

Comparison of methods for determining centrality in nucleus-nucleus collisions in the BM@N experiment

Idrisov Dim, Fedor Guber, Nikolay Karpushkin, Parfenov Peter

INR RAS, Moscow, Russia



The XXVIth International Baldin Seminar on High Energy Physics Problems
“Relativistic Nuclear Physics and Quantum Chromodynamics”

September 15 to 20, 2025 in Dubna, Russia

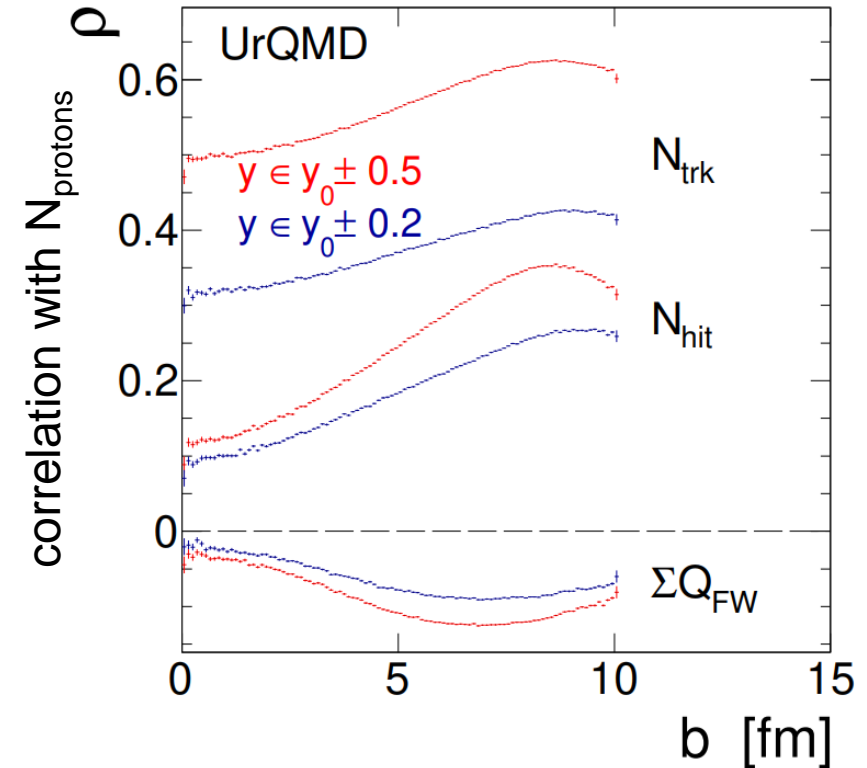
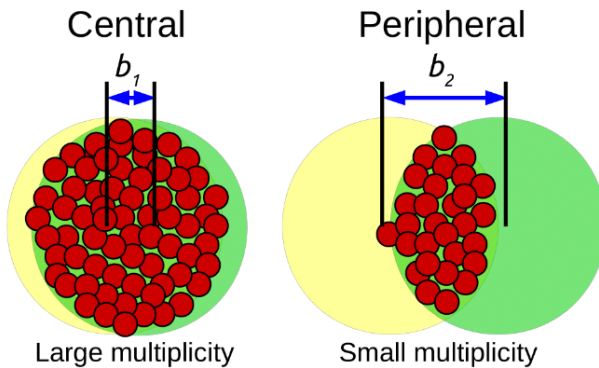


Centrality



- Evolution of matter produced in heavy-ion collisions depend on its initial geometry
- Centrality procedure maps initial geometry parameters with measurable quantities (multiplicity or energy of the spectators)
- **This allows comparison of the future BMAN results with the data from other experiments (STAR BES, NA49/NA61 scans) and theoretical models**

$$c(b) = \frac{\int_0^b \frac{d\sigma}{db'} db'}{\int_0^\infty \frac{d\sigma}{db'} db'} = \frac{1}{\sigma_{A-A}} \int_0^b \frac{d\sigma}{db'} db'$$



HADES; Phys.Rev.C 102 (2020) 2, 024914

- A number of produced protons is stronger correlated with the number of produced particles (track & RPC+TOF hits) than with the total charge of spectator fragments (FW)
- to suppress self-correlation biases, it is necessary to use spectators fragments for centrality estimation

Centrality determination in BM@N

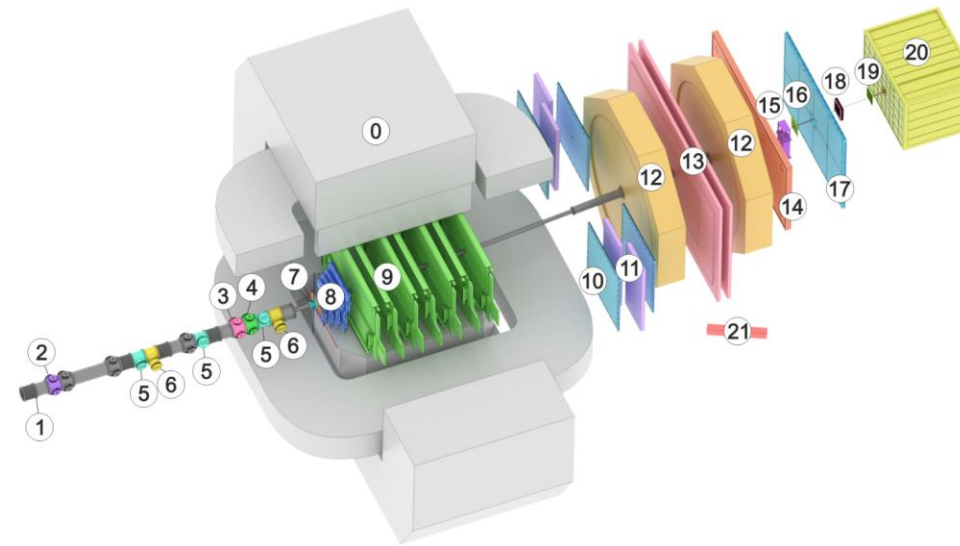
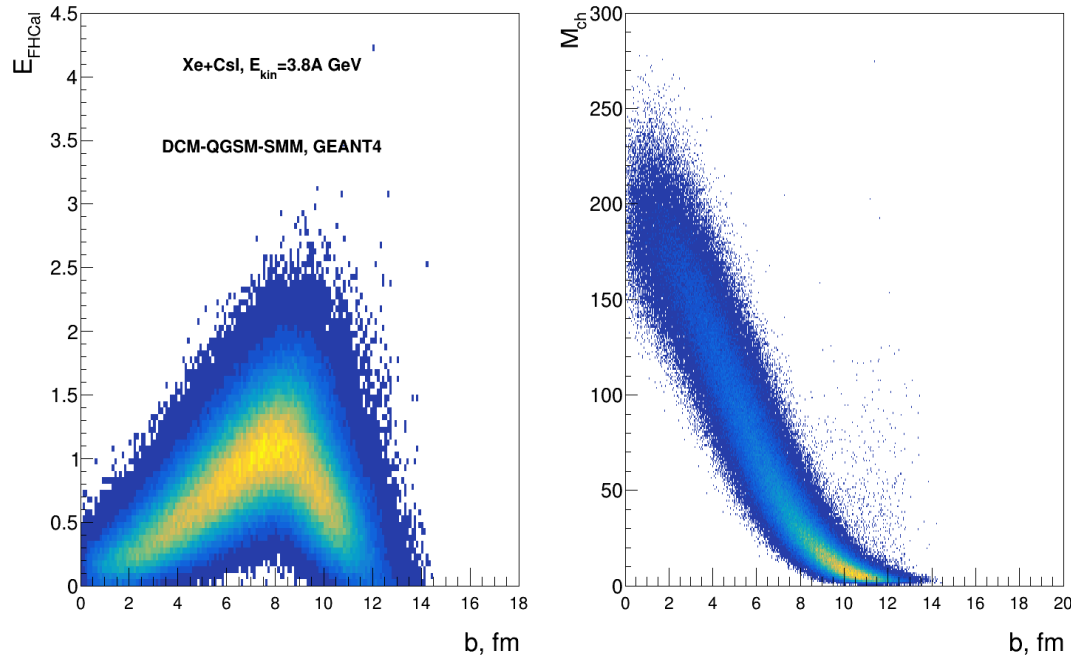


