



ALICE

# Recent results on heavy flavor and quarkonia from ALICE

E. Scomparin - INFN Torino (Italy)  
for the ALICE Collaboration



**SQM2022**

The 20th International Conference on Strangeness in Quark Matter  
13-17 June 2022 Busan, Republic of Korea



# Introduction

- Heavy quarks, a precise tool to study **QGP properties** and **hadronization mechanisms**
- Highlights from our menu today:
  - **J/ψ production** and **polarization**, **ψ(2S) production** in Pb-Pb
  - **Charm spatial diffusion coefficient** from  $R_{AA}$  and  $v_2$  measurements
  - **Beauty vs charm** energy loss from (non) prompt D
  - **Hadronization** studies via charm baryon production in pp, p-Pb, Pb-Pb  
... and much more!
- Some **specific features** of the ALICE measurements
  - Detection of inclusive charmonium and bottomonium states down to zero  $p_T$
  - Open heavy flavor: extended studies of meson AND baryon states over a wide  $p_T$  range



time

Thermal freeze-out

Chem. freeze-out

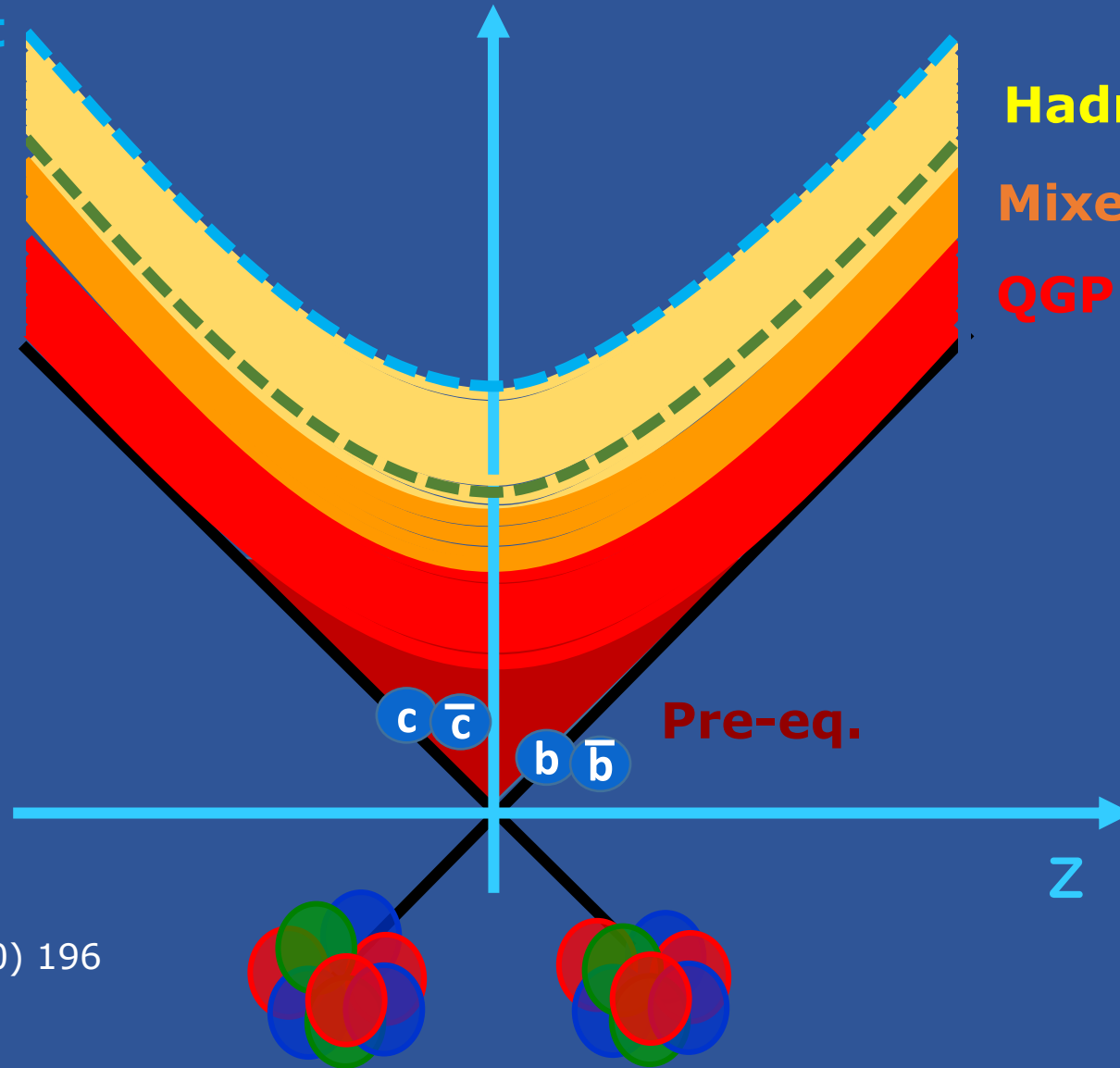
Hadron gas

Mixed phase

QGP

## Quarkonium

- Early production (and binding) of heavy quark pairs



Pre-eq.

$c$   $\bar{c}$

$b$   $\bar{b}$

$z$

- T. Matsui and H. Satz, PLB 178(1986) 416
- P. Braun-Munzinger and J. Stachel, PLB490(2000) 196
- R. Thews et al., PRC63 (2001) 064905
- A. Rothkopf, Phys. Rept. 858 (2020) 1

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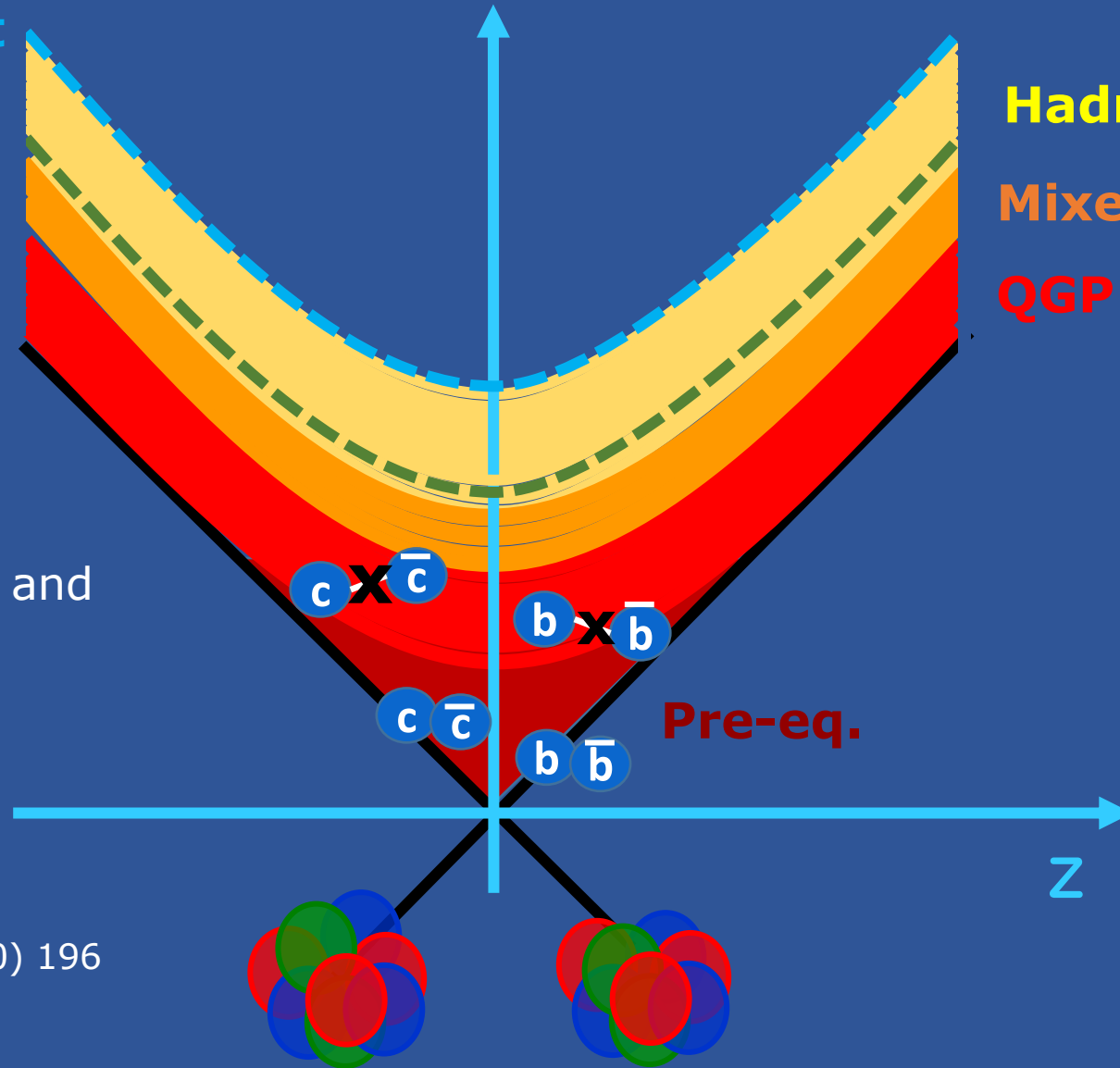
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Mixed phase

QGP

## Quarkonium

- Early production (and binding) of heavy quark pairs
- Modification of spectral properties and possible dissociation in the QGP



T. Matsui and H. Satz, PLB 178(1986) 416  
P. Braun-Munzinger and J. Stachel, PLB490(2000) 196  
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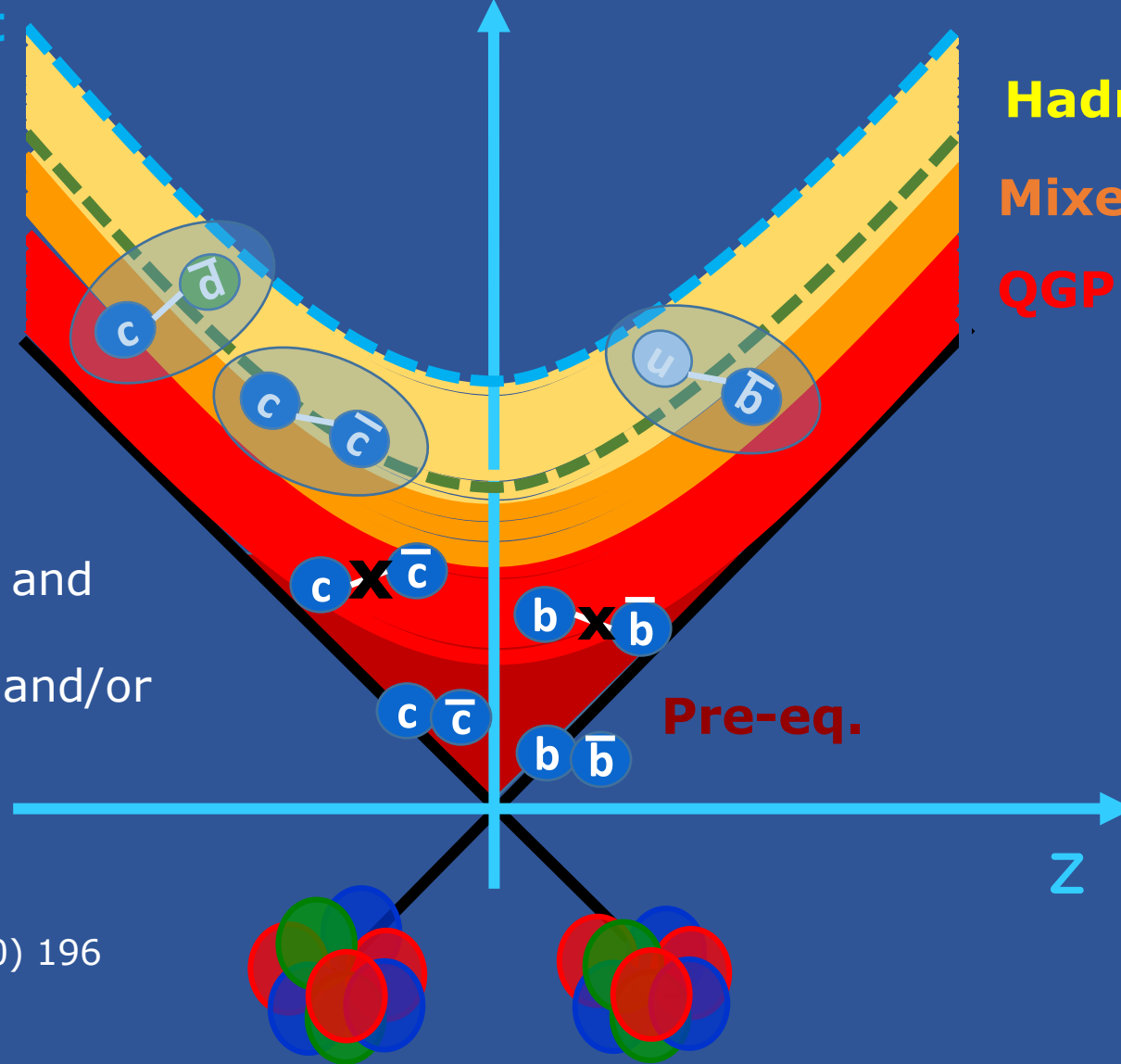
Hadron gas

Mixed phase

QGP

## Quarkonium

- Early production (and binding) of heavy quark pairs
- Modification of spectral properties and possible dissociation in the QGP
- Recombination effects in the QGP and/or at phase boundary



T. Matsui and H. Satz, PLB 178(1986) 416  
P. Braun-Munzinger and J. Stachel, PLB490(2000) 196  
R. Thews et al., PRC63 (2001) 064905  
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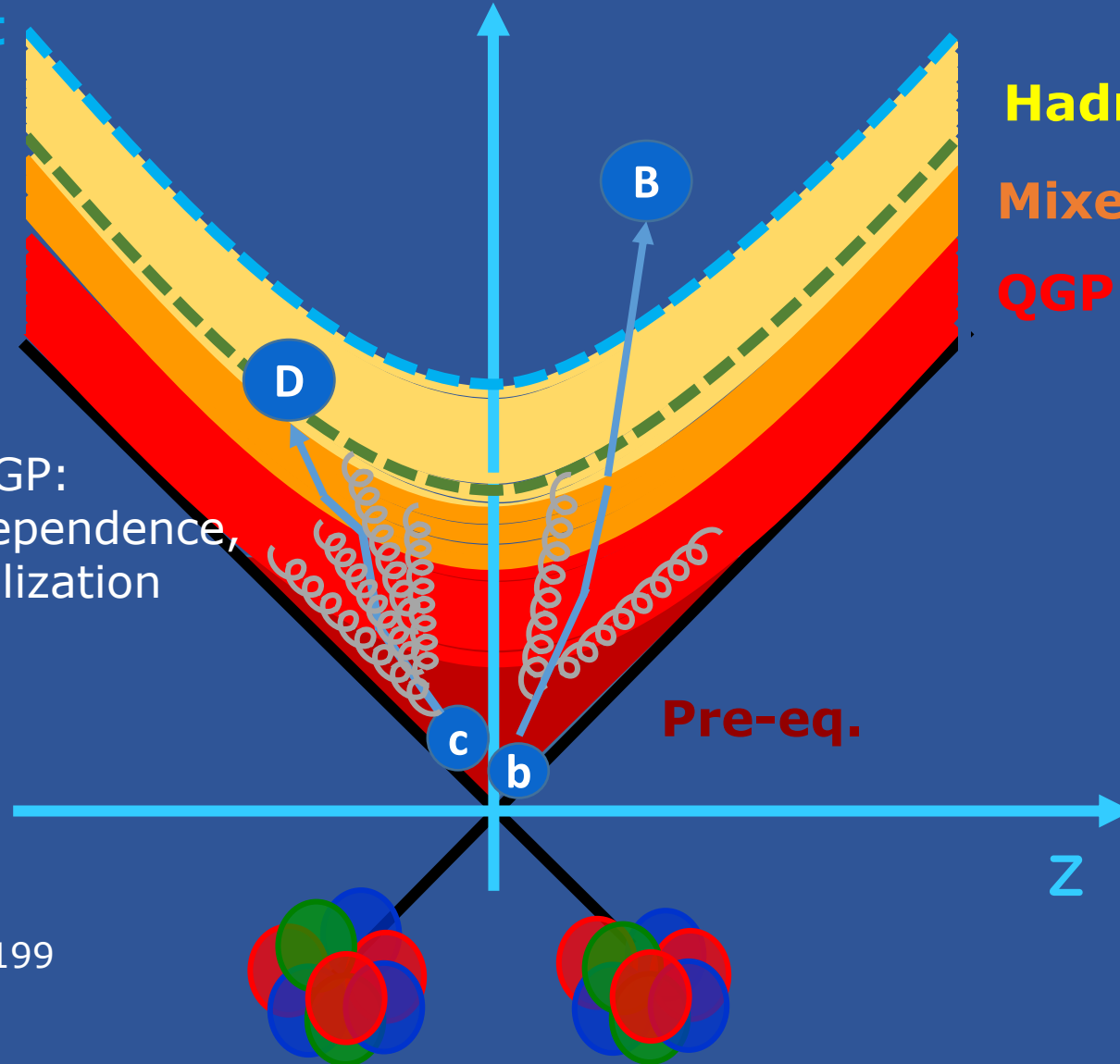
Hadron gas

