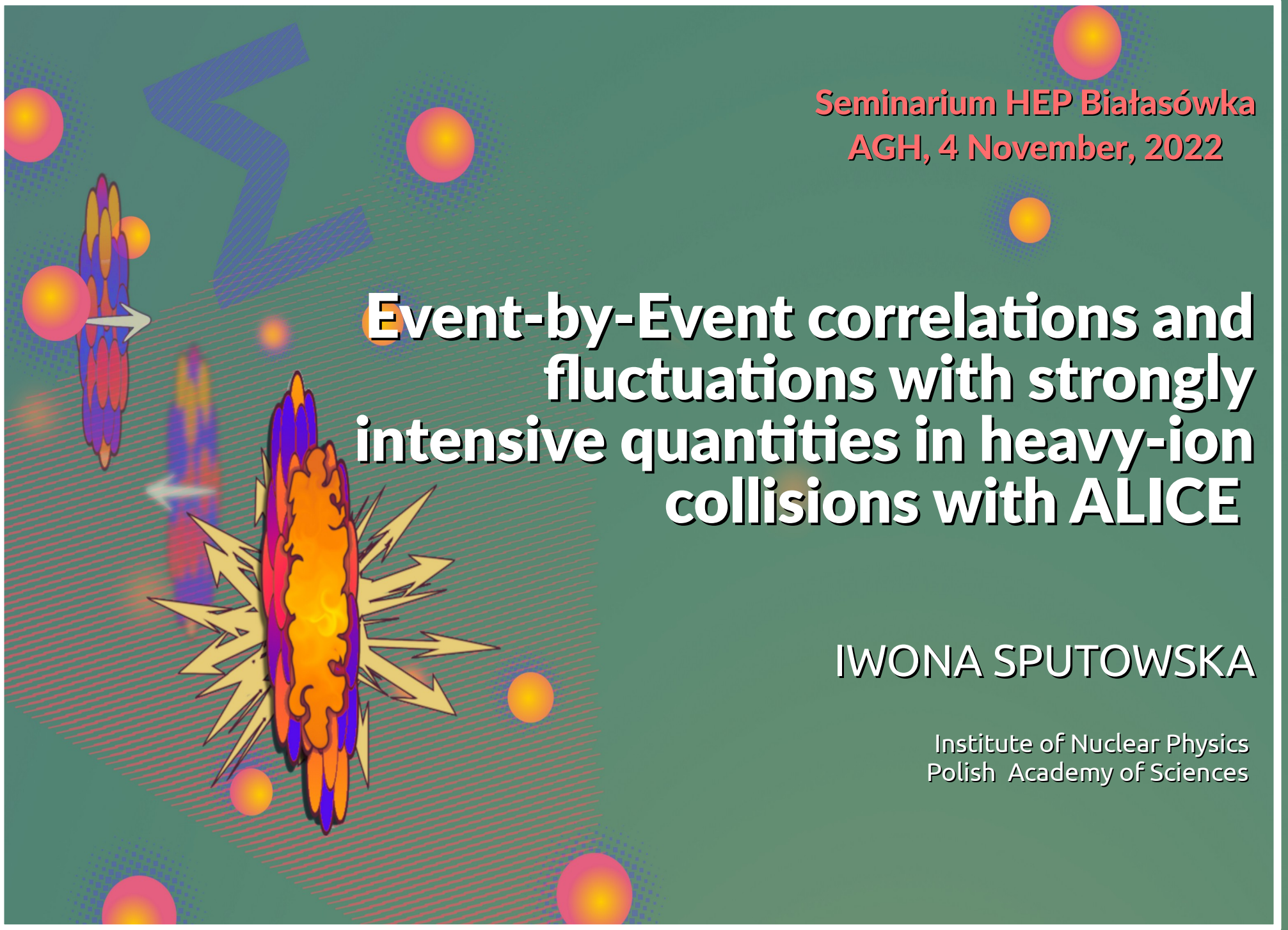


Seminarium HEP Białasówka  
AGH, 4 November, 2022

# Event-by-Event correlations and fluctuations with strongly intensive quantities in heavy-ion collisions with ALICE

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# Outline



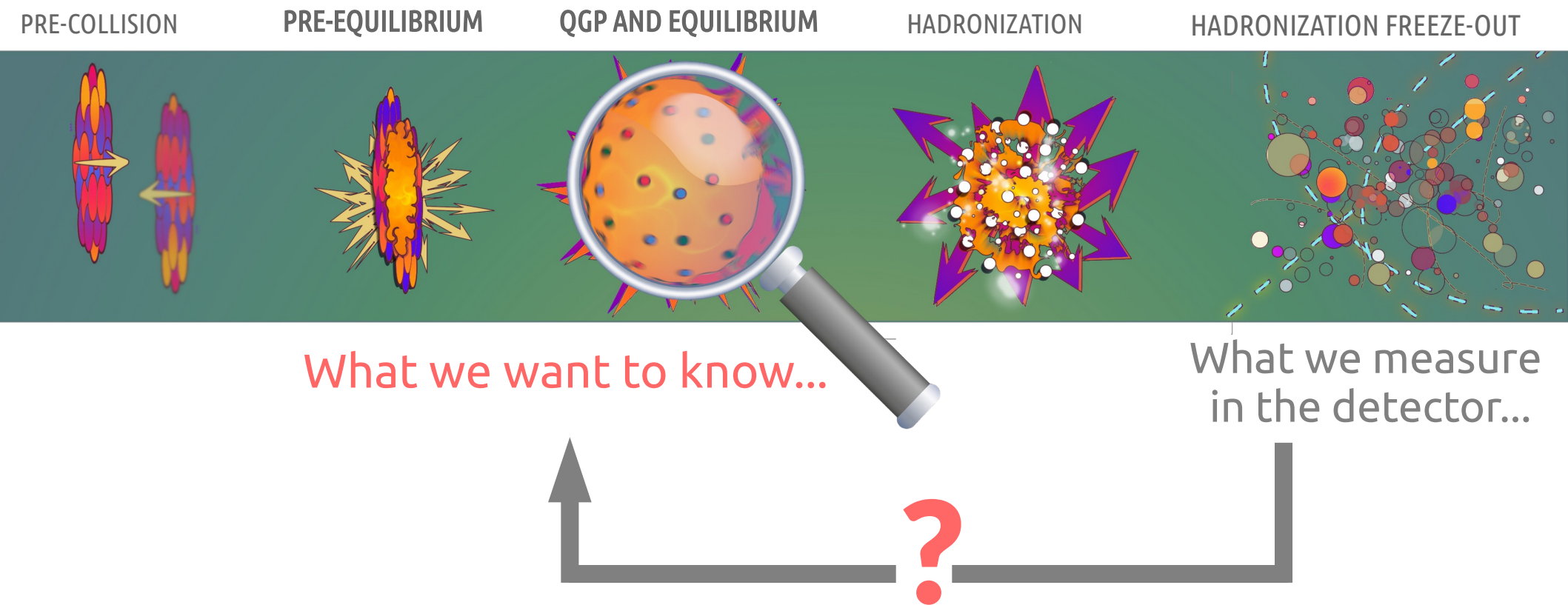
Overview of the ALICE measurement of the **strongly intensive quantity**  $\Sigma$  in terms of forward-backward correlations analysis...  
**...in various colliding systems and energies.**

## Plan:

1. Motivation;
2. Analysis;
3. Results;
4. Summary.



# Motivation: Why do we study correlations and fluctuations?



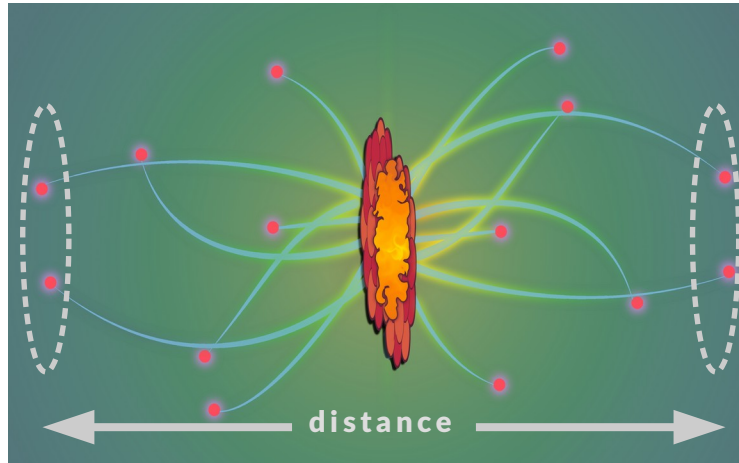
Analysis of correlations and fluctuations can provide information about **the early stages of heavy-ion collisions.**



# Motivation: Why do we study correlations and fluctuations?



## 1. Study of **Long-Range Correlations (LRC)**:



- LRC carry **information** on the **early dynamics** of the nuclear collision.

