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Science

# Quantum Entanglement and Entanglement Entropy in Higgs Boson Decay to Vector Bosons

Quantum Entanglement in High Energy Physics Workshop  
Collegium Maius, Jagiellonian University, Cracow, Poland  
10-May-2023

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in collaboration with

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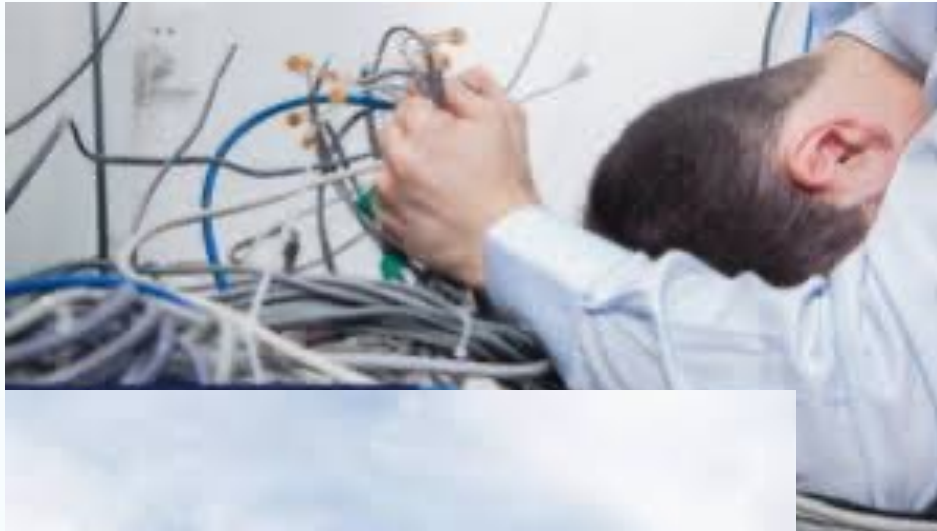
**Christian Weber**, Brookhaven National Lab

**D. Qenani**, Yale University



# Entanglement . . .

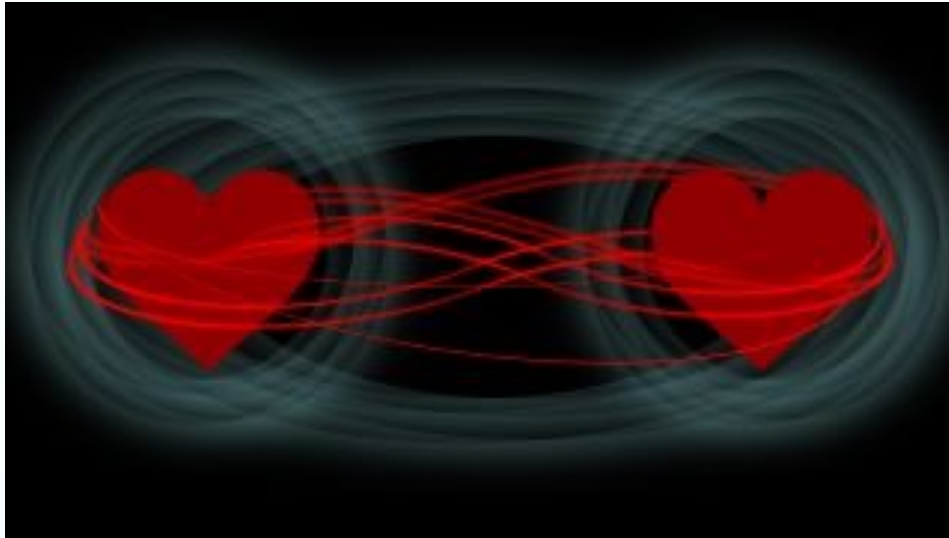
Webster



- to wrap or twist together
- the condition of being deeply involved
  - **their entanglement in politics**
- to involve in a perplexing or troublesome situation
  - **became *entangled* in a lawsuit**
- to make complicated
  - **the story is *entangled* with legends**



# Quantum Entanglement



“... love between entangled particles...”

- Elementary particles described by wave functions
- Entanglement between different parts of wave function
- We know of no classical counterpart



# Questions . . .

- **What is quantum entanglement in HEP?**
- **What is entanglement entropy in HEP?**
- **What is the connection to black holes?**
- **Is there experimental HEP data to support this claim?**
- **Where is this headed . . . ?**



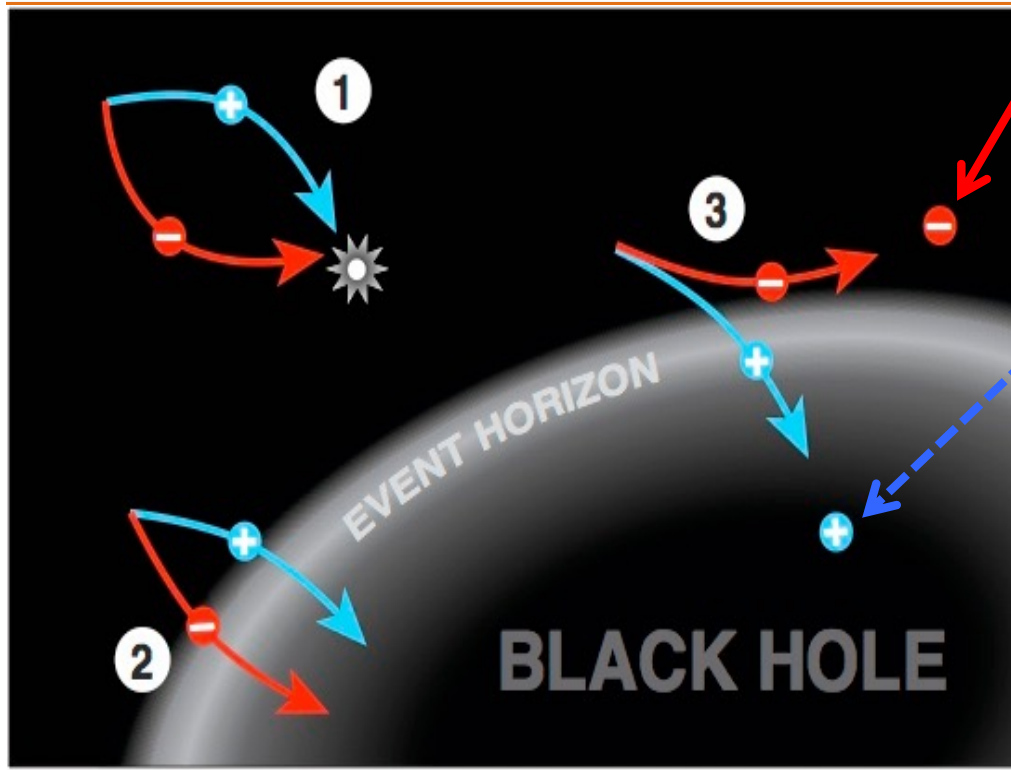
# The Physics . . .

- **apparent thermalization in high energy collisions**
  - (surprising?) thermal features in HEP collisions
  - inferred from presence of exponential component and thermal hadron abundances in  $p_T$  (transverse momentum) distribution
- **parton scattering  $\rightarrow$  strong color fields  $\rightarrow$  huge deceleration; short times (quench)**
  - produces thermal radiation akin to Hawking/Unruh radiation
- **can be viewed as resulting from quantum entanglement inside nucleon wave function**
  - additional examples in nuclear, atomic, and condensed matter physics



# Entanglement at Black Hole Event Horizon

black hole event horizon



at BH, one particle escapes and one particle is trapped inside the BH event horizon

detected  
(thermal)

undetected

- Hawking radiation at event horizon
- black holes - thermodynamic behavior
  - black holes have entropy
- entropy between two regions scale with the area of their mutual boundary

