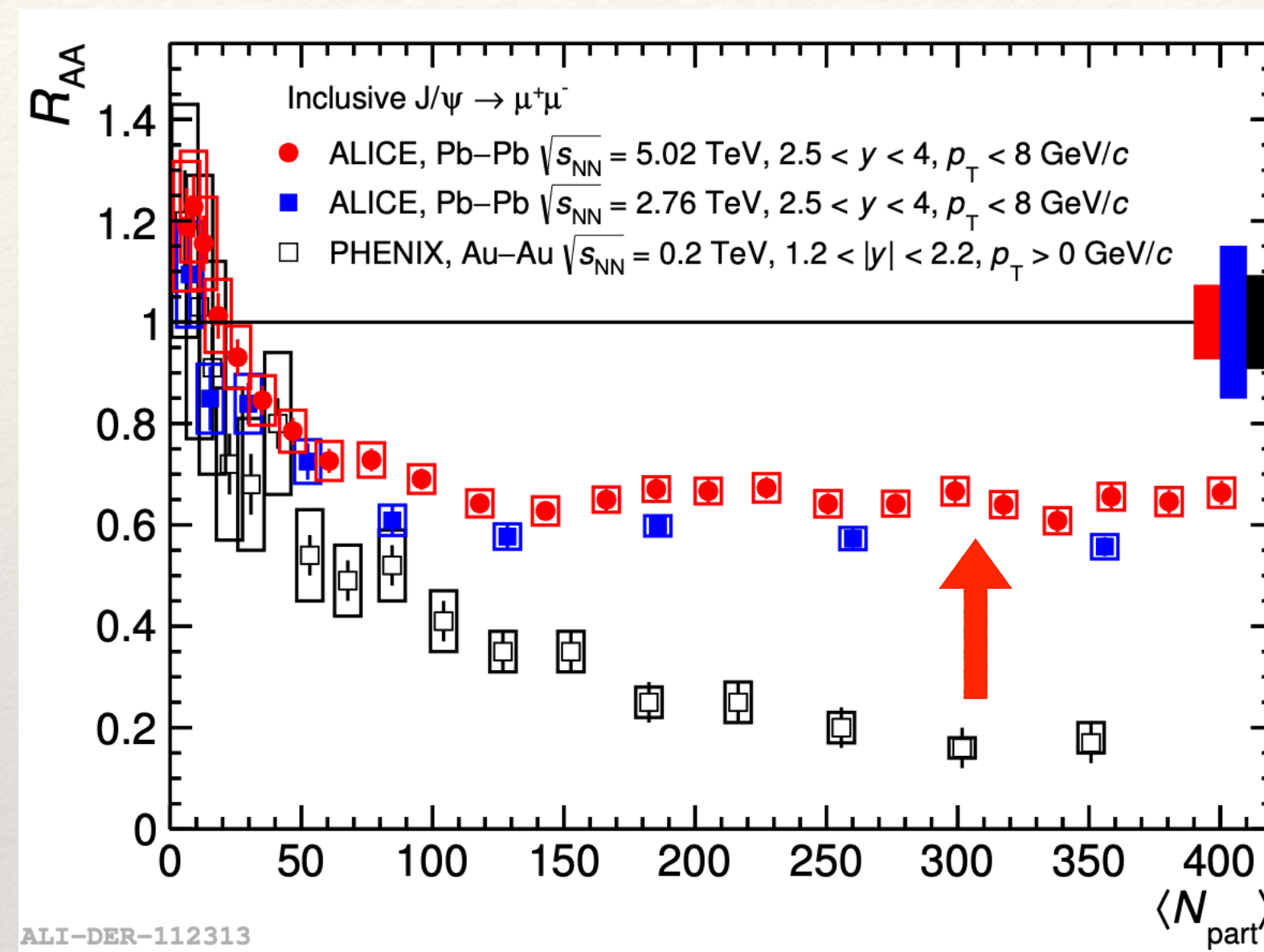
- $\Delta E_g > \Delta E_q \sim \Delta E_c > \Delta E_b$
- More stringent test on QCD calculation
- Flavor hierarchy of parton energy loss is encoded in the hadron  $R_{AA}$  data
- No obvious hierarchy for the hadron  $R_{AA}$  data themselves, due to the interplay between parton energy loss and NLO production and fragmentation



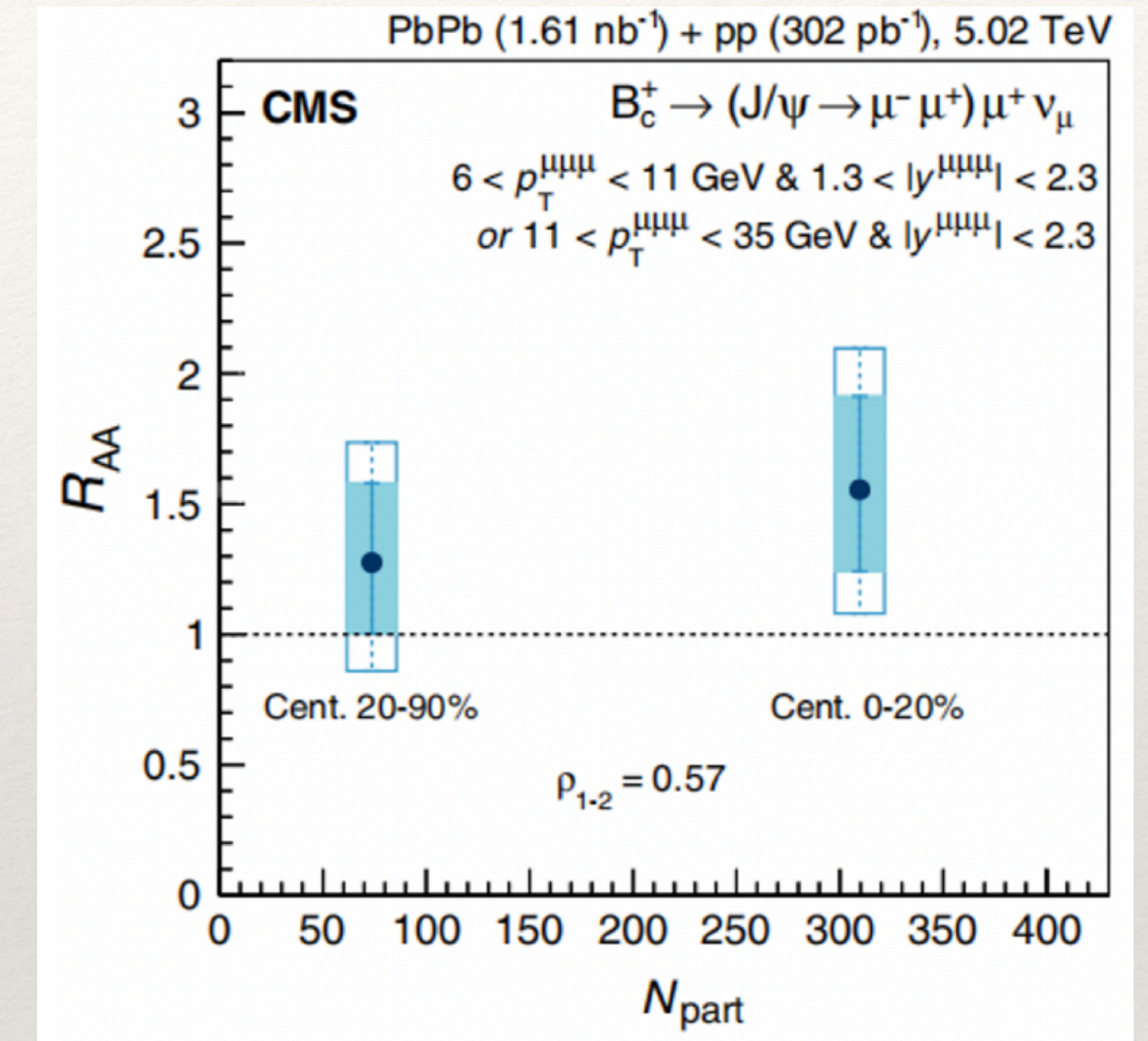
# From single-HQ hadrons to bound states of HQs



[ Mocsy, EPJC 61 (2009) 705 ]



[ Scomparin, NPA 967 (2017) 208 ]



[ CMS, PRL 128 (2022) 252301 ]

- Sequential melting of heavy quarkonia serves as a QGP thermometer

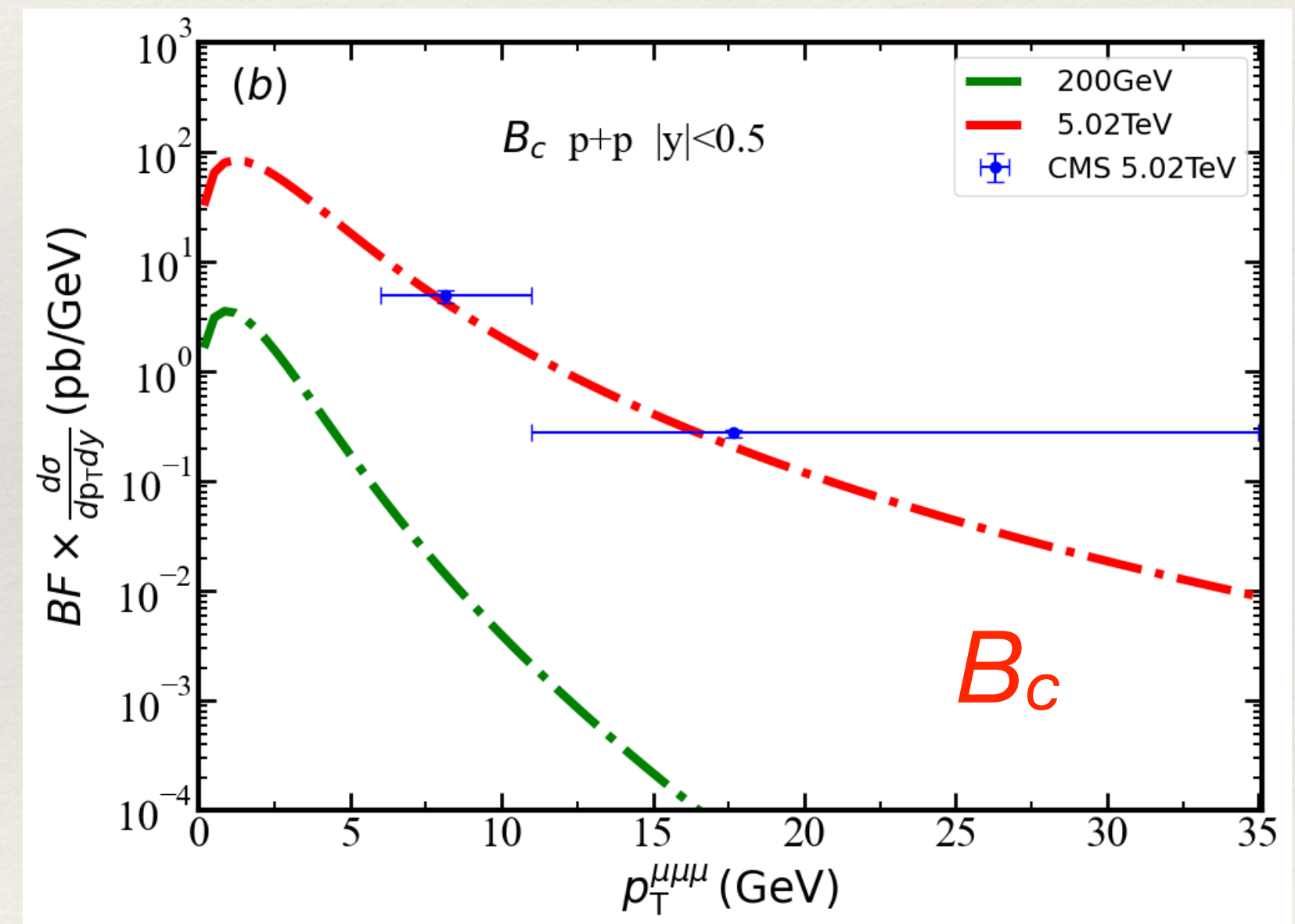
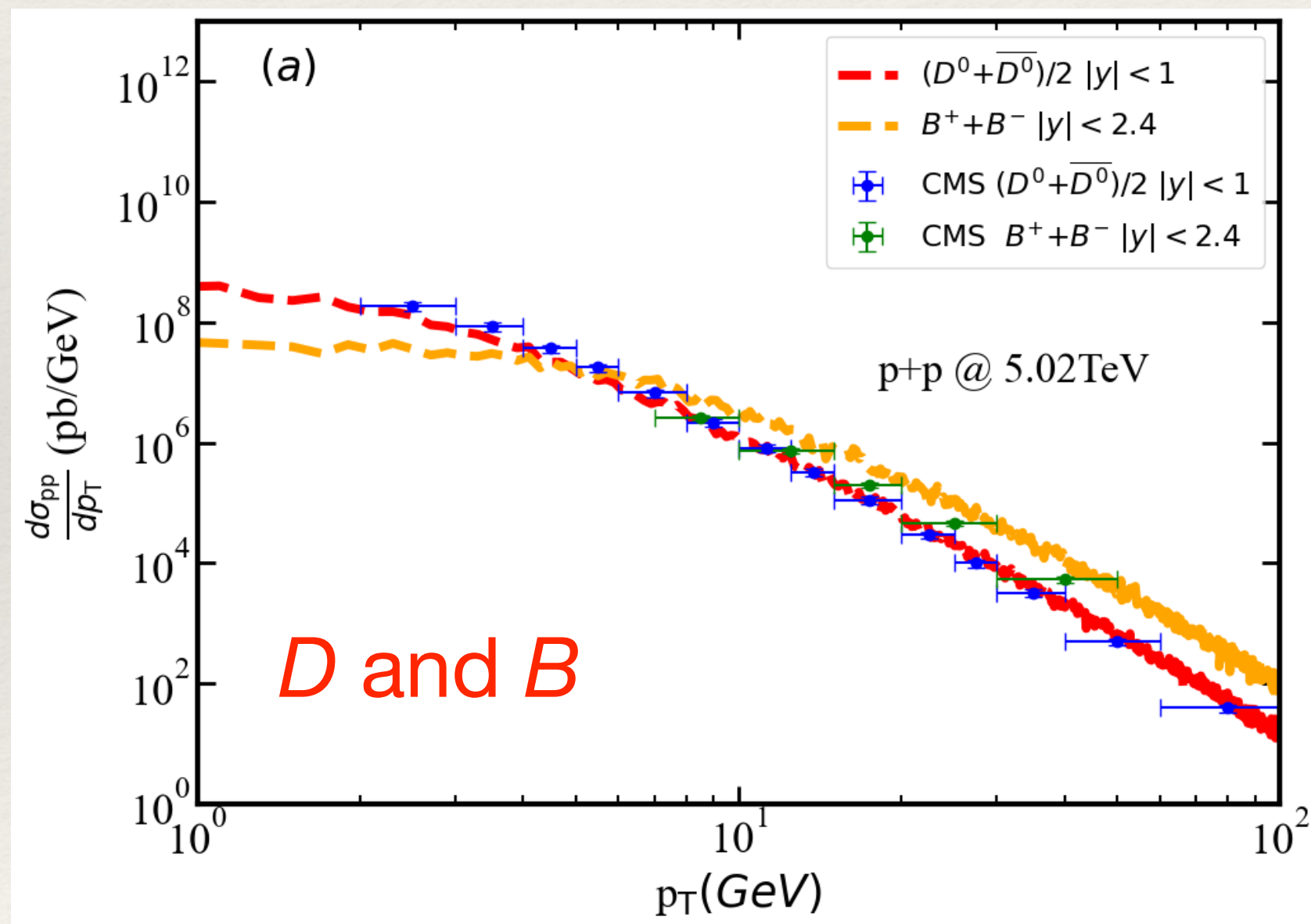
- Regeneration of heavy quarkonia is important at high heavy quark density

- Measurement on  $B_c$  mesons provides a new opportunity for studying heavy quarks

# Initial production of $B_c$

- Initial charm and bottom quarks: FONLL
- $D$  and  $B$  mesons in  $pp$ :  $c/b$  quark + Pythia fragmentation
- $B_c$  in  $pp$ :  $b$  quark + fitted fragmentation function [ Braaten, Cheung, Yuan, Phys. Rev. D 48 (1993) R5049 ]

$$D_{b \rightarrow B_c}(z) = N \frac{rz(1-z)^2}{[1-(1-r)z]^6} \left[ 6 - 18(1-2r)z + (21 - 74r + 68r^2)z^2 - 2(1-r)(6 - 19r + 18r^2)z^3 + 3(1-r)^2(1-2r + 2r^2)z^4 \right]$$