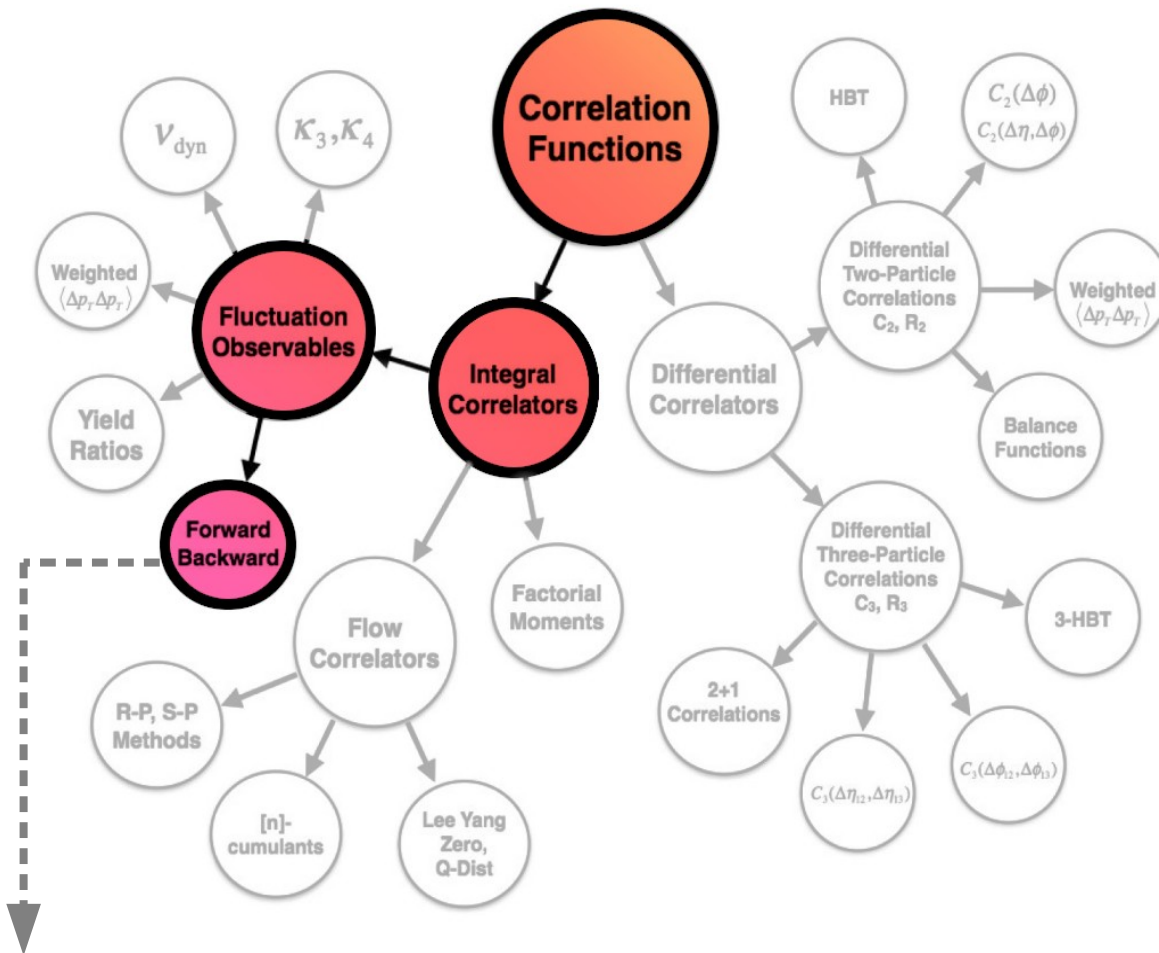
## 2. Analysis of **fluctuations** in the number of particles produced in A–A collisions:

- A good way to check dynamical models of particle production.
- Gives a chance to study observables sensitive to the early dynamics of the collision, independent of trivial fluctuations of the volume of the system.



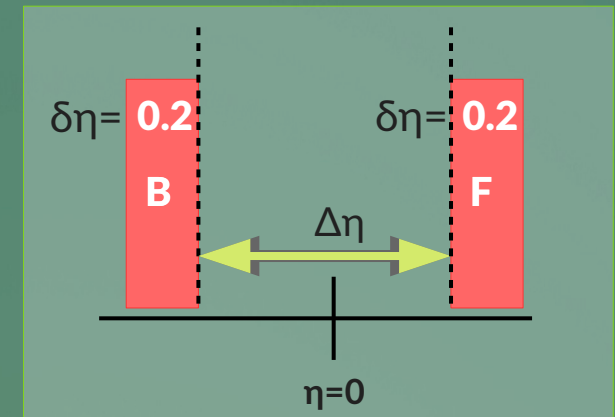


# The Analysis: How do we study correlations and fluctuations?



**We are here!**

The forward-backward (FB) correlation:



**A popular technique:**

The FB correlation coefficient  $b_{\text{corr}}$  is:

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

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





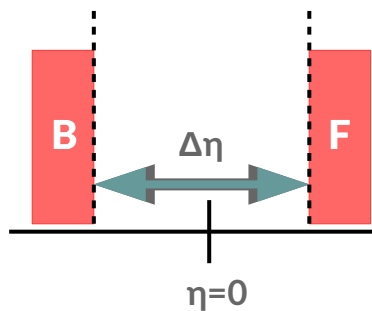
# The Analysis: FB correlations with strongly intensive quantity $\Sigma$

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

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

## STRONGLY INTENSIVE QUANTITY $\Sigma$ :

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



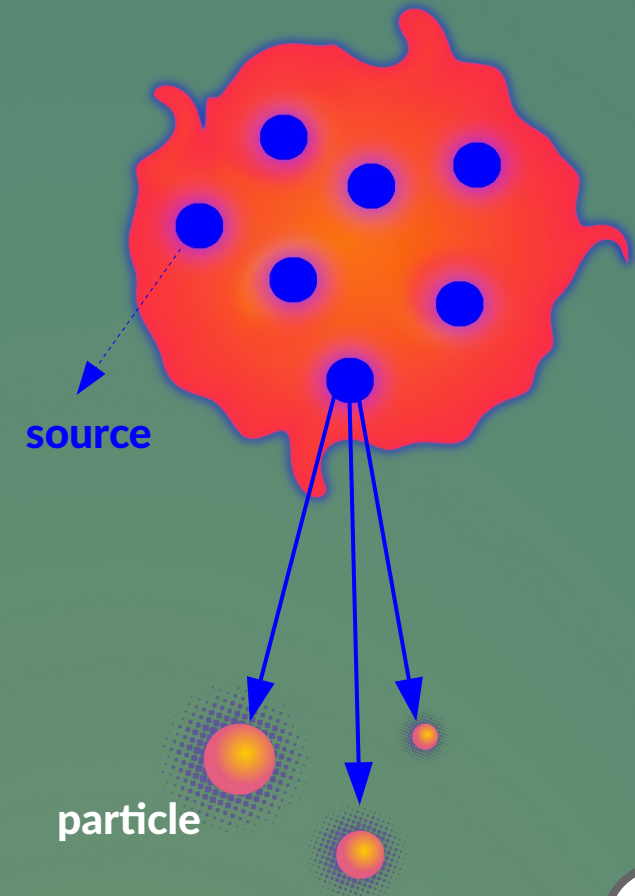
- For a symmetric collision  $\omega_B = \omega_F$  and  $\langle n_F \rangle = \langle n_B \rangle$ ,

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

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

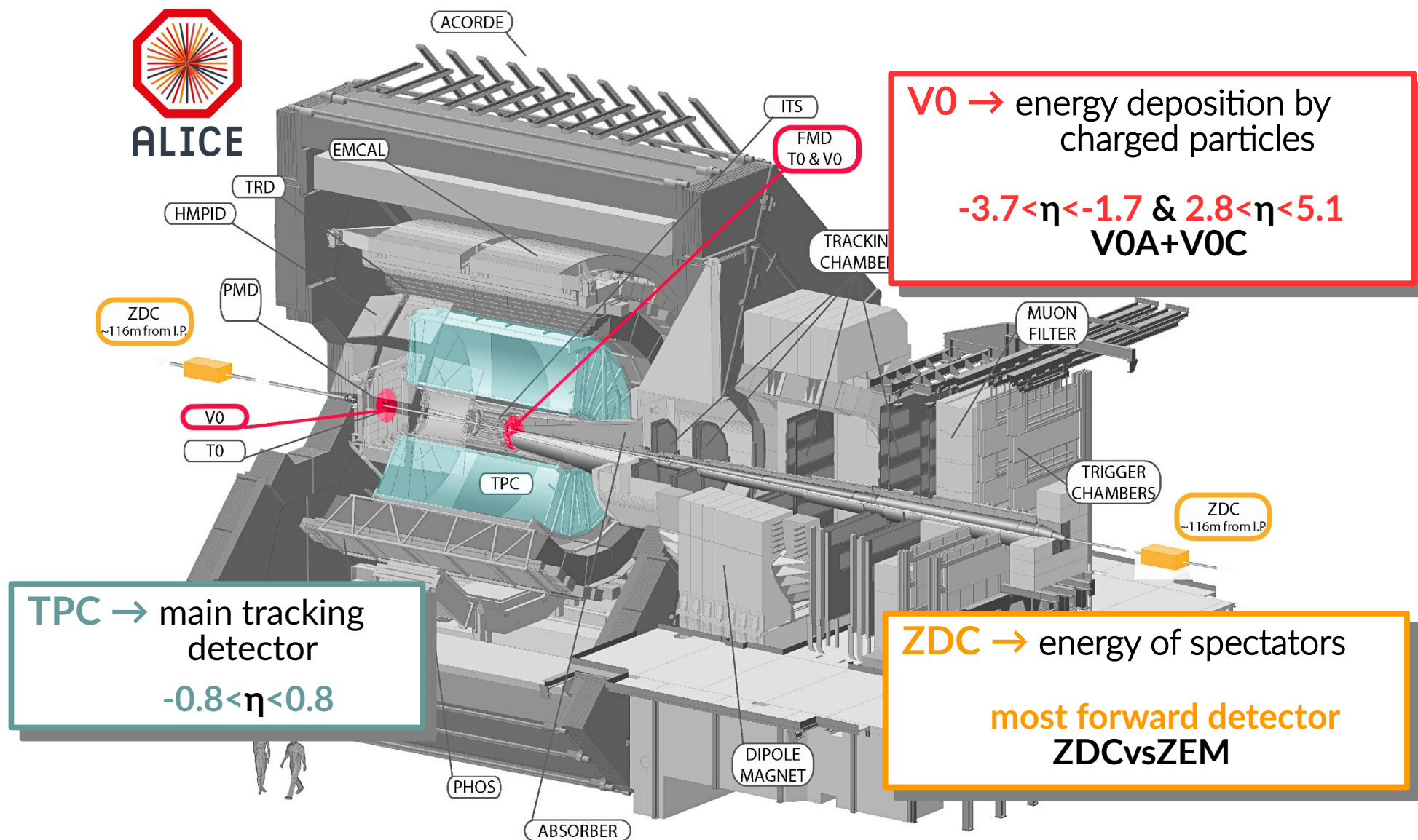
## Independent source model:

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





# The Analysis: ALICE experiment





# The Analysis: Data Sample

## Experimental data:

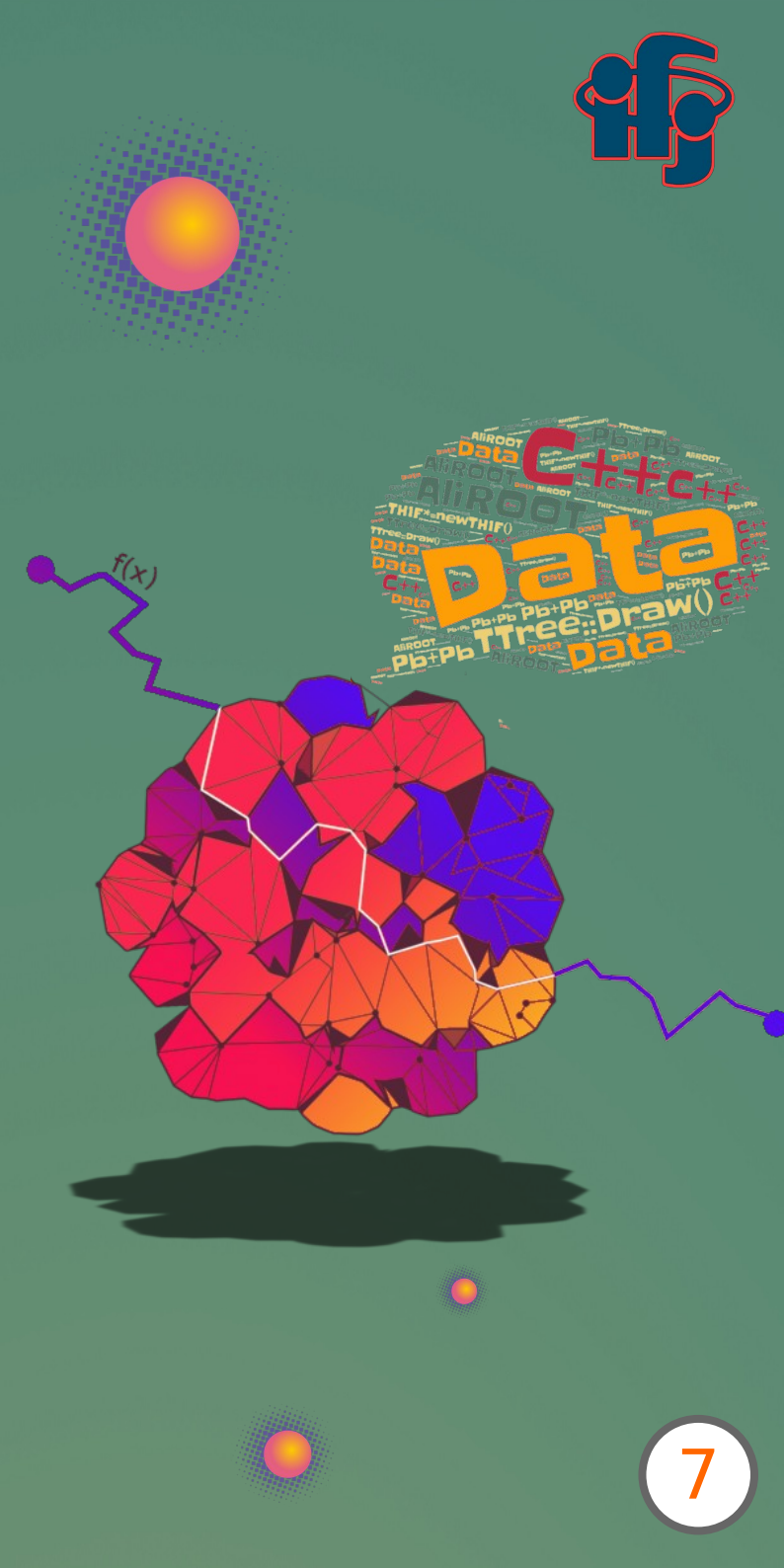
- Pb-Pb @  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$  and 5.02 TeV
- Xe-Xe @  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.44$  TeV
- pp @  $\sqrt{s} = 0.9, 2.76, 5.02, 7, 13$  TeV

Tracks:  $-0.8 < \eta < 0.8$ ,

pp analysis →  $0.2 < p_T < 2$  GeV/c

A-A analysis →  $0.2 < p_T < 5$  GeV/c

Centrality estimators: V0 ( $N_{\text{charged}}$ ),  
ZDC ( $N_{\text{spectators}}$ )



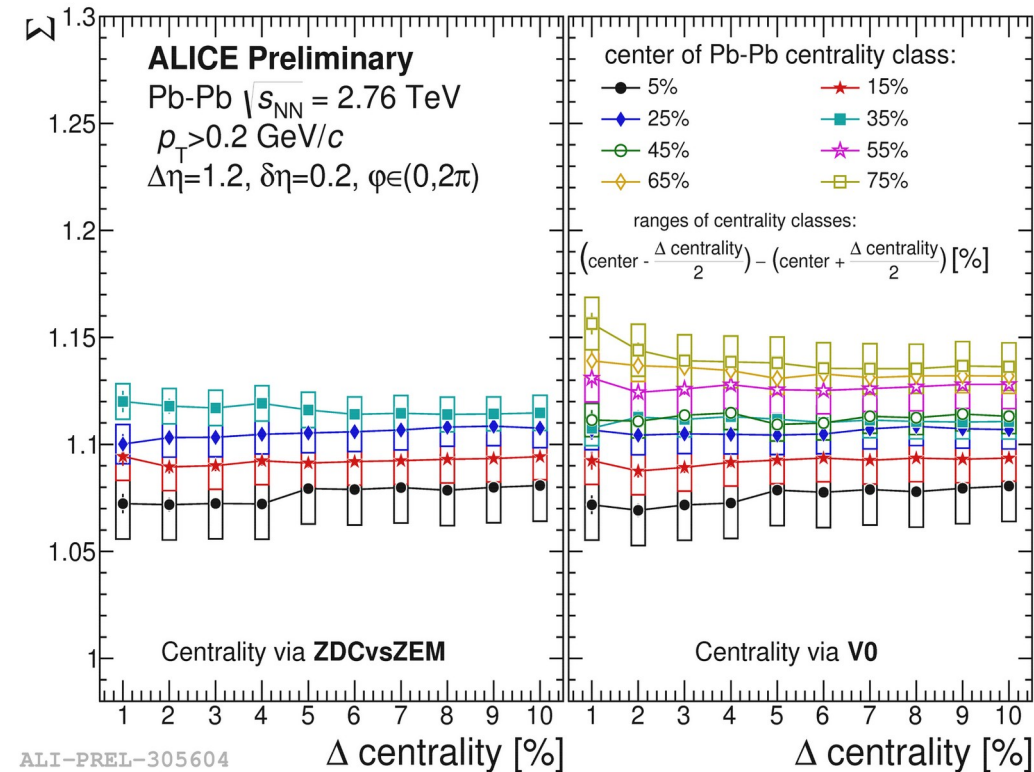
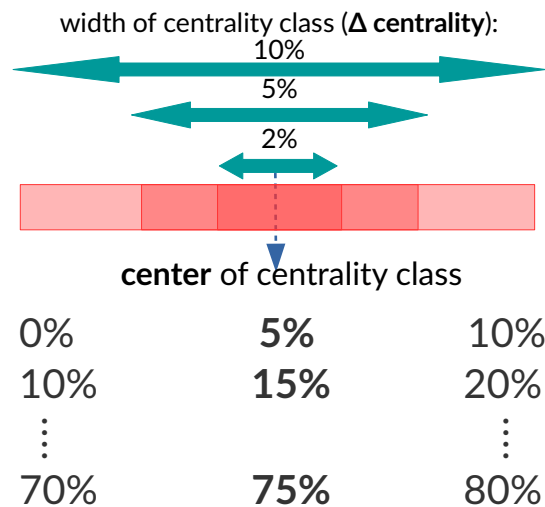