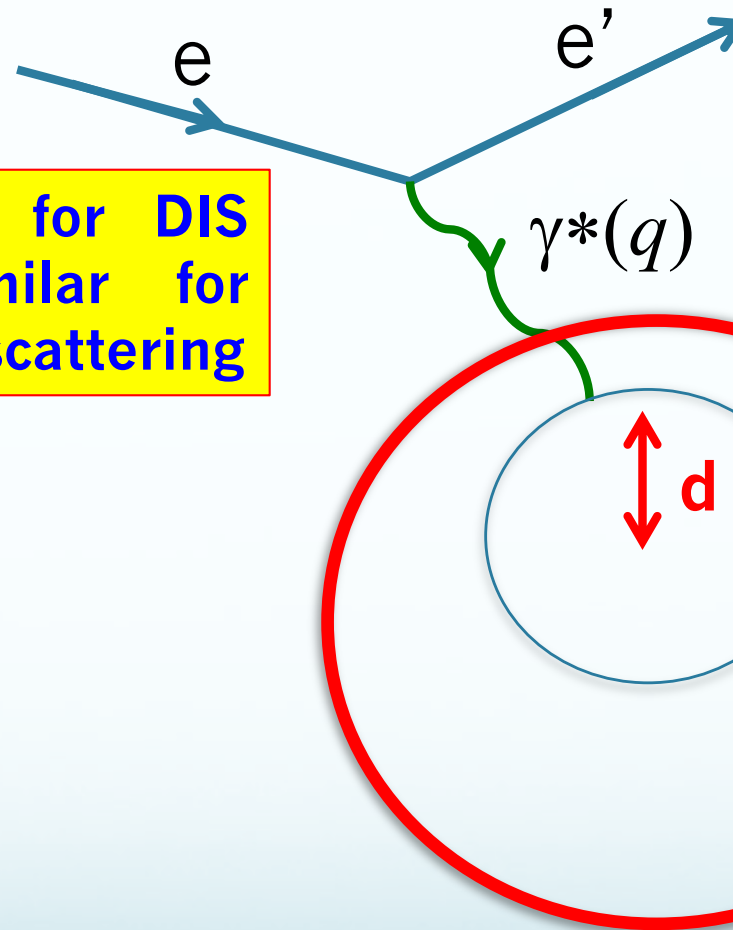


# High Energy Physics Examples



# Example: e-N DIS Scattering

This example is for DIS scattering; similar for neutrino-nucleus scattering



transverse

$$d \sim \lambda_{\text{deBroglie}} = \frac{h}{|\vec{q}|}$$

proton





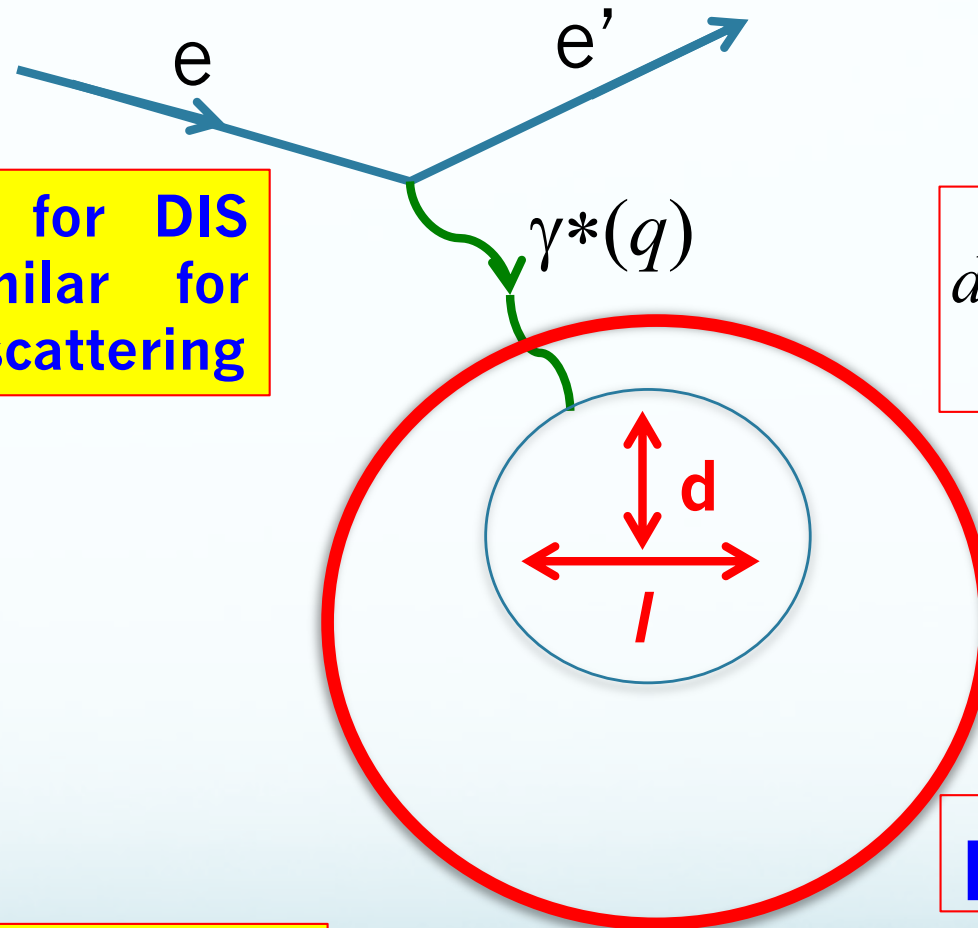
# Example: e-N DIS Scattering

This example is for DIS scattering; similar for neutrino-nucleus scattering

longitudinal

$$l \sim \frac{1}{mx}$$

$m$  - proton mass  
 $x$  - parton momentum fraction



transverse

$$d \sim \lambda_{\text{deBroglie}} = \frac{h}{|\vec{q}|}$$

proton



# HEP Collisions and Entanglement

Mixed quantum state – a statistical ensemble of quantum states

$$\rho_A = \text{tr}_B \rho_{AB} = \sum_n \alpha_n^2 \left| \Psi_n^A \right\rangle \left| \Psi_n^A \right\rangle$$

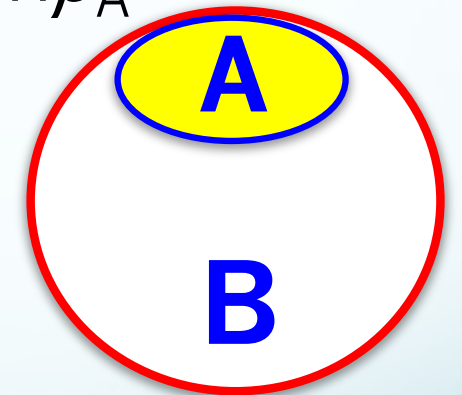
where  $\alpha_n^2 = p_n$

and

$$S = - \sum_n p_n \ln p_n$$

$$S(\rho_A) = -\text{Tr} \rho_A \ln \rho_A$$

proton



**S** is the von Neumann entropy of subregion **A**; results from the entanglement between regions **A** and **B**; interpreted as the **entanglement entropy**; related to Shannon or Information entropy



# HEP Collisions and Entanglement

pure quantum state  
single term

$$|\Psi_{AB}\rangle = |\varphi_i^A\rangle \otimes |\varphi_j^B\rangle$$

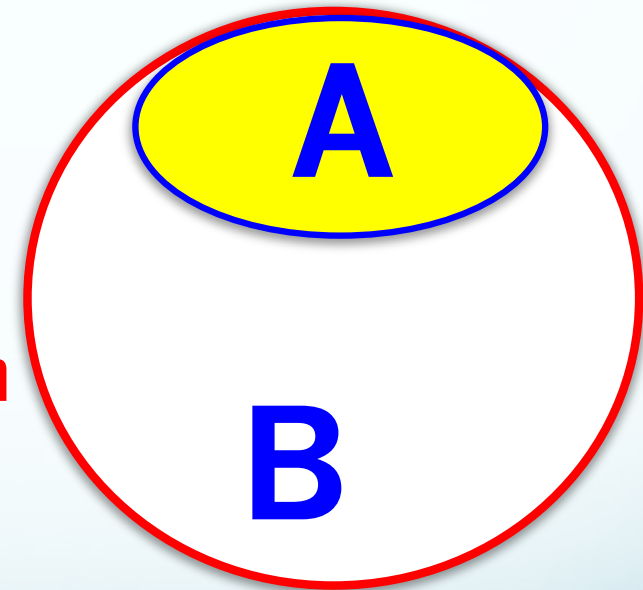
separable – not entangled

$$|\Psi_{AB}\rangle = \sum_{i,j} c_{ij} |\varphi_i^A\rangle \otimes |\varphi_j^B\rangle$$

not separable - entangled

mixed quantum state  
sum of terms

proton



when only one term contributes the state is  
**separable**; otherwise the state is **entangled**



(okb, DE Kharzeev, (2017); PRD 98, 054007 (2018) )

# Thermal (Exponential) and Hard Scattering (Power Law) Components

$$\frac{1}{N_{ev}} \frac{1}{2\pi P_T} \frac{d^2 N_{ev}}{d\eta dP_T} \sim A_{therm} \exp(-m_T/T_{th})$$

$$T_{th} = 0.098 (\sqrt{s/s_0})^{0.06} \text{ GeV}$$

$$\frac{1}{N_{ev}} \frac{1}{2\pi P_T} \frac{d^2 N_{ev}}{d\eta dP_T} \sim \frac{A_{hard}}{\left(1 + \frac{m_T^2}{T_{hs}^2 \cdot n}\right)^2}$$

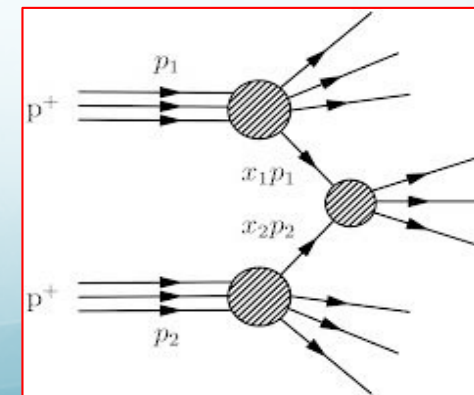
$$T_{hs} = 0.409 (\sqrt{s/s_0})^{0.06} \text{ GeV}$$