DCM-QGSM-SMM

GEANT4

Reconstruction

Centrality determination

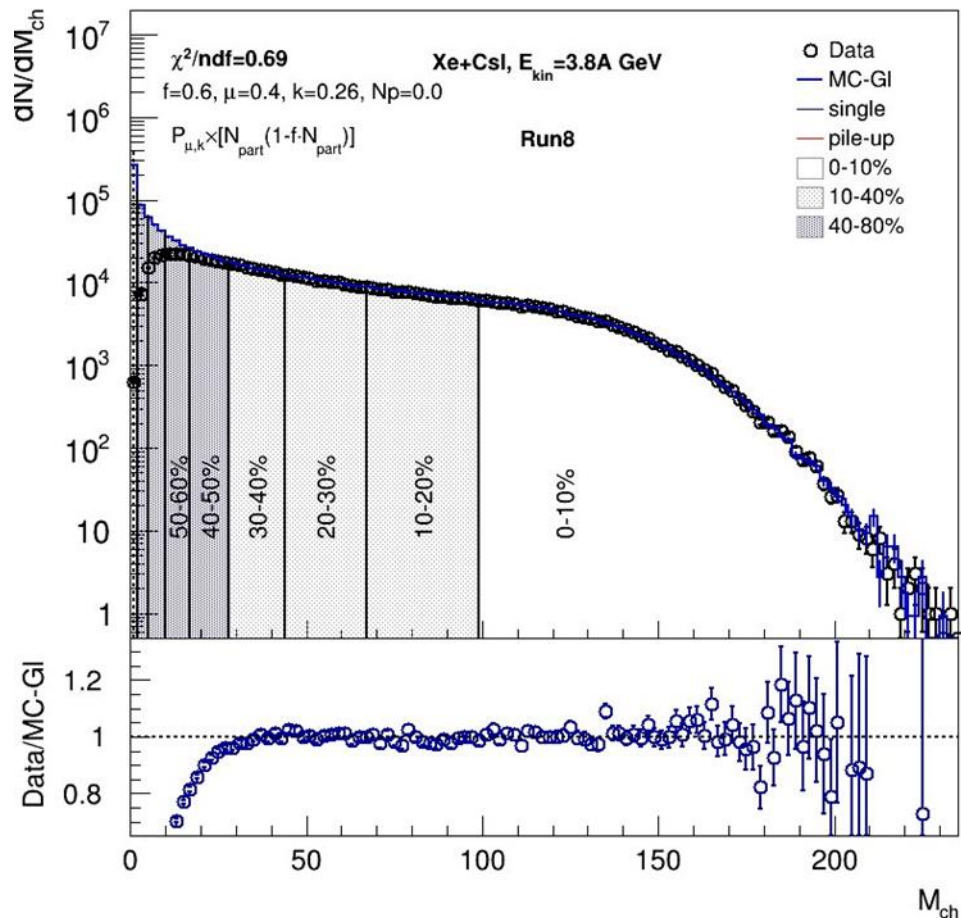
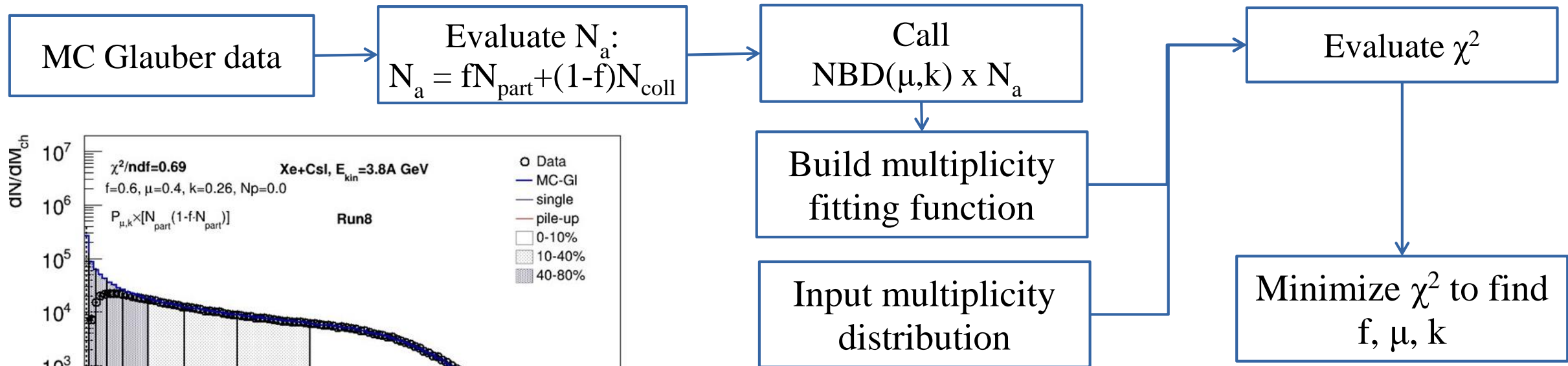


- Magnet SP-41 (0)
- Vacuum Beam Pipe (1)
- BC1, VC, BC2 (2-4)
- SiBT, SiProf (5, 6)
- Triggers: BD + SiMD (7)
- FSD, GEM (8, 9)
- CSC 1x1 m² (10)
- TOF 400 (11)
- DCH (12)
- TOF 700 (13)
- ScWall (14)
- FD (15)
- Small GEM (16)
- CSC 2x1.5 m² (17)
- Beam Profilometer (18)
- FQH (19)
- FHCAL (20)
- HGN (21)

Dependence of energy in FHCAL and track multiplicity on the impact parameter

BM@N setup overview

MC-Glauber based centrality framework



NBD – negative binomial distribution

Parameters of the fit:

- f – the fraction of multiplicity from the soft component
- μ – mean multiplicity value
- k – width of the multiplicity distribution, can be connected to the fluctuations

Implementation for MPD: <https://github.com/FlowNICA/CentralityFramework>

The Bayesian inversion method (Γ -fit): DCM-QSM-SMM based



- The fluctuation kernel for multiplicity at fixed impact parameter is Gamma distr.:

$$P(M | c_b) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(k(c_b))\theta^2} M^{k(c_b)-1} e^{-M/\theta}$$

$$c_b = \int_0^b P(b') db' \quad \text{– centrality based on impact parameter}$$

$$\theta = \frac{D(M)}{\langle M \rangle}, \quad k = \frac{\langle M \rangle}{\theta}$$

