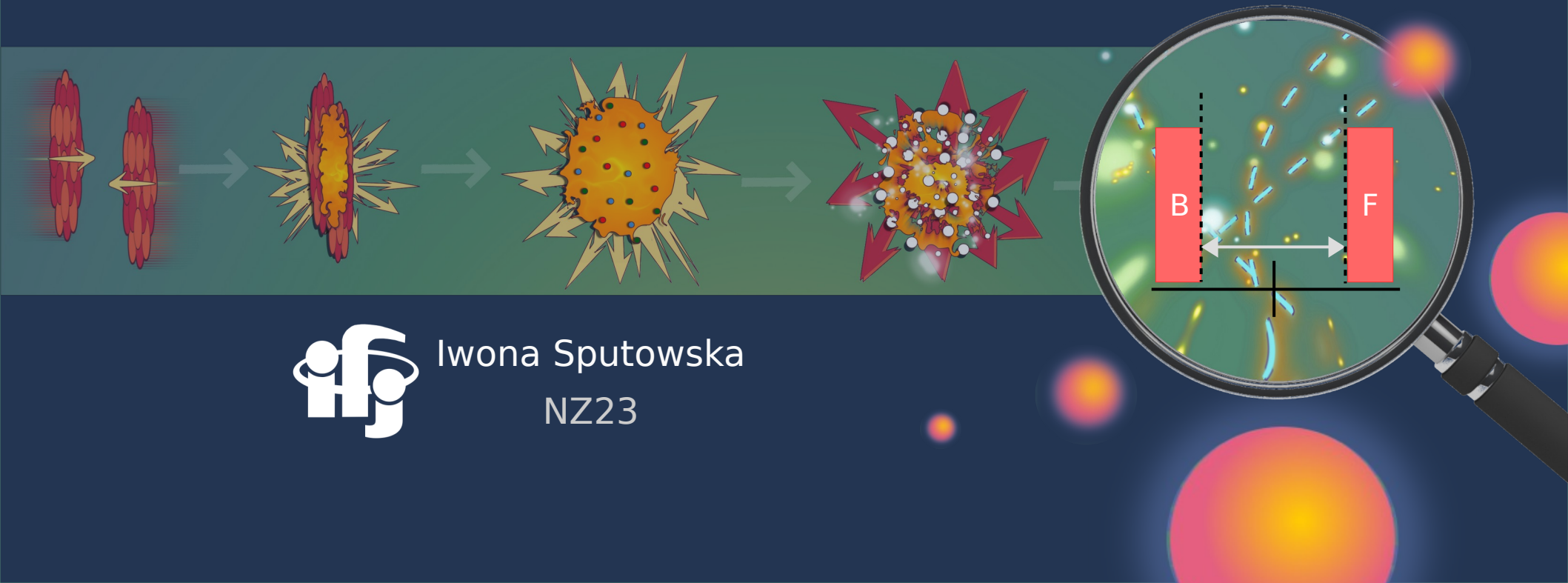


The forward-backward multiplicity correlations with the observable Σ at LHC energies



Iwona Sputowska
NZ23

Outline:

1. Motivation: why forward-backward correlations?

→ What we want to learn and why standard tools struggle.

2. The observable Σ : definition and key properties

→ Why Σ is useful?

3. Experimental results from ALICE

→ Pb-Pb, Xe-Xe, pp: main system-dependent trends.

4. Interpretation within simple source-based models

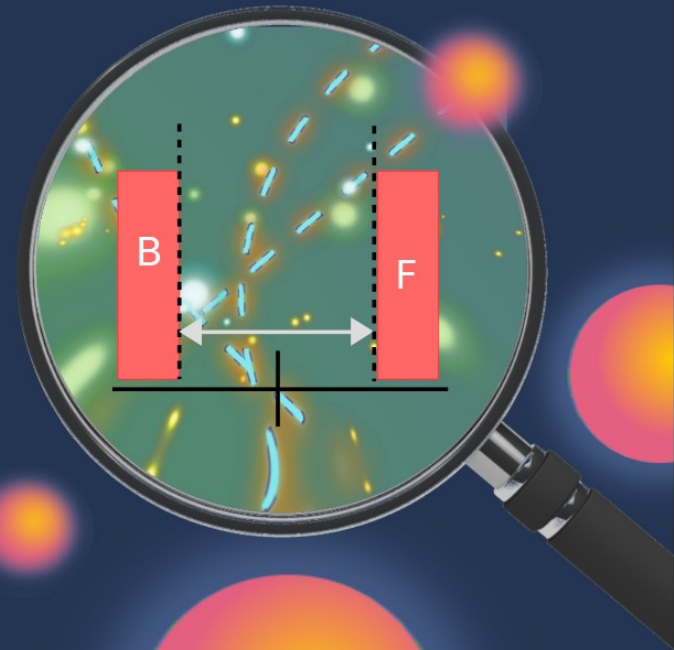
→ What we can learn from WNM/WQM.

5. Multi-source superposition approach

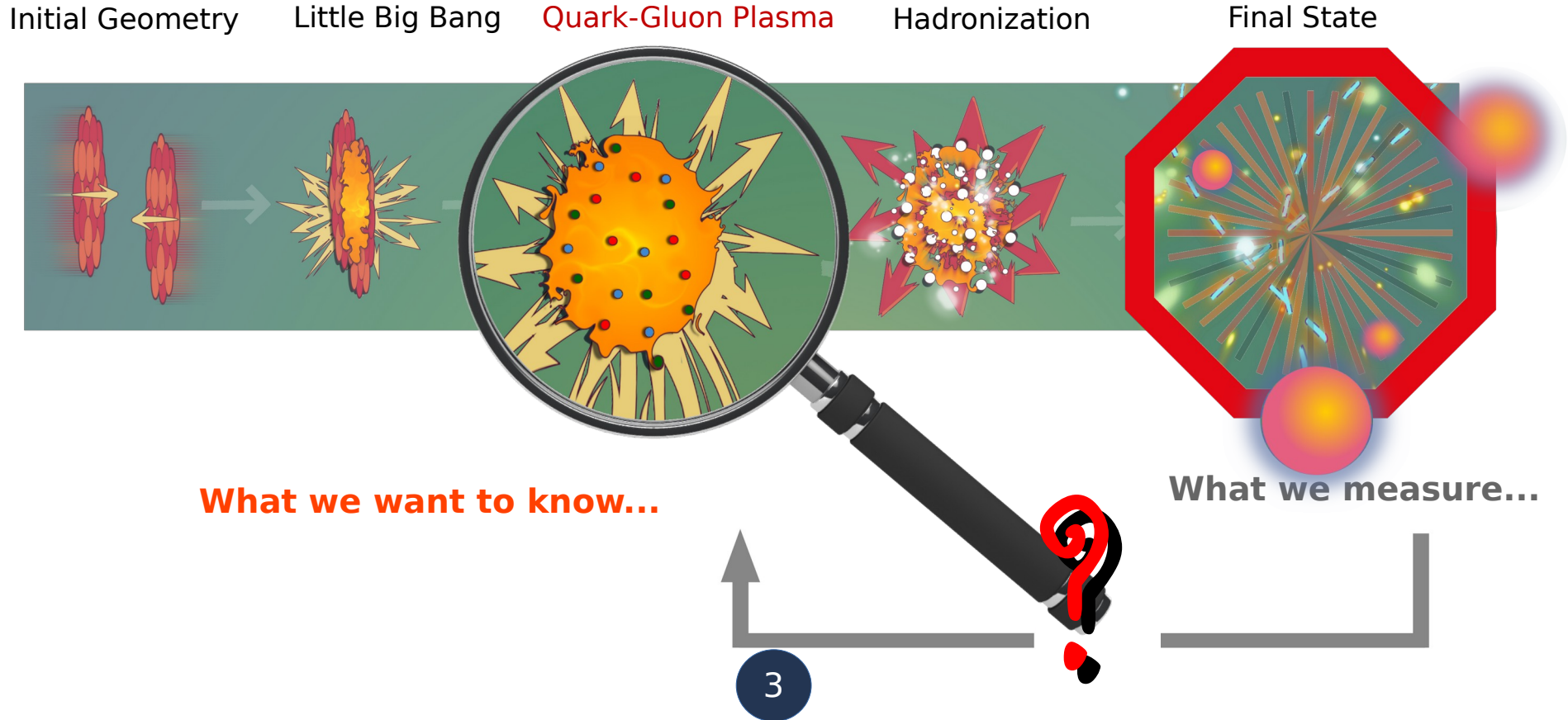
→ A general statistical framework to organise contributions to Σ .

6. Broader implications and summary

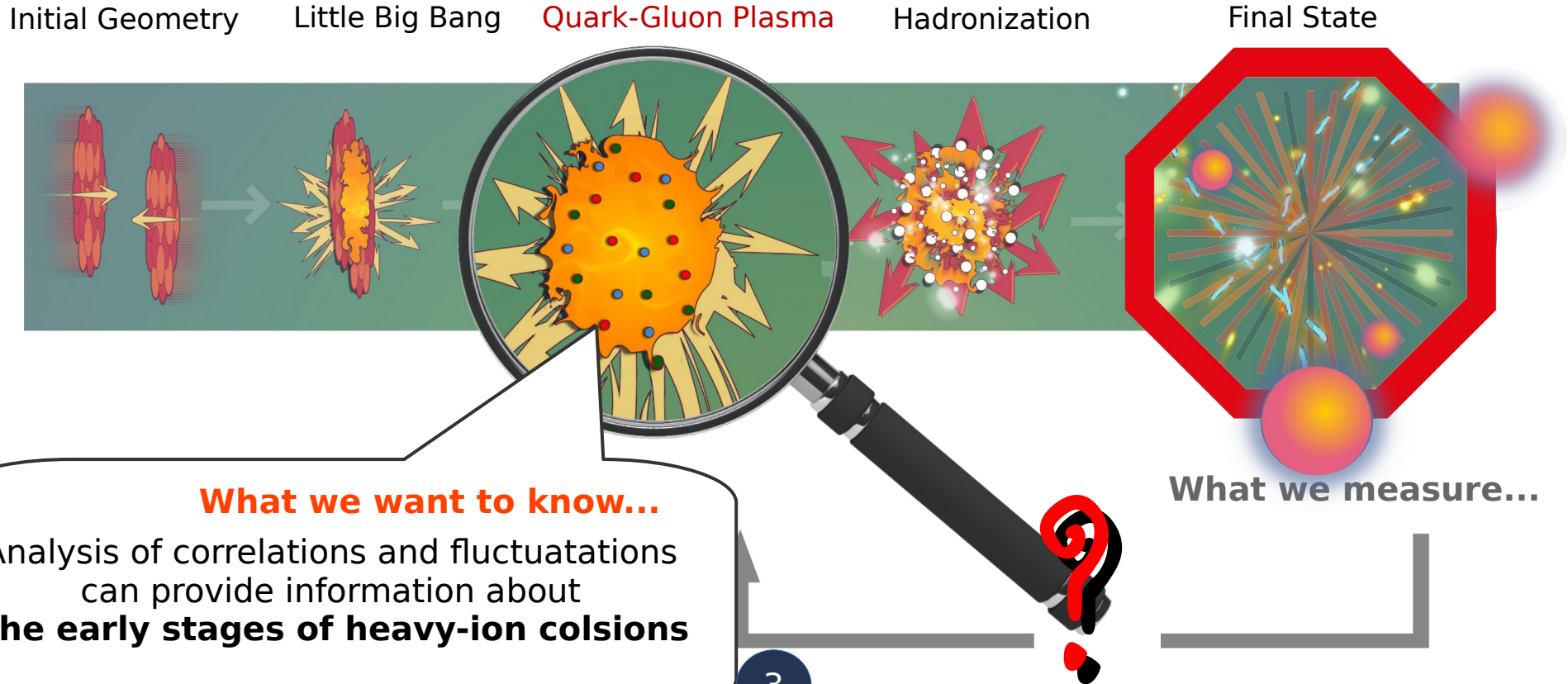
→ What Σ tells us and what remains open.



Motivation: Why do we study correlations and fluctuations?



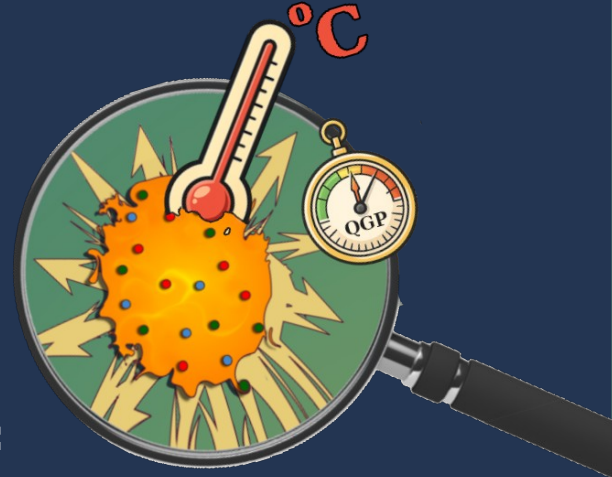
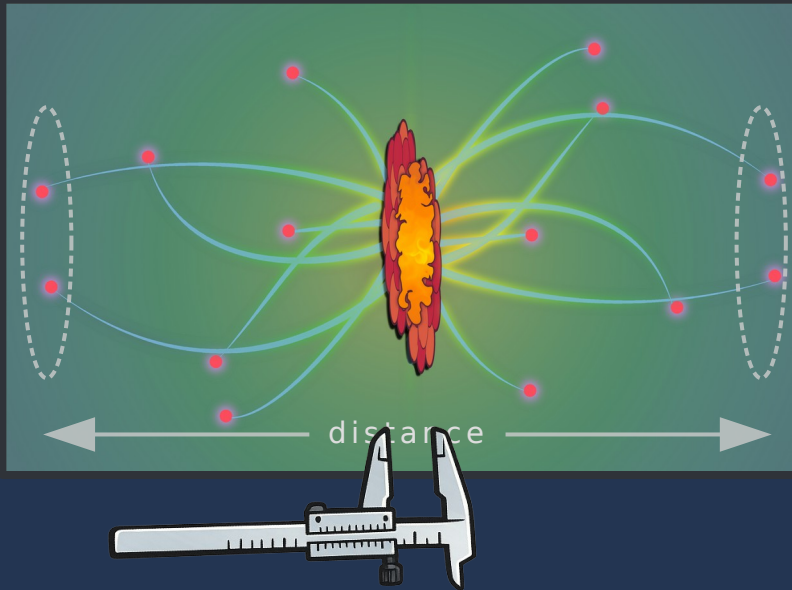
Motivation: Why do we study correlations and fluctuations?



Motivation: Why do we study correlations and fluctuations?

1. Thermodynamic insight:

→ Related to QCD susceptibilities via fluctuations of conserved charges.



