# Heavy ion collisions at LHC (with focus on CMS results)



#### CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN

Data recorded: 2010-Nov-08 10:22:07.828203 GMT(11:22:07 CEST) Run / Event: 150431 / 541464

G. K. Krintiras (cern.ch/gkrintir)



Evian "debut" (**1992**)

- The infrastructure for *a* Large Hadron Collider (LHC), if any, would be driven by
  - ☑ the existed tunnel (radius and size) and its injectors: "Multipacket" collider + 10 T magnets
  - **Expressions of Interest** in 1992: LHC to handle proton and lead ions

# Surpassing the baseline luminosity goals

- **Z** LHC collided more types of beam, than originally foreseen, with better performance
  - In practice, we've come close to the "HL-LHC" performance with PbPb and pPb collisions
    - In 2018 the peak luminosity at IP1/5 reached ×6 the design without magnet quenches
- Opens up further opportunities for high-density QCD studies
  - For probes **not accessible** so far due to lower luminosity or energy
    - All 4 experiments participate  $\rightarrow$  complementary phase space regions, cross checks

CMS Integrated Luminosity Delivered, PbPb+pPb



### Searches for high-density QCD phenomena

- Look at "elementary" pp and pA collisions
  - Measure an observable, e.g.,  $p_T$ -dependent  $\phi$  correlations ("soft"), jet production ("hard"), etc
- ☑ Look at heavy ion (AA) collisions
  - Measure the very same observable as in pp, pA collisions
- Compare them: Is there something new, e.g., **modified** particle production in the bulk/within jets?



# But why QCD is called the strong interaction?

#### Physics Today 53 (2000) 8



- Hard scattering cross sections calculable
  - **provided** the scale  $\mu$  is chosen large
- Does the large-distance behavior of QCD
  - a transition region where "color" degrees of freedom dominate?
  - I.e., a **deconfinement** phase exists?

quark

g

antiquark

### **QGP**: the form that the early Universe existed in



- Energy of partons is lost ('quenched') in QGP
  - experimentally seen as **R**<sub>AA</sub> modifications
- Different mechnasims for hadron formation
  - $p_T$ -dependent  $\phi$  correlations

A fluid that retains its QCD asymptotic freedom character!



# Throwing a bullet through an apple... Why?

- **a** To probe **cold** QCD matter
  - Collisions of unequal species (proton-lead) @ LHC revealed surprises
    - signs reminiscent of a quark-gluon plasma (QGP)
    - interest exploded (the 5<sup>th</sup> most cited CMS paper in PLB!)



# Throwing a bullet through an apple... Why?

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# Studies with heavy ion collisions @ LHC

- Toolbox (not exhaustive) to infer from heavy ion and their "reference" collisions: 7
  - Hard probes and photon-induced processes
    - Nuclear PDFs, gluon saturation, BSM physics, etc.
  - Jet modifications
    - In-medium parton energy loss and medium response
  - Heavy quark dynamics
    - Hadronization and long-range correlations
  - New probes
    - accessible with high-luminosity data samples



 $(3\sigma_{\star}, 3\sigma_{\star}, 5\sigma_{t})$  envelope for  $\epsilon_{\star}=5.52358 \times 10$ 

<sup>0</sup>m. σ<sub>0</sub>=0.0001137

m\_e.=5.52358 x 10<sup>-1</sup>

# Studies with heavy ion collisions @ LHC 10

- **Extended** experimental toolbox to infer from heavy ion and their "reference" collisions:
  - Hard probes and photon-induced processes
  - Jet modifications
  - Heavy quark dynamics
  - New probes

#### Dijet event (pPb)





# Key characteristics of the nPDF global fits

With input from Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 70 (2020)

Nuclear (most recent) PDFs	nCTEQ15	EPPS16	nNNPDF <b>2</b> .0 ( <b>1</b> .0)	TUJU19
Perturbative order	NLO	NLO	NLO, NNLO	NLO, NNLO
Heavy quark scheme	ACOT	S-ACOT	FONLL	ZM-VFN
Value of $\alpha_s(m_Z)$	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.118
Input scale $Q_0$	$1.30~{\rm GeV}$	$1.30  {\rm GeV}$	$1.00 { m ~GeV}$	$1.69~{\rm GeV}$
Data points	708	1811	1467 (451)	2336
Fixed Target DIS	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$ (w/o $\nu$ -DIS)	$\checkmark$
Fixed Target DY	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
LHC DY and W		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark(X)$	
Jet and had. prod.	$(\pi^0 \text{ only})$	$(\pi^0, LHC dijet)$		
Independent PDFs	6	6	3	6
Parametrisation	simple pol.	simple pol.	neural network	simple pol.
Free parameters	16	20	256 (178)	16
Statistical treatment	Hessian	Hessian	Monte Carlo	Hessian
Tolerance	$\Delta\chi^2 = 35$	$\Delta\chi^2 = 52$	—	$\Delta\chi^2 = 50$