- NLO contribution not included in this calculation yet

# Medium modification of $B_c$

- Dissociation (quasi-free dissociation picture): [ Wu, Tang, He, Rapp, Phys. Rev. C 109 (2024) 014906 ]

$$\Gamma_{B_c}^{\text{disso}}(p) = \Gamma_c \left( \frac{m_c}{m_c + m_b} p \right) + \Gamma_b \left( \frac{m_b}{m_c + m_b} p \right)$$

$\Gamma_{c/b}$ : Rate of scattering with  $k^2 > \epsilon_b^2$   
 $k$ : 4-momentum exchange,  $\epsilon_b$ : binding energy of  $B_c$

- Regeneration (coalescence of medium-modified  $c$  and  $b$  quarks):

$$\frac{d^3 N_{B_c}(\vec{p})}{d^3 p} = C_r g_{B_c} \int d^3 p_c d^3 p_{\bar{b}} \frac{d^3 N_c(\vec{p}_c)}{d^3 p_c} \frac{d^3 N_{\bar{b}}(\vec{p}_{\bar{b}})}{d^3 p_{\bar{b}}} W(\vec{k}) \delta^{(3)}(\vec{p} - \vec{p}_c - \vec{p}_{\bar{b}})$$

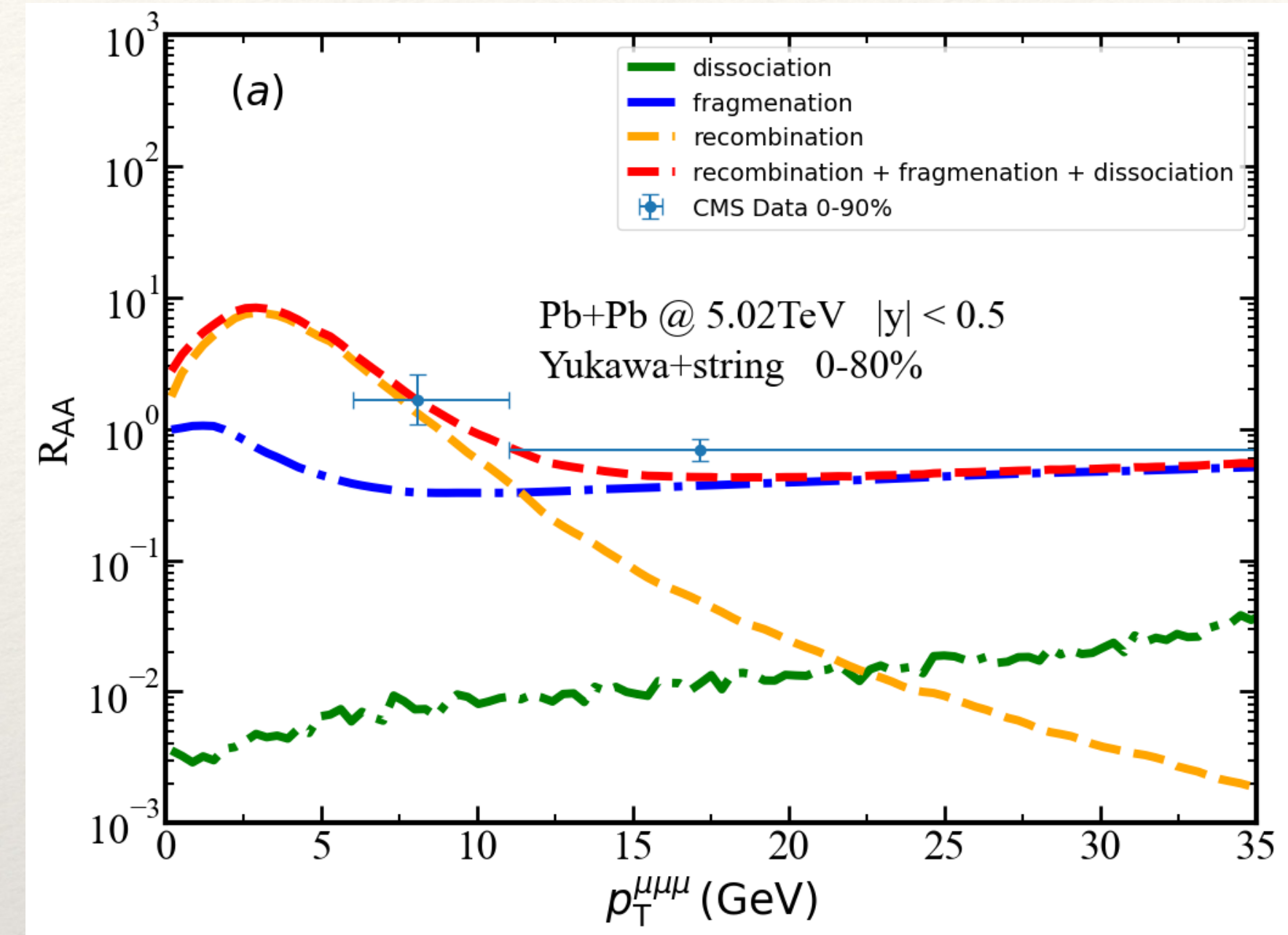
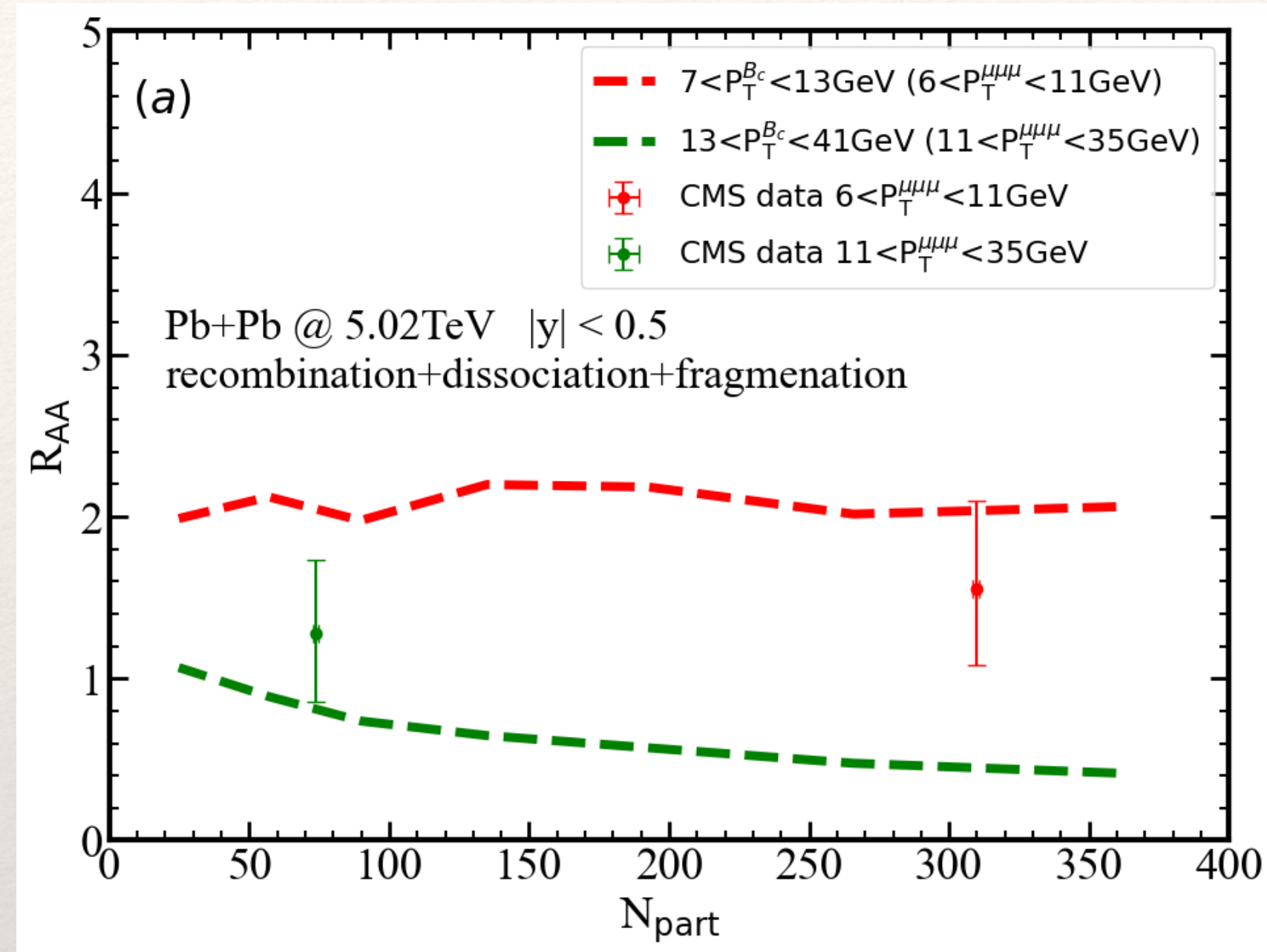
\*  $\sigma_{s/p}$  from  $B_c(1S/P)$  radii  
 \*  $C_r$  fit from  $N_{\text{part}}$  dependence of  $R_{AA}$

$$W_s(k) = \frac{(2\sqrt{\pi}\sigma_s)^3}{V} e^{-\sigma_s^2 k^2} \quad W_p(k) = \frac{(2\sqrt{\pi}\sigma_p)^3}{V} \frac{2}{3} \sigma_p^2 k^2 e^{-\sigma_p^2 k^2}$$

$B_c(1S)$  regenerated at  $T = 220$  MeV,  $B_c(1P)$  at  $T = 165$  MeV

- Medium-modified fragmentation:  
 Medium modified  $b$  quarks (at  $T = 165$  MeV) + vacuum fragmentation function

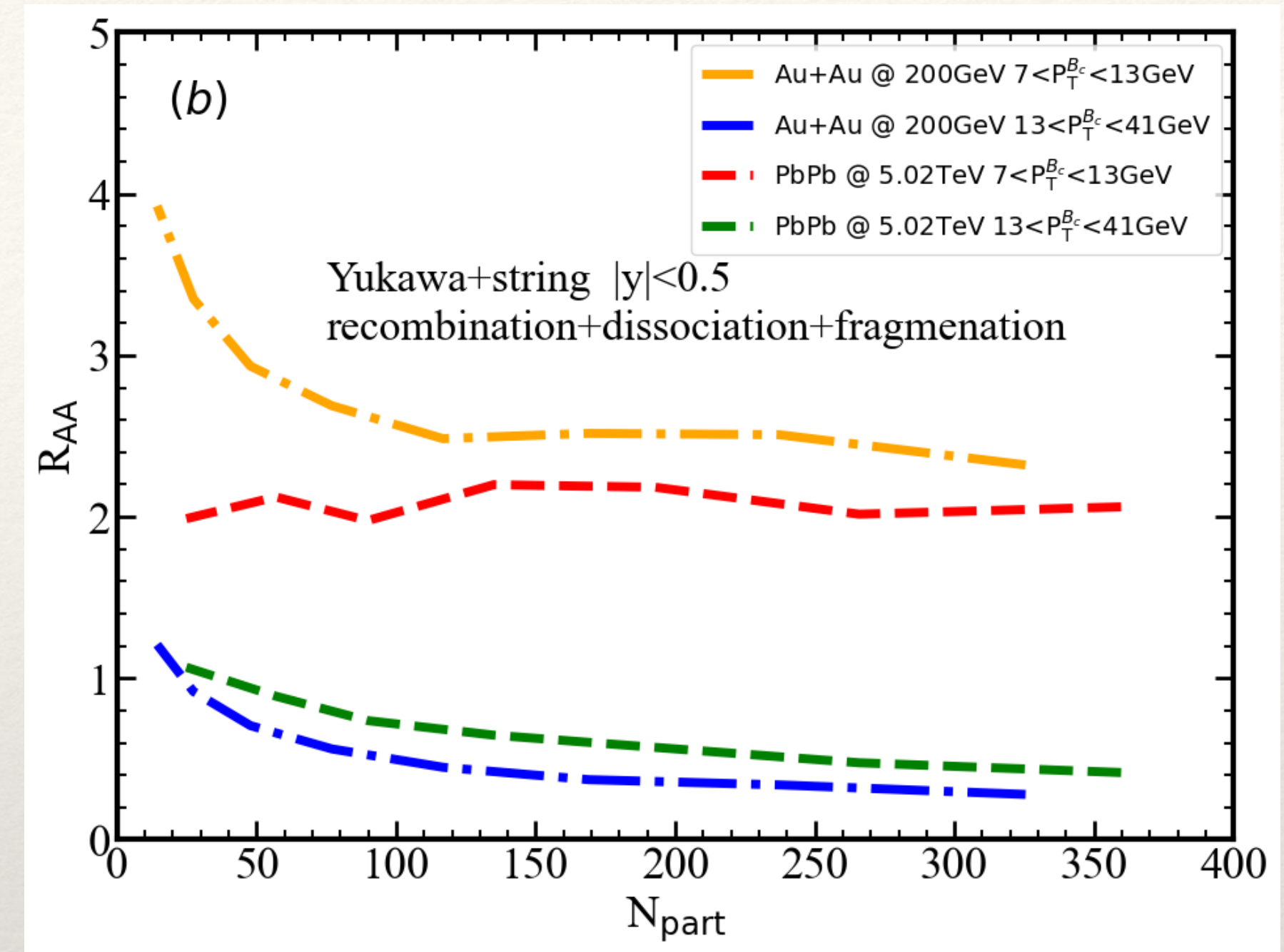
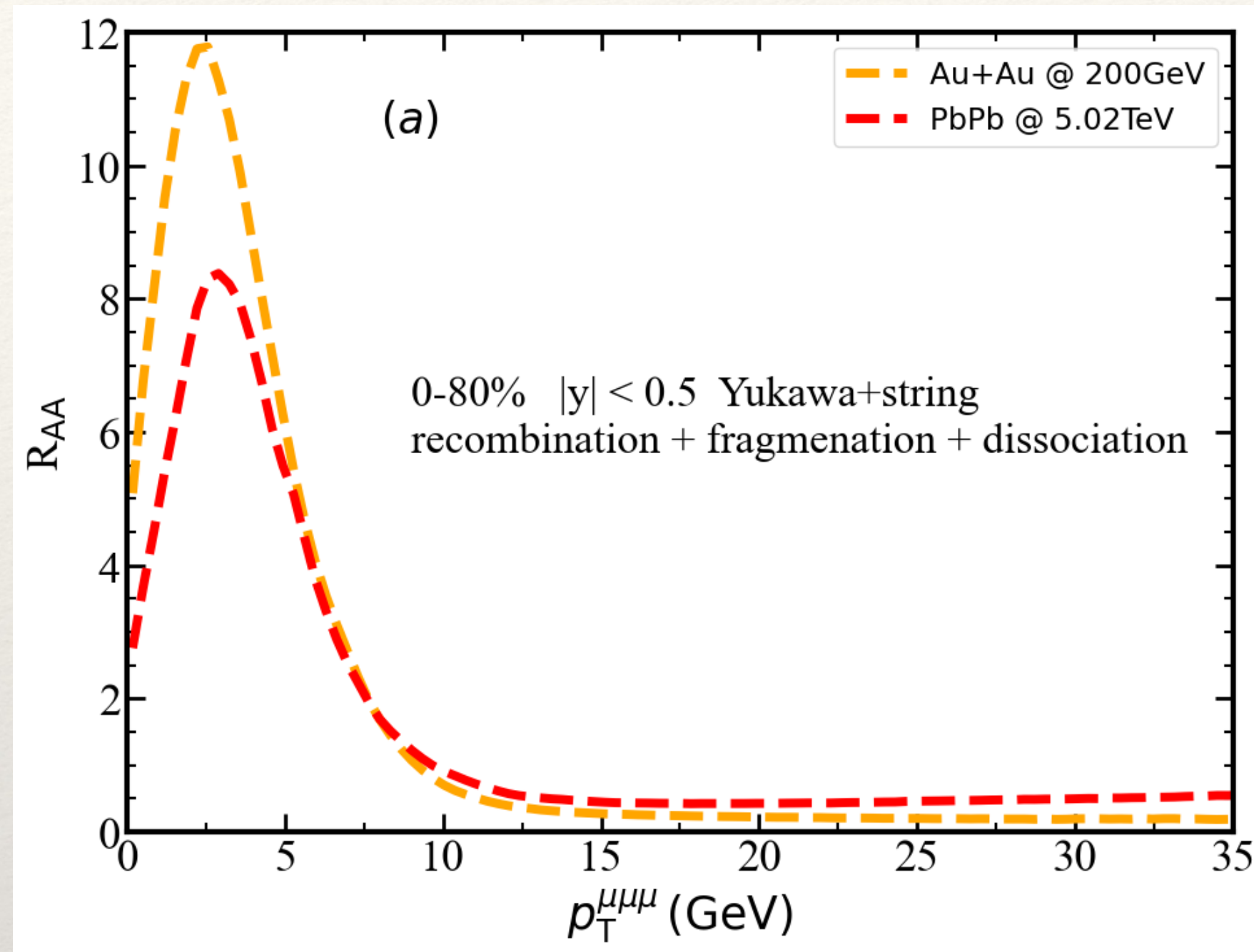
# Nuclear modification factor of $B_c$



