



# ALICE physics highlights and perspectives

Luciano Musa (CERN)

Workshop on Standard Model and Beyond

Corfu 2021, September 5

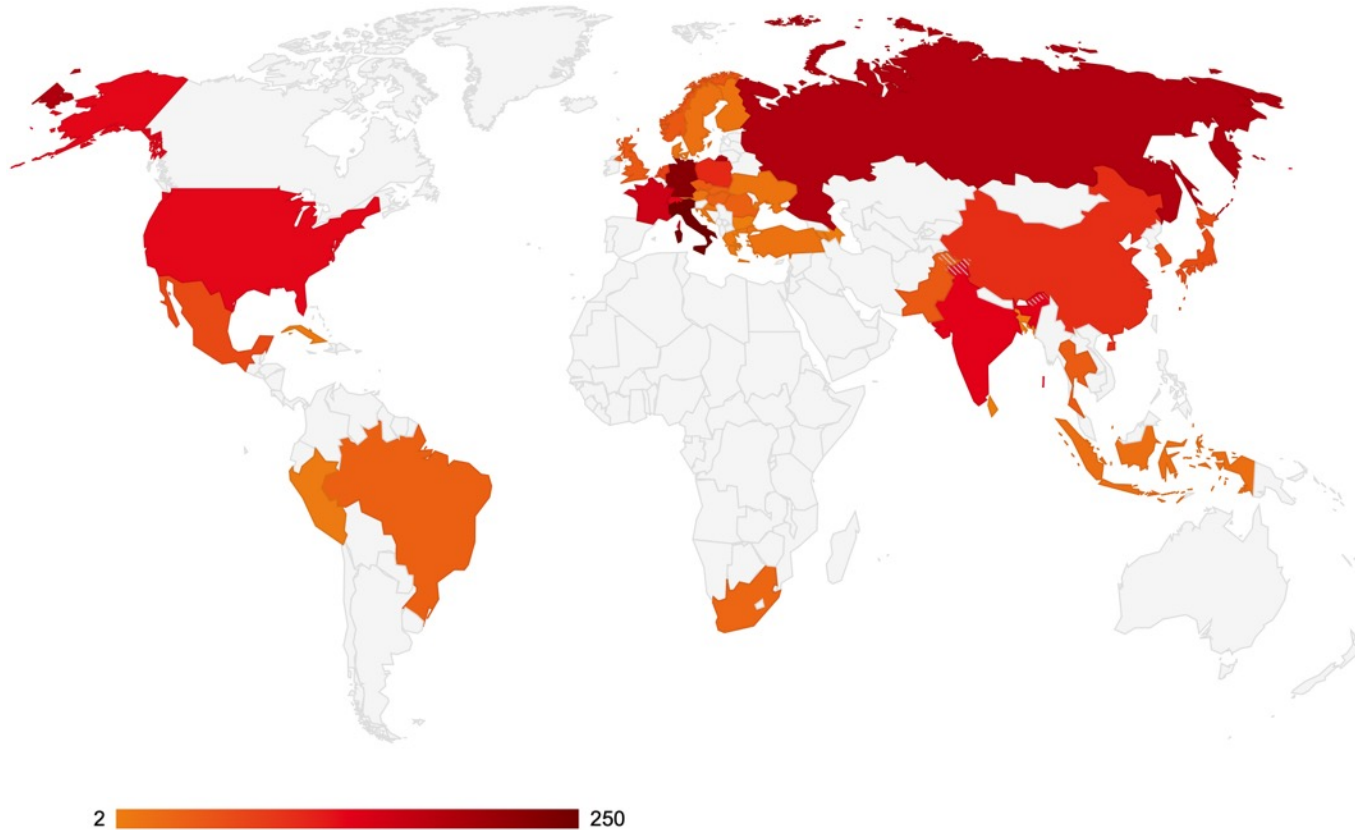
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## Outline

- ① Introduction
- ② Physics highlights
- ③ Preparations for Run 3
- ④ Future perspectives

# The ALICE Collaboration



**42 Countries, 173 Institutes**  
1946 Members  
about **1000 signing authors**

## Main stages

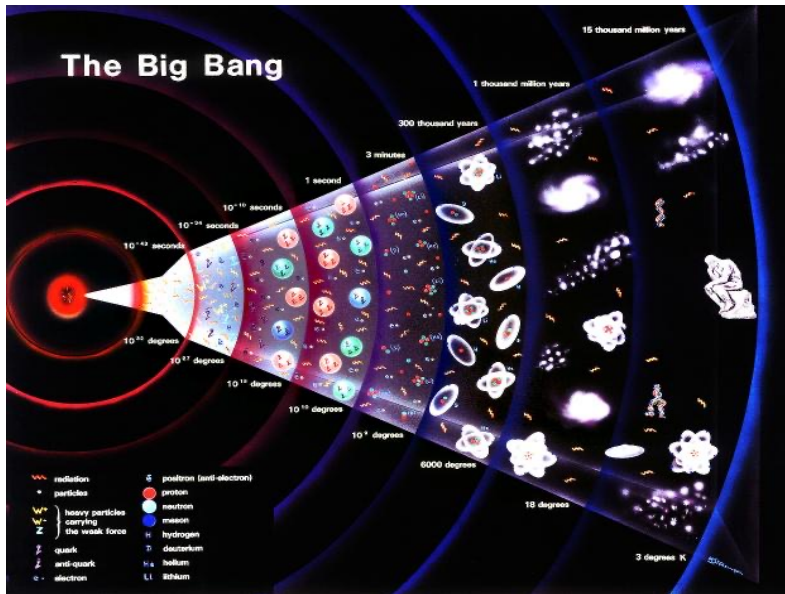
- 1992: Expression of interest
- 1997: ALICE approval
- 2000 – 2007: **construction**
- 2002 – early 2008: **Installation**
- 2009 – 2018: **physics campaign**

# The ALICE Scientific Mission

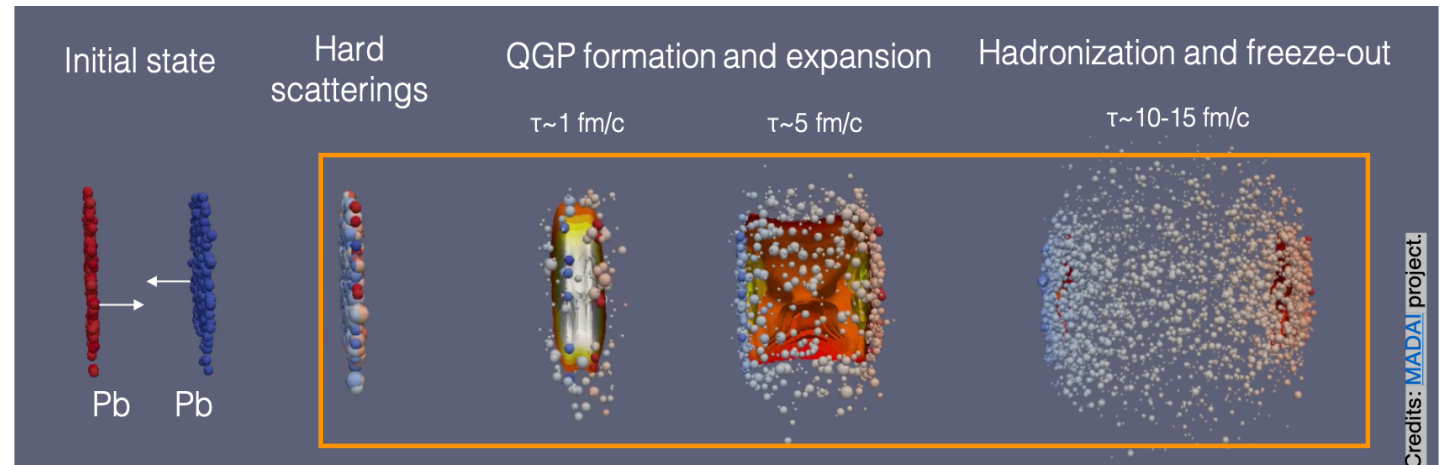
Characterize the physical properties of the **Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP)**, a **state of strongly-interacting** (colored) **matter** formed at extremely high energy densities

⇒ in the collisions of heavy ions at the LHC, temperature  $O(10^{12}$  K):  $10^5 \times T$  at centre of Sun

⇒ in the Universe  $O(1-10 \mu\text{s})$  after the Big Bang



The mini Big Bang: a hot fireball generated by nuclear collision at the LHC

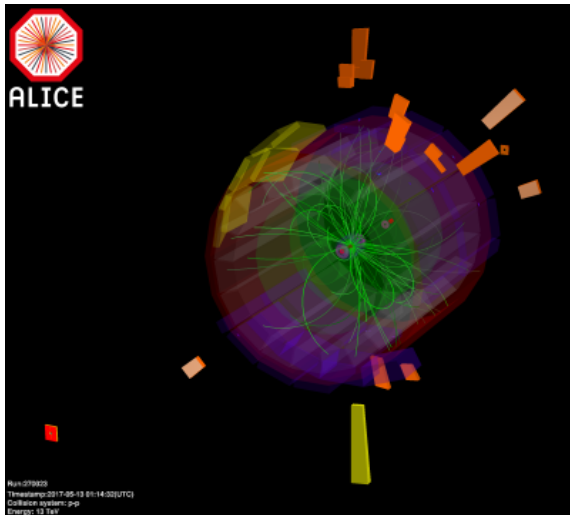


$1 \text{ fm/c} = 3 \times 10^{-24} \text{ s}$ ,  $1 \text{ MeV} \sim 10^{10} \text{ K}$

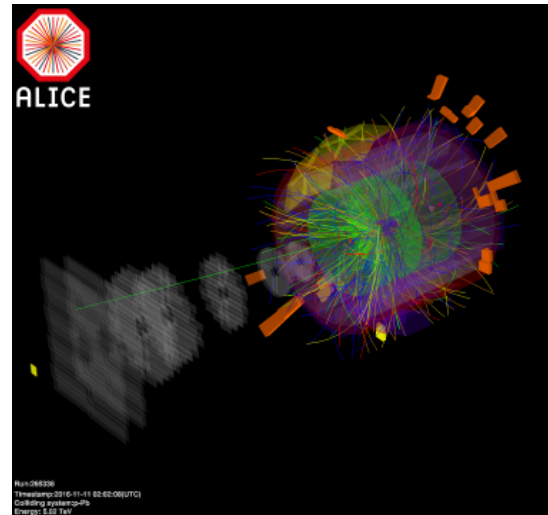
# Heavy Ion Collisions at the LHC

- The LHC collides most of the time protons on protons
- Approximately one month of running time is dedicated to heavy-ions each year (primarily Pb ions)

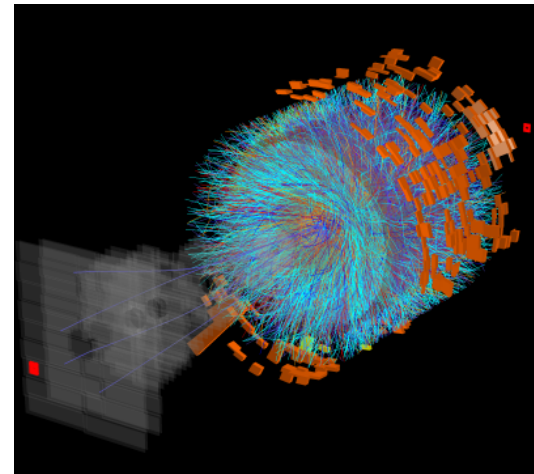
pp



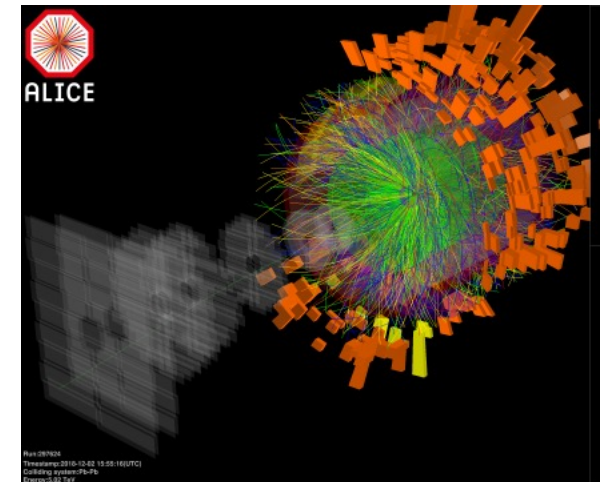
p-Pb



Xe-Xe



Pb-Pb



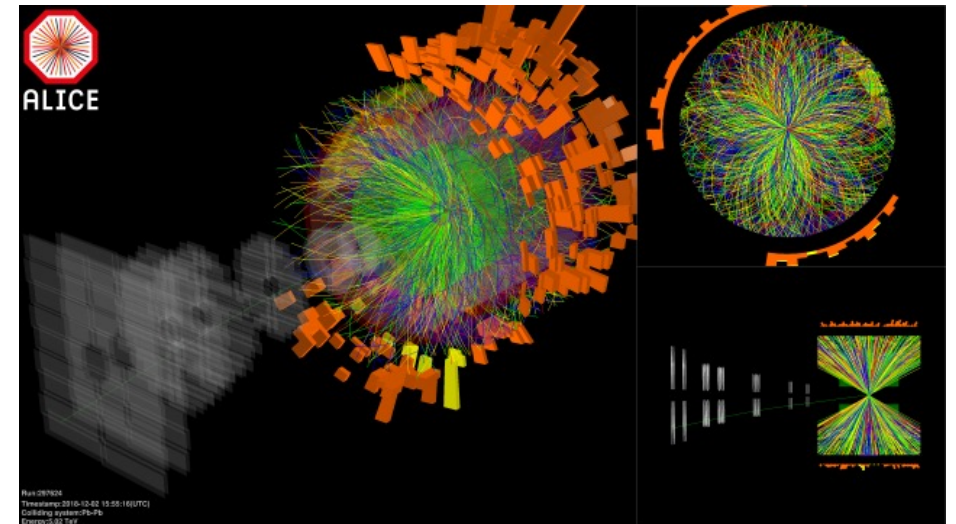
# Pb-Pb collisions at the LHC

Energy per nucleon in a  $^{208}_{82}\text{Pb}$ -Pb collision at the LHC (**Run 2**)