Mixed phase

QGP

### Open heavy flavours

- Heavy quark interactions in the QGP: energy loss and its quark mass dependence, heavy quark diffusion and thermalization



Pre-eq.

z

Y. Dokshitzer and D. Kharzeev, PLB 519 (2001) 199  
D. Moore and H. Teaney, PRC71 (2005) 064904  
F. Prino and R. Rapp J.Phys.G 43 (2016) 9



time

Thermal freeze-out

Chem. freeze-out

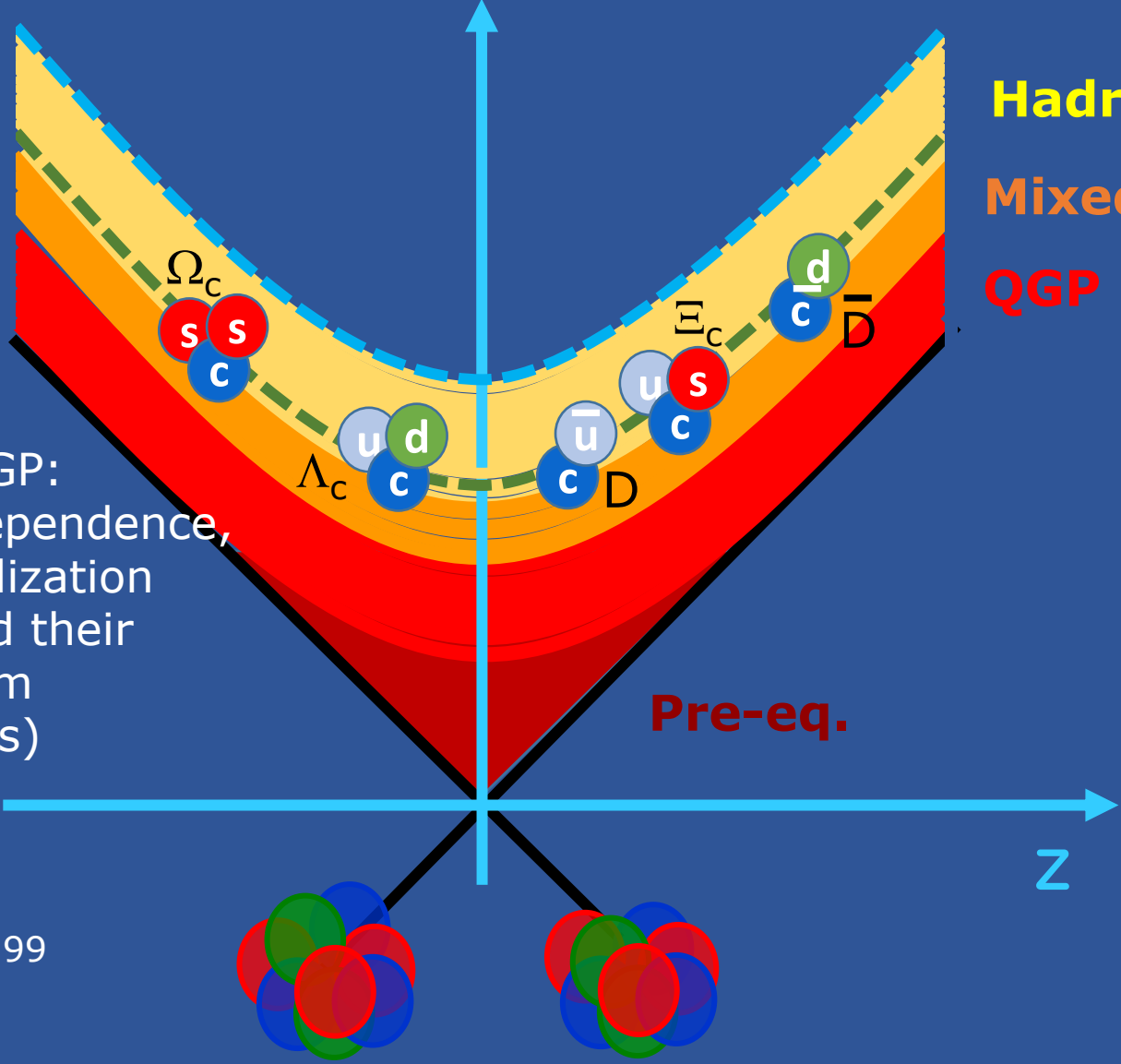
Hadron gas

Mixed phase

QGP

### Open heavy flavours

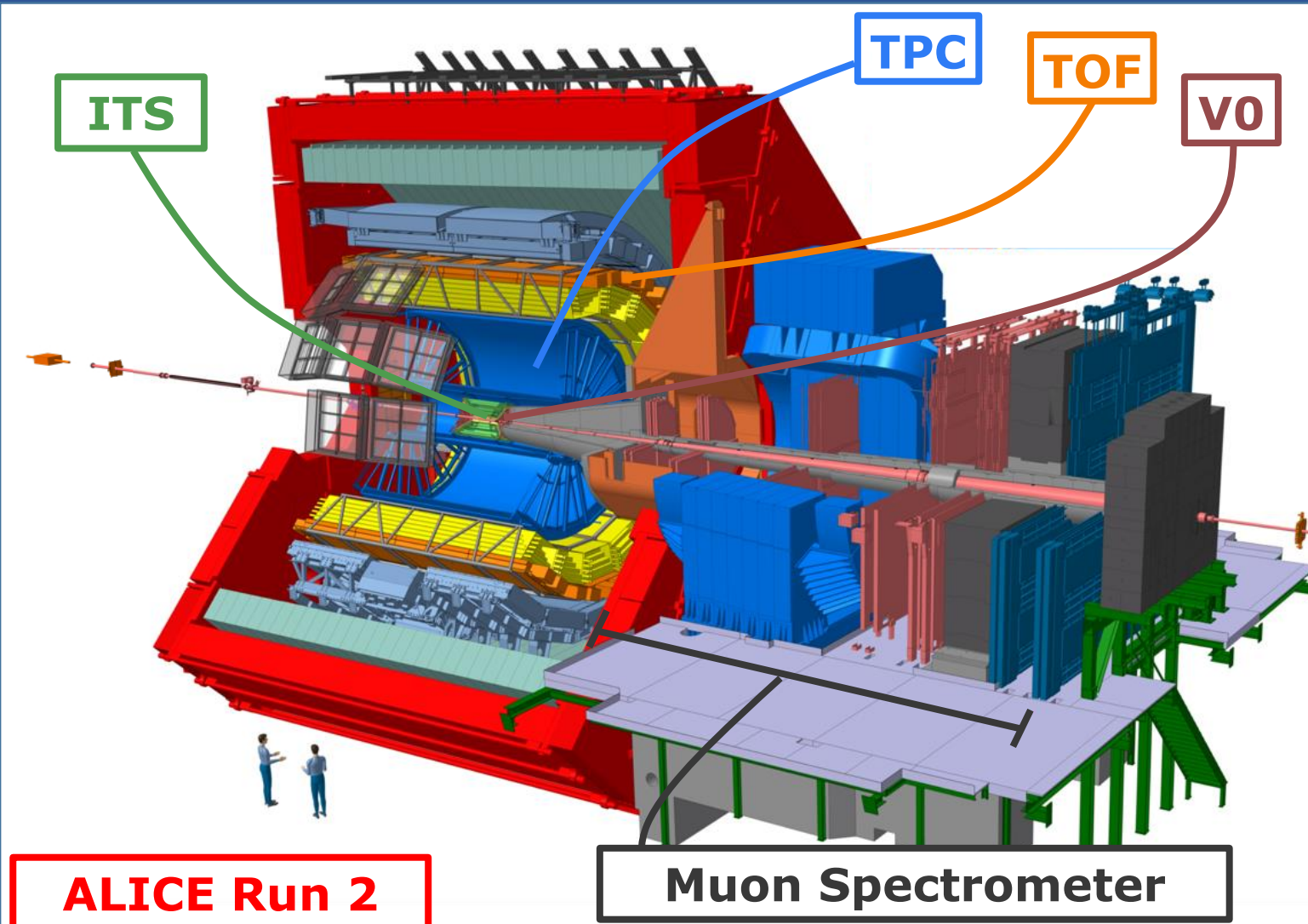
- Heavy quark interactions in the QGP: energy loss and its quark mass dependence, heavy quark diffusion and thermalization
- Hadron formation mechanisms and their dependence on the collision system (results from pp to Pb-Pb collisions)



Y. Dokshitzer and D. Kharzeev, PLB 519 (2001) 199  
 D.Moore and H. Teaney, PRC71 (2005) 064904  
 F. Prino and R.Rapp J.Phys.G 43 (2016) 9

# A Large Ion Collider Experiment

- **Quarkonium** measurements
  - Central barrel ( $ee$ ,  $|y| < 0.9$ )
  - Muon spectrometer ( $\mu\mu$ ,  $2.5 < y < 4$ )
  - Coverage **down to zero  $p_T$**
- **Open heavy flavours**
  - Hadronic measurements ( $|y| < 0.5$ )
    - $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$     $D^+ \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+$
    - $D_s^+ \rightarrow \phi \pi^+ \rightarrow K^+ K^- \pi^+$
    - $D^{*+} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^+ \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+$
    - $\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 p \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- p$
    - $\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+$
    - $\Sigma_c^{0,++} \rightarrow \Lambda_c^+ \pi^{-,+}$
    - $\Xi_c^0 \rightarrow \Xi^- e^+ \nu_e, \Xi^- \pi^+$
    - $\Xi_c^+ \rightarrow \Xi^- \pi^+ \pi^+$
    - $\Omega_c^0 \rightarrow \Omega^- \pi^+$
  - Leptonic measurements ( $c, b \rightarrow \ell X$ ) at forward and central  $y$





# Quarkonia

More details in

PA – OTH  
session

J/ $\psi$  photoproduction and the production of dileptons via photon-photon interactions in hadronic Pb–Pb collisions measured with ALICE

**L. Massacrier**, Tue 2.40 PM

PA – BLK  
session

Quarkonia production and elliptic flow in small systems measured with ALICE

**R. Sadek**, Tue 10 AM

PA – HF  
session

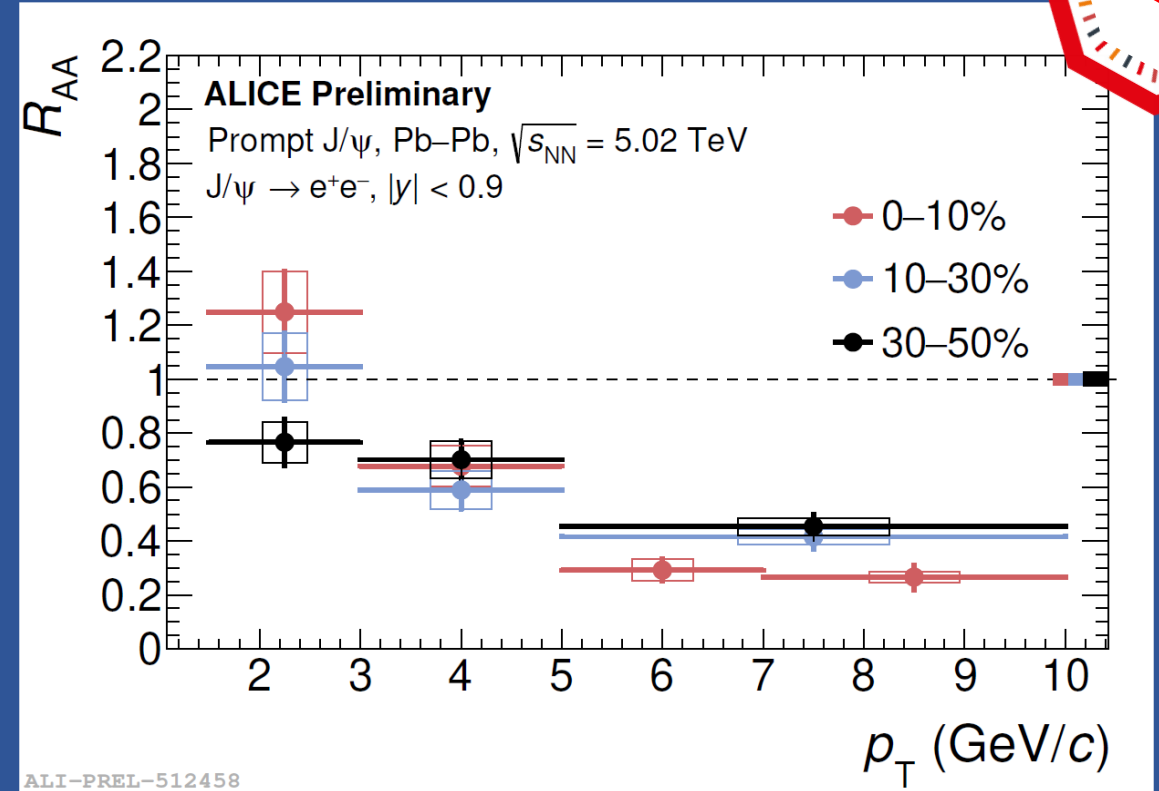
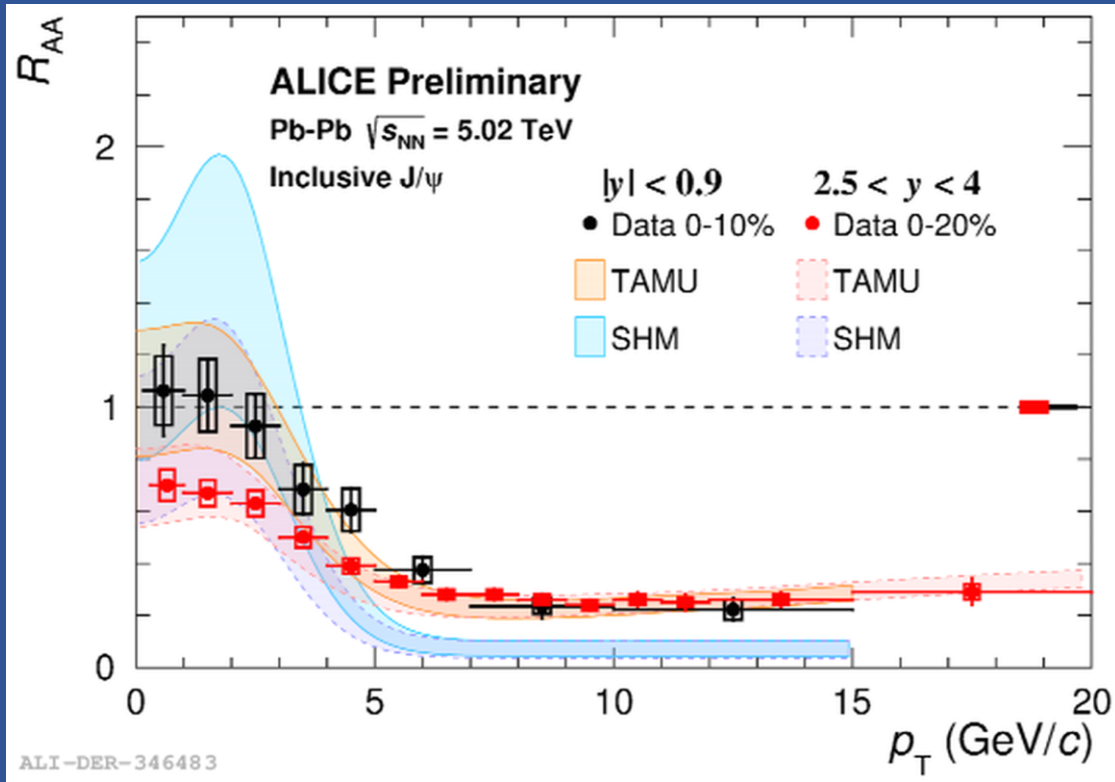
Measurement of quarkonium production and polarization in pp and Pb-Pb collisions with ALICE