[ Zhang, Xing, SC, Qin, in preparation ]

- Coalescence probability increases with heavy quark density, decreases with the QGP volume  $\rightarrow$  weak dependence on  $N_{part}$  (used to fix  $C_r$  in coalescence)
- Reasonable description of the  $p_T$  dependence of  $R_{AA}$
- Little contribution from initially produced  $B_c$ , dominated by coalescence at low  $p_T$ , dominated by medium modified  $b$ -quark fragmentation at high  $p_T$

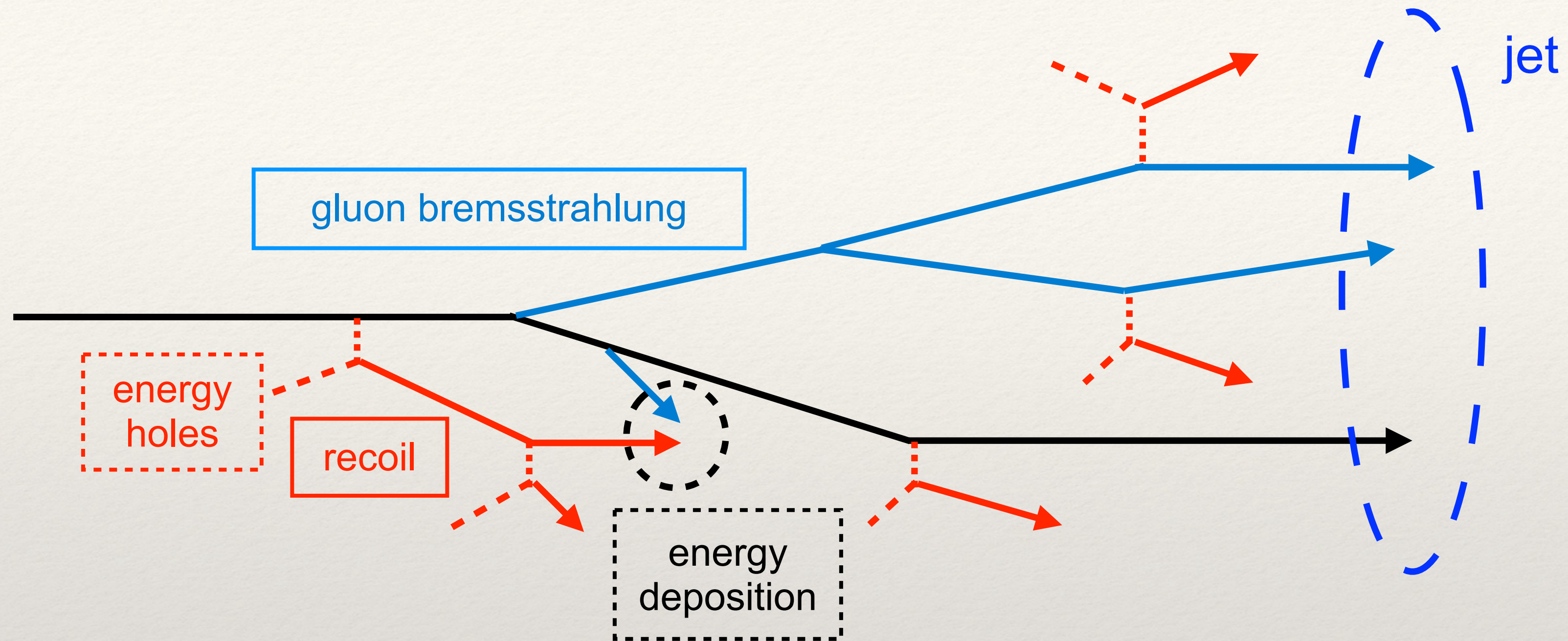
# Predictions on $R_{AA}$ of $B_c$ at RHIC vs. LHC



[ Zhang, Xing, SC, Qin, in preparation ]

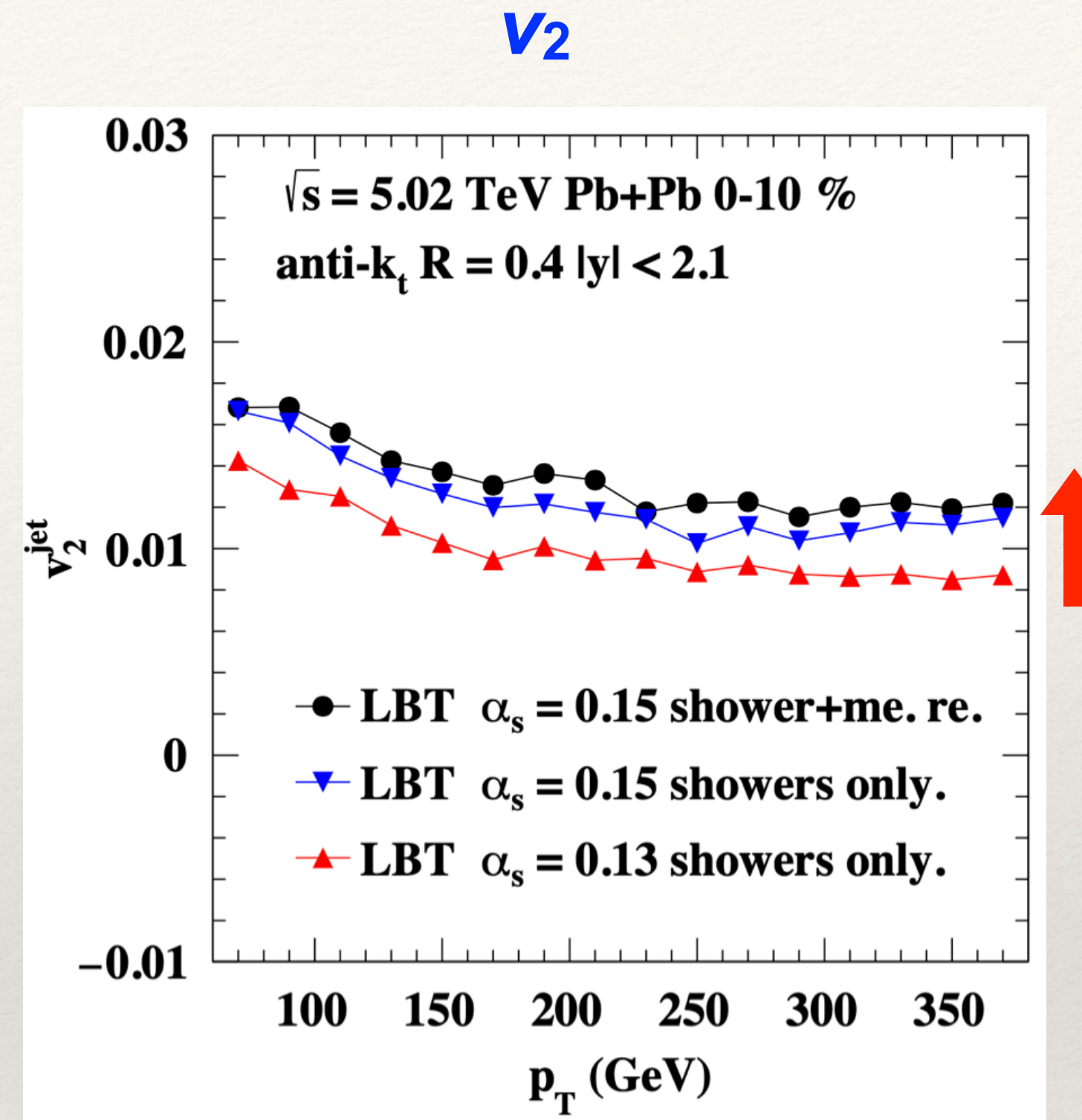
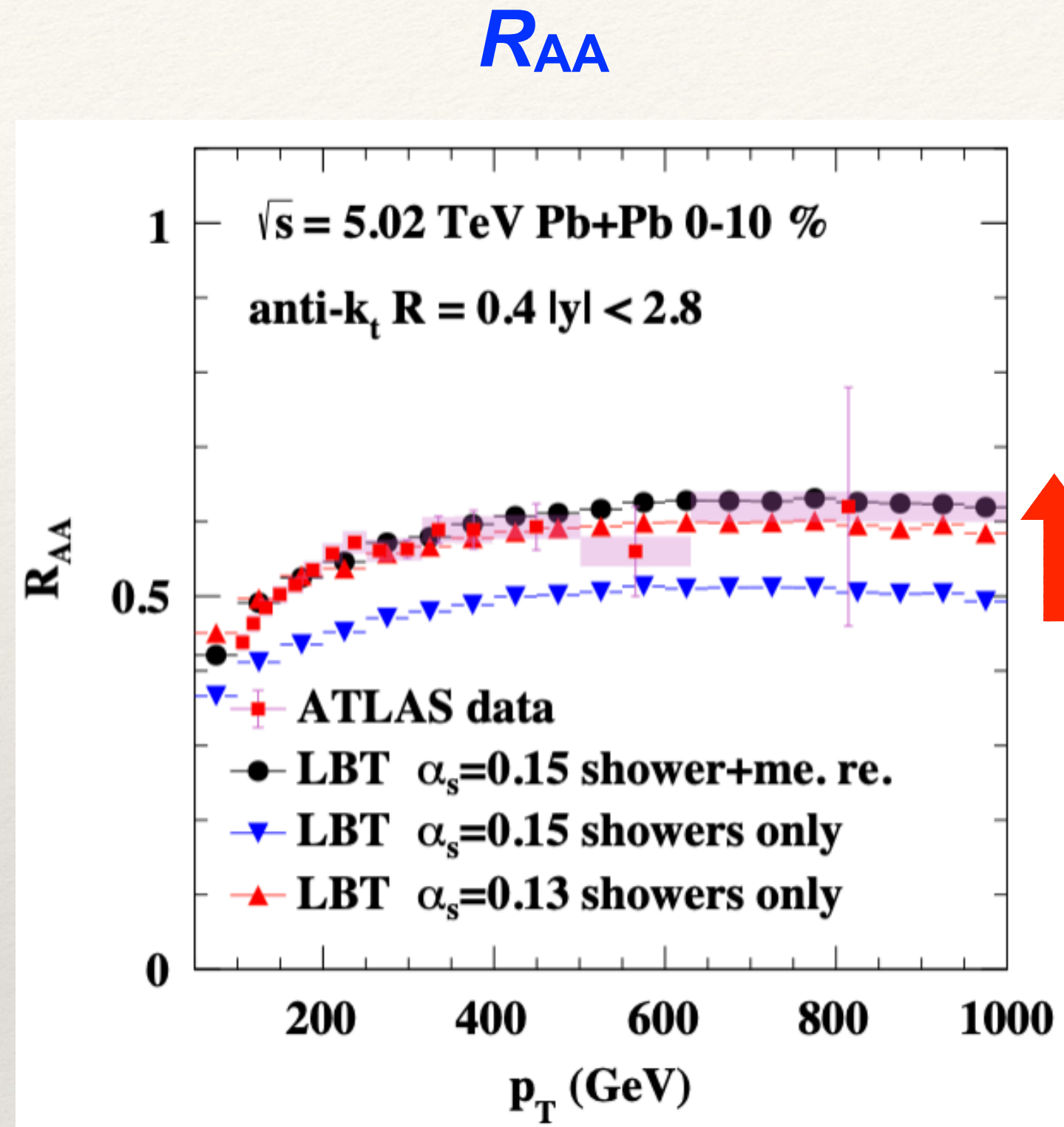
- RHIC  $>$  LHC at low  $p_T$ : dominated by coalescence (lower  $pp$  baseline and smaller  $V_{QGP}$  at RHIC)
- RHIC  $<$  LHC at high  $p_T$ : dominated by  $b$ -quark energy loss and fragmentation (softer  $b$ -quark spectrum at RHIC)
- Semi-analytical calculation at  $V(N_{part}) \rightarrow 0$  may not be reliable, will be improved by full MC

# From hadrons to full jets



- Jet partons and medium background cannot be cleanly separated in reality
- Medium response (energy deposition + depletion) is naturally included in all jet observables
- Jet-medium interactions: medium modification of jets + medium response

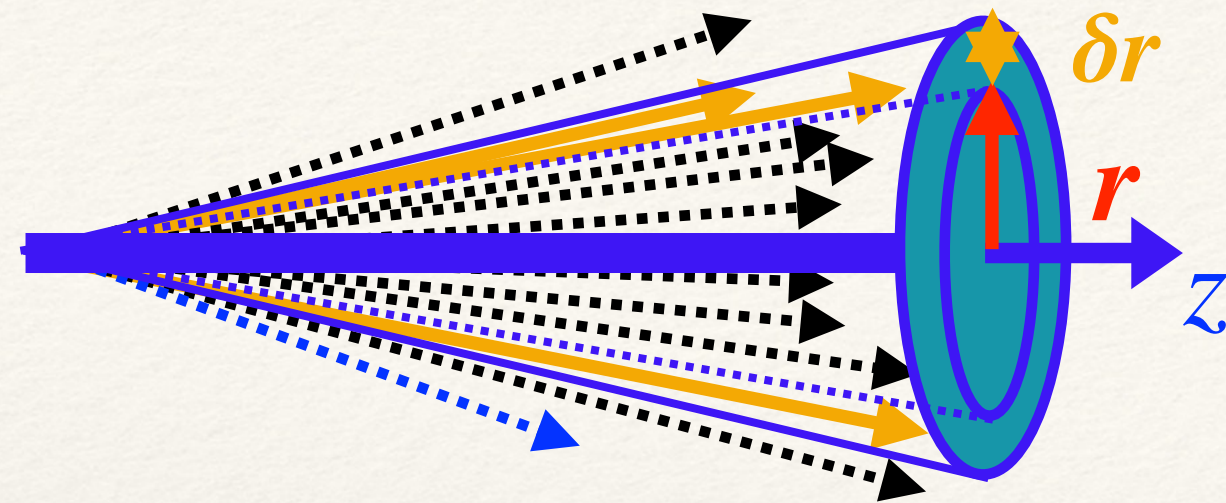
# Jet $R_{AA}$ and $v_2$



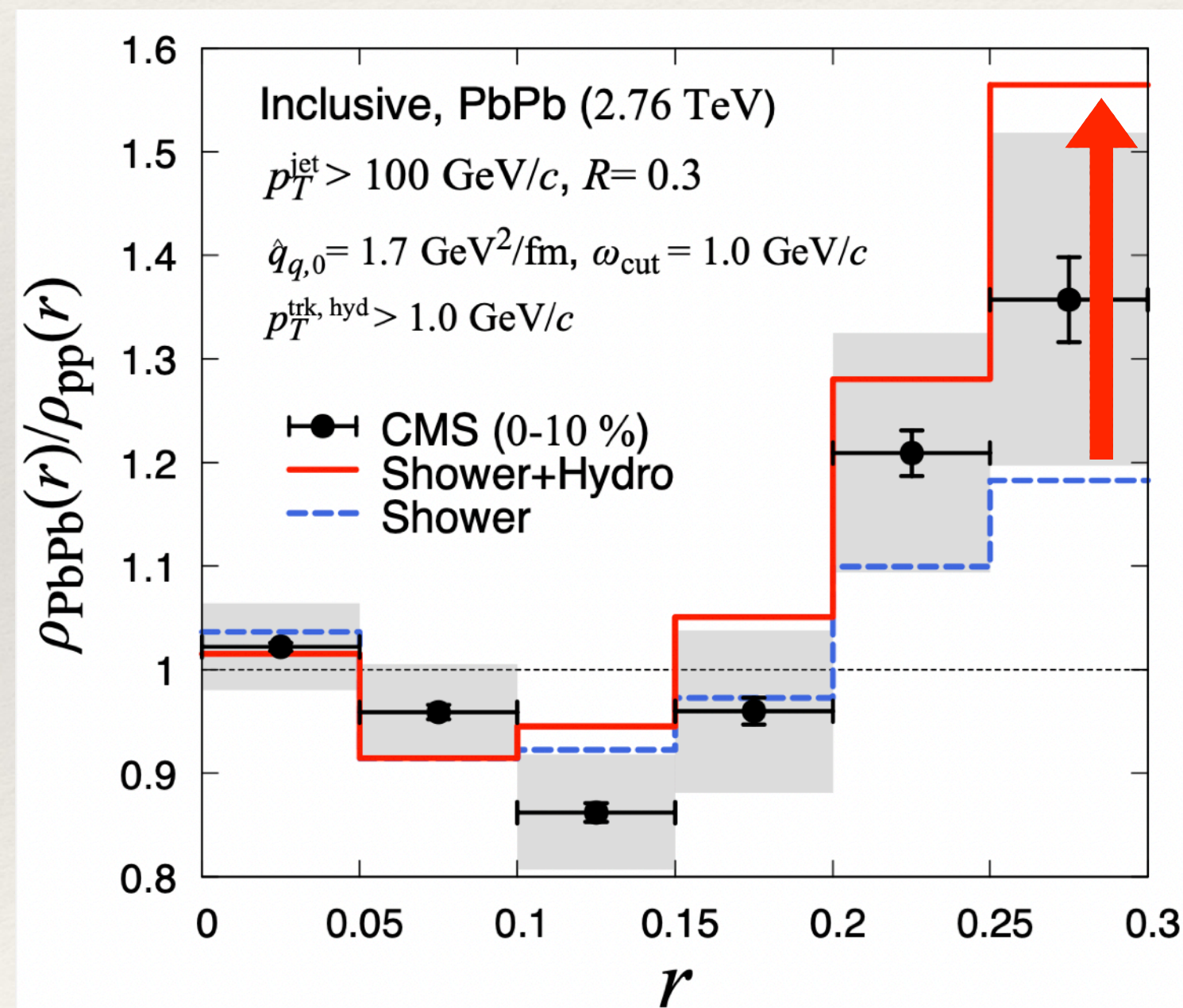
[ He, Chen, Luo, SC, Pang, Wang, Phys. Rev. C 106 (2022) 044904 ]