- beam energy in pp  $E_{\text{beam}} = 6.5 \text{ TeV}$
- pp collision energy  $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$
- Beam energy per nucleon in a Pb nucleus  
 $E_{\text{beam,PbPb}} = 82/208 * 6.37 \text{ TeV} = 2.51 \text{ TeV}$
- Collision energy per nucleon in Pb-Pb:  $\sqrt{s}_{\text{NN}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$
- Total collision energy in Pb-Pb:  
 $\sqrt{s} = 1.04 \text{ PeV}$

$$\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} \approx 2c p_p \sqrt{\frac{Z_1 Z_2}{A_1 A_2}} \approx 2c p_p \begin{cases} 1 & \text{p-p} \\ 0.628 & \text{p-Pb} \\ 0.394 & \text{Pb-Pb} \end{cases}$$

⇒ What can we learn from these massive interactions?



# The ALICE detector (version 1: Run 1 + Run 2)

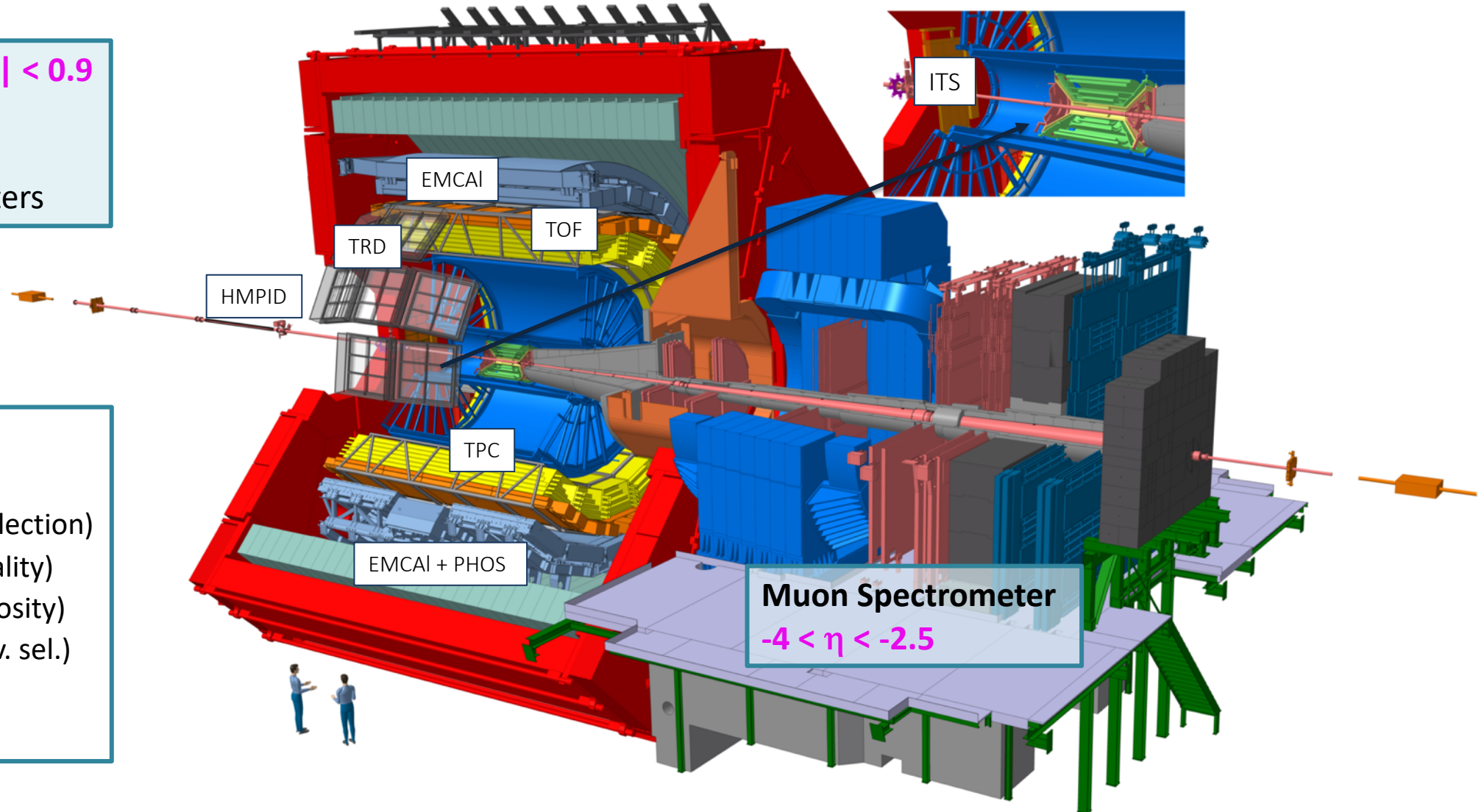
## Central Barrel $|\eta| < 0.9$

- Tracking
- PID
- EM-Calorimeters

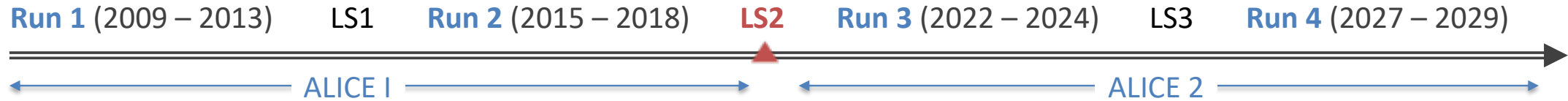
## ACORDE (cosmics)

### Forward detectors:

- AD (diffraction selection)
- V0 (trigger, centrality)
- V0 (timing, luminosity)
- ZDC (centrality, ev. sel.)
- FMD ( $N_{ch}$ )
- PMD ( $N_{\gamma}$ ,  $N_{ch}$ )



# ALICE data taking and publications

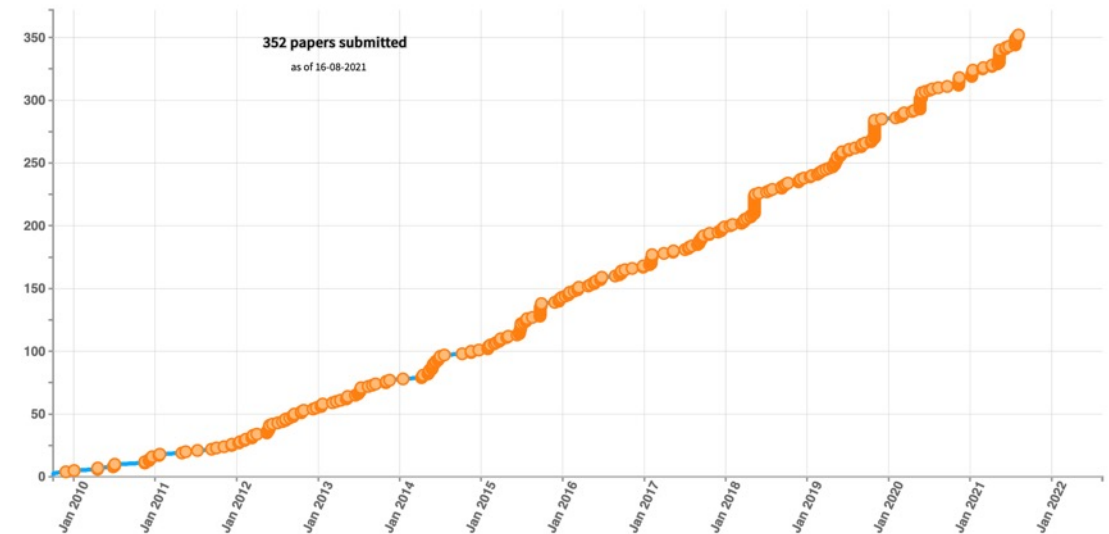


System	Year(s)	$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV)	$L_{int}$
Pb-Pb	2010, 2011	2.76	$\sim 75 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$
	2015, 2018	5.02	$\sim 800 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$
Xe-Xe	2017	5.44	$\sim 0.3 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$
p-Pb	2013	5.02	$\sim 15 \text{nb}^{-1}$
	2016	5.02, 8.16	$\sim 3 \text{nb}^{-1}, \sim 25 \text{nb}^{-1}$
pp	2009-2013	0.9, 2.76, 7, 8	$\sim 200 \text{mb}^{-1}, \sim 100 \text{nb}^{-1}$ $\sim 1.5 \text{pb}^{-1}, \sim 2.5 \text{pb}^{-1}$
	2015, 2017	5.02	$\sim 1.3 \text{pb}^{-1}$
	2015-2018	13	$\sim 36 \text{pb}^{-1}$

Run 1

Run 2

## 352 ALICE papers on arXiv so far



<http://alice-publications.web.cern.ch/submitted>

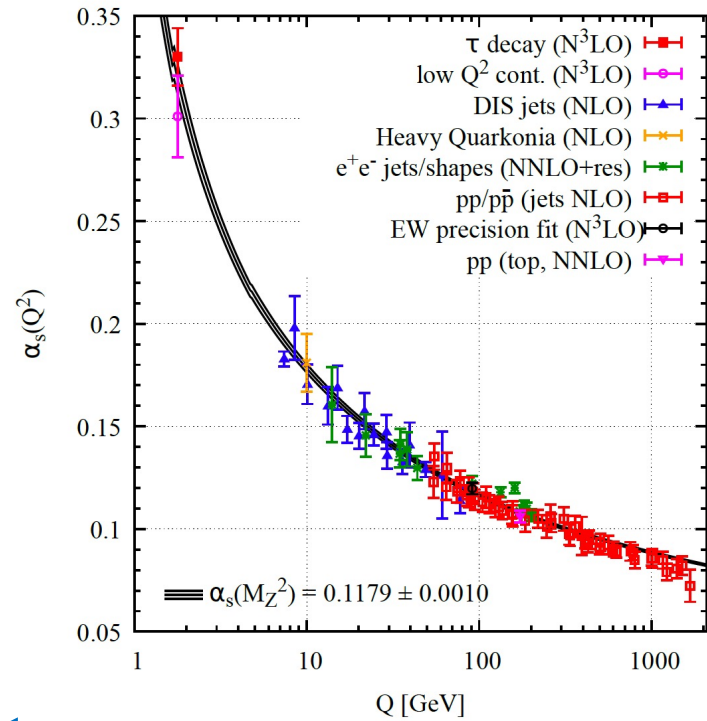


# Strongly interacting (colored) matter

## ... a brief introduction

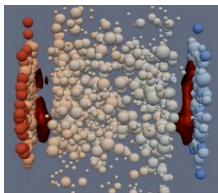
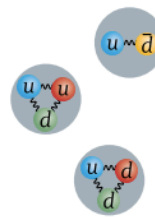
# QGP: asymptotic state of QCD

Quark Gluon Plasma (QGP): at extreme temperatures and densities quarks and gluons behave quasi-free and are not localized to individual hadrons anymore

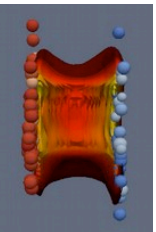
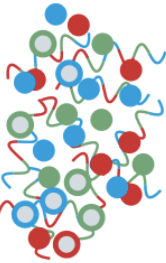
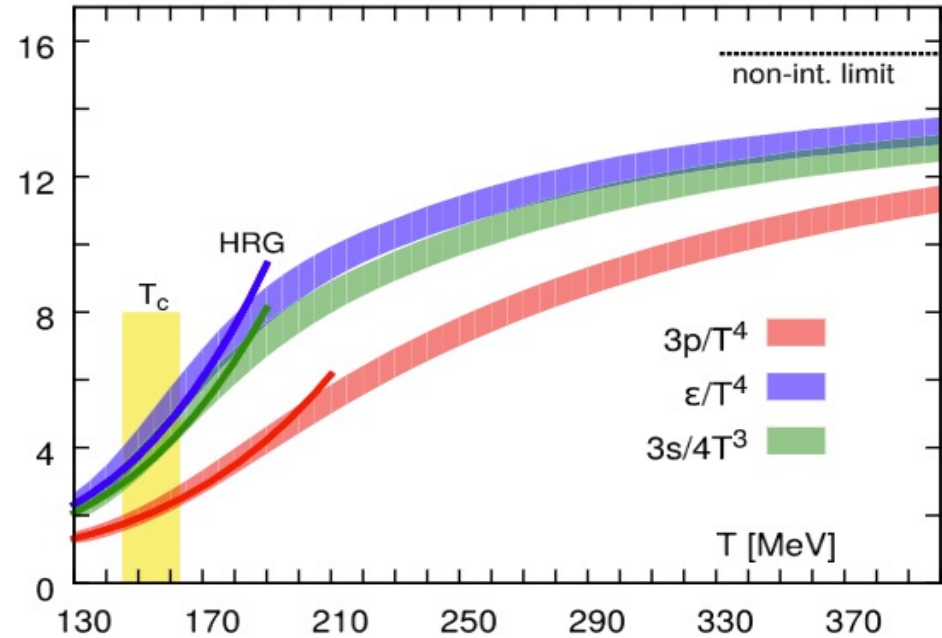


NB: free regime is reached only asymptotically!