$\langle M \rangle, D(M)$ – average and variance of Multiplicity

$$P(M) = \int_0^1 P(M | c_b) dc_b$$

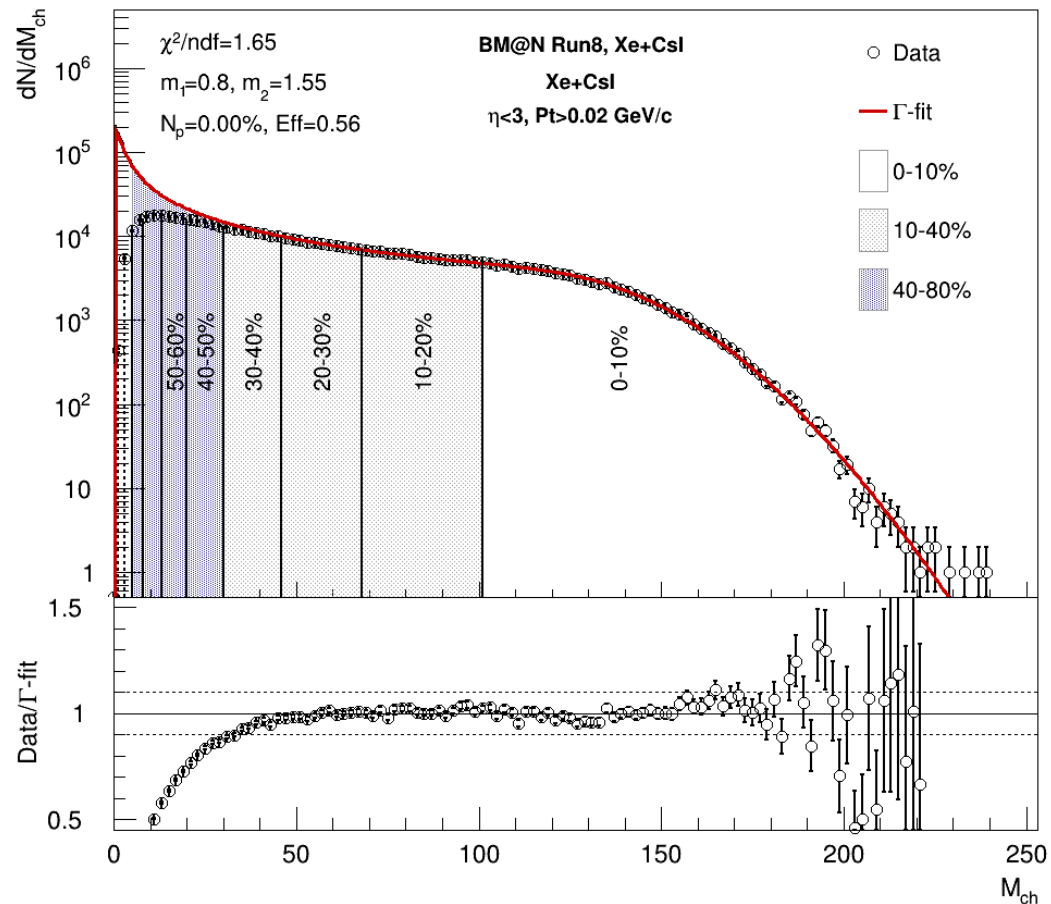
$$\langle M \rangle = m_1 \cdot \langle M' \rangle$$

$$D(M) = m_1^2 \cdot D(M') + m_1 \cdot m_2 \langle M' \rangle$$

$\langle M'(c_b) \rangle$ – average value and var. of energy/mult.
 $D(M'(c_b))$ from the rec. model data

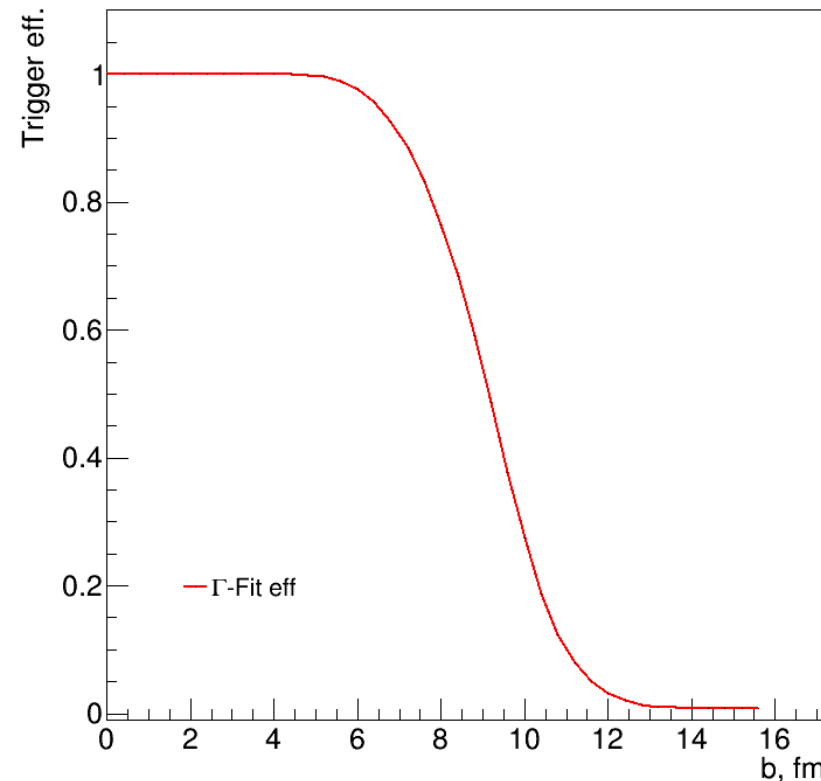
- can be approximated by polynomials or exponential polynomial