#### nPDFs from several groups

- less available data sets compared to the free-nucleon cases
- different data sets (e.g., pPb LHC data), theoretical assumptions, and methodological settings
- not well understood aspects, e.g., the nuclear modifications of the gluon distribution

### Nuclear gluon PDFs: constraints scarce so far **12**

- Stringent constraints with CMS dijet events
- **Data consistent with NLO pQCD predictions with nuclear PDFs (EPPS16)** 
  - Enhanced **suppression** at forward y
- Significant reduction in EPPS16 uncertainties after reweighting

Phys. Rev. Lett. **121** (2018) 062002 EPJC **79** (2019) 511



# Nuclear gluon PDFs: constraints scarce so far 13

- Stringent constraints with CMS dijet events
- Data consistent with NLO pQCD predictions with nuclear PDFs (EPPS16)
  - Enhanced suppression at forward y
- Significant reduction in EPPS16 uncertainties after reweighting
  - Complimentary constraints using **W bosons** and **top quarks**



### Exclusive vector meson photoproduction in pPb14

- **I** Idea: Imaging proton using ions as a **photon source** 
  - Probe gluon distributions at low  $x \approx (M_{VM}/W_{\gamma p})$
- $\rho(770) \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$  exclusive UPC events consistent with those at HERA <sup>a)</sup>
  - indeed ions act as a source of quasi-real photons
- Using  $\Upsilon(1S)$  differentially in y,  $p_T$  and as a function of  $W_{\gamma p}$  to test
  - various models of the low-*x* gluon behavior







# Light-by-light scattering

- **2** Challenging to measure owing to a tiny cross section of  $\boldsymbol{O}(\alpha^4)$
- **Optimized** EGM reconstruction for  $E_T < 10$  GeV
  - Measured with significance at  $4\sigma$  level
  - Good candidate to perform **combined** LHC measurements
- Limits on coupling of axion-like particles to photons (or hypercharge)
  - **Best** exclusion limits over m<sub>a</sub> = 5–50 (5–10) GeV







# Studies with heavy ion collisions @ CMS

- **Extended** experimental toolbox to infer from heavy ion and their 'reference' collisions:
  - Hard probes and photon-induced processes
  - Jet modifications
  - Heavy quark dynamics
  - New probes

#### Back-to-back dijet (PbPb)



 $\gamma$ +jet (PbPb)

16



# Jet quenching

- **I** Jets are tomographic probes of the QGP
- **We characteristically measure** 
  - Changes in the dijet  $p_T$  balance for the most central (head-on collision) events
  - Reshuffling of energy in and out of jet cone in PbPb compared to pp events



#### Nuclear modification factor (R<sub>AA</sub>) of hadrons 18

- Energy of partons is lost ('quenched') in QGP 7
  - Experimentally seen as R<sub>AA</sub> modifications
  - increases for  $p_T > 10$  GeV; independent of flavor
- Significantly better precision with HL-LHC 7

![](_page_17_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Figure_6.jpeg)

### Jet R<sub>AA</sub>: the first large radius scan

CMS PbPb 404 μb<sup>-1</sup>, pp 27.4 pb<sup>-1</sup> 0-10%  $300 < p_{\tau}^{jet} < 400 \text{ GeV}$  $400 < p_{_{T}}^{^{jet}} < 500 \; GeV$ 1.5 Up to R = 1.0(!)7 New phase space  $\mathbf{R}_{AA}^{R} / \mathbf{R}_{AA}^{R=0.2}$ Competing effects for wide jets 7  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$ Constraints on models  $500 < p_{\tau}^{jet} < 1000 \text{ GeV}$ anti-k<sub>T</sub>,  $|\eta_{_{iet}}| < 2$ 1.5 JHEP 05 (2021) 284 CMS 0-10% PYQUEN PYQUEN w/ wide angle rad **JEWEL** 0.5 JEWEL w/o recoil 0.6 0.8 0.6 0.8 0.4 0.4 .2 0 Jet R