Where is the phase transition?  
→ Lattice QCD



[PRD 90 094503 (2014)]



← Confinement

→ Asymptotic freedom

Hadron gas ←  $\sim 10^{12} K$  → Quark Gluon Plasma gas

# QGP in the laboratory: Pb-Pb collisions at the LHC

QGP can be formed by compressing large energy in a small volume

According to LQCD, the QGP is formed when

$$\varepsilon_c = (0.42 \pm 0.06) \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$$

critical energy

$$T_c = (156.5 \pm 1.5) \text{ MeV}$$

critical temperature

**For comparison**

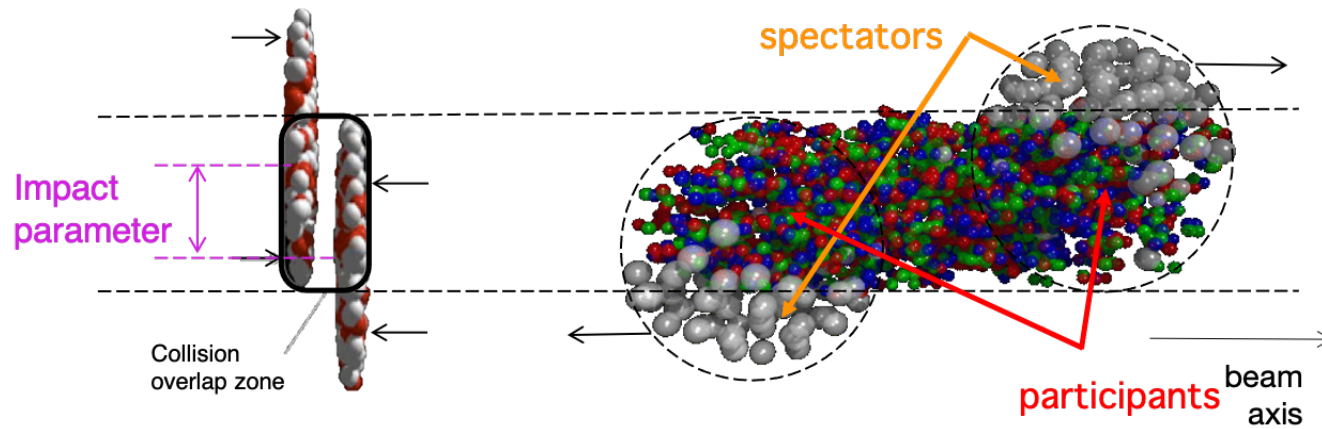
$T = 156 \text{ MeV} \triangleq 1.8 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ K}$

Sun core:  $1.5 \cdot 10^7 \text{ K}$

Sun surface:  $5778 \text{ K}$

- ⇒ Collide **heavy nuclei** (multiple, ~simultaneous, nucleon-nucleon collisions)
- ⇒ **Control/vary the energy deposited** in the collision region by varying the collision system
  - Impact parameter/centrality, nuclear species, p-Pb, pp
  - Classify events based on final-state charged particle multiplicity
- ⇒ **No direct observation** of the QGP is possible a rely on emerging particles as probes

# Geometry of heavy-ion collisions



In the “lab frame” each incident nucleus is a **Lorentz-contracted disc**

For large nuclei (e.g. Pb)

- disc diameter  $\sim 15$  fm
- thickness  $\sim 15/\gamma$  fm
- $\gamma = \sim 2500$  @LHC (beam rapidity  $y=8.5$ )



Central collisions (e.g. 0-10%)

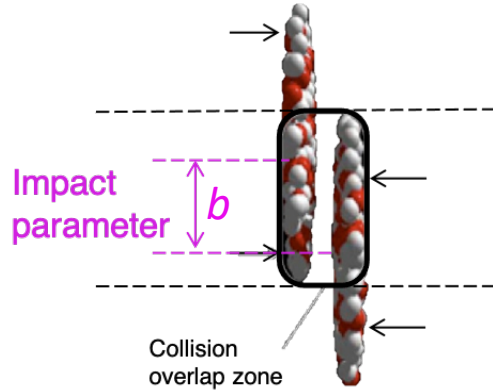
- small impact parameter
- many binary collisions
- high particle multiplicity



Peripheral collisions (e.g. 70-80%)

- large impact parameter
- few binary collisions
- low particle multiplicity

# Centrality of heavy-ion collision



Impact parameter  $b$  not directly measurable

Centrality expressed in percentiles of total nucleus-nucleus cross-section corresponding to a particle multiplicity, or energy deposited, measured in ALICE

$$c \approx \frac{1}{\sigma_{AA}} \int_{N_{ch}^{THR}}^{\infty} \frac{d\sigma}{dN'_{ch}} dN'_{ch} \approx \frac{1}{\sigma_{AA}} \int_0^{E_{ZDC}^{THR}} \frac{d\sigma}{dE'_{ZDC}} dE'_{ZDC}.$$

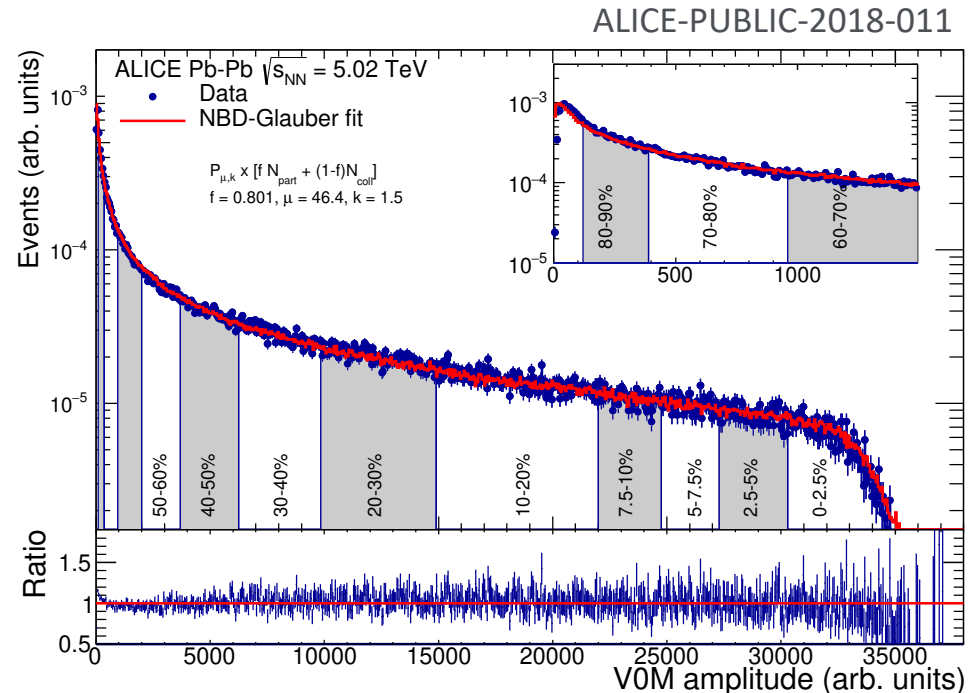
$\sigma_{PbPb} = (7.67 \pm 0.16^{syst}) b$   
for Pb-Pb @  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$

For example: sum of the **amplitudes in the ALICE V0 scintillators**

Reproduced by **Glauber model fit (red)**

- Random relative position of nuclei in transverse plane
- Woods-Saxon distribution inside nucleus
- Simple particle production model (NBD)

⇒  $\langle N_{coll} \rangle, \langle N_{part} \rangle$  for each centrality class



## Energy density in the collision

The volume-averaged energy density can be estimated from the total produced transverse momentum

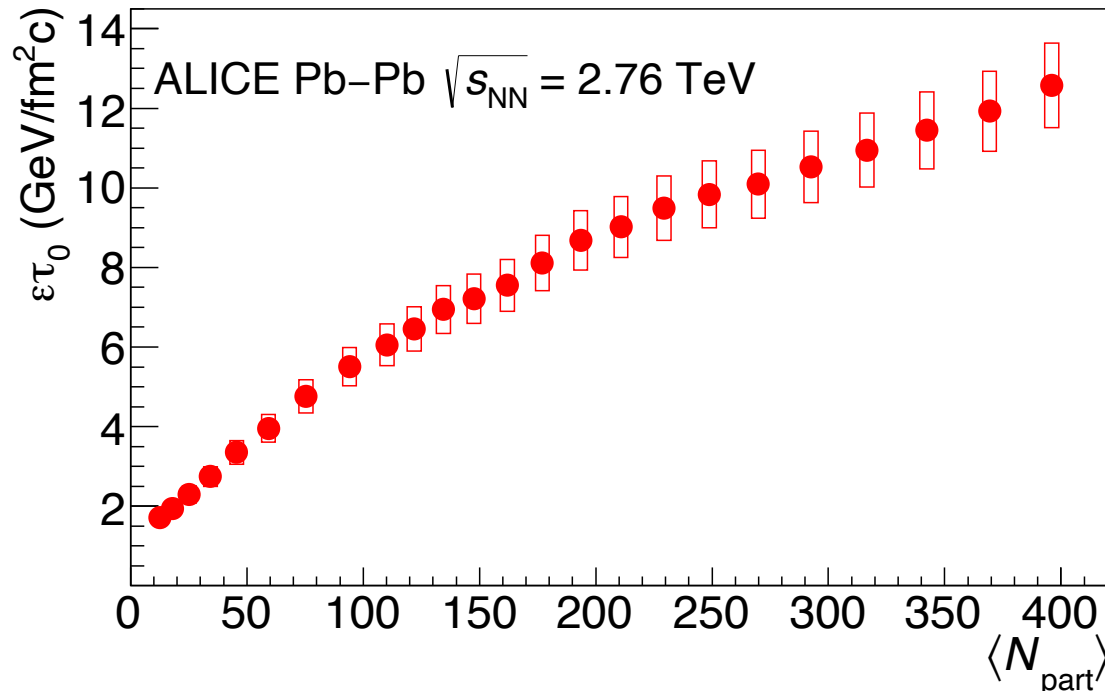
J. D. Bjorken  
[Phys. Rev. D \*\*27\*\*, 140](#)

$$\epsilon_{\text{Bj}}(\tau) = \frac{1}{S_{\text{T}}\tau} \frac{dE_{\text{T}}}{dy}$$

$$E_{\text{T}} = \sqrt{p_{\text{T}}^2 + m^2}$$

$S_{\text{T}}$ : transverse size of the interaction region at time  $\tau$

Phys. Rev. C **94**, 034903



Lower bound for “energy density” x “formation time”

$\epsilon \equiv$  volume – averaged energy density

$\tau_0 \equiv$  system formation time (model dependent)