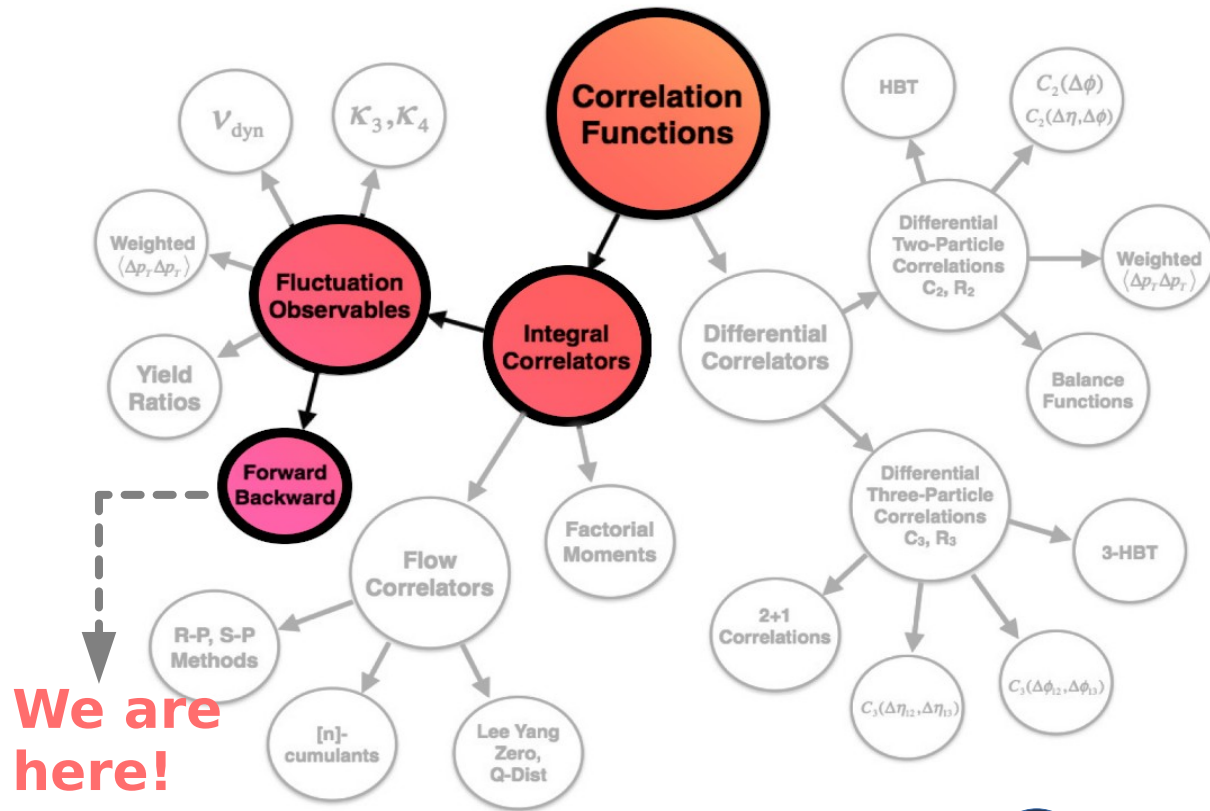
2. Early-stage sensitivity:

→ Long-range correlations must originate before longitudinal expansion.

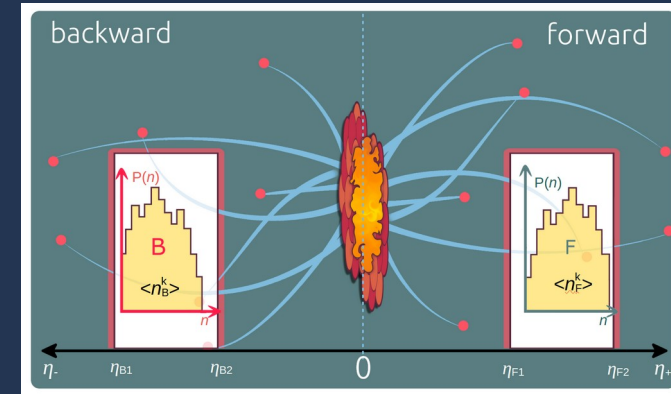
3. Particle production dynamics:

→ Correlation patterns reveal source structure and help test models.

The Analysis: How do we study correlations and fluctuations?

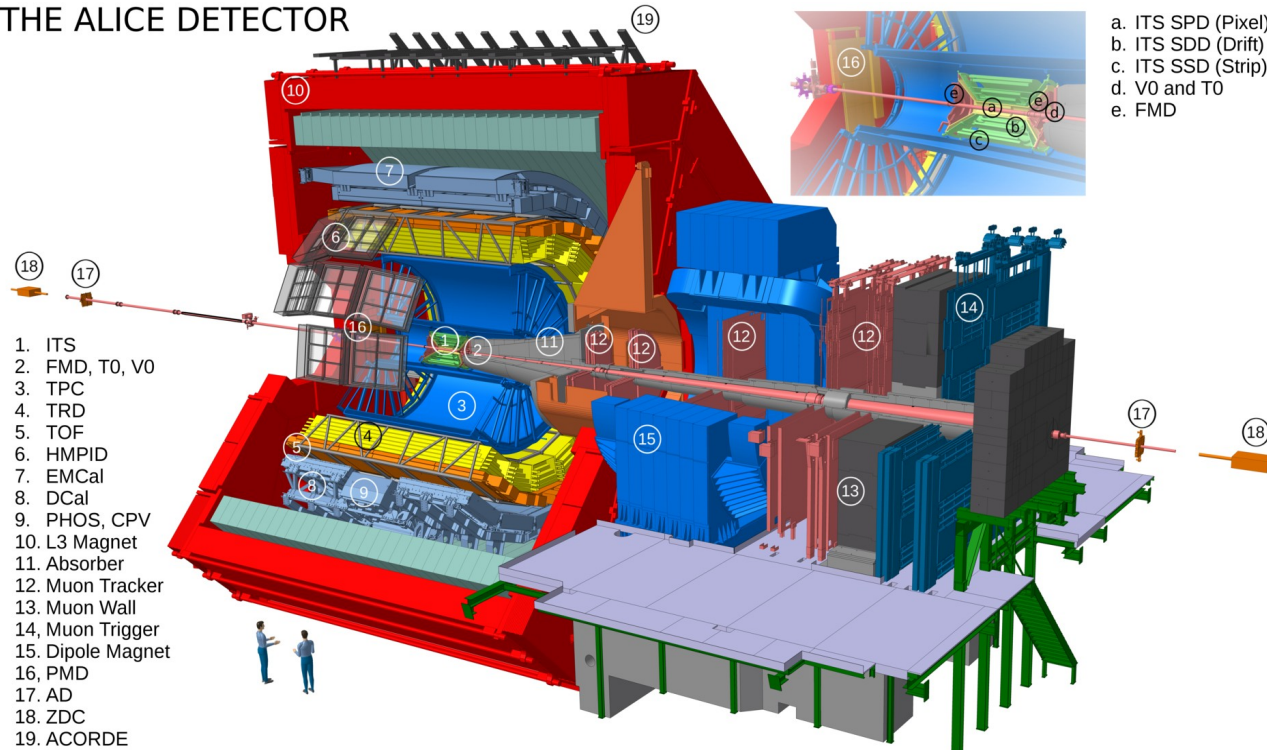


The forward-backward (FB) correlation:



The Analysis: How do we study correlations and fluctuations?

THE ALICE DETECTOR



ALICE

A Large Ion Collider Experiment

Experimental data:

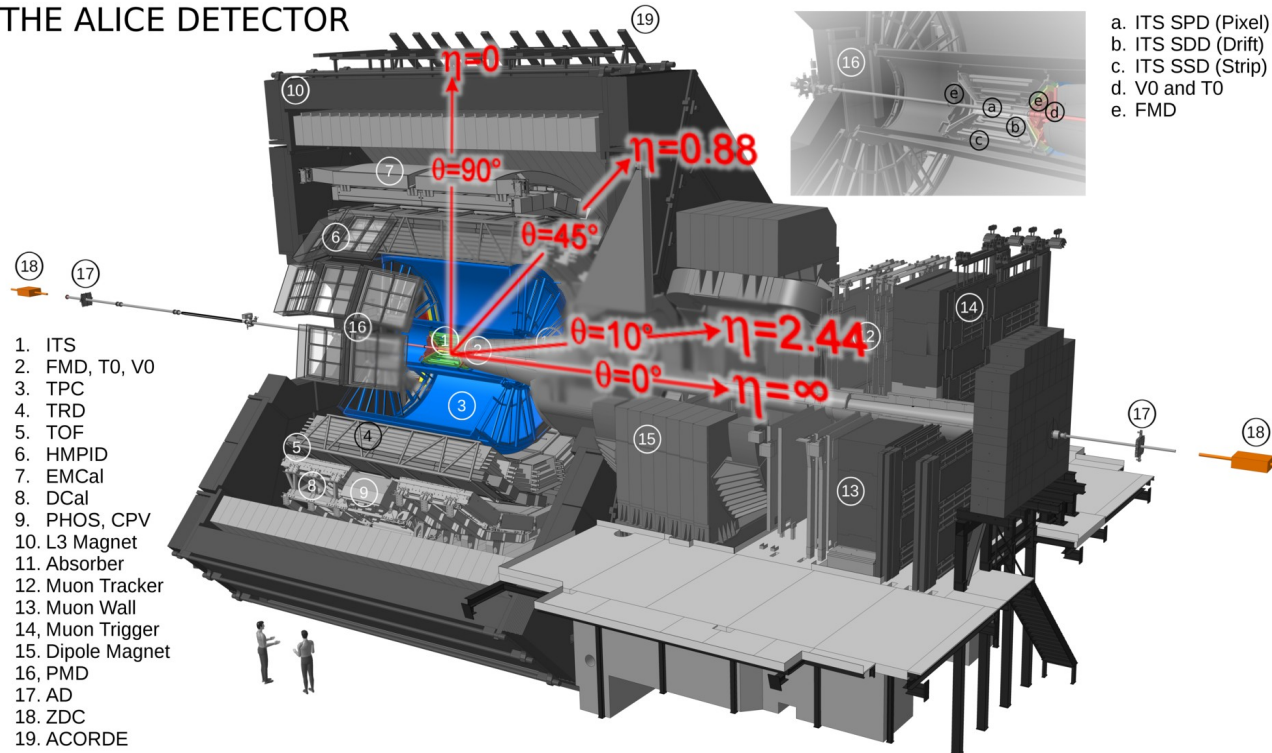
→ Pb-Pb @ $\sqrt{s}_{NN} = 2.76$ and 5.02 TeV

→ Xe-Xe @ $\sqrt{s}_{NN} = 5.44$ TeV

Compared to → pp @ $\sqrt{s} = 0.9, 2.76, 5.02, 7$ and 13 TeV

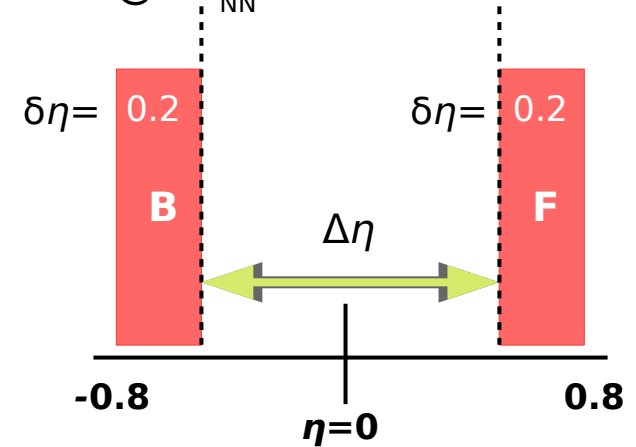
The Analysis: How do we study correlations and fluctuations?

THE ALICE DETECTOR



Experimental data:

→ Pb-Pb @ $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ and 5.02 TeV
→ Xe-Xe @ $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.44$ TeV



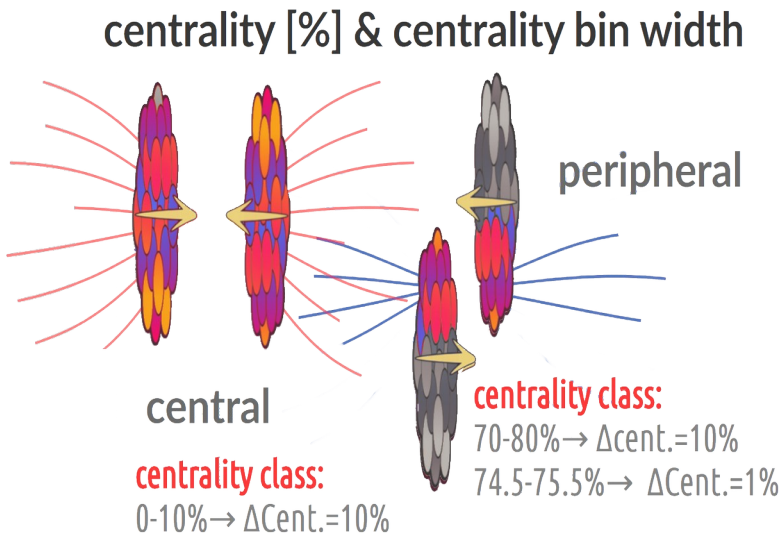
- $0 < \varphi < 2\pi$,
- $0.2 < p_T < 5$ GeV/c

The Analysis: How do we study correlations and fluctuations?

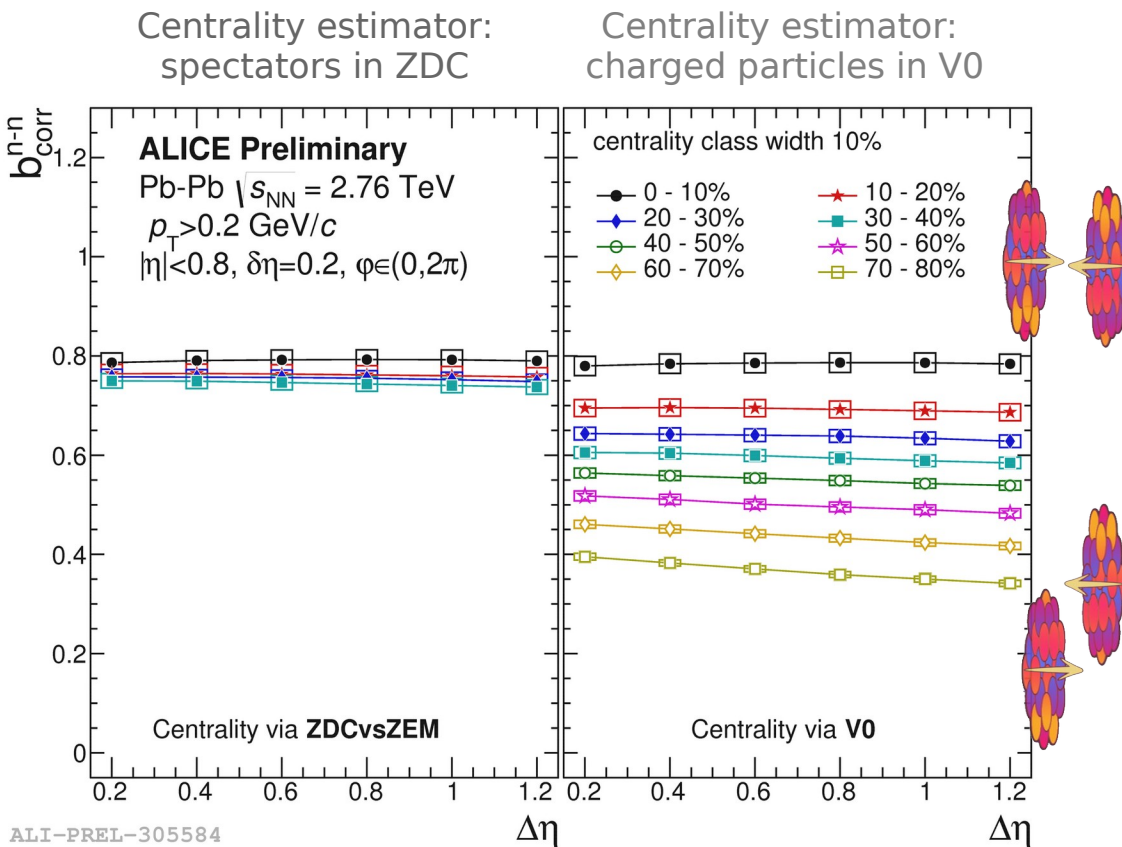
THE ALICE DETECTOR

V0 → energy deposition by
charged particles
 $-3.7 < \eta < -1.7$ & $2.8 < \eta < 5.1$
V0A+V0C