- Including medium response reduces jet energy loss and thus increases the jet  $R_{AA}$
- With  $R_{AA}$  fixed, including medium response (coupled to medium flow) increases the jet  $v_2$

# Jet substructure



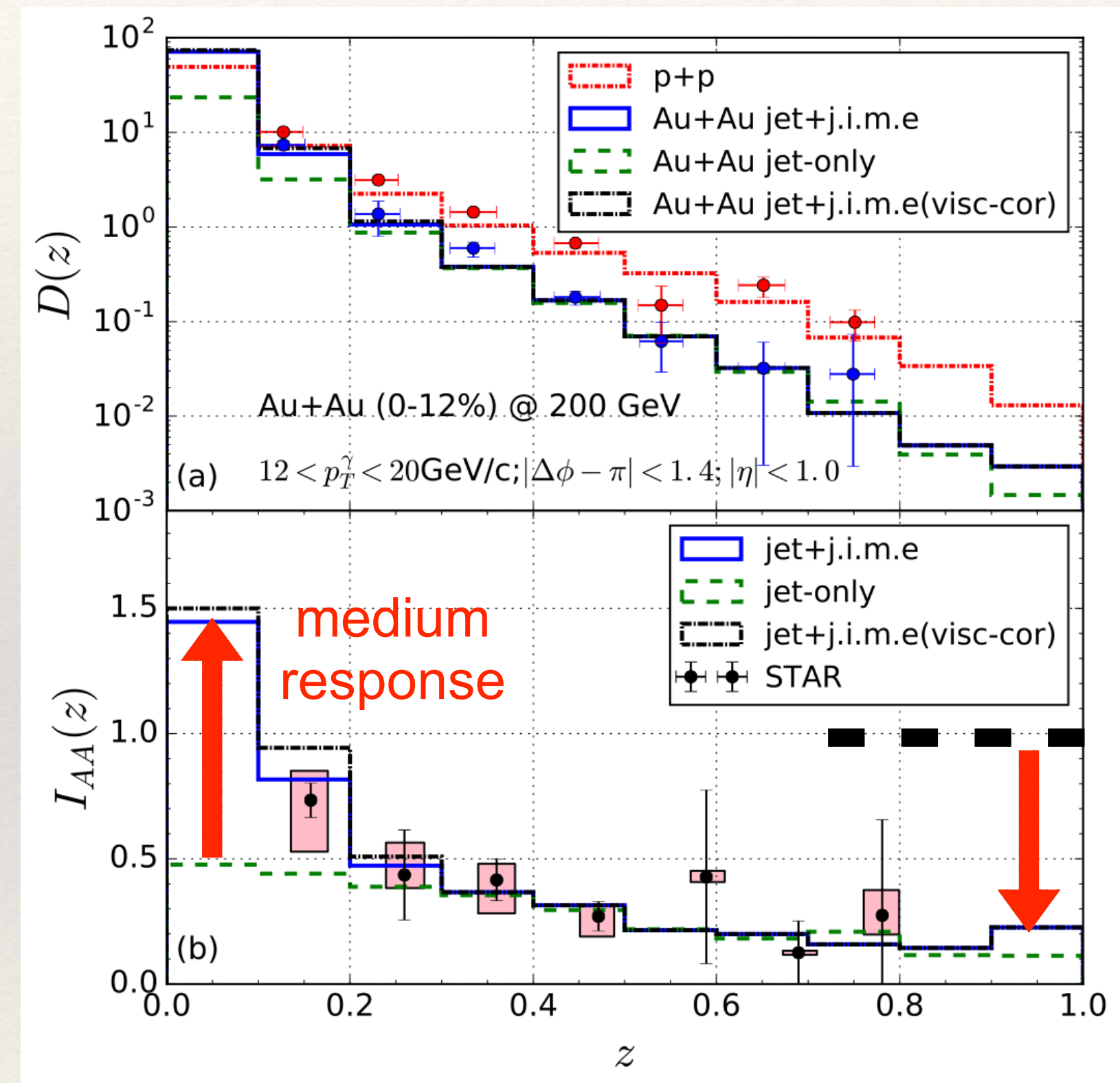
Transverse ( $r$ ) distribution: jet shape



medium response

[ Tachibana, Chang, Qin, Phys. Rev. C 95 (2017) 044909 ]

Longitudinal ( $z$ ) distribution: jet fragmentation function



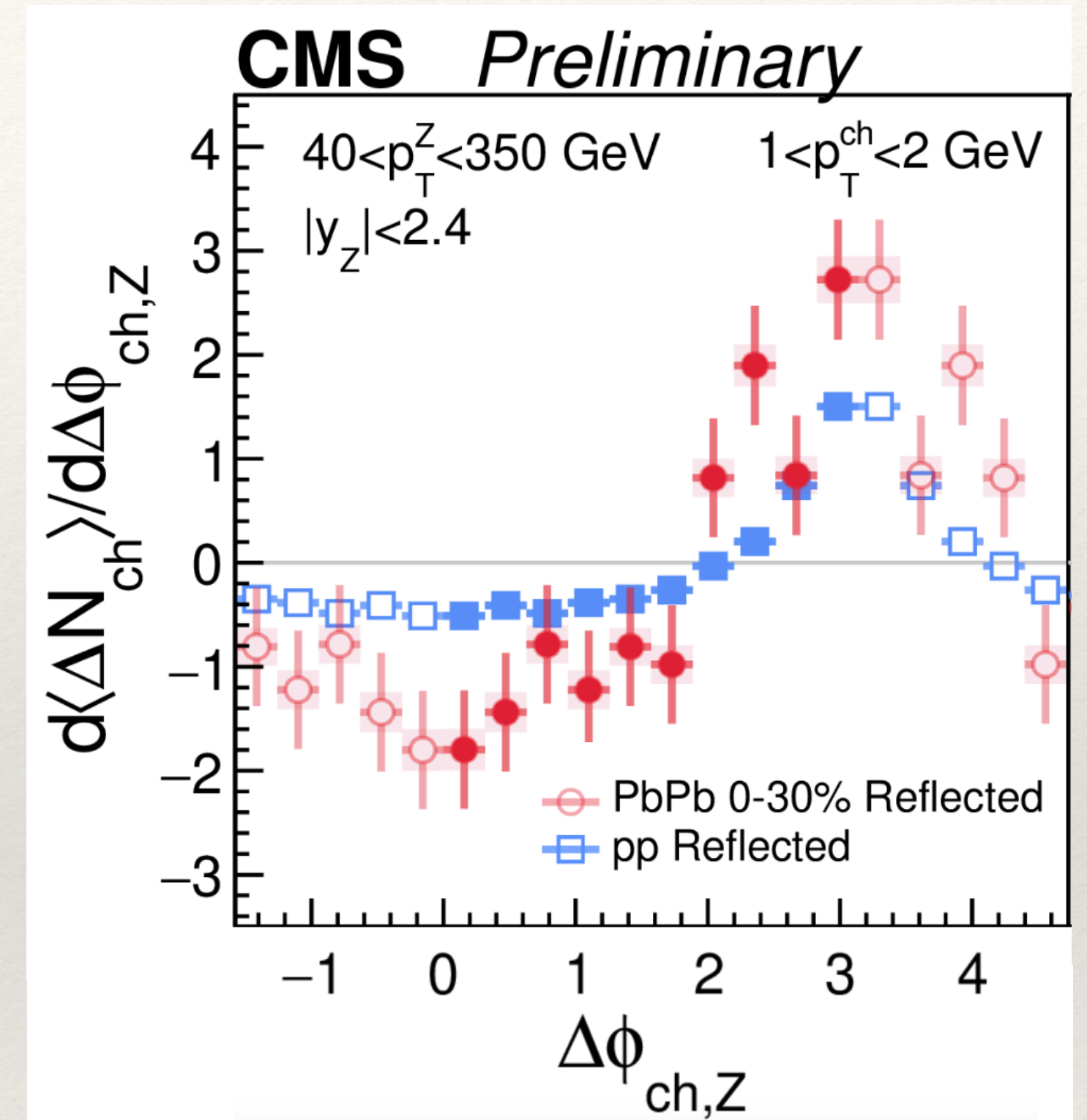
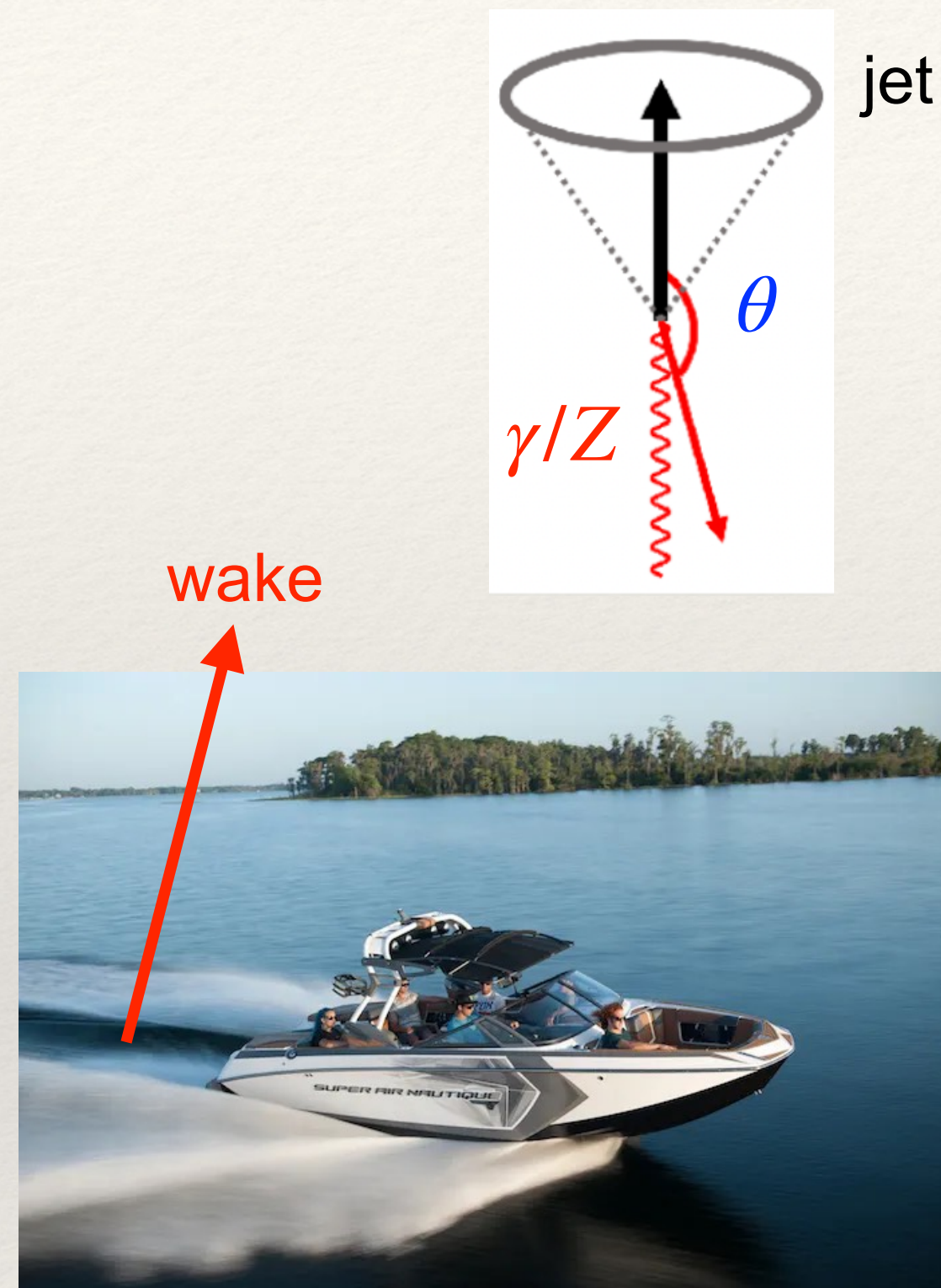
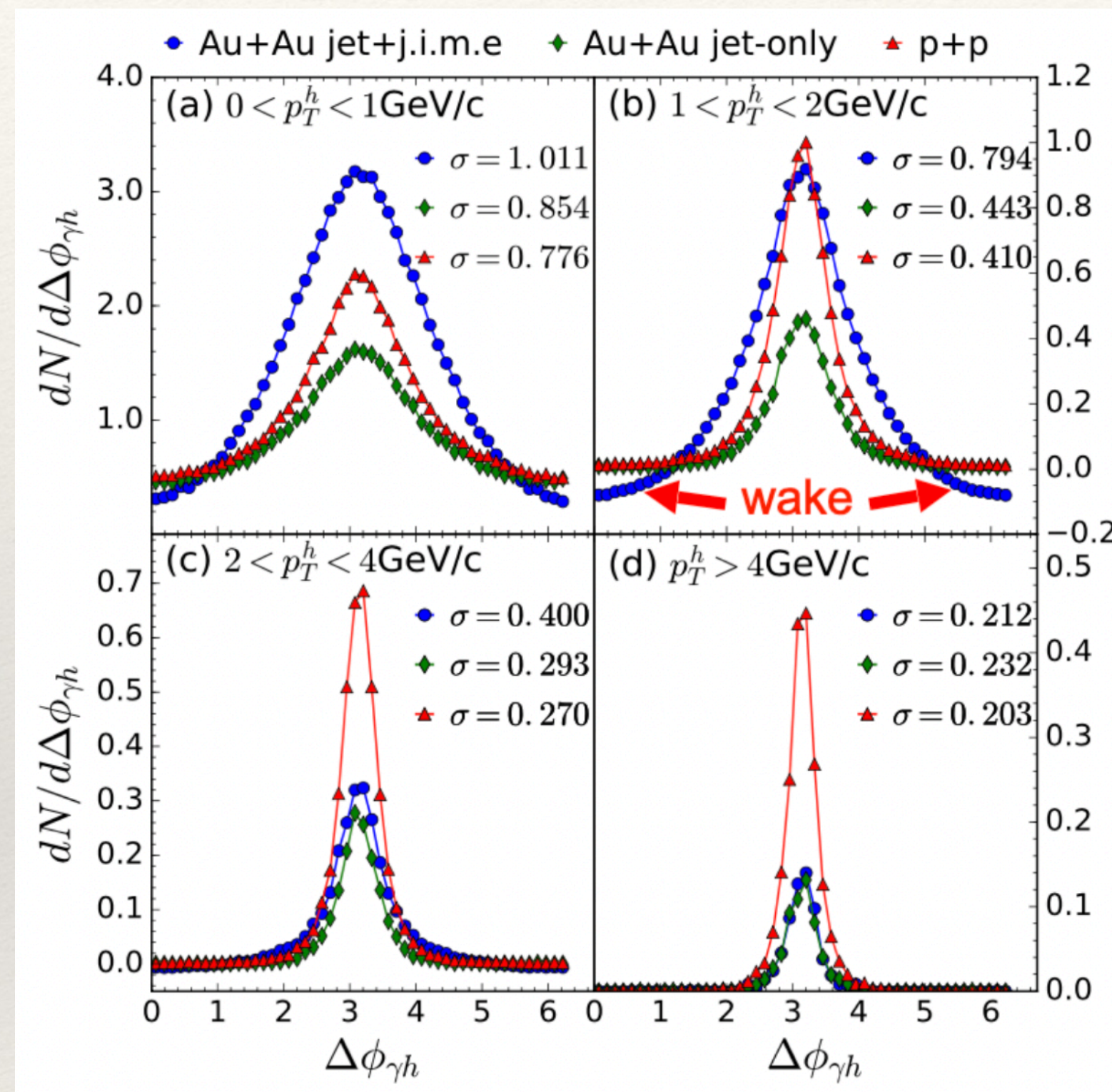
jet quenching