$\sqrt{s}$ : center of mass energy

$s_0$ : 1 GeV<sup>2</sup>

$m_T$ : transverse mass  $\sqrt{m^2 + P_T^2}$

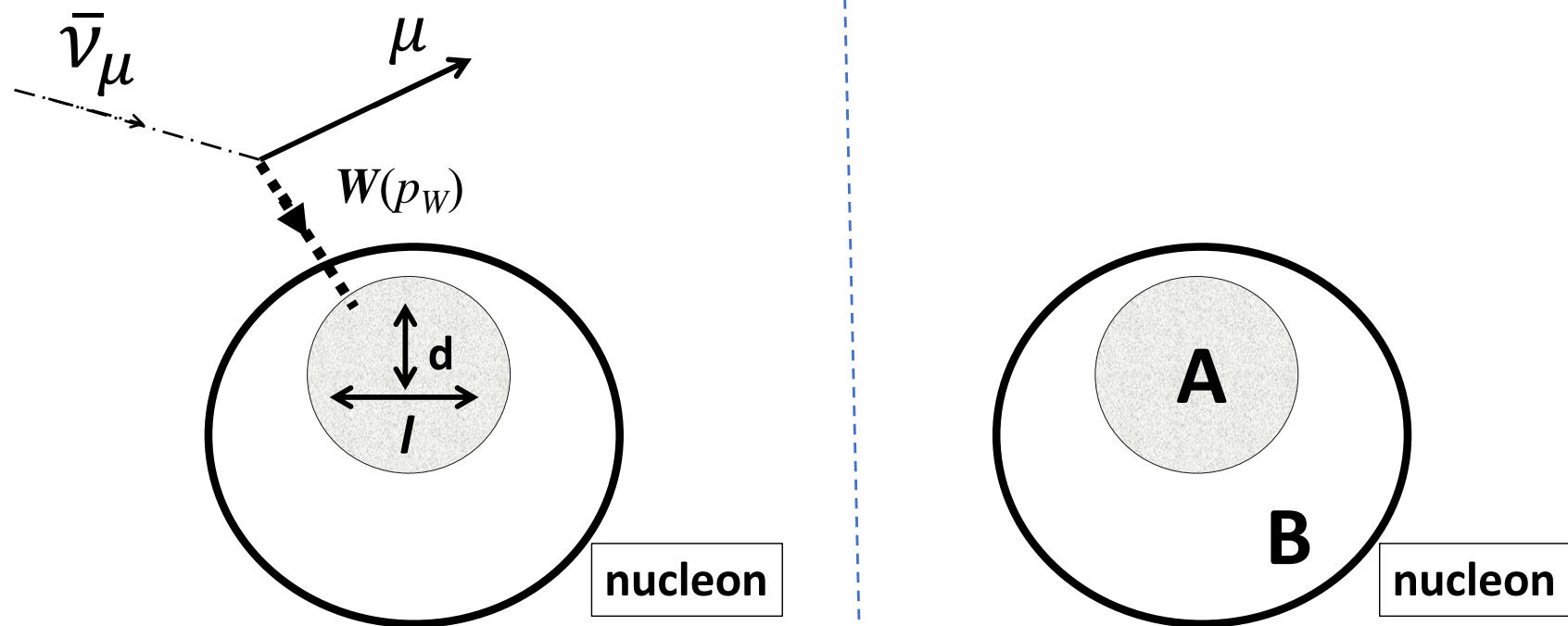
$n$ : parameter





# Neutrino Scattering

charged current weak interaction

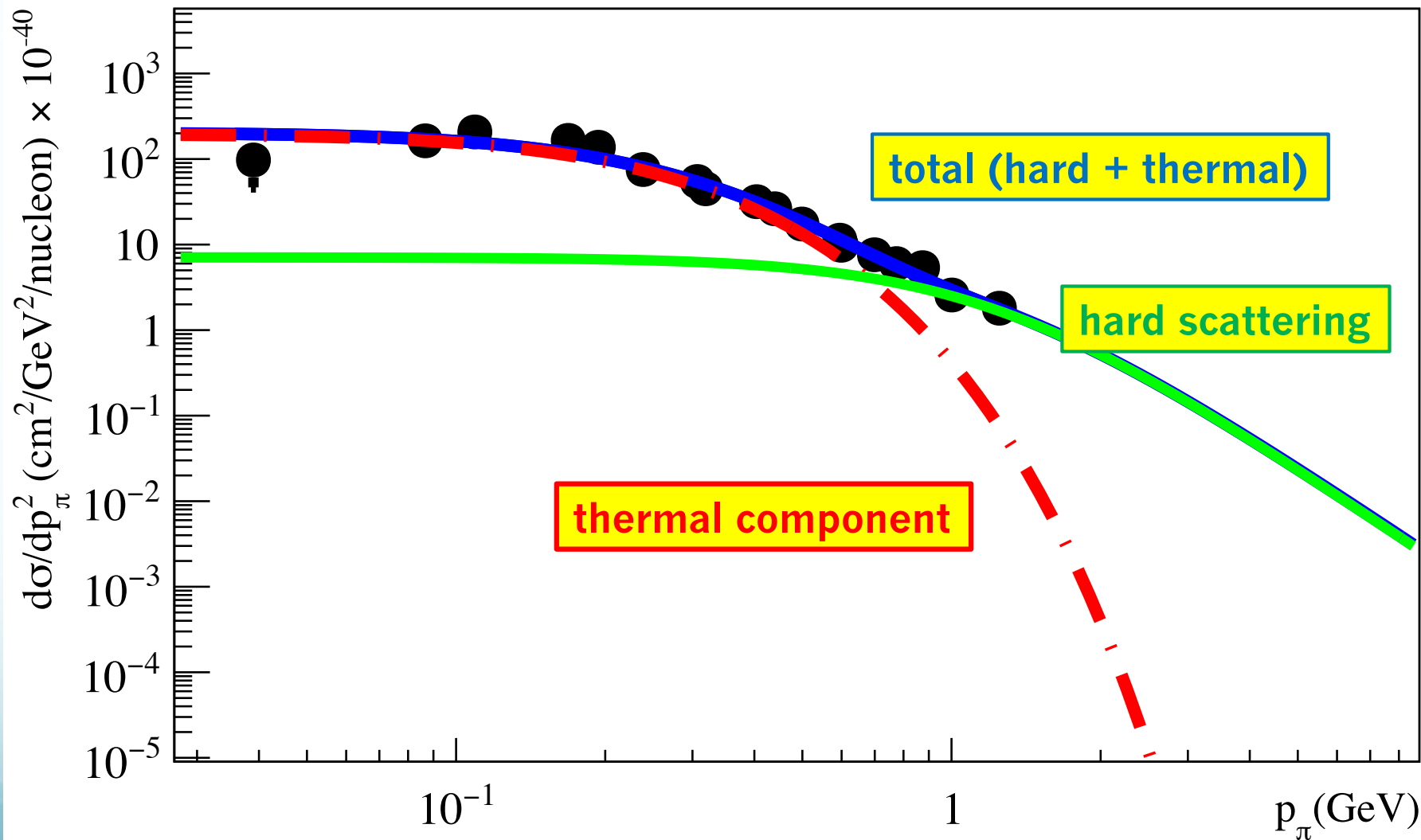


G. Iskander, J. Pan, M. Tyler, C. Weber, OKB  
Phys Lett B 811, 135948 (2020)



# Neutrino Scattering

Minerva  $\bar{\nu}_\mu + \text{CH} \rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^0 + \text{X}$  Data



**R=0.15**

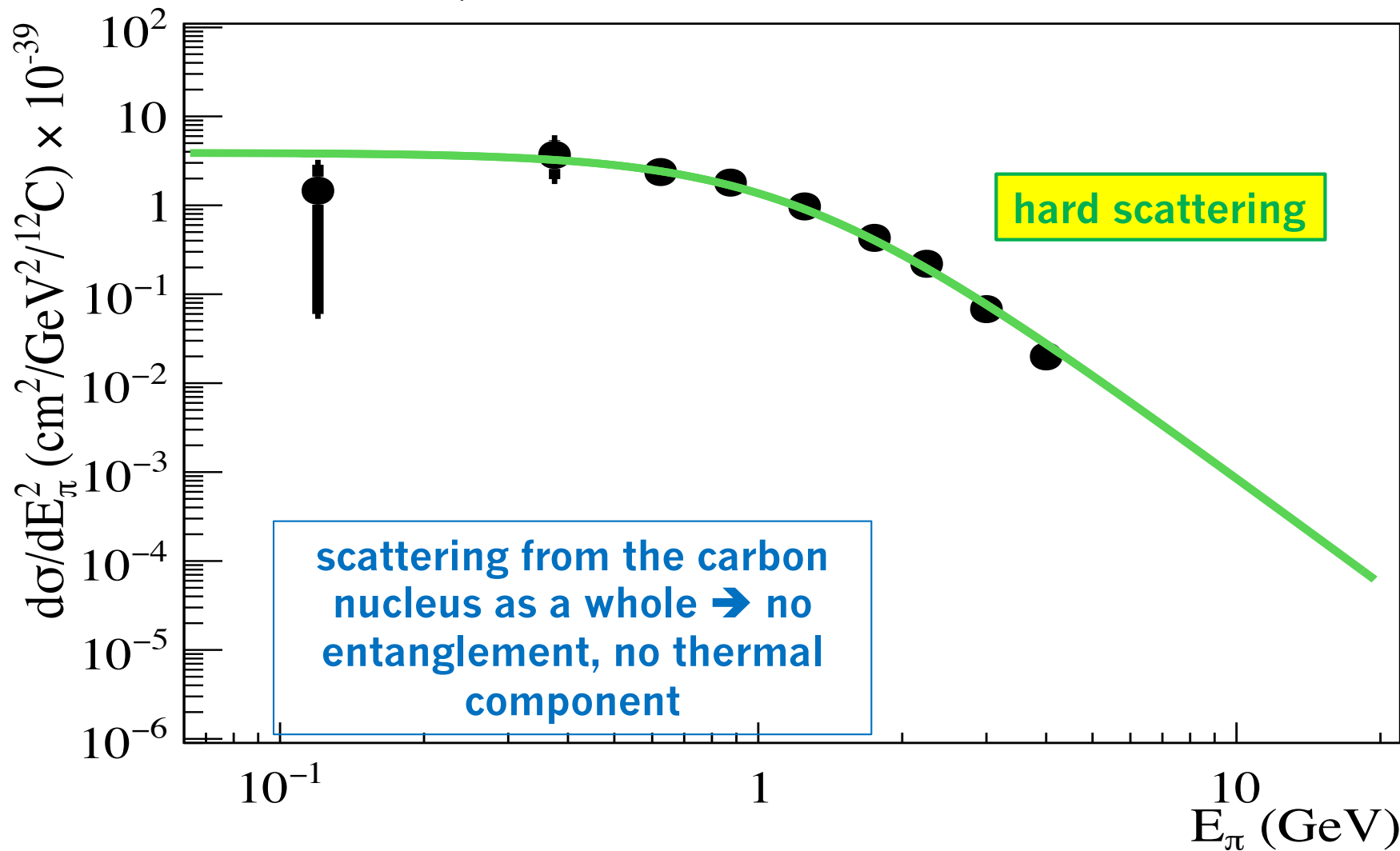
G. Iskander, J. Pan, M. Tyler, C. Weber, OKB  
Phys Lett B 811, 135948 (2020)

14



# Neutrino Scattering

Minerva  $\bar{\nu}_\mu + {}^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^- + {}^{12}\text{C}$  Data



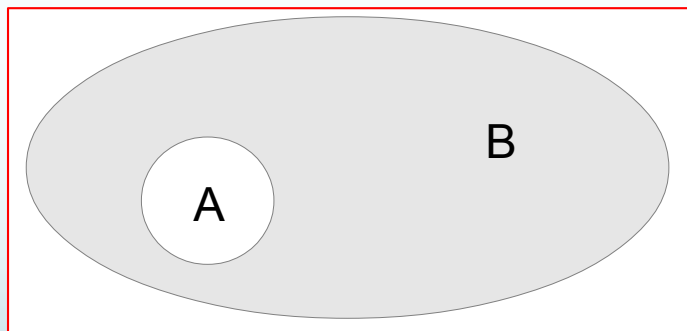
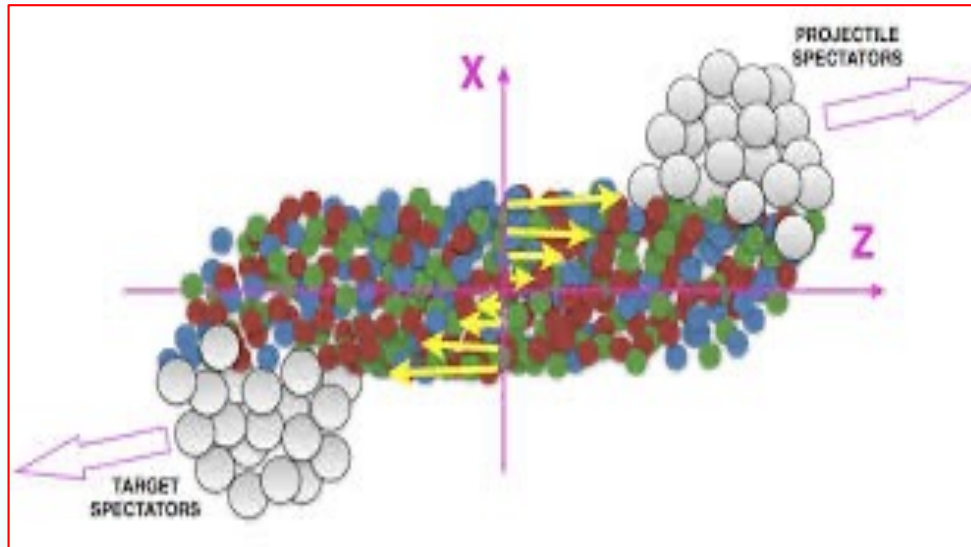
G. Iskander, J. Pan, M. Tyler, C. Weber, OKB  
Phys Lett B 811, 135948 (2020)