ZDC → energy of spectators
most forward detector
ZDCvsZEM

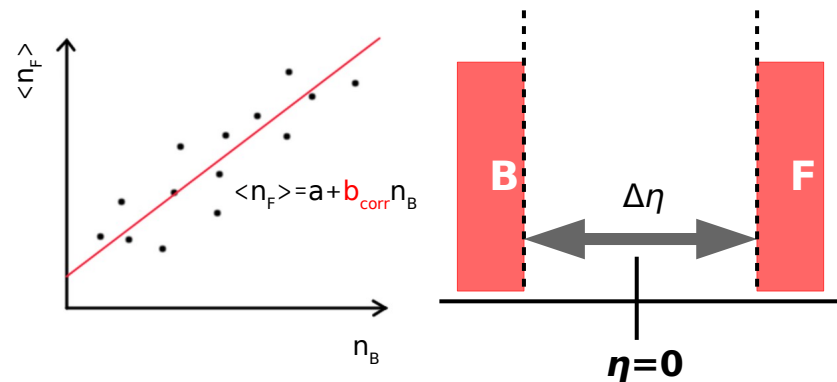


Results: Forward-backward correlations with b_{corr}



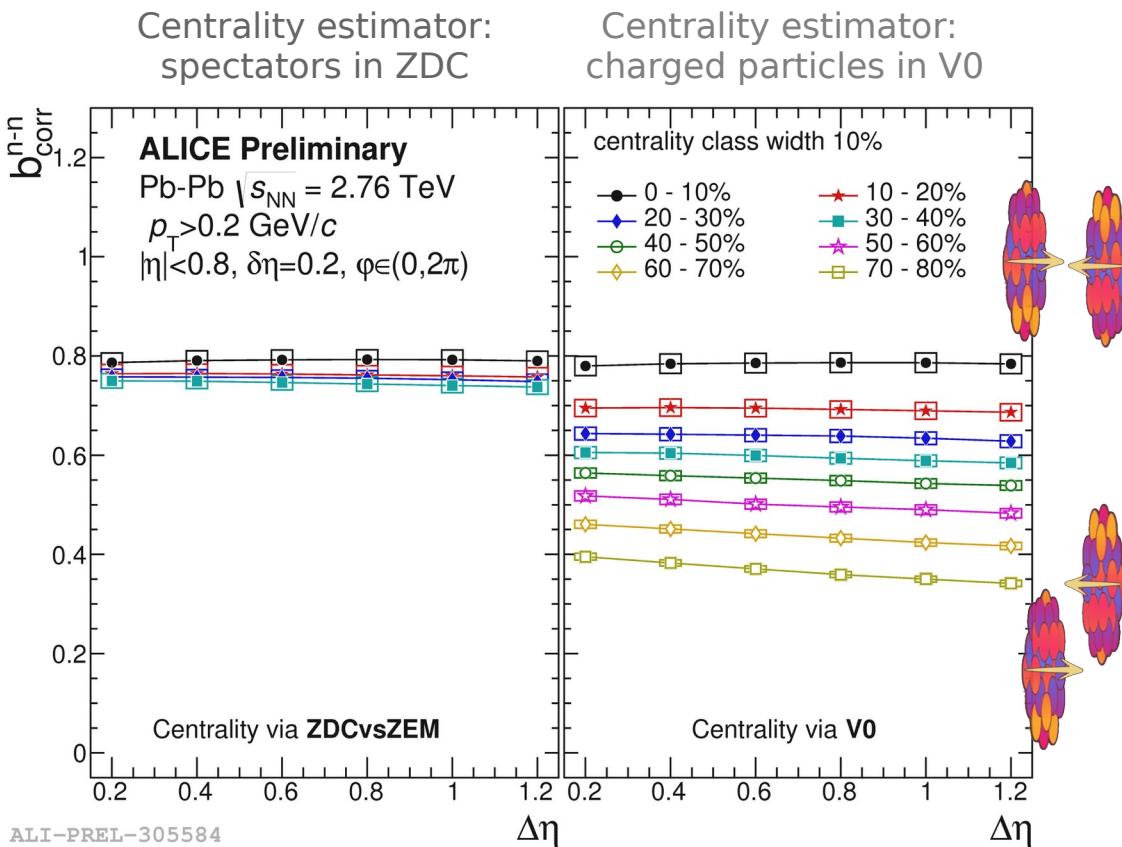
Correlation coefficient:

$$b_{\text{corr}} = \frac{\text{Cov}(n_F, n_B)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(n_F) \text{Var}(n_B)}}$$



- is largely influenced by **geometrical (volume) fluctuations**.
- is dependent on **centrality estimator**;

Results: Forward-backward correlations with b_{corr}



ALI-PREL-305584

Correlation coefficient:

Schoolchildren

Heavy-ion collisions

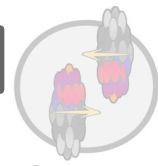
$$b_{\text{corr}}(\text{weight}, \text{IQ}) \approx 0.62$$

$$b_{\text{corr}}(nF, nB) \approx 0.8$$



age
fluctuation

Large correlations

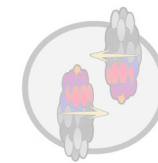


event geometrical
fluctuation



strict age
selection

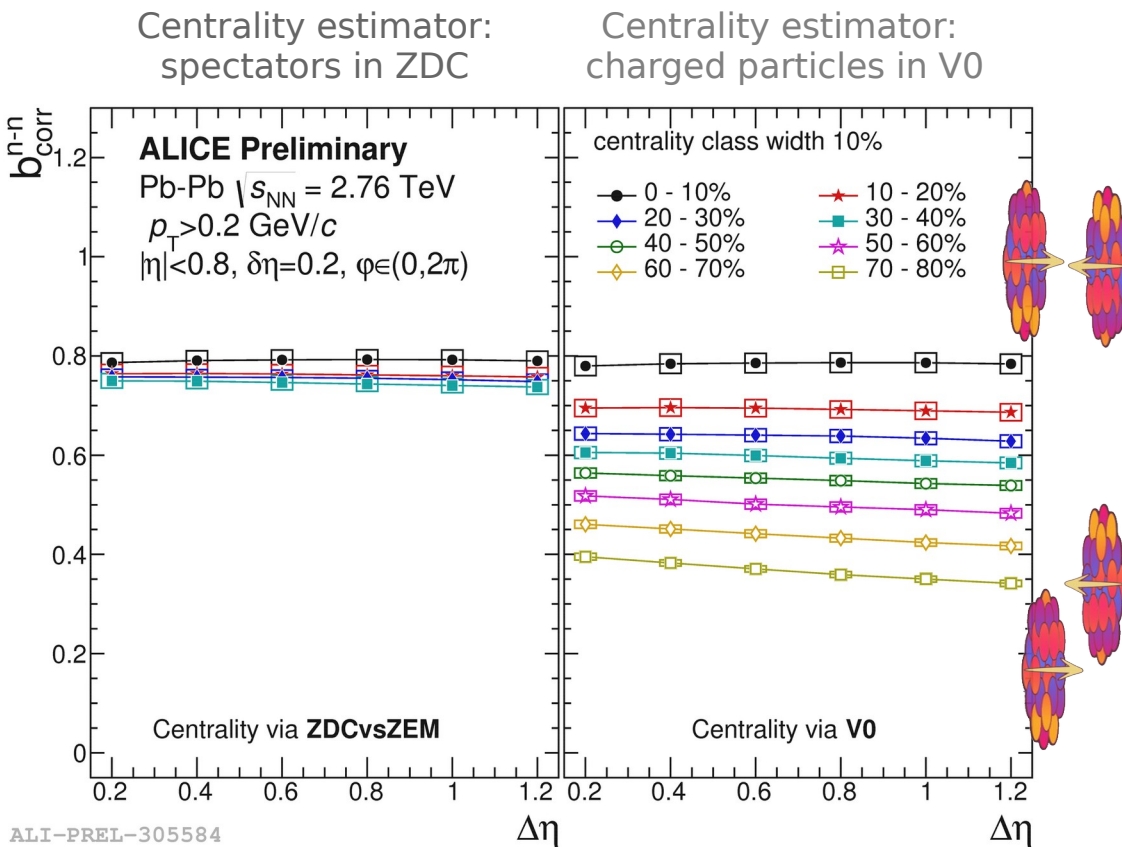
Spurious effect of
external variable
leads to absurd
conclusions!



narrow centrality
classes

$$b_{\text{corr}}(\text{weight}, \text{IQ}) \approx 0$$

Results: Forward-backward correlations with b_{corr}



ALI-PREL-305584

Correlation coefficient:

Schoolchildren

Heavy-ion collisions

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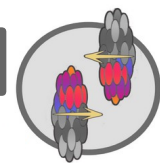
age
fluctuation



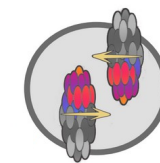
strict age
selection

Large correlations

Spurious effect of
external variable
leads to absurd
conclusions!



event geometrical
fluctuation



narrow centrality
classes

width of centrality class:
10%

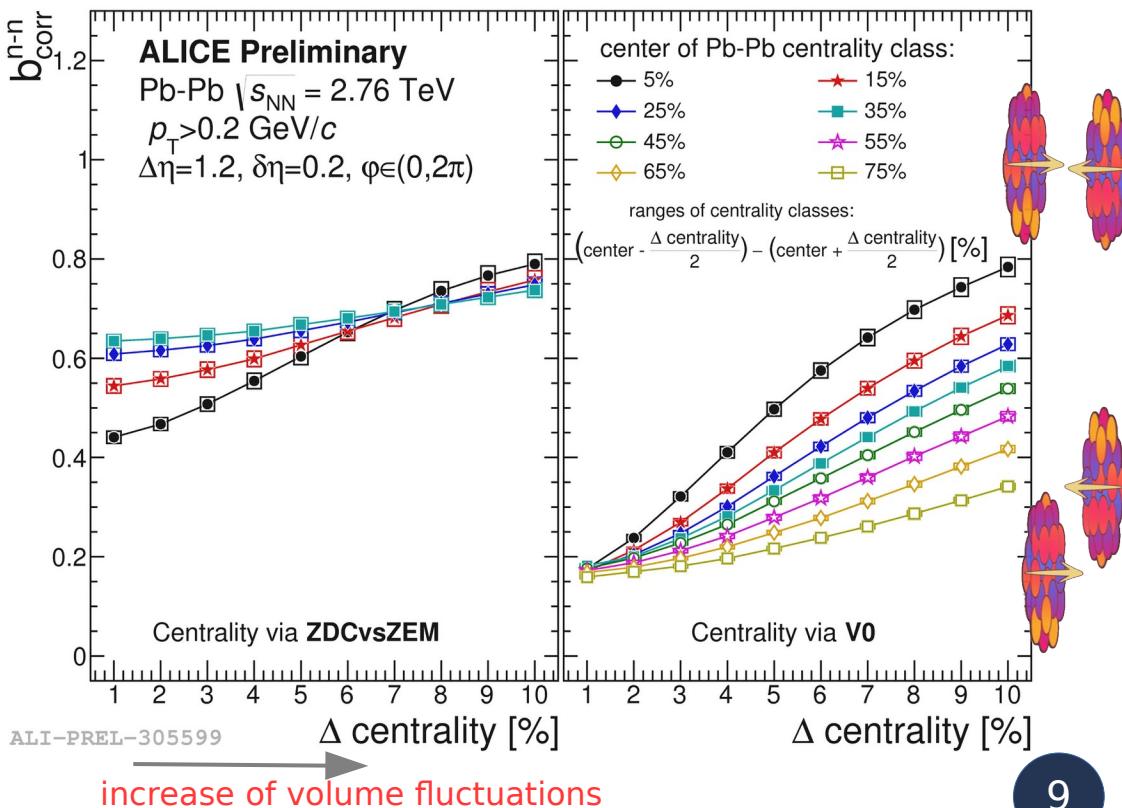


center of centrality class

Results: Forward-backward correlations with b_{corr}

Centrality estimator:
spectators in ZDC

Centrality estimator:
charged particles in V0



Correlation coefficient:

Schoolchildren

Heavy-ion collisions

$$b_{\text{corr}}(\text{weight}, \text{IQ}) \approx 0.62$$

$$b_{\text{corr}}(\text{nF}, \text{nB}) \approx 0.8$$



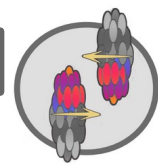
age
fluctuation



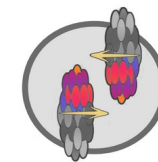
strict age
selection

Large correlations

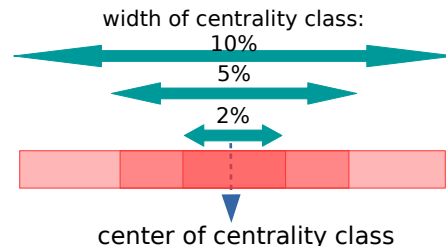
Spurious effect of
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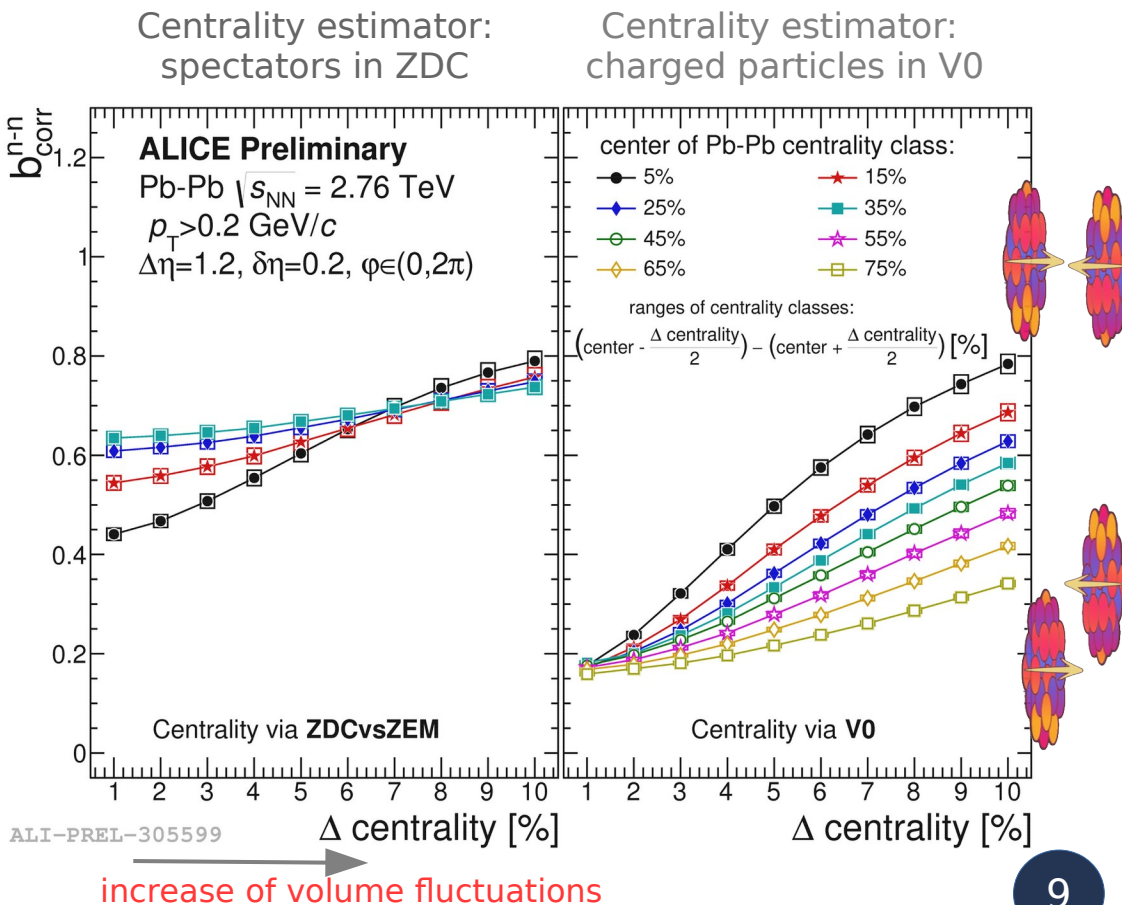
event geometrical
fluctuation



narrow centrality
classes



Results: Forward-backward correlations with b_{corr}



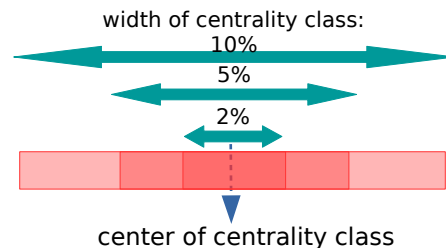
Correlation coefficient:

- **Large values of b_{corr}** but large centrality bin width \rightarrow **large geometrical (N_{part}) fluctuations** within centrality class.
- Dependence on centrality estimator.
- Theoretical predictions:

$$b = 1 - \left[1 + \frac{\bar{n}}{4} \left(\frac{2}{k} + \frac{\langle w^2 \rangle - \langle w \rangle^2}{\langle w \rangle} \right) \right]^{-1}$$

A. Bzdak, Phys. Rev. C 80 (2009) 024906

Scaled variance of number of participants ω_{part}

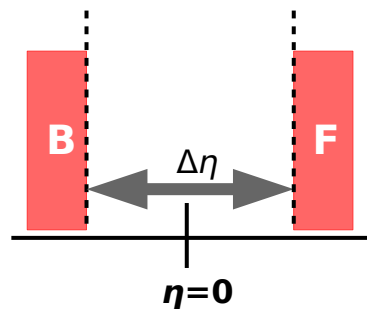


Results: FB correlations with strongly intensive quantity Σ

- **Strongly intensive quantities** do not depend on system volume nor system volume fluctuations.

Gaździcki, Gorenstein, Phys.Rev. C84 (2011) 014904

STRONGLY INTENSIVE QUANTITY Σ

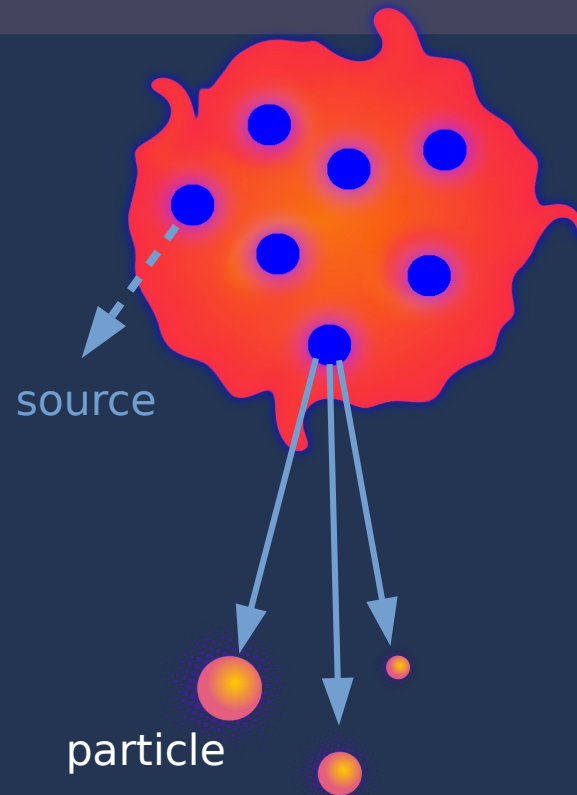


where ω is scaled
variance: $\omega = \text{Var}(n) / \langle n \rangle$

$$\Sigma = \frac{\langle n_B \rangle \omega_F + \langle n_F \rangle \omega_B - 2 \text{Cov}(n_B, n_F)}{\langle n_F \rangle + \langle n_B \rangle}$$

Independent source model:

$\Sigma \rightarrow$ give direct information about characteristics of **single source distribution!**

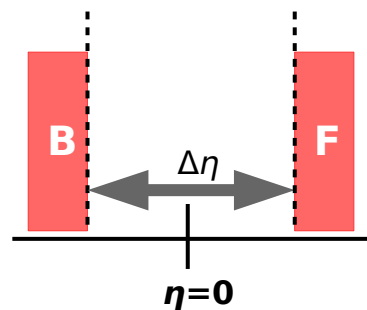


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STRONGLY INTENSIVE QUANTITY Σ



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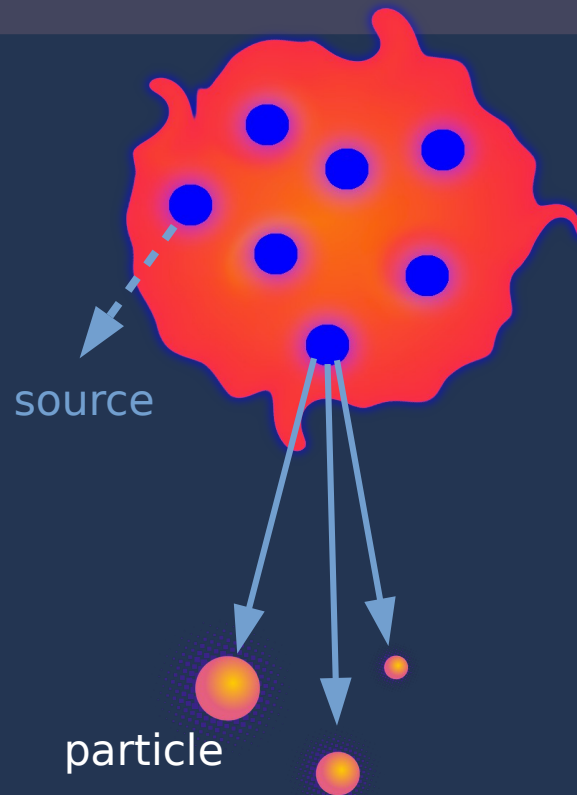
- For a symmetric collision $\omega_B = \omega_F$ and $\langle n_F \rangle = \langle n_B \rangle$

$$\Sigma \approx \omega(1 - b_{\text{corr}}).$$

For Poisson distribution: $\omega=1$ & $b_{\text{corr}}=0 \rightarrow \Sigma=1$

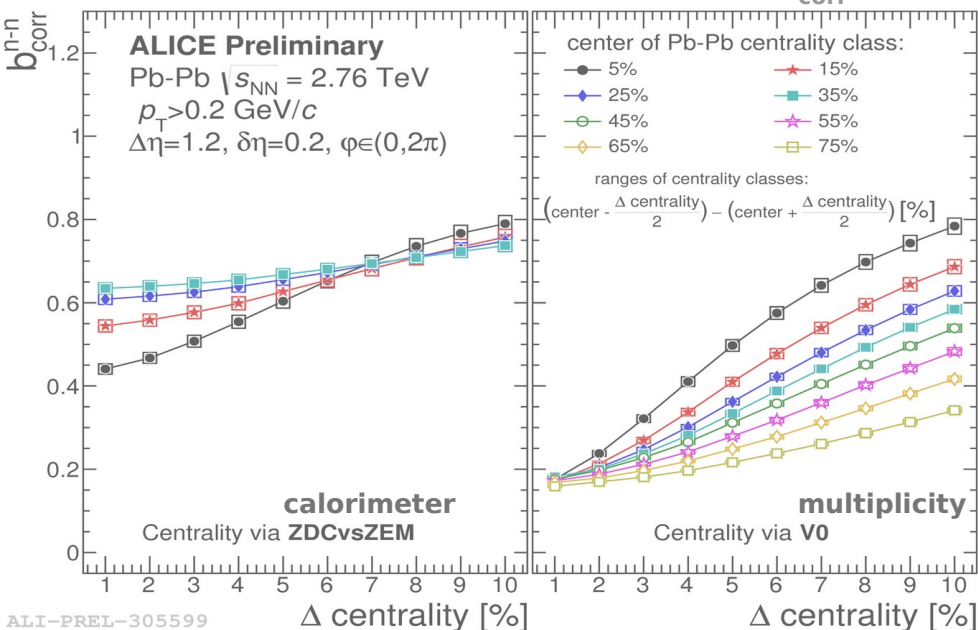
Independent source model:

$\Sigma \rightarrow$ give direct information
about characteristics of **single
source distribution!**

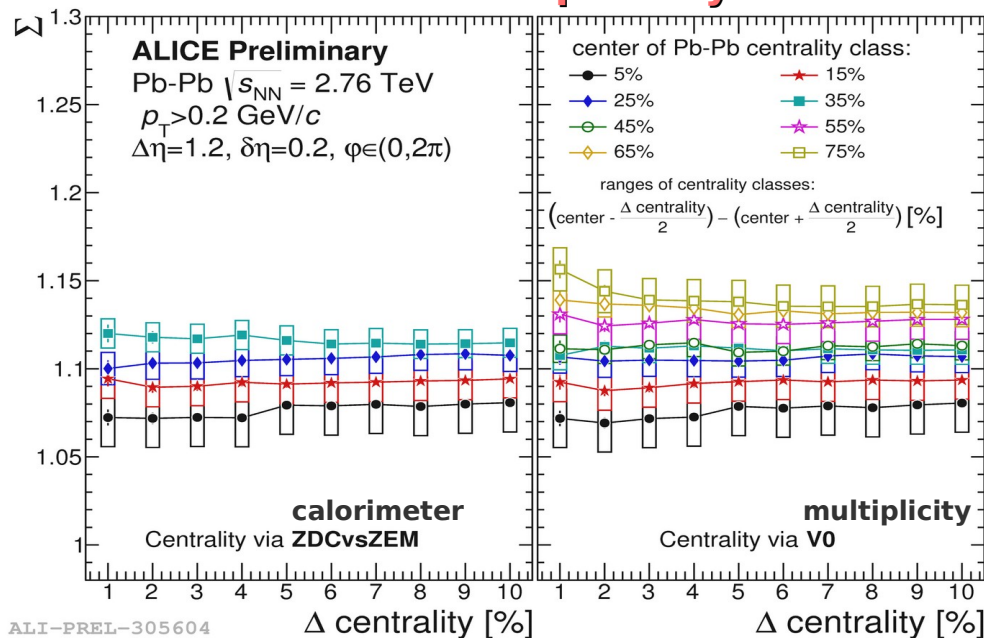


Results: Σ as a function of centrality bin width

The FB correlation coefficient b_{corr}^{n-n}



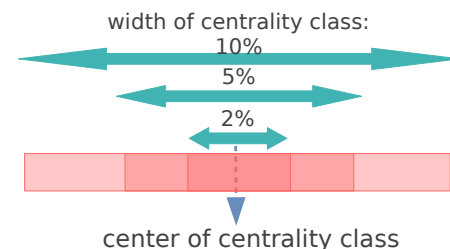
The Σ quantity



- Σ does not depend on centrality bin width (volume fluctuations).
- Σ does not depend on centrality estimator!

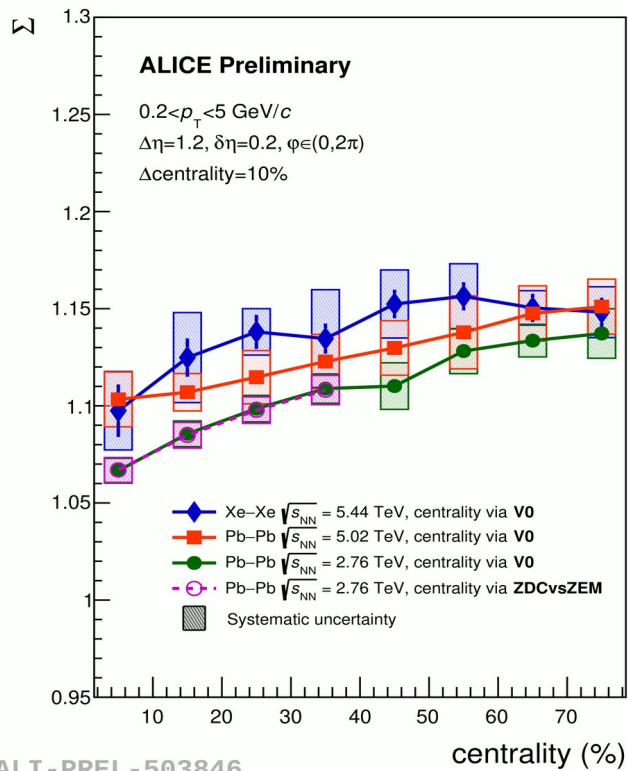
exhibits the properties
of a strongly intensive
quantity!

increase of volume fluctuations

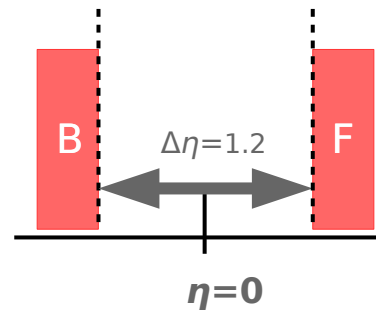
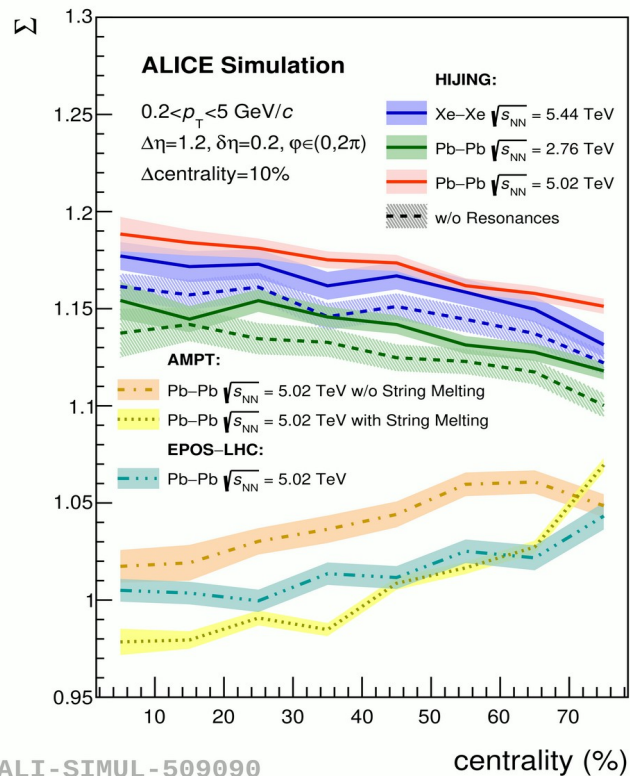


