

CRIS2016 -10th Cosmic Ray International Seminar  
Ischia, July 4-8 2016

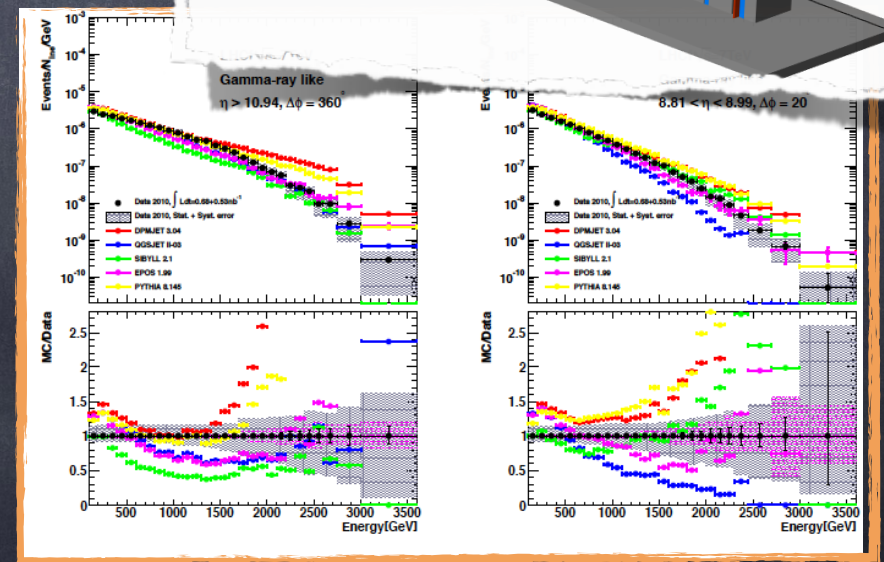
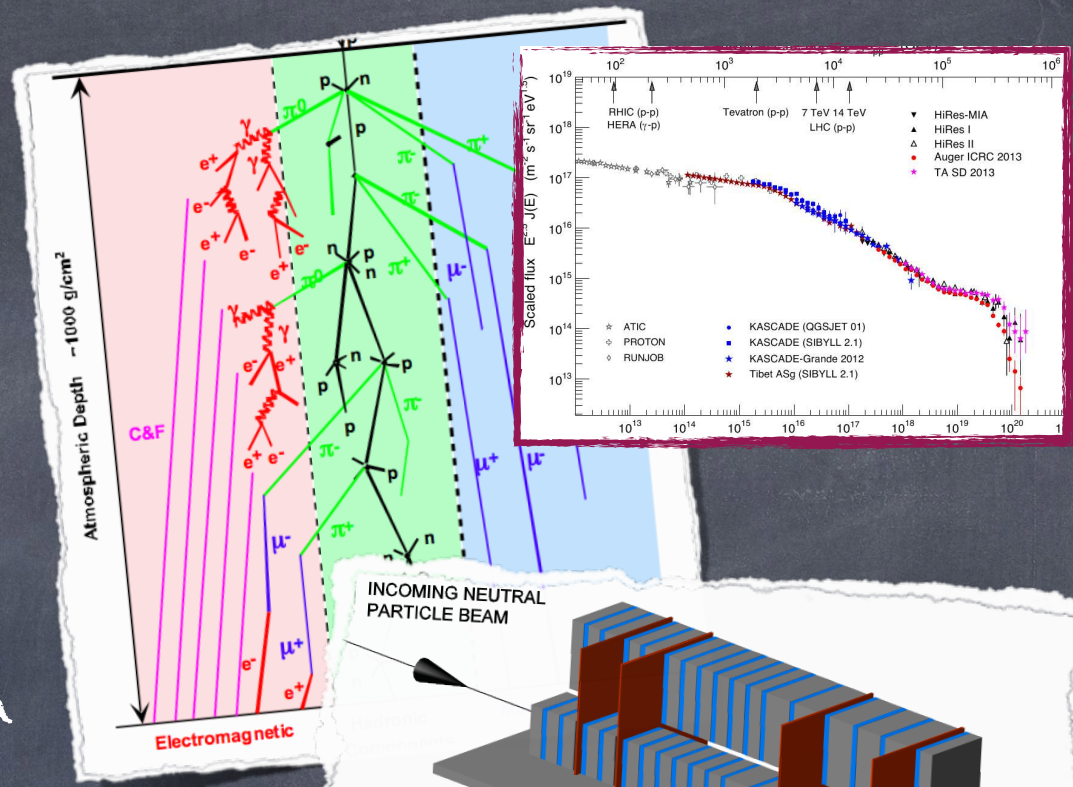


# LHCf Highlights

Alessia Tricomi  
University and INFN Catania, Italy

# Outline

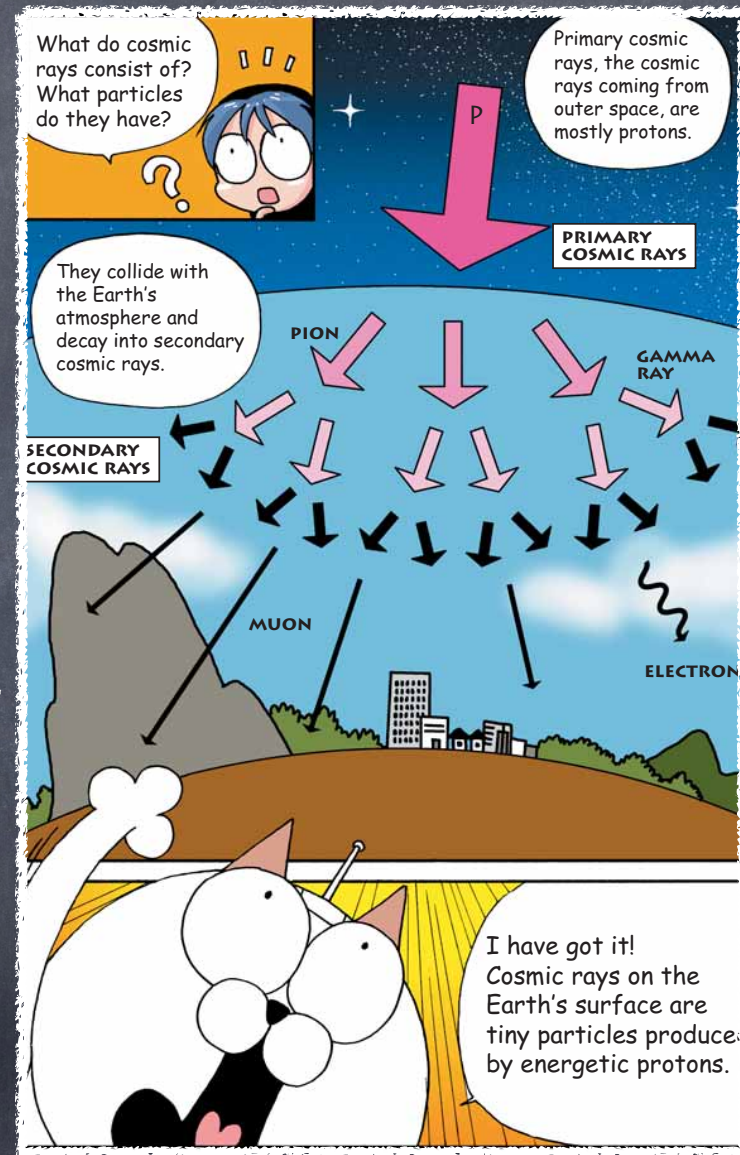
- ⦿ Physics Motivations
  - ⦿ The Link between HECR Physics and LHC
  - ⦿ The LHCf detectors
    - ⦿ "Il vino buono sta nella botte piccola" or "good things comes in small packages"
- ⦿ Physics Results
  - ⦿ what we have done so far
- ⦿ Future Plans
  - ⦿ what's next...



# Physics Motivations

## The Link between HECR Physics and LHC

- The LHCf detectors
  - "Il vino buono sta nella botte piccola" or "good things comes in small packages"
- Physics Results
  - what we have done so far
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# Ultra High Energy Cosmic Rays



Studying the properties of primary High Energy Cosmic Rays based on observation of EAS



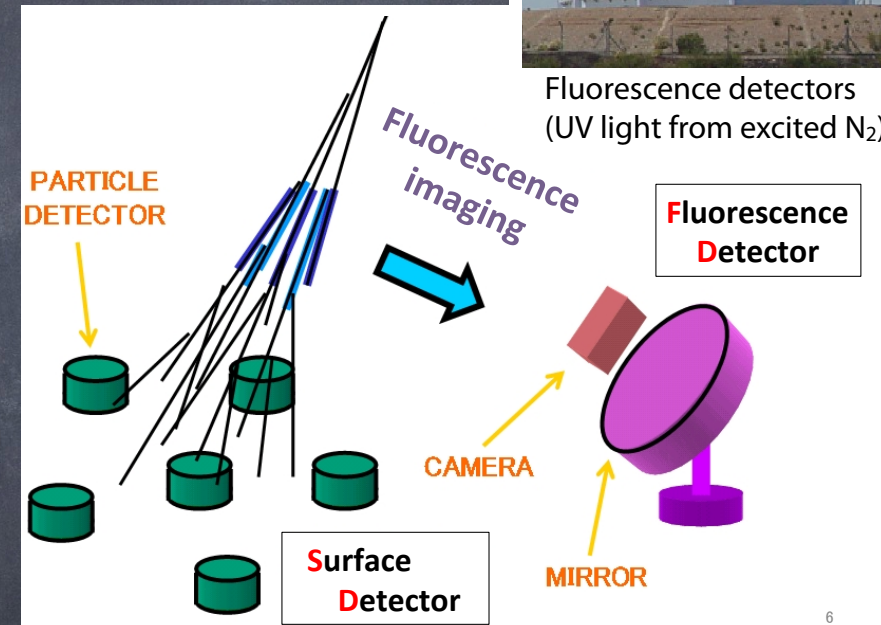
+  
MC Simulation to describe hadronic interaction with atmosphere



Energy, mass composition, direction  
→ source of primary cosmic rays  
→ origin of the universe (final goal)

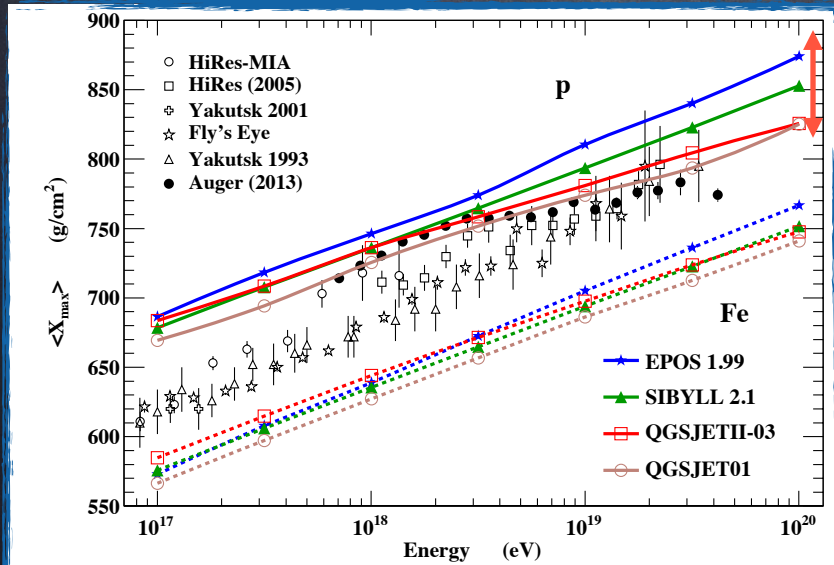
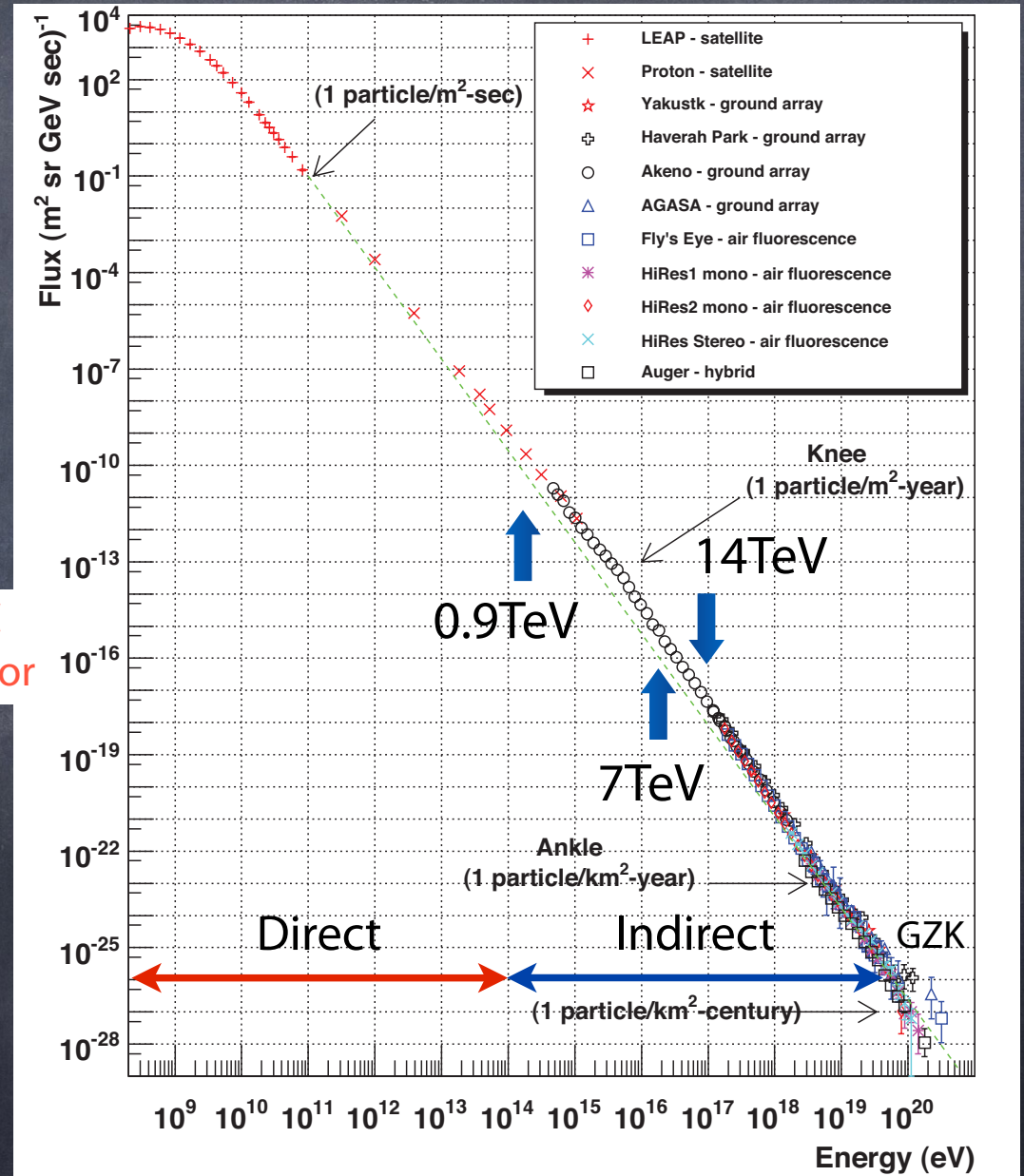
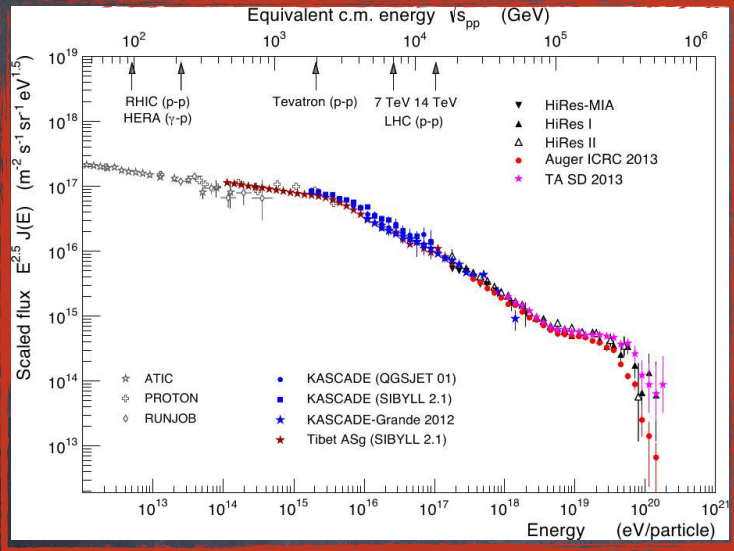


Fluorescence detectors (UV light from excited N<sub>2</sub>)



Surface detectors (charged+photon)