O(10) increase from peripheral to central Pb-Pb

Assuming  $\tau_0 = 1 \text{ fm}/c$

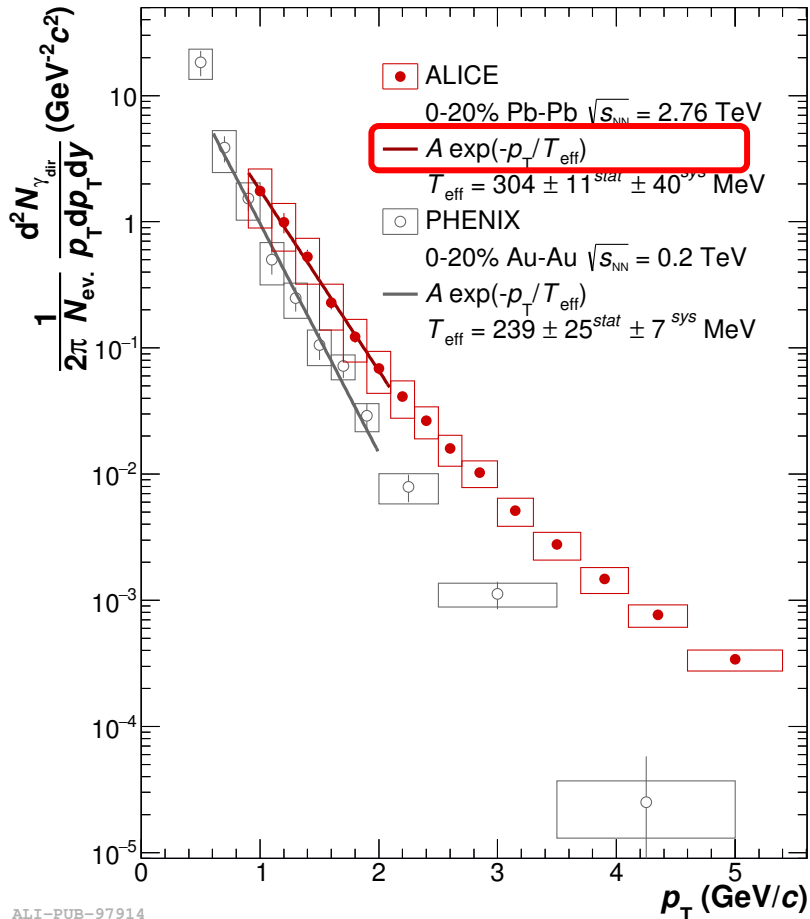
$$\epsilon = 12.3 \pm 1 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$$

# Spectra of direct photons in Pb-Pb collisions

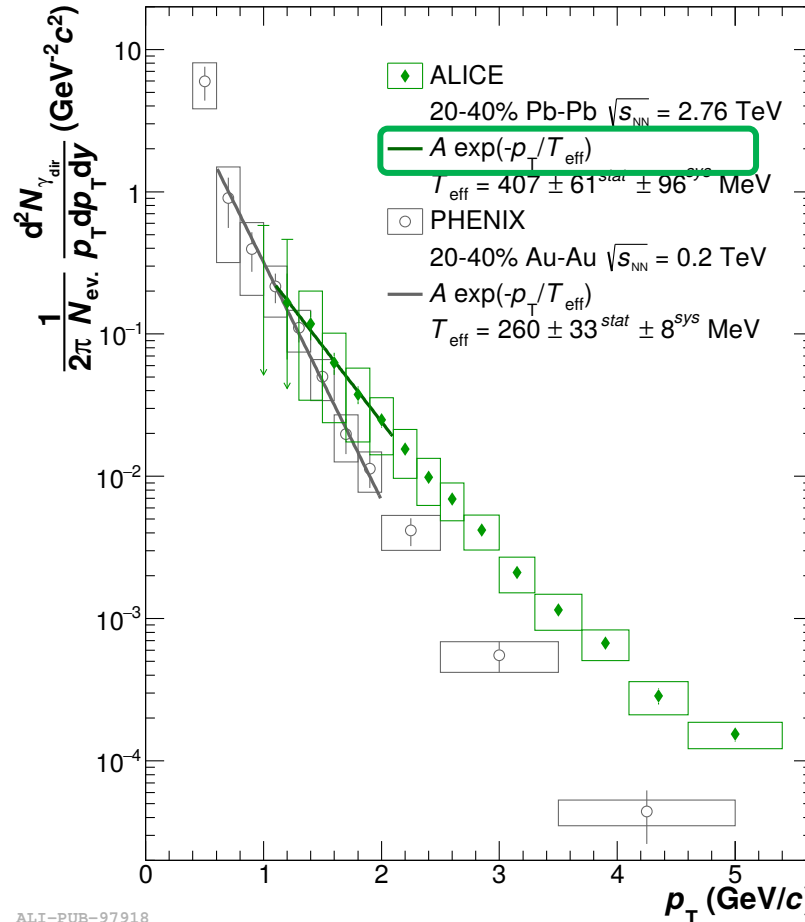
Effective temperature ( $T_{\text{eff}}$ ) is extracted from the inverse logarithmic slope of the low- $p_T$  region of the spectrum

$$d^2 N_{\gamma_{\text{dir}}} / (p_T dp_T dy) \propto e^{-p_T / T_{\text{eff}}}$$

PLB 754 (2016) 235



PLB 754 (2016) 235



Harder photon spectra at LHC compared to RHIC

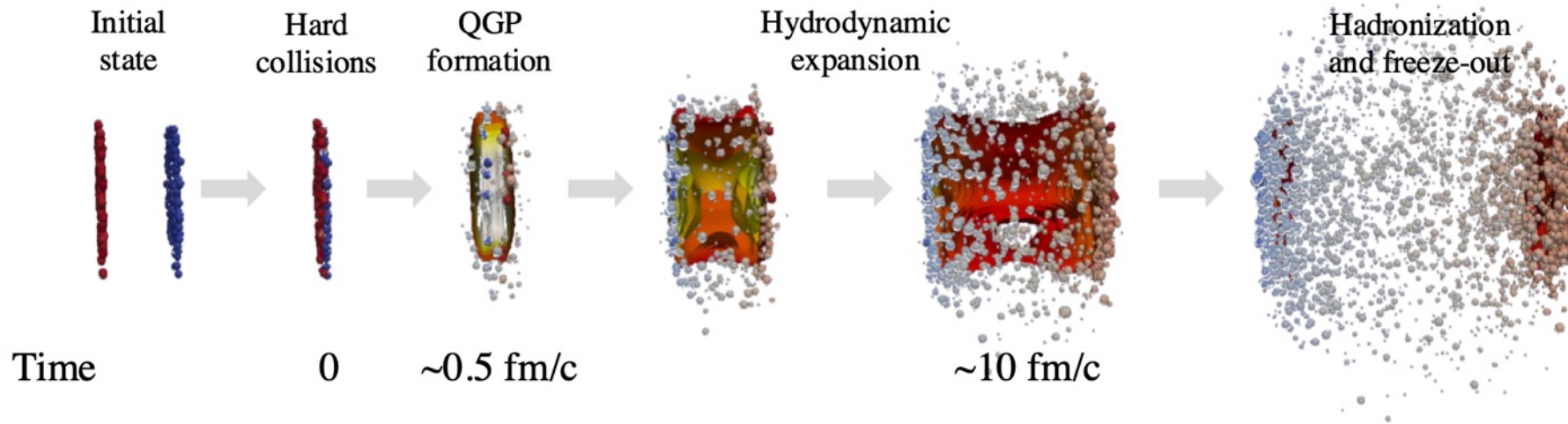
**Increase temperature  $T_{\text{eff}}$  from RHIC to LHC**

Initial temperature of the fire ball can be obtained invoking model calculations that incorporate the evolution of the QGP medium as well as radial flow effects blue-shift the direct photon spectra

**Not yet attempted**

# Characterization of the time evolution of the collision

**LHC Pb-Pb**  $\Rightarrow$  **large energy density** (initial  $\varepsilon > 15 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$ ) & **large volume** ( $\sim 5000 \text{ fm}^3$ )



Visualization by J.E. Bernhard, arXiv:1804.06469

## Study the time evolution of the collision

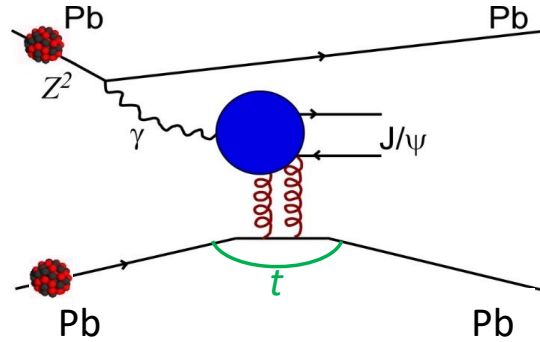
- Initial stage
- Macroscopic properties
- Colour deconfinement
- Parton interactions
- Expansion dynamics
- Hadronic phase



- Light flavour (including light-nuclei) production
- Heavy flavour production
- Quarkonia
- Photons, low-mass dileptons
- Jets
- Ultra Peripheral Collisions

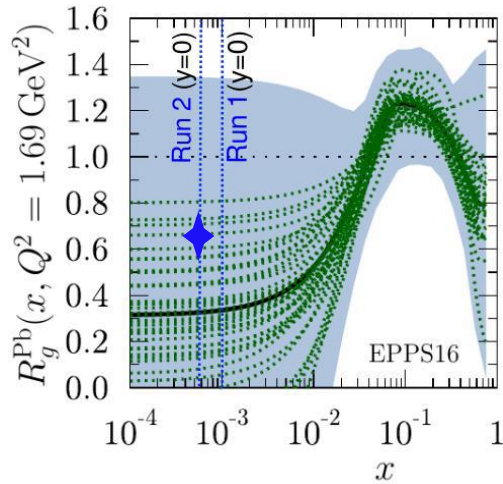


# Coherent J/ψ photoproduction in Pb-Pb ultra peripheral collisions



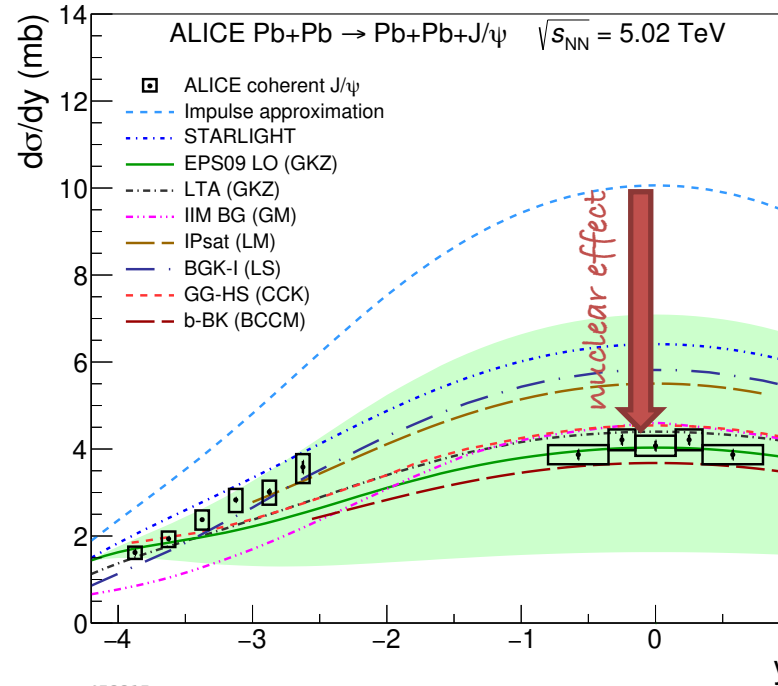
$$\left. \frac{d\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A}}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = \frac{M_{J/\psi}^3 \Gamma_{ee} \pi^3 \alpha_s^2(Q^2)}{48 \alpha_{em} Q^8} [xg_A(x, Q^2)]^2$$