# Jet shapes and fragmentation with $\gamma$ +jet events<sup>20</sup>

- Initial parton energy better constrained by  $\gamma$  p<sub>T</sub> (quark-enriched jets)  $\mathbf{Z}$ 
  - Jet shape
    - Jets are wider in PbPb than pp
  - Jet fragmentation function

CMS

Data

LBT

Supplementary

0.1

3

2

()

 $\rho(r)_{PbPb} / \rho(r)_{pp}$ 

Indication of medium-induced modifications

Phys. Rev. Lett. 122 (2019) 152001

![](_page_19_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_8.jpeg)

# Jet quenching in smaller systems?

- Crucial to understand the minimum requirement(s) for jet quenching
  - Final state effect in high multiplicity pPb
    - No suppression observed in pPb collisions for p<sub>T</sub> > 2 GeV
  - Use smaller ions
    - Charged particle  $R_{AA}$  simply scales with initial 'geometry'  $(N_{part})$

![](_page_20_Figure_6.jpeg)

# Studies with heavy ion collisions @ CMS

- **Extended** experimental toolbox to infer from heavy ion and their 'reference' collisions:
  - Hard probes and photon-induced processes
  - Jet modifications
  - Heavy quark dynamics
  - New probes

![](_page_21_Picture_6.jpeg)

### Fourier expansion of the projected $\Delta \varphi$

22

Azimuthal correlations of particle pairs are decomposed via a Fourier expansion:

$$\frac{1}{N_{\rm trig}}\frac{dN^{\rm pair}}{d\Delta\phi} = \frac{N_{assoc}}{2\pi} \left[1 + \sum_{n} 2V_{n\Delta}cos(n\Delta\phi)\right]$$

- single-particle azimuthal anisotropy Fourier coefficients measured as  $v_{n\geq 1}=\sqrt{v_{n\Delta}}$
- **a** Harmonics (e.g.,  $v_2$ ,  $v_3$ ) can be interpreted as **flow** (e.g., elliptic, triangular) that are related to

![](_page_22_Figure_5.jpeg)

### Measuring collectivity in small systems

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- **D**etailed measurements of  $v_2 \& v_3$ 
  - centrality/event activity and  $p_T$  dependence qualitatively similar to that in heavy ions
  - identified particle and multiparticle correlation techniques support a collective origin of  $v_n$ 
    - encompased by hydrodynamical models, but **not a unique** description
- $\fbox{\sc line 1}$  We start answering whether a collective component in  $v_n$  exists by studying
  - the role of the **initial conditions**
  - the impact of **hard-scattering** processes and **energy loss**

![](_page_23_Figure_8.jpeg)

### Understanding collectivity in small systems 25

- **Process-dependent**  $v_n$  can distinguish complementary particle production mechanisms
  - **v**<sub>2,3</sub> similarity (ordering) in MB vs jet-triggered pPb events indicative of flow (soft+hard admixture)
  - $v_{2-4}$  largely independent of whether measured in jet enriched/depleted pp events [7]
- Photonuclear collisions in UPC offer an alternative dynamics of small systems
  - competing explanations can be tested in cases one of the "beams" has a **simpler** initial state
  - both ATLAS and CMS see significant  $v_2$  in UPC PbPb [8] and pPb collisions, respectively

![](_page_24_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_8.jpeg)

# Measuring HF particle flow in pPb

#### **Observation of c flow**

- the number-of-constituent-quark ( $n_q$ ) scaling holds for  $KE_T/n_q < 1$  GeV
- model with final-state interactions underestimates the  $v_2$  signal
- **First measurements of b flow** 
  - $\bullet$   $\,$  indication of flavor hierarchy between light, charm, and beauty at low  $p_{\rm T}$
  - qualitative agreement with CGC calculations and data  $\rightarrow$  an important role for initial-state effects?

![](_page_25_Figure_7.jpeg)

### Quarkonia: Upsilon family in PbPb

- Flow of bottomonia in PbPb
  - Precise  $\Upsilon(1S)$  v<sub>2</sub> consistent with 0
  - First  $\Upsilon(2S)$  v<sub>2</sub> measurement consistent with 0 too
    - in contrast to larger  $J/\psi v_2$
- $\blacksquare$  Sequential suppression of  $\Upsilon$  family
  - stronger in PbPb than pPb

Phys. Lett. B **790** (2019) 270

![](_page_26_Figure_8.jpeg)

### Comparing HF particle flow in all systems

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- **There is charm anisotropy... everywhere** 
  - apparent ordering:  $v_2$  (PbPb) >  $v_2$  (pPb) >  $v_2$  (pp)
    - so system size should play a role?
- **Z** For open bottom hadrons:  $v_2 (PbPb) > 0$  but  $v_2 (pPb) \sim v_2 (pp) \sim 0$ 
  - do we hit some **threshold** between charm and beauty processes?