Fit results: experimental data



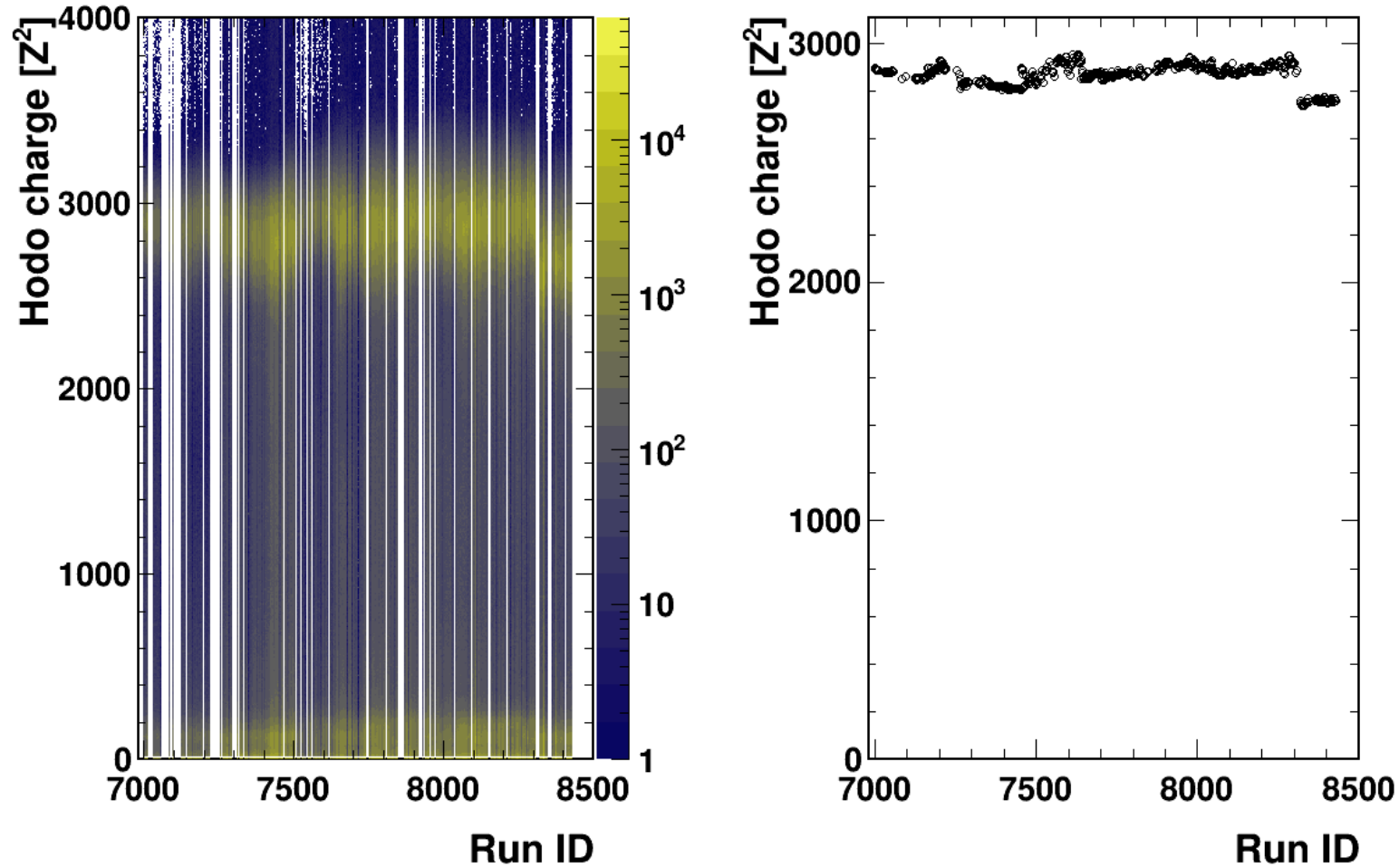
Good agreement with fit

$$P_{eff}(b) = \int_0^{M_{max}} P_{eff}(M) P(M | b) dM$$



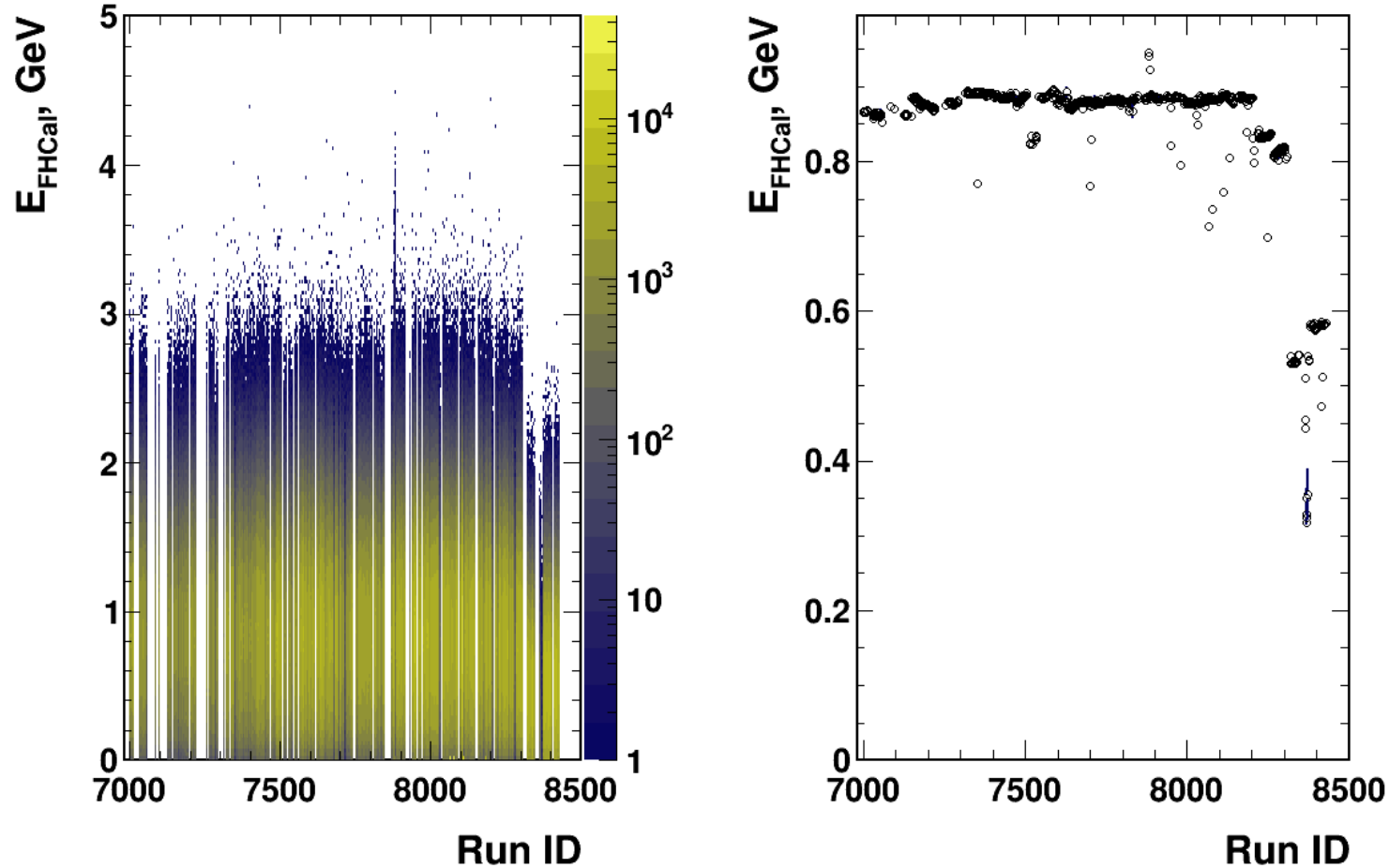
Convolutd trigger efficiency can be calculated
 using Bayes' theorem

Signal of Hodoscope vs Run ID



The average signal value for the xenon ion in the hodoscope is weakly dependent on the Run ID

Signal of Hodoscope vs Run ID



The average signal value in the FHCal is weakly dependent on the Run ID, but some modules require calibration

The Bayesian inversion method (Γ -fit): 2D fit



- The fluctuation kernel for energy and multiplicity at fixed impact parameter can be describe by 2D Gamma distr.:

$$P(E, M | c_b) = G_{2D}(E, M, \langle E \rangle, \langle M \rangle, D(E), D(M), R)$$

$\langle E \rangle, D(E)$ – average value and variance of energy

$R(E, M)$ – Pirson correlation coefficient

$$P(E, M) = \int_0^1 P(E, M | c_b) dc_b$$

$$R(E, M) = \frac{\varepsilon_1^2 m_1^2}{\varepsilon_2 m_2} R(E', M') \quad \varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, m_1, m_2 \text{ - fit parameters}$$

$\langle E'(c_b) \rangle$ – average value and var. of energy/mult.

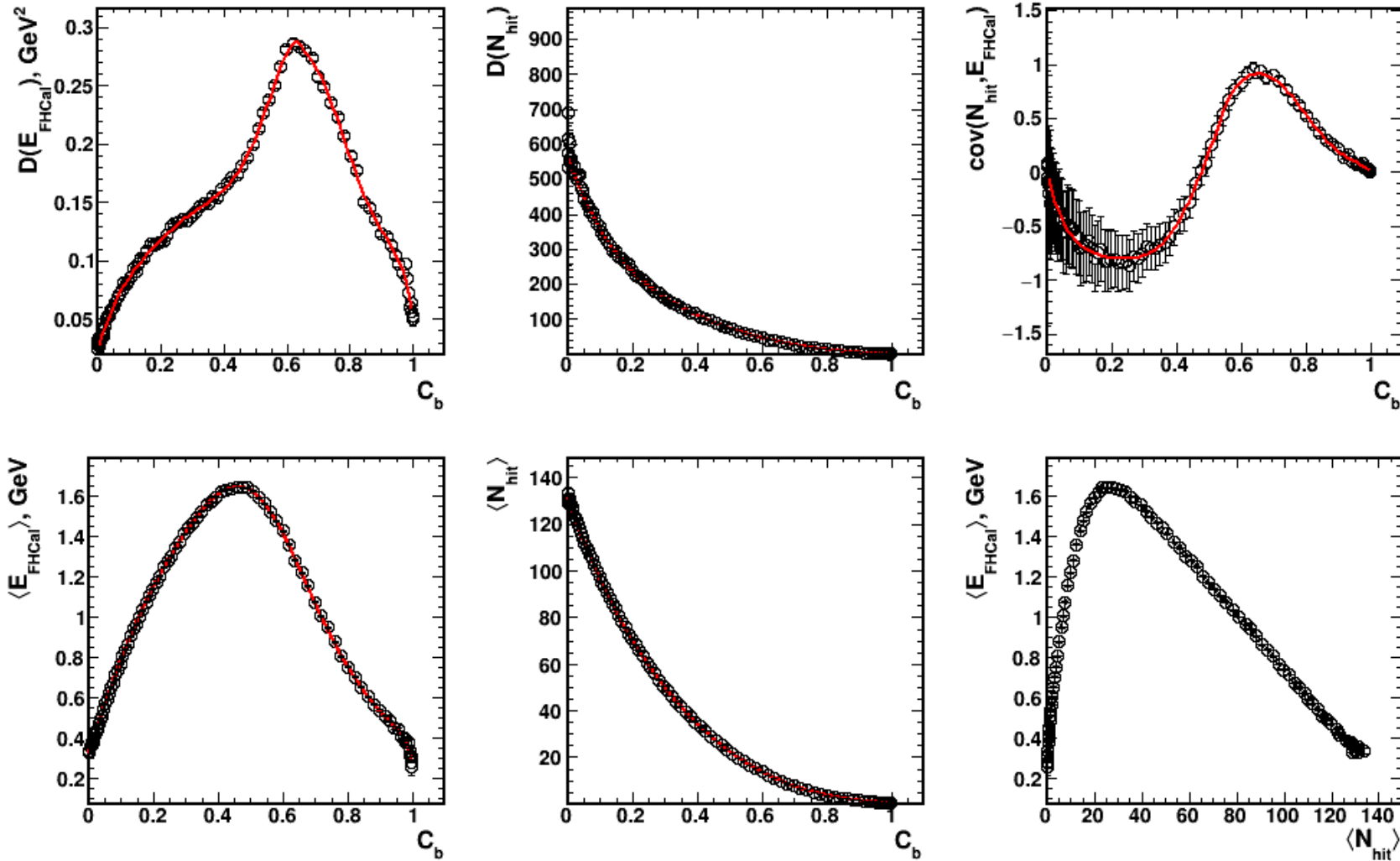
$D(E'(c_b))$ from the rec. model data

$$\langle E \rangle = \varepsilon_1 \langle E'(c_b) \rangle, \quad D(E) = \varepsilon_2 D(E'(c_b))$$

$$\langle M \rangle = m_1 \langle M' \rangle, \quad D(M) = m_1^2 D(M') + m_2 \langle M' \rangle$$