**X. Bai**, Tue 9 AM

$\psi(2S)$  production and nuclear modification factor in nucleus-nucleus collisions with ALICE

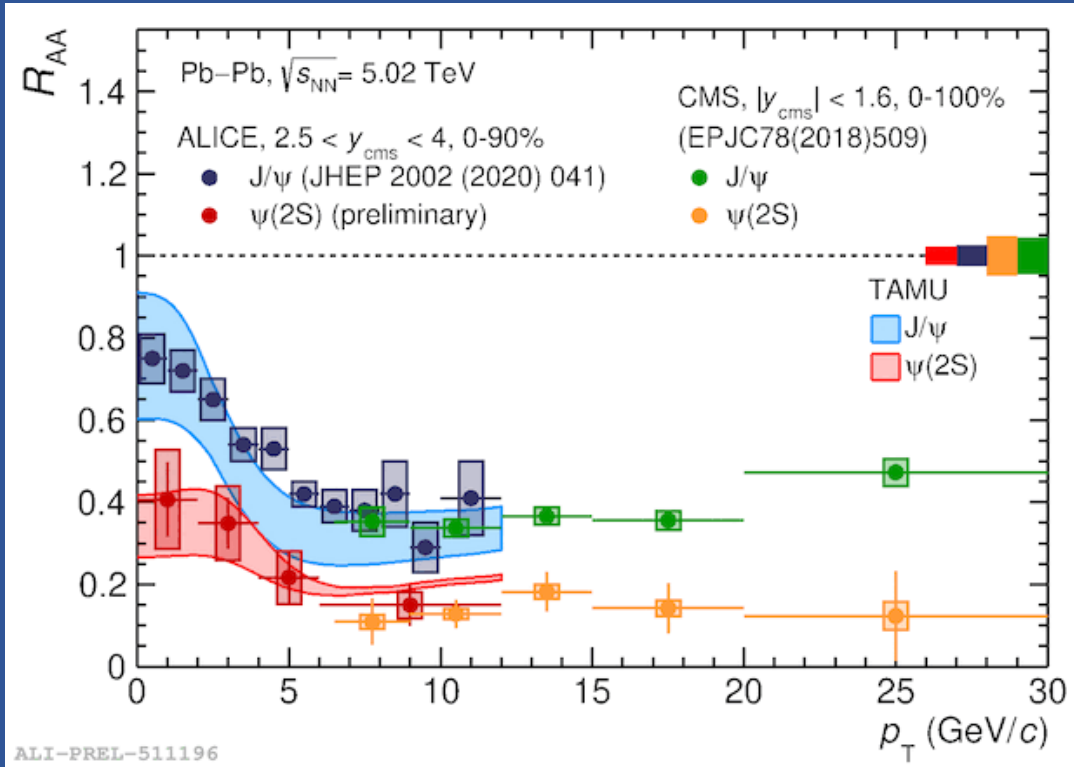
**H. Hushnud**, Tue 10 AM

# Inclusive and prompt J/ψ production in Pb-Pb



- Rise of inclusive J/ψ  $R_{AA}$  at low  $p_T$ , stronger effect at  $y=0$  → decisive **signature of recombination**
- Models include regeneration either at the freeze-out (SHMc) or during the medium evolution (TAMU) → Both in agreement with data at low  $p_T$
- Effect confirmed when looking at **prompt J/ψ production** at midrapidity, clear centrality dependence

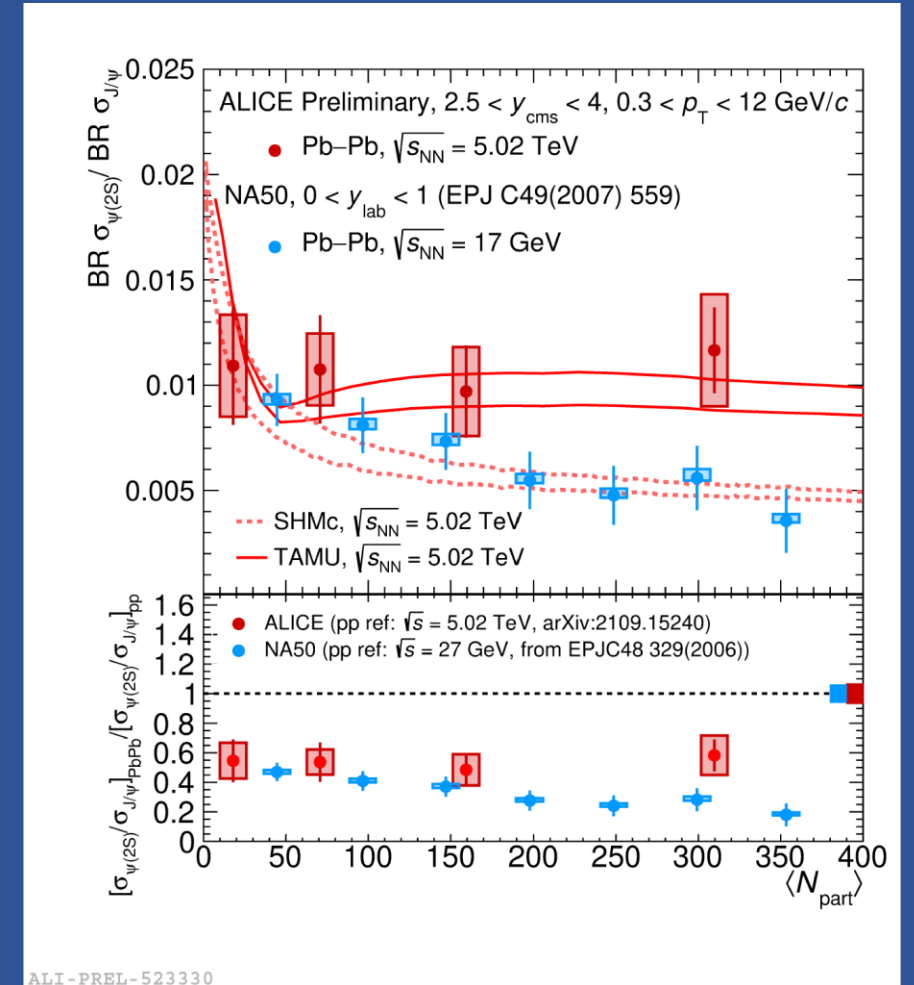
# Inclusive $\psi(2S)$ production in Pb-Pb



- Centrality dependence of  $\psi(2S)/J/\psi$  described by TAMU and slightly underestimated by SHMc

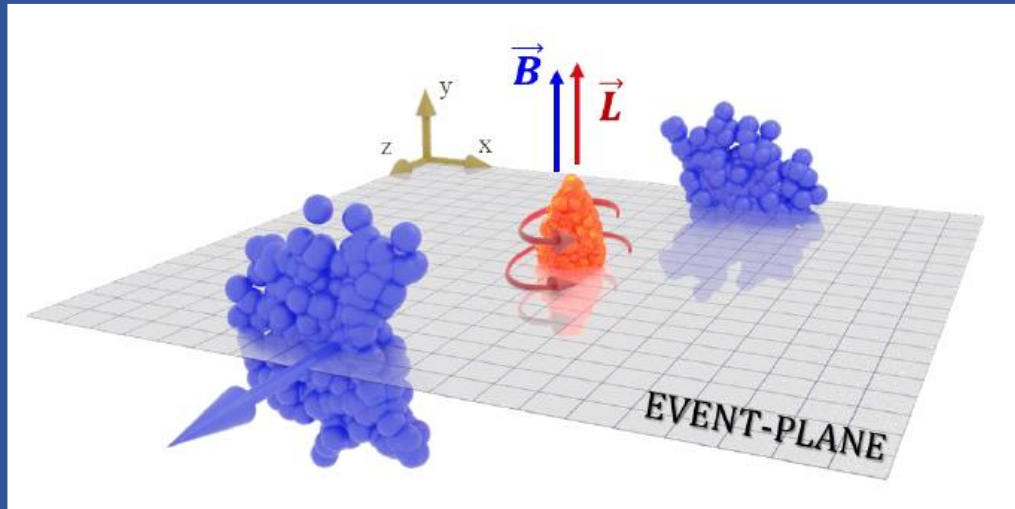


First LHC measurement down to zero  $p_T$



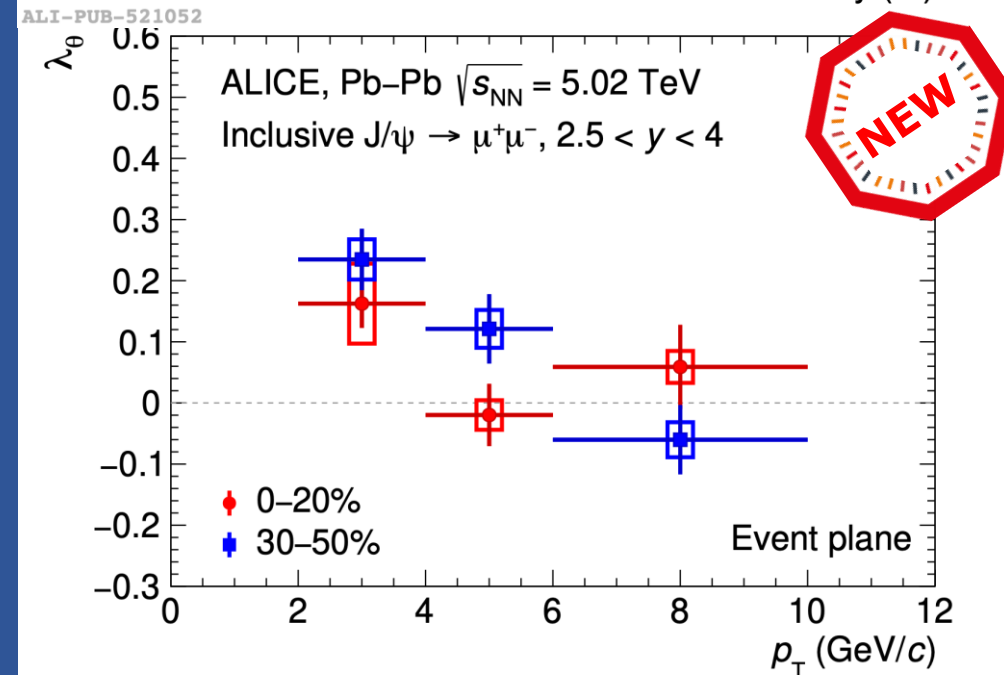
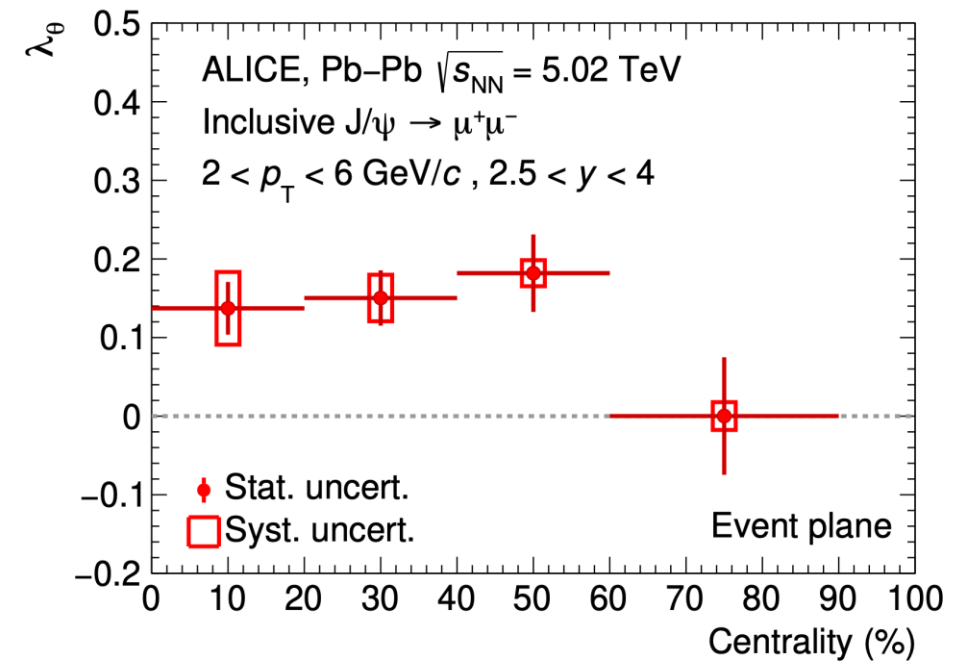
- Stronger suppression for  $\psi(2S)$  compared to  $J/\psi$   
 → sequential suppression for charmonia?
- Increasing trend of  $R_{AA}$  towards low  $p_T$  for  $\psi(2S)$   
 → Hint of  $\psi(2S)$  production via regeneration
- Compatible with midrapidity CMS results in common  $p_T$  range
- $p_T$  dependence of  $R_{AA}$  reproduced by TAMU