Results: Σ as a function of centrality

Experimental data



MC simulations



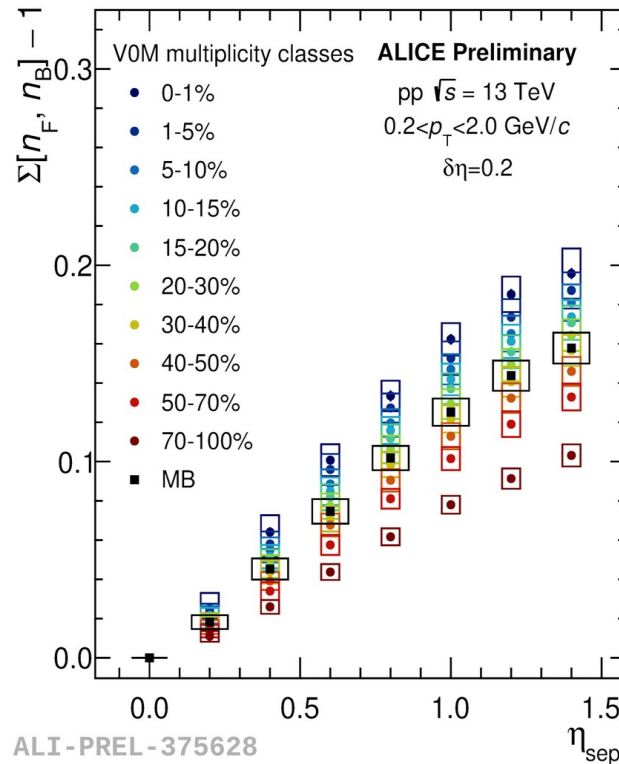
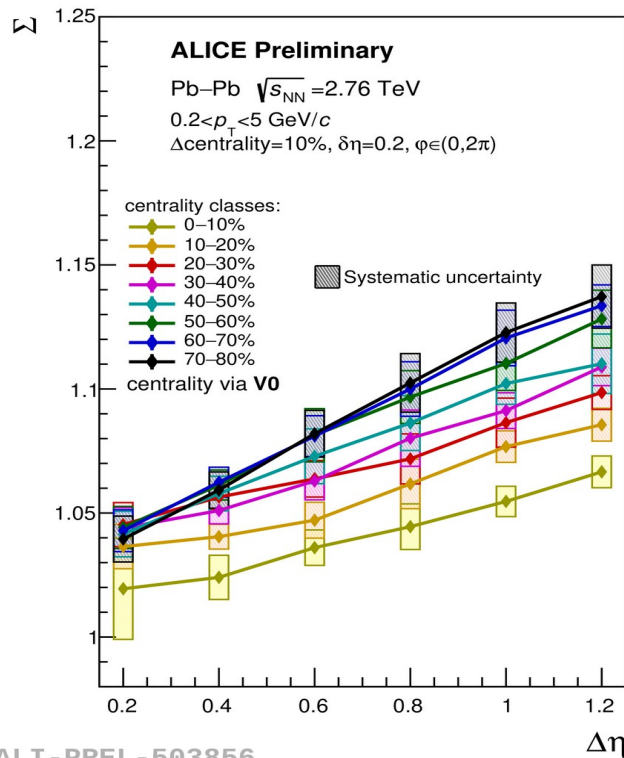
- In experimental data, Σ **increases** with **energy** and with **decreasing centrality**, opposite to the MC HIJING behavior.
- MC AMPT and MC EPOS reproduce the centrality trend of Σ **qualitatively** but **not quantitatively**.
- MC AMPT results indicate that Σ is sensitive to the particle-production mechanism.

note!

V0 \approx ZDCvsZEM

\rightarrow no dependence on centrality estimator!

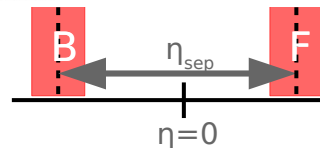
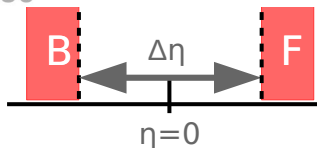
Results: Σ as a function $\Delta\eta$



- **increase** with $\Delta\eta$;
- **Pb-Pb: decrease** of Σ with increasing centrality class;
- **pp: Σ grows** with the increase of forward event multiplicity; **contrary to Pb-Pb.**

Different ordering of Σ with centrality for Pb-Pb and pp.

$$\Sigma \approx \omega(1 - b_{\text{corr}})$$



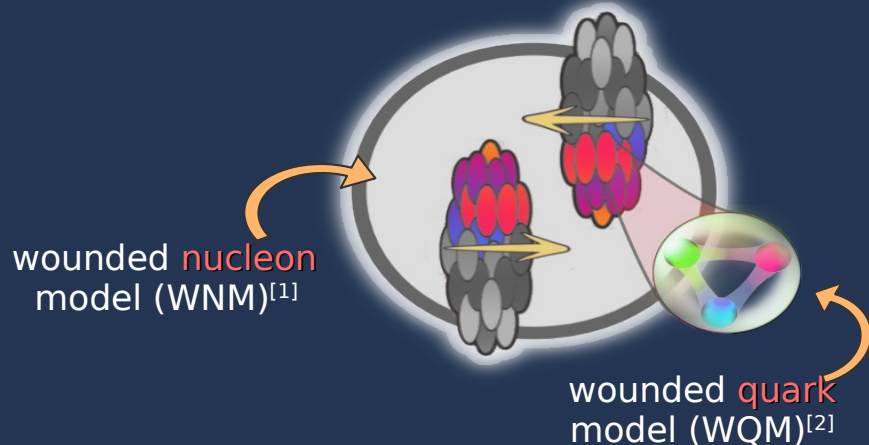
ALI-PREL-503856

ALI-PREL-375628

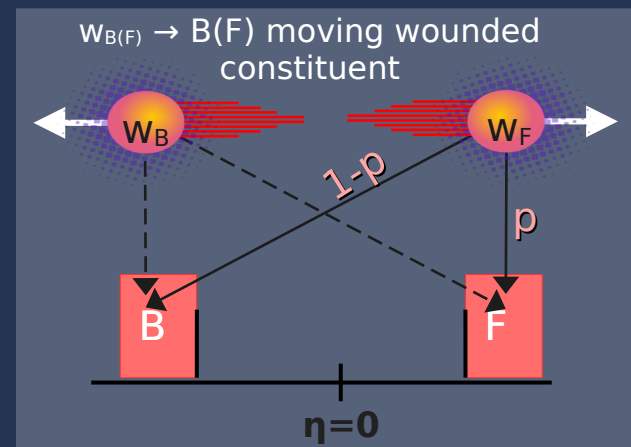
FB correlations with the Σ quantity in the wounded-constituent framework:



AA collision \rightarrow a superposition of constituent-constituent interactions



Two-component scenario^[3]:



- [1] A. Białas, M. Bleszyński and W. Czyż, Nucl. Phys. B 111, 461 (1976)
 [2] A. Białas, W. Czyż and W. Furmański, Acta Phys. Polon. B 8, 585 (1977)
 [3] A. Bzdak, Phys. Rev. C 80, 024906

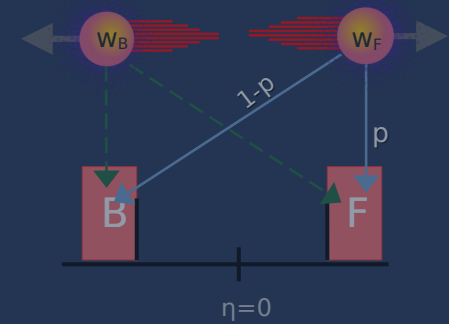
Σ in WNM and WQM for a symmetric AA collision:

$$\Sigma = 1 + \frac{\bar{n}}{2}(2p - 1)^2 \left[\frac{\langle (w_B - w_F)^2 \rangle}{2\langle w_F \rangle} + \frac{2}{k} \right]$$

$p \neq 0.5$ breaks ISM assumption

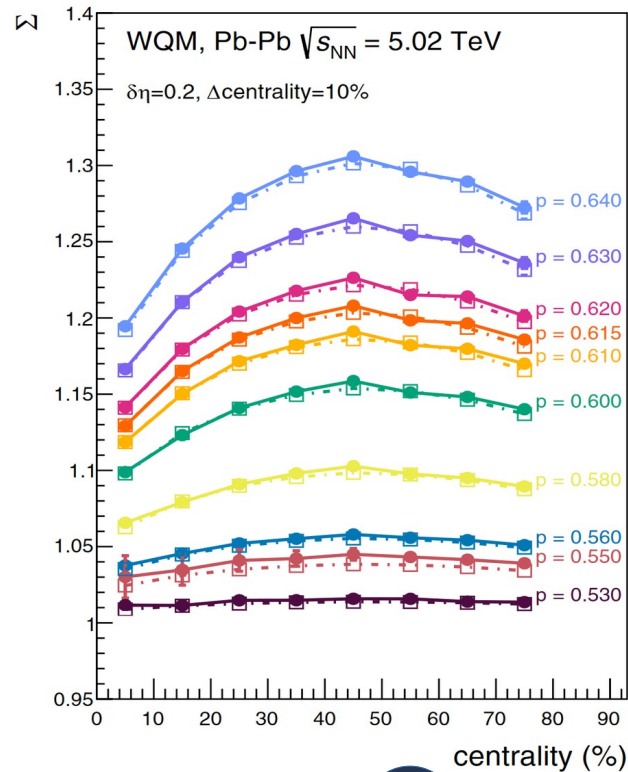
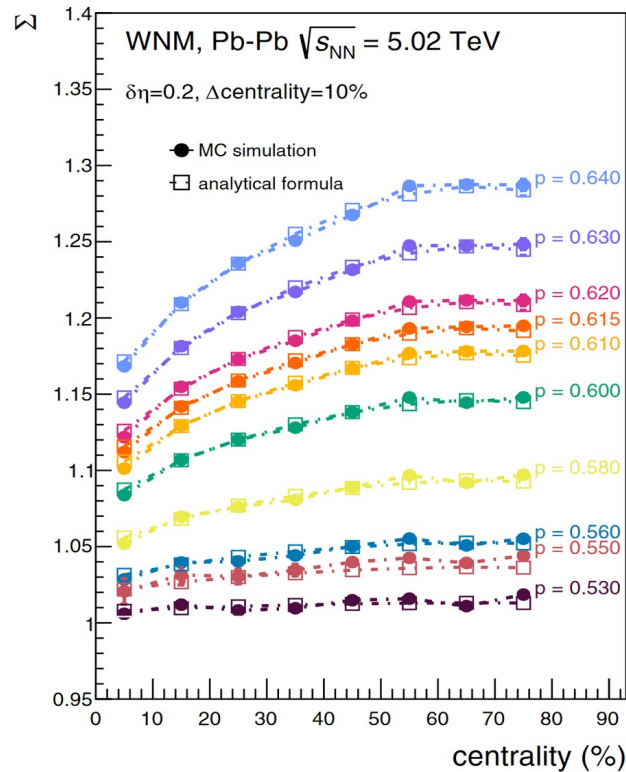
intrinsic dependence on the number of w_F and w_B

FB correlations with the Σ quantity in the wounded-constituent framework:



WNM

WQM



symmetric AA collision:

$$\Sigma = 1 + \frac{\bar{n}}{2} (2p - 1)^2 \left[\frac{\langle (w_B - w_F)^2 \rangle}{2\langle w_F \rangle} + \frac{2}{k} \right]$$

- $p = 0.5 \rightarrow \Sigma=1$ and Σ is SIQ;
- $p \neq 0.5 \rightarrow \Sigma > 1$ and shows intrinsic dependence on the number of w_F and w_B



no longer a strongly intensive quantity!

FB correlations with the Σ quantity in the wounded-constituent framework:

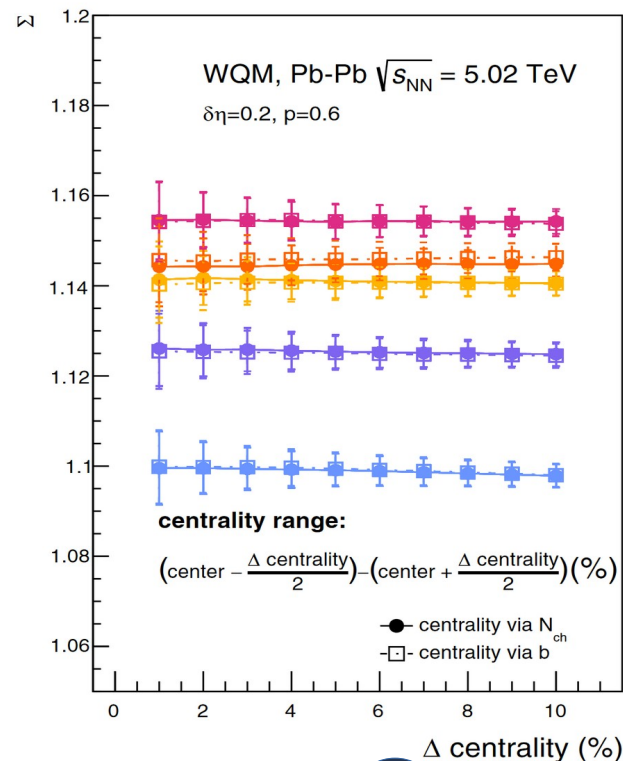
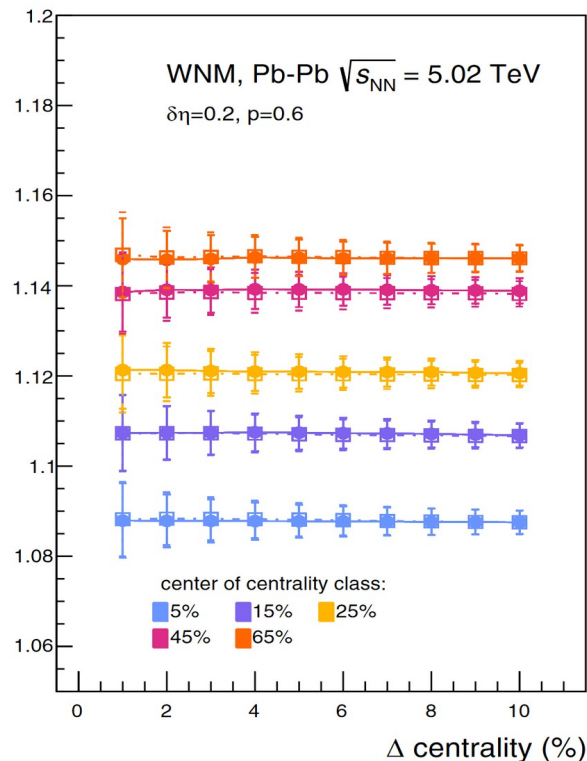
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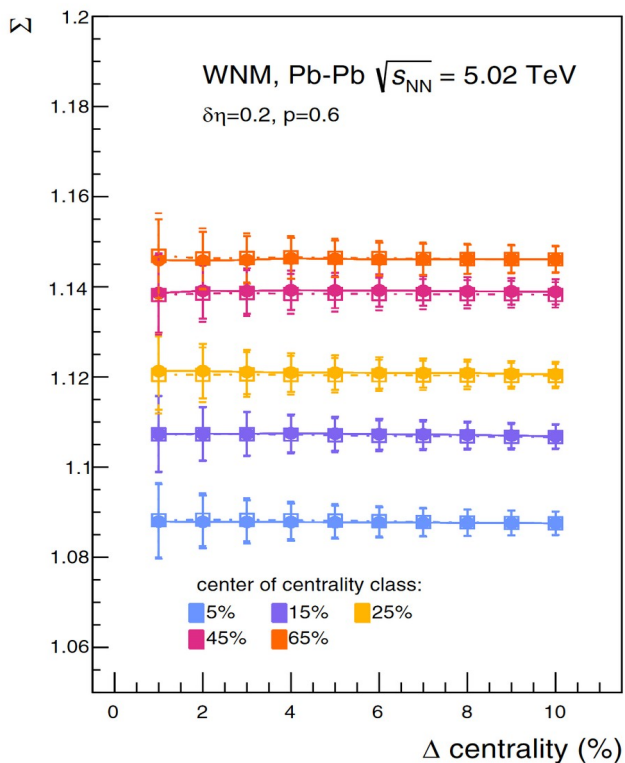
WNM