![](_page_27_Figure_6.jpeg)

# Studies with heavy ion collisions @ CMS

- **Extended** experimental toolbox to infer from heavy ion and their 'reference' collisions:
  - Hard probes and photon-induced processes
  - Jet modifications
  - Heavy quark dynamics
  - New probes

#### $t\bar{t} \rightarrow W(\mu\nu_{\mu})bW(e\nu_{e})b$ (pPb)

 $t\bar{t} \rightarrow W(\mu\nu_{\mu})bW(e\nu_{e})b$  (PbPb)

![](_page_28_Picture_8.jpeg)

# Evidence of X (3872) production in PbPb

- ☑ X(3872) (or  $\chi_{c1}(3872)$ ): Observed by BELLE (2003), its internal structure is still under debate  $\mu^+$ 
  - extended, compact four-quark or mixed molecule-charmonium state?
  - Production in QGP probes its structure, e.g., coalescence models
- **a** Measured with significance at  $4\sigma$  level
  - X(3872) to  $\psi(2S)$  ratio enhancement in PbPb?

2102.13048 (submitted to Phys. Rev. Lett.)

J/ψ

Primary Vertex

![](_page_29_Figure_7.jpeg)

### Evidence of tt cross section in PbPb

, q

v.  $\overline{a}$ 

b

- **First** experimental evidence ( $4\sigma$  level) of the top quark in **nucleus-nucleus** collisions
  - using leptons only and leptons+b jets
- It establishes a **new tool** for probing nPDFs as well as the QGP properties

![](_page_30_Figure_4.jpeg)

Future physics opportunities with W and Z bosons and top quarks for high-density QCD at LHC <u>arXiv: 1812.06772</u>

![](_page_31_Picture_1.jpeg)

# HL-LHC operational scenarios for pPb and PbPb33

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

☑ Included in the YR and recently refined (CERN-ACC-2020-0011)

- scenarios are based on **benchmarked** models (actually agree remarkaly well with Run 2 LHC
- ≈five one-month runs would be needed to reach 13 /nb of PbPb
- **«two** one-month runs would be needed to reach 1.2 /pb of pPb
- projections could be improved, e.g., due to operational efficiency (>50%), etc

### Prospects for top quark production at pA HL-LHC 34

- **a** The y of the decay leptons sensitive probe of the nuclear gluon density
  - **comparable** experimental and nPDF uncertainty with the pPb data set in Runs 3–4
    - depending on the expected systematic error and bin-by-bin correlations
  - to showcase **another potential**: In a pAr mode, the higher  $\sqrt{s}$  + lumonsity  $\rightarrow$  increased t $\bar{t}$  yield

![](_page_33_Figure_5.jpeg)

### Prospects for top quark production at AA HL-LHC 35

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

**n**PDF uncertainties increase at large x due to the **lack** of direct constraints

- the region where the predictions for  $R_g$  also **differ** between nPDF determinations
- some constraints from the current LHC dijet measurements (cf. backup)

# Probing the "final state": the yoctosec QGP lifetime

- **Probes for jet quenching, e.g., dijets,** Z/y+jet, are produced **simultaneously** with the collision
- **a** Top decay products have the potential to **resolve** the QGP evolution instead

# Probing the "final state": the yoctosec QGP lifetime

- **2** Probes for jet quenching, e.g., dijets,  $Z/\gamma$ +jet, are produced **simultaneously** with the collision
- **Top decay products have the potential to resolve the QGP evolution instead** 
  - Leptonic & hadronic branches as "tag" & "probe"
    - qq' start interacting with the medium at **later** times
    - top  $p_T$  acts as the "trigger" on the onset of the interaction

![](_page_36_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_7.jpeg)

# W mass vs top $p_{\scriptscriptstyle T}$ and QGP lifetime reach

- What would be the observable to measure the amount of energy loss?
  - By reconstructing **W** mass vs top  $p_T$  we can trace the quenching time dependence
    - At HL-LHC, possible to distinguish low-duration scenarios (inclusively)
    - At FCC, possible to assess the QGP density evolution (i.e., 'triggering on' top  $p_T$ )