Eskola et. al., EPJC 77 (2017) 163



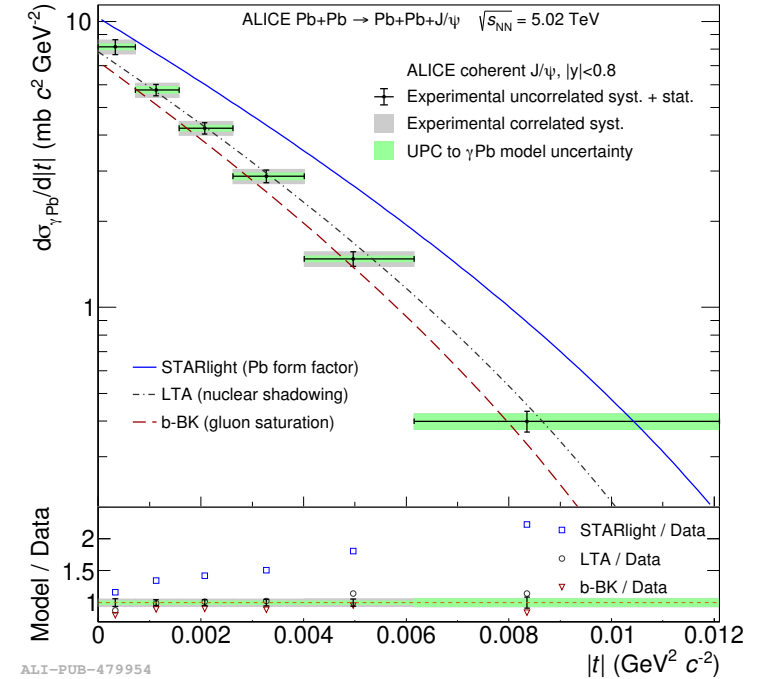
$$R_g^A(x, Q^2) = \frac{g_A(x, Q^2)}{Ag_p(x, Q^2)}$$

arXiv:2101.04577



ALI-PUB-479915

arXiv:2101.04623



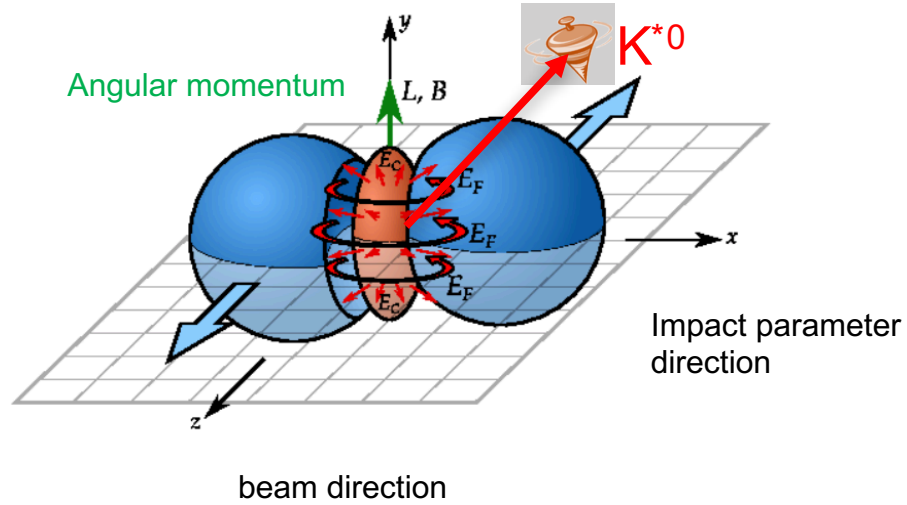
ALI-PUB-479954

## New measurement probing low-x gluon nuclear PDFs

$$|t| \approx p_T^2$$

- Comparison with the **impulse approximation** (no nuclear effects) allows for extraction of the gluon shadowing factor:  **$R_g \sim 0.65$**  at  **$x \sim 10^{-3}$**
- **First measurement of t-dependence**: sensitive to transverse gluon distribution

# Spin alignment of vector mesons in rotating QGP

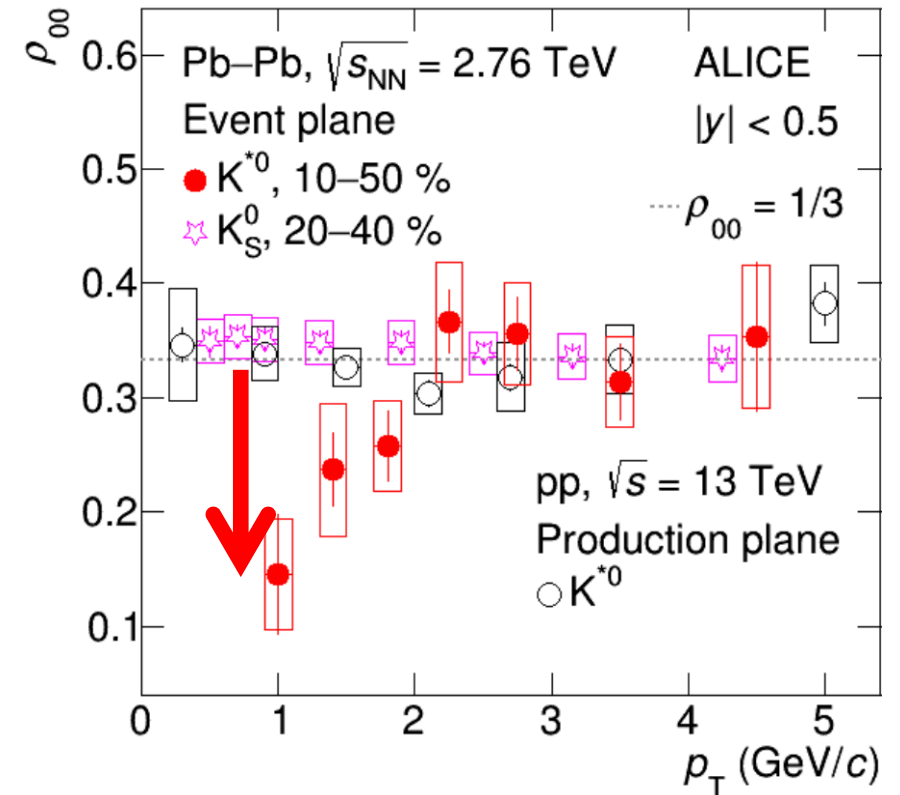


- Large angular momentum  $L$  in non-central collisions  $\rightarrow$  **rotating QGP** ( $\sim 10^{21}$  revolutions per second)
- spin-orbit interactions expected to polarize quarks
- If quarks recombine to produce **vector mesons** (spin=1), **spin alignment** could appear
- Measurement using  $K^{*0} \rightarrow K\pi$  decays shows a  $3\sigma$  effect at low momentum (Run 1 data)
- **Confirmed with higher significance** with preliminary measurement with Run 2 data

PRL 125 (2020) 012301

EDITORS' SUGGESTION

Evidence of Spin-Orbital Angular Momentum Interactions in Relativistic Heavy-Ion Collisions



# The nuclear modification factor $R_{AA}$

AA collision (e.g. Pb-Pb): many NN (binary) collisions

$$dN_{AA}/dp_T = N_{coll} \times dN_{pp}/dp_T$$

Without *nuclear effects* (interaction with the QCD medium), AA collision would be just the superposition of independent NN collisions with incoherent fragmentation

$R_{AA} = 1$  at high  $p_T$

→ the medium is transparent to the passage of partons

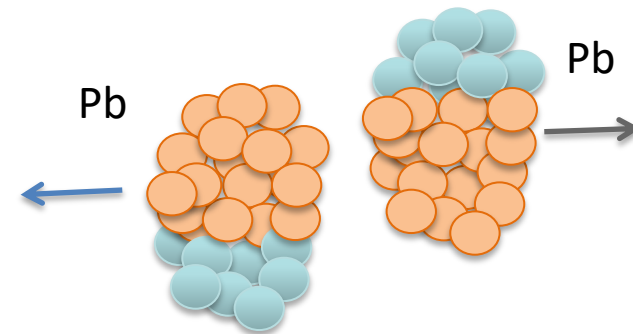
$$R_{AA}(p_T) = \frac{1}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle} \frac{dN_{AA}/dp_T}{dN_{pp}/dp_T}$$

If  $R_{AA} < 1$  at high  $p_T$

→ The medium is opaque to the passage of partons

→ **parton-medium final state interaction**

→ Energy loss, modification of FFs in the strongly interacting QGP



**NB: at lower  $p_T$ , soft, non perturbative regime  $R_{AA}$  not a good observable**

# Quarkonia at the LHC

## Suppression of quarkonium as QGP signature

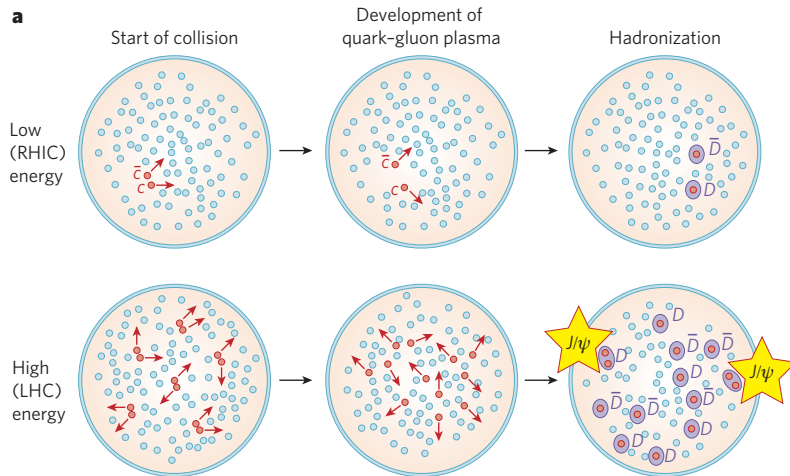
→  $q\bar{q}$  pairs are suppressed due to **color screening in the QGP**

→ lattice QCD predicts the effective  $q\bar{q}$  coupling to decrease in medium with increasing  $T$

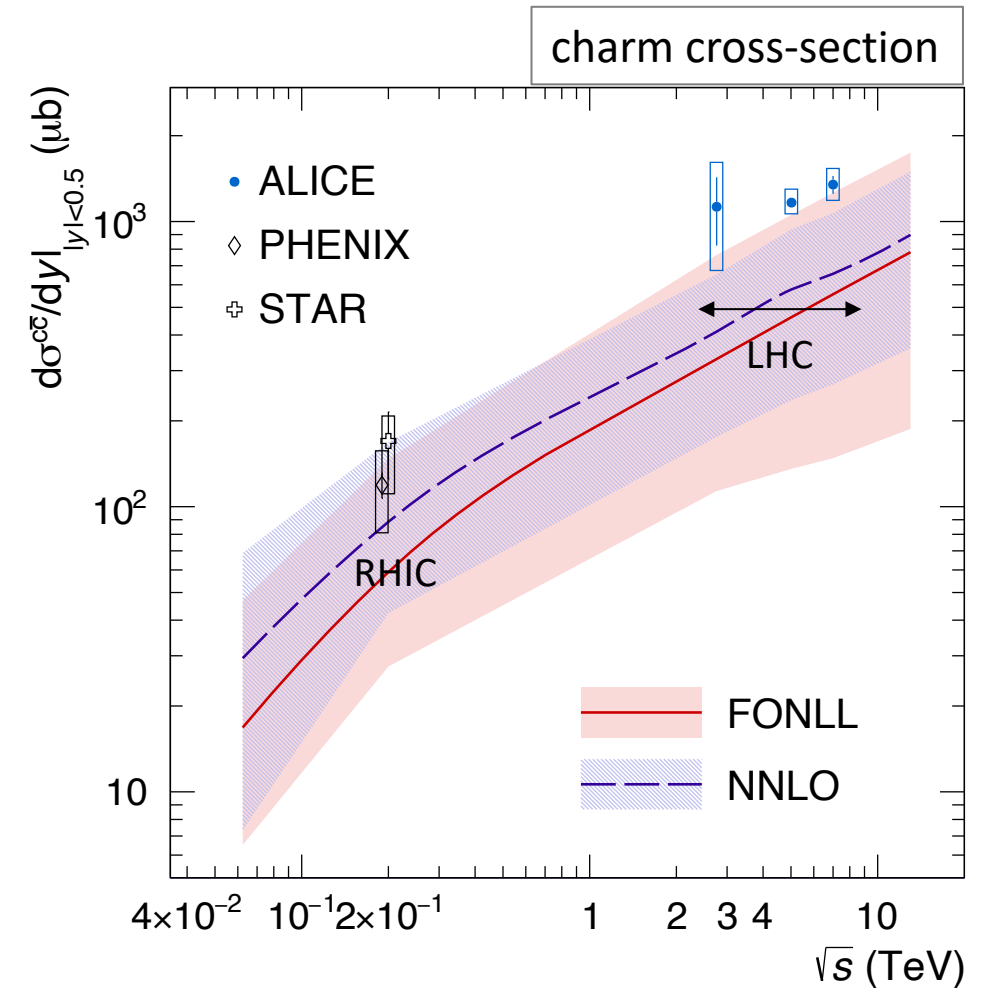
$c\bar{c}$  cross-section increase with  $\sqrt{s}$ :

~100  $c\bar{c}$  per central Pb-Pb event at the LHC vs ~10  $c\bar{c}$  at RHIC

→ **(re)generation of charmonium** and charmed hadron production takes place at the phase boundary or in QGP



cartoon from:  
P. Braun-Munzinger, J. Stachel  
[Nature 448, 302–309\(2007\)](https://doi.org/10.1038/448302a)