# Results: $\Sigma$ as a function of centrality bin width



Pb-Pb collisions

The strongly intensive quantity  $\Sigma$



increase of volume fluctuations

$V0 \approx ZDCvsZEM$

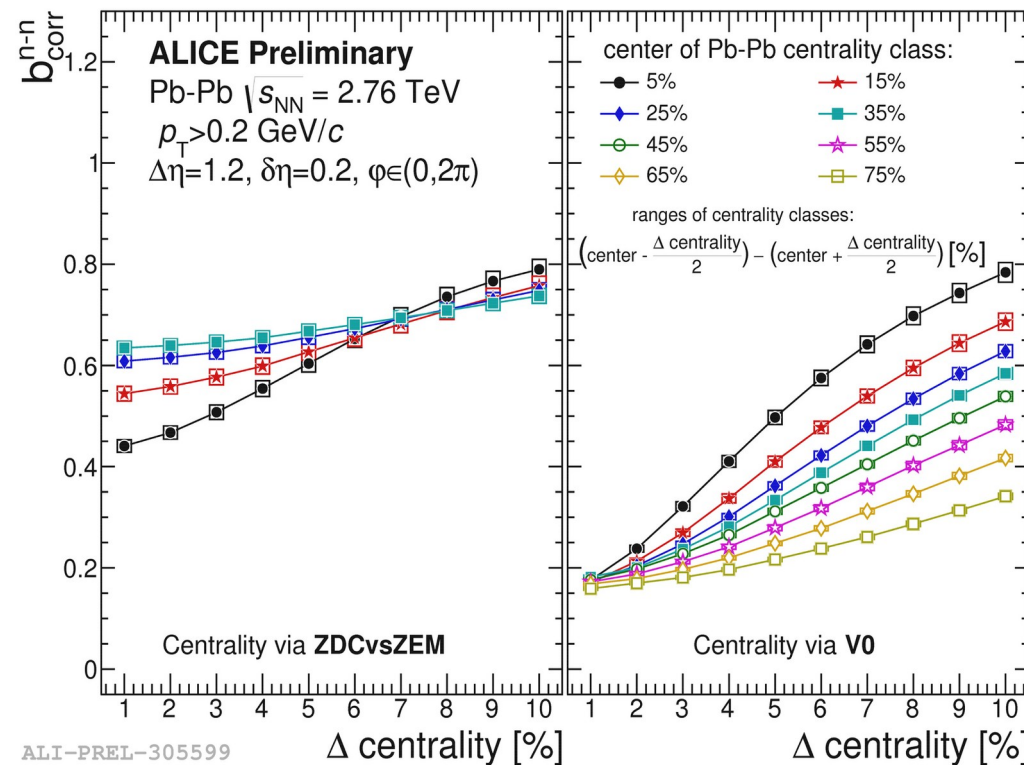
- $\Sigma$  does not depend on centrality bin width (volume fluctuations).
- $\Sigma$  does not depend on centrality estimator!



# Results: $\Sigma$ as a function of centrality bin width

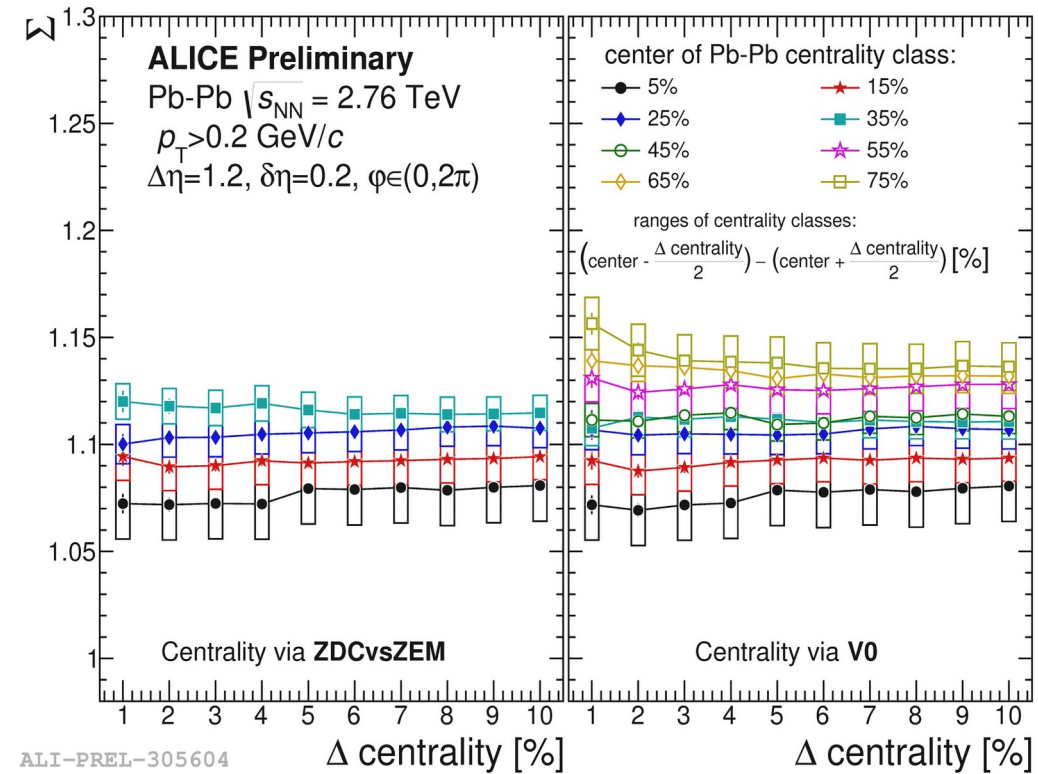


The FB correlation coefficient  $b_{\text{corr}}^{n-n}$



increase of volume fluctuations

The strongly intensive quantity  $\Sigma$



increase of volume fluctuations

- $\Sigma$  does not depend on centrality bin width (volume fluctuations).
- $\Sigma$  does not depend on centrality estimator!

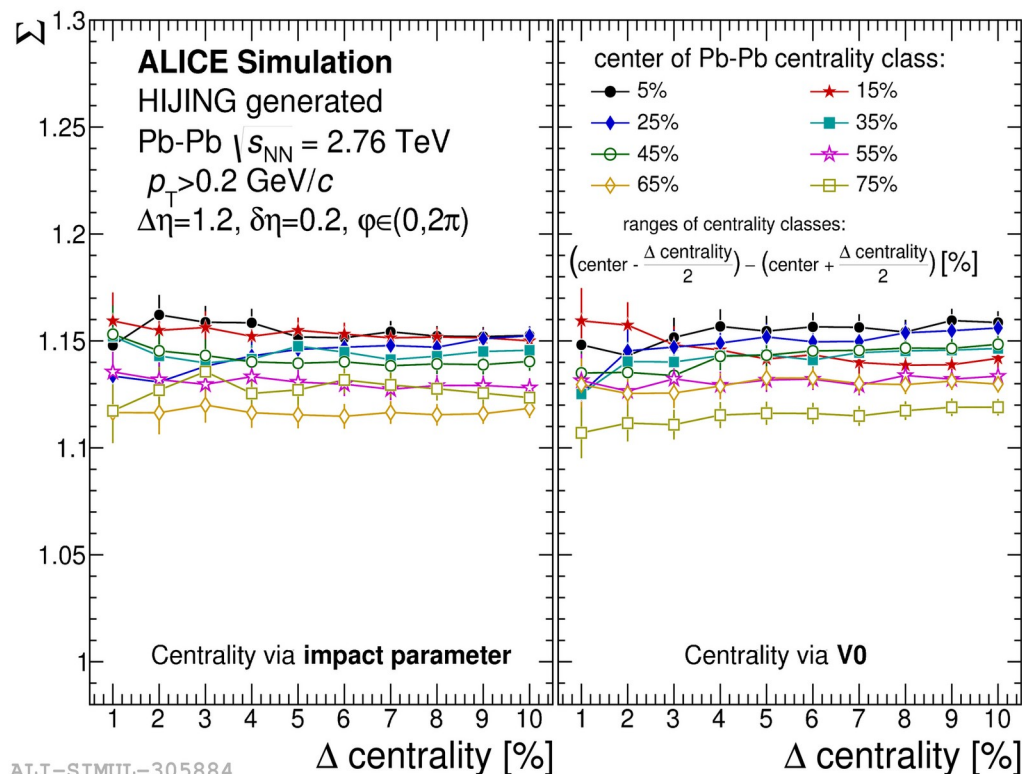
→ contrary to many other observables such as  $b_{\text{corr}}$ ,  $\omega$ , etc.