WQM

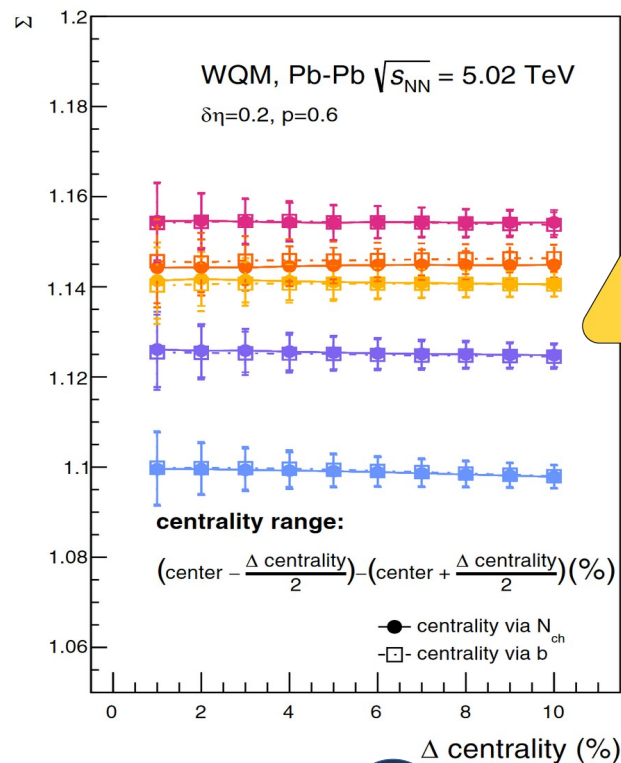


FB correlations with the Σ quantity in the wounded-constituent framework:

WNM



WQM



Σ no longer a strongly
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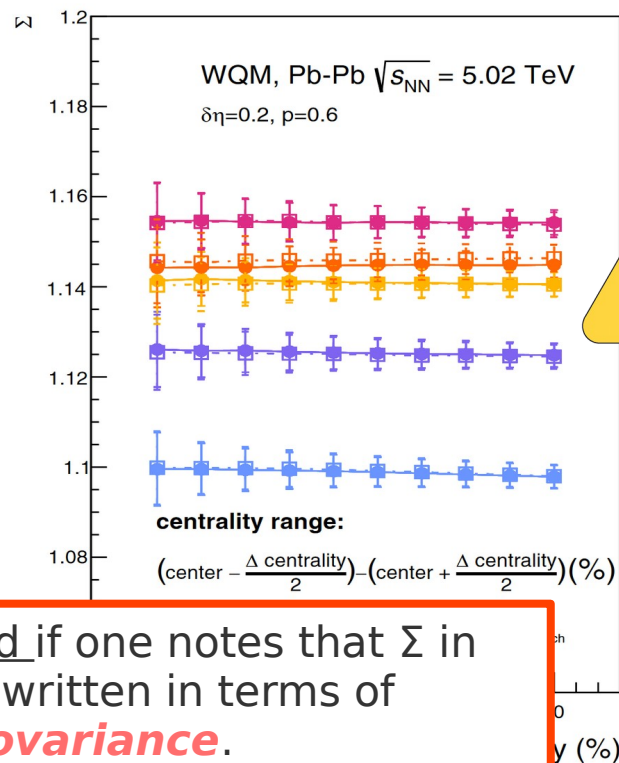
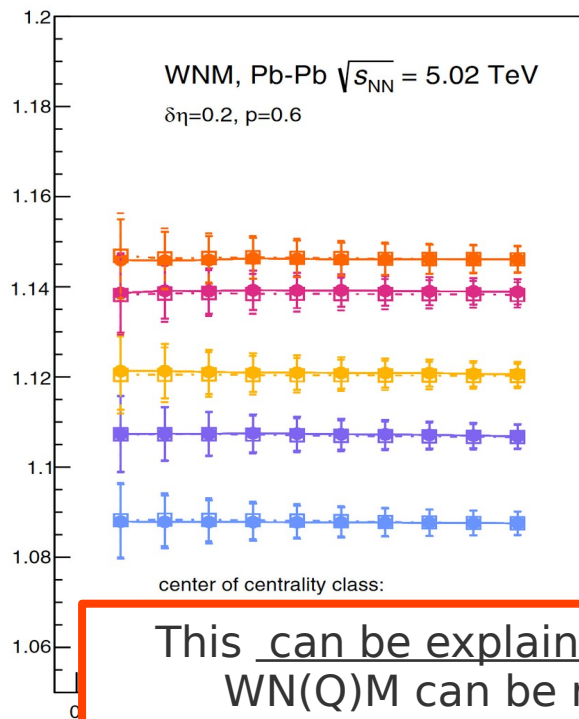
- resemblance to the behavior reported by ALICE (slide 11)
- **Σ does not** depend on centrality bin width (volume fluctuations).
- **Σ does not** depend on centrality estimator!

**“SIQ-like”
properties!**

FB correlations with the Σ quantity in the wounded-constituent framework:

WNM

WQM



This can be explained if one notes that Σ in
WN(Q)M can be rewritten in terms of
partial covariance.

Σ no longer a strongly
intensive quantity!

symmetric AA collision:

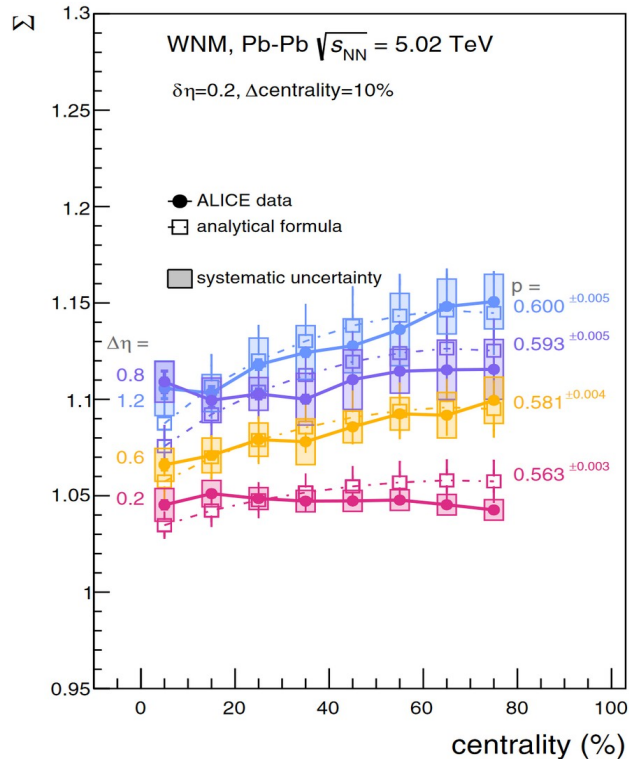
$$\Sigma = 1 + \frac{\bar{n}}{2} (2p - 1)^2 \left[\frac{\langle (w_B - w_F)^2 \rangle}{2 \langle w_F \rangle} + \frac{2}{k} \right]$$

- resemblance to the behavior reported by ALICE (slide 11)
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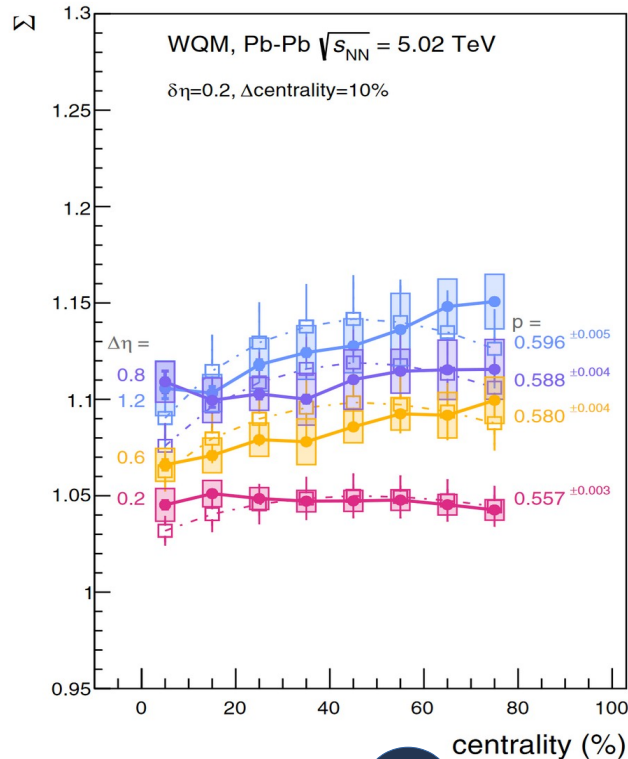
“SIQ-like”
properties!

WN(Q)M: Σ quantity as a function of centrality

WNM



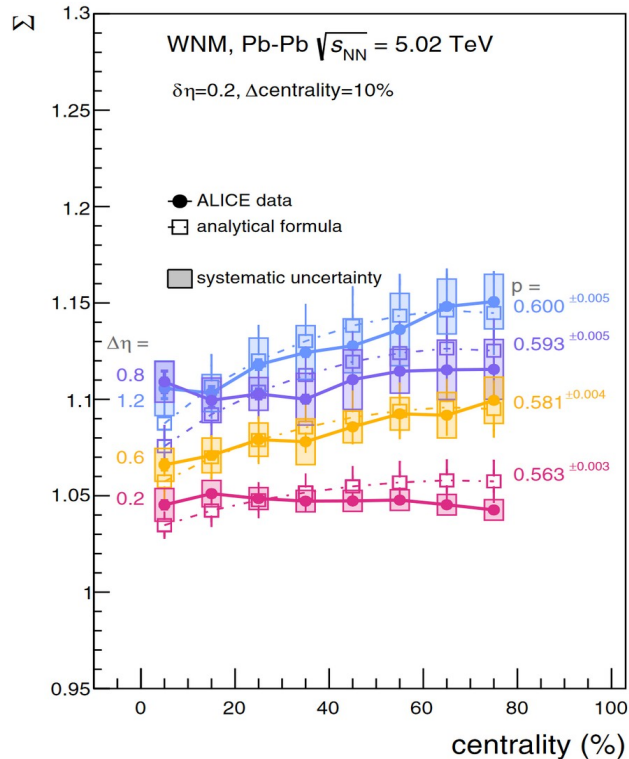
WQM



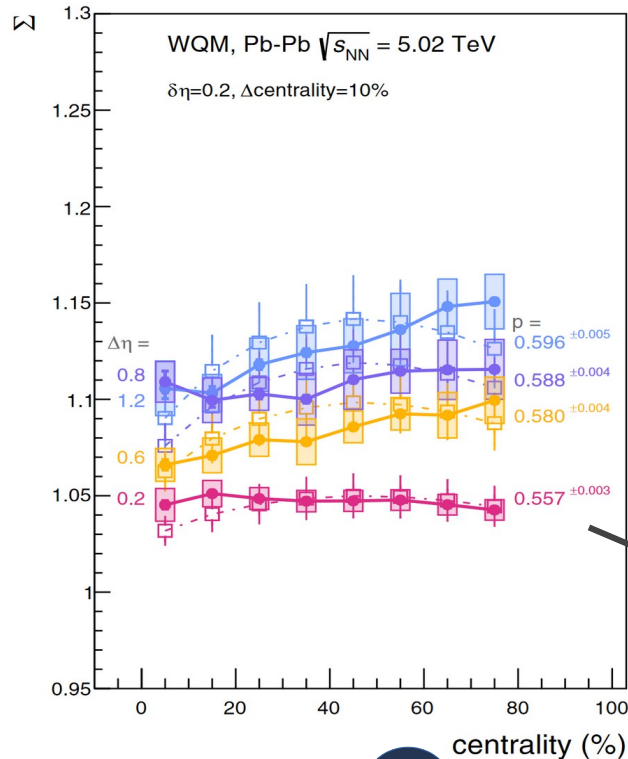
- WNM and WQM \rightarrow accurately depict the trend of Σ with centrality observed in the experimental data^[4] (also for Pb-Pb at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=2.76$ and Xe-Xe at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=5.44$ TeV^[5]).
- Values of Σ in the WNM and WQM are sensitive to the probability value p .

WN(Q)M: Σ quantity as a function of centrality

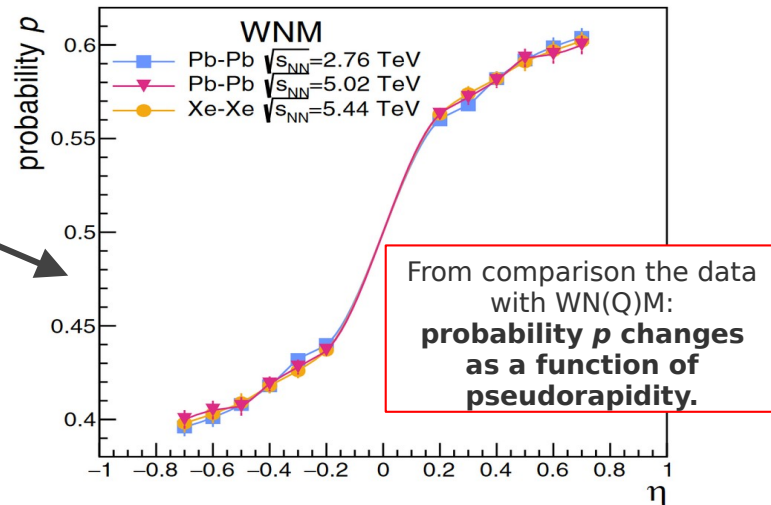
WNM



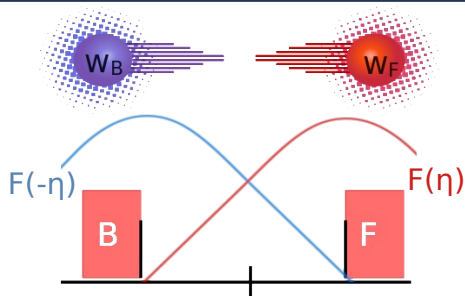
WQM



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- Values of Σ in the WNM and WQM are sensitive to the probability value p .



Wounded constituent fragmentation functions $F(\eta)$ in symmetric Pb-Pb collisions



The particle production for each wounded nucleon/quark \rightarrow described by **universal fragmentation function $F(\eta)$** :

$$N(\eta) = \langle w_F \rangle F(\eta) + \langle w_B \rangle F(-\eta)$$

$F(\eta)$ DETERMINATION:

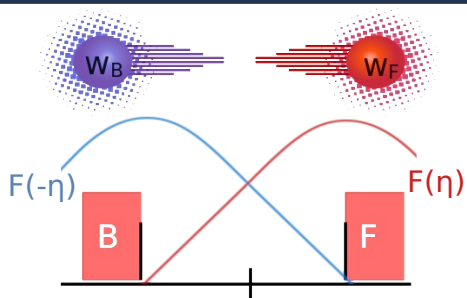
“STANDARD” METHOD

\rightarrow based on measurement of $N(\eta)$
 $= dN_{ch}/d\eta$ distribution:

$$F(\eta) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{N(\eta) + N(-\eta)}{\langle w_F \rangle + \langle w_B \rangle} + \frac{N(\eta) - N(-\eta)}{\langle w_F \rangle - \langle w_B \rangle} \right)$$

only for asymmetric collisions
 $\langle w_F \rangle \neq \langle w_B \rangle$.