# Inclusive $J/\psi$ polarization in Pb-Pb collisions



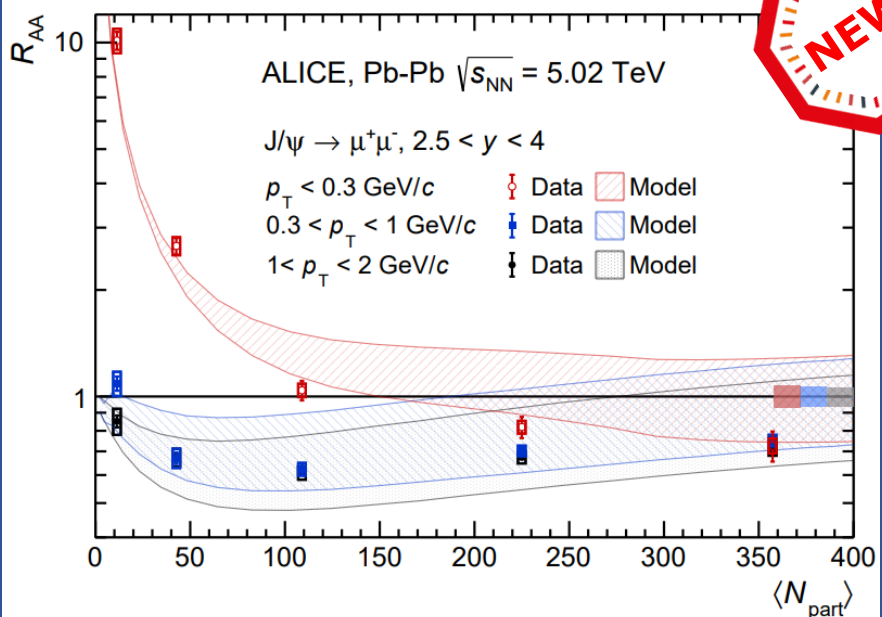
ALICE,  
arXiv:2204.10171

- Study polarization wrt an **axis orthogonal to the event plane**, in the collision center of mass frame  
→ **orthogonal to  $B$  and  $L$**
- Significant spin alignment observed for light vector mesons ( $K^{*0}$ ,  $\phi$ ) (ALICE, PRL 125 (2020) 012301)
- Centrality dependence → small but **significant ( $3.5\sigma$ ) polarization** in 40-60% and  $2 < p_T < 6$  GeV/c
- $p_T$  dependence →  **$3.9\sigma$  effect** for  $2 < p_T < 4$  GeV/c, 30-50%



ALI-PUB-521057

# Coherent $J/\psi$ production in (semi)peripheral Pb-Pb



- Centrality dependence of  $R_{AA}$  in  $p_T$  intervals  
→ evidence for coherent production at low  $p_T$
- $p_T$  shape and cross sections compatible with a model that includes the effect of the overlap between the nuclei (W. Zha et al., PRC 99 (2019) 061901)

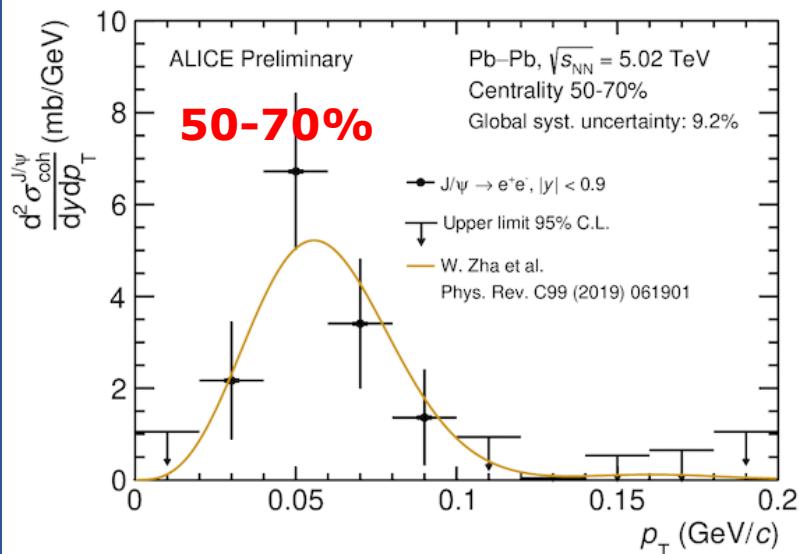
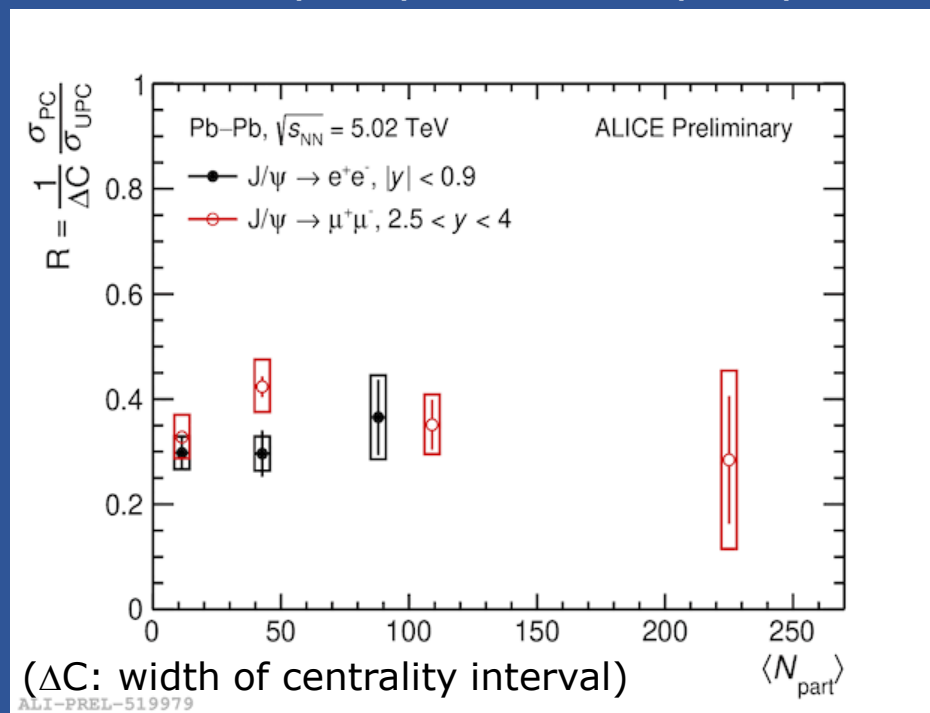
PC: arXiv:2204.10684

UPC: EPJC 81 (2021) 712, PLB 98 (2019) 134926

Ratio of coherent cross sections in Pb-Pb collisions with nuclear overlap (PC) over ultraperipheral (UPC) collisions



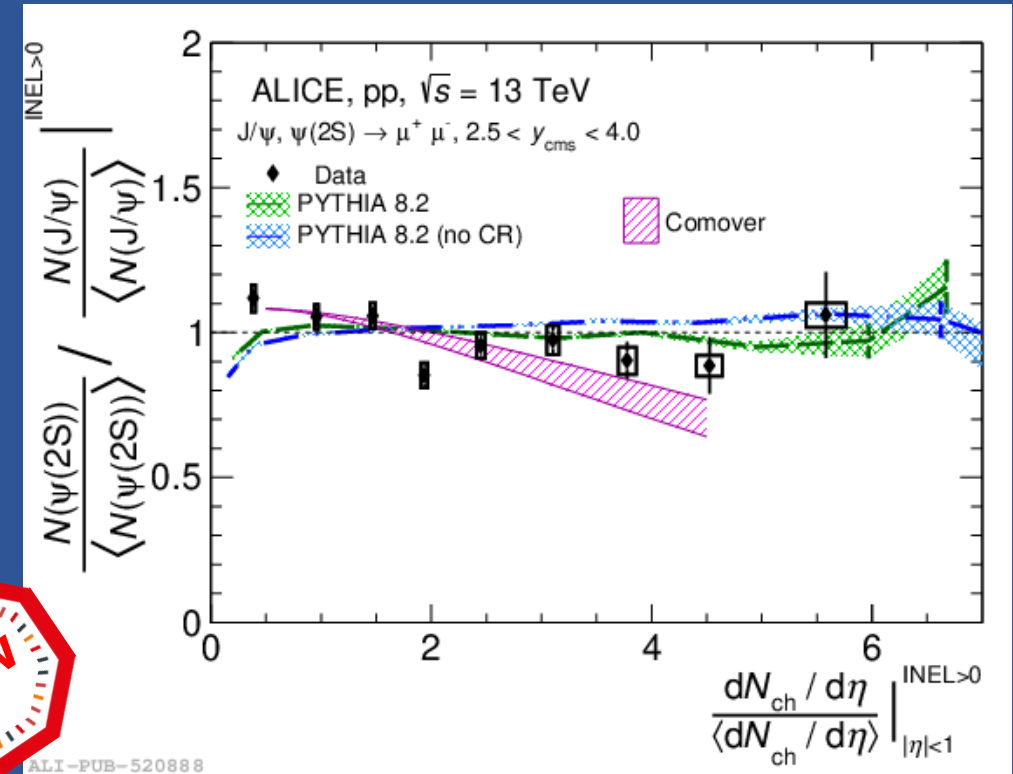
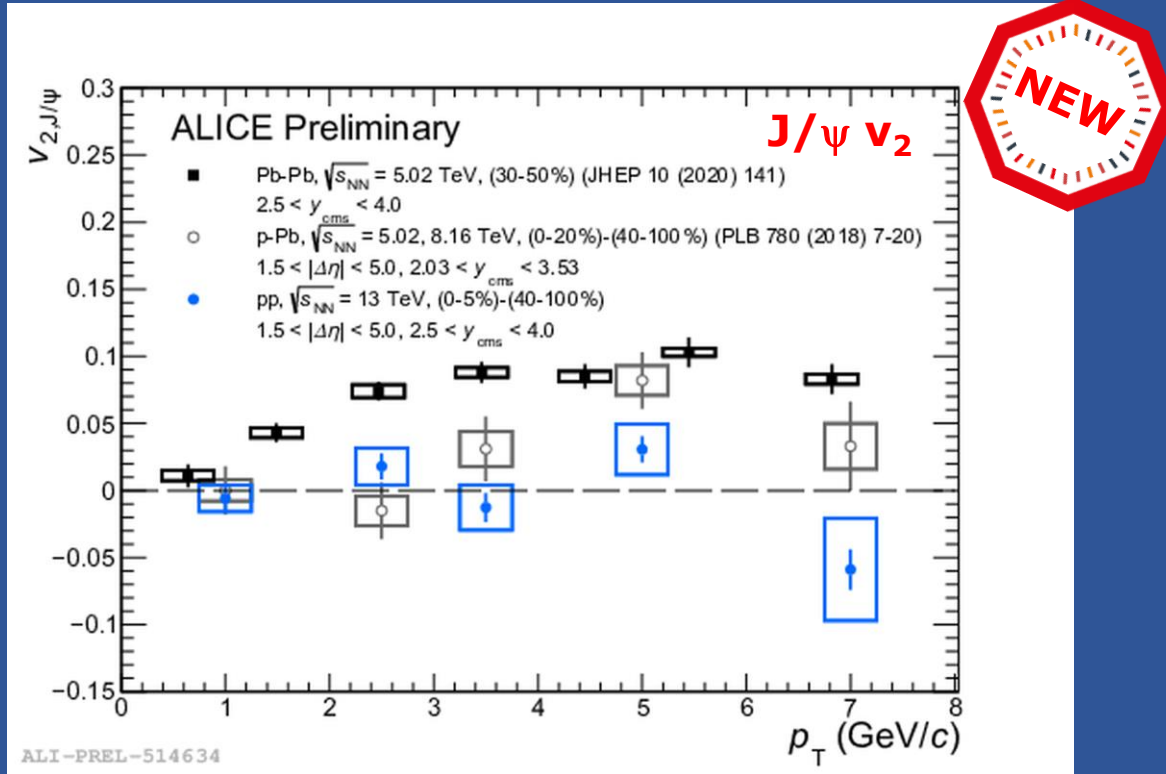
No evidence of modification of  $\sigma_{PC}$  in semicentral collisions with current experimental precision





# Quarkonium news from pp collisions

ALICE, arXiv:2204.10253



- ❑ Strong collective effects on  $J/\psi$  already assessed in Pb-Pb
- ❑ p-Pb: significant flow for  $p_T > 3$  GeV/c (not explained by transport models)
- ❑ pp: no significant effect, integrated  $v_2$  compatible with zero within  $1.5\sigma$

- ❑ Self-normalized ratios of  $\psi(2S)$  and  $J/\psi$  exhibit a similar multiplicity dep. (ratio of ratios is flat)
- ❑ Agreement with PYTHIA 8, while comover models predict a suppression effect at large  $dN_{ch}/d\eta$ , not seen in the data

# Open heavy flavours

PA – HF  
session

More details in

Constraining hadronization processes with charm baryons in pp and p-Pb collisions with ALICE

**J. Seo**, Tue 12.10 PM

Charm production: constraint to transport models and charm diffusion coefficient with ALICE

**M. Völkl**, Tue 11.50 AM

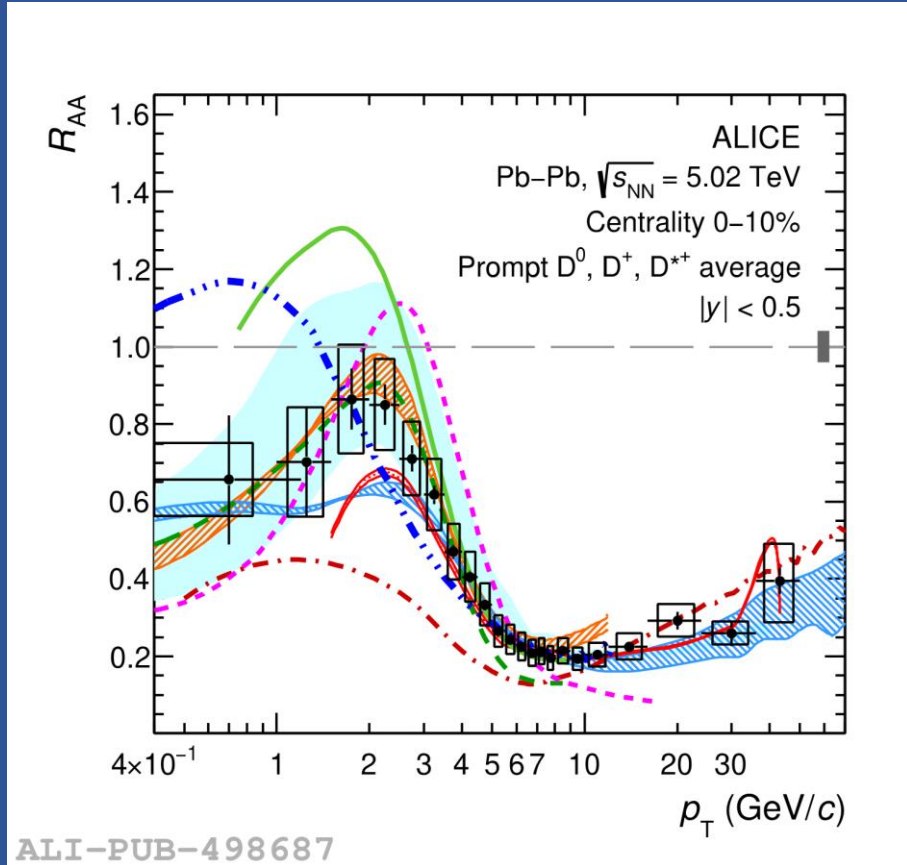
Beauty production in heavy-ion collisions with ALICE at the LHC

**S. Politanò**, Tue 2 PM

Heavy-flavour jet properties and correlations from small to large systems measured by ALICE