# Results: $\Sigma$ as a function of centrality bin width

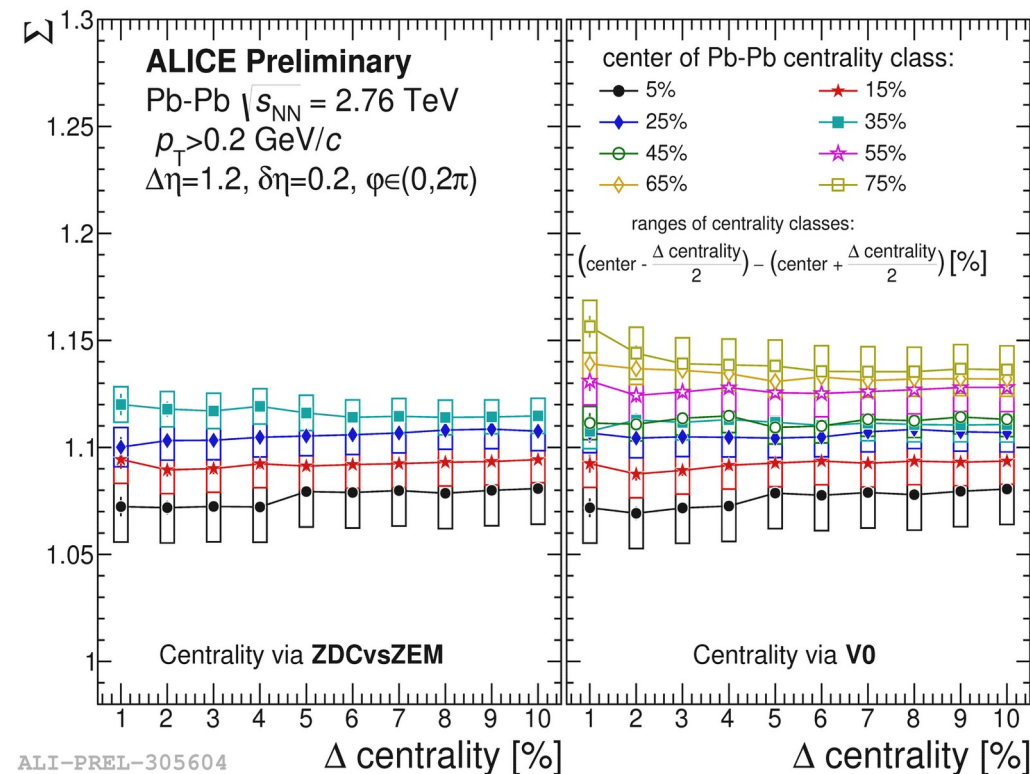


## MC simulations



increase of volume fluctuations

## Experimental data



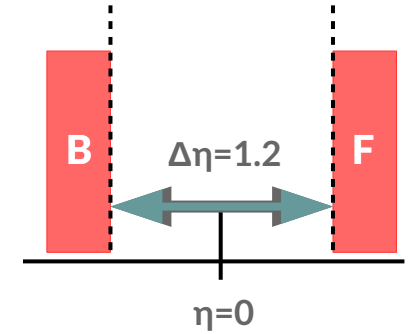
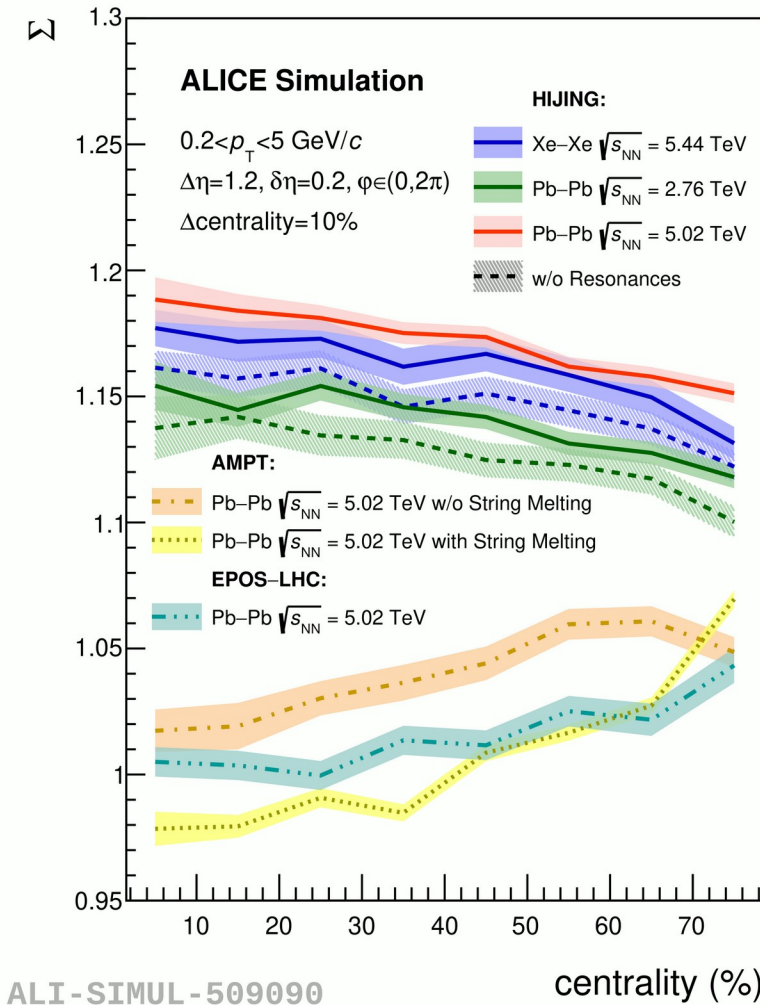
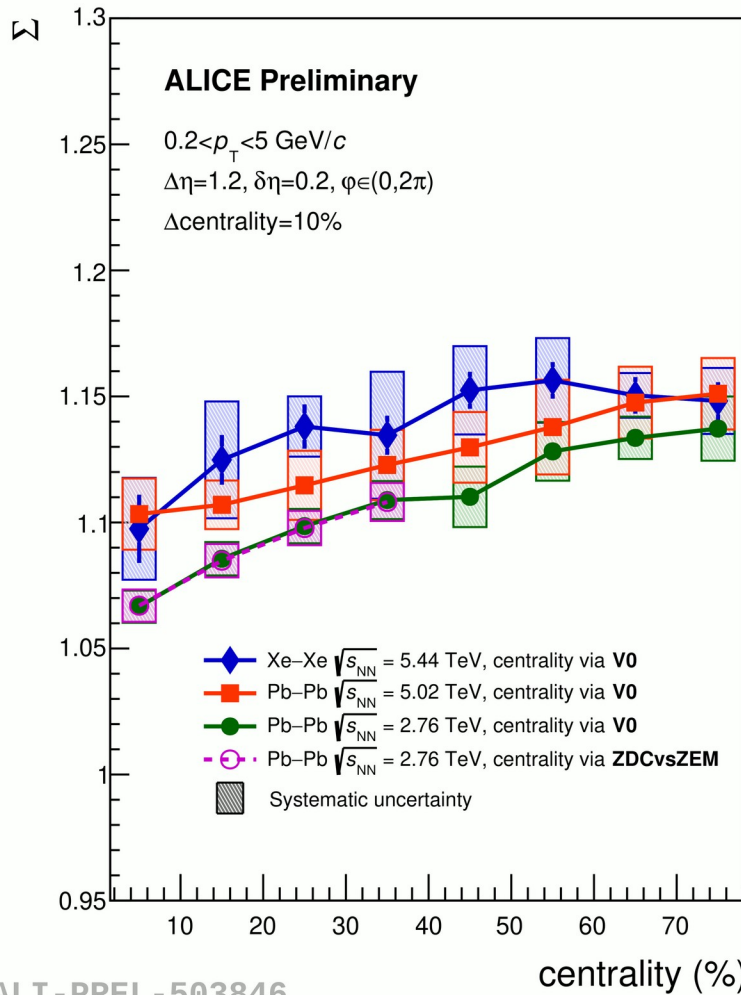
increase of volume fluctuations

- $\Sigma$  does not depend on centrality bin width (volume fluctuations).
- $\Sigma$  does not depend on centrality estimator!