[ Chen, SC, Luo, Pang, Wang, Phys. Lett. B 777 (2018) 86-90 ]



# Search for unique signatures of medium response

## Energy suppression in diffusion wake

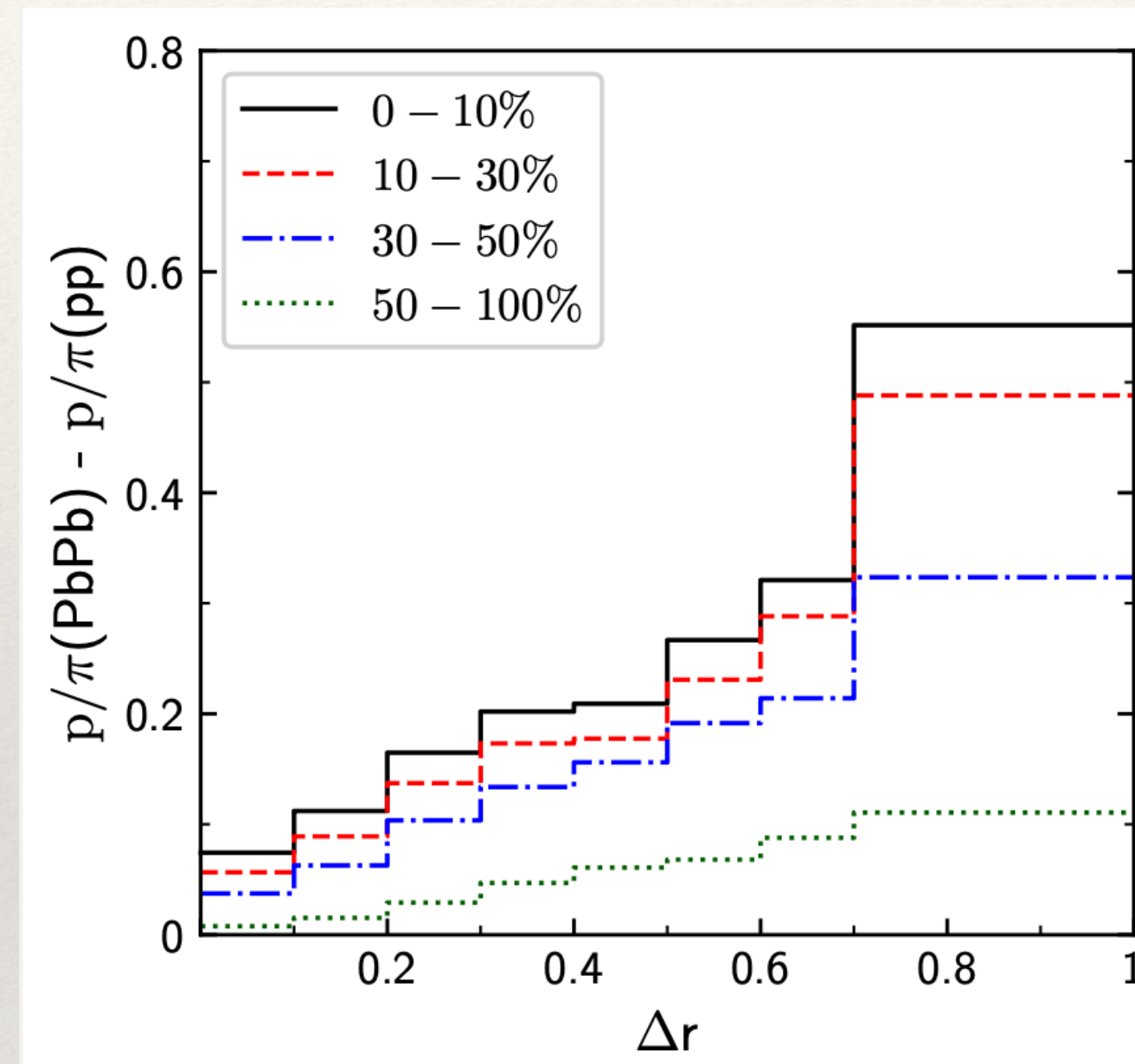


- Energy suppression predicted in the backward direction of jets at  $1 < p_T^h < 2 \text{ GeV}$  [ Chen, SC, Luo, Pang, Wang, PLB 777 (2018) 86, Yang, Luo, Chen, Pang, Wang, PRL 130 (2023) 052301 ]
- Confirmed by recent CMS data [ CMS-PAS-HIN-23-006 ]

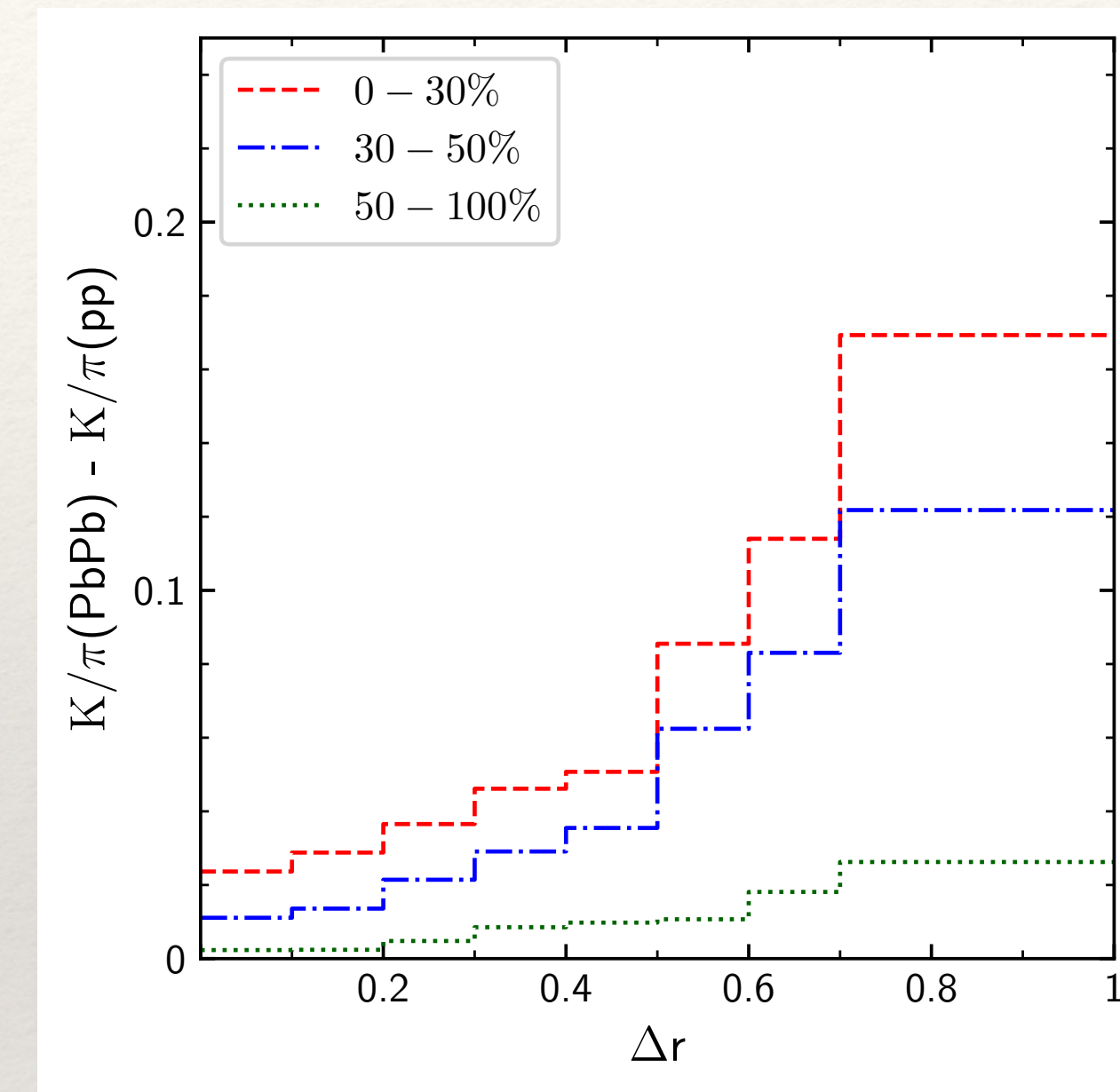
# Search for unique signatures of medium response

## Hadron chemistry around quenched jets

### Baryon enhancement



### Strangeness enhancement



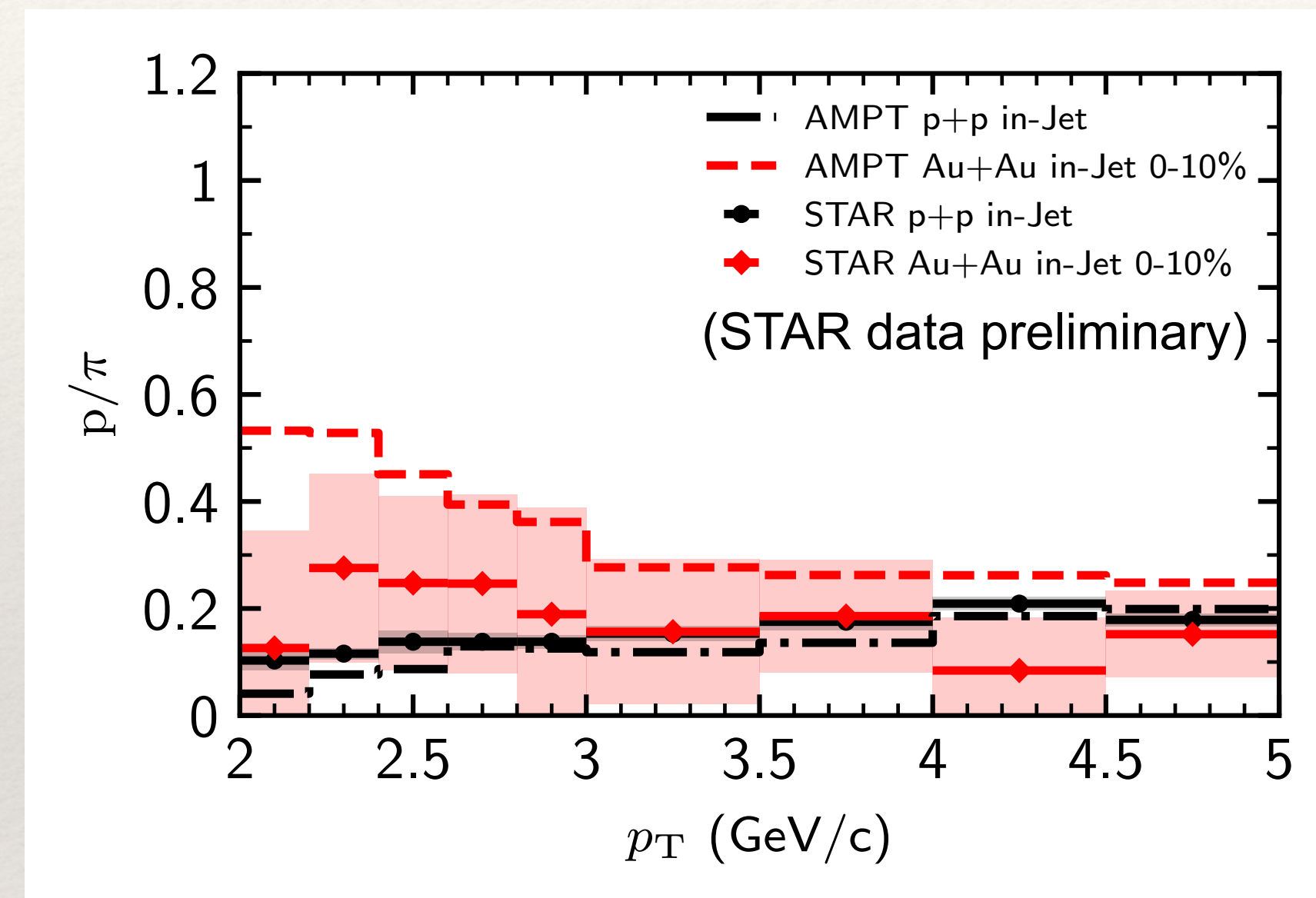
- Larger quark density and strangeness density in QGP than in vacuum jets
- Enhanced baryon-to-meson ratio and strangeness around jets in AA vs. *pp* collisions
- Stronger enhancement at larger distance from the jet axis

[ Luo, Mao, Qin, Wang, Zhang, PLB 837 (2023) 137638; Chen, SC, Luo, Pang, Wang, NPA 1005 (2021) 121934 ]

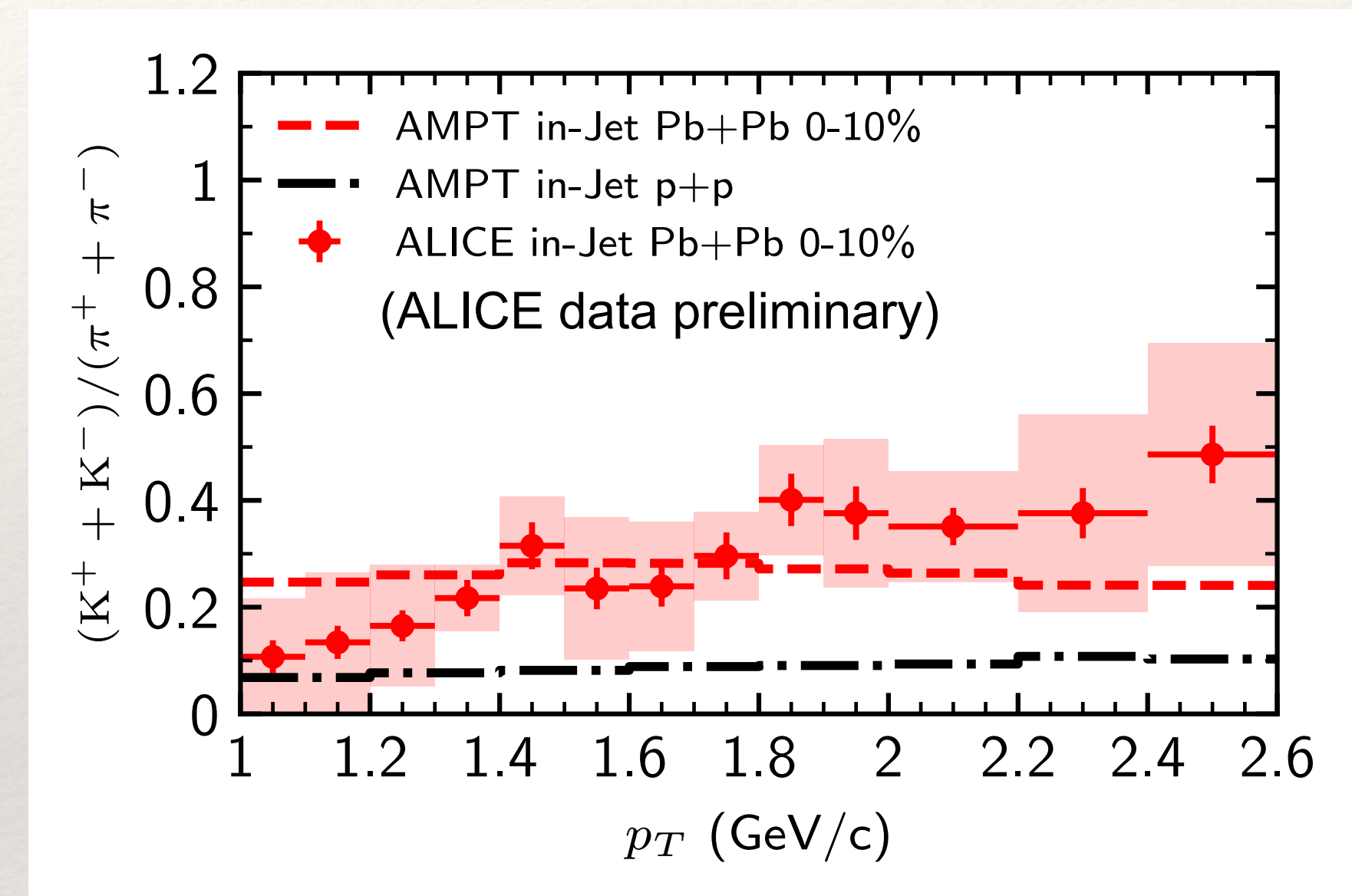
# Search for unique signatures of medium response