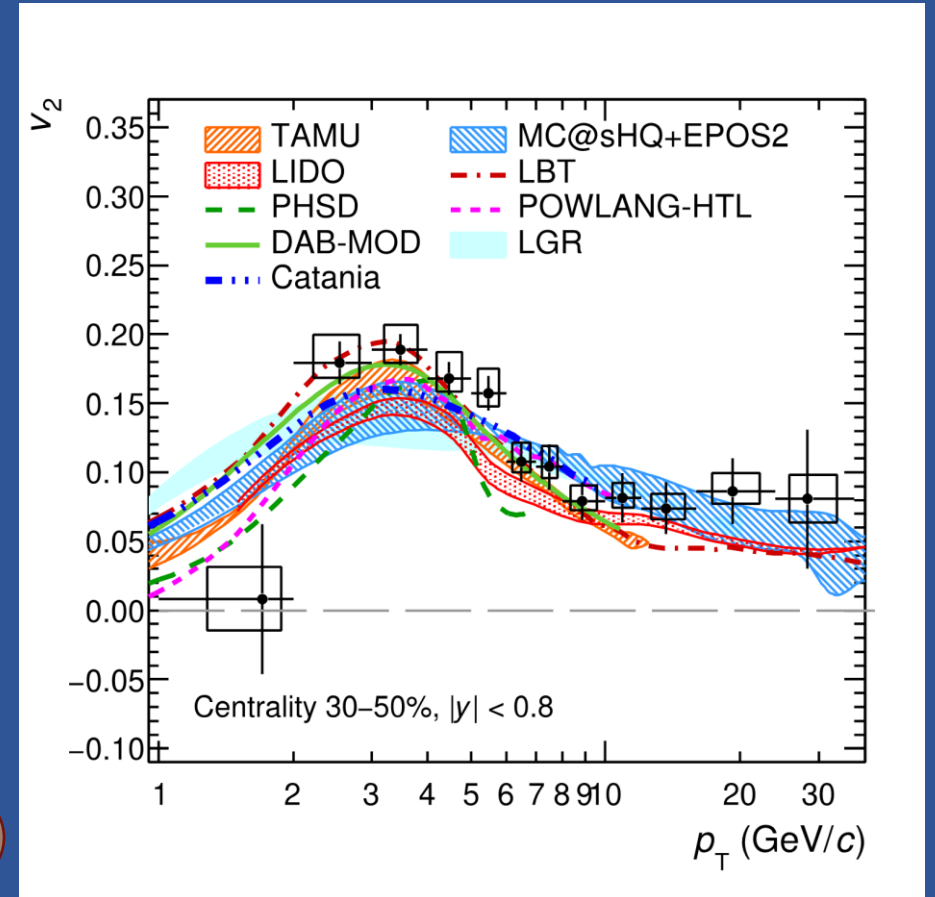
**A. Da Silva**, Tue 2.20 PM

# Charm quark transport and models



ALICE,  
JHEP 01 (2022) 174

ALICE,  
PLB 813 (2021) 136054

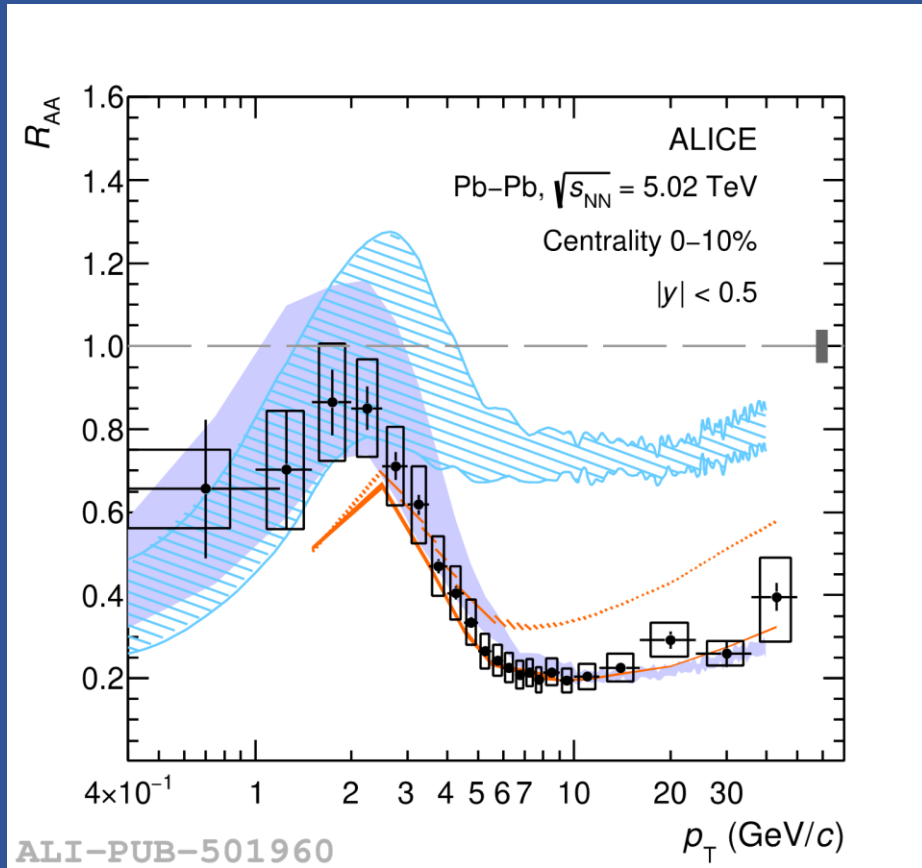


- Most **charm-quark transport models** able to describe both the  $R_{AA}$  and  $v_2$ 
  - Use comparison to understand which physics effects are relevant
  - Use comparison to estimate the **spatial diffusion coefficient**

TAMU: PRL 124, 042301 (2020), DAB-MOD: PRC 96, 064903 (2017), LBT: PLB 777 (2018) 255-259, LIDO: PRC 98, 064901 (2018),  
Cat.: PRC 96, 044905 (2017), POWL.: EPJC 75 (2015) 3, 121 PHSD: PRC 93, 034906 (2016), MC@sHQ: PRC 91, 014904 (2015),  
LGR: EPJC 80 (2020) 7, 671

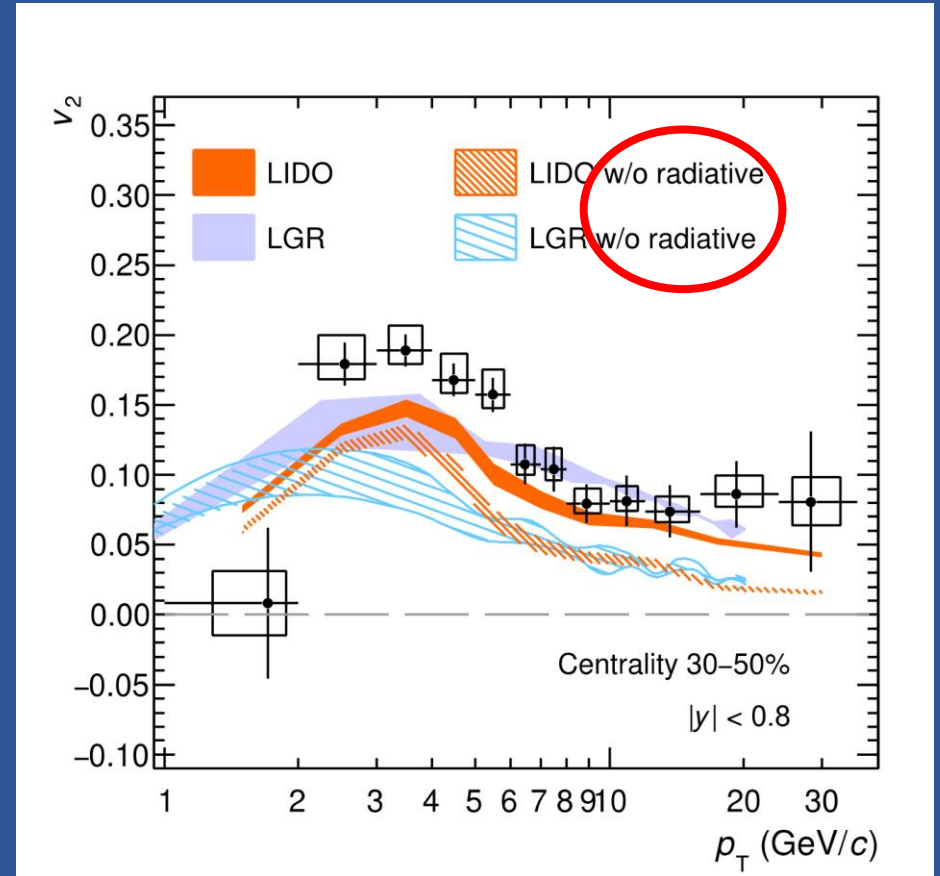
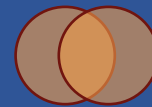
# Charm quark energy loss

LIDO: PRC 98, 064901 (2018)  
LGR: EPJC 80 (2020) 7, 671



ALICE,  
JHEP 01 (2022) 174

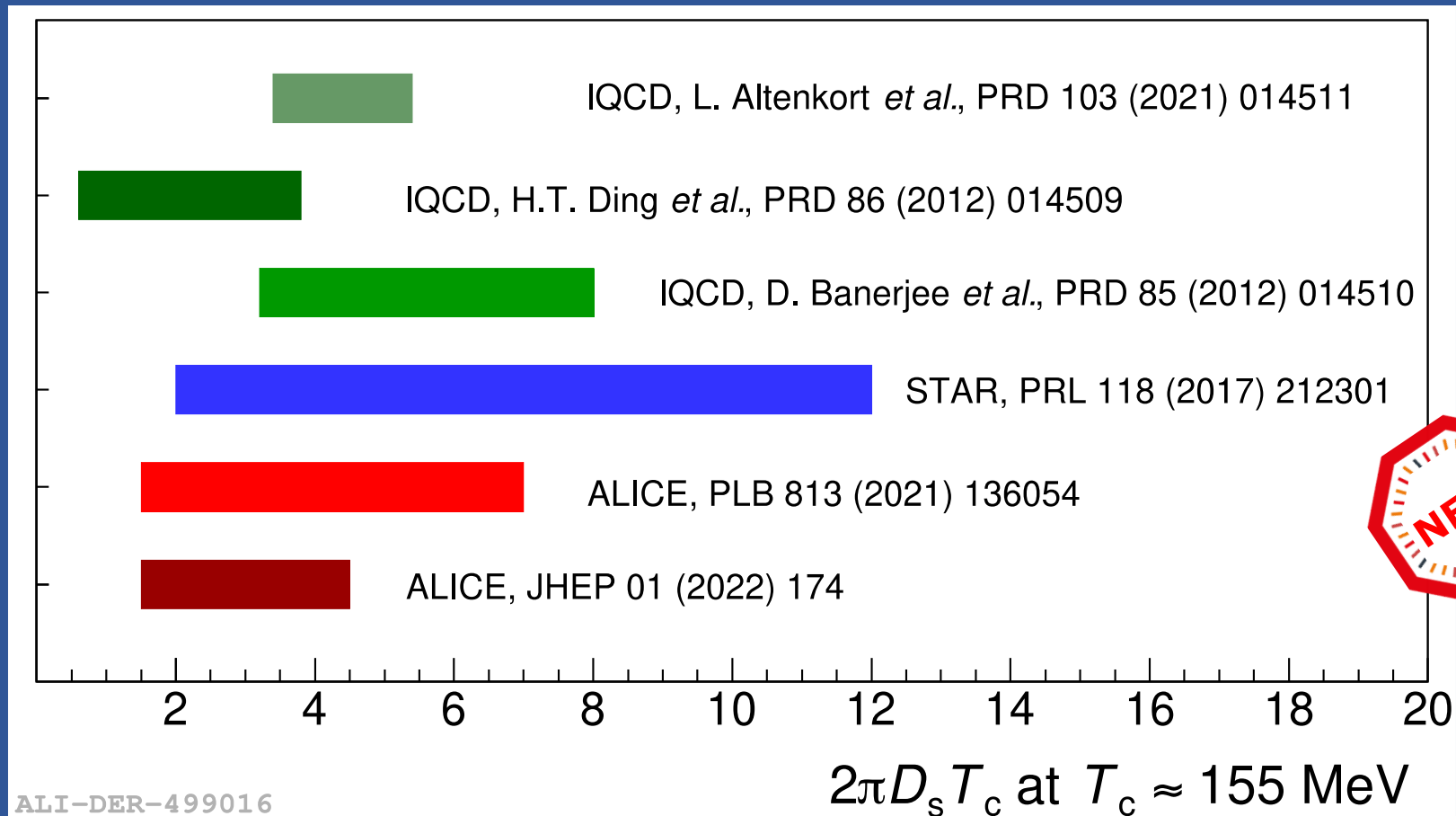
ALICE,  
PLB 813 (2021) 136054



**Radiative energy loss** important to describe intermediate and high  $p_T$   
→ Small impact on low  $p_T$  region

# Estimating the spatial diffusion coefficient

- Constraining the spatial diffusion coefficient via the **data-to-model agreement**
  - Using  $R_{AA}$  (with  $\chi^2/\text{ndf} < 5$ ) and  $v_2$  (with  $\chi^2/\text{ndf} < 2$ ) non-strange D measurements
  - TAMU, MC@sHQ, LIDO, LGR, and Catania “selected”



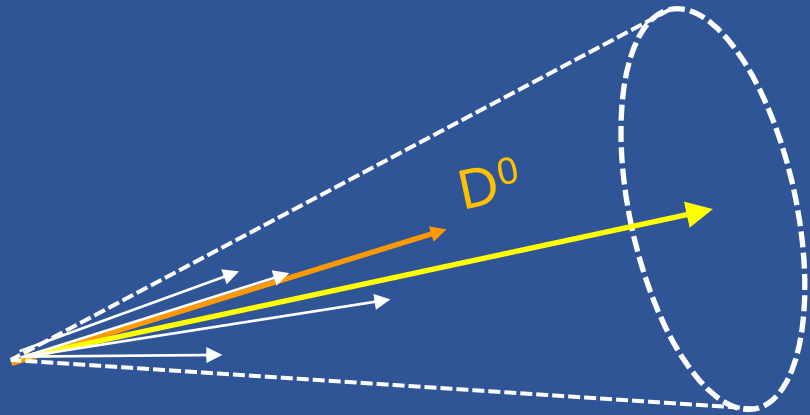
$$\rightarrow 1.5 < 2\pi D_s T_c < 4.5$$