# Observation of UHECR



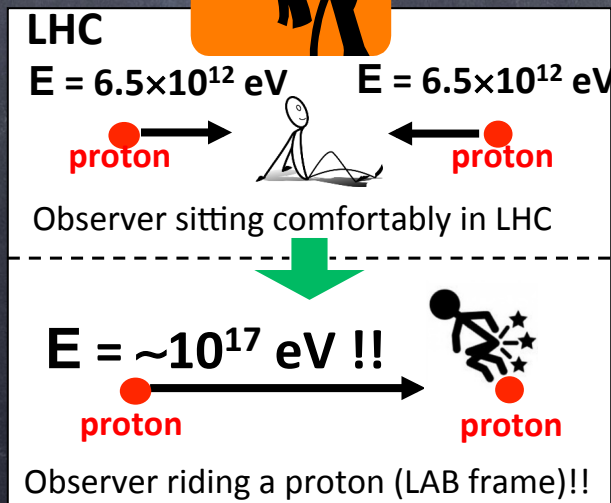
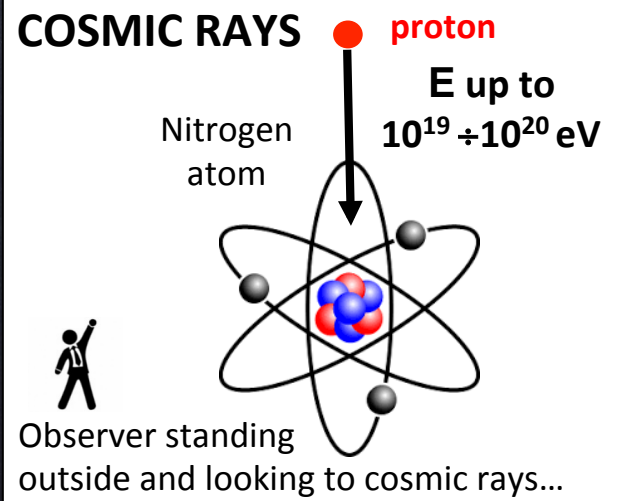
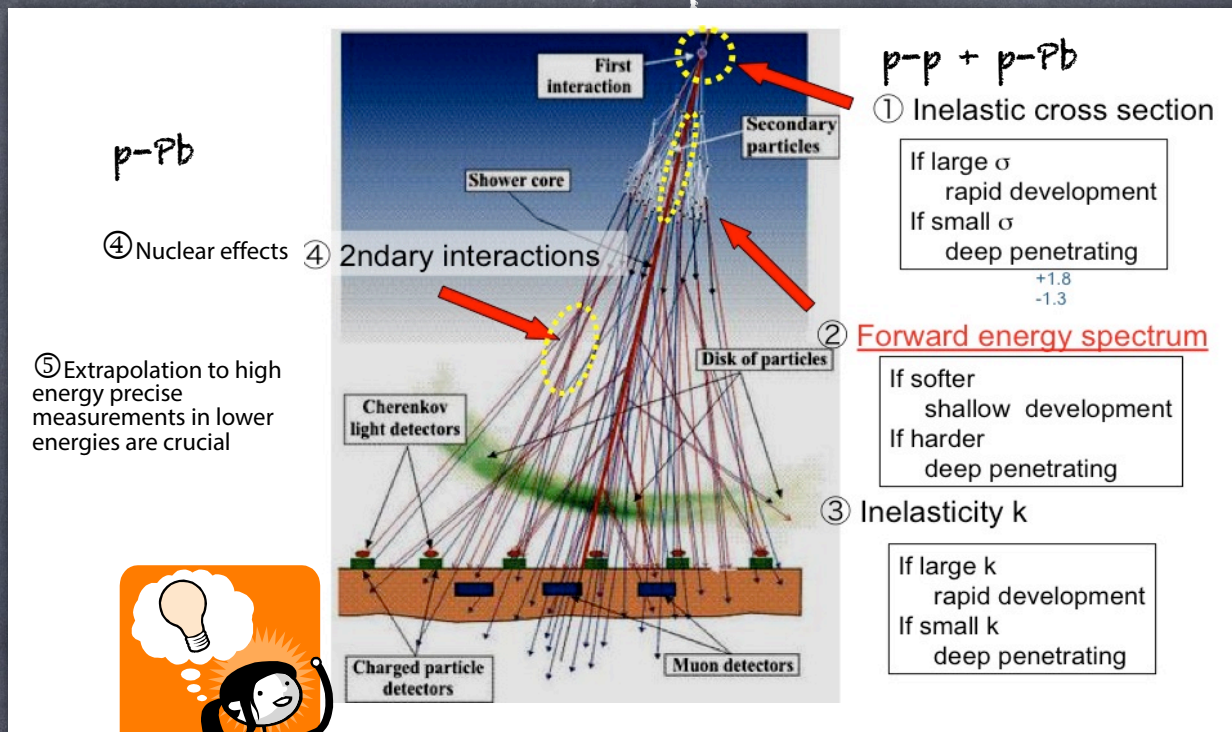
Pre-LHC model error

(Pierog 2013, 2014)

# HECR Physics at LHC: LHCf Physics

Model-originated uncertainties or even discrepancies

- Energy
  - $E_{SD} > E_{FD}$  : **discrepancy**
  - missing energy ( $\mu, \nu$ ) in FD : **uncertainty**
- Mass
  - Mass vs.  $X_{max}$  in FD: **uncertainty**
  - Mass vs.  $e/\mu$  or  $\mu$  excess in SD : **discrepancy**



**LHCf → use LHC**

$6.5 \text{ TeV} + 6.5 \text{ TeV} \Rightarrow E_{lab} = 9 \times 10^{16} \text{ eV}$

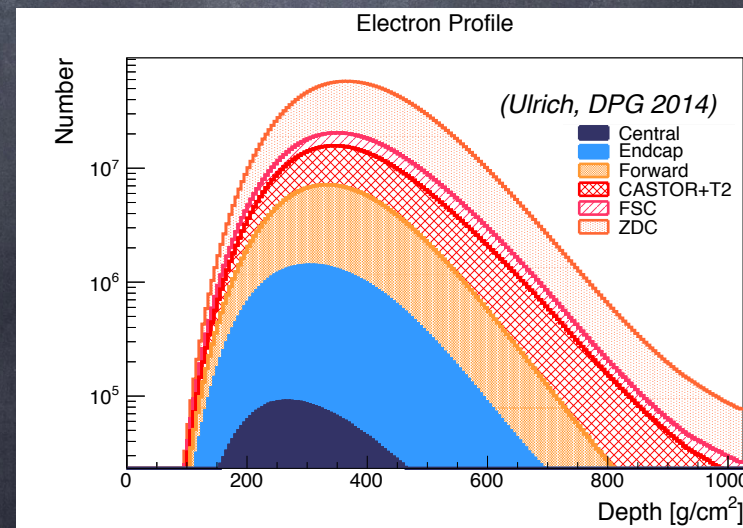
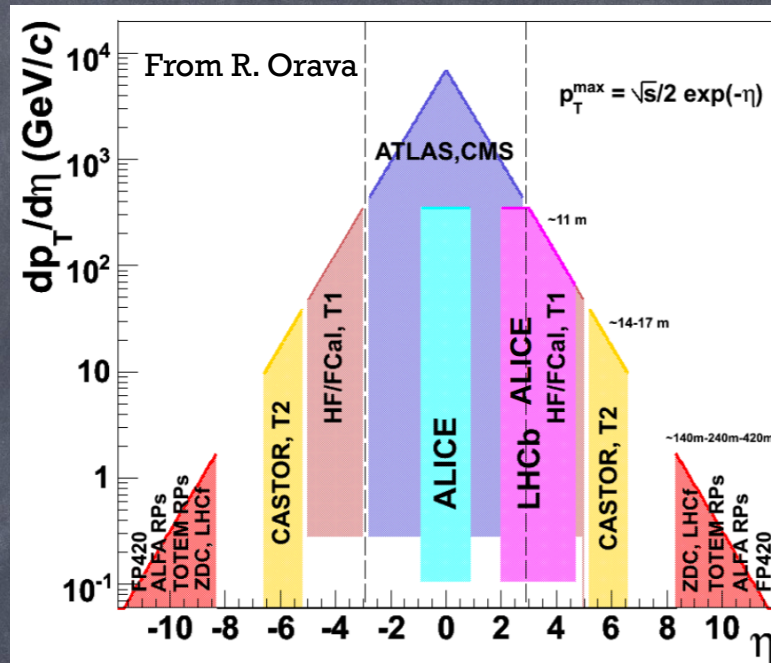
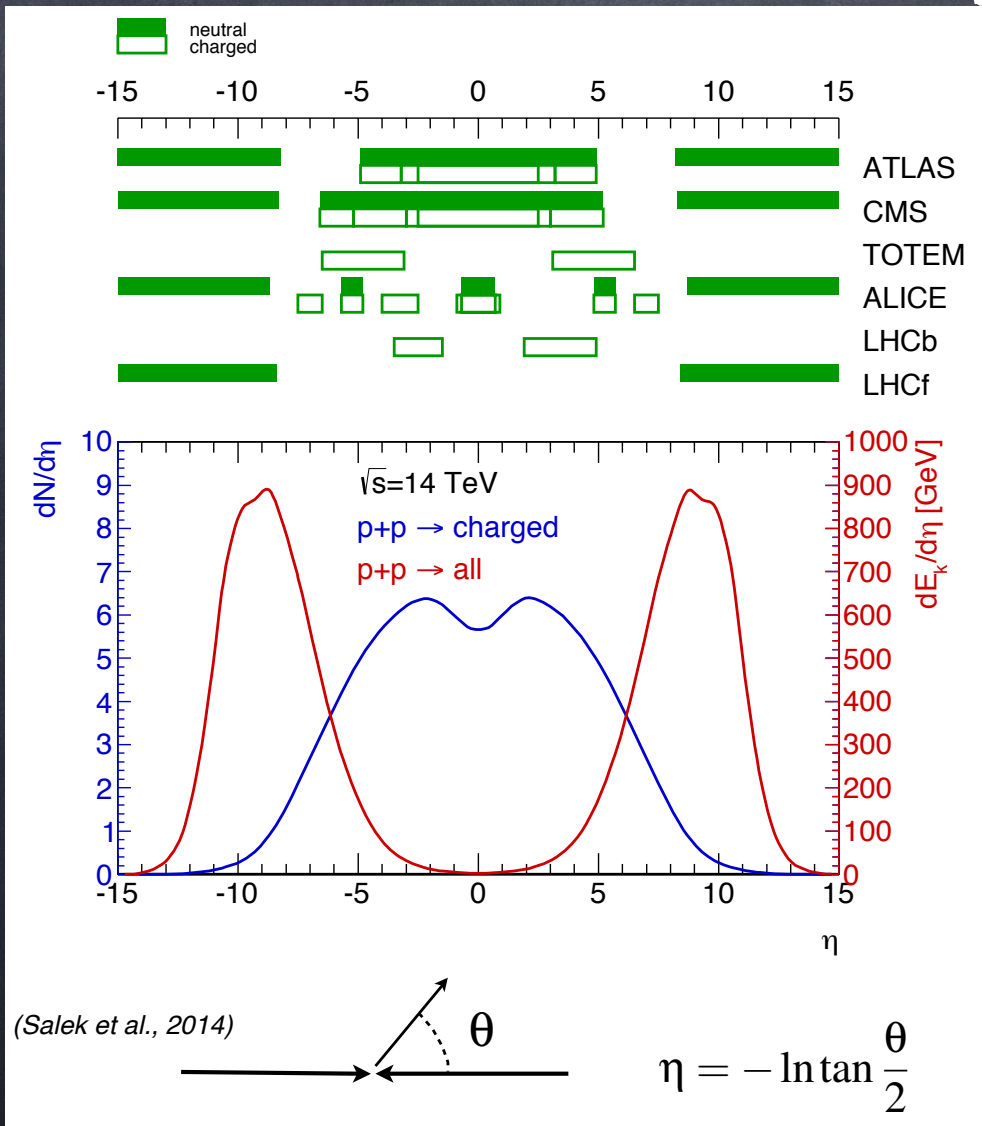
$3.5 \text{ TeV} + 3.5 \text{ TeV} \Rightarrow E_{lab} = 2.6 \times 10^{16} \text{ eV}$

$450 \text{ GeV} + 450 \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow E_{lab} = 2 \times 10^{14} \text{ eV}$

**to calibrate MCs**

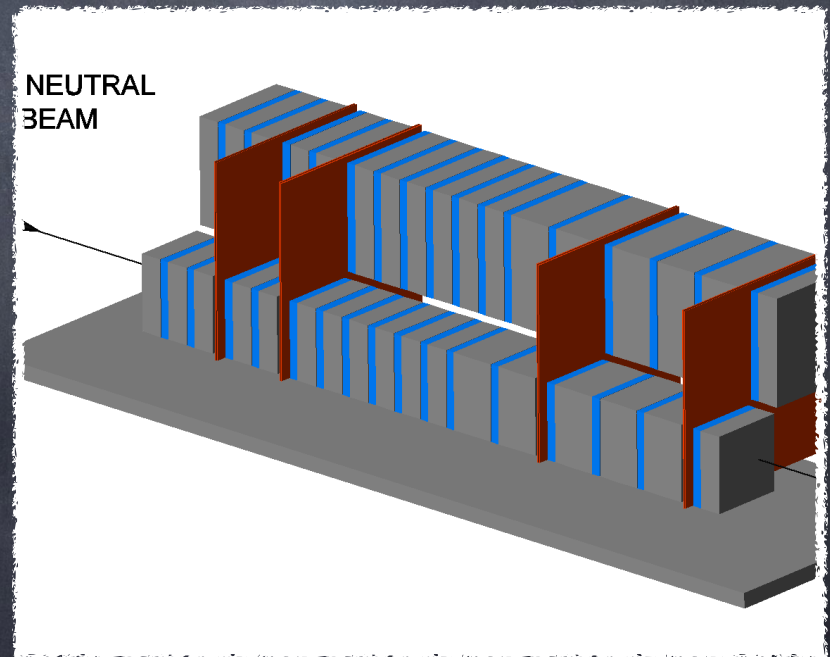
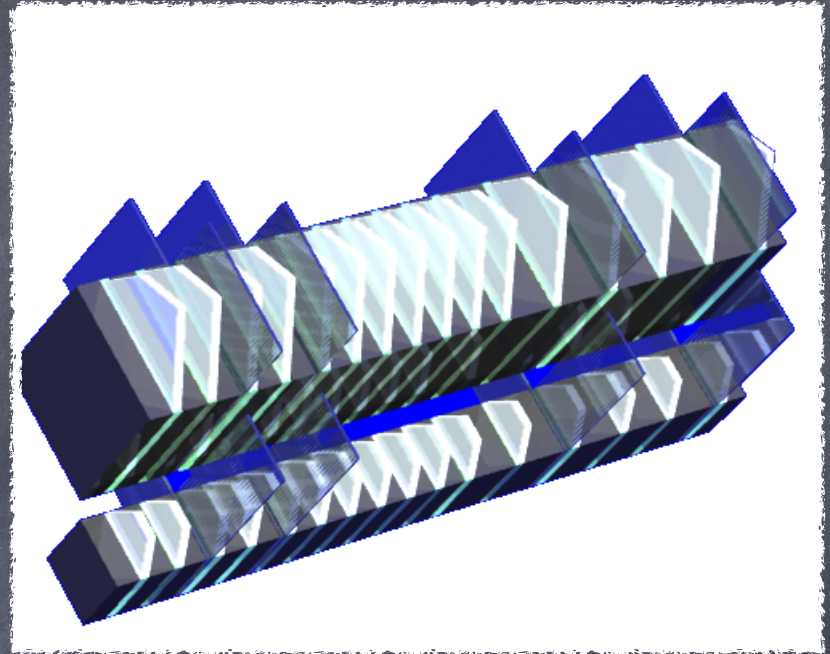
In addition: p-Pb collision at 5.02 & 8 TeV to study nuclear effect

# LHC Phase space coverage



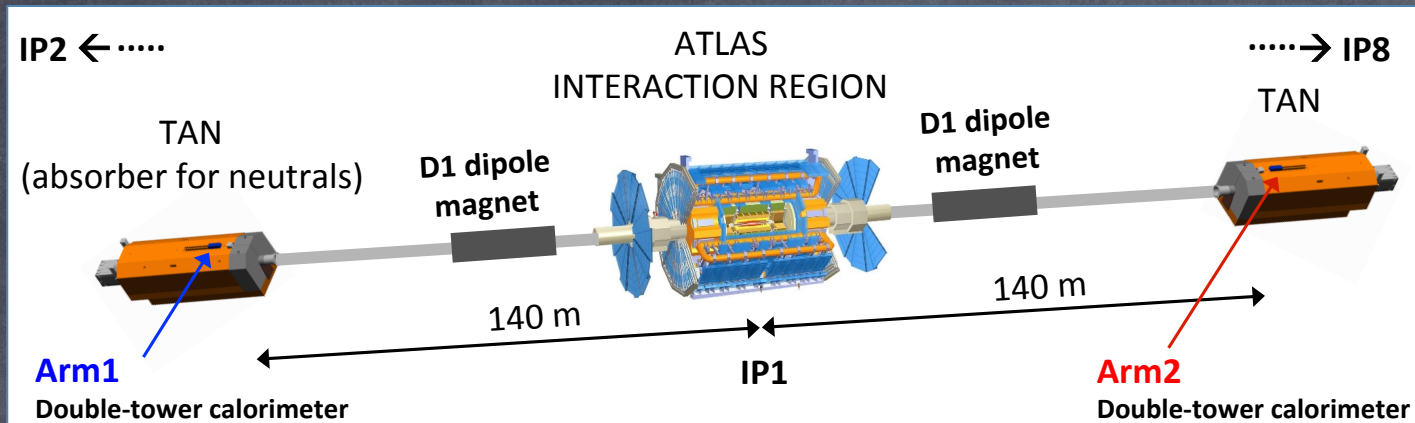
We are profiting of the broad coverage  
 but more than 50% of the shower from  $\eta > 8$   
 Dedicated fwd experiments crucial!