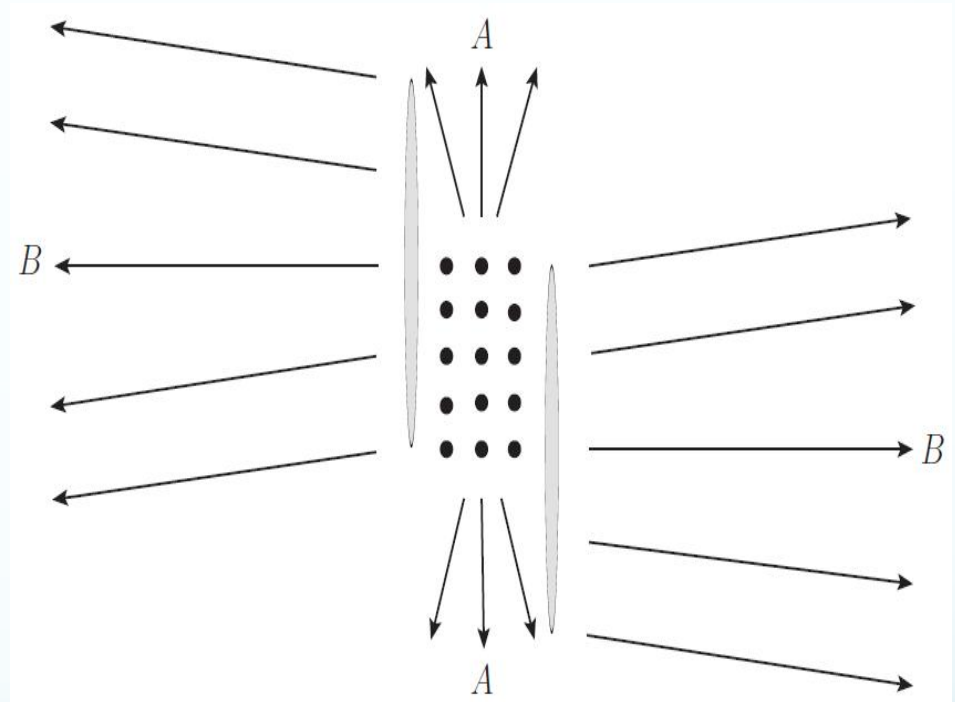
# **Additional examples: heavy ions and cold atoms**



# Entanglement in Heavy Ion Collisions



overlap region A; collision



region B; no collision

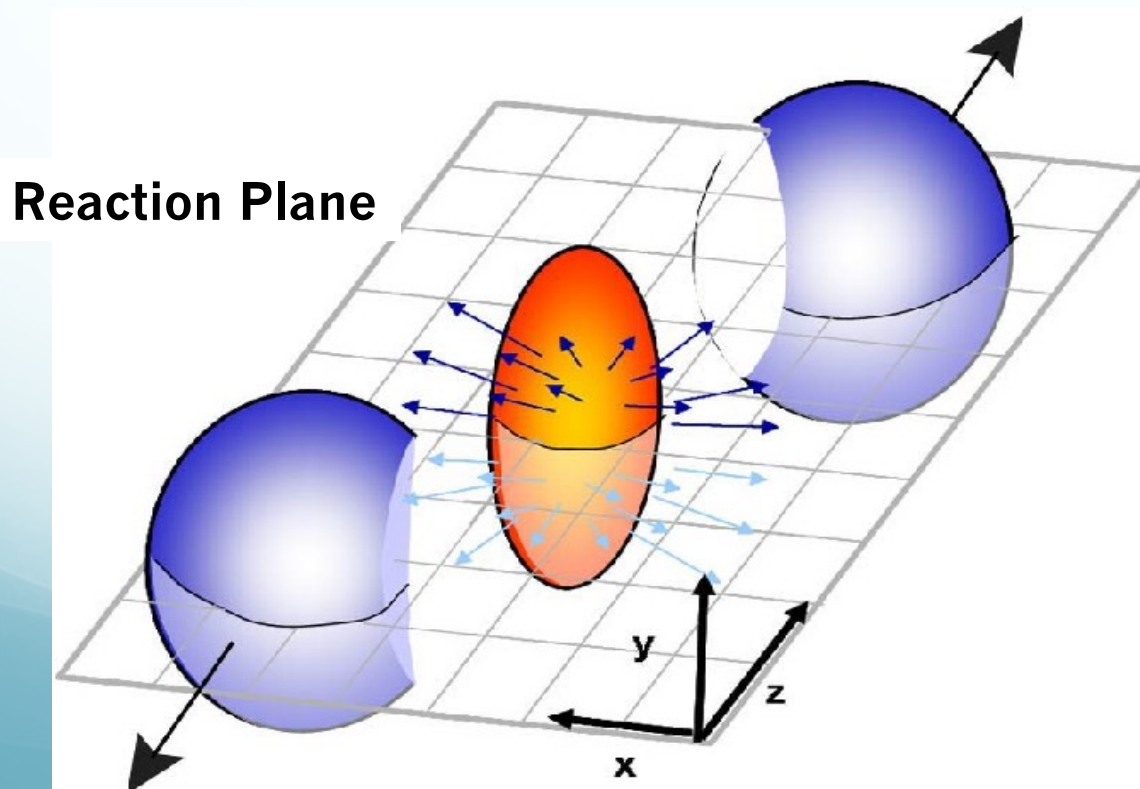
Ho and Hsu,  
Entanglement and Fast Quantum Thermalization in Heavy Ion Collisions  
Phys. Lett. A 18, 1650110 (2016)



# Elliptic Flow in pp and HI Collisions

$$v_n(p_T, y) = \langle \cos[n(\phi - \psi_{RP})] \rangle$$

- Fourier coefficients,  $v_n$ ,
- characterize anisotropic flow patterns
- averaged over all particles in an event

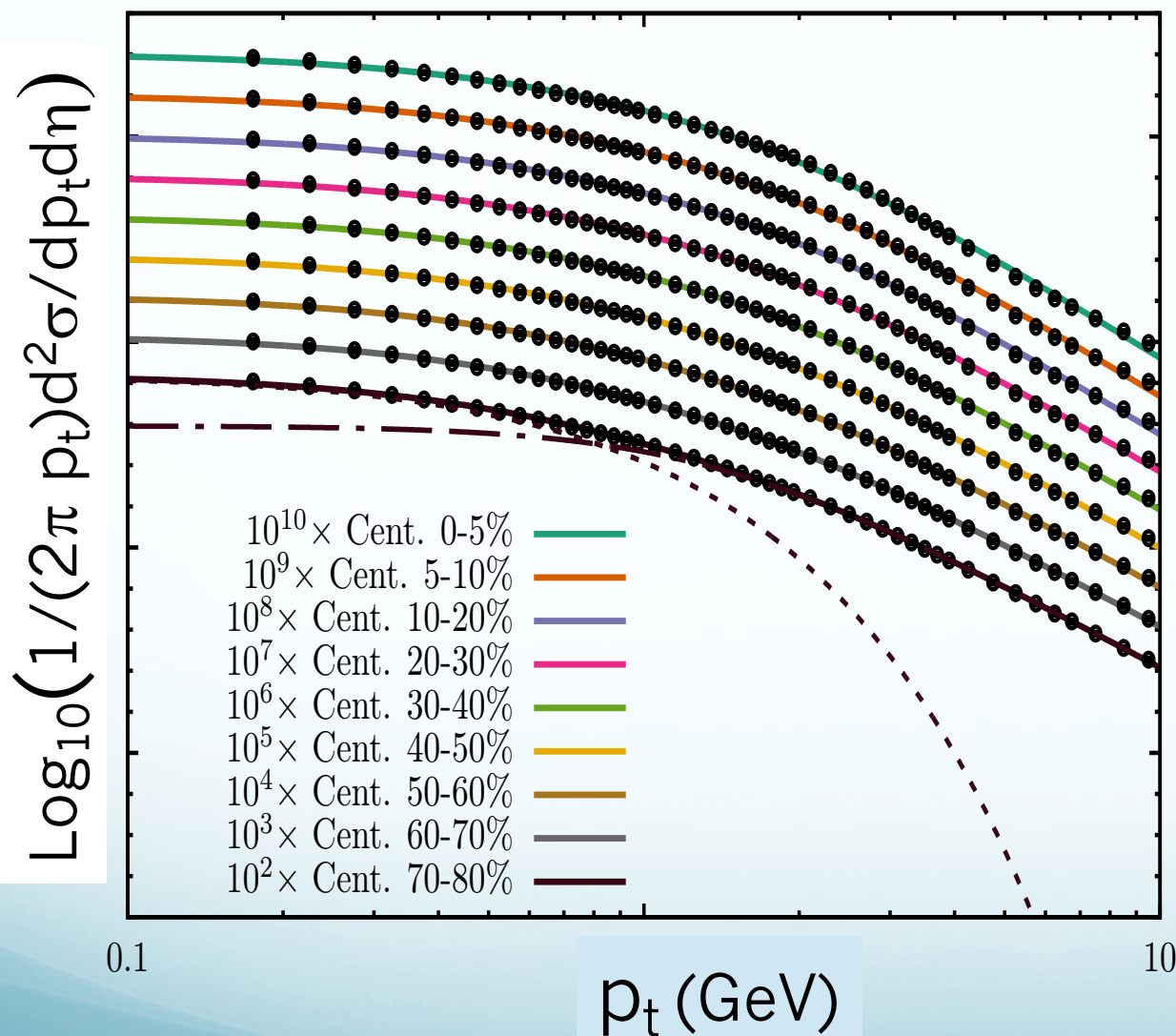


$v_2$  : elliptic flow

$$\frac{dv_2}{dp_T} \approx \frac{v_2}{\langle p_T \rangle}$$



# Thermal Behavior and Entanglement in Pb-Pb Collisions



➤ Pb-Pb collisions

$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$  TeV

➤ centrality;

70%-80%  $\rightarrow$  0%-5%

➤ 
$$R = \frac{H}{H+E}$$

(integral under curves)