# J/ψ dissociation and (re)generation at the LHC

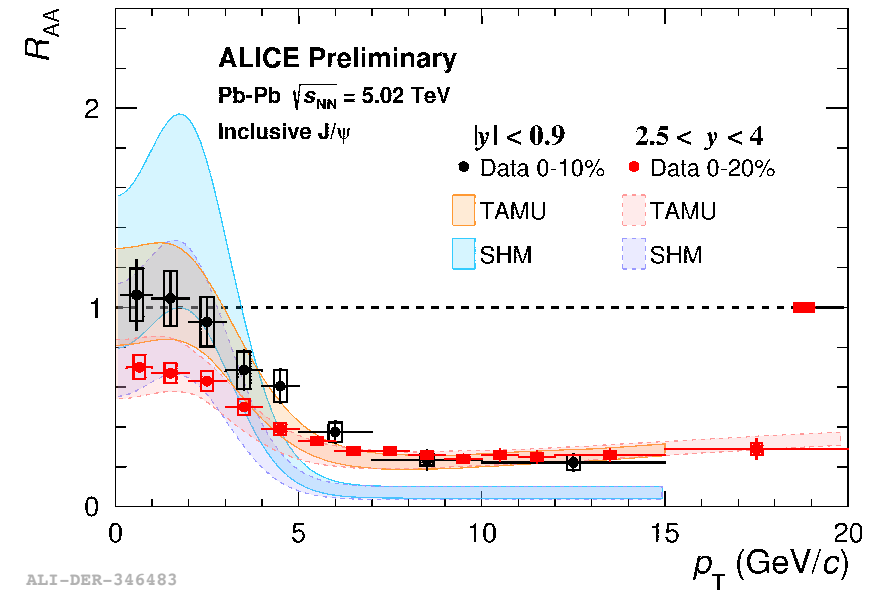
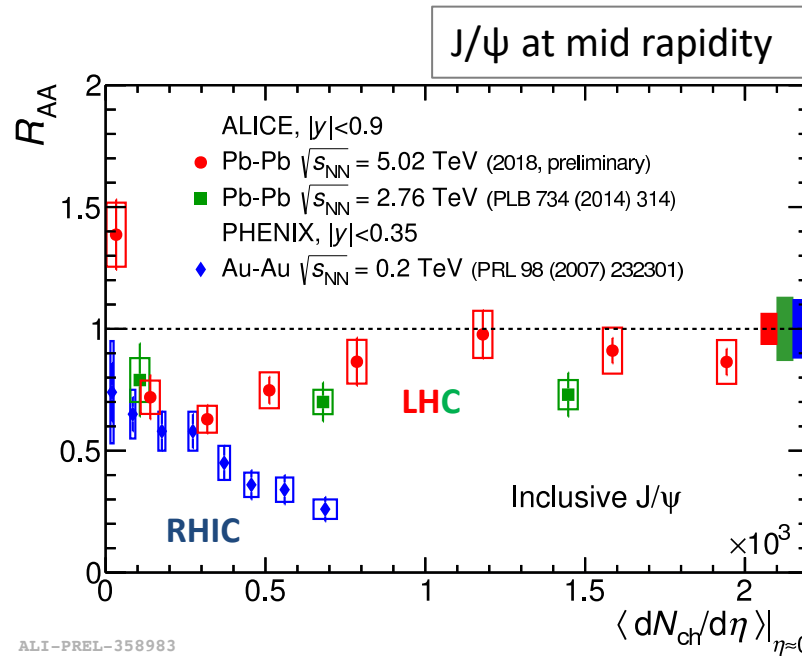
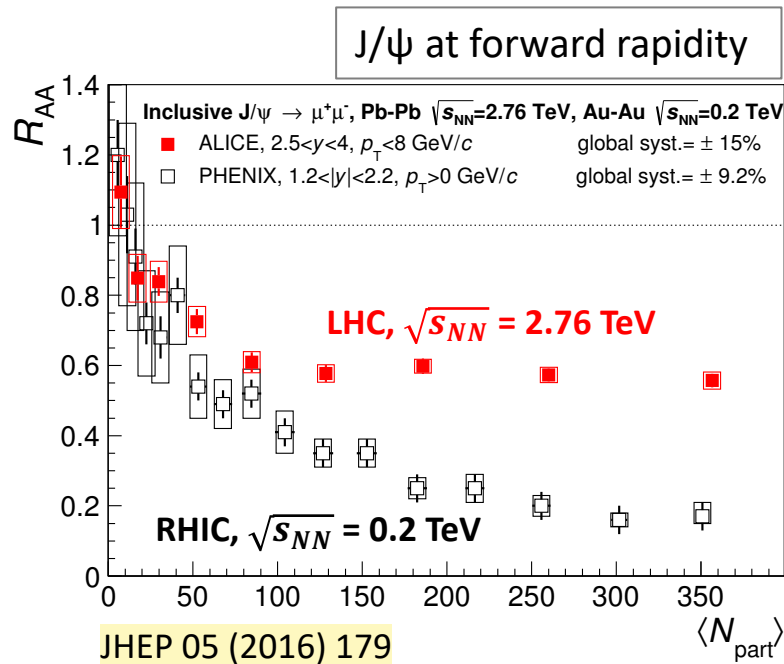
recombination picture confirmed by LHC data  $\Rightarrow$  signature of de-confinement

$$R_{AA}(\text{LHC}) > R_{AA}(\text{RHIC})$$

- cc regeneration counterbalances the suppression by screening in the QGP

$$R_{AA}(\text{mid-rapidity}) > R_{AA}(\text{forward rapidity})$$

- At low  $p_T$ , modification decreases from **forward** to **central** rapidity
- reflects rapidity dependence of the cc cross-section ( $\Rightarrow$  regeneration probability)

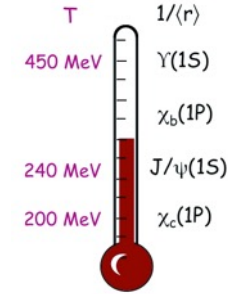




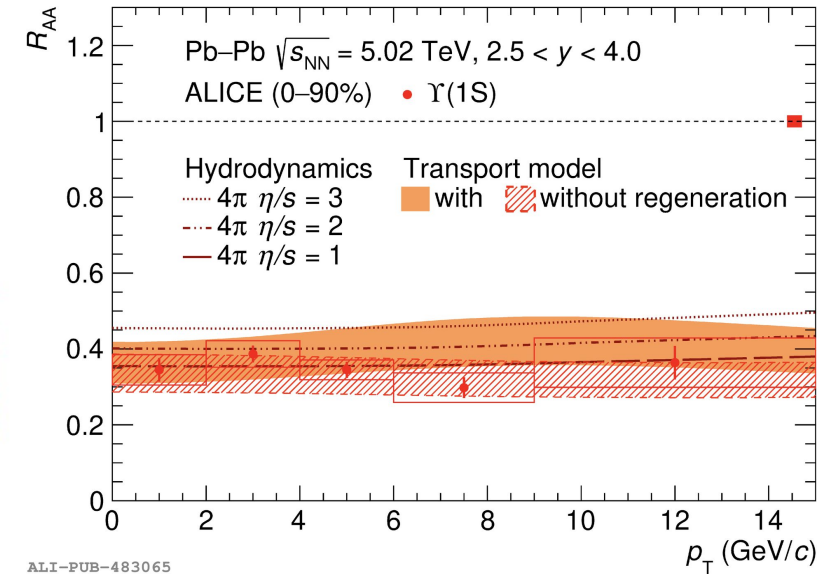
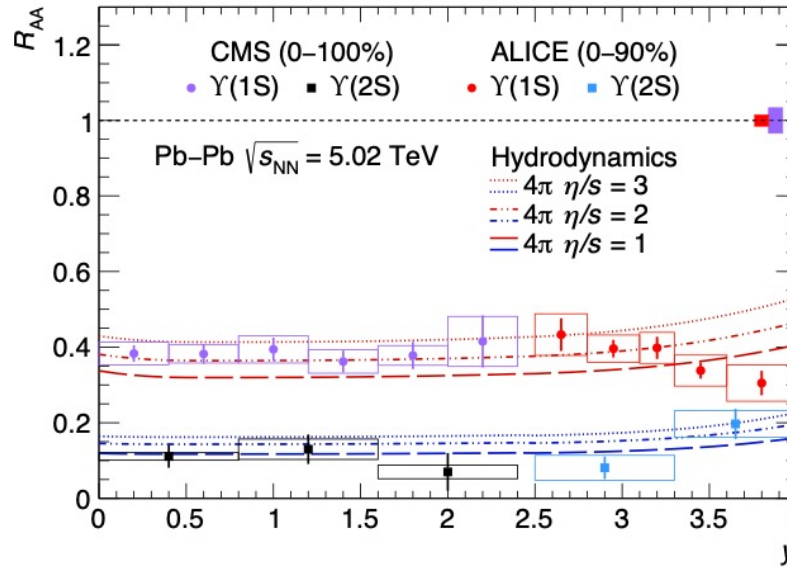
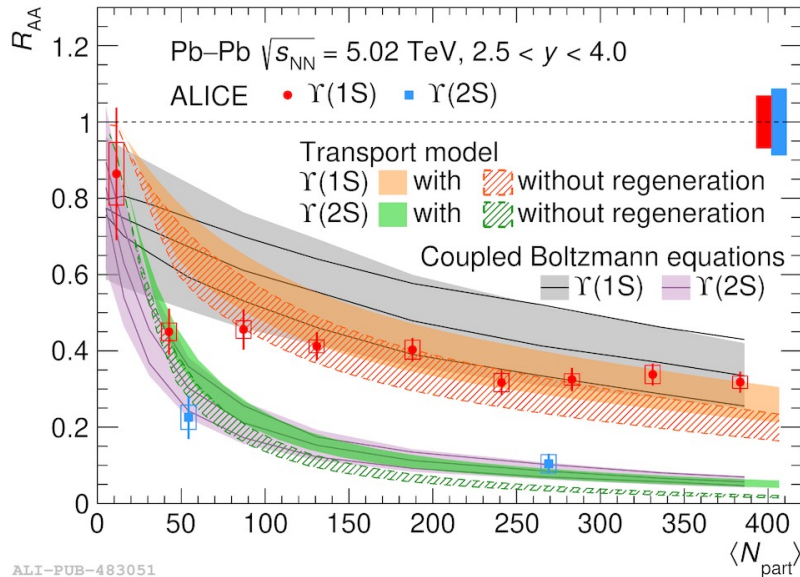
# Suppression of bottomonia in Pb-Pb collisions

Varying the binding energy:  $\psi(2S) < Y(2S) < J/\psi < Y(1S)$

0.05    0.55    0.65    1.1 GeV



arXiv:2011.05758



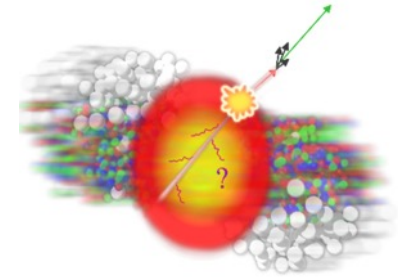
- Centrality dependence consistent with progressive suppression in a hotter medium
- Y(2S) at forward rapidity - a suppression stronger wrt Y(1S) consistent with lower binding energy
- Screening induces a strong suppression of Y production, flat vs  $p_T \Rightarrow$  recombination effects small

# The nuclear modification factor $R_{AA}$

High precision measurements in a broad  $p_T$  range and vs centrality

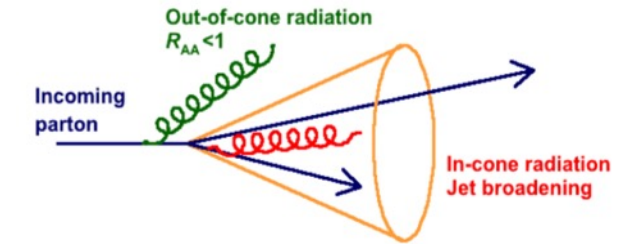
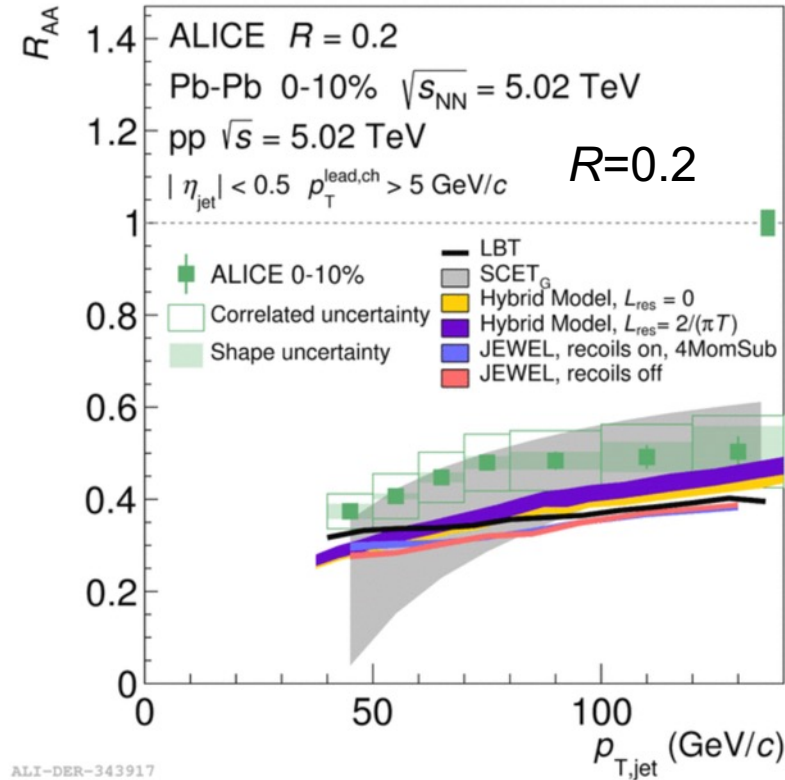
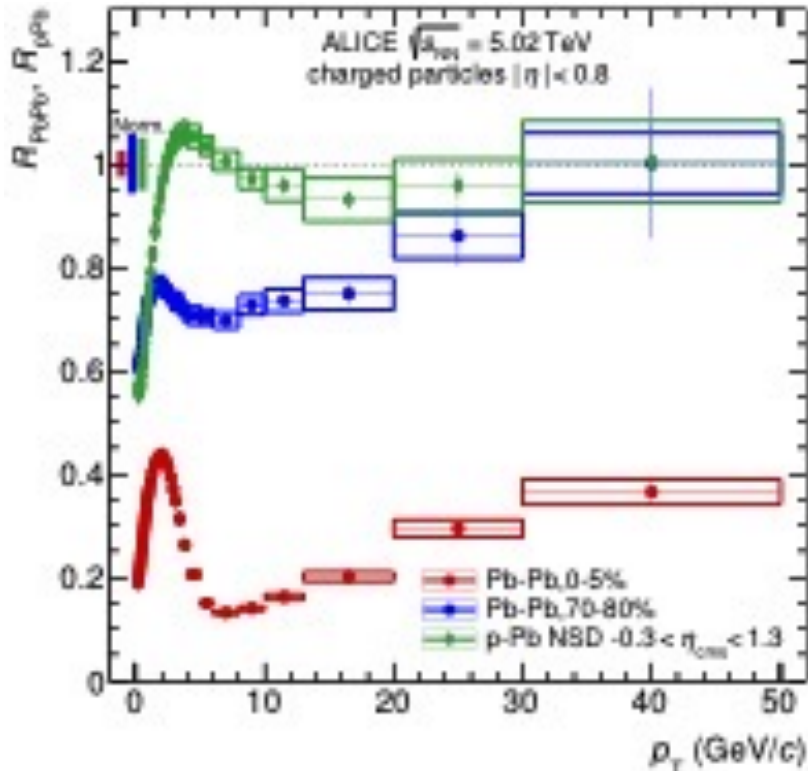
Strong suppression observed in central heavy-ion collisions up to very high  $p_T$