![](_page_37_Figure_5.jpeg)

## Prospects for W boson forward-to-backward ratios 39

- Exploit the larger (× 10) pPb data set in Runs 3–4
  - experimental uncertainties significantly **smaller** than the nPDF ones
  - to showcase the potential: significant reduction of the uncertainties in the gluon nPDF
    - the large-x (> 0.1) part is **not affected** though

![](_page_38_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Figure_6.jpeg)

# Physics motivations for collisions with lighter ions

**1 month** of ArAr > PbPb data set in Runs 3-4

• coverage of a much broader range in  $Z p_T \rightarrow jet$ -energy differential studies of quenching

**a** case study: ratio of the jet to  $Z p_T$  expected **similar** in ArAr and PbPb collisions

![](_page_39_Figure_4.jpeg)

# "Everything...flows"(?)

- □ Long-range (2 <  $|\Delta \eta|$  < 4), near-side ( $\Delta \phi \approx 0$ ) angular correlations are seen at LHC at various  $\sqrt{s}$  in
  - heavy ion (XeXe and PbPb), and
  - "small systems", i.e., high-multiplicity pPb and pp collisions
- Signs reminiscent of **collective behavior** of a quark-gluon plasma (QGP)

![](_page_40_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Figure_6.jpeg)

# Hard and "rare" probes HI program @ HL-LHC

- Precise extractions of nPDFs crucial for
  - studying the strong interaction in the high-density regime
  - modeling the initial state needed to characterize the QGP
- LHC nuclear data are a game changer
  - different groups **already** include W/Z boson data in global fits
- We can assess the QGP density evolution
  - top quark a **new tool** profiting from lighter ions
- **a** To refine modeling of dilute systems and optimize their choice
  - the available info already indicates the potential of **lighter** systems
    - isoscalar beams even complementary choice to HL-LHC pp
  - of relevance for **BSM** searches too (e.g., J Phys G 47 (2020) 060501)

![](_page_41_Figure_12.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Figure_13.jpeg)

![](_page_42_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Extending the LHC HI program & CMS LS3 upgrades

ETL

- ☑ Runs 3+4: main **goal** of >10/nb PbPb
  - focus on rare triggers
  - even larger minimum-bias event sample
    - > 6 kHz at HLT in Run 3, goal to increase for Run 4
- ☑ Major Phase-2 upgrades for HL-LHC (2026+)
  - Extension of tracker (muon systems) acceptance from  $|\eta| < 2.5$  to < 4.0 (3.0), etc.

BTL

- Precise timing detectors for pileup rejection
  - byproduct TOF PID
- ☑ Radiation-hard zero degree calorimeter (2021+)

![](_page_43_Figure_10.jpeg)

ETI

![](_page_43_Figure_11.jpeg)

CERN-LHCC-2017-027

### Outlook: General goals in HL-LHC & beyond

- **Parton densities** in broad kinematic range and search for **saturation**
- **Macroscopic** long-wavelength QGP properties with unprecedented precision
- **Collectivity** across colliding systems
- **Microscopic** parton dynamics underlying QGP properties

![](_page_44_Figure_5.jpeg)

# Key characteristics of the latest fits of nPDFs (in chronological order from left to right)

#### arXiv:1704.04036

	EPS09	dssz12	ка15	NCTEQ15	epps16
Order in $\alpha_s$	LO & NLO	NLO	NNLO	NLO	NLO
Neutral current DIS $\ell + A/\ell + d$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	V	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Drell-Yan dilepton p+A/p+d	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
RHIC pions d+Au/p+p	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Neutrino-nucleus DIS		$\checkmark$		ecian matrix	$\checkmark$
Drell-Yan dilepton $\pi + A$			- He		$\checkmark$
LHC p+Pb jet data	$\chi^2_{\text{global}} \approx \chi^2_0 + \sum_{i,j}$	$(a_i - a_i^0)$	$H_{ij}$ $(a_j - a_j)$	$\chi_{j}^{0}) = \chi_{0}^{2} + \sum_{i} z_{i}^{i}$	✓
LHC p+Pb W, Z data			Ĵ		$\checkmark$
orViv:1704.04024		Parameter var	ations		
$Q \operatorname{cut} \operatorname{in} \operatorname{DIS}$	1.3 GeV	1 GeV	1 GeV	2 GeV	1.3 GeV
datapoints	929	1579	1479	708	1811
free parameters	15	25	16	17	20
error analysis	Hessian	Hessian	Hessian	Hessian	Hessian
error tolerance $\Delta \chi^2$	50	30	not given	35	52
Free proton baseline PDFs	стеоб.1	мѕтw2008	jr09	стеобм-like	ст14NLO
Heavy-quark effects		$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Flavor separation				some	$\checkmark$
Reference	[JHEP 0904 065]	[PR D85 074028]	[PR D93, 014026]	[PR D93 085037]	[EPJ C77 163]