- Physics Motivations
  - The link between HECR Physics and LHC
- The LHC detectors
  - "IL vino buono sta nella botte piccola" or "good things comes in small packages"
- Physics Results
  - what we have done so far
- Future Plans
  - what's next...

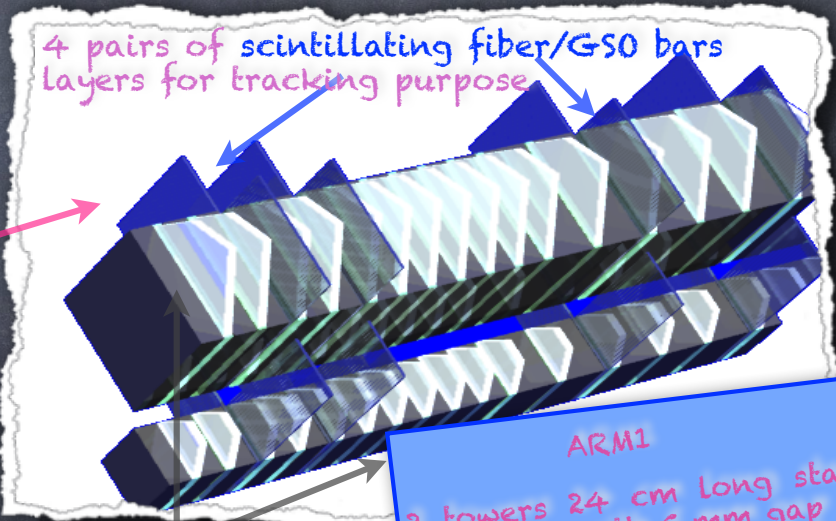




# The LHCf Detector

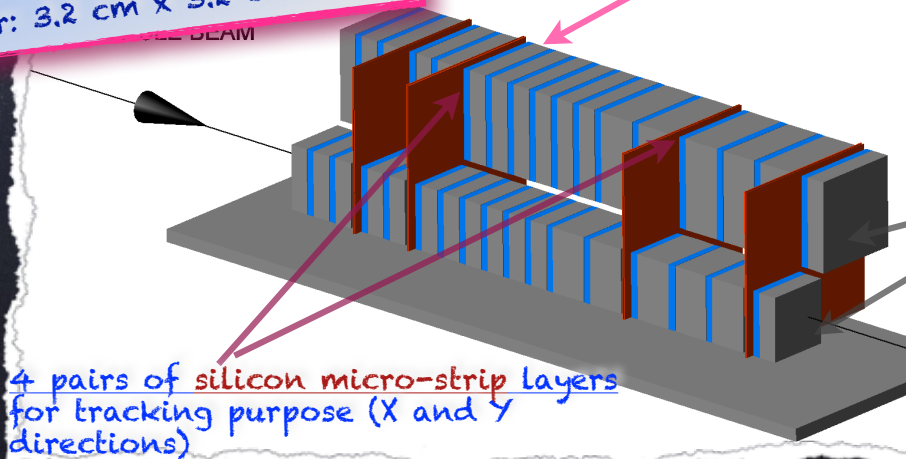


ARM2  
2 towers 24 cm long stacked on their edges and offset from one another  
Lower: 2.5 cm x 2.5 cm  
Upper: 3.2 cm x 3.2 cm



Impact point ( $\eta$ )

ARM1  
2 towers 24 cm long stacked vertically with 5 mm gap  
Lower: 2 cm x 2 cm area  
Upper: 4 cm x 4 cm area

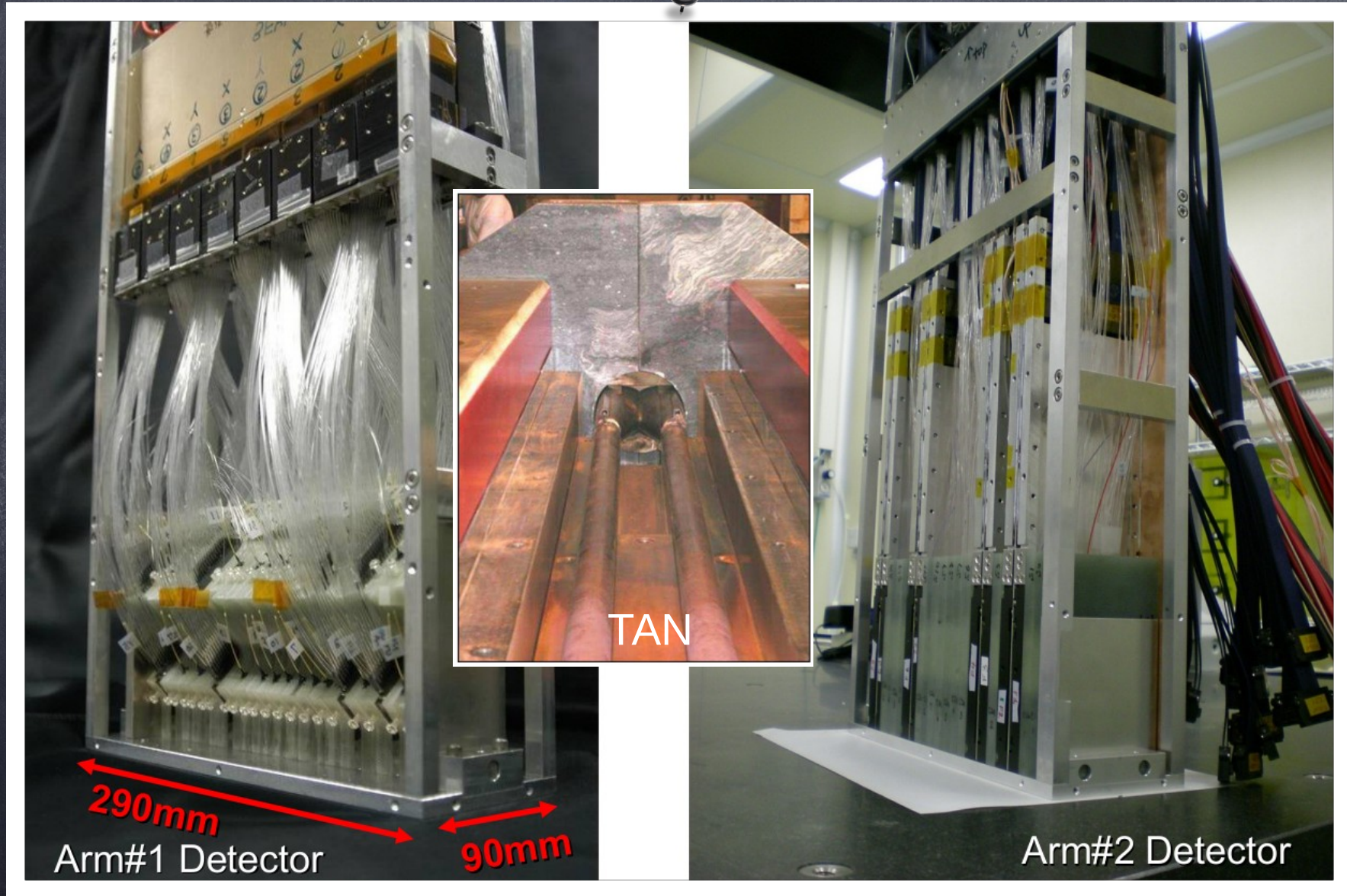


Absorber  
22 tungsten layers  
7mm - 14 mm thick (2-4 r.L.)  
(W:  $X_0 = 3.5\text{mm}$ ,  $R_M = 9\text{mm}$ )

16 scintillator layers (Plastic or GSO)  
Trigger and energy profile measurements

Energy

# From our photo album...



# A brief LHCf photo-history

- May 2004 LOI
- Feb 2006 TDR
- June 2006 LHCC approved

**Jul 2006  
construction**



**Aug 2007  
SPS beam test**

**Jan 2008  
Installation  
Sept  
1st LHC beam**



**Dec- Jul 2010  
0.9TeV & 7TeV pp  
Detector removal**

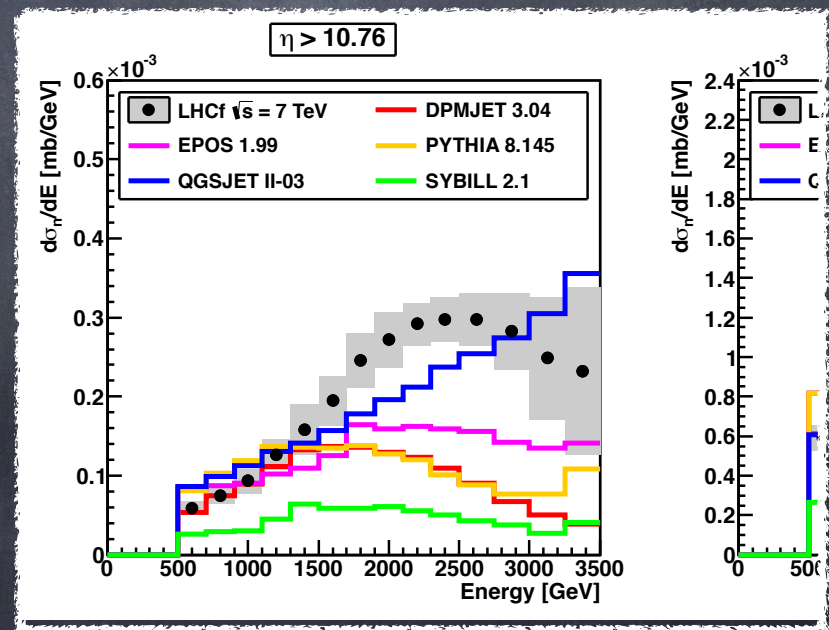
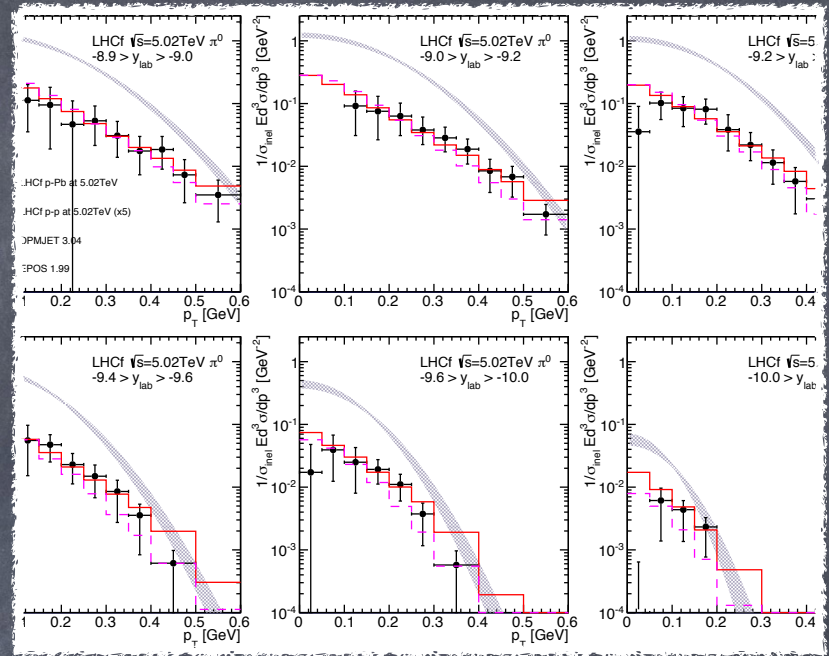


**Dec 2012- Feb 2013  
5TeV/n pPb, 2.76TeVpp  
(Arm2 only)  
Detector removal**



**May-June 2015  
13 TeV dedicated pp  
Detector removal**

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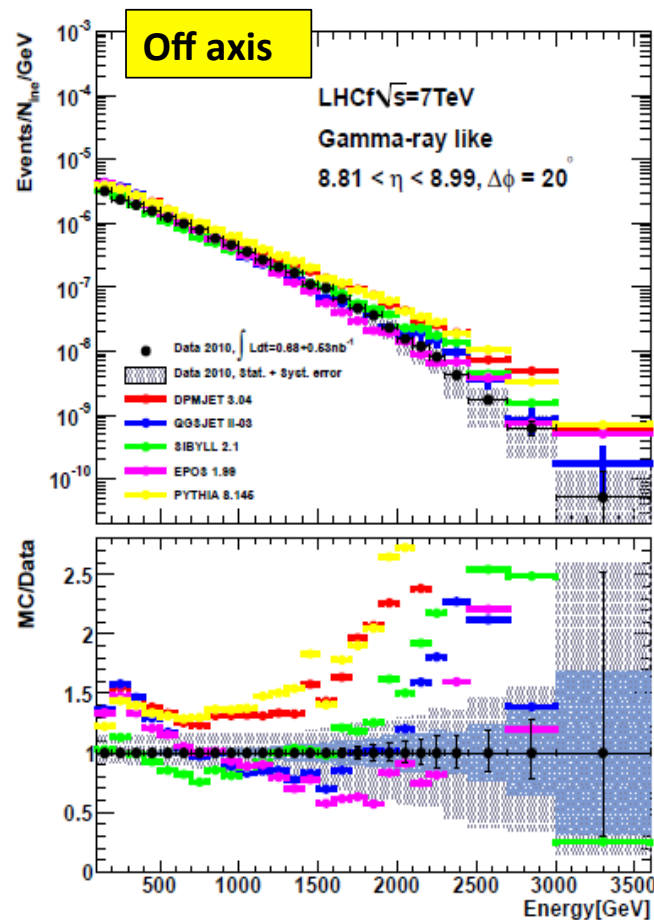
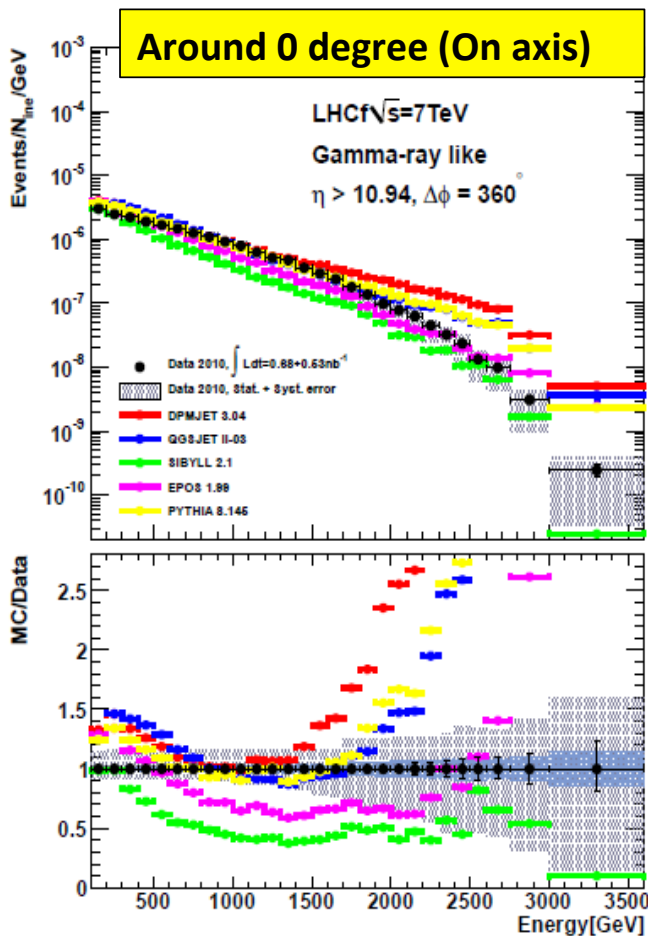
# LHCf Data Taking and Analysis matrix

	Proton E	Photon (EM shower)	Neutron (hadron)	$\pi$ (EM shower)	
Test beam at SPS		NIM. A 671, 129-136 (2012)	JINST 9 (2014)P03016		
p-p at 900GeV	$4.3 \times 10$	Phys. Lett. B 715, 298-303 (2012)			Run1
p-p at 7TeV	$2.6 \times 10$	Phys. Lett. B 703, 128-134 (2011)	Phys. Lett. B 750, 360-366 (2015)	Phys. Rev. D 86, 092001 (2012)+ Submit. Type II	
p-p at 2.76TeV	$4.1 \times 10$			Phys. Rev. C 89, 065209 (2014)+ Submit. Type II	Run2
p-Pb at 5.02TeV	$1.3 \times 10$				
p-p at 13TeV	$9.0 \times 10$	Data taken in June 2015 dedicated run! Analysis activity ongoing...			Run3
p-Pb at 8.1 TeV	$3.6 \times 10$	Letter of Intent submitted at LHC March 2016			Run4

Approved!!!