⇒ suppression due to parton energy loss



PRC 101 (2020) 3, 034911

with area-based background subtraction



Large reduction of jet yields down to 40 GeV/c

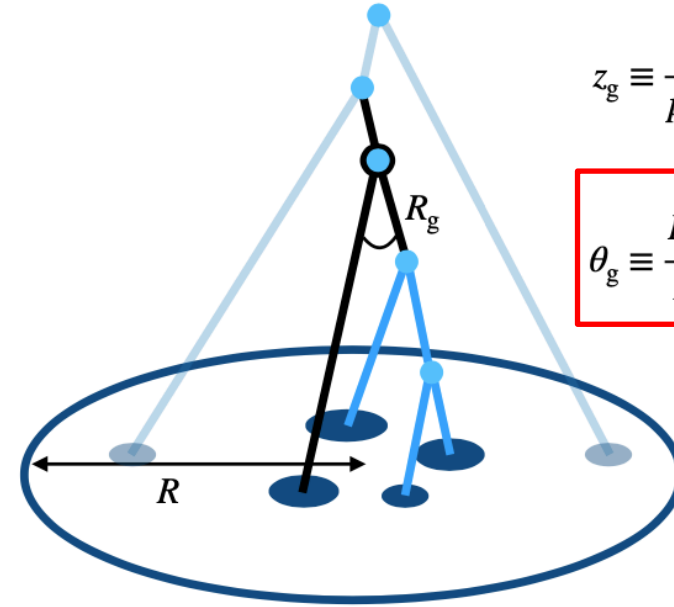
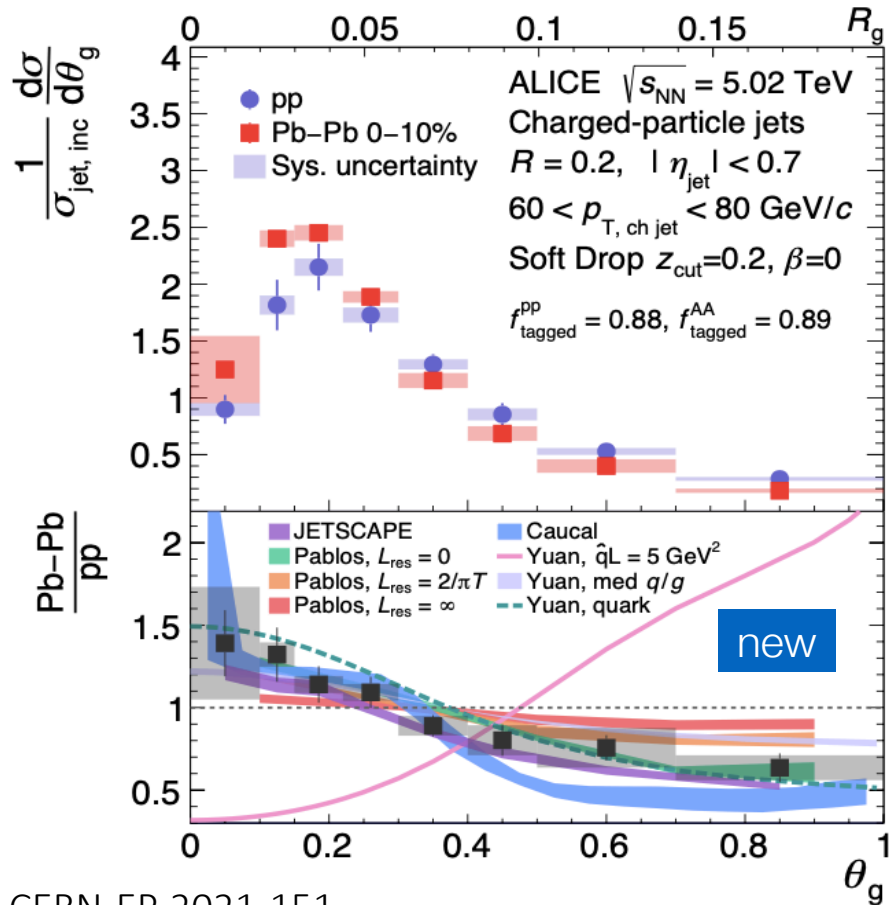
Lost energy not recovered within the jet “cone” (similar suppression for  $R = 0.4$ )

→ large angle QGP-induced gluon emission

# Exploring the QGP with jets

## Study medium-modified parton shower

e.g.: grooming: find first hard splitting (Soft Drop)

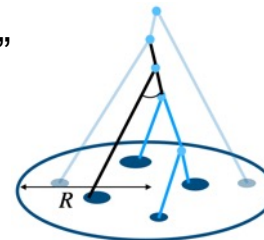


$$z_g \equiv \frac{P_{T,subleading}}{P_{T,leading} + P_{T,subleading}}$$

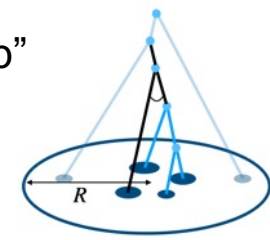
$$\theta_g \equiv \frac{R_g}{R} \equiv \frac{\sqrt{\Delta y^2 + \Delta \phi^2}}{R}$$

⇒ Jet core is more collimated in Pb-Pb than in pp

Cartoon: "pp"



"Pb-Pb"



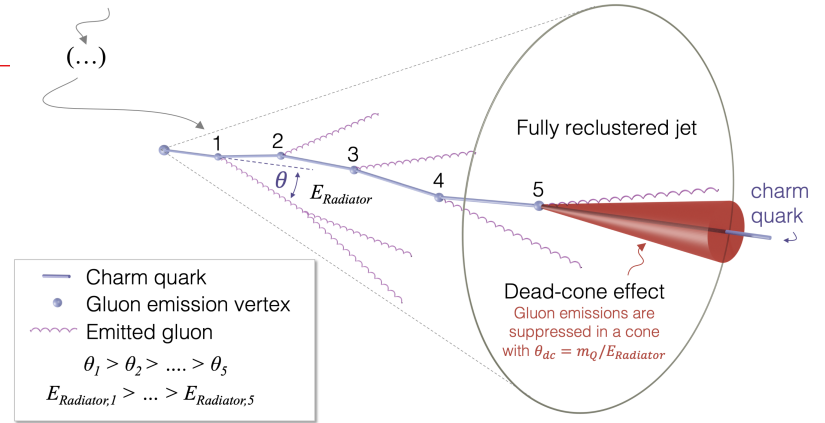


# QCD interlude: dead-cone effect now 'seen' in pp

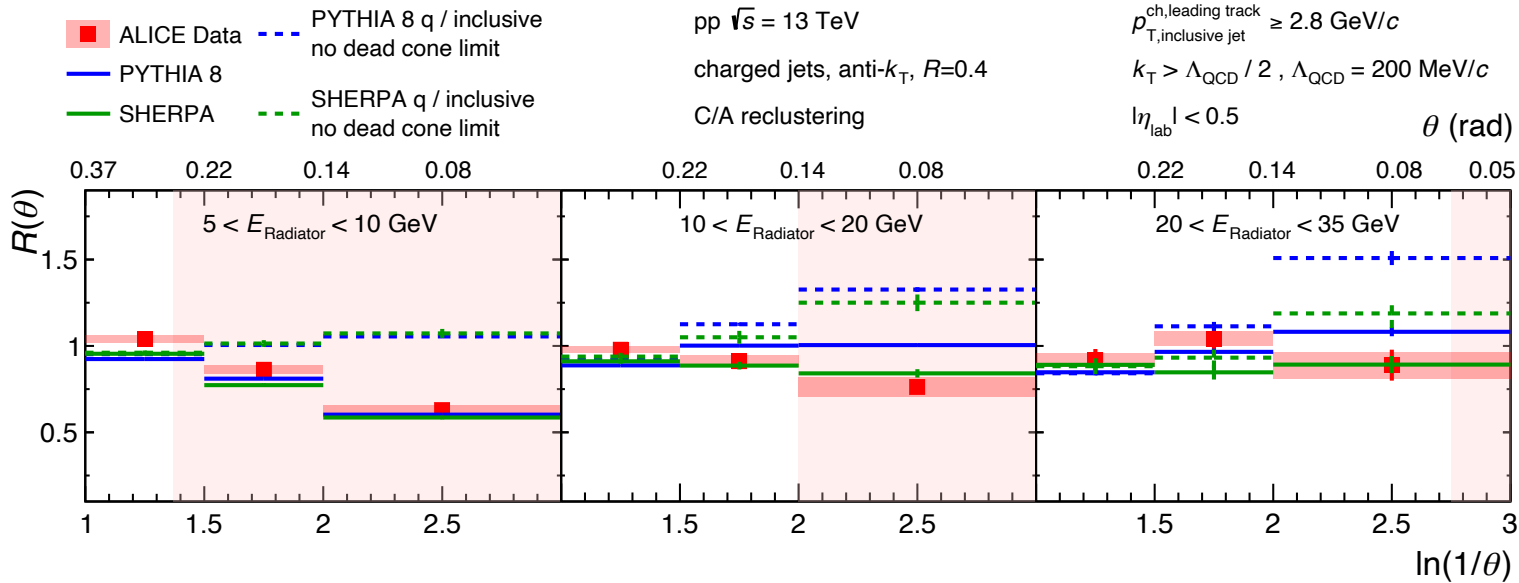
by measuring  $D^0$ -meson tagged jets in hadronic collisions  
(pp 13 TeV)

Follow a heavy quark through the primary Lund Plane & suppress hadronization effects/non pert. (at small  $K_T$ )

Ratio of the splitting angle ( $\theta$ ) distributions for  $D^0$ -meson tagged jets and inclusive jets, in bins of  $E_{\text{radiator}}$



$$R(\theta) = \frac{1}{N^{D^0 \text{ jets}}} \frac{dn^{D^0 \text{ jets}}}{d \ln(1/\theta)} \bigg/ \frac{1}{N^{\text{inclusive jets}}} \frac{dn^{\text{inclusive jets}}}{d \ln(1/\theta)} \bigg|_{k_T, E_{\text{Radiator}}}$$



Radiation suppressed in the expected angular region (shaded)

Suppression lifted as  $mass_Q \ll E_{\text{radiator}}$

[arXiv: 2106.05713](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.05713) [nucl-ex]