H: power law E: exponential

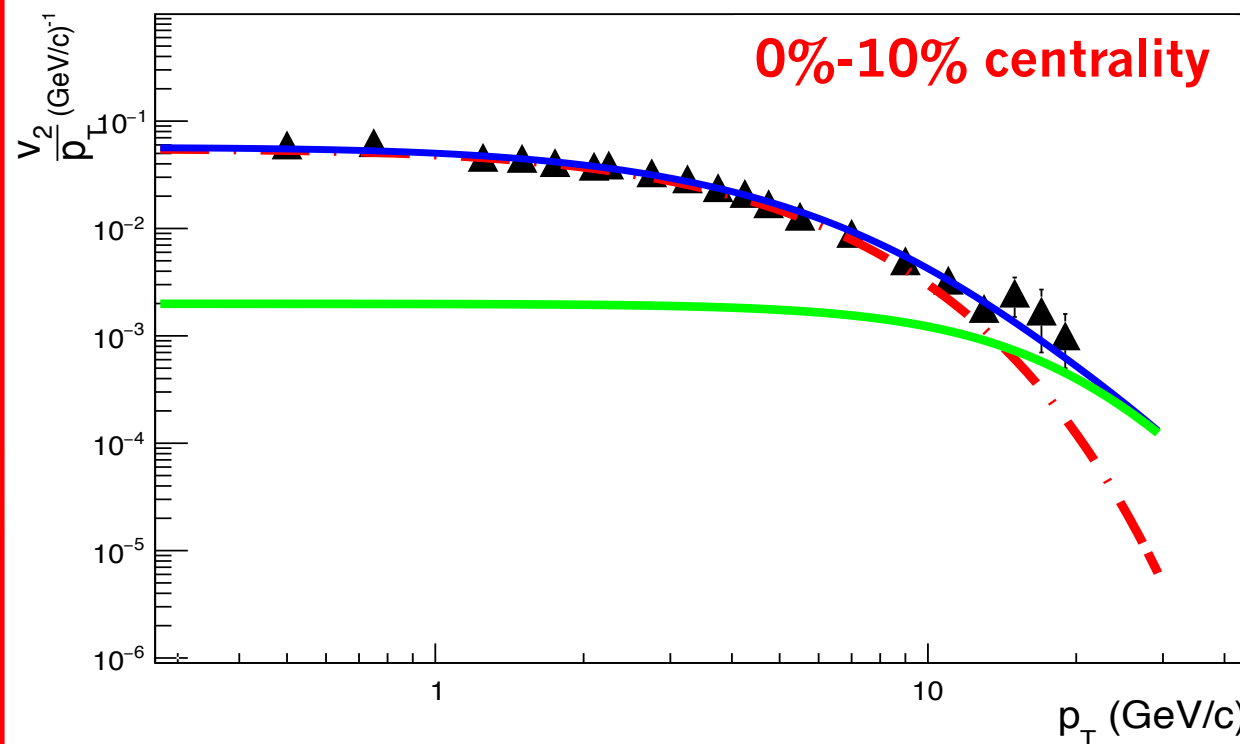
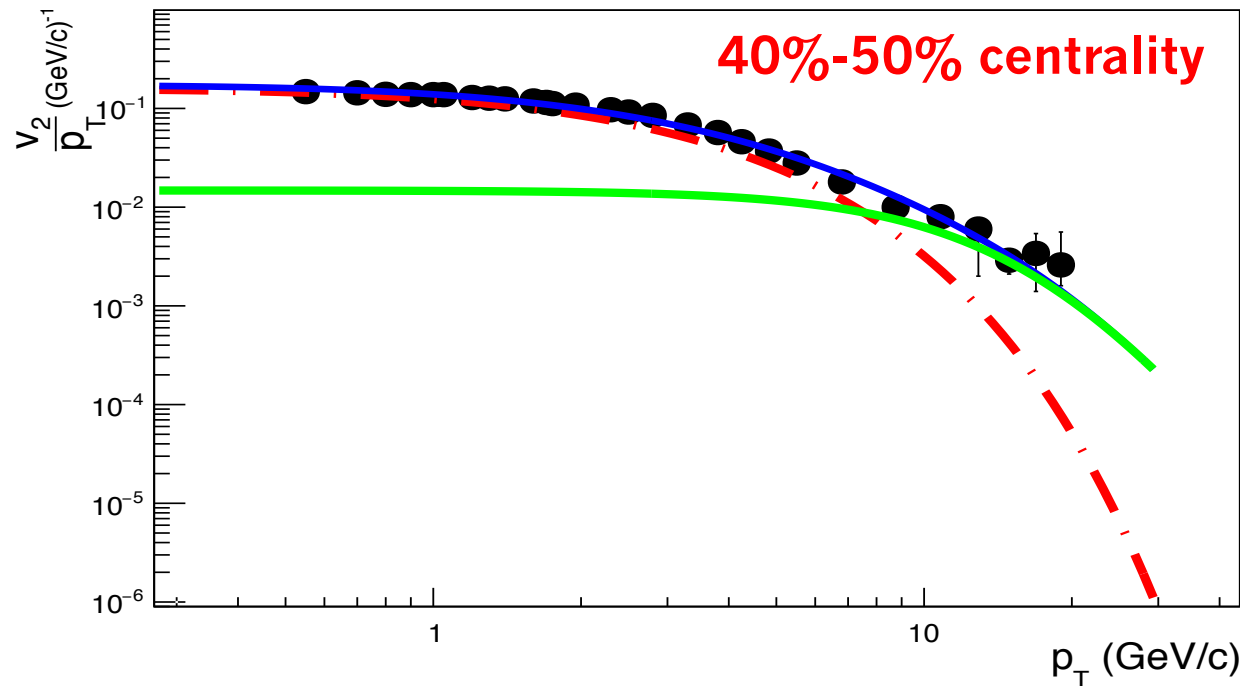
# Elliptic Flow in PbPb collisions

Table 1: Centrality versus R

Centrality	$R \pm 0.0003$
0-10%	0.115
20-30%	0.215
40-50%	0.152
70-80%	0.144
p-p	0.193

$$R = \frac{I_{hs}}{I_t + I_{hs}}$$

**$I$  is area  
under curves**

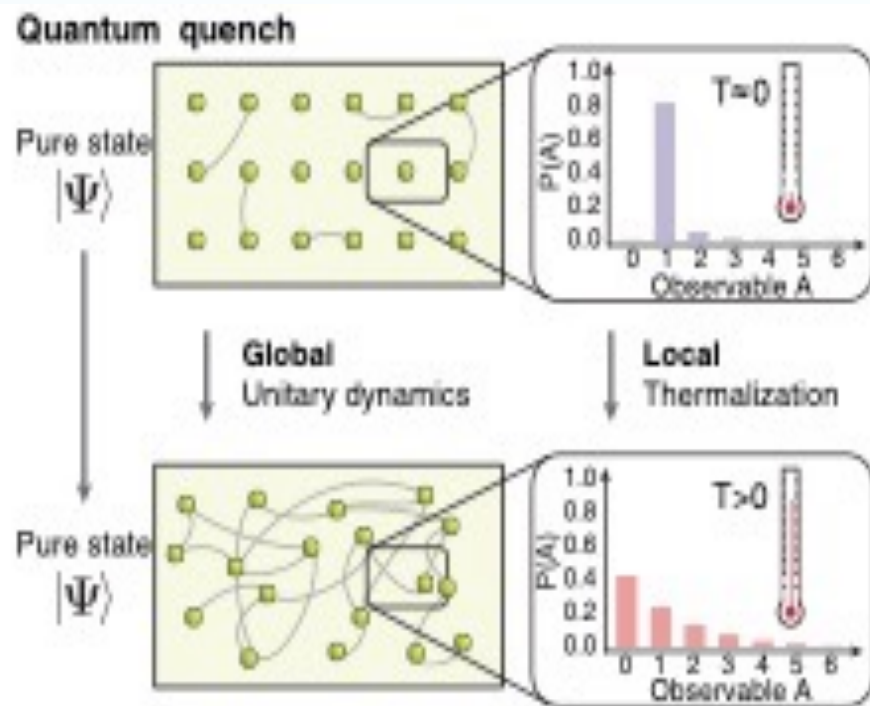




# Example From Cold Atom Physics

Quantum thermalization through entanglement in an isolated many-body system (Greiner Lab, Harvard University); Science 353, 794 (2016)

Quantum entanglement → entanglement entropy → thermalization; thermal entropy



- Isolated quantum state at  $T=0$  (cold Rb atoms), a pure state; subsystems appear pure if negligible entanglement
- Sudden perturbation by a quench (laser firing), full system evolves unitarily, developing significant entanglement between all parts of the system.
- Full state remains pure (zero entropy); entanglement entropy causes subsystems to equilibrate; local, thermal mixed states emerge within globally pure quantum state

# High Energy Physics example proton-proton collisions

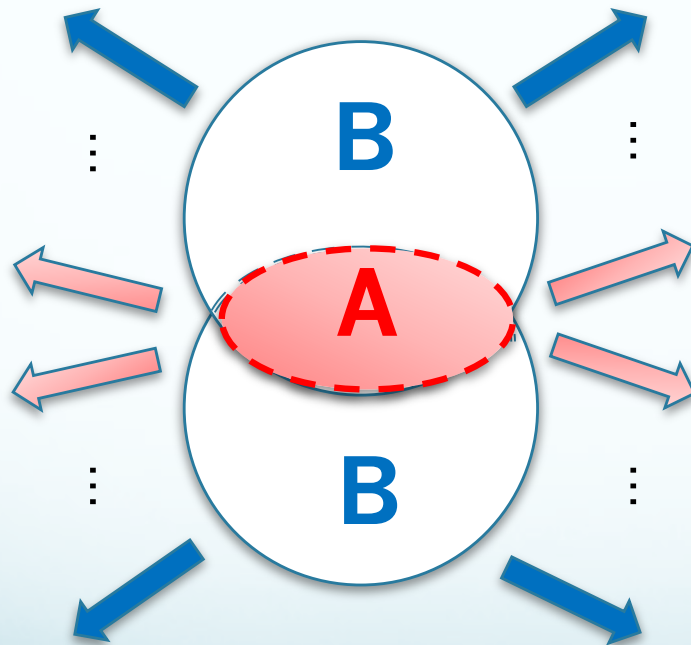
(okb, DE Kharzeev, (2017); PRD 98, 054007 (2018) )





# Proton-Proton Collisions

proton-proton collisions at LHC energies mediated by gluon-gluon “fusion” mainly; **short range** compared to DIS



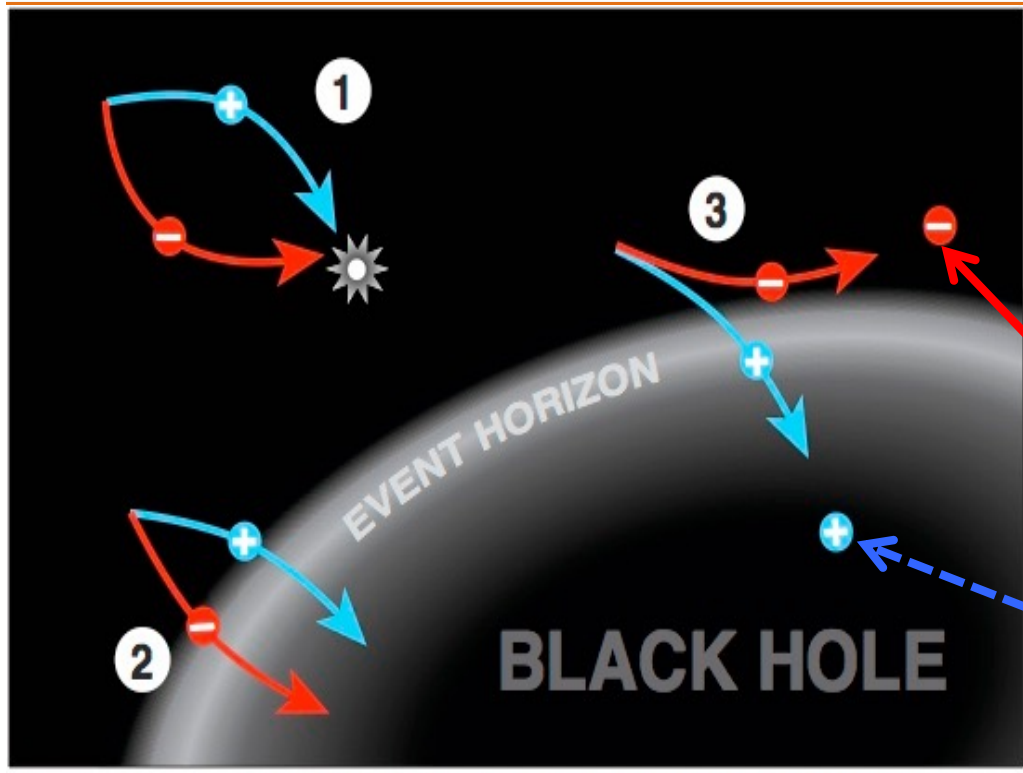
proton can be described as a pure macrostate consisting of a region of parton microstates probed in the collision and a region of parton microstates NOT probed in the collision