Wounded constituent fragmentation functions $F(\eta)$ in symmetric Pb-Pb collisions



The particle production for each wounded nucleon/quark \rightarrow described by **universal fragmentation function $F(\eta)$** :

$$N(\eta) = \langle w_F \rangle F(\eta) + \langle w_B \rangle F(-\eta)$$

$F(\eta)$ DETERMINATION:

“STANDARD” METHOD

\rightarrow based on measurement of $N(\eta)$
 $= dN_{ch}/d\eta$ distribution:

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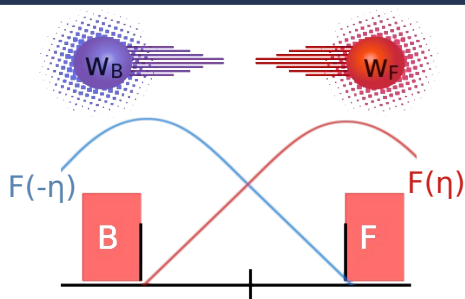
NEW APPROACH:

\rightarrow based on the **relation between p and Σ** in $WN(Q)M$

$$F(\eta) \approx \frac{p}{\langle w_F \rangle + \langle w_B \rangle} [N(-\eta) + N(\eta)].$$

It provides a unique opportunity to determine the $F(\eta)$ in a **symmetric nucleus-nucleus collision**.

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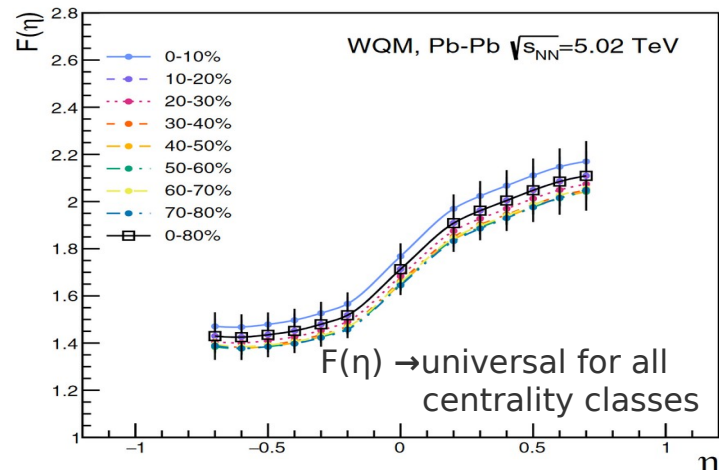
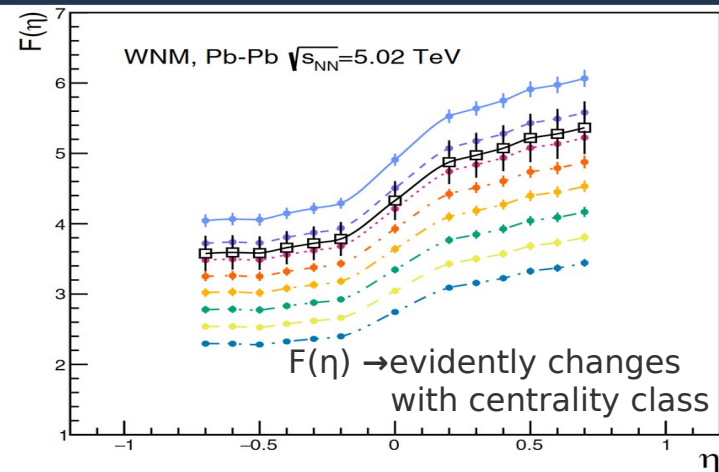
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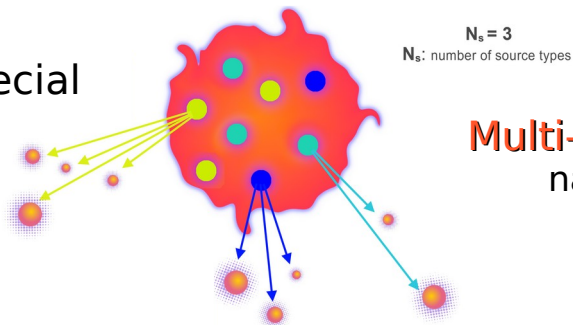
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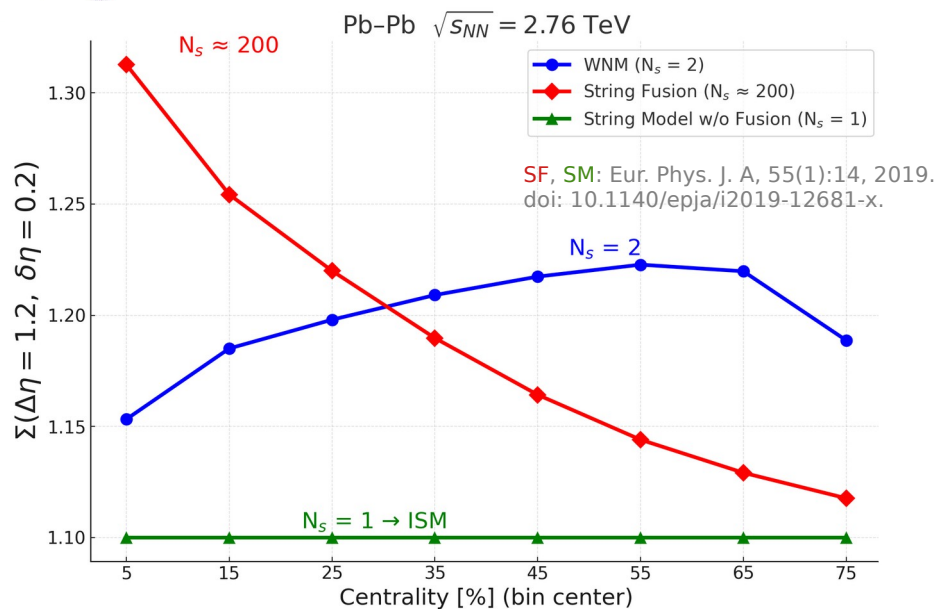
Σ within a multi-source superposition approach

- Several standard superposition models → a special cases of the multi-source statistical approach.
- Not a dynamical model → a transparent **diagnostic/statistical tool** for organising contributions to Σ .
- Within a multi-source setup, Σ decomposes into three generic contributions:

$$\Sigma = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N_S} \xi_i^{(I)} E_i}_{\text{intrinsic emission fluctuations}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N_S} \left(\xi_i^{(II)} + \sum_{j \neq i} \xi_{ij}^{(III)} \right) \text{Var}(s_i)}_{\text{fluctuations of the number of sources}} - \underbrace{\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq N_S} \xi_{ij}^{(III)} \text{Var}(s_i - s_j)}_{\text{relative fluctuations of source types}}$$



Multi-source superposition → natural extension of ISM



Summary

- Σ **is robust** in Pb-Pb/Xe-Xe collisions \rightarrow independent of centrality selection & volume fluctuations \rightarrow **closer to genuine dynamics**.
- Σ increases with $\Delta\eta$, system energy and centrality dependence (AA \uparrow pp \downarrow).
- HIJING, AMPT, EPOS **fail to describe** Σ consistently across AA; simple source-based models capture the trends.
- In WNM/WQM Σ **is not SIQ**, but retains **SIQ-like properties** in symmetric AA via partial covariance.
- Σ is sensitive to emission probability $p \rightarrow$ **new method** of extraction of the wounded-source fragmentation function.
- Multi-source superposition \rightarrow clean statistical language to compare production scenarios.
- Σ connects to cumulants, charge fluctuations & partial covariance \rightarrow a tool beyond classical FB correlations.

Σ dependence on centrality selection and volume fluctuations

I. Sputowska (ALICE), MDPI
Proc. 10, 14 (2019)

Σ in AA and pp collisions

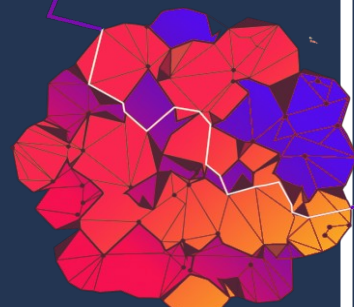
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Strongly Intensive Quantities