$\langle E'(c_b) \rangle, D(E'(c_b))$ - can be approximated by polynomials

Dependence of the average value and variance on centrality



Averages and variances can be fitted by a smooth function.

The fluctuation of energy and multiplicity at fixed impact parameter



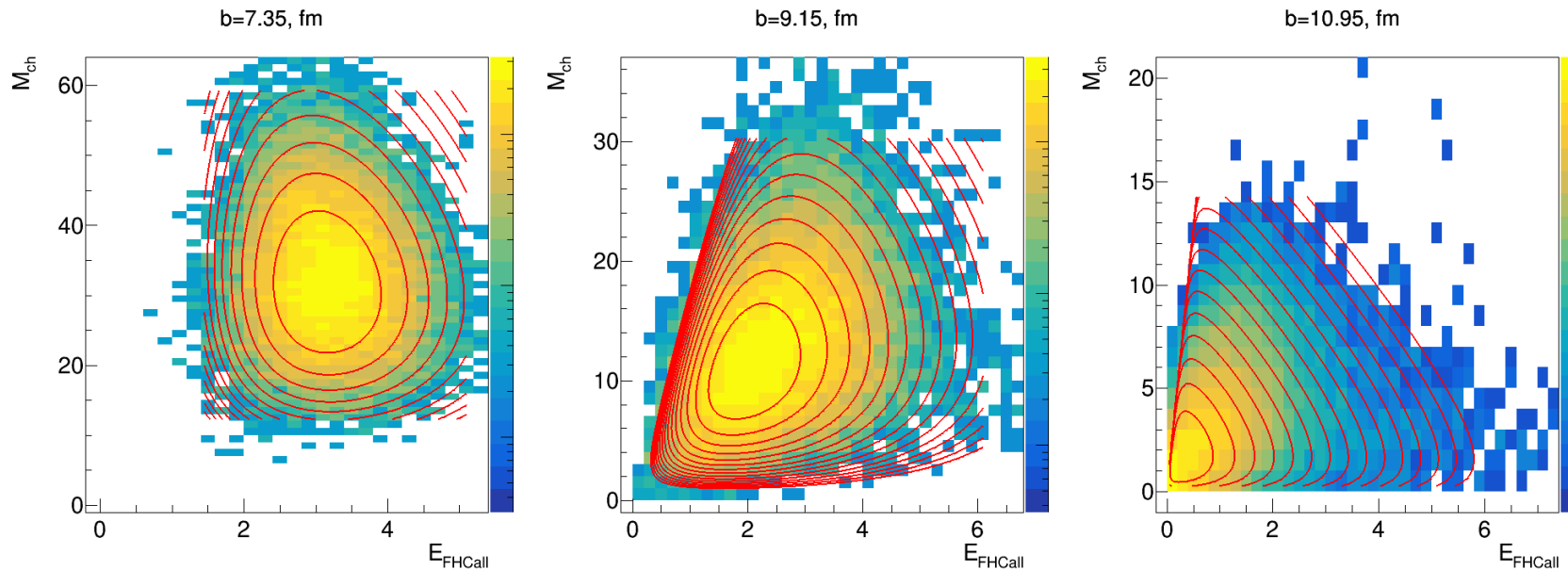
It is possible to find such a rotation angle of the system that $\text{cov}(x, y) = 0$

$$x = \cos(\alpha)E + \sin(\alpha)M,$$

$$y = -\sin(\alpha)E + \cos(\alpha)M$$

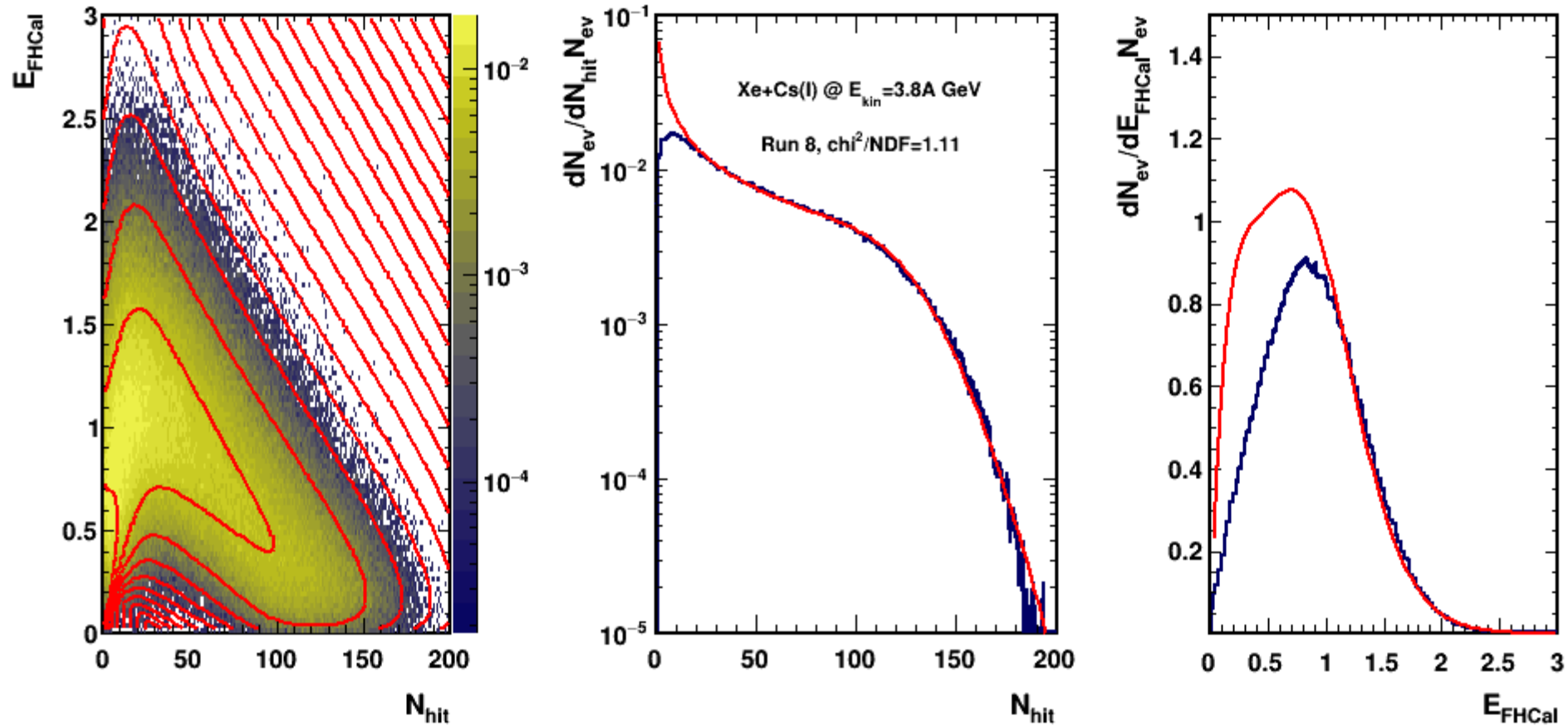
$$\alpha = \arctan\left(\frac{2\sqrt{D(E)D(M)R(E,M)}}{D(E) - D(M)}\right)$$

$$G_{2D}(E_{FH}, M_{ch}, \langle E \rangle, \langle M \rangle, D(E), D(M), R) = G(x, \theta_x, k_x) \cdot G(y, \theta_y, k_y)$$