region **A** probed in p-p collision; regions **A** and **B** are entangled



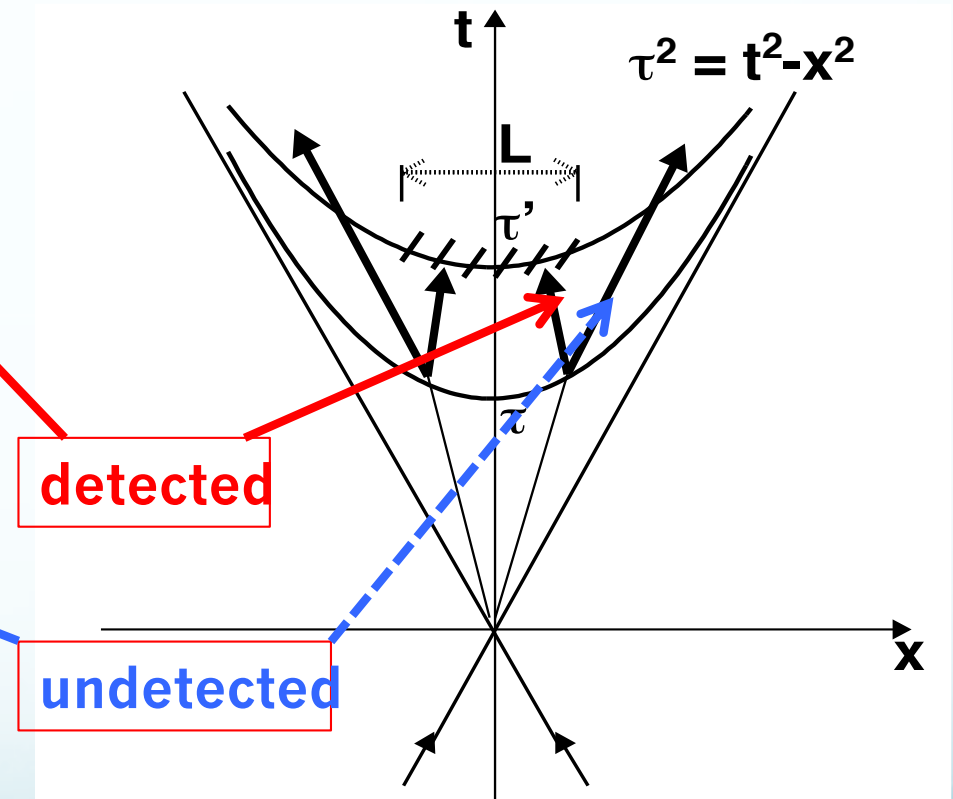
# Entanglement in Proton-Proton Collisions and at Black Holes

## black hole event horizon



at BH, one particle escapes and one particle is trapped inside the BH event horizon

## proton-proton collision

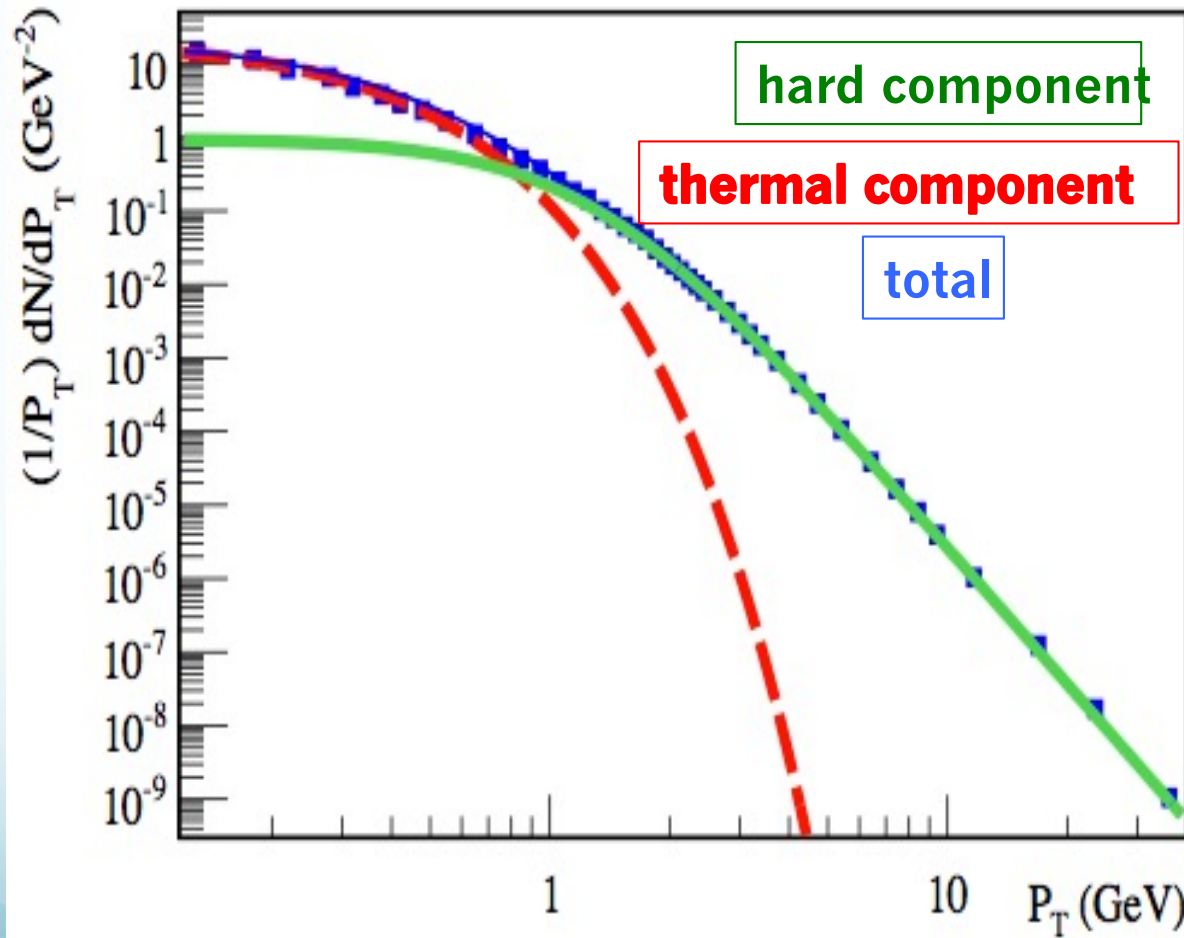


in pp collision, one region is probed and the complimentary region is not probed



(okb, DE Kharzeev, (2017); PRD 98, 054007 (2018) )

## Example at LHC: Charged Particle Normalized $p_T$ Distribution



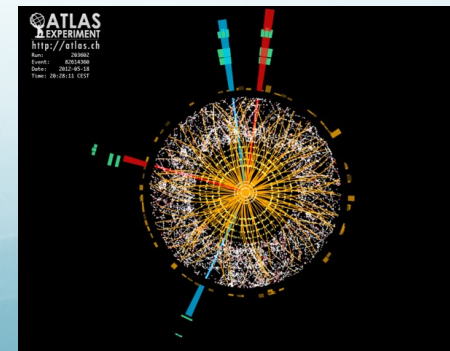
normalized transverse  
momentum distribution

pp collisions

$$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$$

$$|\eta| \leq 2.5$$

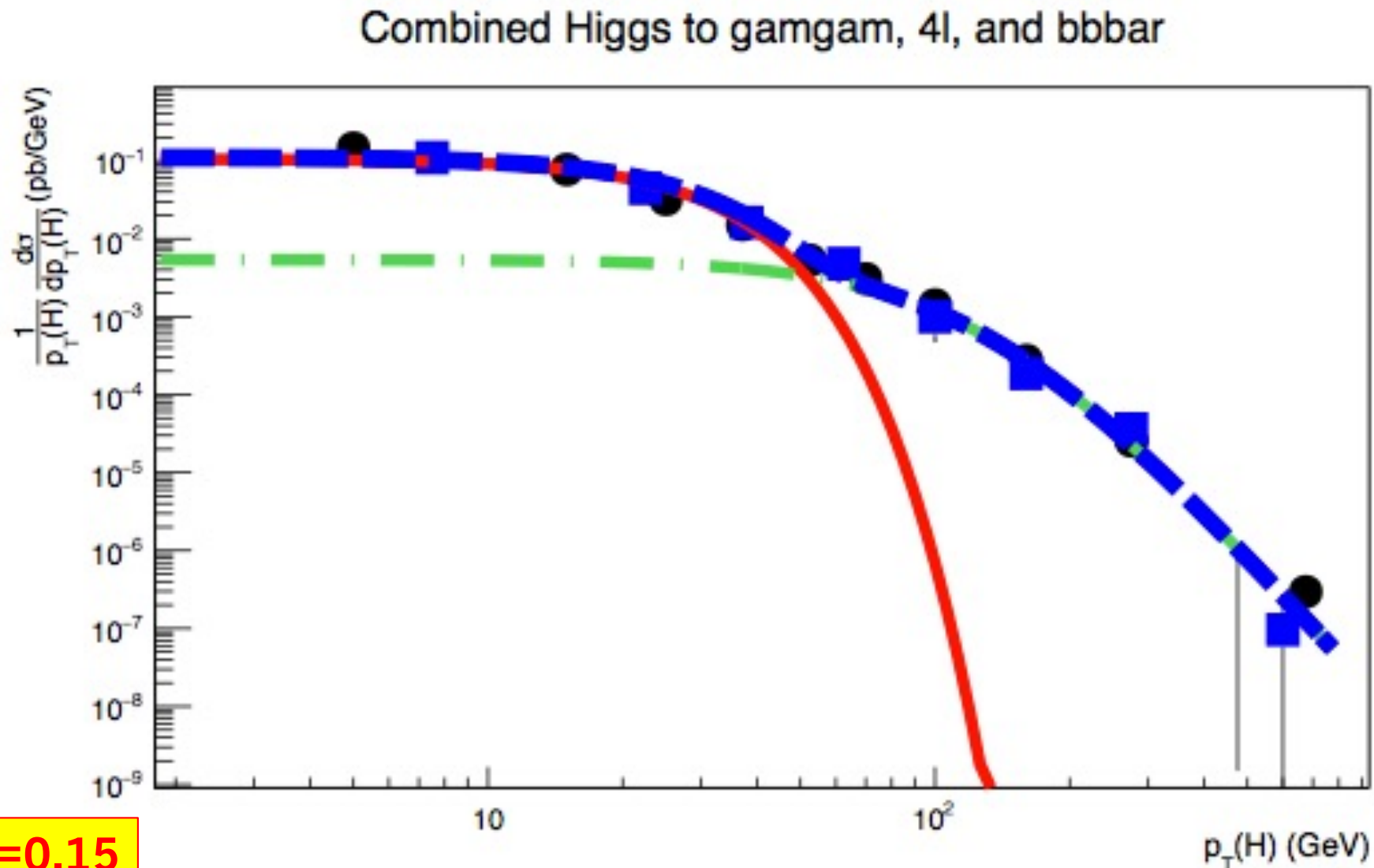
$$\int (\text{lum}) = 15.1 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$$



the ATLAS collaboration,  
Eur. Phys. J. C76, 502 (2016); PLB 758, 67 (2016)