$\Sigma$  indeed shows the properties of a strongly intensive quantity



# Results: $\Sigma$ as a function of centrality

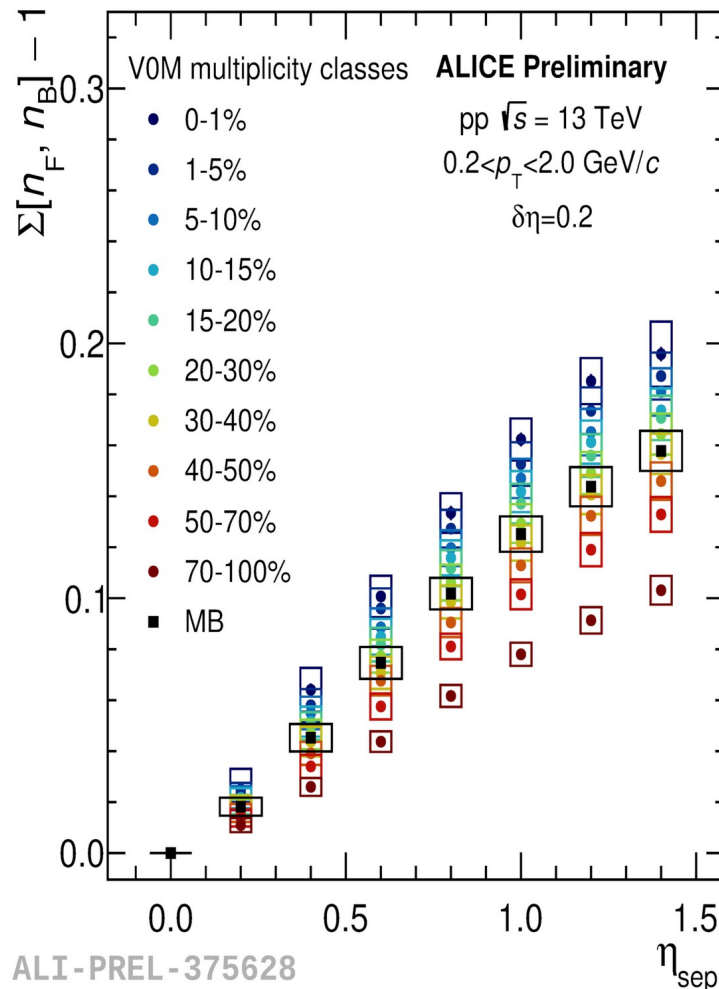
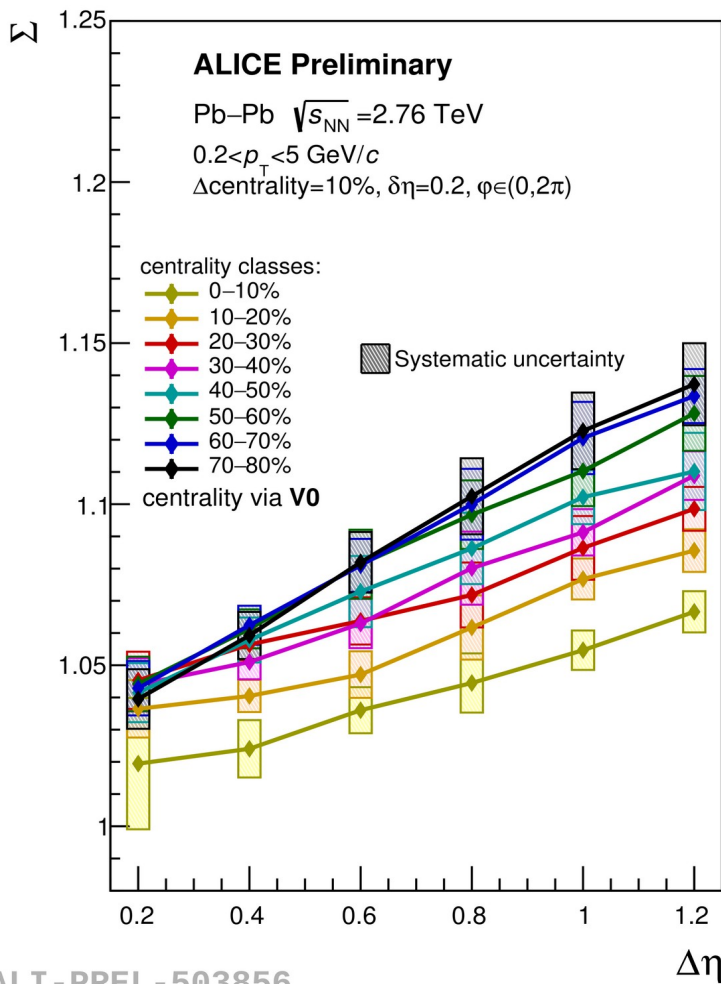


**V0  $\approx$  ZDCvsZEM**  
 $\rightarrow$  no dependence  
on centrality estimator!

- Values of  $\Sigma$  **increase with energy** and **increase with decreasing centrality** in experimental data, contrary behavior noted for MC HIJING results.
- MC AMPT and MC EPOS reproduce dependence on centrality qualitatively but not quantitatively.
- From results for MC AMPT it is evident that  $\Sigma$  is sensitive to the mechanism of particle production.

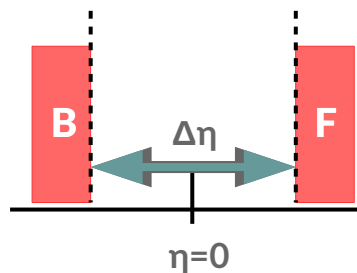


# Results: $\Sigma$ as a function of $\Delta\eta$

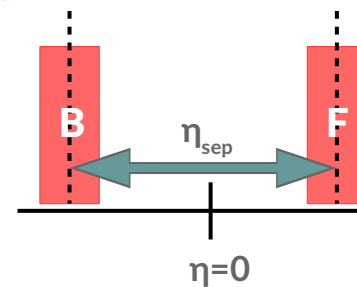


- **increase** with  $\Delta\eta$ ;
- **Pb-Pb: decrease** of  $\Sigma$  with increasing centrality class;
- **pp:  $\Sigma$  grows** with the increase of forward event multiplicity; **contrary to Pb-Pb.**

**Different ordering of  $\Sigma$  with centrality for Pb-Pb and pp.**



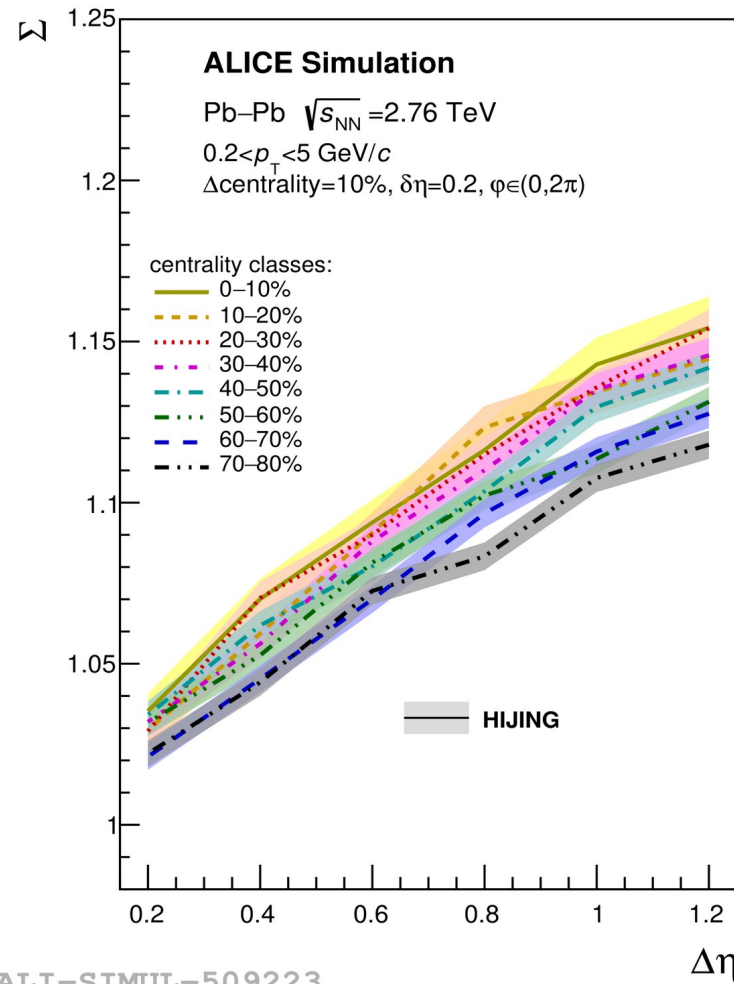
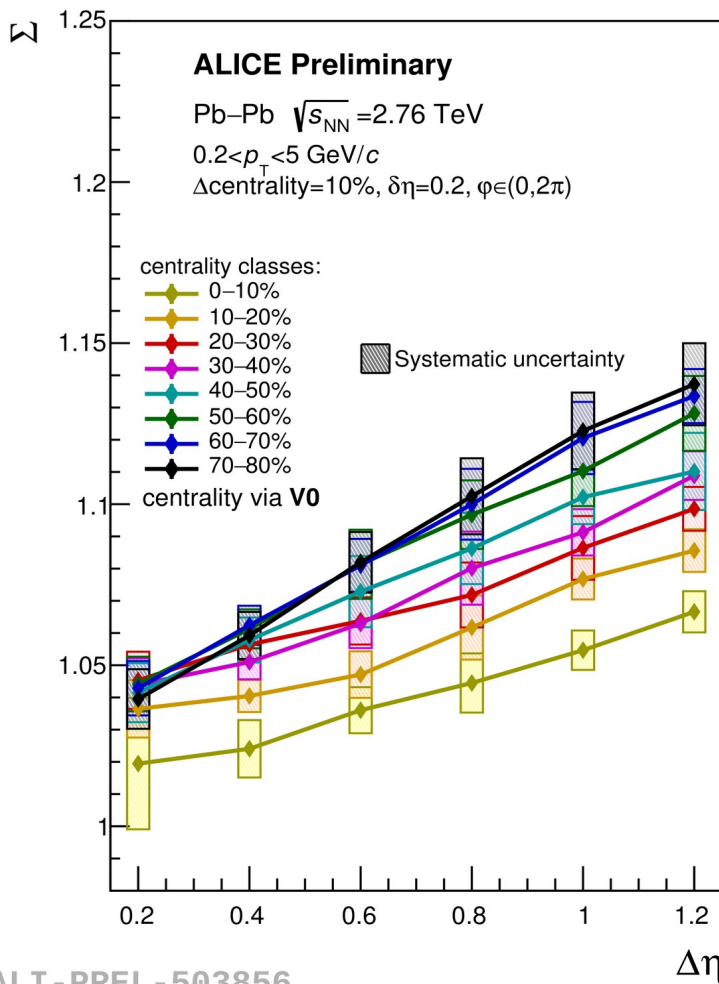
$$\eta_{\text{sep}} = \Delta\eta + 0.2$$