# LHCf @ pp 7TeV: Single photon spectra MC vs Data

Adriani et al., PLB, 703 (2011) 128-134

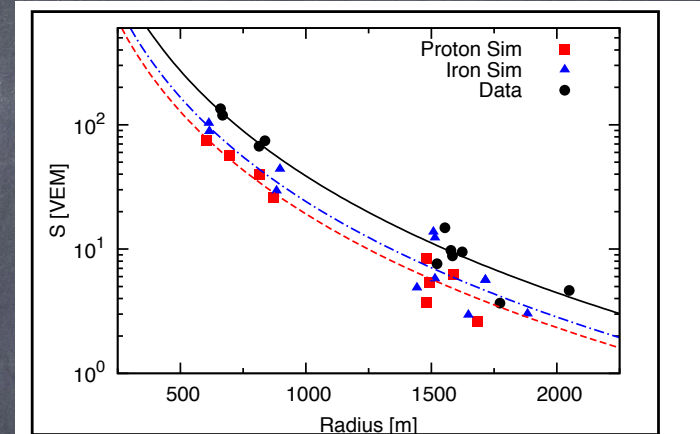


DPMJET 3.04 QGSJET II-03 SIBYLL 2.1 EPOS 1.99 PYTHIA 8.145

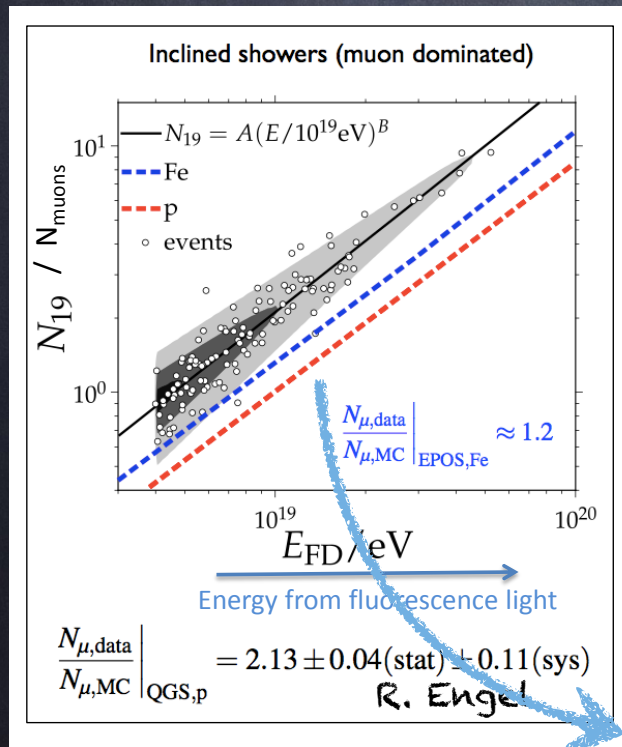
# LHCf @ pp 7 TeV: neutron analysis

## Motivations:

- Inelasticity measurement  $k=1-p_{\text{leading}}/p_{\text{beam}}$
- Muon excess at Pierre Auger Observatory
  - cosmic rays experiment measure PCR energy from muon number at ground and fluorescence light
  - 20-100% more muons than expected have been observed

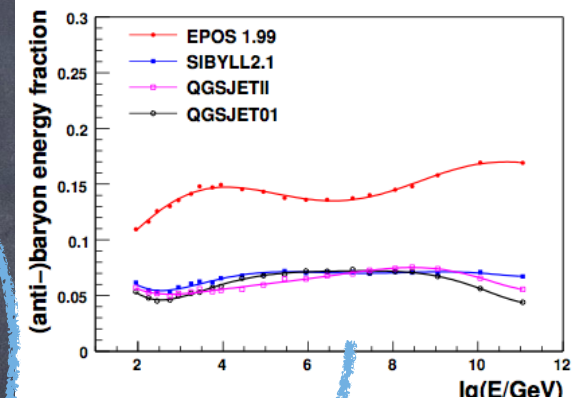


[ J.Allen, et al. ICRC2011 Proceedings]

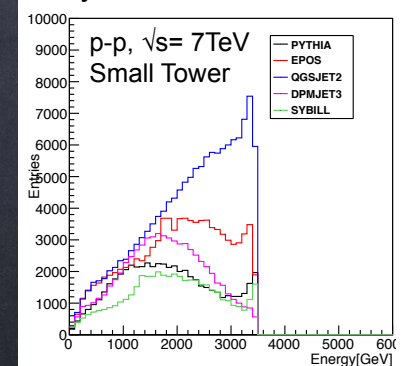


- Number of muons depends on the energy fraction of produced hadron
- Muon excess in data even for Fe primary MC
- EPOS predicts more muon due to larger baryon production

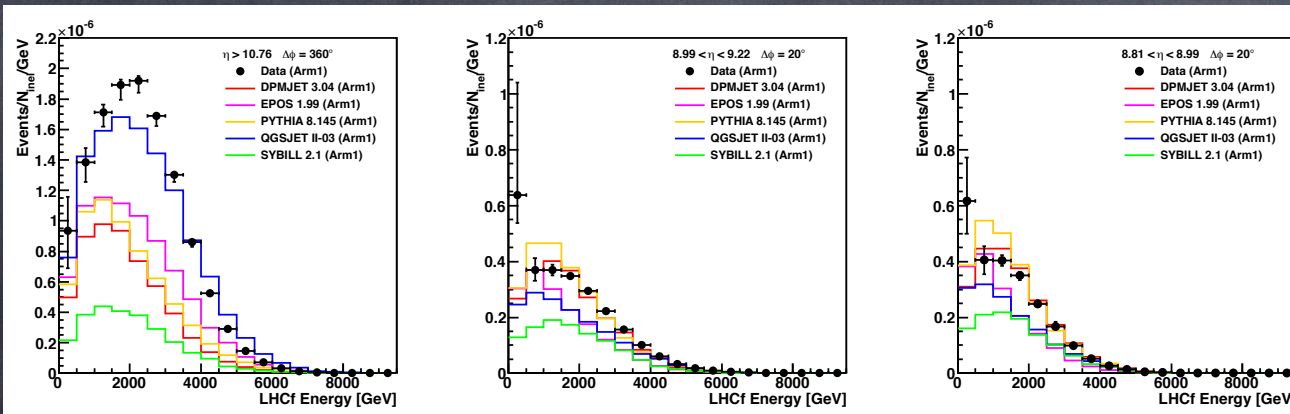
importance of baryon measurement



Neutron spectra predicted by interaction models

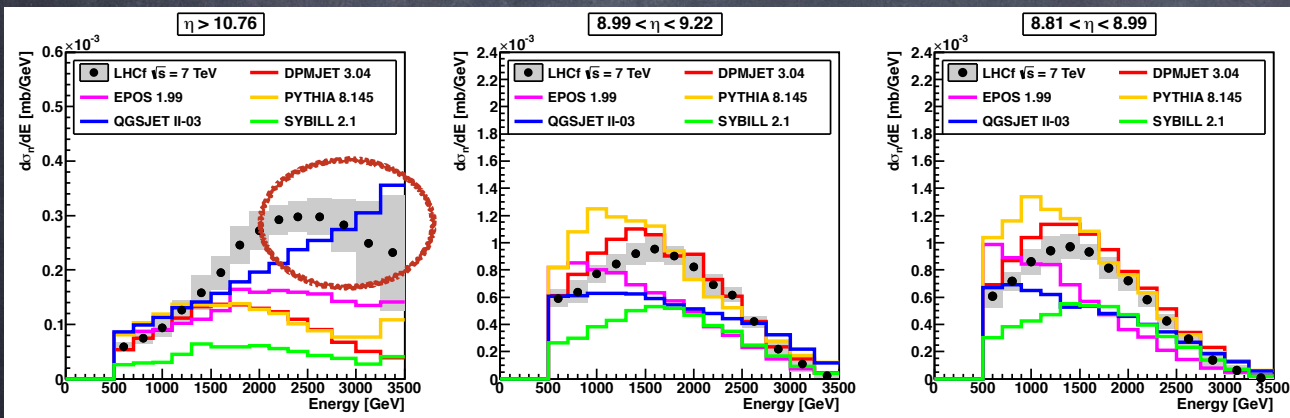


# LHCf @ pp 7 TeV: neutron spectra



$n/\gamma$  ratio

Data (	$3.05 \pm 0.19$
DPMJET3.04	1.05
EPOS 1.99	1.80
PYTHIA 8.145	1.27
QGSJET II-03	2.34
SYBILL 2.1	0.88

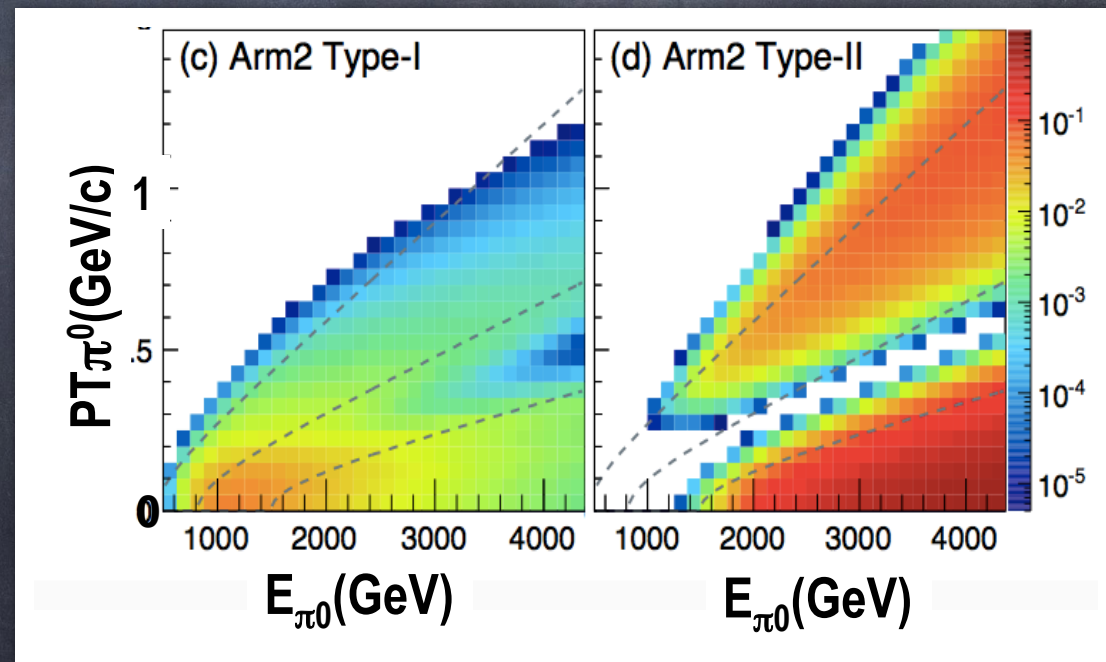
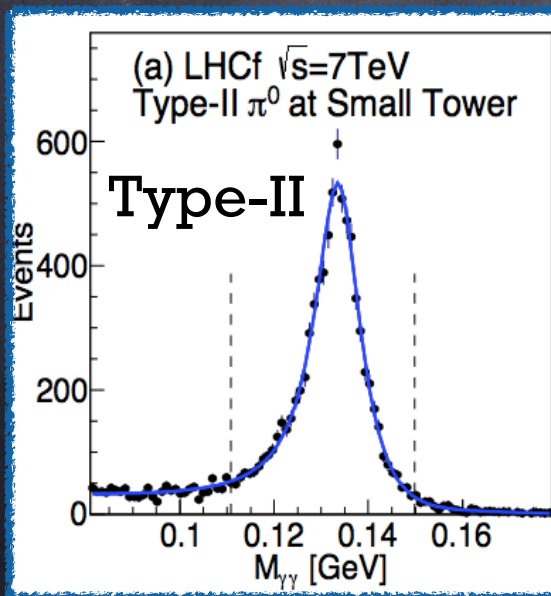
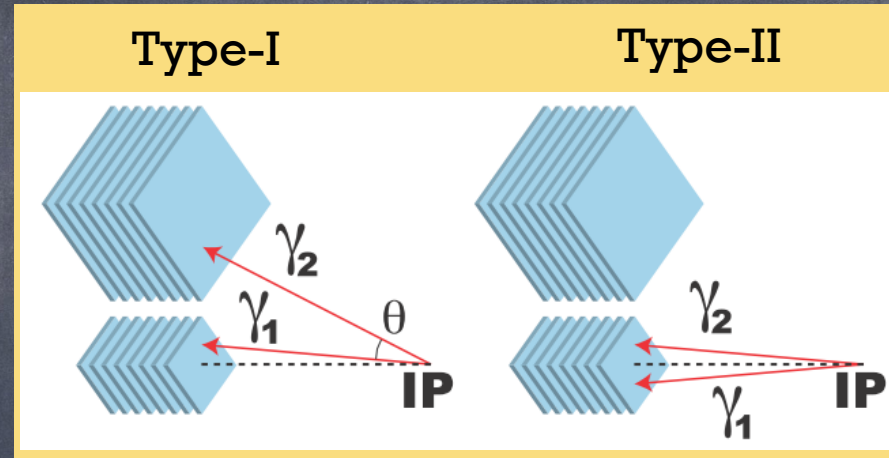
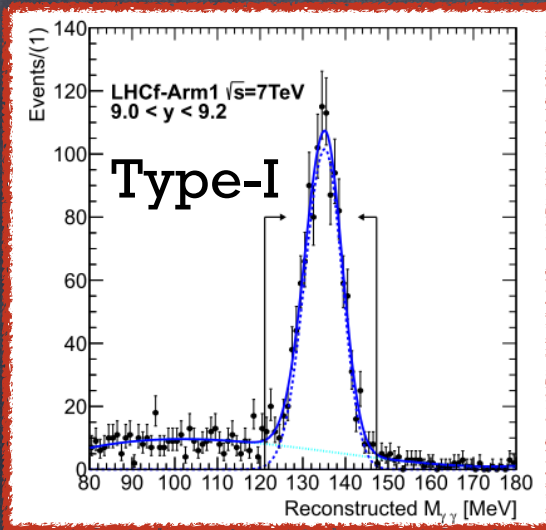


Data (8.99 <	$1.26 \pm 0.08$
DPMJET3.04	0.76
EPOS 1.99	0.69
PYTHIA 8.145	0.82
QGSJET II-03	0.65
SYBILL 2.1	0.57

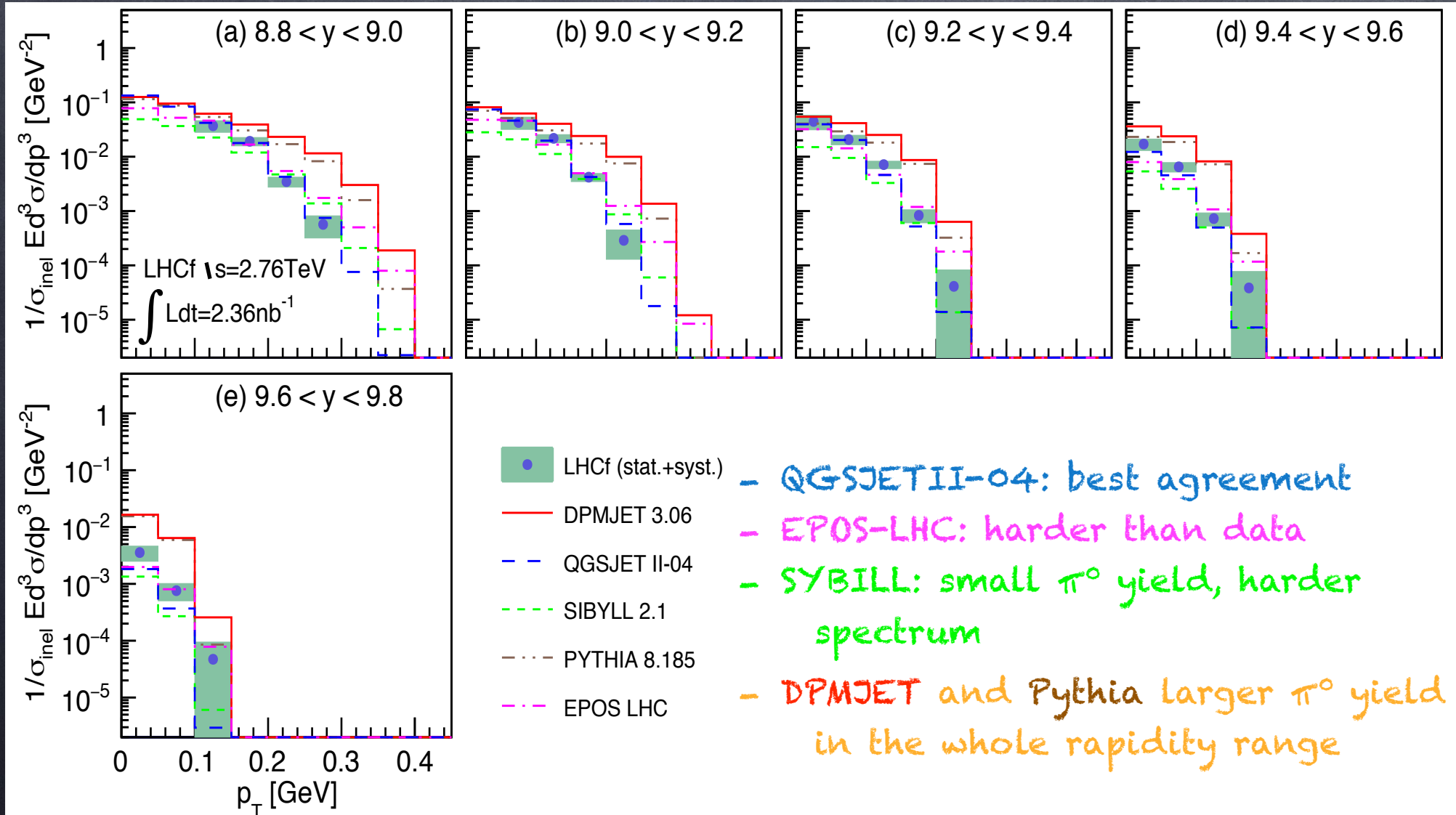
- LHCf Arm1 and Arm2 agree with each other within systematic error, in which the energy scale uncertainty dominates.
- In  $\eta > 10.76$  huge amount of neutron exists. Only QGSJET2 reproduces the LHCf result.
- In other rapidity regions, the LHCf results are enclosed by the variation of models.