$$\rightarrow \tau_{\text{charm}} \simeq 3 - 8 \text{ fm}/c$$

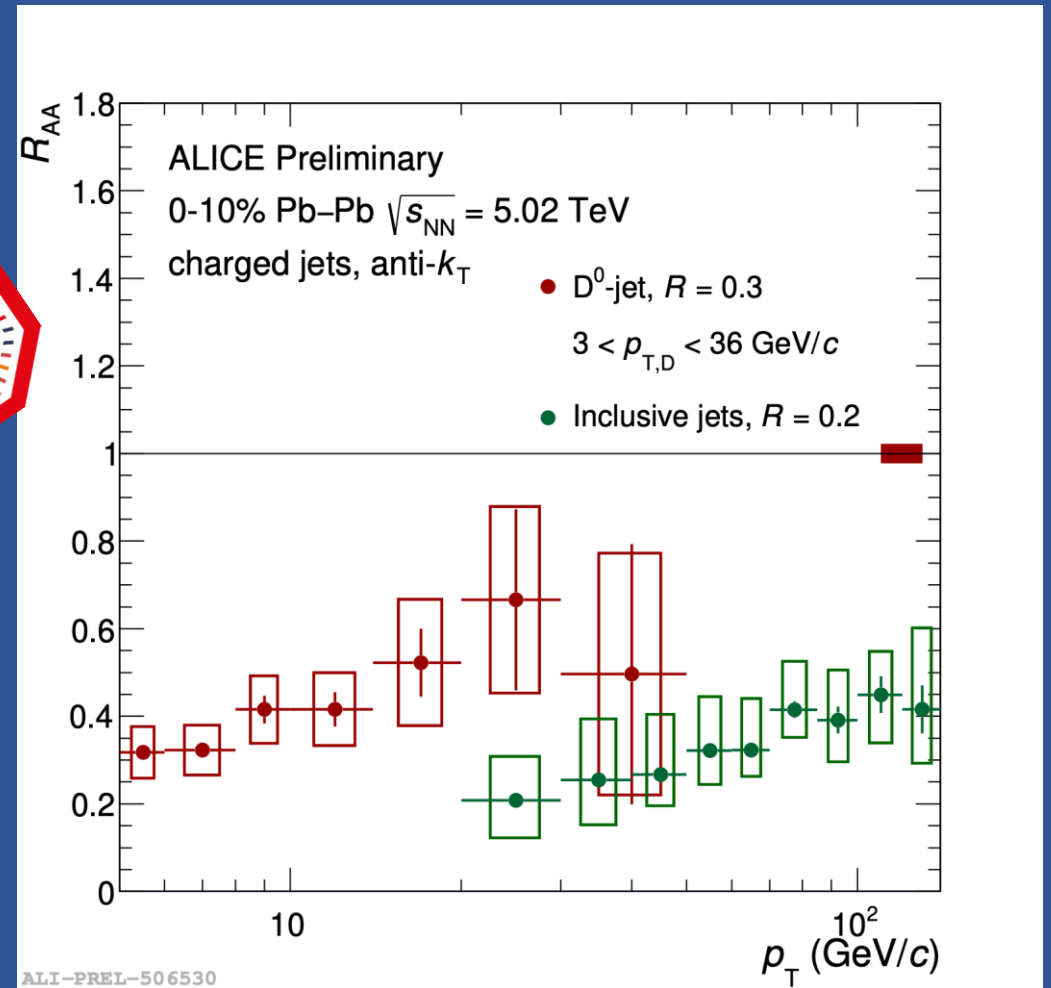




# Charm vs inclusive jets



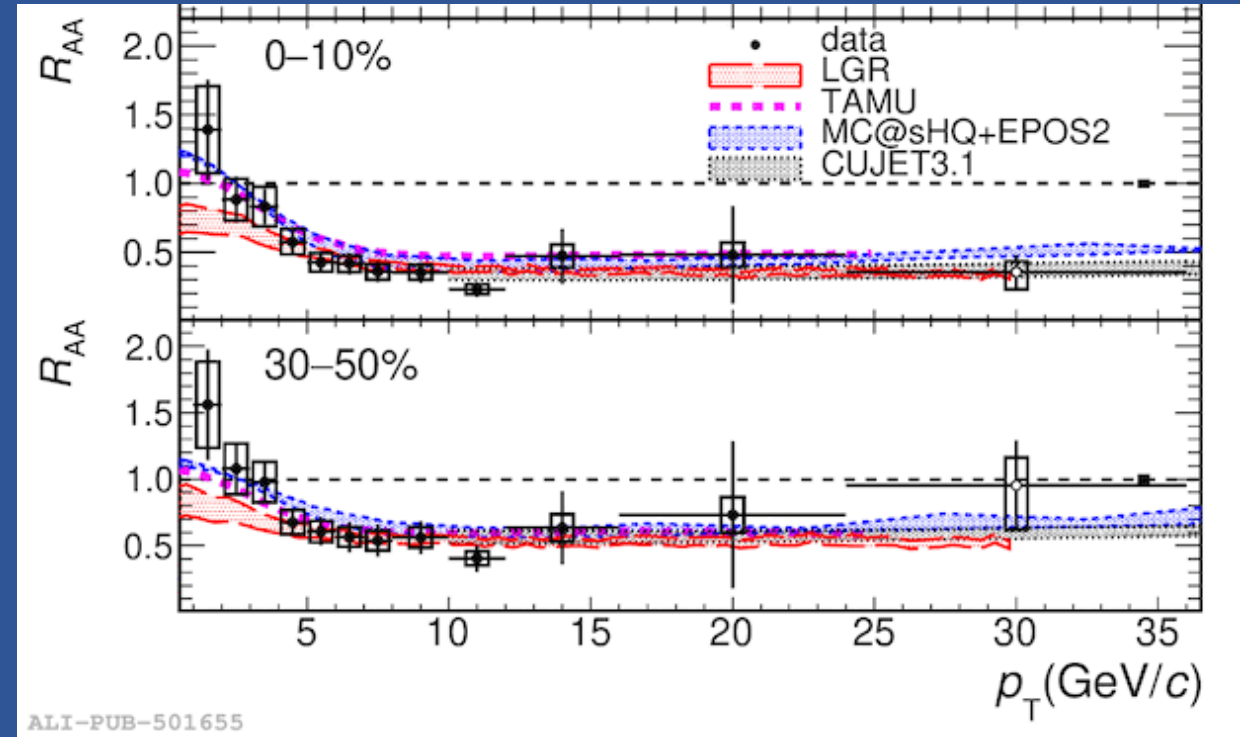
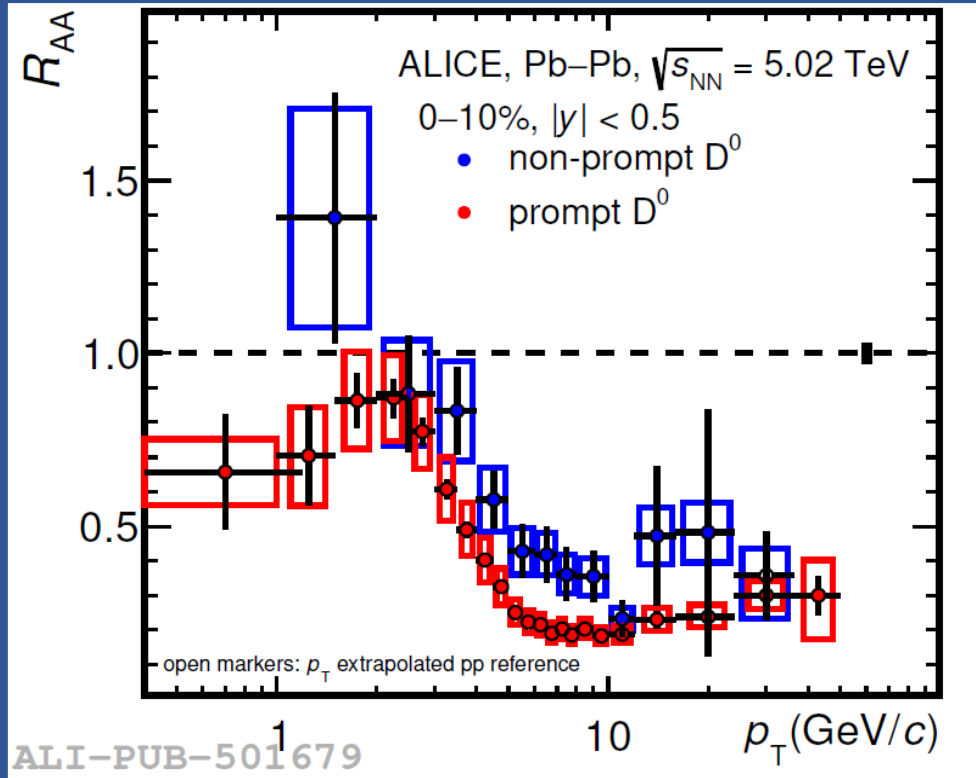
- $D^0$  meson,  $3 < p_T < 36$  GeV/c
- Charged jets, anti- $k_T$  algorithm with  $R=0.3$
- Jet  $5 < p_T < 50$  GeV/c



- Hint of a higher  $R_{AA}$  of  $D^0$ -jets compared to inclusive jets in Pb-Pb
- Comparison sensitive to
  - Difference between quark and gluon energy loss (Casimir colour effect)
  - Mass effects (dead cone)

# Beauty vs charm: prompt vs non-prompt $D^0$ $R_{AA}$

ALICE, arXiv:2202.00815

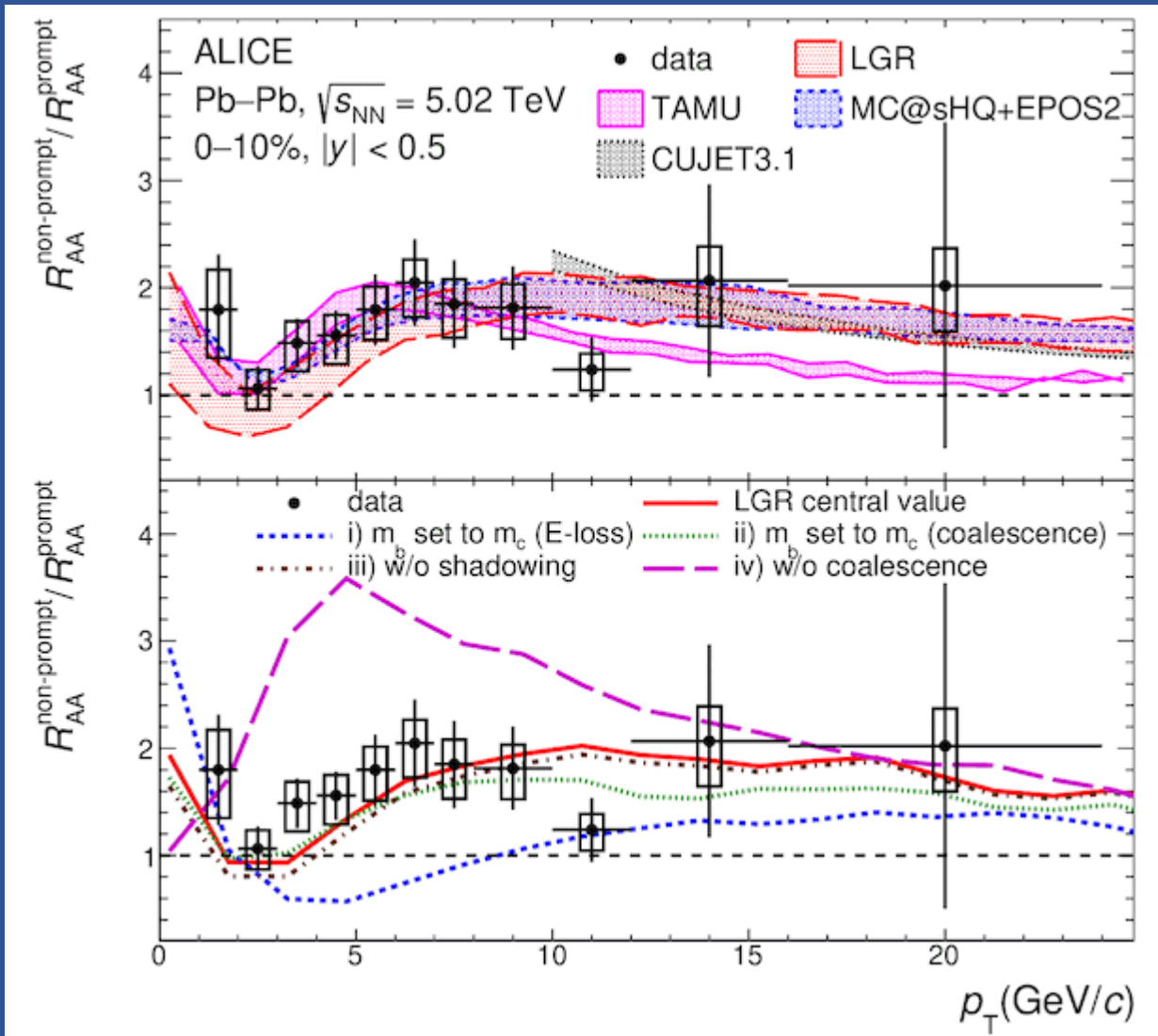


- Suppression of  $b \rightarrow D^0$  observed
- $R_{AA}^{b \rightarrow D^0} > R_{AA}^{c \rightarrow D^0}$  at intermediate  $p_T$
- $R_{AA} (0-10\%) < R_{AA} (30-50\%)$

TAMU: PLB 735 (2014) 445  
 MC@sHQ+EPOS2: PRC 89 (2014) 014905  
 LGR: EPJC 80, no.7, (2020) 671  
 EPJC 80 no.12, (2020) 1113  
 CUJET3: CPC 43, no.4, (2019) 044101

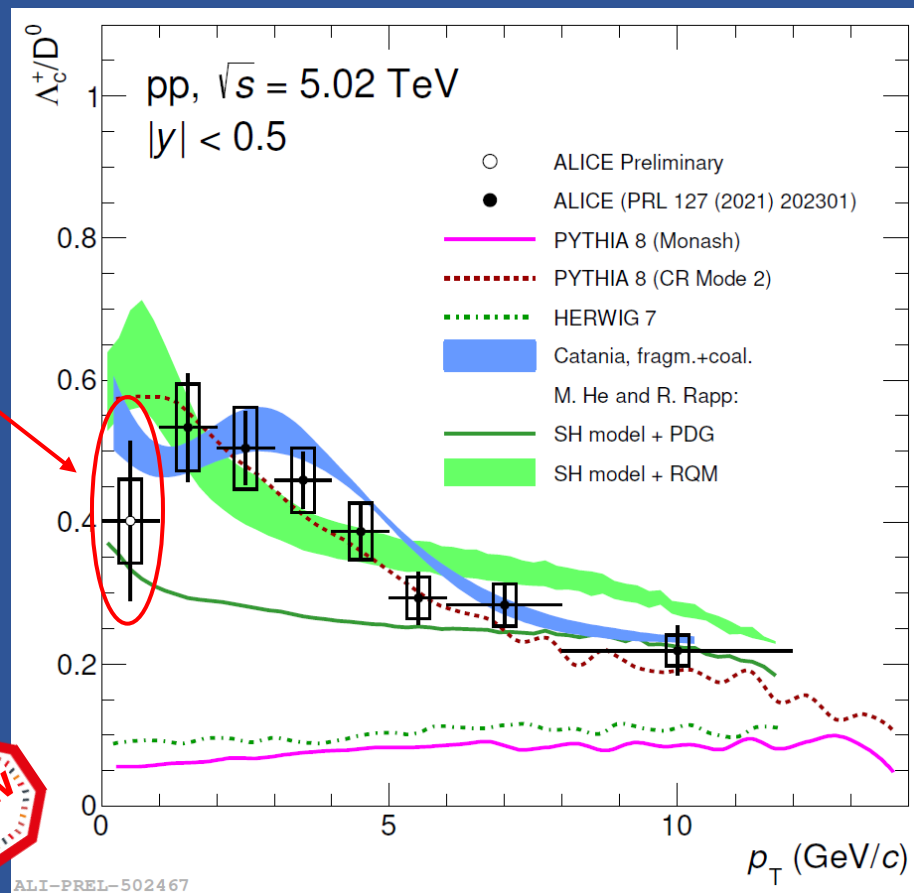
□ Theory models that include collisional and radiative eloss describe the data within uncertainties

# Ratio non-prompt/prompt $R_{AA}$ for D mesons



- Sensitive to effects that act differently on charm and beauty quarks
- $p_T < 5$  GeV/c : difference in shadowing / flow / decay kinematics
- $p_T > 5$  GeV/c :  $3.9 \sigma$  above unity  
→ beauty quarks undergo less suppression than charm quarks
- Test the double  $R_{AA}$  ratio with different LGR configurations  
→ The “valley” structure is mainly due to the formation of prompt D-mesons via charm-quark coalescence (iv)  
→ The significant enhancement of double ratio at high  $p_T$  is related to the mass dependent quark in-medium energy loss (i)

# $\Lambda_c/D^0$ : pp collisions



- ❑ Ratios underestimated at low  $p_T$  by models as PYTHIA 8 Monash, tuned to reproduce  $e^+e^-$  results ( $e^+e^-$  charm fragmentation functions)

→ non-universal fragmentation of charm to hadrons ?