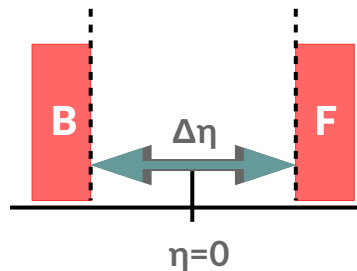
$$\Sigma \approx \omega(1 - b_{\text{corr}})$$



# Results: $\Sigma$ as a function of $\Delta\eta$



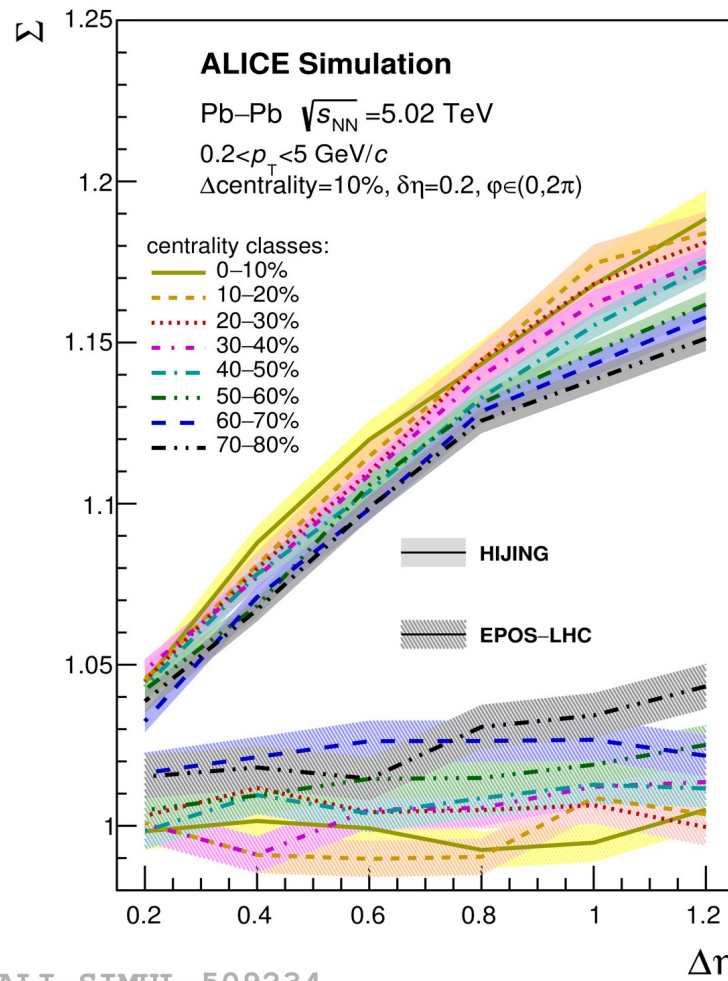
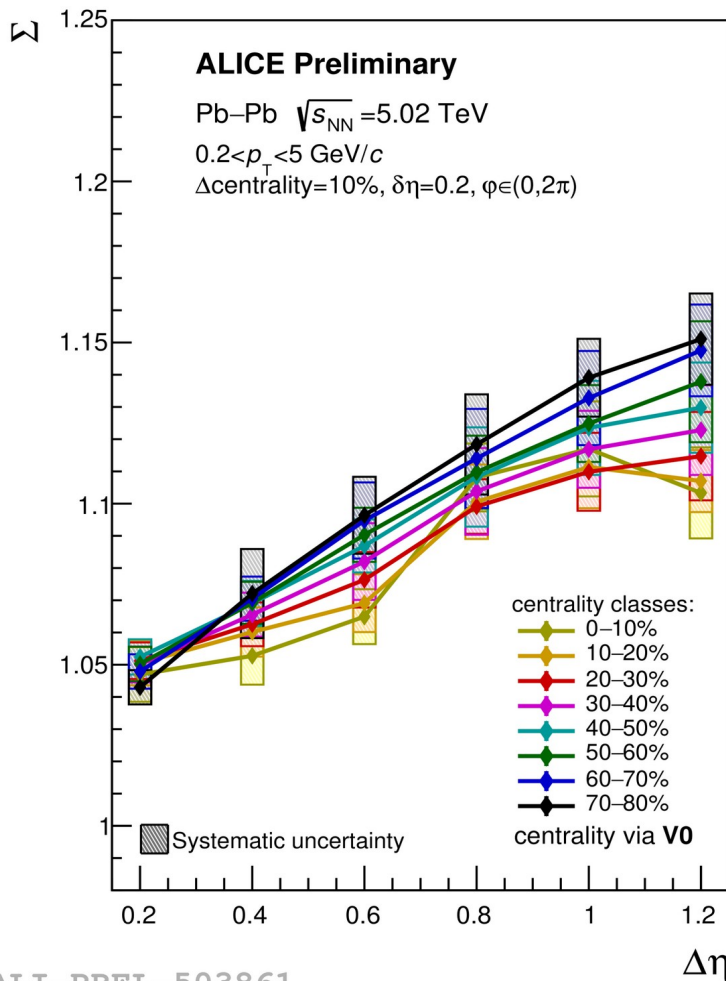
- **increase** with  $\Delta\eta$ ;
- **experimental data:** **decrease** of  $\Sigma$  with increasing centrality class;
- **MC HIJING:**  $\Sigma$  **grows** with increasing centrality class.



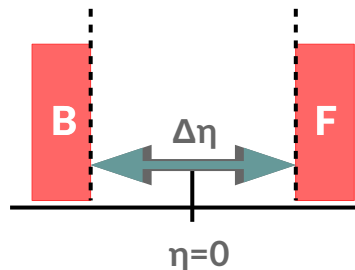
$$\Sigma \approx \omega(1-b_{\text{corr}})$$



# Results: $\Sigma$ as a function of $\Delta\eta$



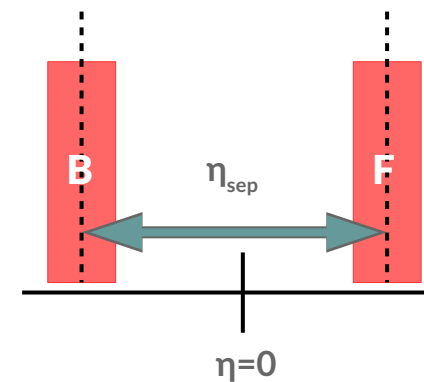
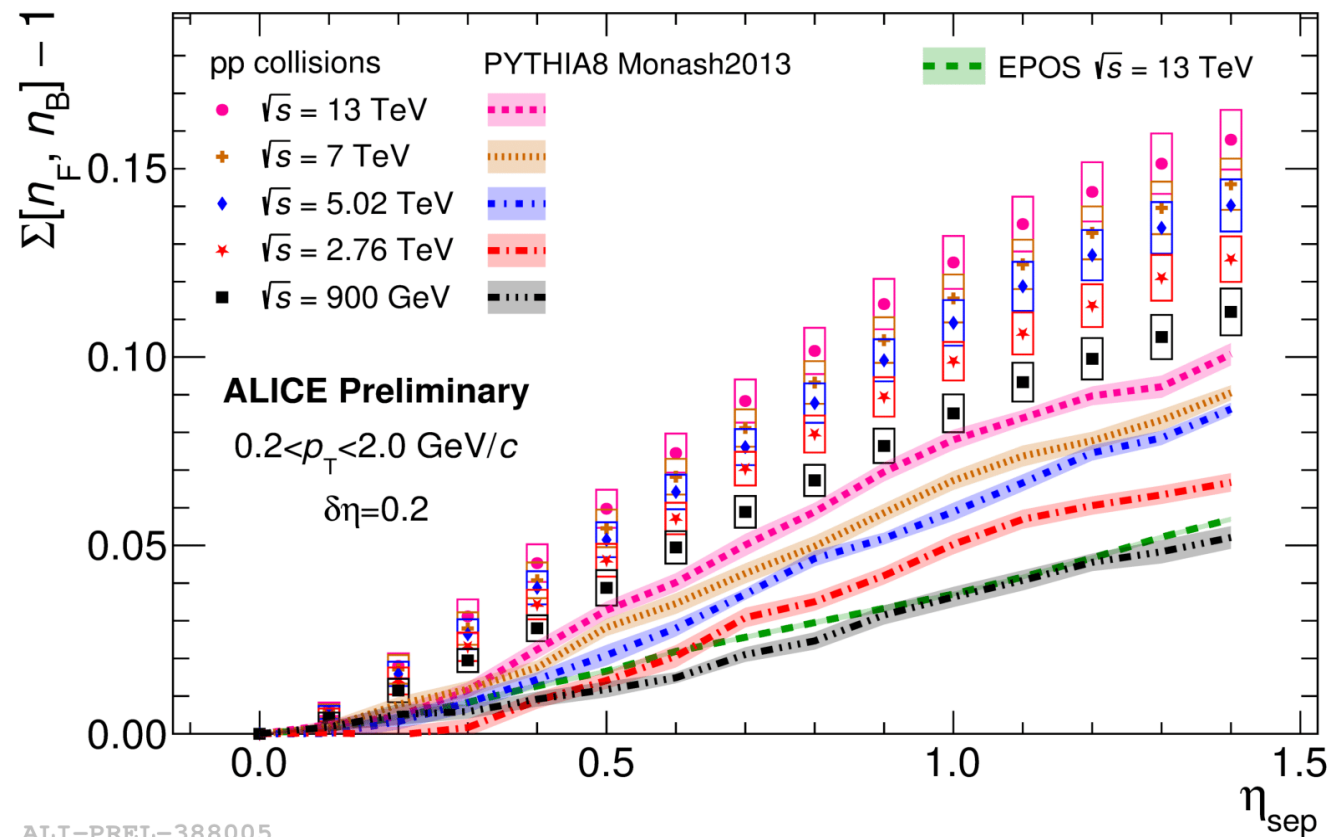
- **increase** with  $\Delta\eta$ ;
- **experimental data:** **decrease** of  $\Sigma$  with increasing centrality class;
- **MC HIJING:**  $\Sigma$  **grows** with with increasing centrality class;
- **MC EPOS:** **decrease** of  $\Sigma$  with increasing centrality class;
- **MC EPOS:** reproduces dependence on centrality **qualitatively** but **not quantitatively**.