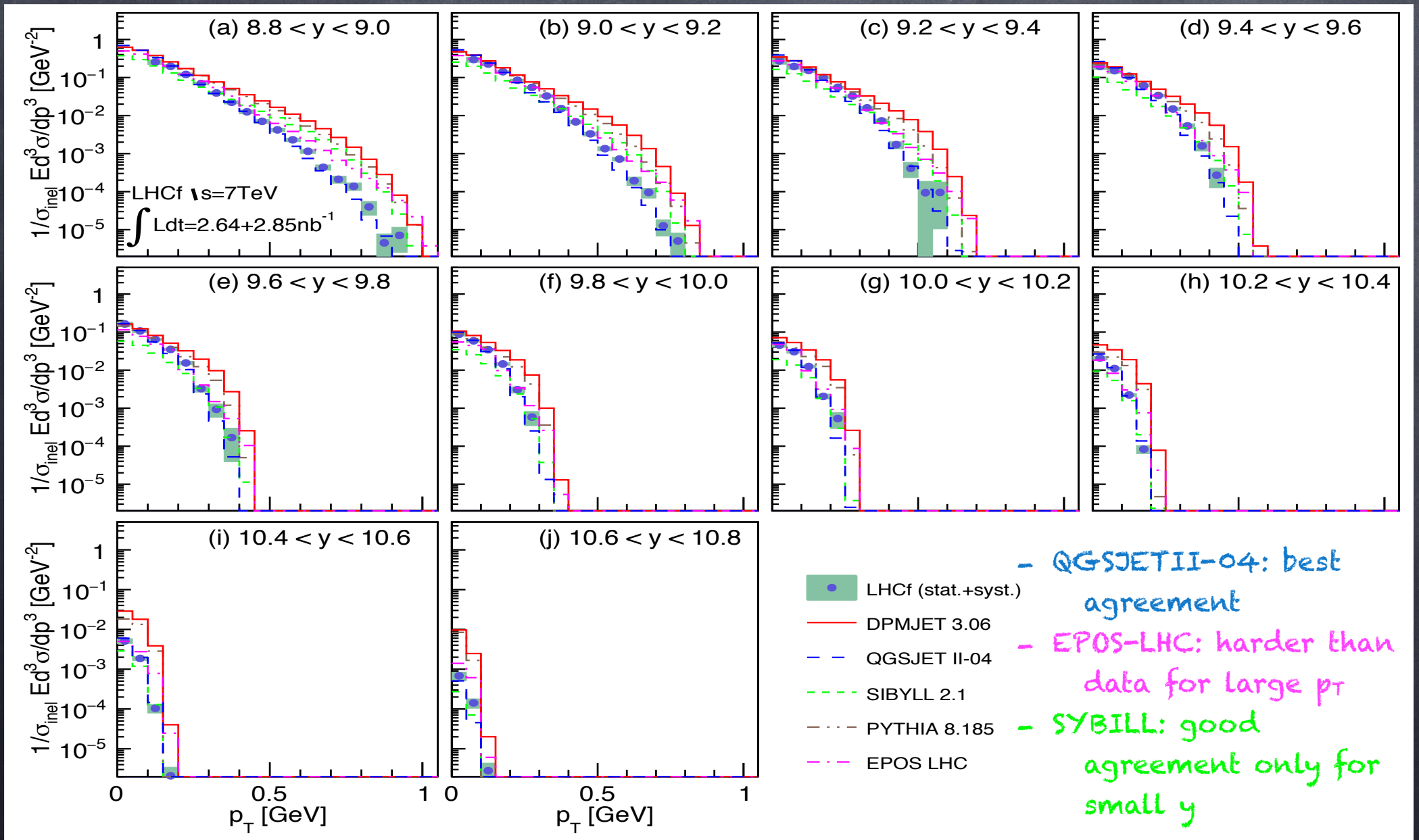
# LHCf Type I and Type II $\pi^0$ analysis



# LHCf @ pp 2.76 TeV: $\pi^0$ $p_T$ spectra

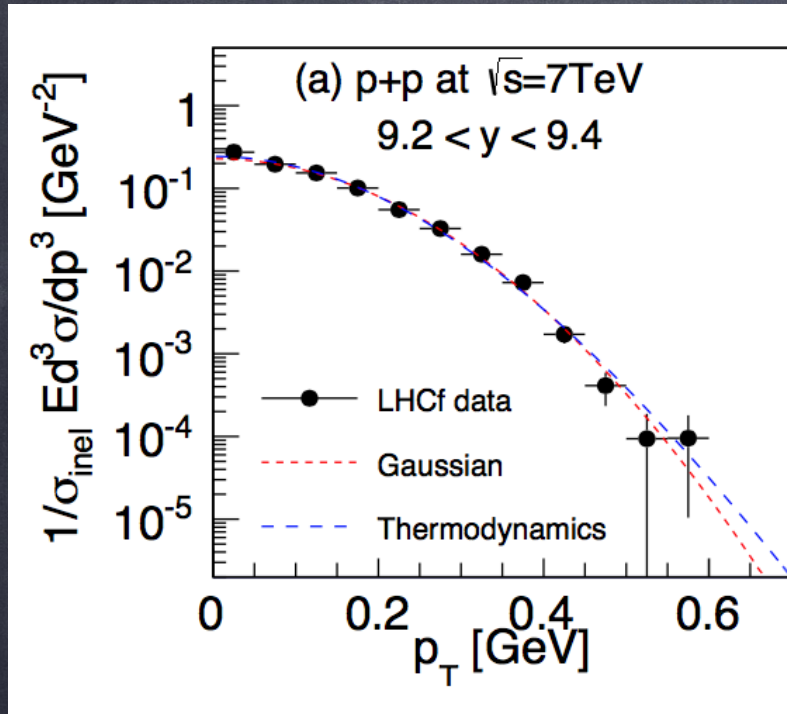


# LHCf @ pp 7 TeV: $\pi^0$ $p_T$ spectra

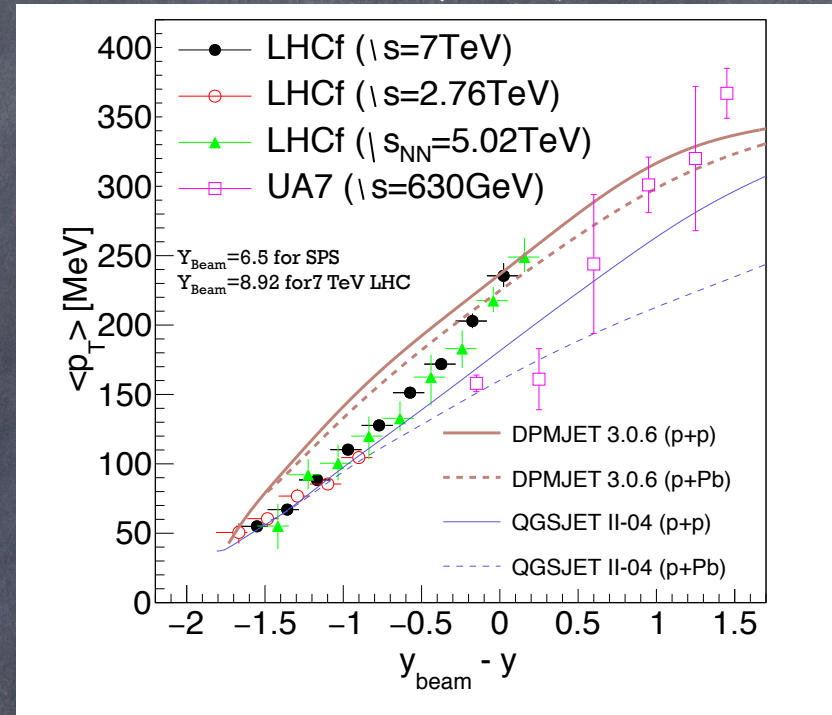


# $\pi^0$ average $p_T$ for different cm energies

$p_T$  spectra vs best-fit function



Average  $p_T$  vs  $y_{lab}$



$\langle p_T \rangle$  is inferred in 3 ways:

1. Thermodynamical approach
2. Gaussian distribution fit
3. Numerical integration up to the histogram upper bound

From scaling considerations (projectile fragmentation region) we can expect that  $\langle p_T \rangle$  vs rapidity loss should be independent from the c.m. energy

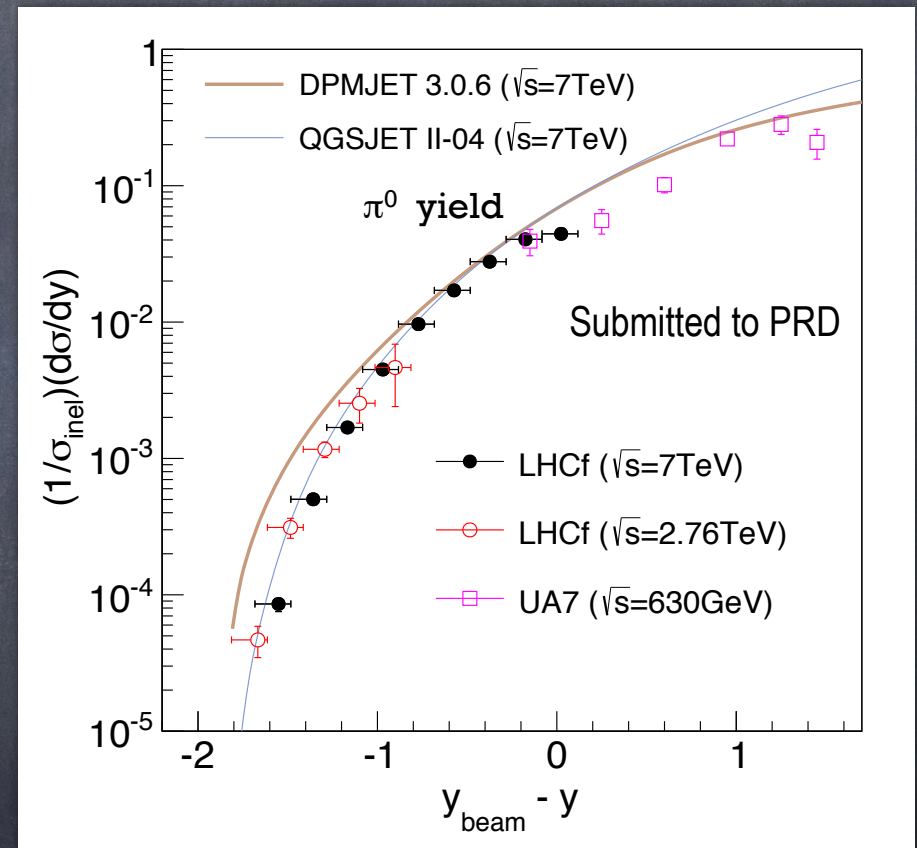
Reasonable scaling can be inferred from the data

# Limiting fragmentation in forward $\pi^0$ production

Limiting fragmentation hypothesis:

rapidity distribution of the secondary particles in the forward rapidity region (target's fragment) should be independent of the center-of-mass energy.

This hypothesis for  $\pi^0$  is true at the level of  $\pm 15\%$

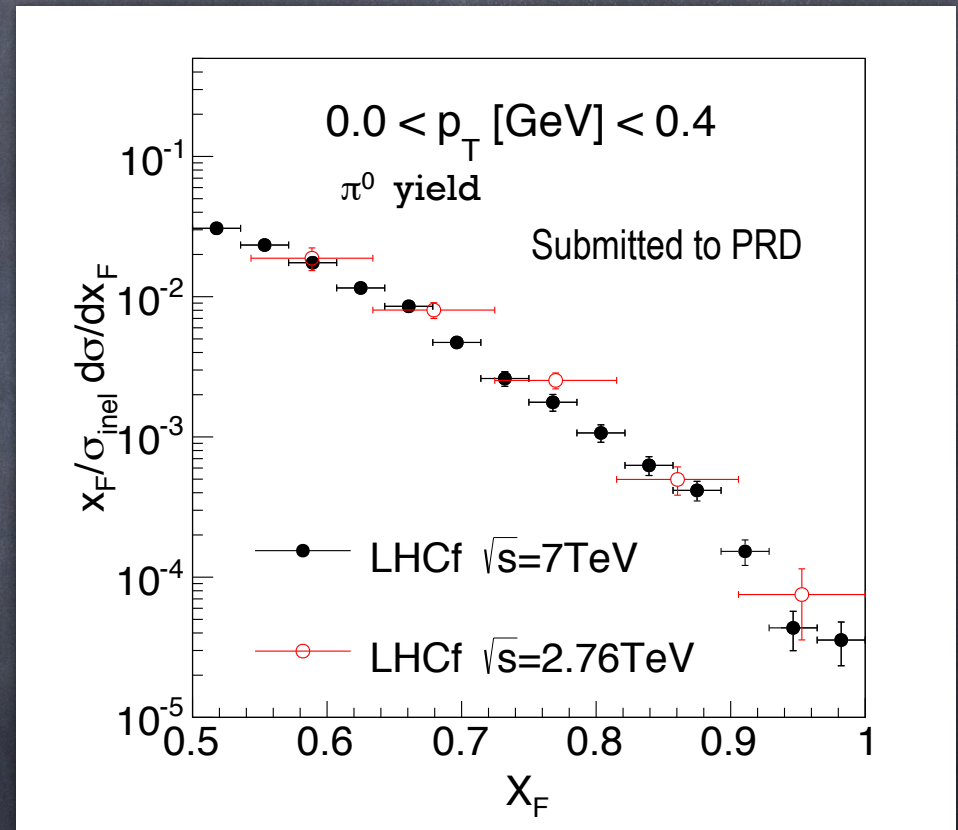


# Feynman scaling in forward $\pi^0$ production

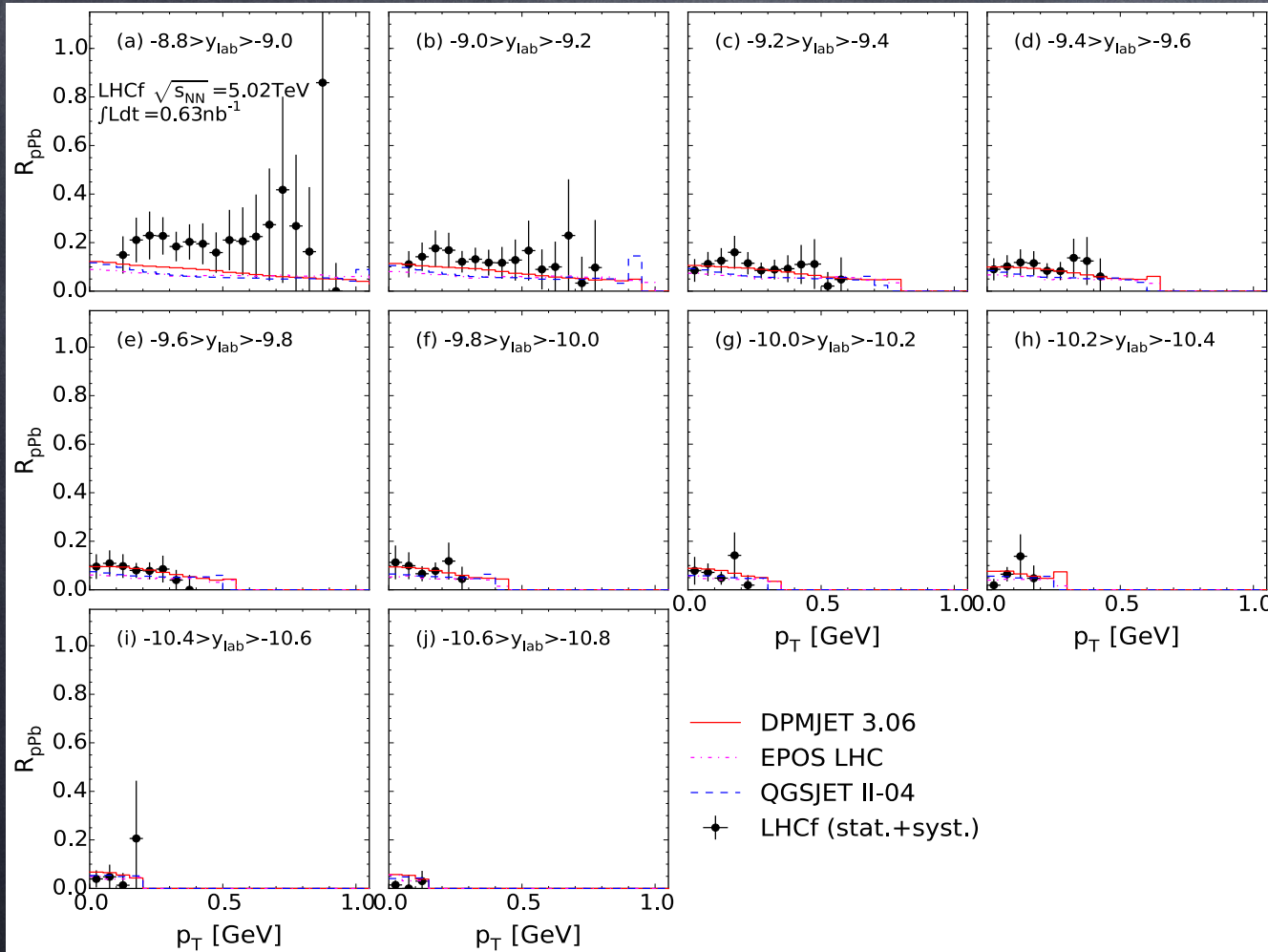
## Feynman scaling hypothesis:

cross sections of secondary particles as a function of  $x_F \equiv 2p_z/\sqrt{s}$  are independent from the incident energy in the forward region ( $x_F > 0.2$ ).