- ❑ PYTHIA 8 with updated Colour Reconnection (CR) modelling J.P. Christiansen, P. Z. Skands: JHEP 1508 (2015) 003

- ❑ CR with SU(3) weights and string length minimization → "junction" topology enhances charm baryon production

- ❑ Catania model V. Minissale, S. Plumari, V. Greco: arXiv:2012.12001

- ❑ Thermalised system of u,d,s and gluons assumed

- ❑ Mixed hadron formation

→ Fragmentation

→ Coalescence, imposed as only mechanism for  $p \rightarrow 0$

- ❑ Statistical Hadronization Model and Relativistic Quark Model (SHM + RQM)

- ❑ Hadronization driven by statistical weights governed by hadron masses ( $n_i \sim m_i^2 T_H K_2(m_i/T_H)$ ) at a hadronization temperature  $T_H$

- ❑ Strong feed-down from an augmented set of excited charm baryons

Extension down to zero  $p_T$

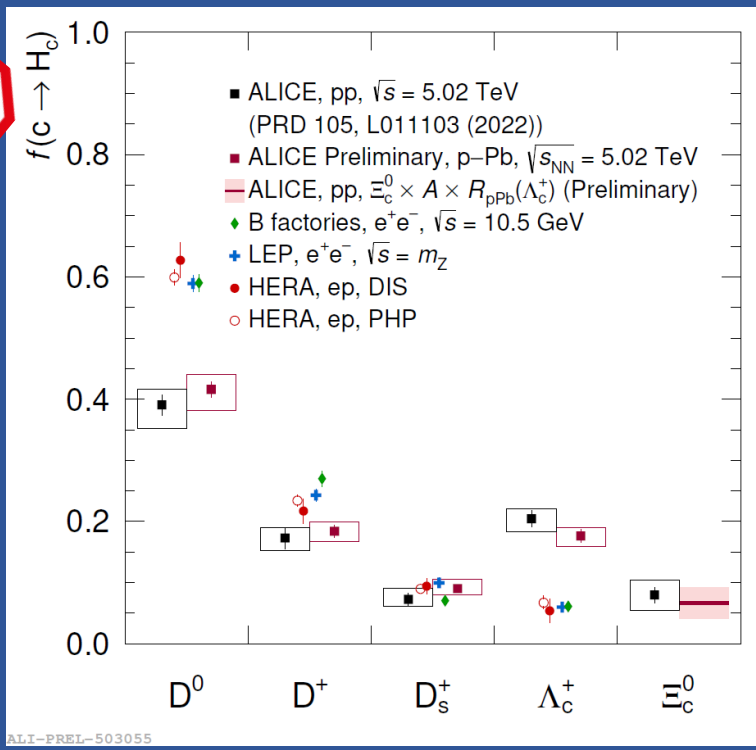
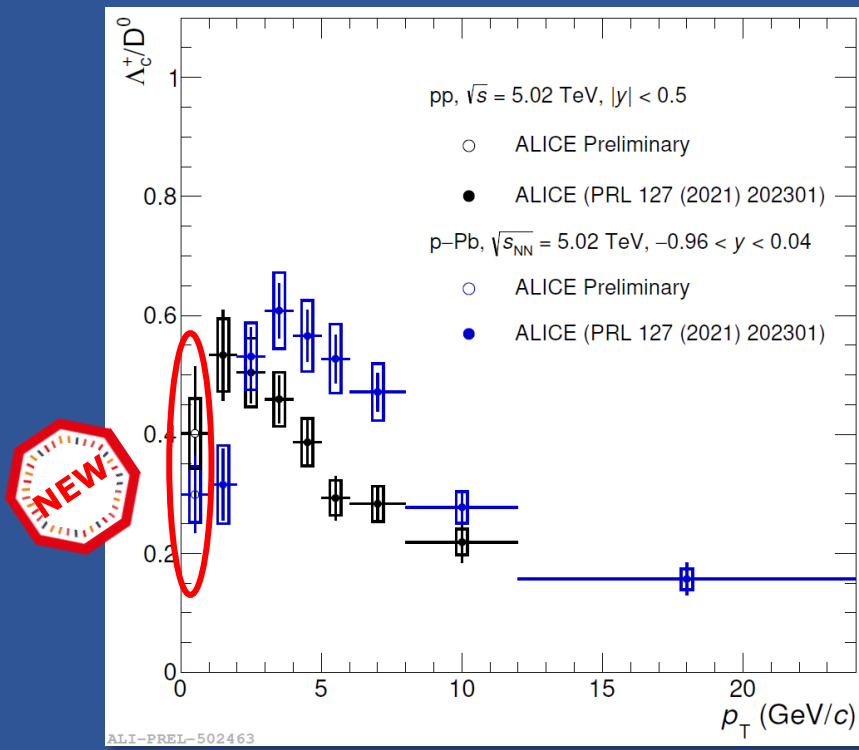


→ PDG: 5  $\Lambda_c$ , 3  $\Sigma_c$ , 8  $\Xi_c$ , 2  $\Omega_c$

→ RQM: additional 18  $\Lambda_c$ , 42  $\Sigma_c$ , 62  $\Xi_c$ , 34  $\Omega_c$  (not yet measured)

M. He, R. Rapp,  
PLB 795 (2019) 117-121

# From pp to p-Pb: $\Lambda_c/D^0$ and charm fragmentation fractions

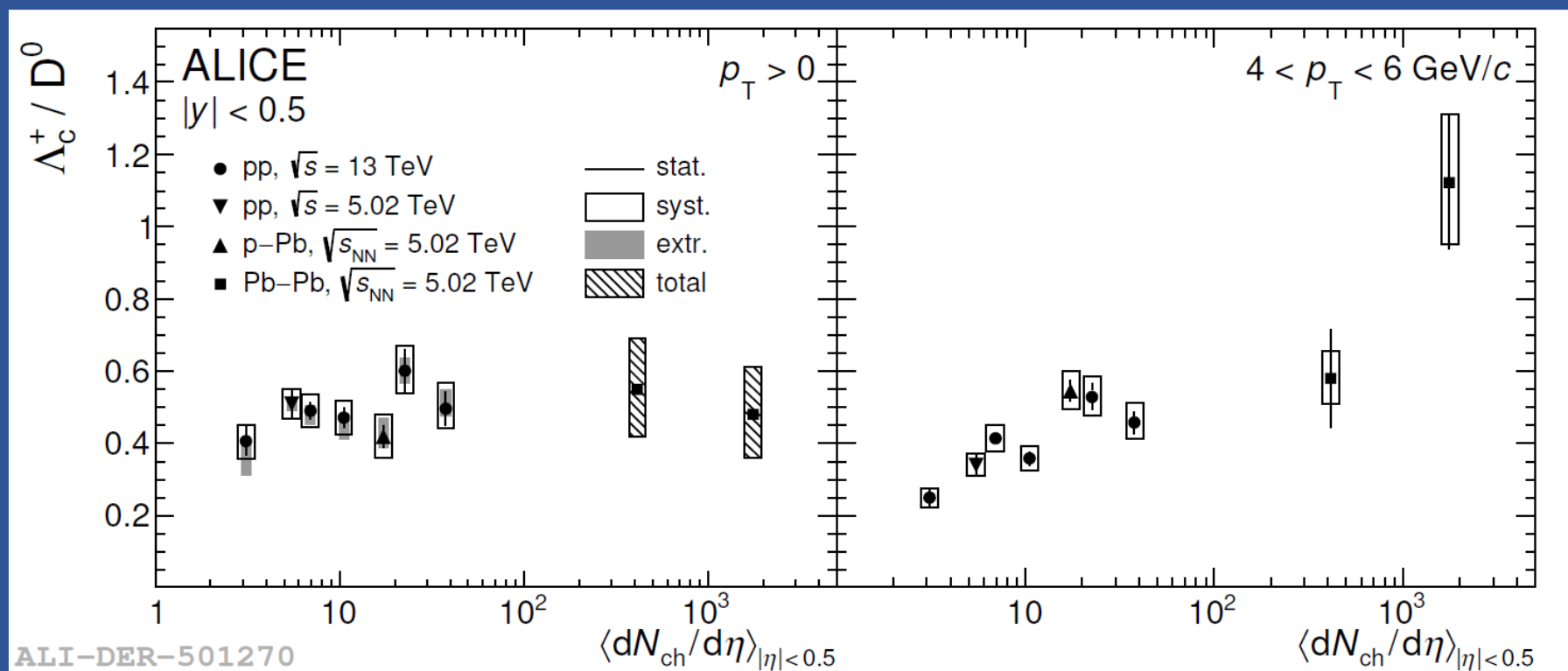


- pp and p-Pb results compatible
- Significant baryon enhancement with respect to  $e^+e^-$  and  $e^-p$

- $\Lambda_c^+/D^0$  enhancement shifted to larger  $p_T$  in p-Pb
- Charm fragmentation fractions measured including several states in pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV (ALICE, PRD105(2022)L011103)
- For p-Pb: measured for  $D^0$  and  $\Lambda_c$ , extrapolated to zero  $p_T$  with POWHEG+PYTHIA for  $D^+$  and  $D_s^+$ , not measured for  $\Xi_c$  but evaluated assuming  $R_{pPb}(\Lambda_c^+) = R_{pPb}(\Xi_c^+)$



# $\Lambda_c^+/D^0$ : moving across systems, pp, p-Pb, Pb-Pb



ALICE, PLB 829 (2022) 137065  
ALICE, arXiv:2112.08156

Increase of the ratio from pp to mid-central and central Pb-Pb collisions for  $4 < p_T < 8 \text{ GeV}/c$   
→  $2.0\sigma$  and  $3.7\sigma$  significance respectively

- $p_T$ -integrated data do not favour an increase of the yield ratio with multiplicity  
→ trend compatible with a constant function.
- Suggests that the increasing trend observed in specific  $p_T$  ranges comes from a re-distribution of  $p_T$  that acts differently for baryons and mesons

# Conclusions

- ALICE Run 1 + 2: several highlights and still investigating exciting topics. Among those:
  - Quarkonium
    - Study of **recombination** in the charmonium sector, now **extended to  $\psi(2S)$**
    - First results on  **$J/\psi$  polarization with respect to event plane**, small but significant effect
    - Large  **$J/\psi$   $v_2$**  in Pb-Pb, significant signal in p-Pb but **no evidence in pp**
  - Open heavy flavours
    - Studies on thermalization and energy loss, **estimate of crucial QGP parameters** ( $D_s$ )
    - **Energy loss hierarchy**, via charm-jet studies and non-prompt/prompt  $D^0$  production
    - Detailed studies of **charm baryon production**, to shed light on anomalous enhancements seen in pp collisions
- **LHC Run 3 starting**
- Continuous readout at 50 kHz interaction rate for Pb-Pb collisions
  - Target Pb-Pb integrated luminosity (run 3 + 4)  $\rightarrow L_{\text{int}} \sim 13 \text{ nb}^{-1}$
- Improved tracking precision by a factor 3–6 (new Inner Tracker)
- Longer-term plan: **ALICE 3**  
 $\rightarrow$  Systematic measurements of (multi-)heavy-flavour hadrons

PRESENT

FUTURE

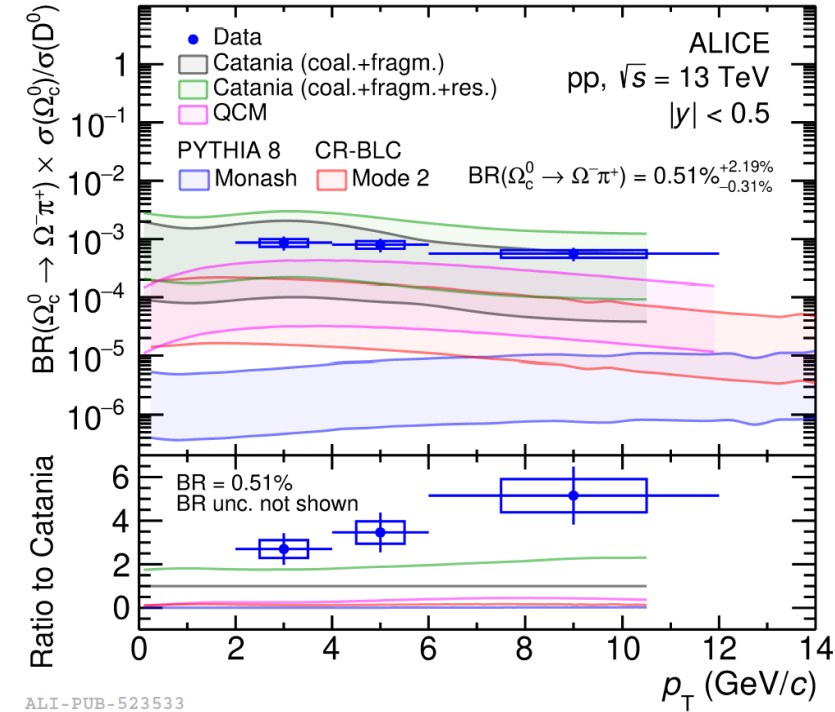
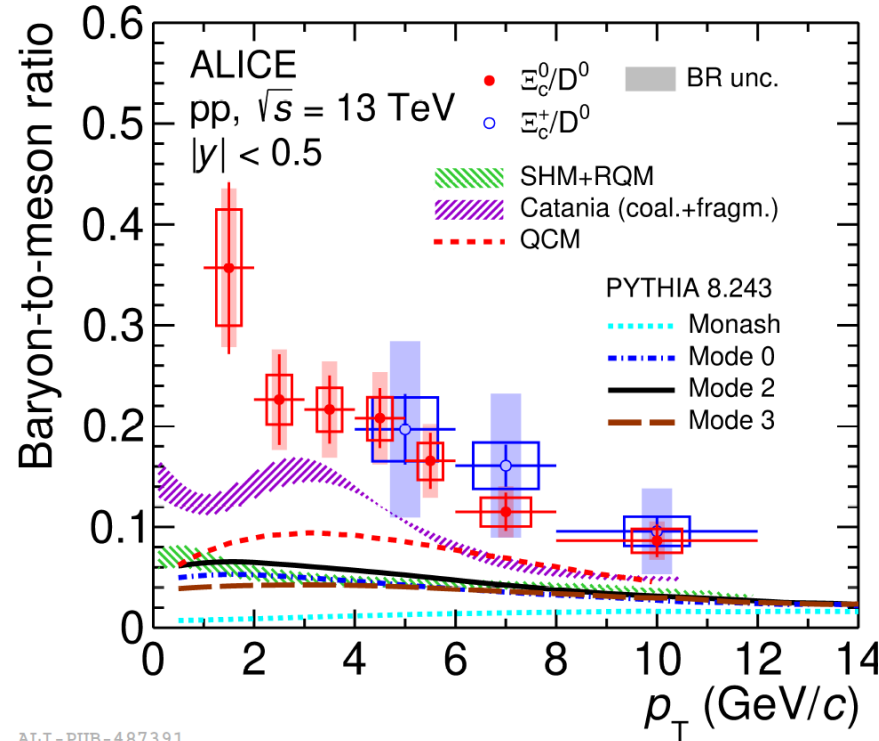
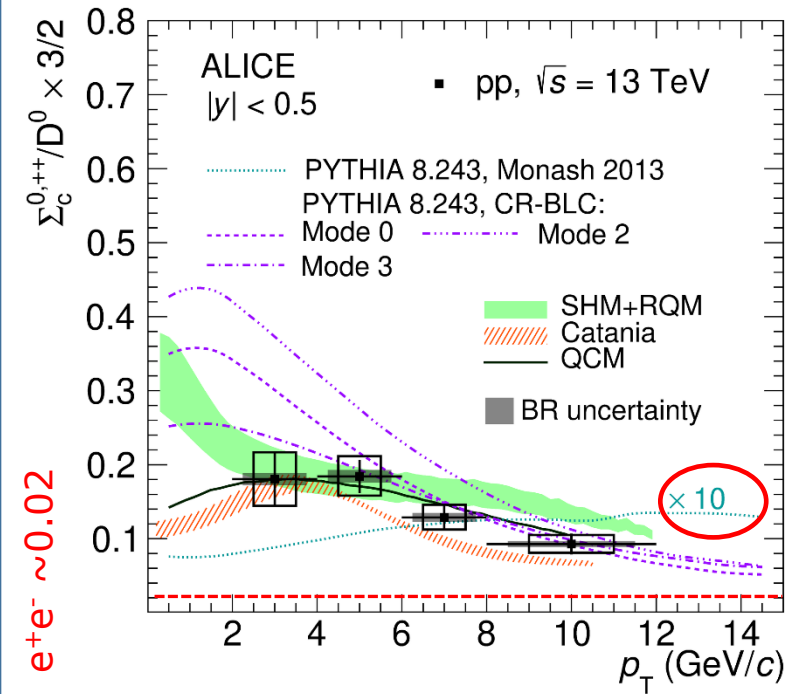
Heavy-ion physics at the LHC with detector upgrades for Runs 3 and 4  
**S.Porteboeuf**, Thu 12.40 PM