# Higgs Combination:

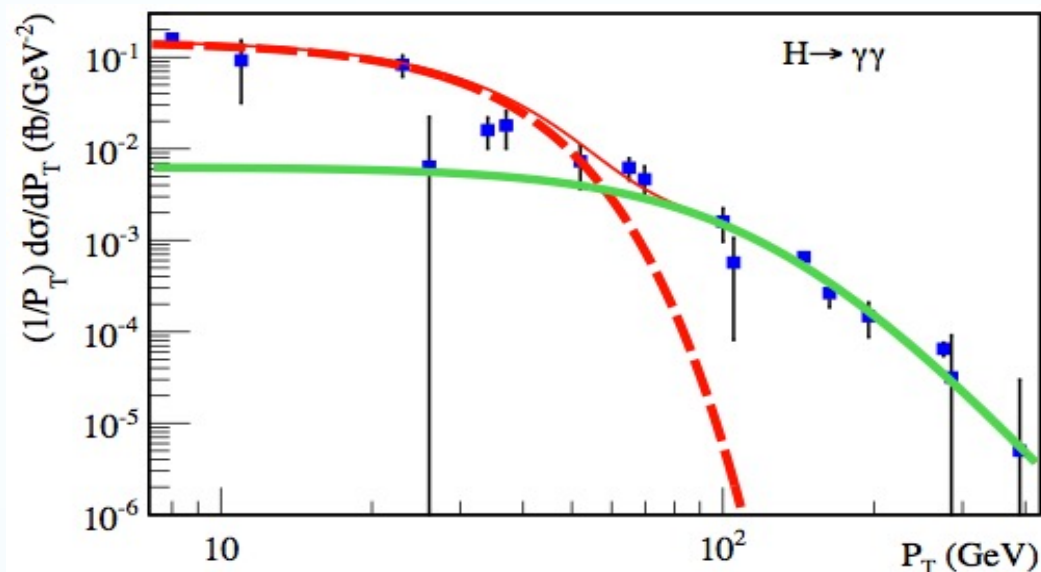
ATLAS: 139 fb<sup>-1</sup> (black circle); CMS 36 fb<sup>-1</sup> (blue squares)





# Extends to Higgs Sector ...!

(okb, DE Kharzeev, (2017); PRD 98, 054007 (2018) )



**hard component**

**thermal component**

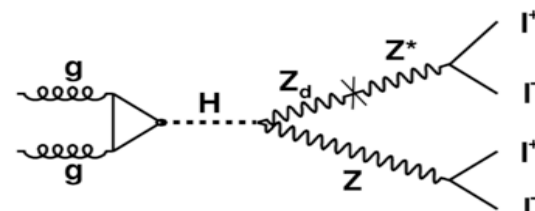
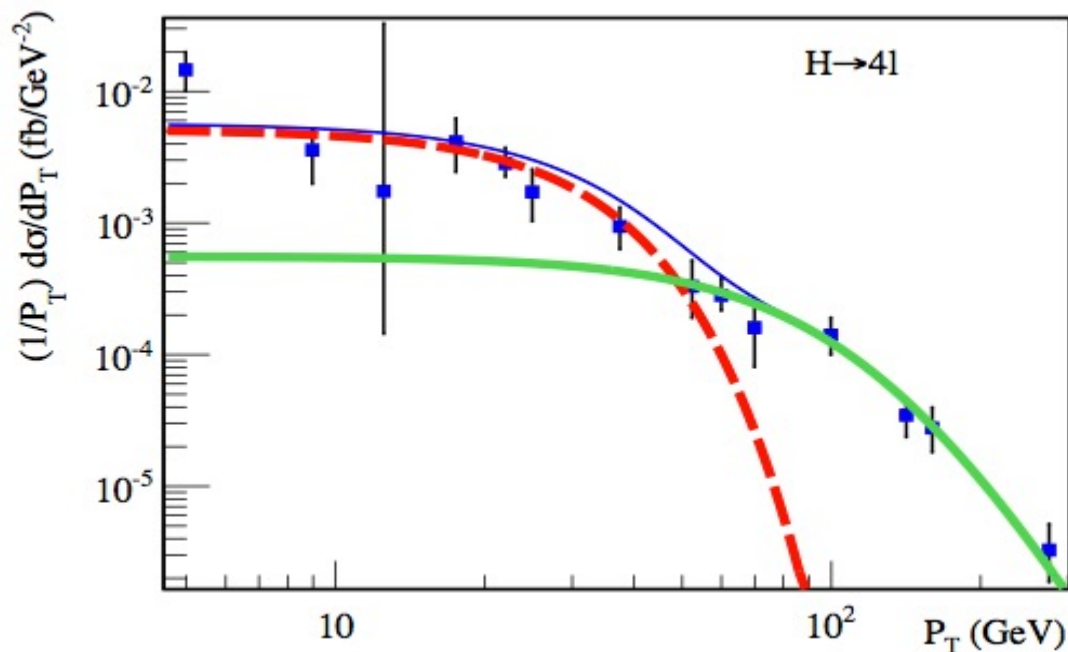
**total**

**the ATLAS Collaboration**

High Energy. Phys., 2017:132  
(**2017**); LHCP2017, Shanghai,  
China, June **2017**

**the CMS Collaboration**

J. Tao on behalf of the CMS  
collaboration, arXiv:1708.09215,  
1 (**2017**); LHCP2017, Shanghai,  
China, June **2017**

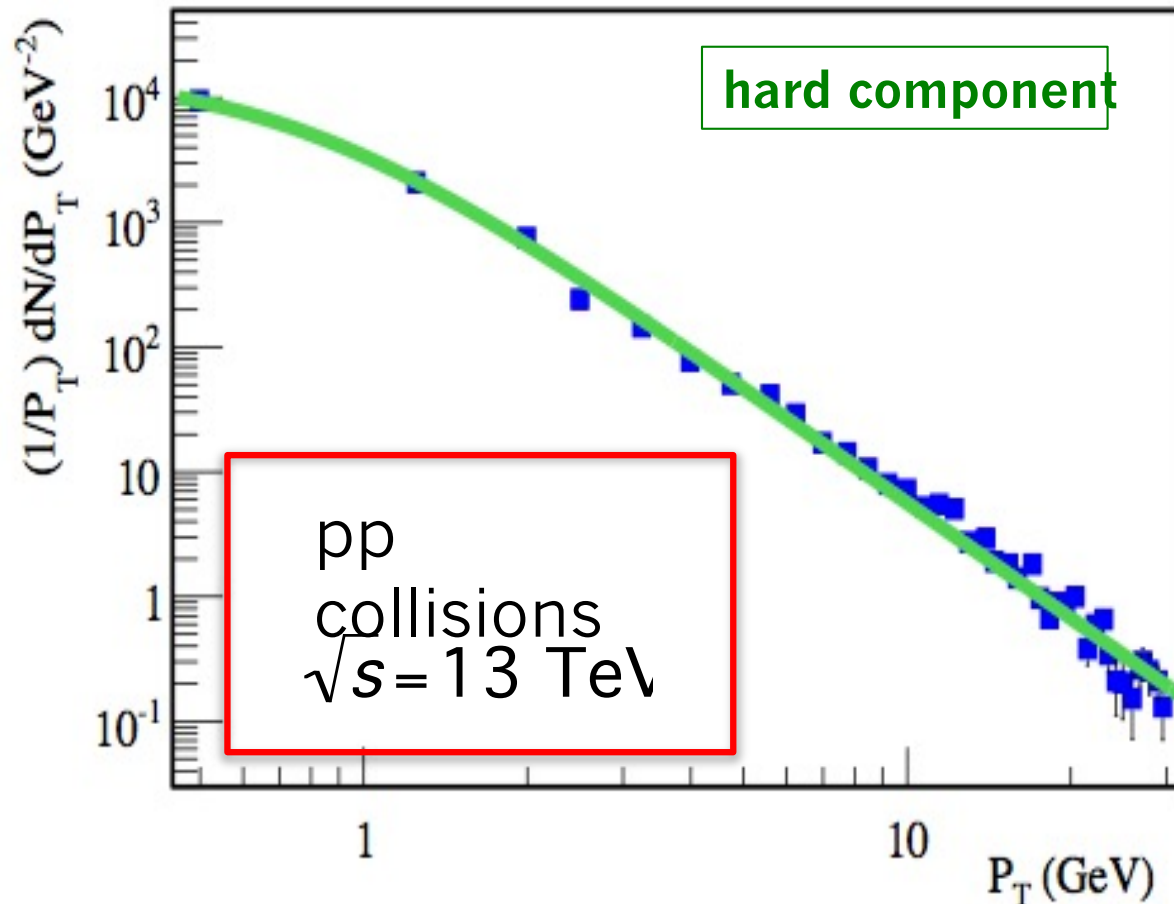






## Diffractive Production; No Thermal Component?

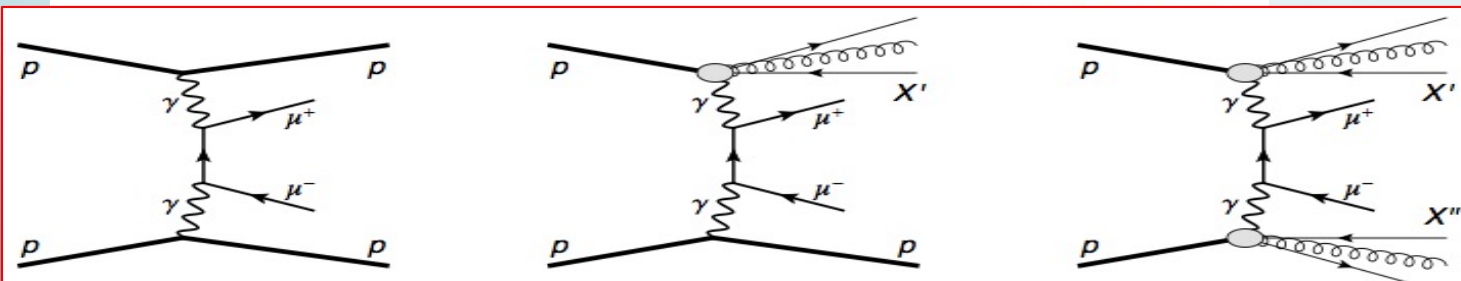
$$(pp)\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-(X'X'')$$