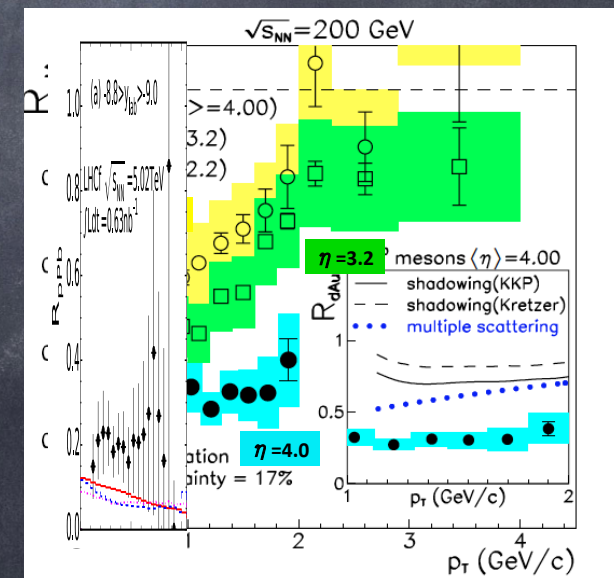
This hypothesis for  $\pi^0$  is true at the level of  $\pm 20\%$



# LHCf @ pPb 5.02 TeV: Nuclear modification factor



- LHCf show strong suppression in pPb wrt pp collisions
- Good agreement with the models

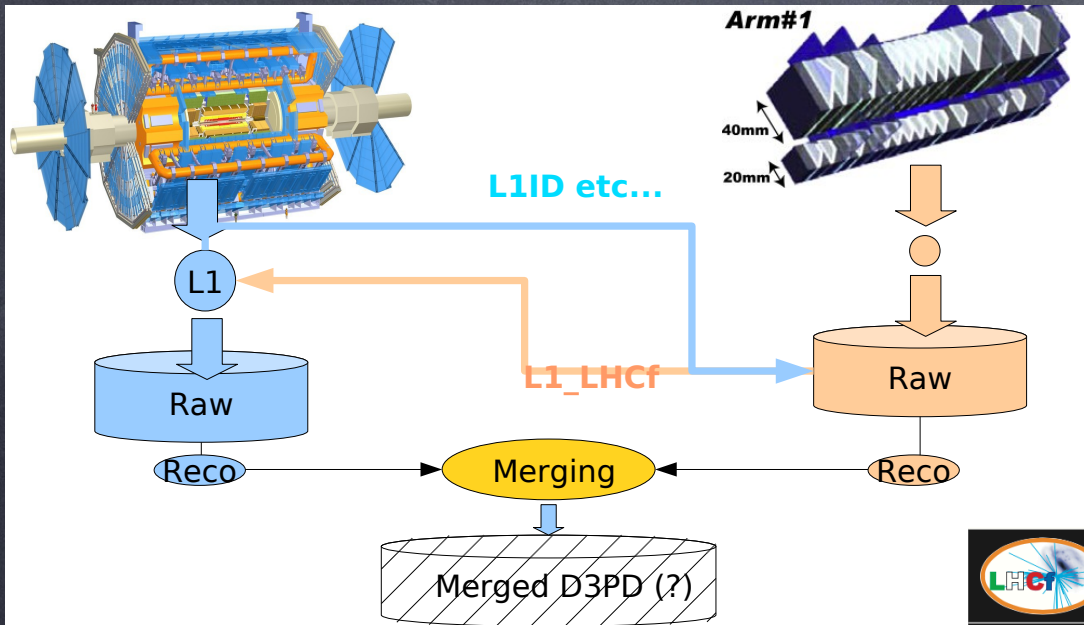


RHIC 200GeV d-Au, STAR Collaboration  
Adams et al., PRL 97 (2006) 152302.

$$R_{pPb}(p_T) \equiv \frac{d^2 N_{\pi^0}^{pPb} / dy dp_T}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle d^2 N_{\pi^0}^{pp} / dy dp_T}$$

$$\langle N_{coll} \rangle = 6.9$$

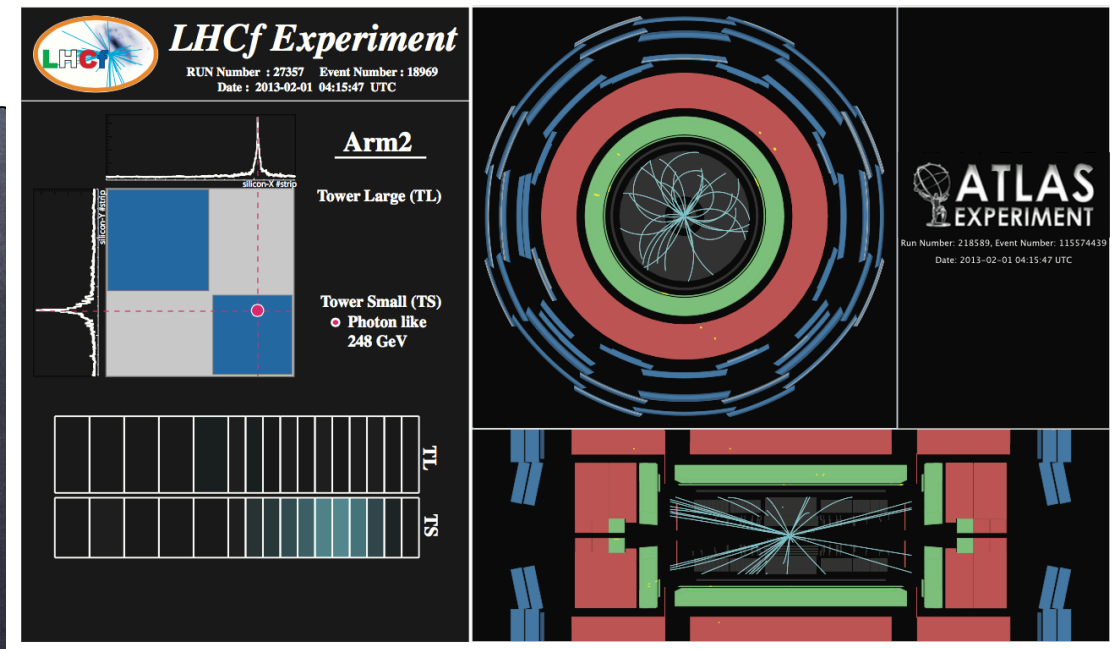
# Common trigger with ATLAS



**ATLAS LHCf NOTE**  
August 26, 2015

Classification of Events in the Combined ATLAS-LHCf Data Recorded During the  $p+Pb$  Collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV

The ATLAS and the LHCf Collaborations





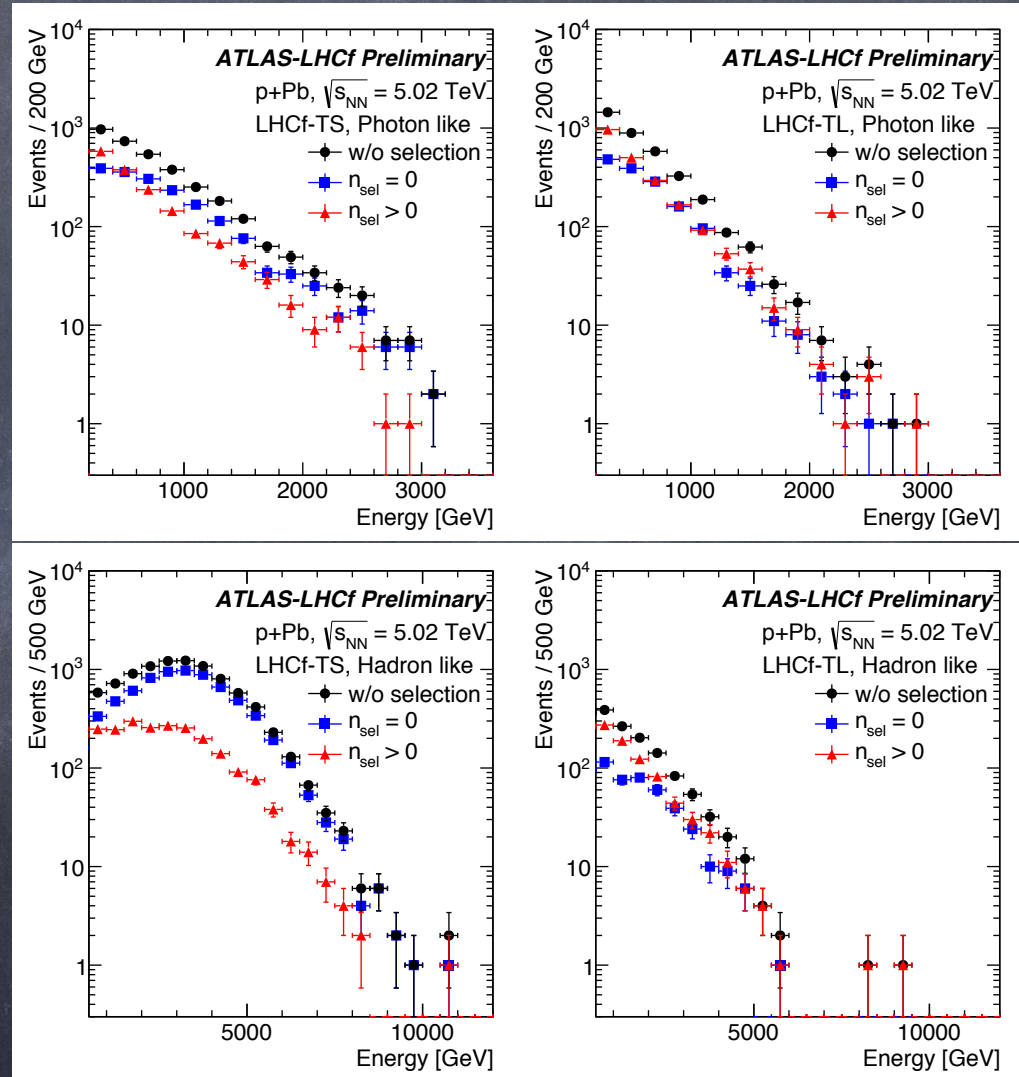
# LHCf spectra in p-Pb collisions with ATLAS tagging on tracks

**N<sub>sel</sub>:**

number of good charged ATLAS tracks

- $p_T > 100$  MeV
- vertex matching
- $|\eta| < 2.5$ .

Significant UPC contribution in the very forward region with  $N_{sel}=0$

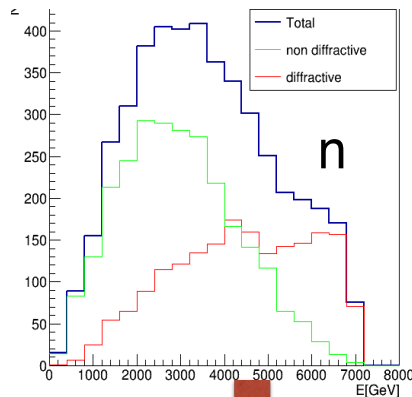
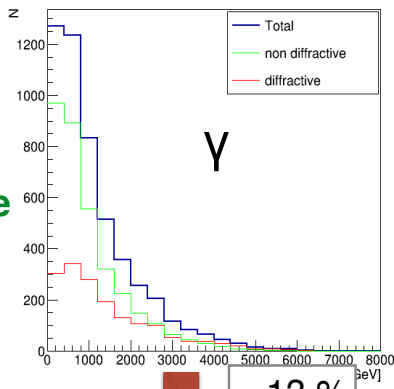


# Impact of common ATLAS-LHCf trigger

PYTHIA MC study @ 14 TeV. Diffractive event selection efficiency and purity: dropping events with  $(PT > 100 \text{ MeV}/c \ \& \ N_{ch} > 1 \text{ in } |\eta| < 2.5)$  @ATLAS

All events

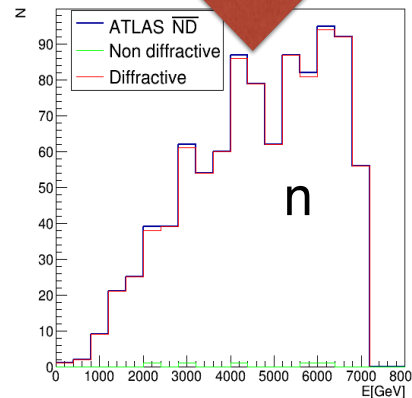
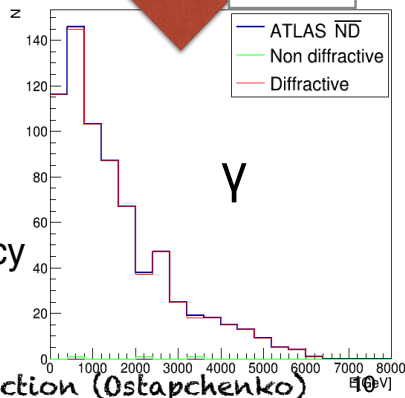
in MC true,  
Non-diffractive  
Diffractive



~ 13 %

w/ event selection  
(not ND)

For diff. events,  
35-40% efficiency  
99 % purity



key: low mass diffraction (Ostapchenko)

Use neutron tag in LHCf to measure  $\pi+p$  in ATLAS

From R. Engel / T. Pierog

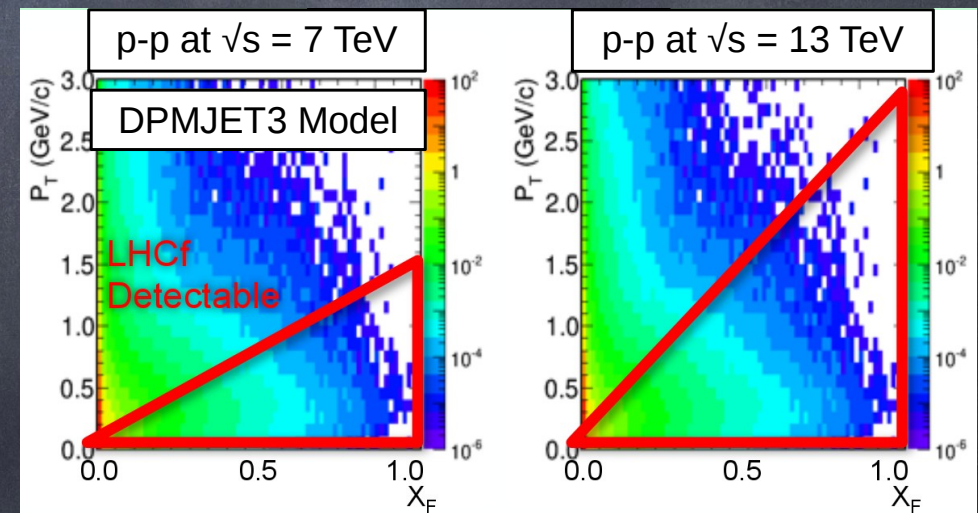
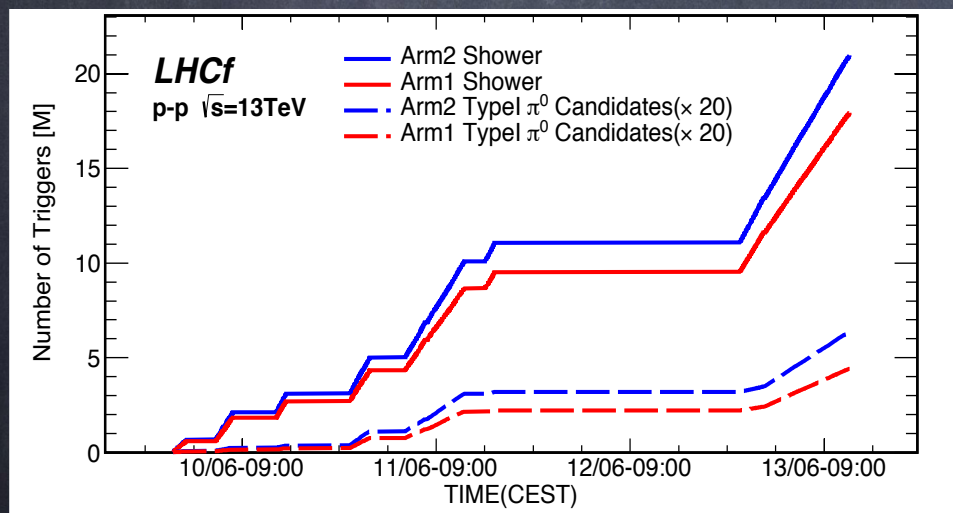
The diagram illustrates the production of a diffractive event. On the left, a proton (p) and a photon ( $\gamma$ ) interact at a vertex (X) to produce a neutron (n) and a pion ( $\pi$ ). The pion is labeled 'Arm1' and the neutron 'Arm2 & ATLAS'. An arrow indicates replacing the photon with a proton. On the right, a vertex structure is shown with a photon ( $\gamma$ ) and a proton (

) interacting at a vertex, with a pion ( $\pi$ ) and a neutron ( $n$ ) produced. The vertex is labeled with  $\alpha_p$  and  $\alpha_\pi$ .