Physics program of the ALICE 3 experiment for the LHC Runs 5 and 6  
**R.Bailhache**, Thu 12.05 PM

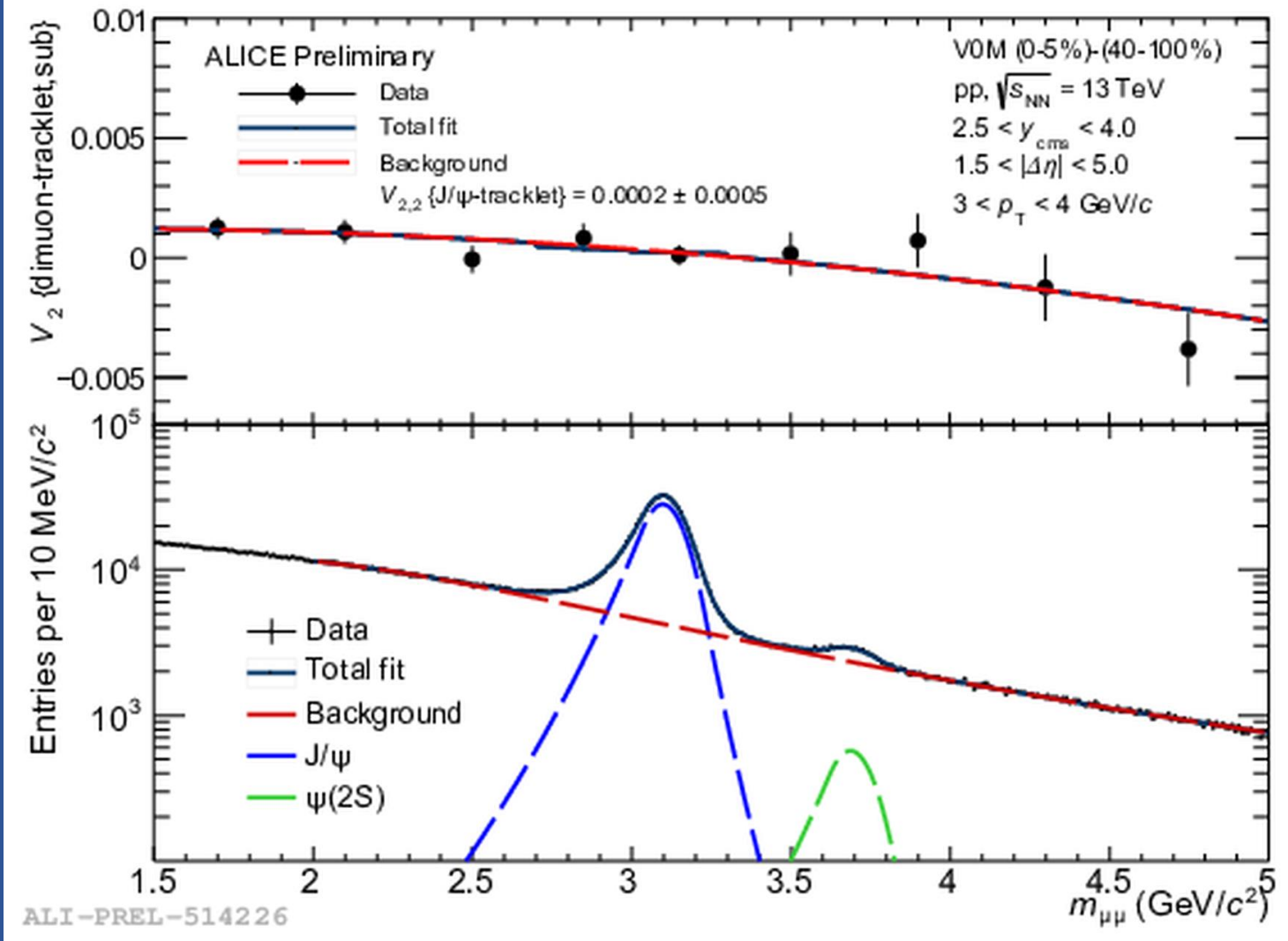
# Backup

# $\Sigma_c^{0,+}, \Xi_c^{0,+}, \Omega_c^0$ baryons in pp collisions

ALICE, PRL 128, 012001  
 ALICE, PRL 127, 272001  
 ALICE, JHEP 10 (2021) 159  
 ALICE:arXiv:2205.13993



- $\Sigma_c/D^0$  well described by SHM+RQM, Catania and QCM, its enhancement partially accounts for large  $\Lambda_c^+/D^0$
- $\Xi_c/D^0$  significantly underestimated by models, while  $\Xi_c/\Sigma_c$  (not shown) in agreement with Monash (N.B.  $D_s^+/(D^0 + D^+)$  is compatible with expectations from  $e^+e^-$ , effects above not directly related to s-quark content?)
- $\Omega_c/D^0$ , better agreement with coalescence models, PYTHIA 8 underestimates even with CR-BLC effects (N.B.  $\text{BR}(\Omega_c^0 \rightarrow \Omega^- \pi^+) = (0.51 \pm 0.07)\%$  not measured  $\rightarrow$  value from Y. Hsiao et al. EPJC 80, 1066 (2020) used to scale model predictions)

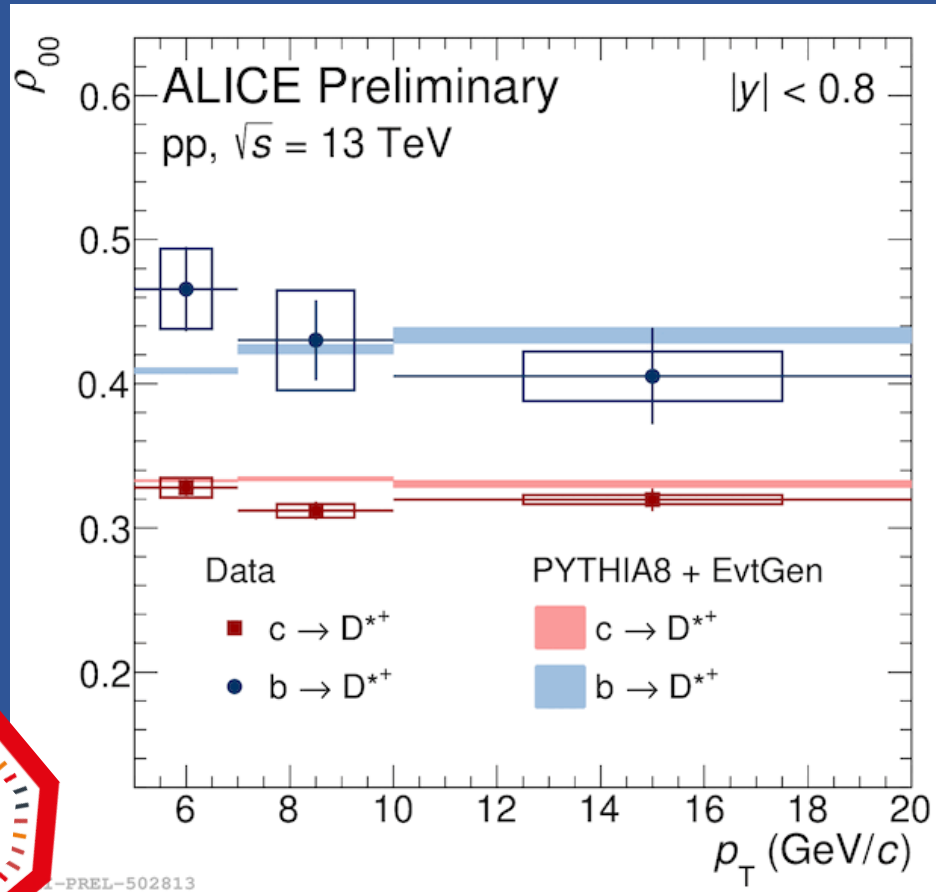






# A brief detour

- Polarization studies can be extended to other particles containing charm quarks
- First step recently carried out by studying  $D^{*+}$  polarization in pp collisions



- Measure spin density matrix  $\rho_{00}$

$$\frac{dN}{d\cos\theta^*} = N_0 \times [(1 - \rho_{00}) + (3\rho_{00} - 1)\cos^2\theta^*]$$

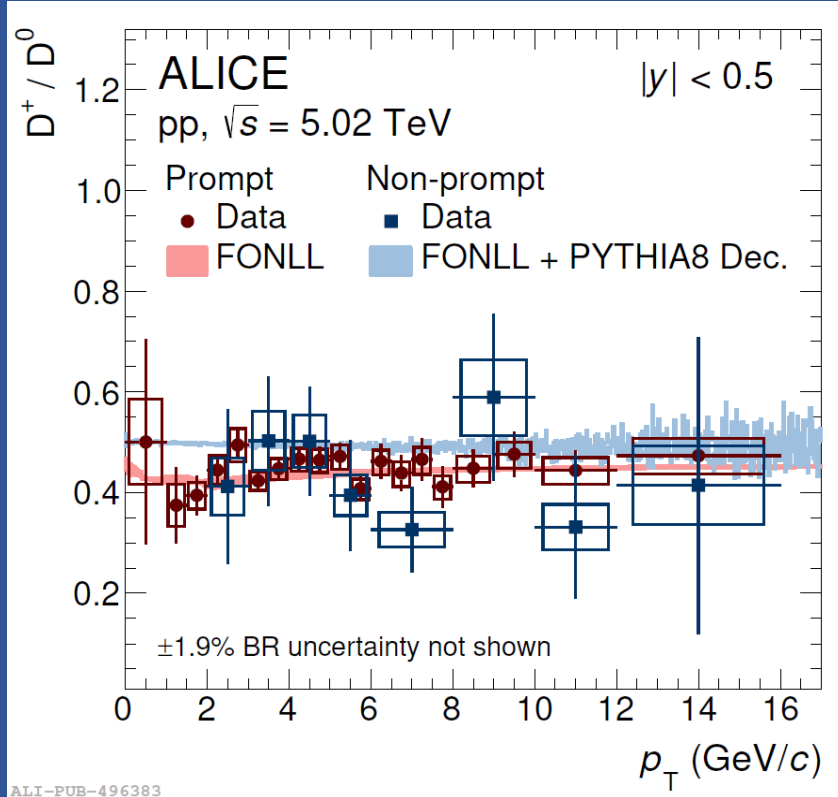
- Deviations from  $\rho_{00} = 1/3$  signal a net spin alignment
  - Separation of prompt and non-prompt component
  - Prompt component unpolarized, while **non-prompt component from b-hadron decays exhibit a clear polarization**
- Effect seen and in agreement with PYTHIA 8 + EVTGEN
- Next step: measurements in Pb-Pb collisions, to search for effects related to B and/or L

# Charm hadronization in pp: baryons vs mesons

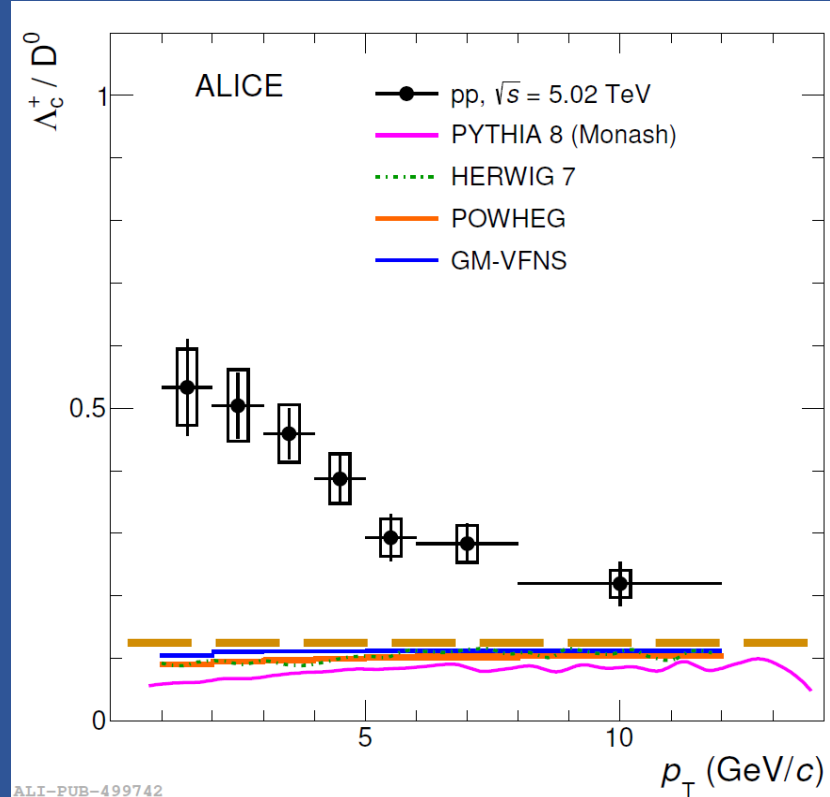
ALICE, JHEP 05(2021) 220

ALICE, Phys. Rev. C 104 (2021) 054905

$$\frac{D^+}{D^0}$$



ALI-PUB-496383



ALI-PUB-499742

$$\frac{\Lambda_c^+}{D^0}$$

LEP average  
 $0.113 \pm 0.013 \pm 0.006$   
(EPJC75 (2015)19)

- Baryon-to-meson ratios underestimated at low  $p_T$  by models as PYTHIA 8 Monash, tuned to reproduce  $e^+e^-$  results ( $e^+e^-$  charm fragmentation functions)
- Enhancement with respect to PYTHIA 8 at low  $p_T$  also observed in the beauty sector by LHCb
- Points towards further hadronization mechanisms  $\rightarrow$  non-universal fragmentation functions  $\rightarrow$  Campaign of measurements of various baryon resonances in pp