## Hadron chemistry around jets: comparison to experimental data

### Baryon production at RHIC



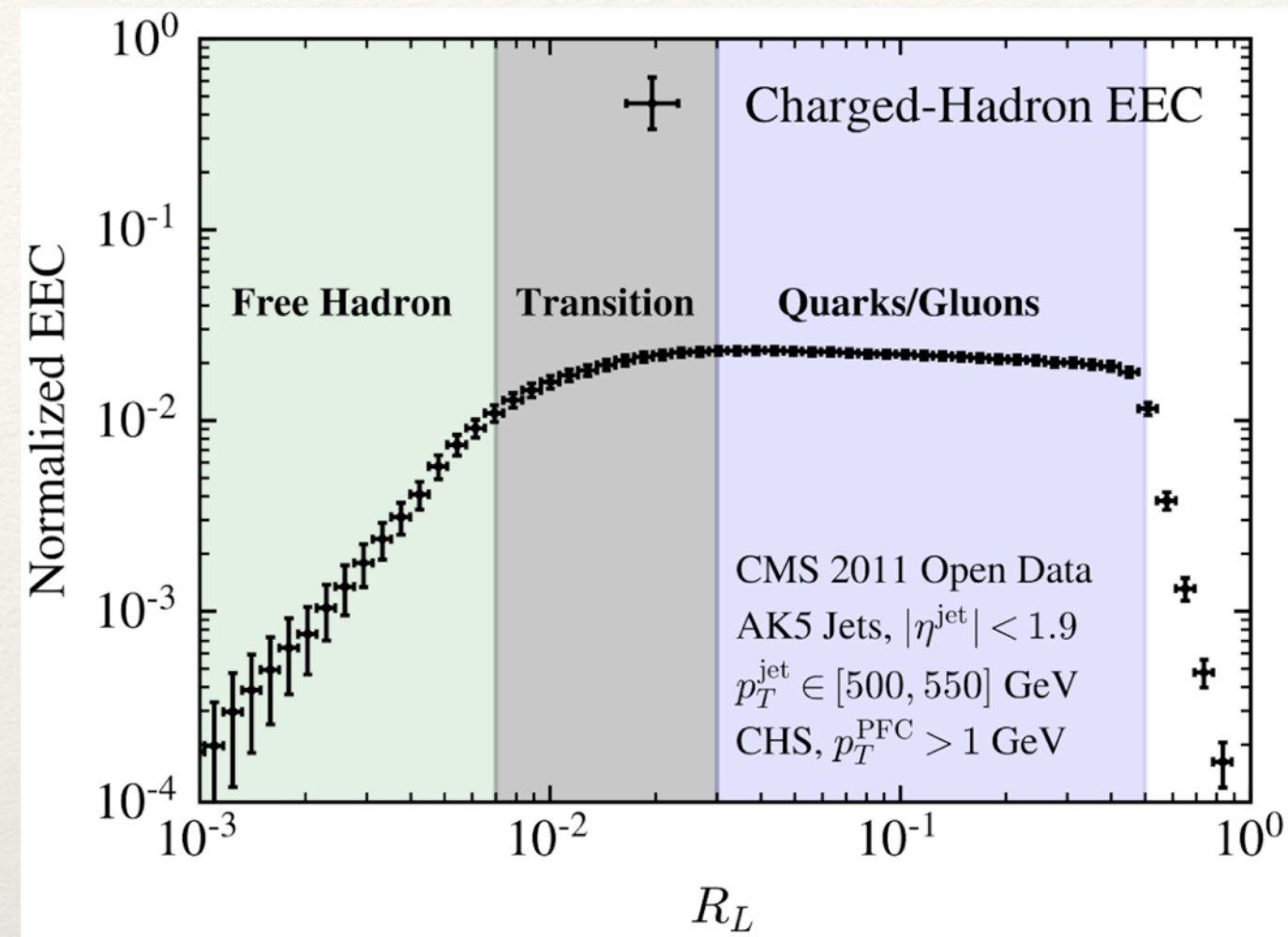
### Strangeness production at LHC



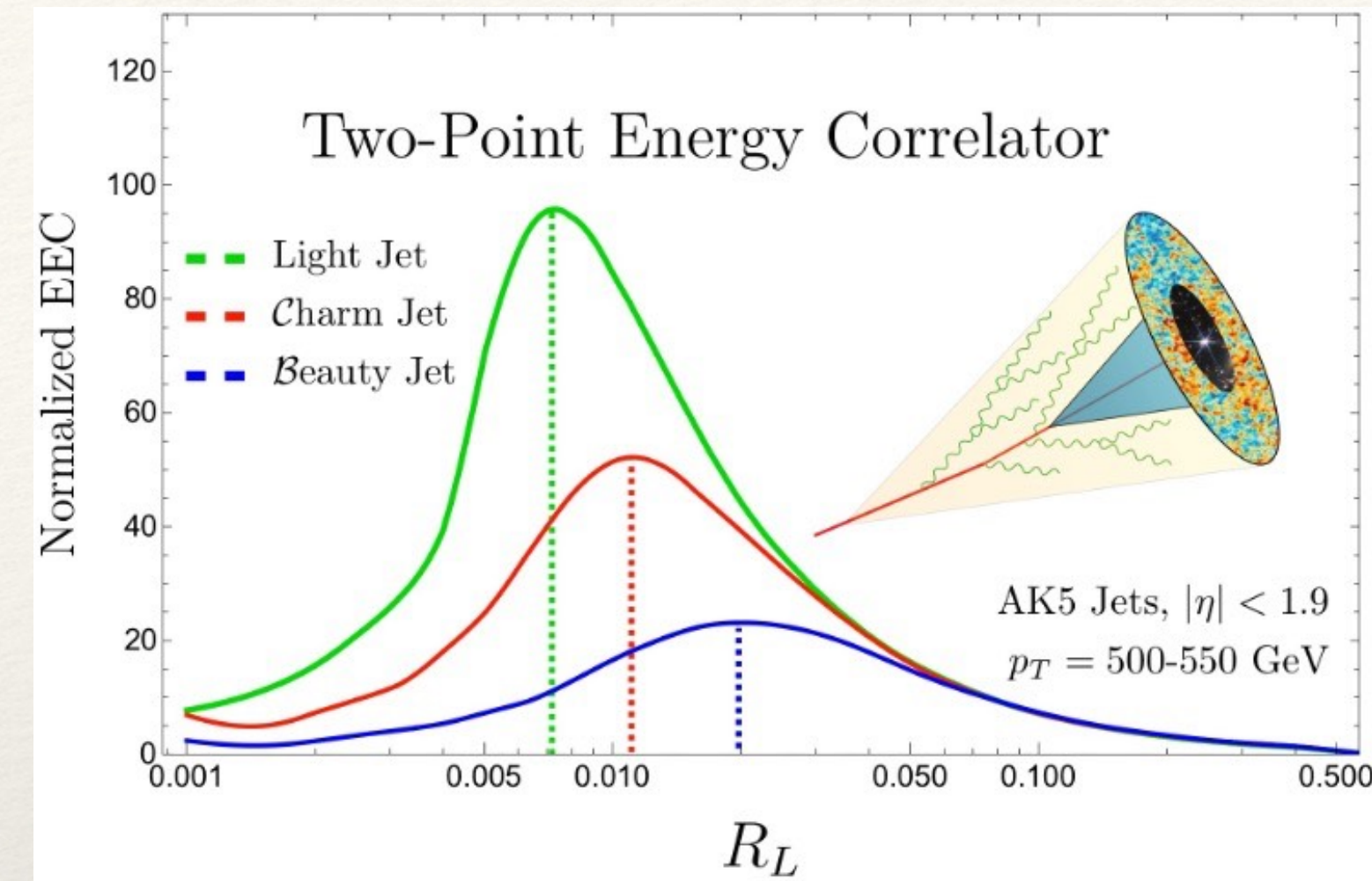
[ Luo, SC, Qin, in preparation ]

- Prediction on  $p/\pi$  enhancement in AuAu vs.  $pp$  collisions qualitatively agrees with the RHIC data
- Prediction on  $K/\pi$  ratio in PbPb collisions agrees with the LHC data (no data on  $pp$  yet)
- More precise experimental data and theoretical predictions are desired

# A novel observable: energy-energy correlator (EEC)



[ Komiske et. al., PRL 130 (2023) 051901 ]



[ Craft et. al., arXiv:2210.09311 ]

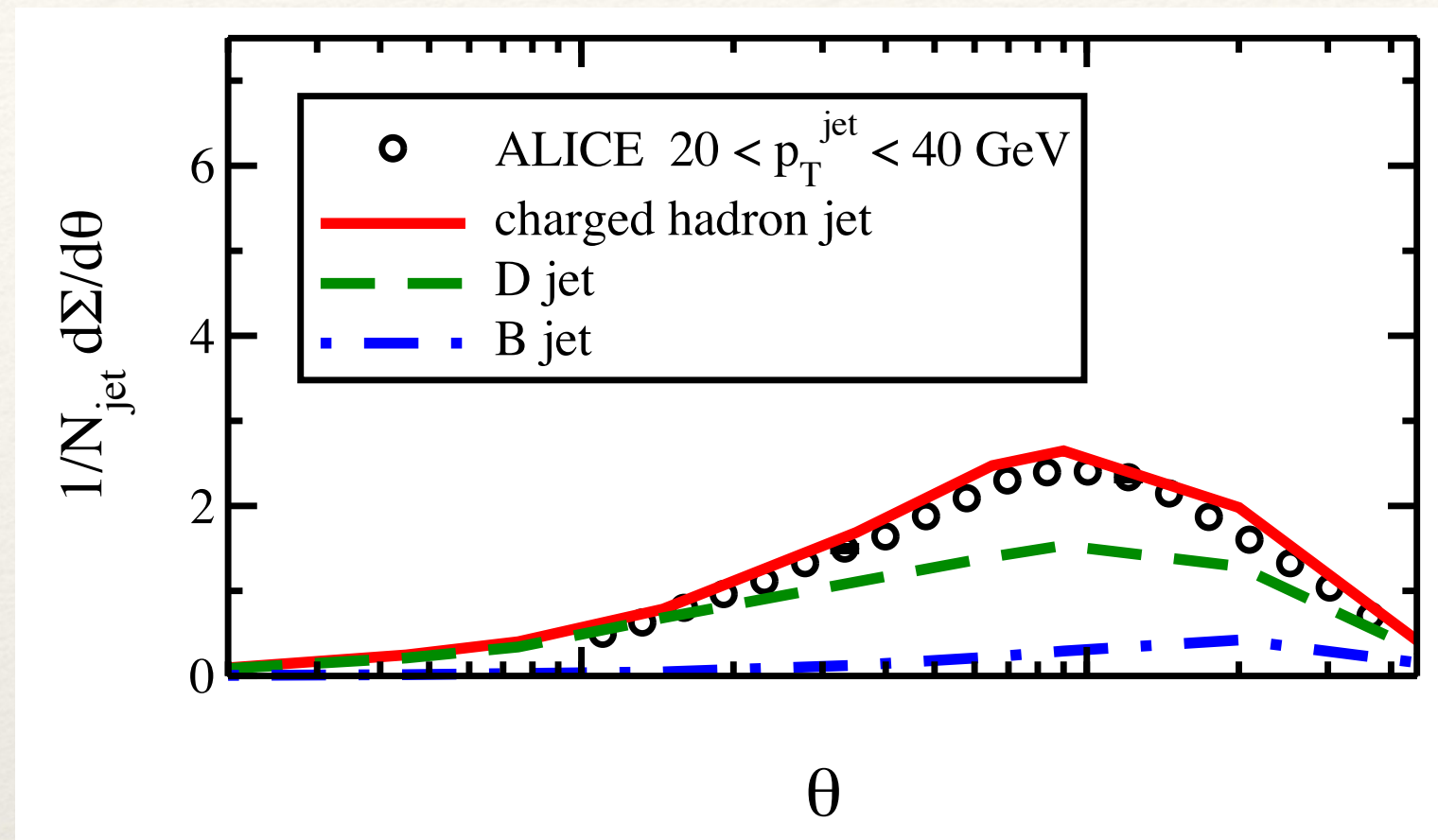
- EEC: 
$$\frac{d\Sigma}{dR_L} = \int d\vec{n}_1 d\vec{n}_2 \frac{\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \rangle}{Q^2} \delta(\Delta R_{12} - R_L)$$

$\mathcal{E}$ : energy flow in a given direction,

$\Delta R_{12} = \sqrt{\Delta\phi_{12}^2 + \Delta\eta_{12}^2}$  : relative angle, Q: hard scale

- EEC of jets presents a clear angular scale separation between perturbative and non-perturbative (e.g. hadronization) regions
- EEC can also reveal the flavor dependence of splitting angles of partons in  $pp$  collisions
- Implement a first realistic calculation on light and heavy flavor jet EEC in AA collisions

# Light vs. heavy flavor jet EEC in $pp$ collisions



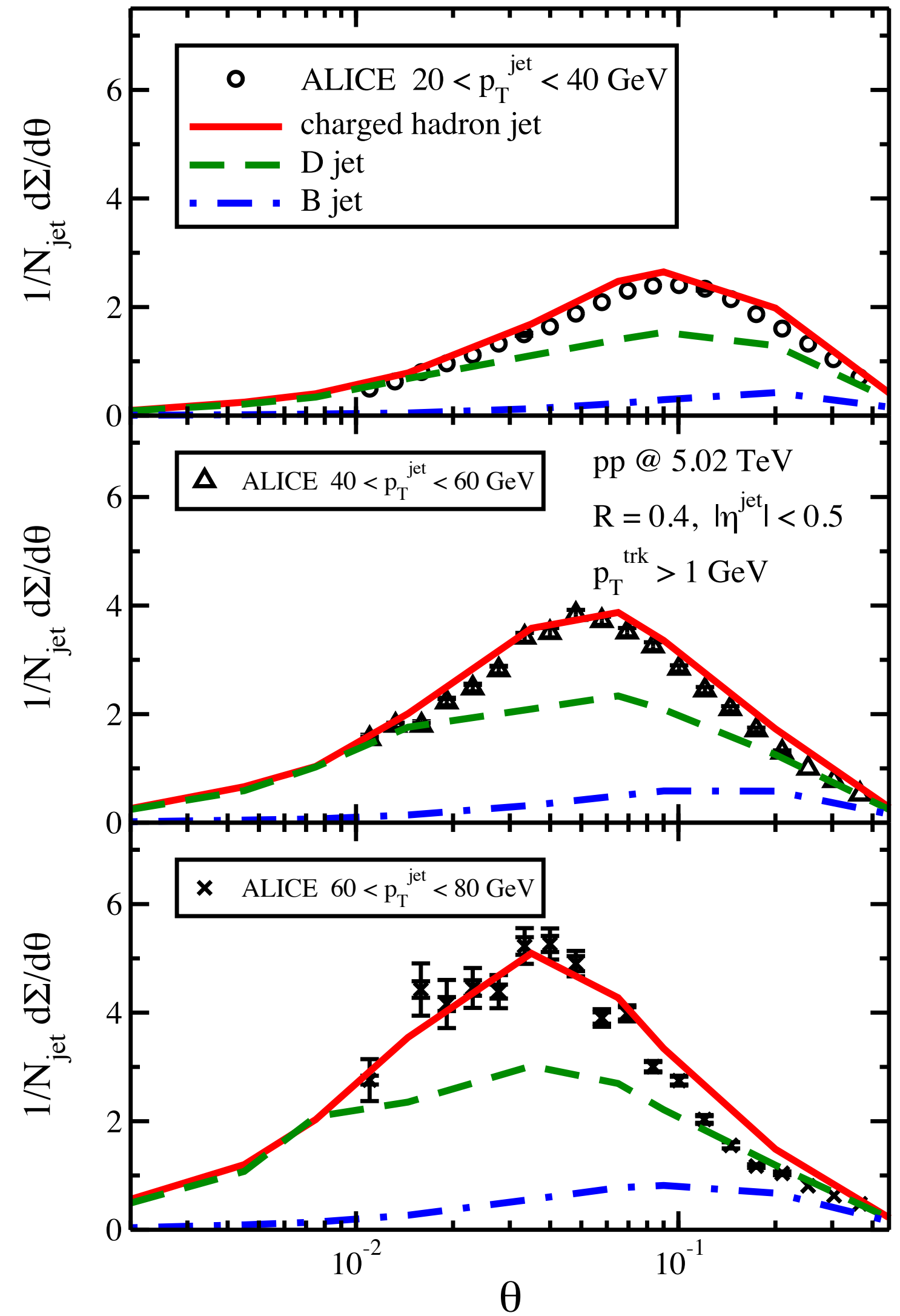
- Jet in  $pp$ : Pythia 8 simulation
- EEC analysis ( $i, j$  denote jet constituents)

$$\frac{d\Sigma(\theta)}{d\theta} = \frac{1}{\Delta\theta} \sum_{|\theta_{ij}-\theta| < \Delta\theta/2} \frac{p_{T,i}(\vec{n}_i) p_{T,j}(\vec{n}_j)}{p_{T,\text{jet}}^2}$$