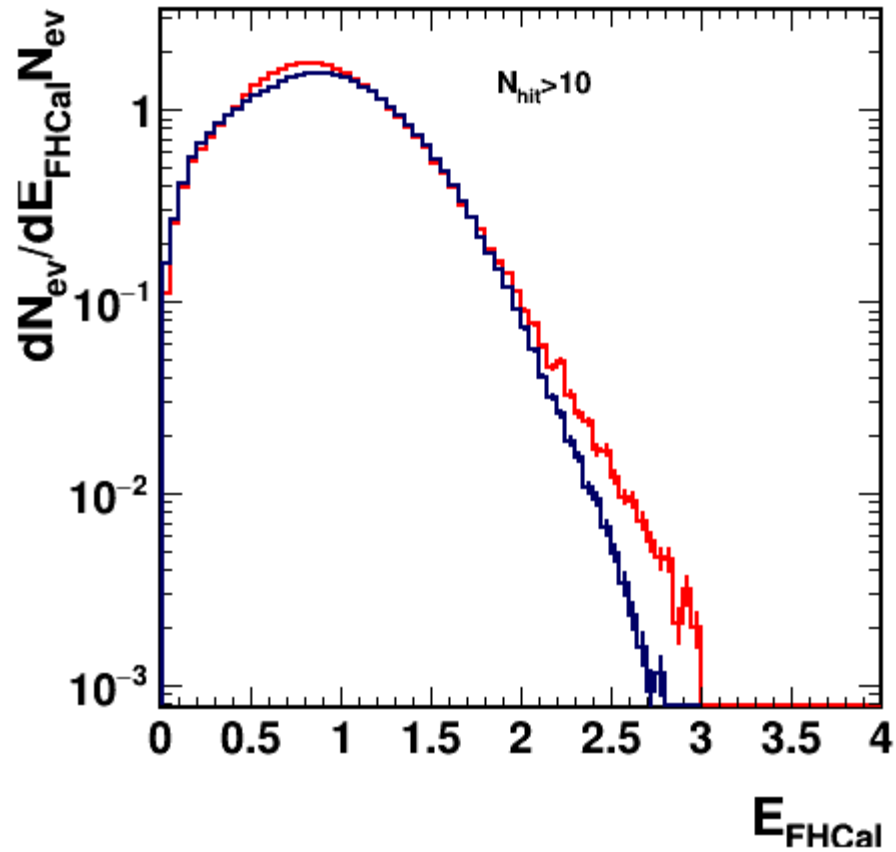
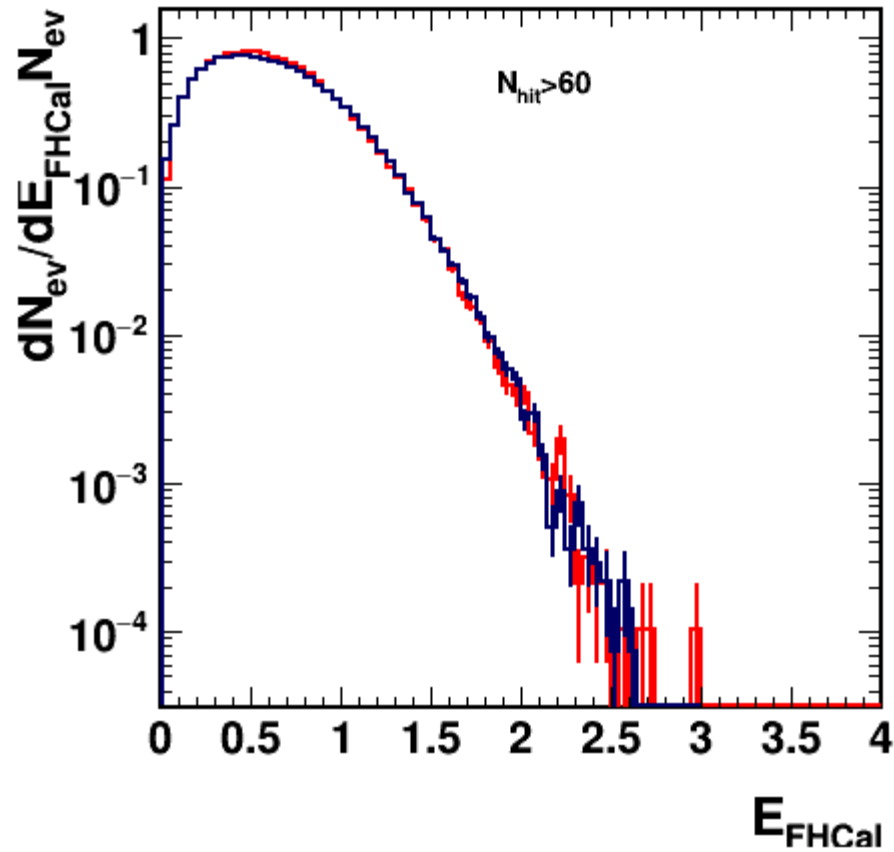
The distribution of energy and multiplicity at a fixed impact parameter is well described by the gamma distribution