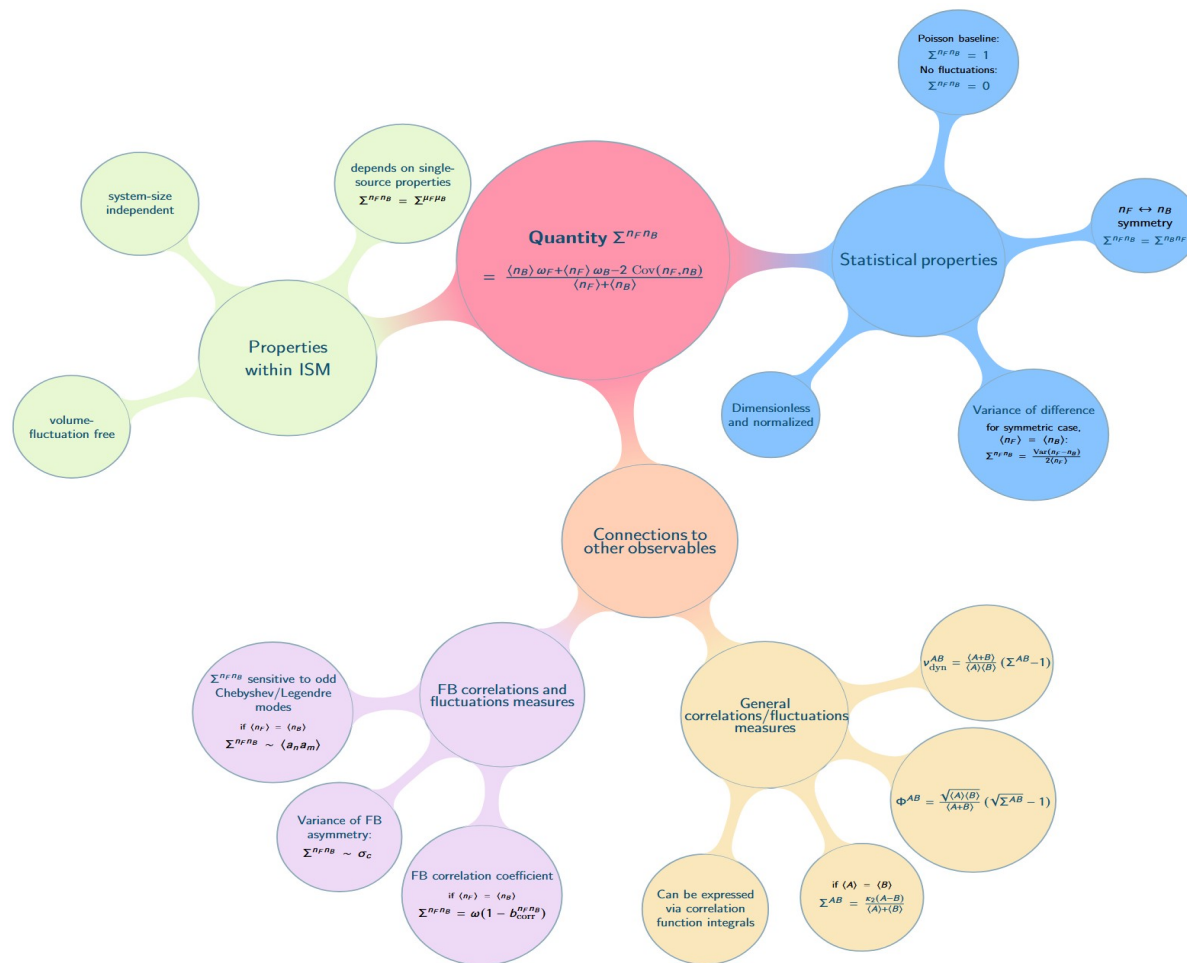
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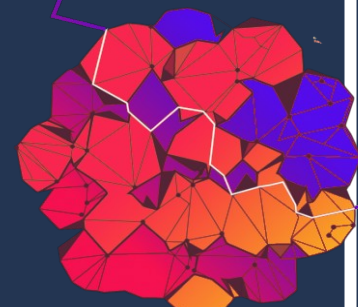
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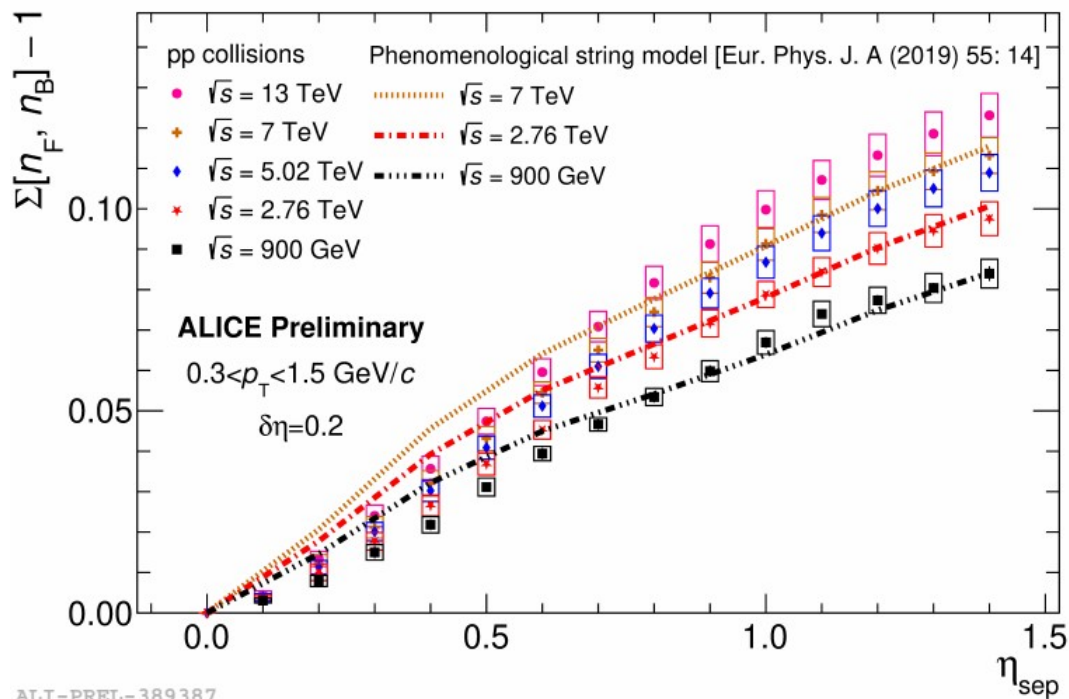
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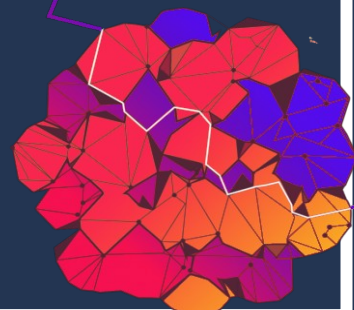
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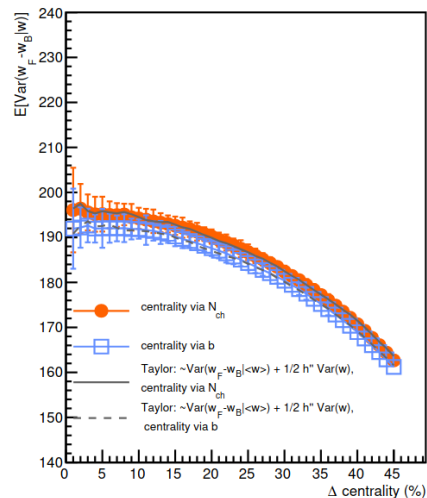
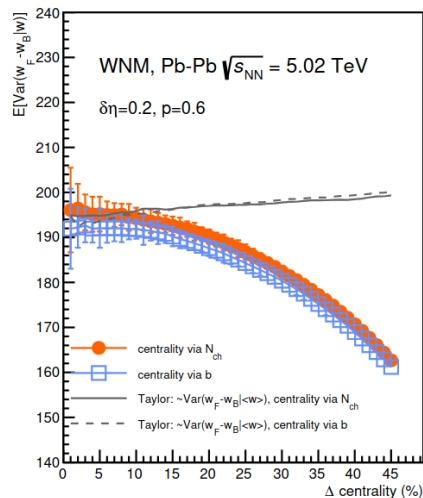
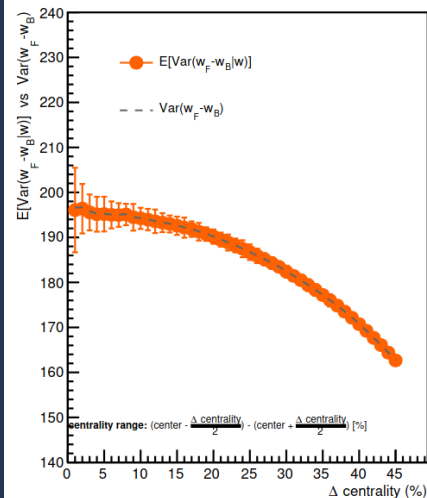
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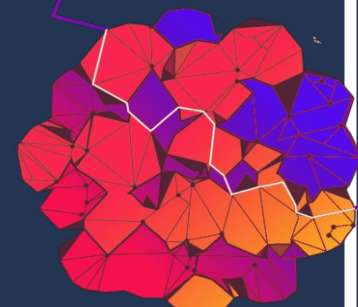
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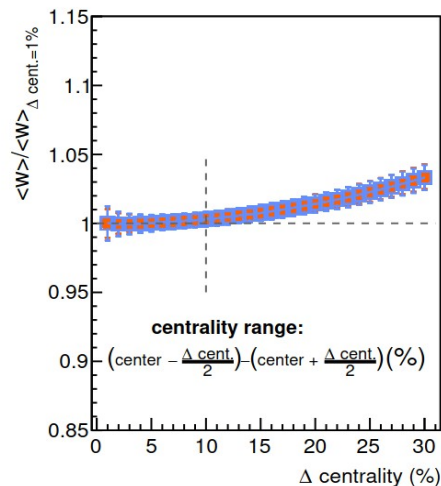
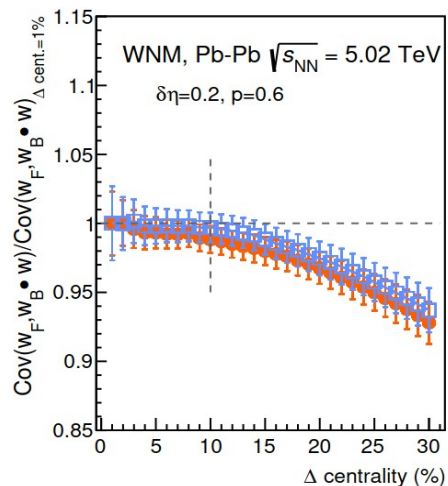
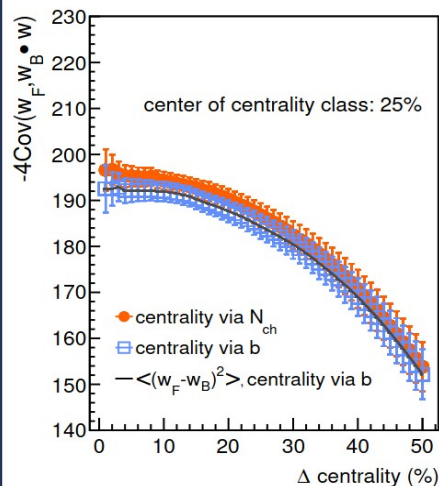
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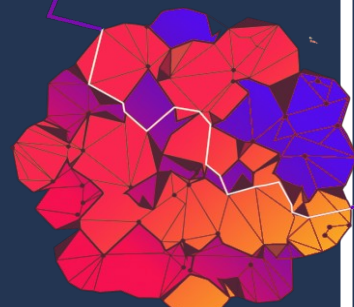
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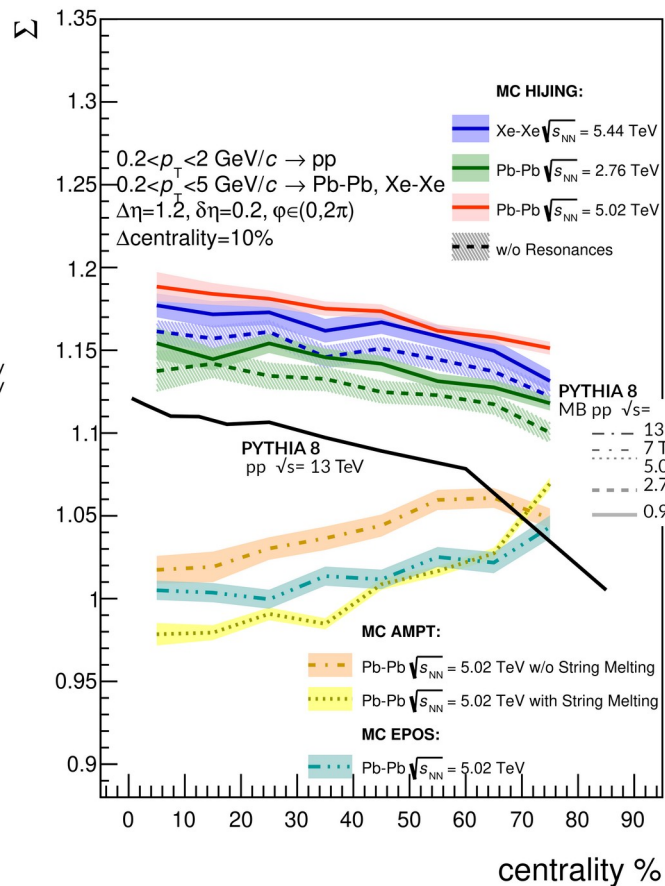
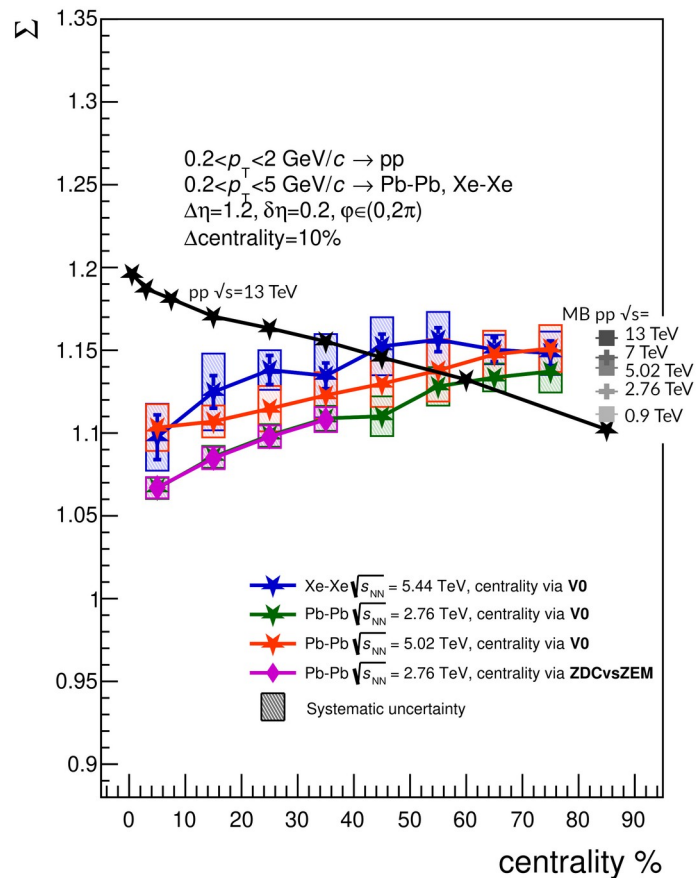
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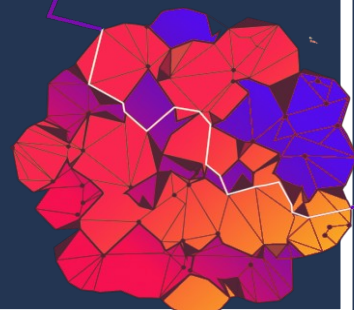
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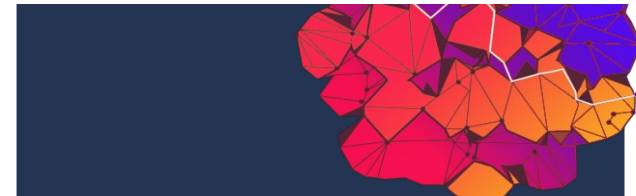
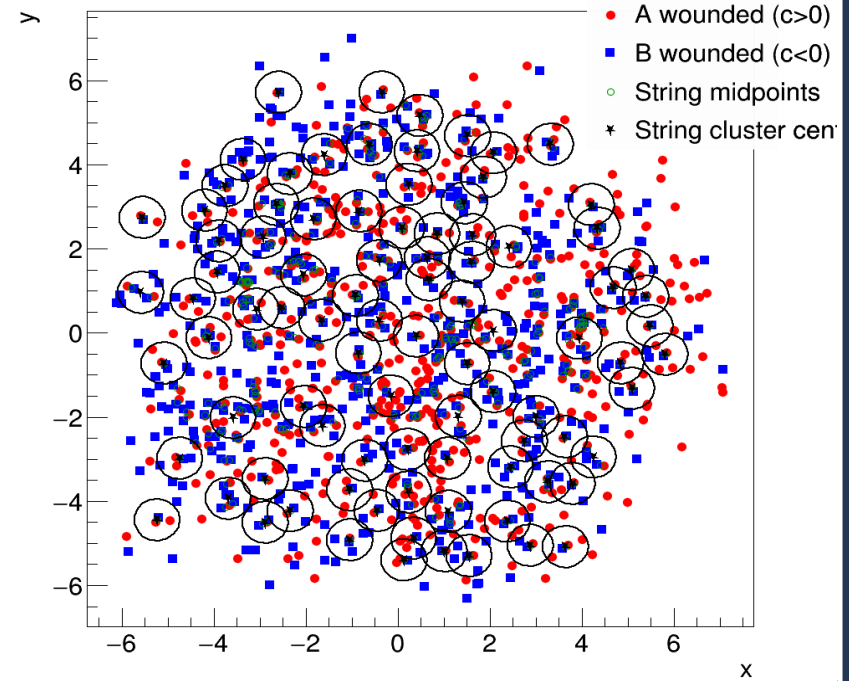
Quantity	Formula	
$\langle \mu_F^{(i)} \rangle$	$\mu_0^{(i)} \delta\eta \rightarrow$	where $\mu_0^{(i)}$ is a distribution density of particles from string type i
$\langle \mu_B^{(i)} \rangle$	$\mu_0^{(i)} \delta\eta \rightarrow$	$\delta\eta$ is the width of pseudorapidity interval
$\text{Var}(\mu_F^{(i)})$	$\langle \mu_F^{(i)} \rangle \left(1 + \langle \mu_F^{(i)} \rangle \Lambda^{(i)}(0) \right)$	
$\text{Var}(\mu_B^{(i)})$	$\langle \mu_B^{(i)} \rangle \left(1 + \langle \mu_B^{(i)} \rangle \Lambda^{(i)}(0) \right)$	
$\text{Cov}(\mu_F^{(i)}, \mu_B^{(i)})$	$\langle \mu_F^{(i)} \rangle^2 \Lambda^{(i)}(\Delta\eta)$	

For symmetric collisions, the final expression for Σ takes the form:

$$\Sigma = \sum_{i=1}^{N_S} \xi_i^{(I)} \underbrace{\left(1 + \mu_0^{(i)} \delta\eta \left[\Lambda^{(i)}(0) - \Lambda^{(i)}(\Delta\eta) \right] \right)}_{\Sigma^{\mu_F^{(i)} \mu_B^{(i)}}}. \quad (\text{E.2})$$

which coincides with the formula for Σ derived in Ref. [110].

Most central event (max RDS)



Quantity	Formula	Quantity	Formula
$\langle \mu_F^{(1)} \rangle$	$p \langle \mu_0 \rangle$	$\langle \mu_B^{(1)} \rangle$	$(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle$
$\langle \mu_F^{(2)} \rangle$	$(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle$	$\langle \mu_B^{(2)} \rangle$	$p \langle \mu_0 \rangle$
$\text{Var}(\mu_F^{(1)})$	$p(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle + p^2 \text{Var}(\mu_0)$	$\text{Var}(\mu_B^{(1)})$	$p(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle + (1-p)^2 \text{Var}(\mu_0)$
$\text{Var}(\mu_F^{(2)})$	$p(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle + (1-p)^2 \text{Var}(\mu_0)$	$\text{Var}(\mu_B^{(2)})$	$p(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle + p^2 \text{Var}(\mu_0)$
$\text{Cov}(\mu_F^F, \mu_B^F)$	$p(1-p) (\text{Var}(\mu_0) - \langle \mu_0 \rangle)$	$\text{Cov}(\mu_F^B, \mu_B^B)$	$p(1-p) (\text{Var}(\mu_0) - \langle \mu_0 \rangle)$

$$\Sigma = 1 + (2p-1)^2 \cdot \frac{\bar{n}}{k} + \frac{(2p-1)^2 \bar{n}}{4 \langle s_1 \rangle} \cdot \text{Var}(s_1 - s_2) = 1 + (2p-1)^2 \cdot \frac{\bar{n}}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{2}{k} + \frac{\text{Var}(s_1 - s_2)}{2 \langle s_1 \rangle} \right). \quad (\text{E.6})$$

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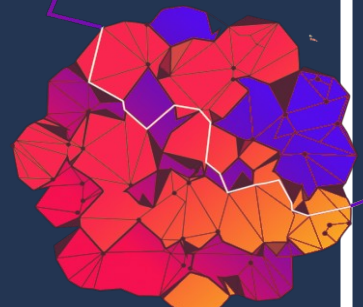
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Quantity	Formula	Quantity	Formula
$\langle \mu_F^{(1)} \rangle$	$p \langle \mu_0 \rangle$	$\langle \mu_B^{(1)} \rangle$	$(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle$
$\langle \mu_F^{(2)} \rangle$	$(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle$	$\langle \mu_B^{(2)} \rangle$	$p \langle \mu_0 \rangle$
$\text{Var}(\mu_F^{(1)})$	$p(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle + p^2 \text{Var}(\mu_0)$	$\text{Var}(\mu_B^{(1)})$	$p(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle + (1-p)^2 \text{Var}(\mu_0)$
$\text{Var}(\mu_F^{(2)})$	$p(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle + (1-p)^2 \text{Var}(\mu_0)$	$\text{Var}(\mu_B^{(2)})$	$p(1-p) \langle \mu_0 \rangle + p^2 \text{Var}(\mu_0)$
$\text{Cov}(\mu_F^F, \mu_B^F)$	$p(1-p) (\text{Var}(\mu_0) - \langle \mu_0 \rangle)$	$\text{Cov}(\mu_F^B, \mu_B^B)$	$p(1-p) (\text{Var}(\mu_0) - \langle \mu_0 \rangle)$

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