- Flavor (mass) dependence:
  - Overall magnitude: charged jet  $>$   $D$ -jet  $>$   $B$ -jet
  - Typical (peak) angle: charged jet  $<$   $D$ -jet  $<$   $B$ -jet

Suppression of splitting within  $\theta_0 \sim m_Q/E_Q$  in vacuum

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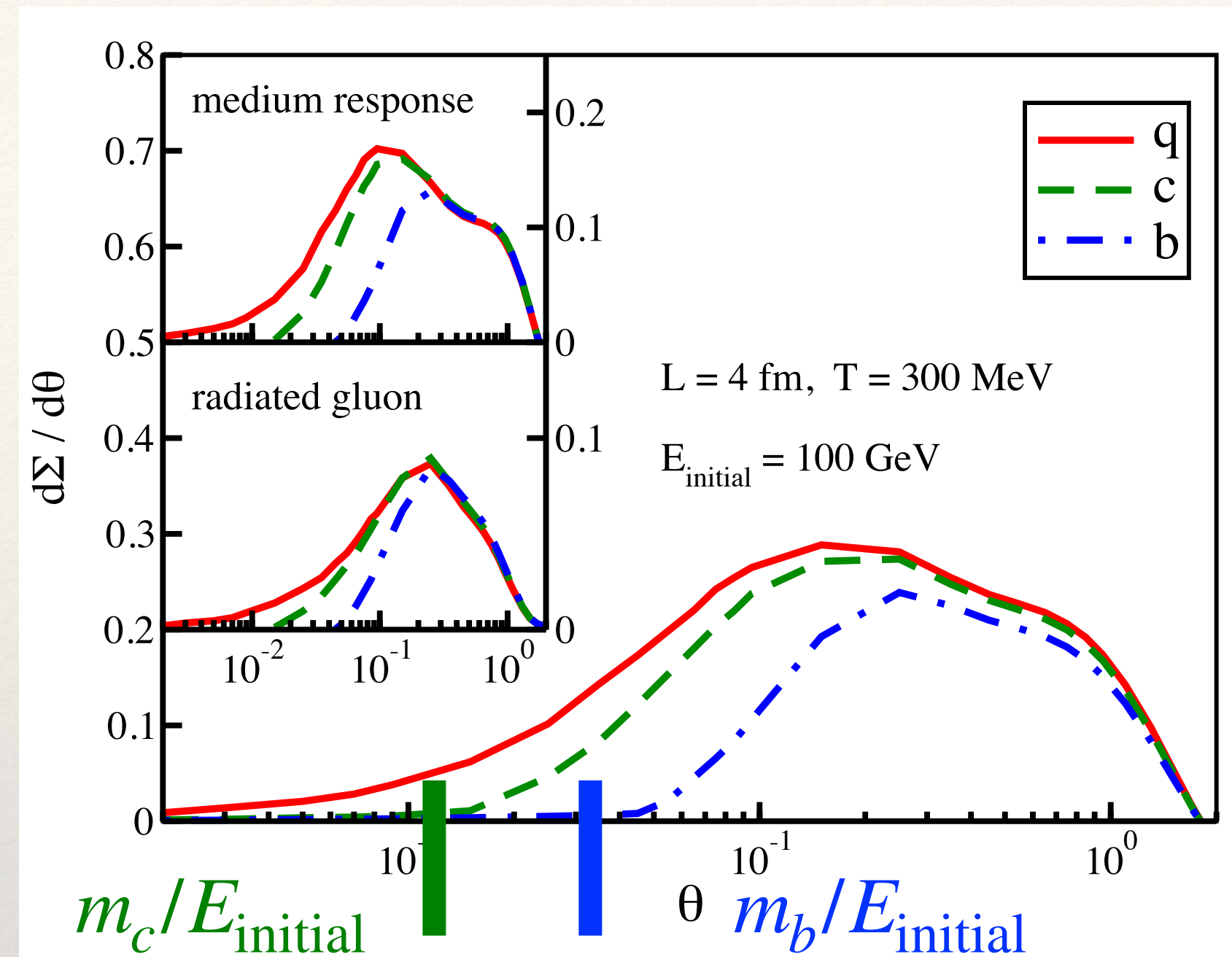
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Suppression of splitting within  $\theta_0 \sim m_Q/E_Q$  in vacuum

- Jet energy dependence
  - Higher  $p_T \rightarrow \Sigma$  peaks at smaller  $\theta$

$p_T \theta_{\text{peak}} \sim$  transition scale between pert. and non-pert.

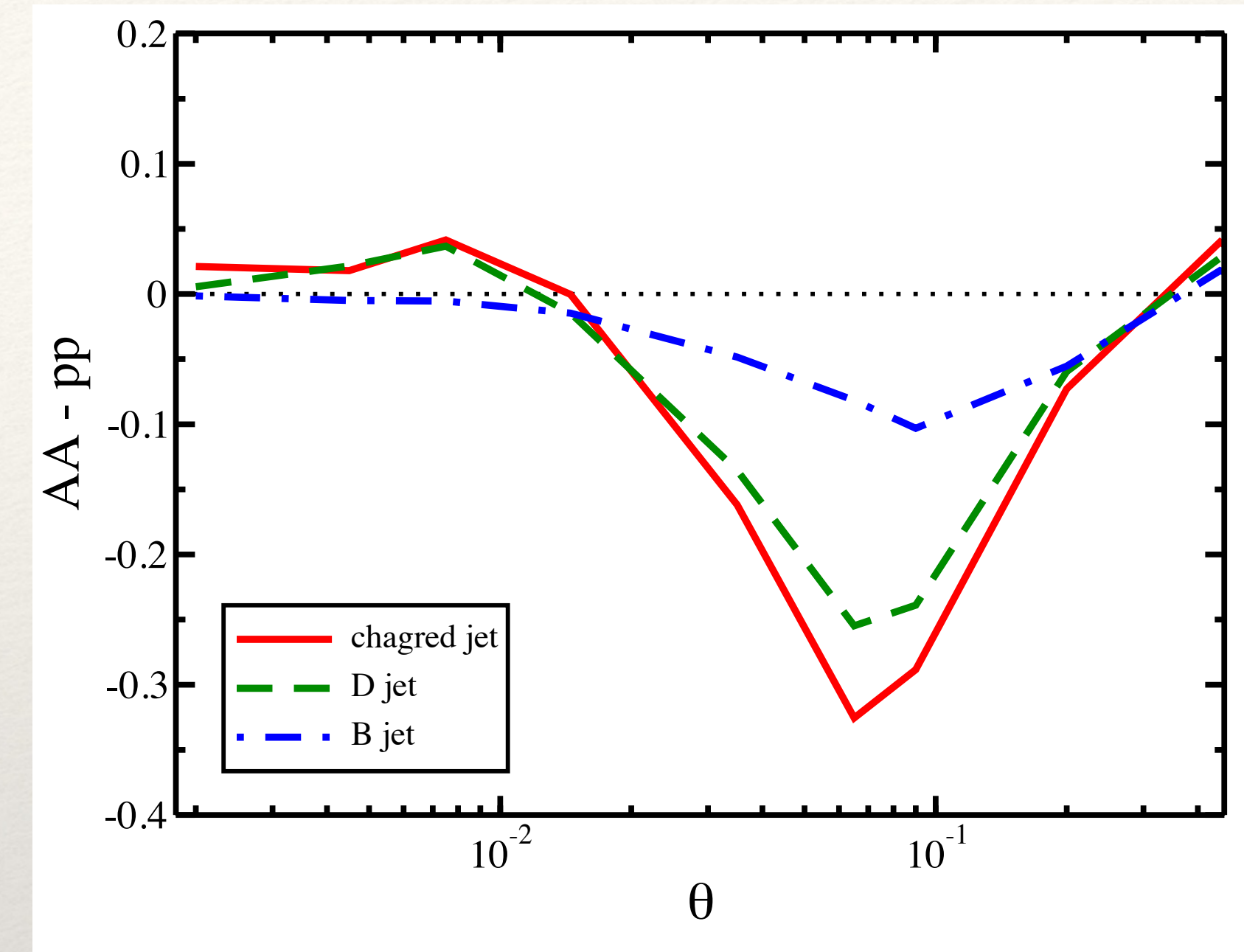
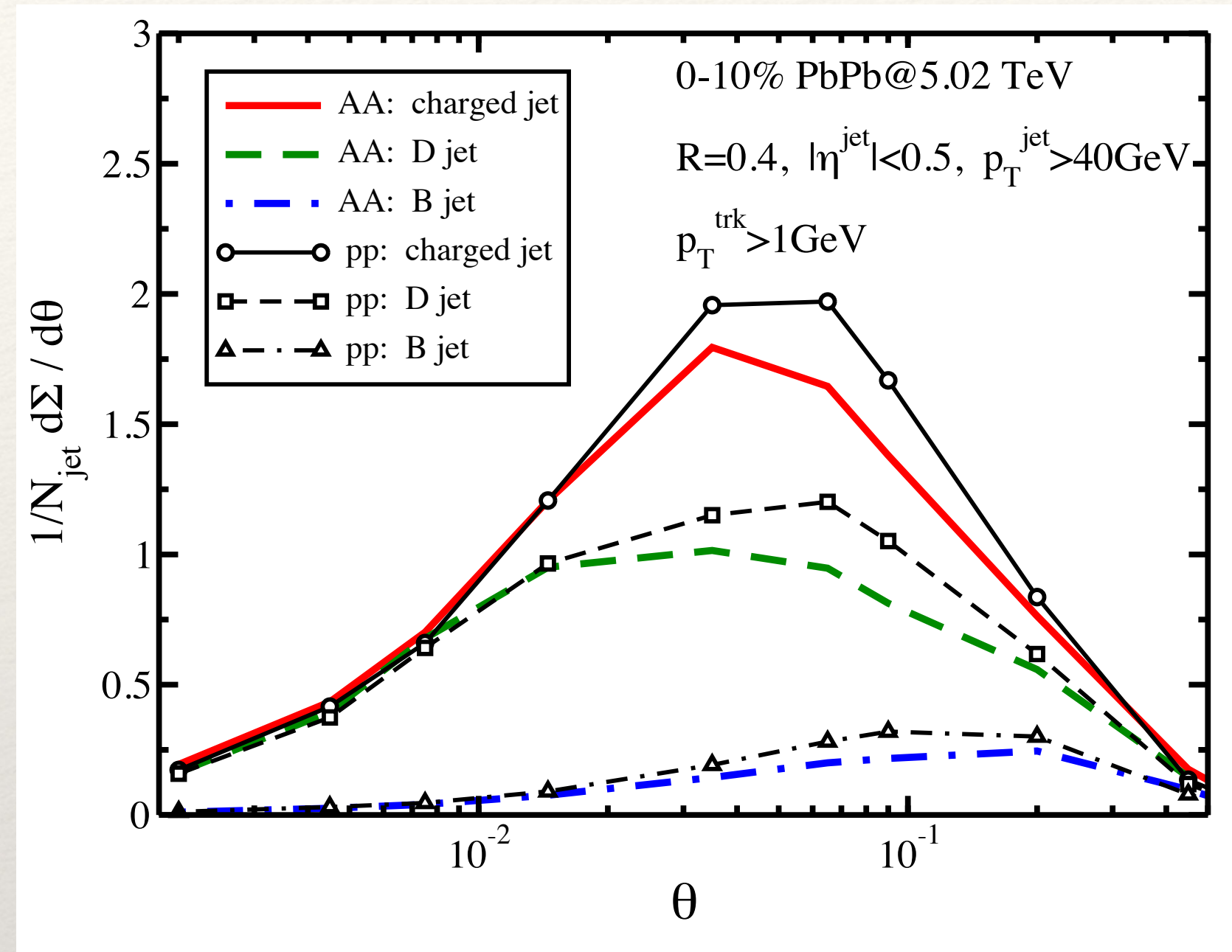
# EEC of partons developed from a single quark



Xing, SC, Qin, Wang,  
arXiv:2409.12843

- Single quark  $\rightarrow$  LBT + static medium  $\rightarrow$  EEC of daughter partons
- Flavor (mass) hierarchy of EEC:
  - Magnitude: charged  $> D > B$ -jet; peak position: charged  $< D < B$ -jet (similar to vacuum jets)
  - Clear strong suppression of  $\Sigma$  below  $\theta_0 \sim m_Q/E_{\text{initial}}$
- Contributions from medium response and gluon emission show similar hierarchies

# Light vs. heavy flavor jet EEC in central PbPb collisions

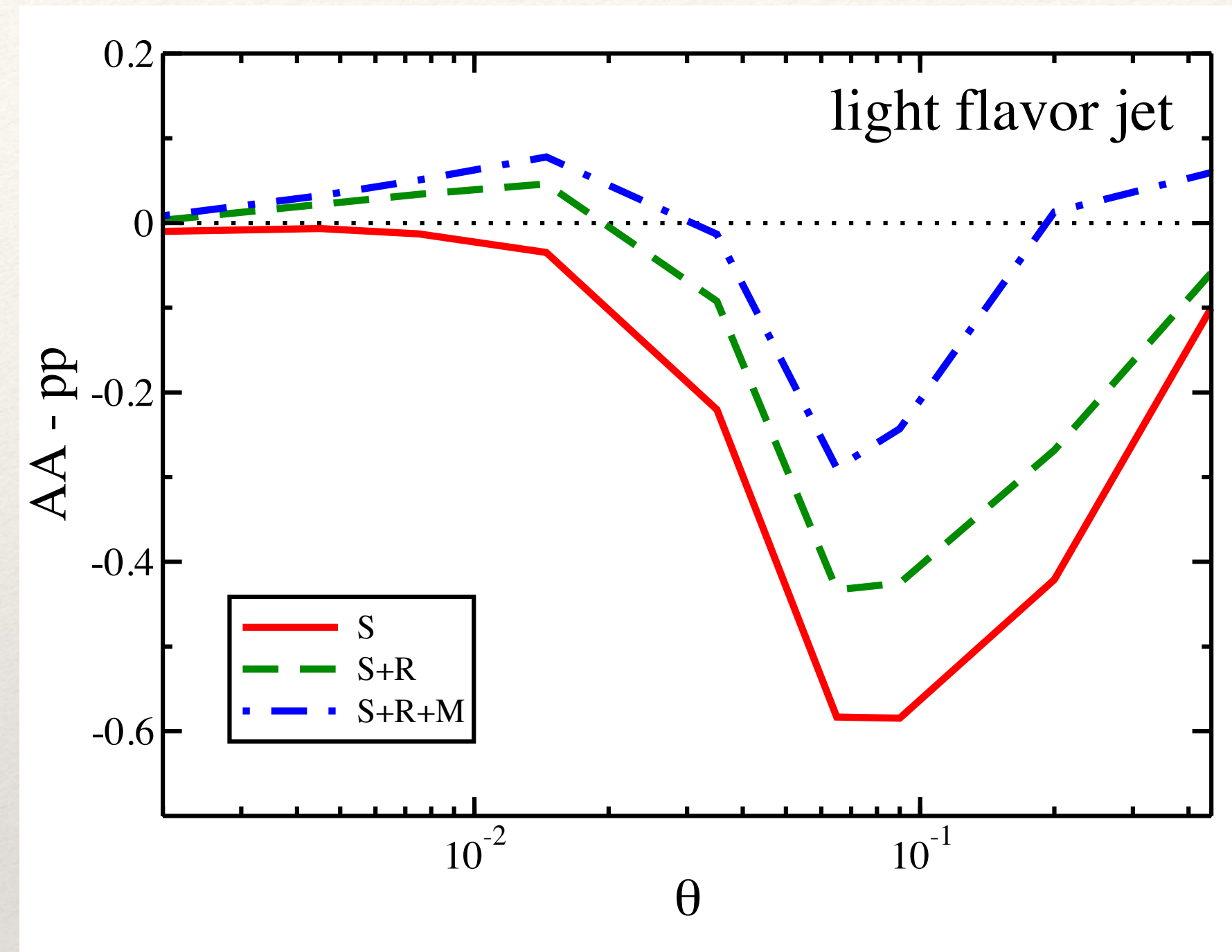


Nuclear modification ( $AA - pp$ ) — Pythia + LBT in hydro

- General features: suppression at intermediate  $\theta$ , enhancement at small  $\theta$  (except for  $B$ -jet) and large  $\theta$
- Flavor hierarchy: weaker nuclear modification (both suppression and enhancement) for jets tagged with heavier mesons