2D fit results



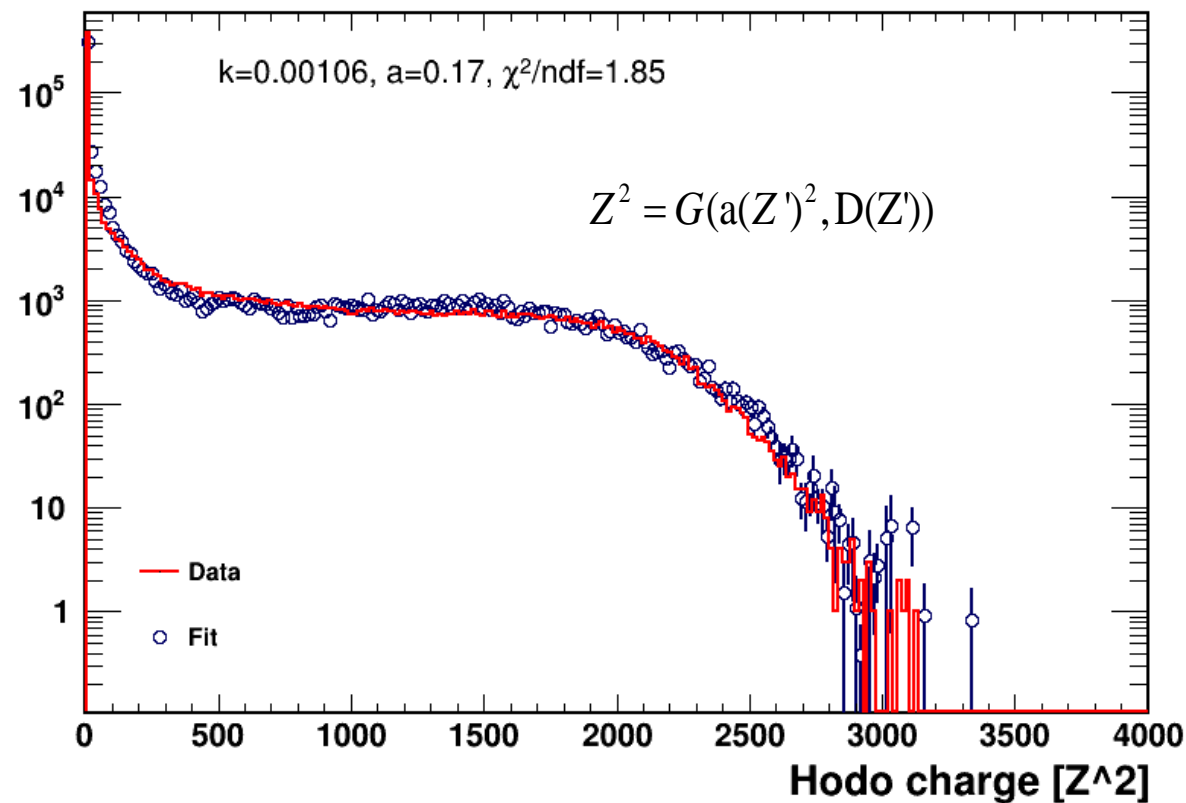
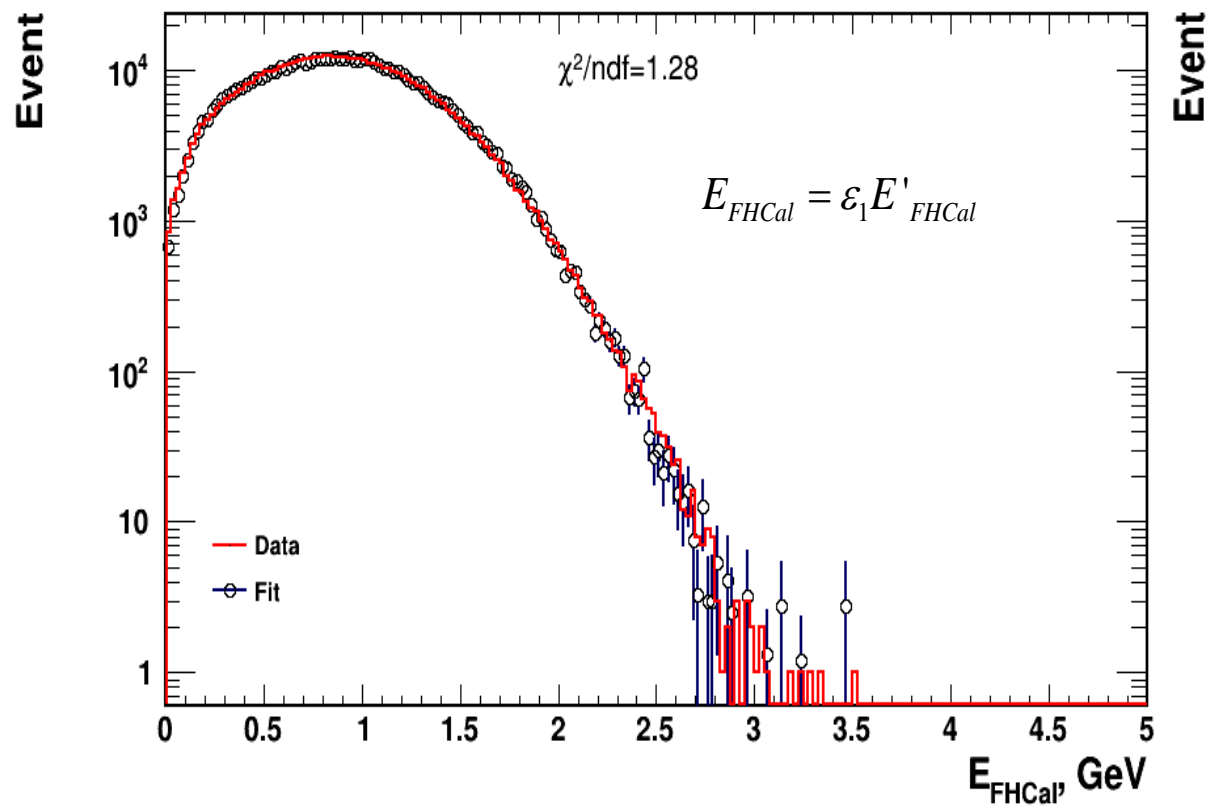
The fit function qualitatively reproduces the multiplicity-energy correlation from FHCaI

Energy distributions in FHCal



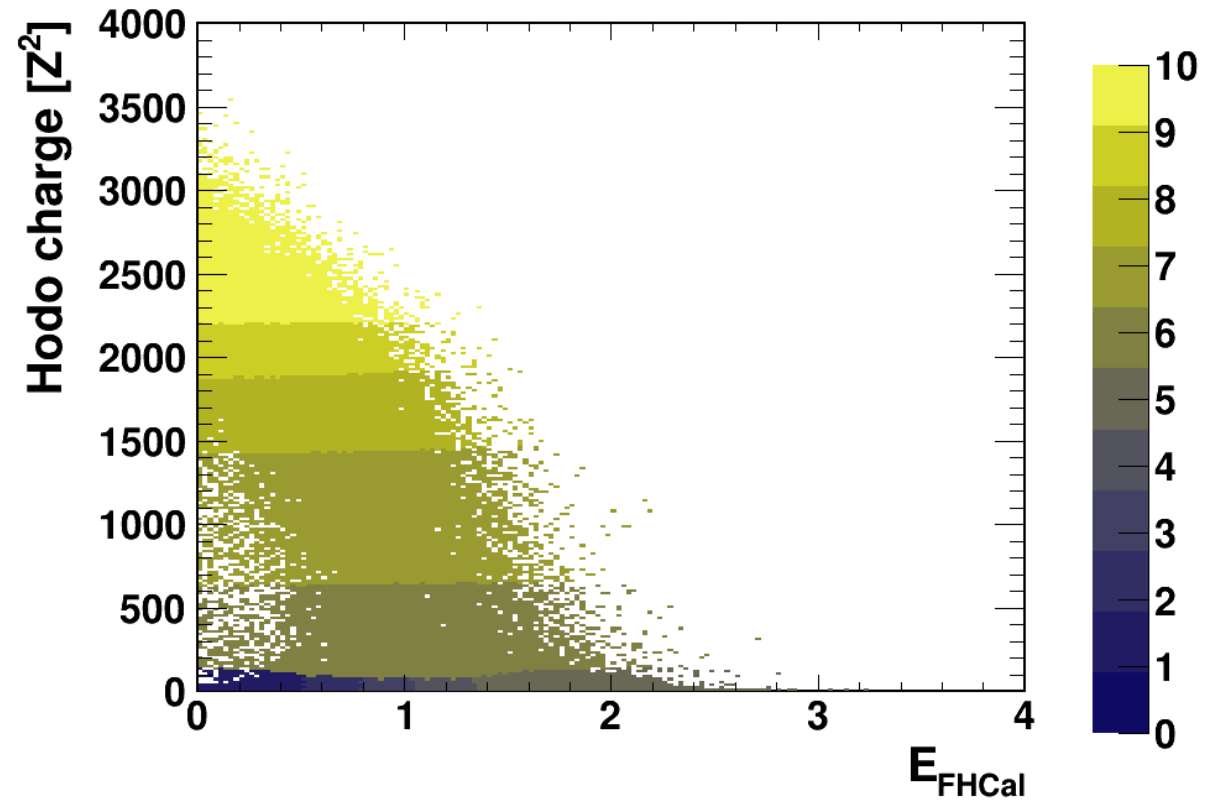
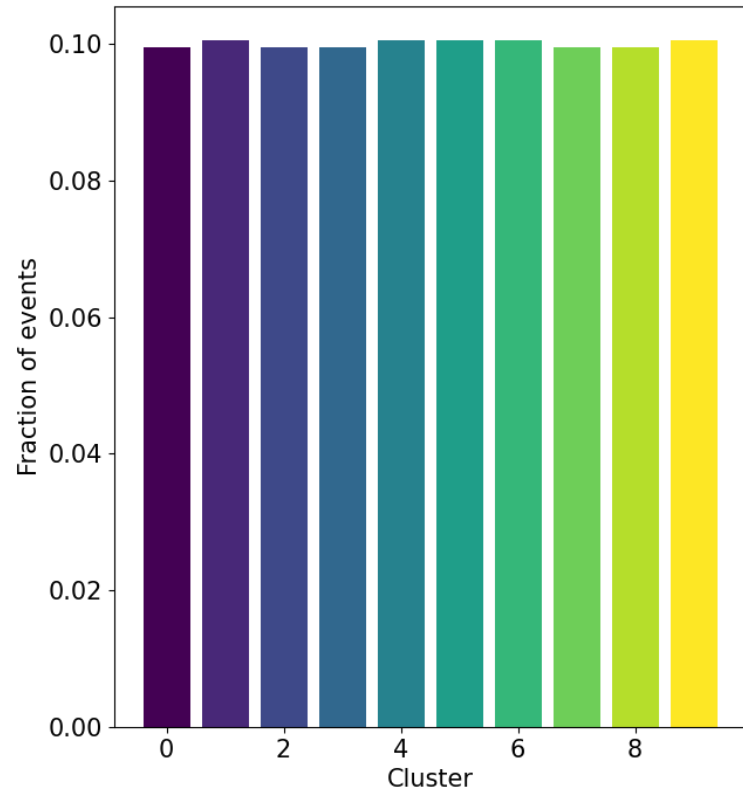
Good agreement between fit and data for the area below the anchorpoint