Physics discussed in detail for HERA (H1 and ZEUS) measurements (see, for example, Khoze et al. Eur. Phys. J. C48 (2006), 797 and Refs. therein)

# LHC 13 TeV Run

- During Week 24, June 9-13, LHCf dedicated low-lumi run
- Total 26.6 hrs with  $L=0.5\sim 1.6\cdot 10^{29} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$  ( $16 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ )
- $\sim 39 \text{ M}$  showers,  $0.5 \text{ M}$   $\pi^0$  obtained
- Trigger exchange with ATLAS
- Detector removal on June 15<sup>th</sup> during TS1
- Run was very successful!!!!



Significant improvement in  
phase-space acceptance

# An impressive high energy $\pi^0$



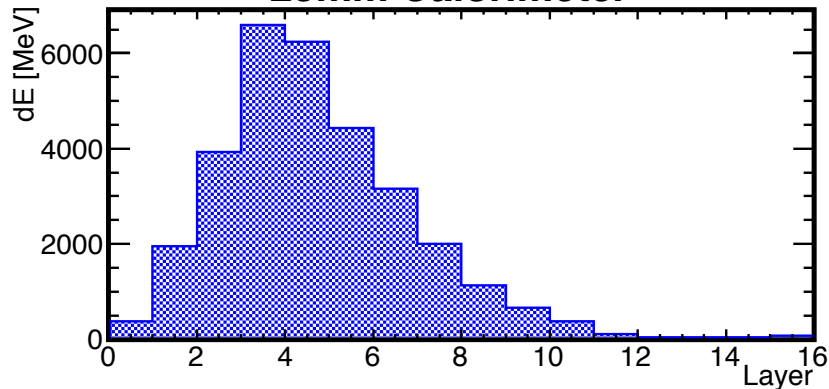
LHCf Arm2 Detector

$\pi^0$  Candidate Event

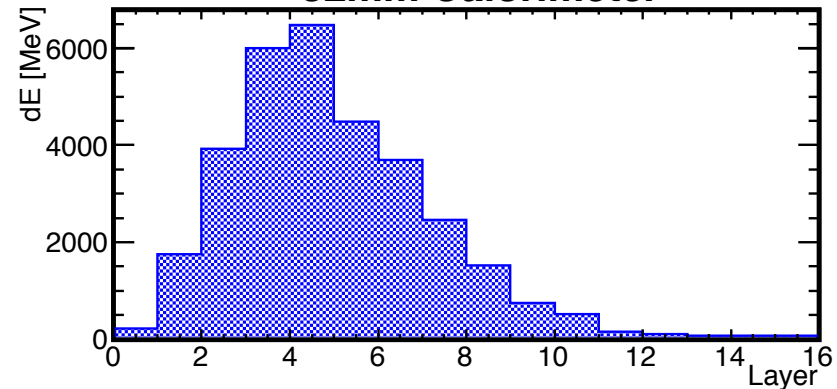
LHC p-p,  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV Collisions

RUN: 44484  
NUMBER: 3010  
TIME: 1434152507  
FILL: 3855  
 $E_{25mm}$ : 1014 GeV  
 $E_{32mm}$ : 1021 GeV  
 $M_{\gamma\gamma}$ : 147 MeV

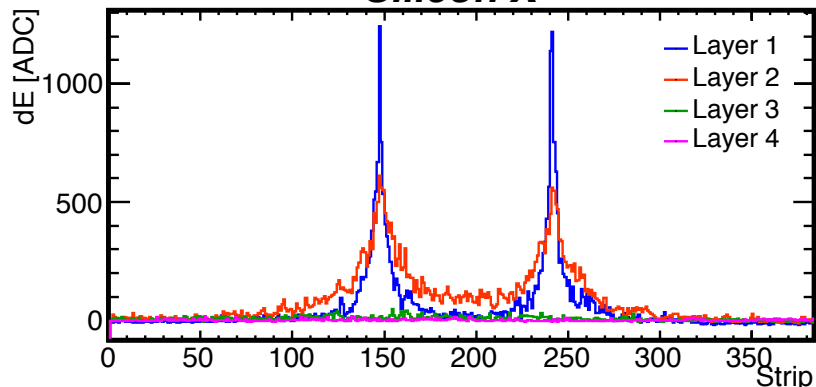
25mm Calorimeter



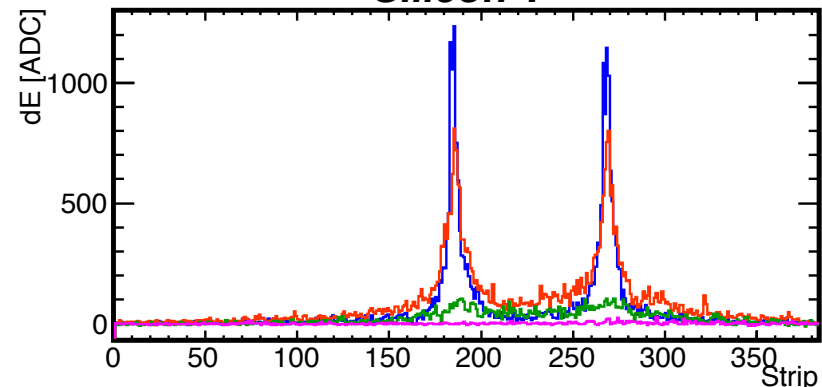
32mm Calorimeter



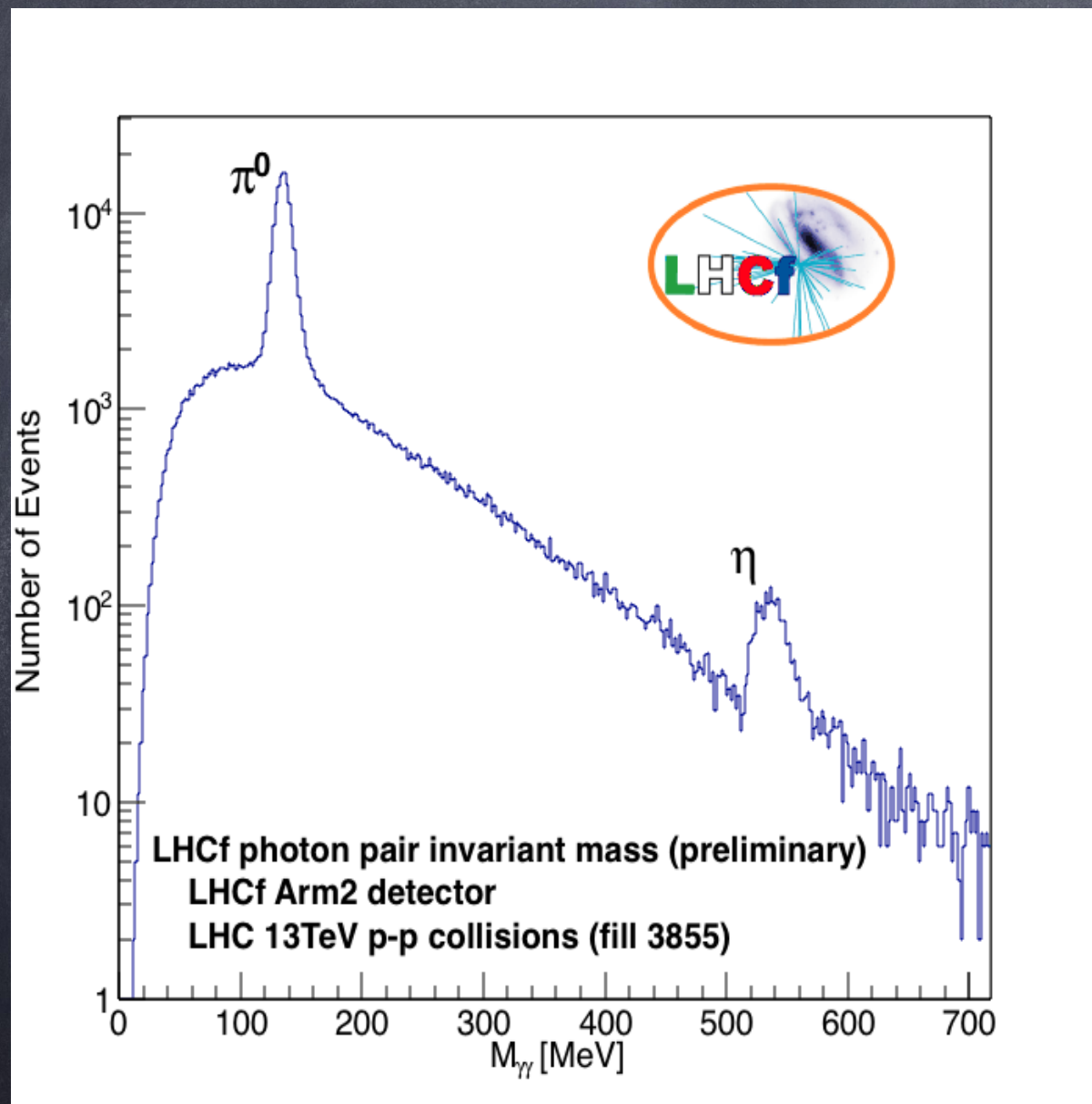
Silicon X



Silicon Y

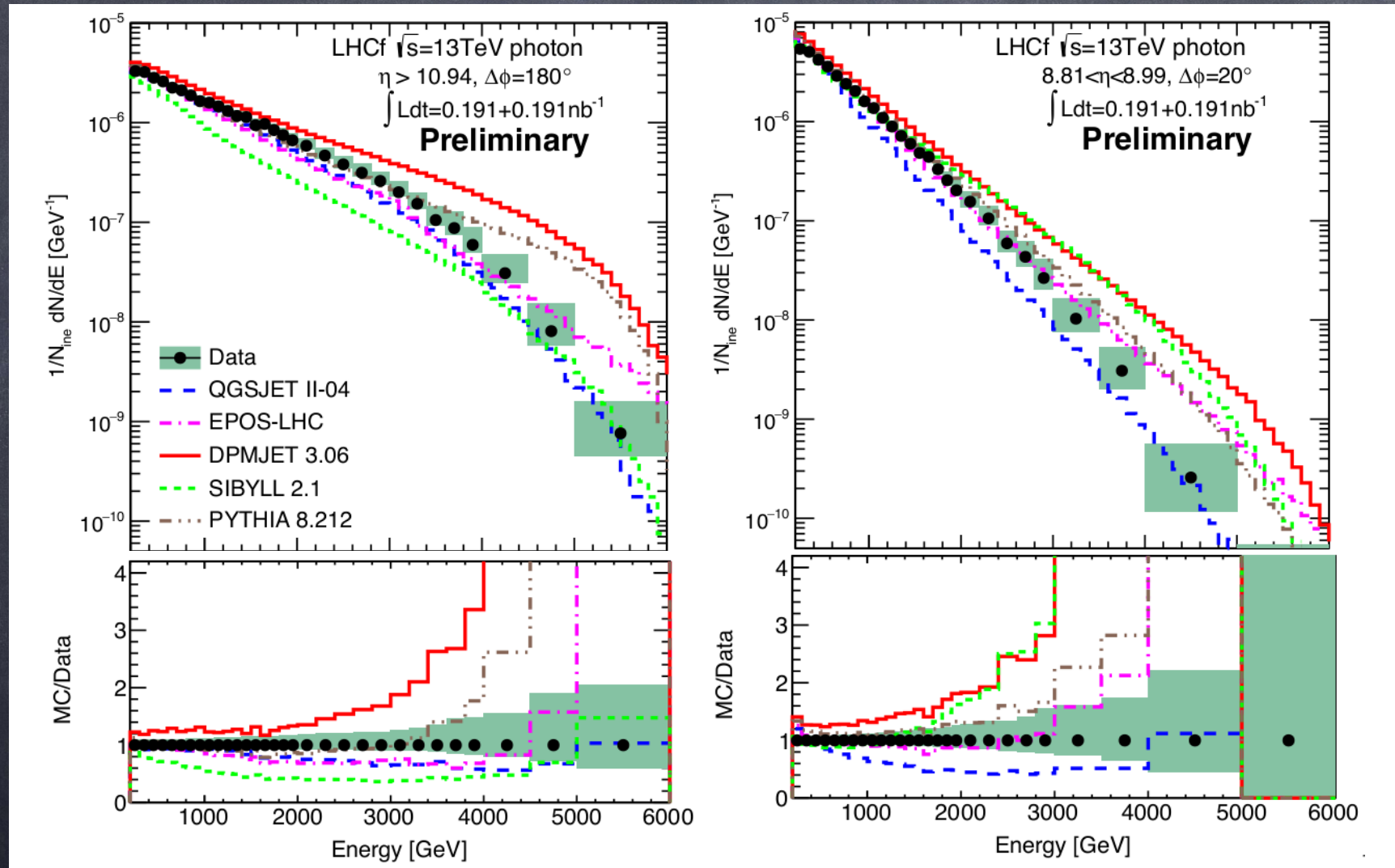


# First look at 13 TeV data

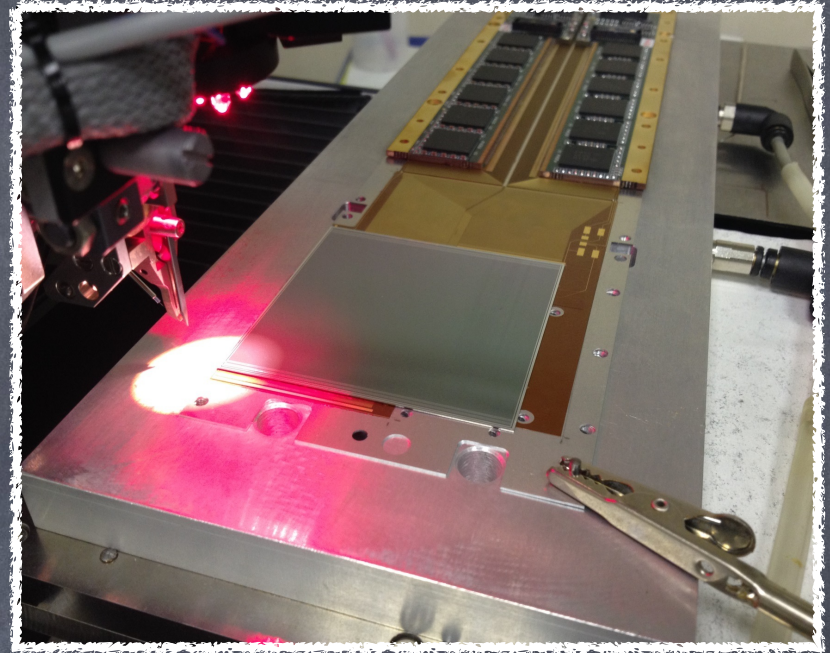


Mandatory tool for  
energy scale calibration

# Preliminary $\gamma$ energy spectra at 13 TeV



- ⦿ Physics Motivations
  - ⦿ The link between HECR Physics and LHC
- ⦿ The LHCf detectors
  - ⦿ "Il vino buono sta nella botte piccola" or "good things comes in small packages"
- ⦿ Physics Results
  - ⦿ what we have done so far
- ⦿ **Future Plans**
  - ⦿ **what's next...**



Letter of intent; Precise measurements of very forward particle production at RHIC

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[arXiv:1401.100](https://arxiv.org/abs/1401.100)

# p-Pb at 8.1 TeV

Only ARM2 Detector

Motivations:

\* Statistics:

- Measure  $\pi^0$  with increased statistics wrt 2013 run
- Possibility to detect the  $\eta$  meson
- Combined ATLAS-LHCf data take (very limited in 2013)

\* Phase space

- extend up to  $p_T > 1$  GeV/c
  - > deviations from models suggested from 2013 data at high  $p_T$
  - > investigate pQCD phase-space region

\* Scaling properties

- Extrapolation at extreme CR energies
- Feynman scaling: spectra in  $x_F$

### LHCf

Letter of Intent for a p-Pb run in 2016

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Study of forward physics in  
 $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.1$  TeV proton-Lead ion  
collisions with the LHCf detector at  
the LHC

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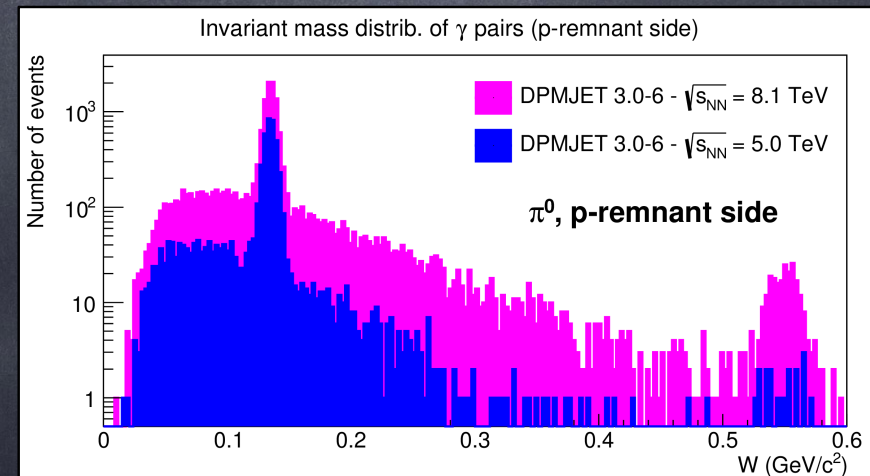
#### The LHCf collaboration