# Different contributions to medium modification on EEC

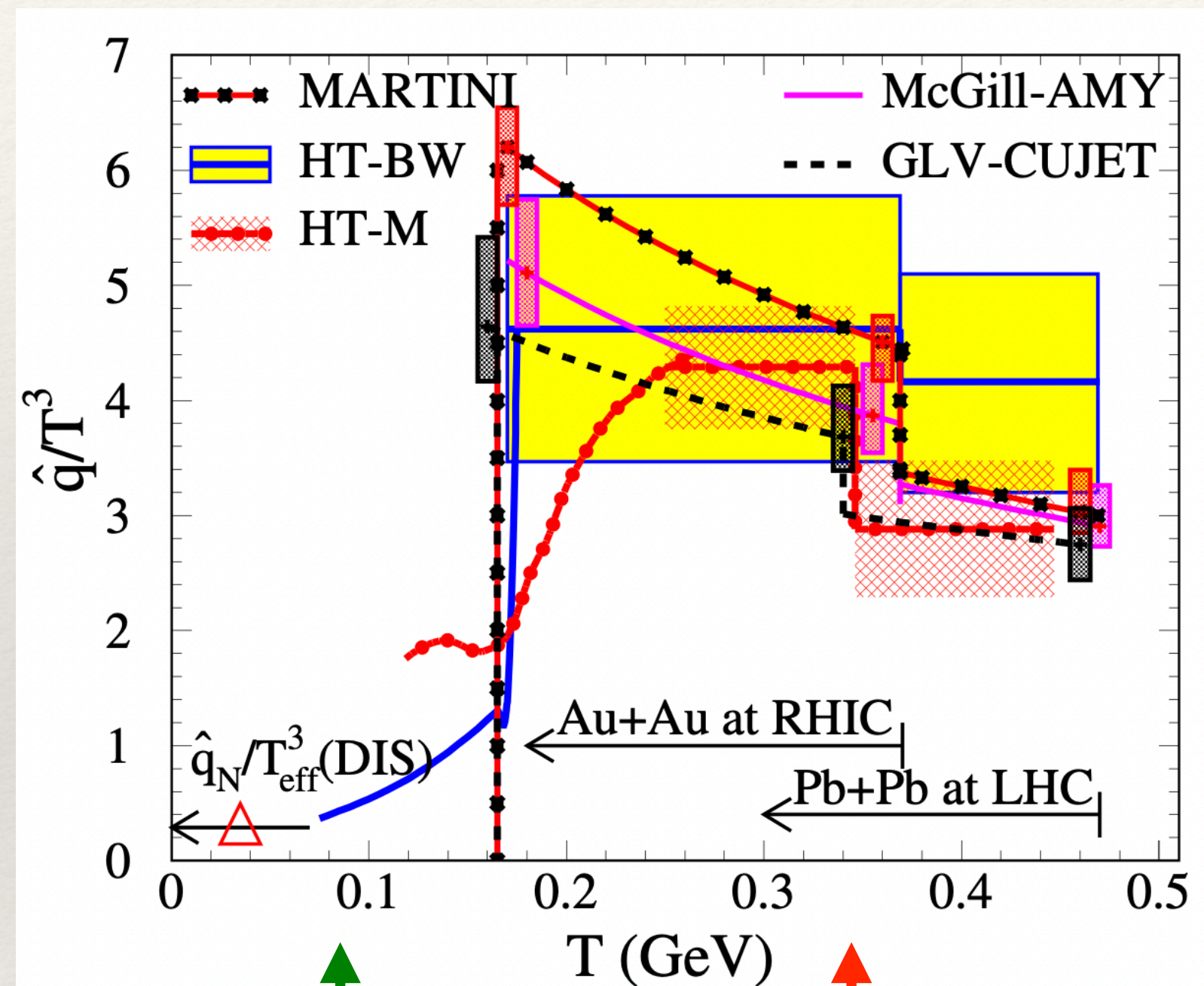


S: shower partons inherited from Pythia  
S+R: add medium-induced gluons  
S+R+M: further add medium response

- Jet energy loss causes suppression over the entire  $\theta$  region
- Medium-induced gluon emission enhances EEC at small  $\theta$
- Medium response enhances EEC at large  $\theta$

# Constraints on jet transport coefficient inside the QGP

$$\hat{q} \equiv d\langle k_{\perp}^2 \rangle / dt \sim \langle F^{ai+}(0) F_i^{a+}(y^-) \rangle$$



nucleus  $\ll$  QGP

[ JET, Phys. Rev.C 90 (2014) 1, 014909 ]

- QGP is much more opaque than cold nuclear matter to jet propagation

- Recent developments on  $\hat{q}$  extraction:

Multistage jet evolution model with Bayesian analysis

[ JETSCAPE, Phys. Rev. C 104 (2021) 1, 024905 ]

Information field based global interference

[ Xie et al., Phys. Rev. C 108 (2023) 1, L011901 ]

# Probing the equation of state of the QGP

## Transport

$$p_a \cdot \partial f_a(x_a, p_a) = E_a (\mathcal{C}_a^{\text{el}} + \mathcal{C}_a^{\text{inel}})$$

**Strong coupling strength**

$$g(E, T)$$

## Thermal mass of partons

$$m_g^2 = \frac{1}{6} g^2 \left[ (N_c + \frac{1}{2} n_f) T^2 + \frac{N_c}{2\pi^2} \sum_q \mu_q^2 \right]$$

$$m_{u,d}^2 = \frac{N_c^2 - 1}{8N_c} g^2 \left[ T^2 + \frac{\mu_{u,d}^2}{\pi^2} \right]$$

$$m_s^2 - m_{0s}^2 = \frac{N_c^2 - 1}{8N_c} g^2 \left[ T^2 + \frac{\mu_s^2}{\pi^2} \right]$$

## Equation of state

$$\begin{aligned} P_{qp}(m_u, m_d, \dots, T) &= \sum_{i=u,d,s,g} d_i \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{|\vec{p}^2|}{3E_i(p)} f_i(p) - B(T) \\ &= \sum_i P_{kin}^i(m_i, T) - B(T) \end{aligned}$$

$$\epsilon = TdP(T)/dT - P(T), \quad s = (\epsilon + P)/T$$

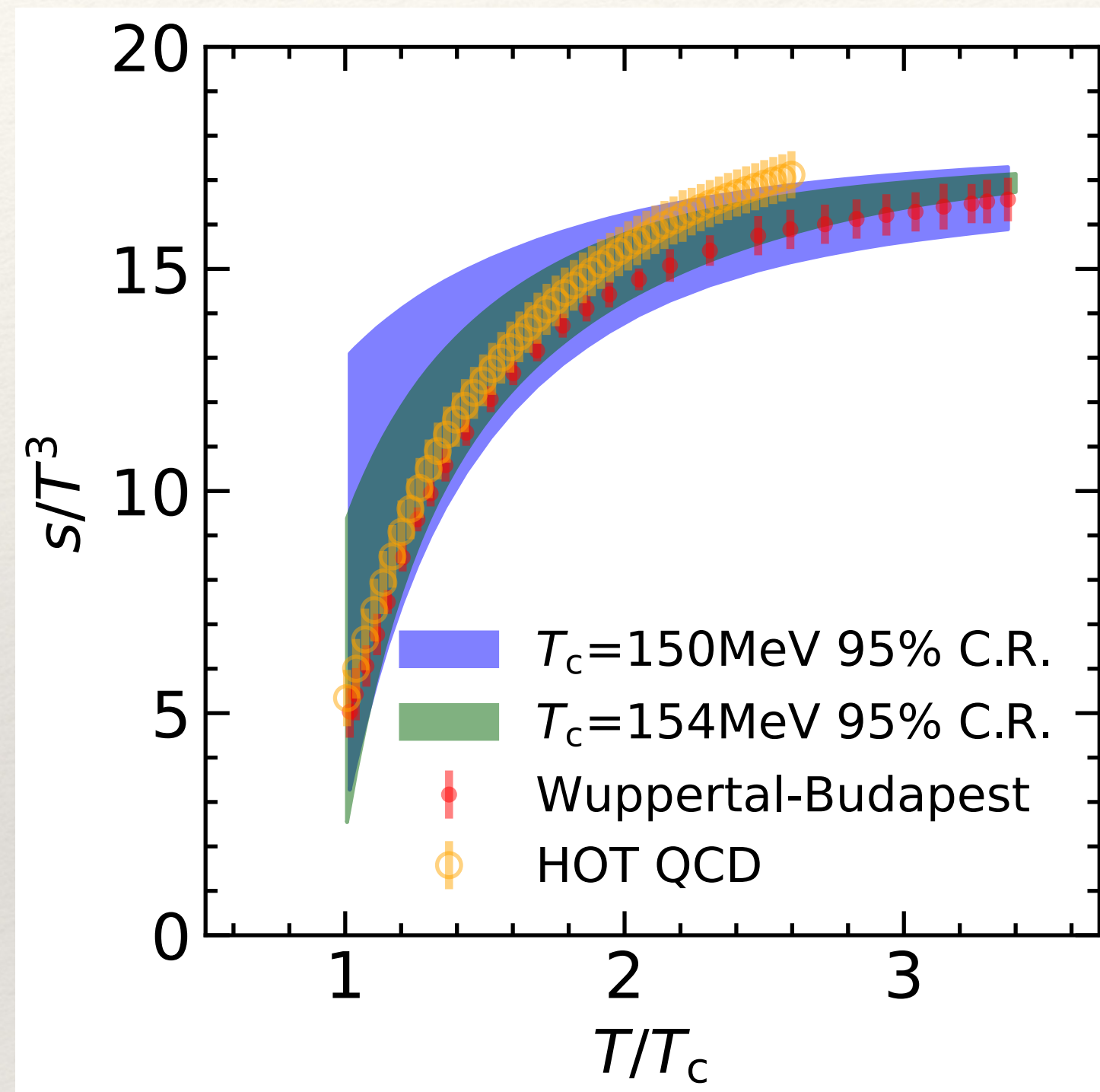
**Strategy:**

Fit  $g$  from comparing  
transport model to data

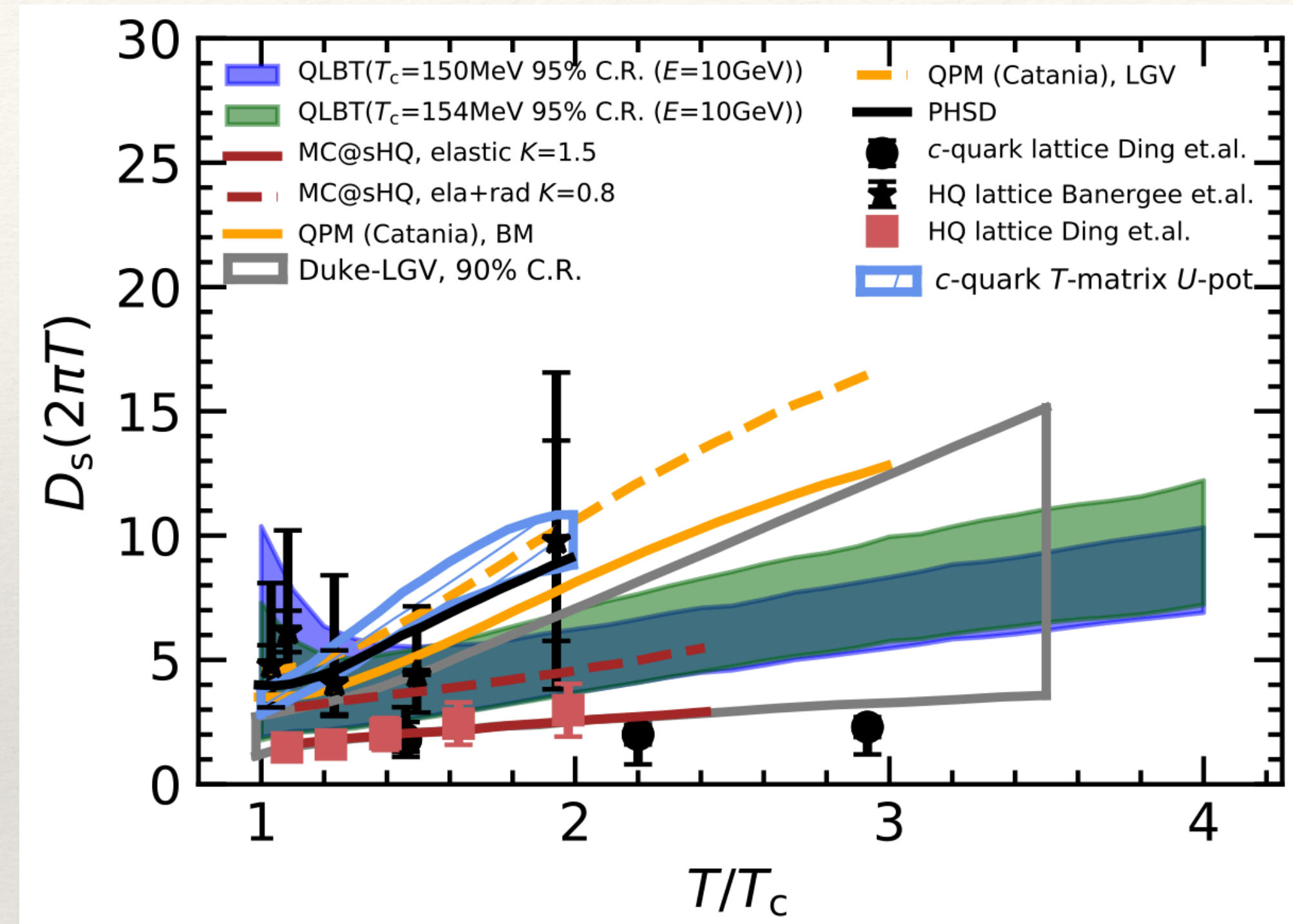
Calculate EoS from  $g$

# EoS of QGP and diffusion coefficient of heavy quarks

## Equation of state



## Diffusion coefficient



[ Liu, Wu, SC, Qin, Wang, Phys. Lett. B 848 (2024) 138355 ]

- Agreement with the lattice data
- Simultaneous constraint on QGP properties and transport properties of hard probes

# Summary

## Transport study on nuclear modification of energetic hadrons and jets

- Flavor hierarchy of parton energy loss is encoded in the hadron  $R_{AA}$ , though not explicit due to the interplay between energy loss and NLO contributions
- The same transport model is extended to bound states of heavy quark pairs ( $B_c$ )
- The jet EEC is an excellent observable for studying the dead cone effect on parton splitting (magnitude and peak position of EEC) in  $pp$  and AA collisions
- Jet and heavy flavor observables can constrain various QGP properties

*Thank you!*