should be no thermal component according to proposed mechanism

the ATLAS Collaboration  
arXiv:1708.04053 (2017)

thermal component absent



diffractive processes

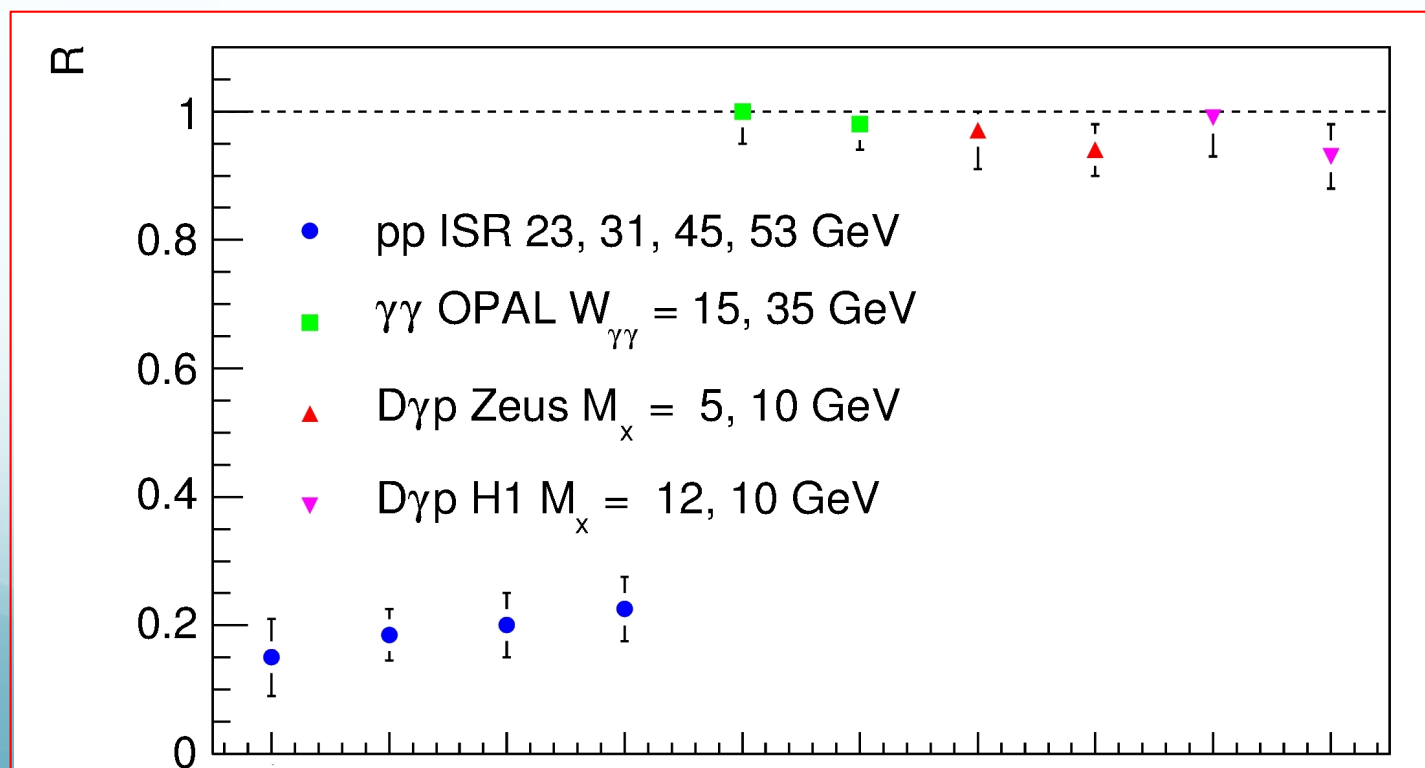


(okb, DE Kharzeev, (2017); PRD 98, 054007 (2018) )

$T_{th}, \text{GeV}$	$T, \text{GeV}$	$R$	process
$0.17 \pm 0.03$	$0.72 \pm 0.1$	$0.16 \pm 0.05$	$pp \rightarrow \text{charged hadrons}$
none	$0.1 \pm 0.02$	$1.0 \pm 0.1$	$pp (\gamma\gamma) \rightarrow (\mu\mu)pp$
$3.5 \pm 0.7$	$14.4 \pm 0.3$	$0.15 \pm 0.05$	$pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
$3.5 \pm 0.7$	$14.4 \pm 0.3$	$0.23 \pm 0.05$	$pp \rightarrow H \rightarrow 4l (e, \mu)$

**this  
original  
study**

$$R = \frac{T}{T_{th} + T}$$



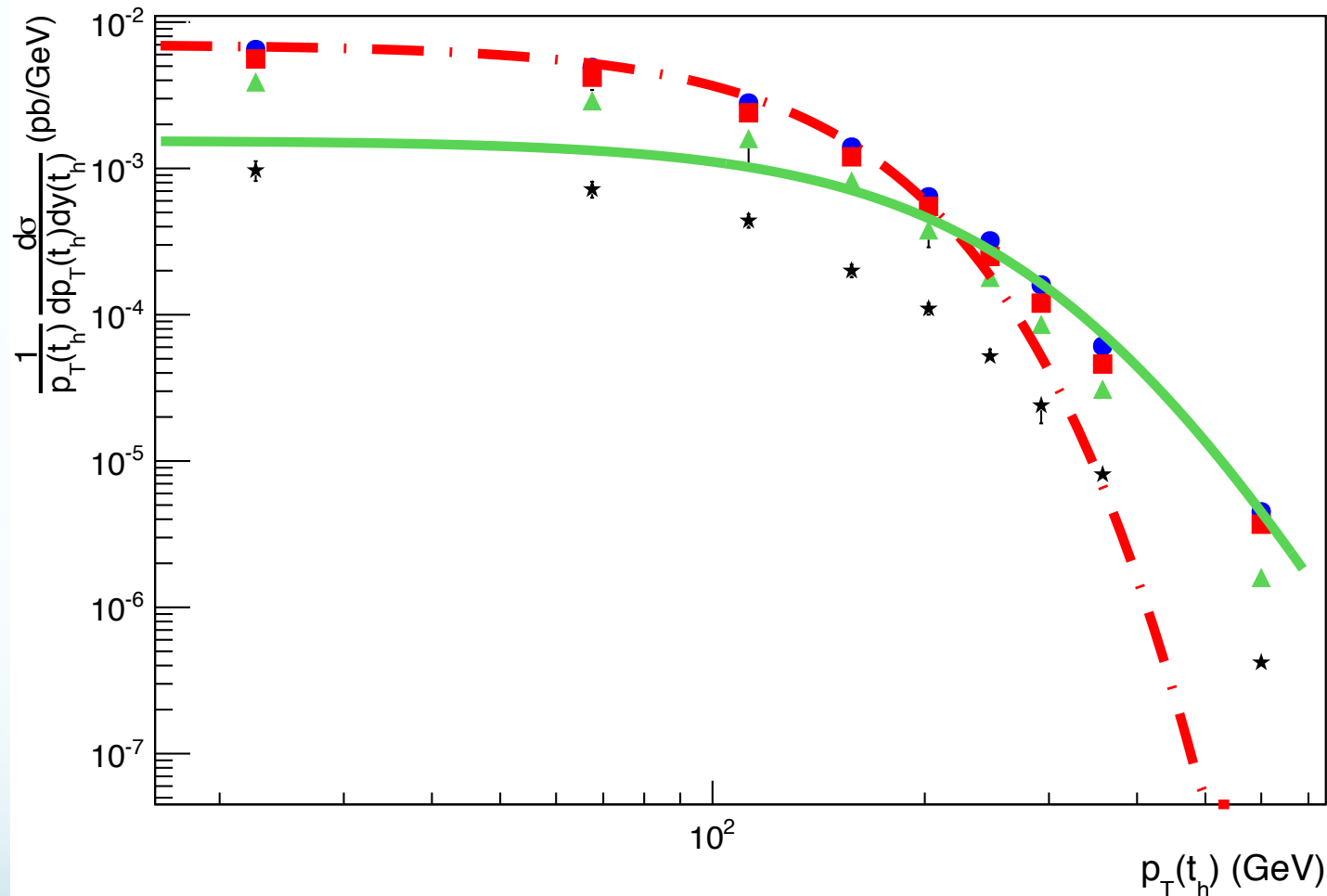
**previous  
published  
results**





# $t\bar{t}$ Analysis; Thermal Component Present

rapidity, normalized transverse momentum dependence

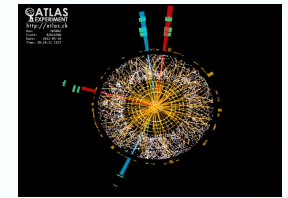


Normalized double differential cross section versus transverse momentum; four rapidity regions, (0.0-0.5), (0.5-1.0), (1.0-1.5), (1.5-20).



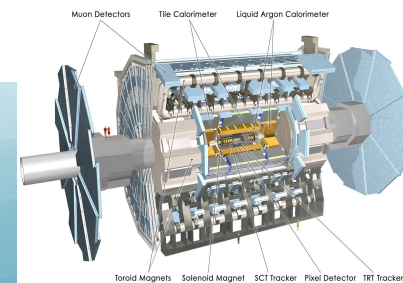
# Quantum Information Science in High Energy Physics

## summary



- quantum entanglement proposed as a universal phenomenon underlying the behavior of strongly interacting systems across vastly different scales
- theoretical and experimental studies of thermal radiation and entanglement in HEP collisions
  - first demonstration of this QIS related effect at **highest LHC energies** and in **weak interactions**;
  - can quantum entanglement be used to address open problems in:
    - **Bell Inequality Violation?**
    - hadron structure?
    - quark confinement?
    - qubit decoherence in quantum computing?

**Entanglement dynamics**





# Additional References

“thermal radiation and entanglement in proton-proton collisions at the LHC” **Phys. Rev. D 98, 054007 (2018); ; arXiv:1712.04558 (2017))** (okb, DE Kharzeev)

inaugural workshop at SBU “quantum entanglement at collider energies” (2018); <https://indico.bnl.gov/event/4350/>

Thermal Hadronization and Hawking-Unruh Radiation in QCD; (P. Castorina, D. Kharzeev, H. Satz); Eur. Phys. J. C52, 187 (2007)

The origin of the thermal component in the transverse momentum spectra in high energy hadronic processes, A. A. Bylinkin, D.E. Kharzeev, A. A. Rostovtsev; Physics Archives hep-ph:arXiv:1407.4087

## Current Ongoing Study:

**Quantum Entanglement and Bell's  
Inequality Violation using  
Higgs  $\rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\text{lep}$  (e, $\mu$ )**

in collaboration with  
E. Gabrielli (Triest) and T. Lagouri (UTA)

still in analysis phase  
initial results, but not to be shown yet