# As compared to the PDF fitting landscape

Ubiali, DIS2017

April 2017	NNPDF3.0	MMHT2014	СТ14	HERAPDF2.0	CJ15	ABMP16
Fixed Target DIS	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	×	×	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	×
JLAB	×	×	×	×	~	×
HERA I+II	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Image: A second s</li></ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>
HERA jets	×	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	×	×	×	×
Fixed Target DY	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Image: A set of the set of the</li></ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	×	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>
Tevatron W,Z	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	×	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>
Tevatron jets	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Image: A set of the set of the</li></ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	×	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	×
LHC jets	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	×	×	×	×
LHC vector boson	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	<ul> <li></li> </ul>	v	×	×	v
LHC top	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	×	×	×	×	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
Stat. treatment	Monte Carlo	Hessian Δχ² dynamical	Hessian Δχ² dynamical	Hessian $\Delta \chi^2 = 1$	Hessian $\Delta \chi^2 = 1.645$	Hessian $\Delta \chi^2 = 1$
Parametrization	Neural Networks (259 pars)	Chebyshev (37 pars)	Bernstein (30-35 pars)	Polynomial (14 pars)	Polynomial (24 pars)	Polynomial (15 pars)
HQ scheme	FONLL	TR'	ΑСΟΤ-χ	TR'	ΑСΟΤ-χ	FFN (+BMST)
Order	NLO/NNLO	NLO/NNLO	NLO/NNLO	NLO/NNLO	NLO	NLO/NNLO

# Signal separation: measuring $t\bar{t}$ with leptons only

- $\blacksquare$  Use the kinematics of the two leading- $p_T$  leptons to train a BDT
  - $p_{\rm T}(\ell_1)$ , the  $p_{\rm T}$  of the highest- $p_{\rm T}$  lepton,
  - $A_{p_T}$ , the asymmetry in the lepton- $p_T$ 's, namely  $\frac{p_T(\ell_1) p_T(\ell_2)}{p_T(\ell_1) + p_T(\ell_2)}$ ,
  - $p_{\rm T}(\ell \ell)$ , the  $p_{\rm T}$  of the dilepton system,
  - $|\eta(\ell \ell)|$ , the absolute  $\eta$  of the dilepton system,
  - $|\Delta \phi(\ell \ell)|$ , the absolute value of the separation in  $\phi$  of the two leptons, and
  - $\Sigma |\eta_i|$ , the sum of the absolute  $\eta$ 's of the leptons.

![](_page_47_Figure_8.jpeg)

### A nice heuristic idea for a yocto-chronometer!

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

Knowing the energy loss, it is possible to build the density evolution profile of the medium!

# BSM searches with heavy ion collisions at the LHC

Submitted as input to the update of the European Particle Physics Strategy (EPPS)

arXiv: 1812.07688

Production mode	BSM particle/interaction	Remarks
Ultraperipheral	Axion-like particles Radion Born-Infeld QED Non-commutative interactions	$\gamma \gamma \rightarrow a, m_a \approx 0.5  100 \text{GeV}$ $\gamma \gamma \rightarrow \phi, m_\phi \approx 0.5  100 \text{GeV}$ via $\gamma \gamma \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ anomalies via $\gamma \gamma \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ anomalies
Schwinger process	Magnetic monopole	Only viable in HI collisions
Hard scattering	Dark photon Long-lived particles (heavy $\nu$ )	$m_{A'} \lesssim 1 \text{GeV}$ , advanced particle ID $m_{\text{LLP}} \lesssim 10 \text{GeV}$ , improved vertexing
Thermal QCD	Sexaquarks	DM candidate

Table 1: Examples of new-physics particles and interactions accessible in searches with HI collisions at the LHC, listed by production mechanism. Indicative competitive mass ranges and/or the associated measurement advantages compared to the pp running mode are given.

- Also not exhaustive list
  - e.g, tau g–2 using LHC heavy ion collisions in arXiv: 1908.05180