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



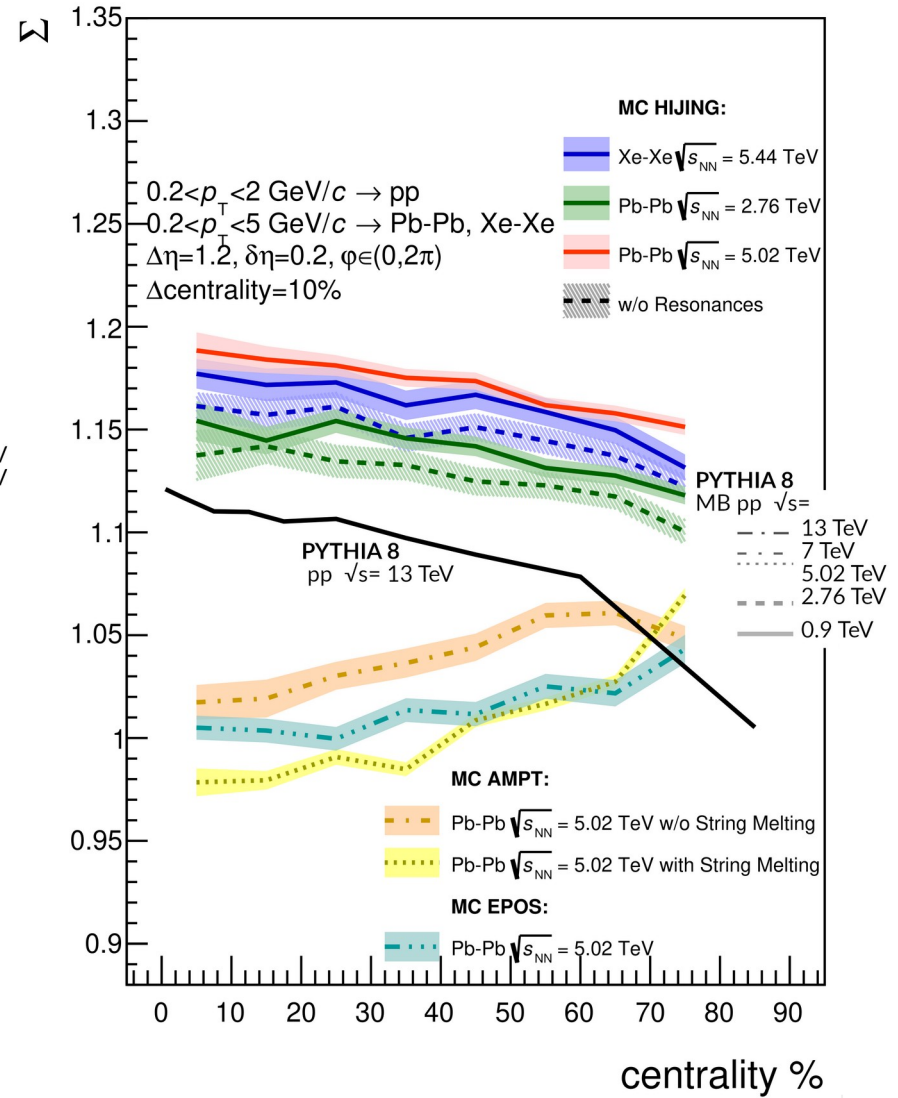
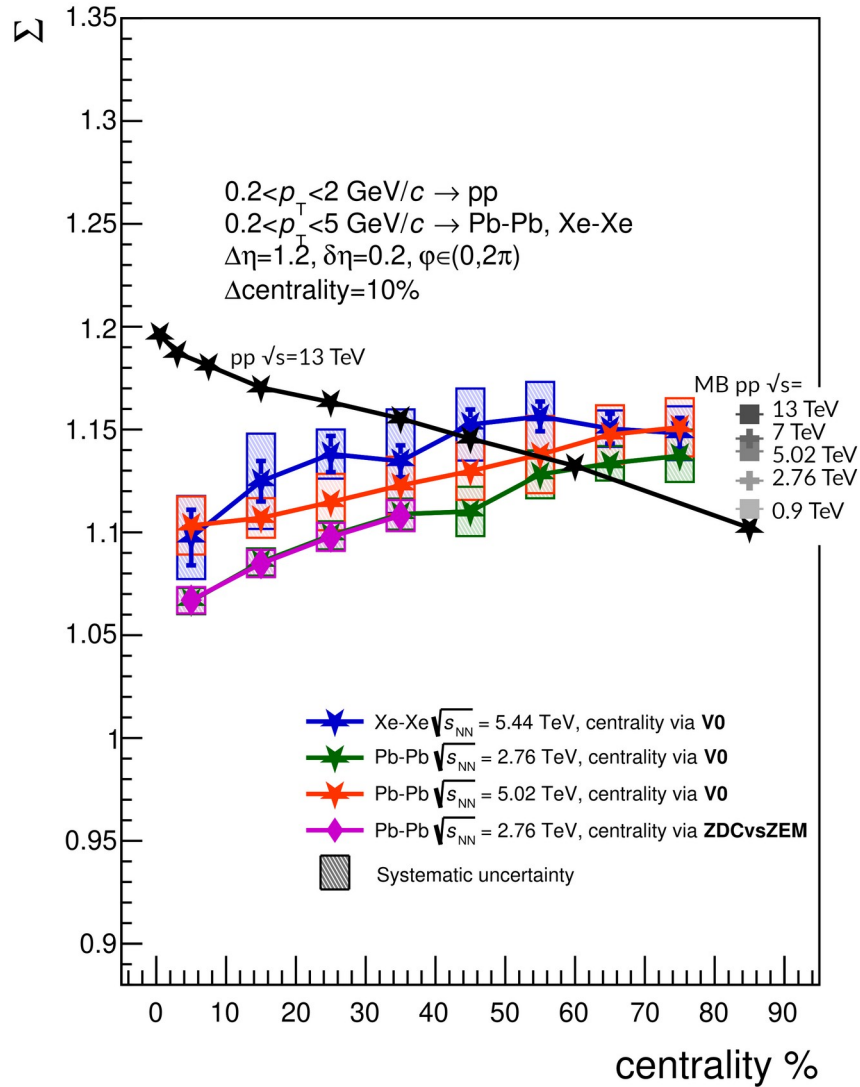
# Results: $\Sigma$ as a function of $\Delta\eta$



- The value of  $\Sigma$  **grows with collision energy**.
- PYTHIA8 is not able to reproduce this behavior quantitatively.
- EPOS is not able to reproduce this behavior quantitatively.



# Results: Overview





# Summary

New results for measurement of the FB correlation with the strongly intensive quantity  $\Sigma$  have been presented:

- $\Sigma$  increases with energy and with decreasing centrality in experimental data, **contrary** behavior noted for MC HIJING results and experimental pp collisions.
- Removal of the resonance contribution does **not** change the dependence (ordering) of  $\Sigma$  with centrality.
- AMPT and EPOS reproduce the dependence on centrality **qualitatively** but **not quantitatively**.
- From results for AMPT it is evident that  $\Sigma$  is sensitive to the mechanism of particle production.
- The comparison of **centrality ordering** in A–A reactions versus theoretical models, and experimental pp data, may provide new insight into the underlying dynamics of the collision.
- **What model can reproduce  $\Sigma$  behavior?**

This work was supported by the National Science Centre, Poland (grant No. 2021/43/D/ST2/02195).

LEARN MORE ABOUT  $\Sigma$ :  
with one “click”

Strongly Intensive Quantities

$\Sigma$  in pp with ALICE

Dependence on centrality selection  
and volume fluctuations

$\Sigma$  in A-A with ALICE