O. Adriani<sup>1,2</sup>, E. Berti<sup>1,2</sup>, L. Bonechi<sup>1</sup>, M. Bonghi<sup>1,2</sup>, G. Castellini<sup>3</sup>,  
R. D'Alessandro<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Hagenauer<sup>1</sup>, Y. Itow<sup>5,6</sup>, T. Iwata<sup>7</sup>,  
K. Kasahara<sup>7</sup>, Y. Makino<sup>5</sup>, K. Masuda<sup>5</sup>, E. Matsubayashi<sup>8</sup>,  
Y. Matsubara<sup>3</sup>, H. Menjo<sup>5</sup>, Y. Muraki<sup>5</sup>, Y. Okuno<sup>5</sup>, P. Papini<sup>1</sup>,  
S. Ricciarini<sup>2</sup>, T. Sako<sup>5,6</sup>, N. Sakurai<sup>9</sup>, T. Suzuki<sup>7</sup>, Y. Shimizu<sup>10</sup>,  
T. Tamura<sup>10</sup>, A. Tiberio<sup>1,2</sup>, S. Torii<sup>7</sup>, A. Triomi<sup>1,11,12</sup>, W.  
M. Ueno<sup>9</sup>, K. Yoshida<sup>14</sup>, and O. Yoshida<sup>14</sup>

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February 28, 2016

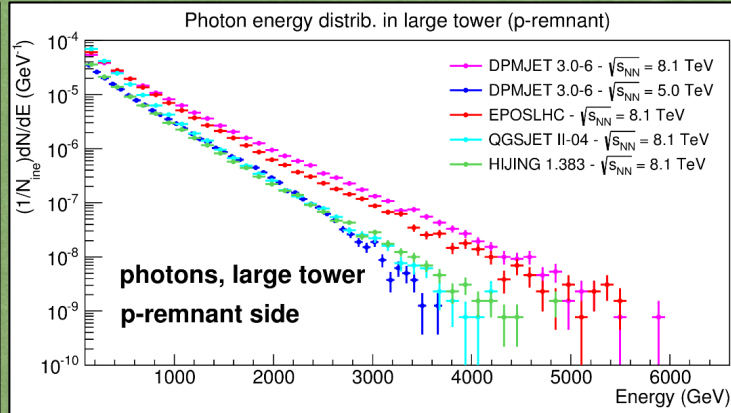
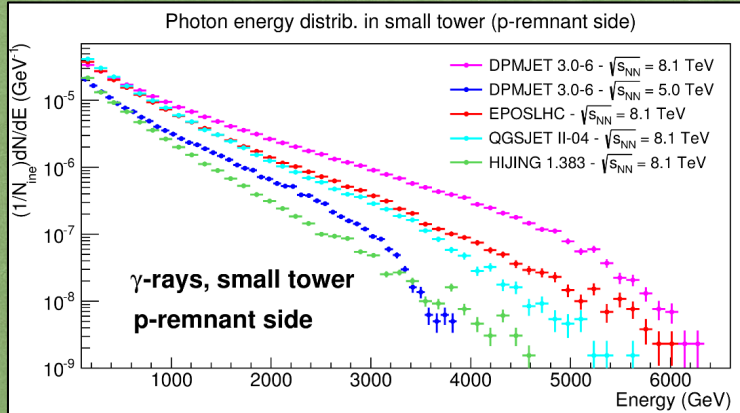
Submitted to LHCC in March and approved!





# p-Pb at 8.1 TeV: $\gamma$ & n spectra

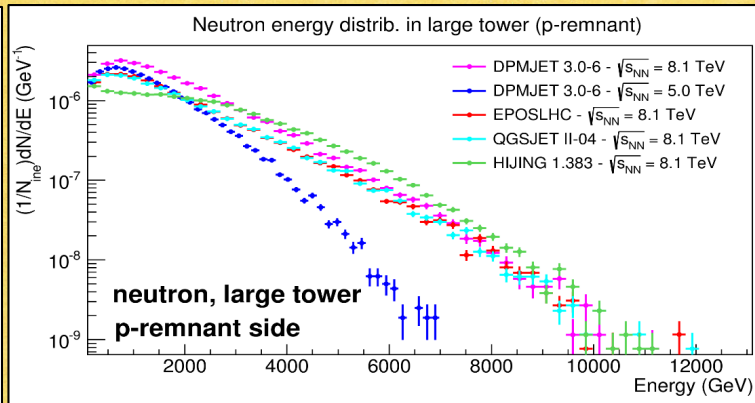
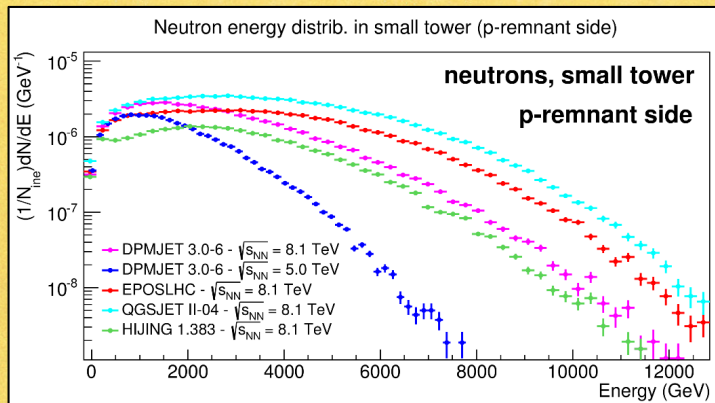
## Expected photon distribution



(CRMC)\* framework has been used to simulate  $10^7$  collisions with 4 different hadronic interaction models:

- DPMJET 3.0-6 p+Pb
- EPOS LHC p+Pb
- QGSJET II-04
- HIJING 1.383

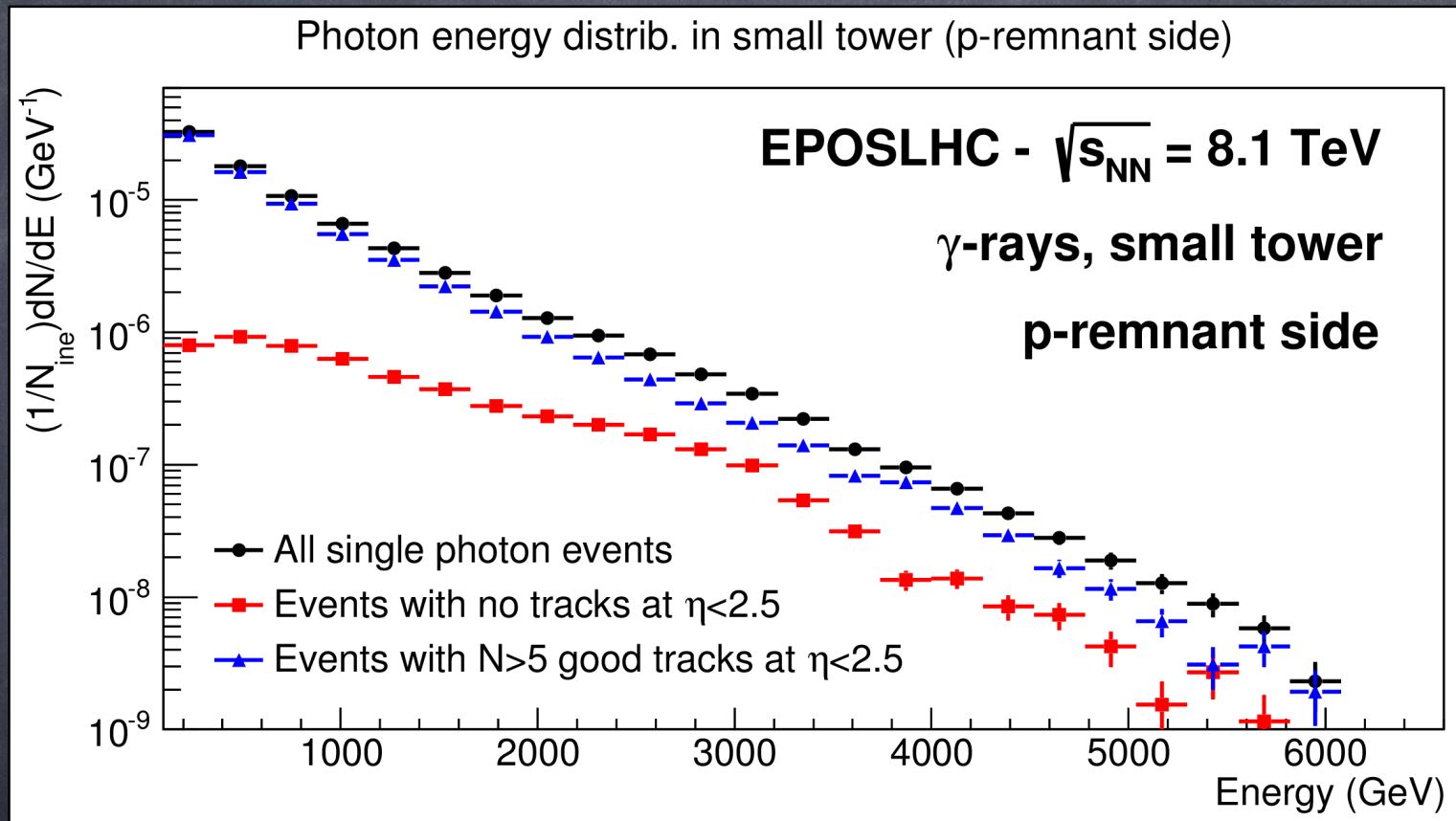
## Expected neutron distribution (35% energy resolution)



Small calorimeter tower centered on the beam spot  
Only p-remnant side considered

\* We acknowledge T. Pierog, C. Baus and R. Ulrich for support

# p-Pb at 8.1 TeV: perspective for ATLAS-LHCf combined analysis



Information from the ATLAS central region is essential to separate the contributions due to diffractive and non-diffractive collisions.

# From LHCf to RHICf

p-p at  $\sqrt{s}=510$  GeV with ARM1 in 2017  
 Extend  $\sqrt{s}$  coverage for the test of  
 Feynman scaling

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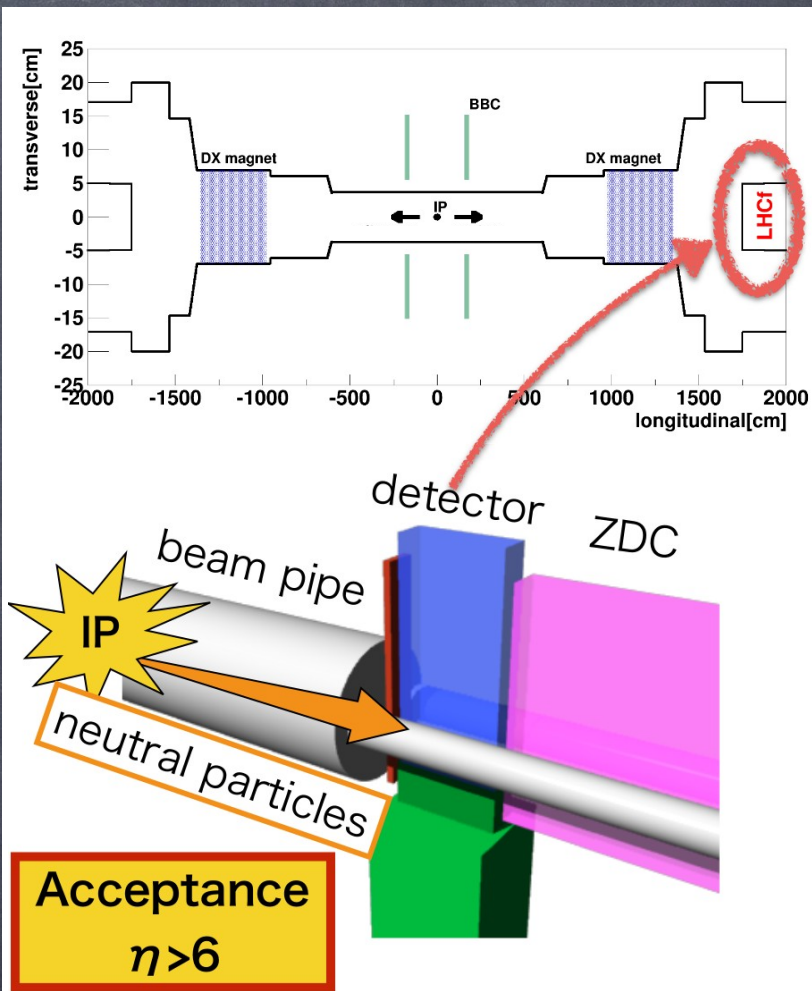
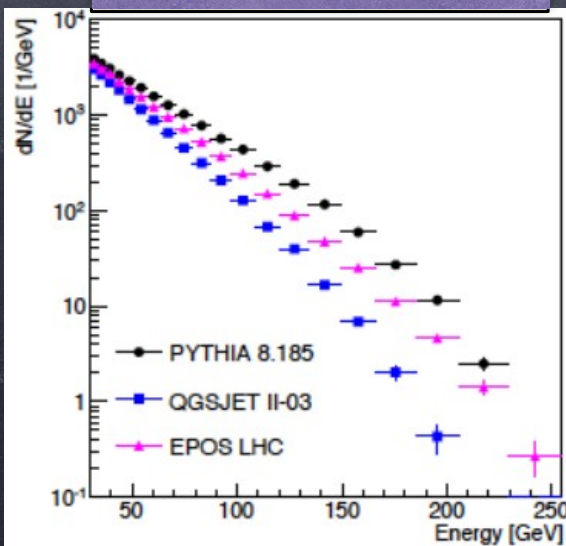
Riken BNL, Japan

K.Tanida

Seoul National University

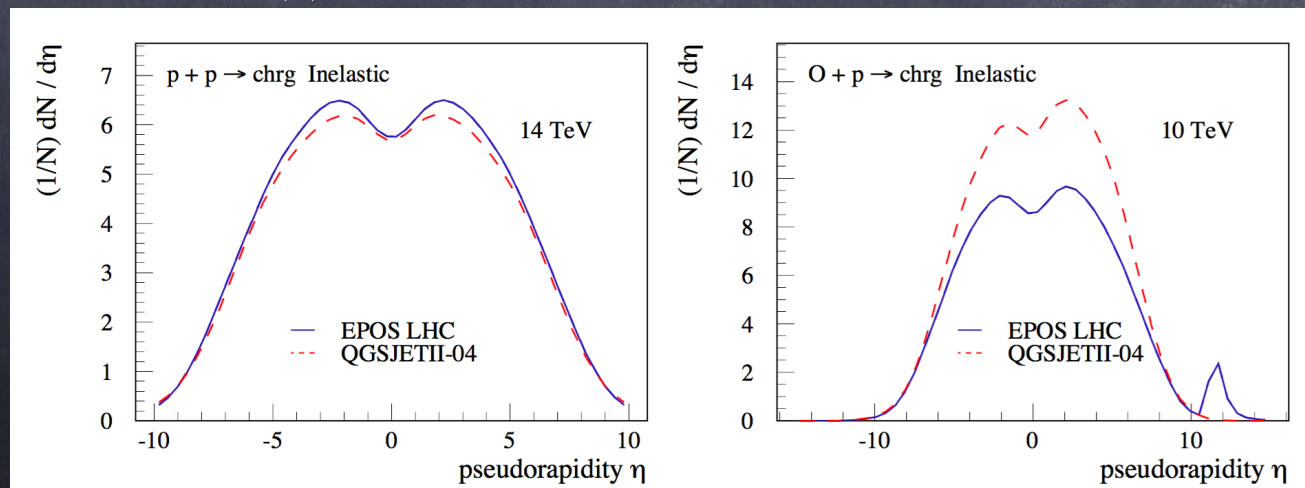
[arXiv:1401.100](https://arxiv.org/abs/1401.100)

## Photons



# The Far Future at LHC

- The most promising future at LHC for LHCf involve the proton-light ion collisions
- To go from p-p to p-Air is not so simple....
- Comparison of p-p, Pb-Pb and p-Pb is useful, but model dependent extrapolations are anyway necessary
- Direct measurements of p-O or p-N could significantly reduce some systematic effects



# Summary

- Very forward  $\gamma$ ,  $n$  and  $\pi^0$  production in  $p$ - $p$  and  $p$ - $Pb$  collision have been precisely measured by LHCf at  $E_{CM} \leq 7$  TeV
  - LHCf zero degree results are significantly contributing to improve our knowledge of hadronic interaction model for HECR Physics
  - New results with hadrons are particularly interesting to understand the muon excess
  - $p$ - $Pb$  results give important hints to understand nuclear medium effect
- Very successful 13 TeV  $pp$  run has been done in June 2015
  - Analysis is on going
- An intensive 2016-2017 program is waiting for us
  - 8.1 TeV and 5 TeV  $p$ - $Pb$  collisions at LHC in November 2016
  - 510 GeV  $p$ - $p$  with polarized beam at RHIC in February 2017
- Still a lot of results will come in the next years... while waiting for  $p$ -Light Ion run at LHC
- So... stay tuned!