The results of the fit signals from the calorimeter and hodoscope



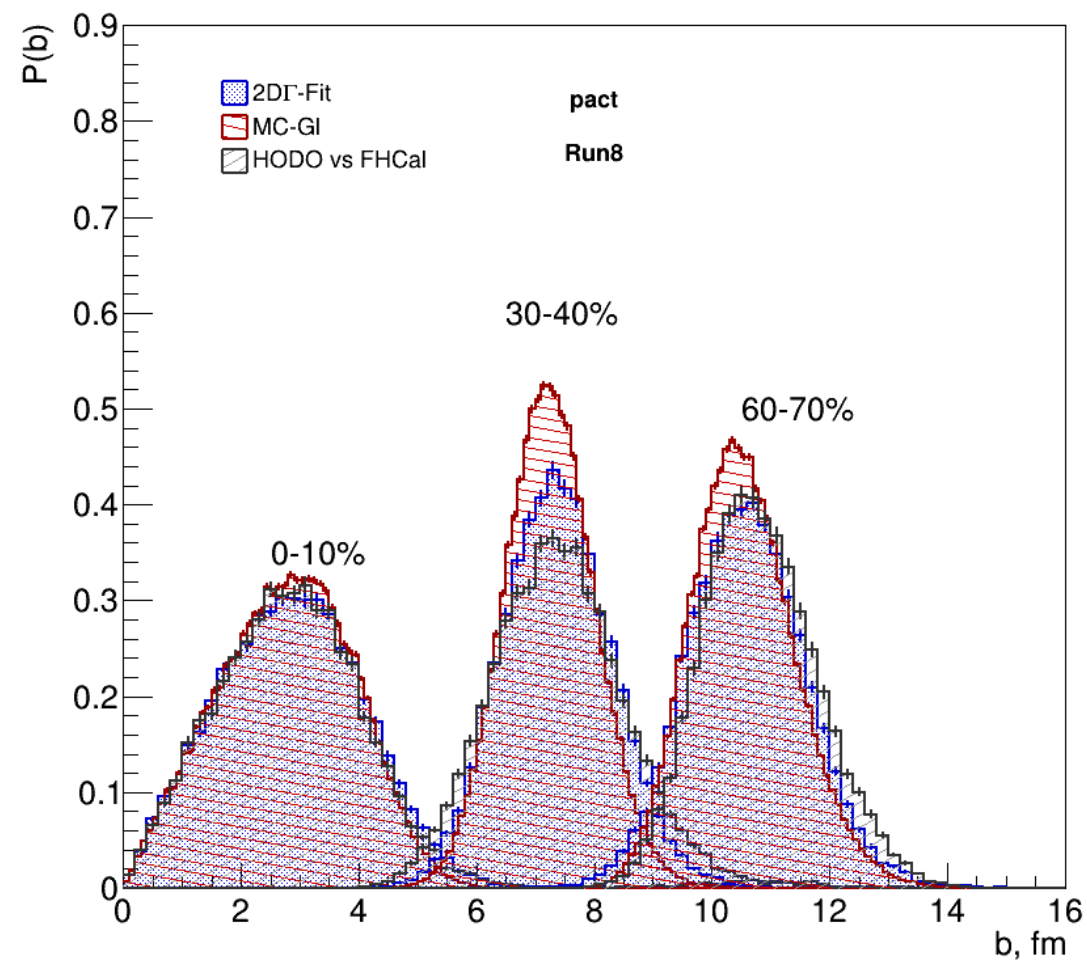
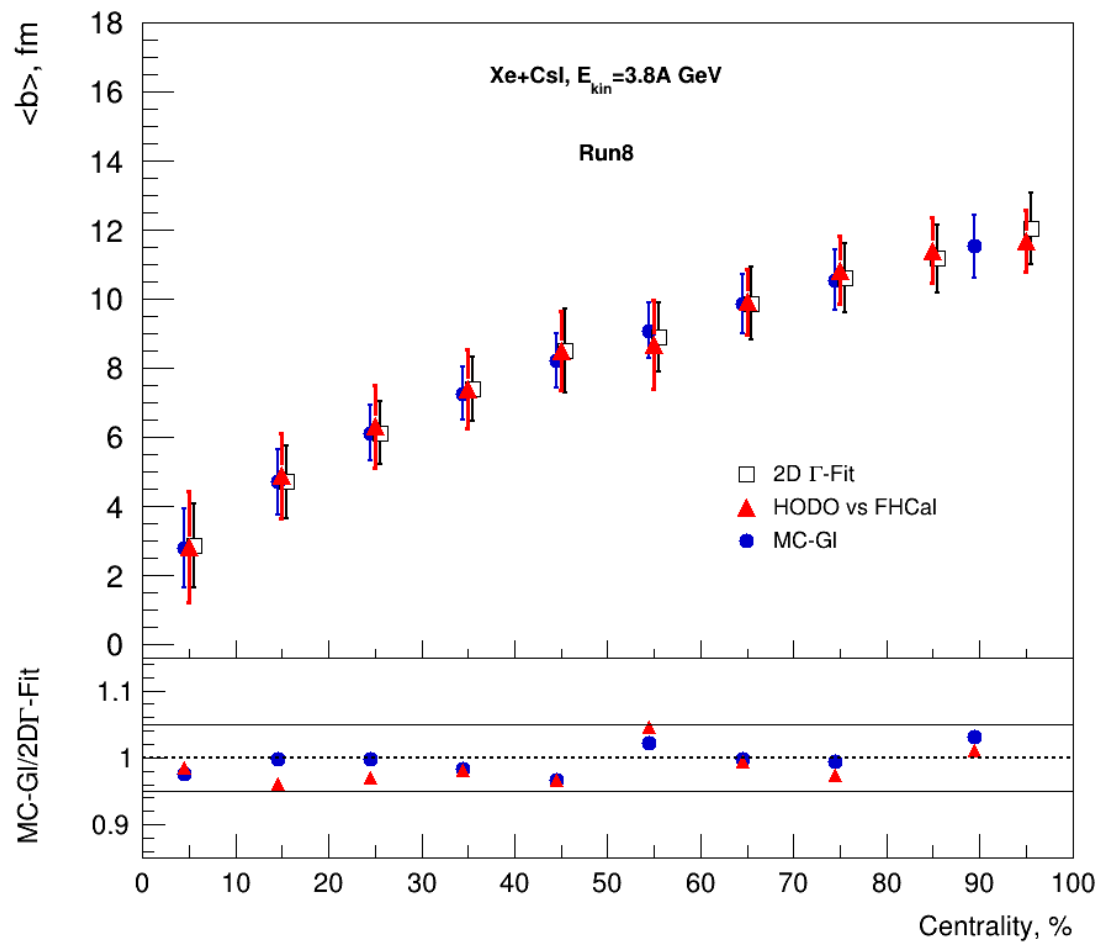
Good agreement of fit results

Centrality determination using an forward calorimeter and hodoscope



The K-means method allows to divide a two-dimensional distribution into centrality classes. In order to correctly apply the class boundaries, it is necessary to match the simulation results with the experiment

Comparison with Glauber MC fit



There is agreement within 5%.

- Both the Bayesian inversion and MC – Glauber methods provide consistent results
- The Bayesian inversion method was applied to the BM@N data:
 - Multiplicity-based and 2D approaches using Q^2_{Hodo} and E_{FHCaI} describe experimental data reasonably well.
- In the future, it is planned to study systematics uncertainties using different models (DCM, UrQMD, etc.) and observables (GEM hit multiplicity, etc.)

Thank you for your attention!