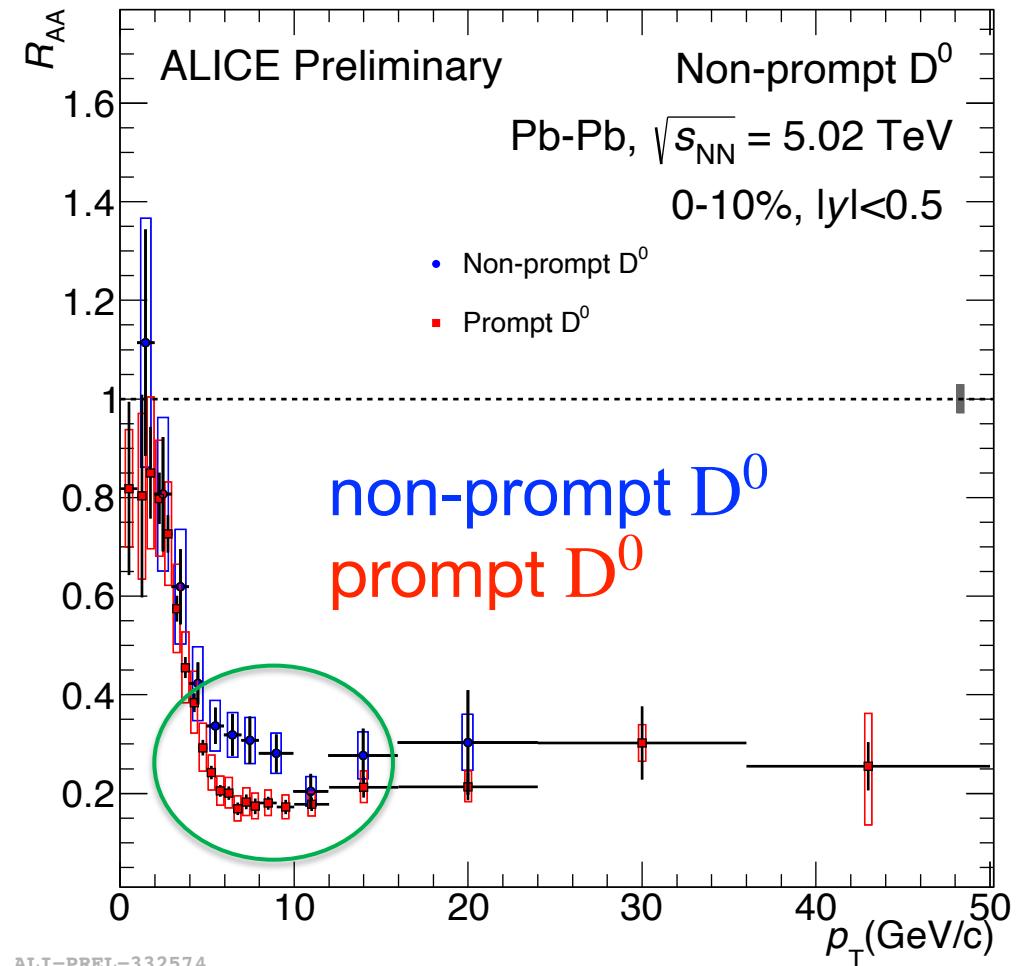
# Energy loss of c and b quarks in the QGP

Less suppression for (non-prompt) D mesons from B decays than prompt D mesons

- Quarks and gluons lose energy while traversing the QGP ( $R_{AA} < 1$ )
- Energy loss predicted to depend on QGP density, but also on quark mass
- “Dead cone effect” reduces gluon radiation for high-mass quarks

radiation suppressed for  $\theta_c < m_Q/E$

- Also note: first measurement of D meson production down to zero  $p_T$  in Pb-Pb
- More precise measurement with new ITS in Run 3



# Hydrodynamic expansion - flow

**Flow picture:** a collective motion of particles superimposed to the thermal motion

**Isotropic Radial flow** is a natural consequence of any interacting system expanding into the vacuum under a **common velocity field**

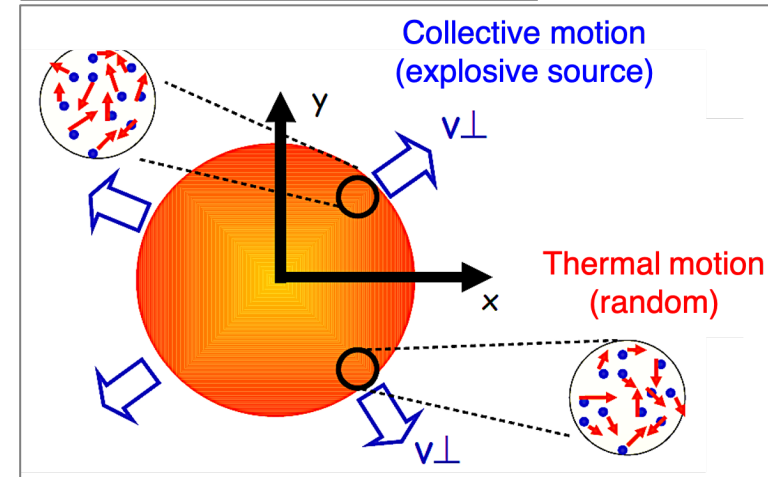
- Affects transverse momentum distributions of hadrons, particle ratios, ...

## Anisotropic flow:

Pressure gradients convert spatial anisotropy into observable **momentum anisotropies**

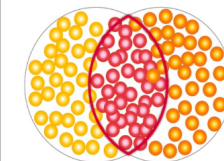
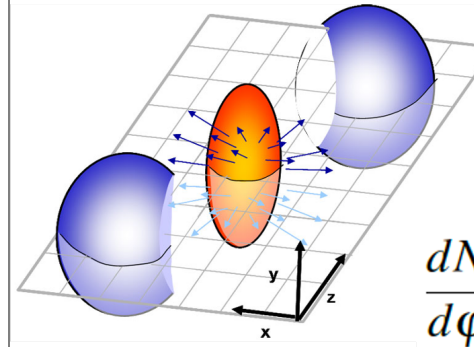
- Anisotropy in azimuthal angle described by Fourier series
- Stronger in non-central collisions
- $v_n$  describes how initial fluctuations propagate in a viscous fluid

### Isotropic Radial Flow

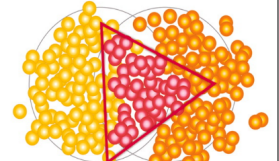


### Anisotropic flow

non-central collisions



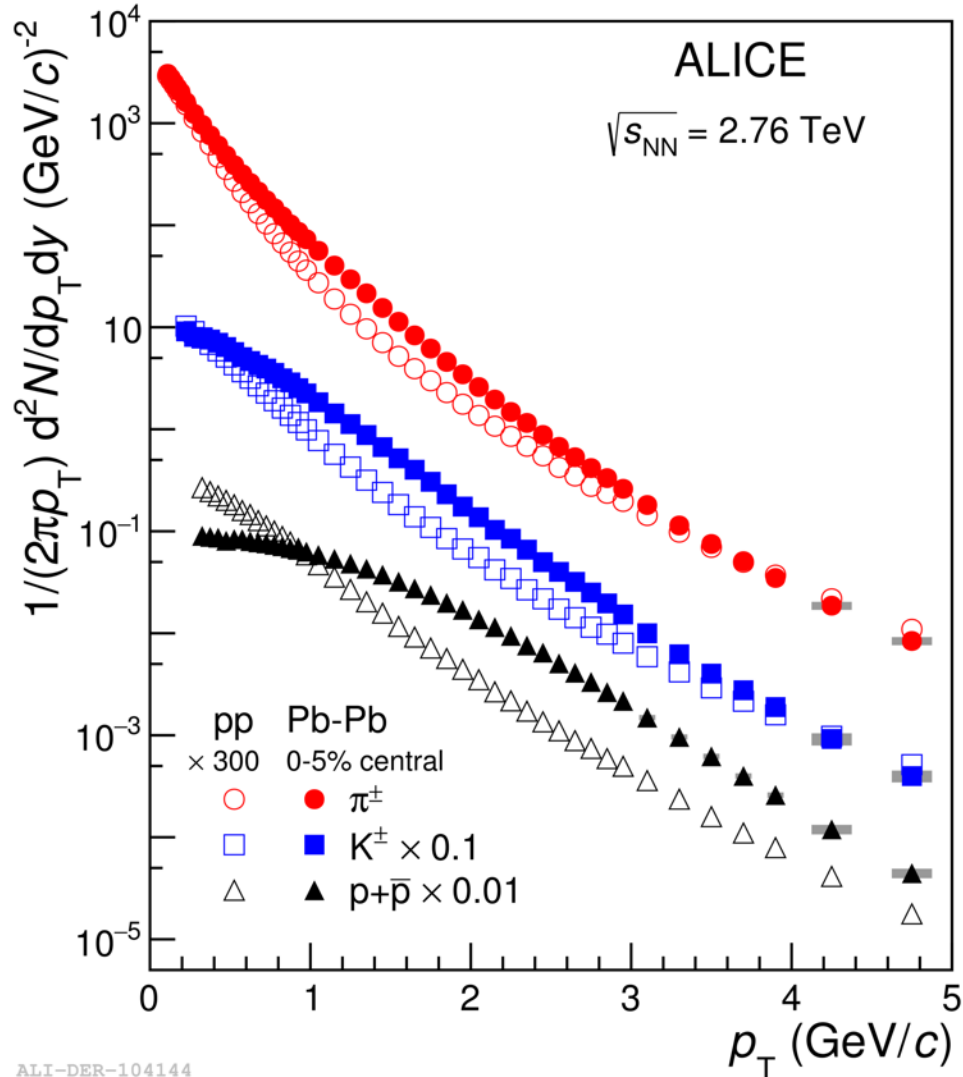
Elliptic flow  $v_2$



Triangular flow  $v_3$

$$\frac{dN}{d\varphi} \propto 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \cos[n(\varphi - \Psi_n)]$$

# Radial flow in AA collisions



ALI-DER-104144

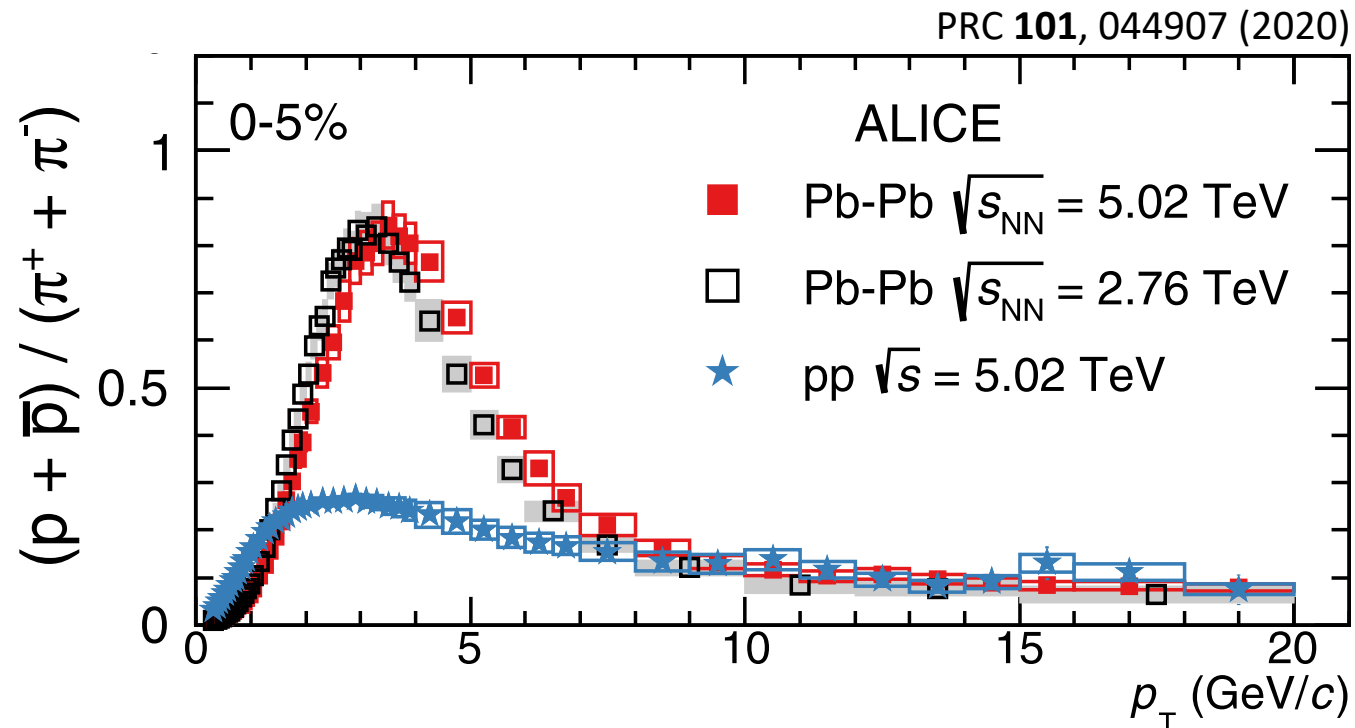
Radial hydrodynamic expansion leads to a modification of the spectral shape  $\Rightarrow$  **mass dependent boost**

- $p_T$ -spectra harden with centrality
- more pronounced for heavier particles (e.g.:  $p > K > \pi$ ) as velocities become equalized in the flow field ( $p = \beta\gamma \cdot m$ )
- Hydrodynamic models show a good agreement with the data.

# Radial flow in AA collisions

## Transverse expansion of the QGP

- Light flavour hadron spectra and baryon/meson ratios reveal the presence of a **strong radial flow**
- Radial flow increases with **centrality** pushing heavier particles to higher  $p_T$
- Agreement with expectations based on **hydrodynamic expansion** of QGP

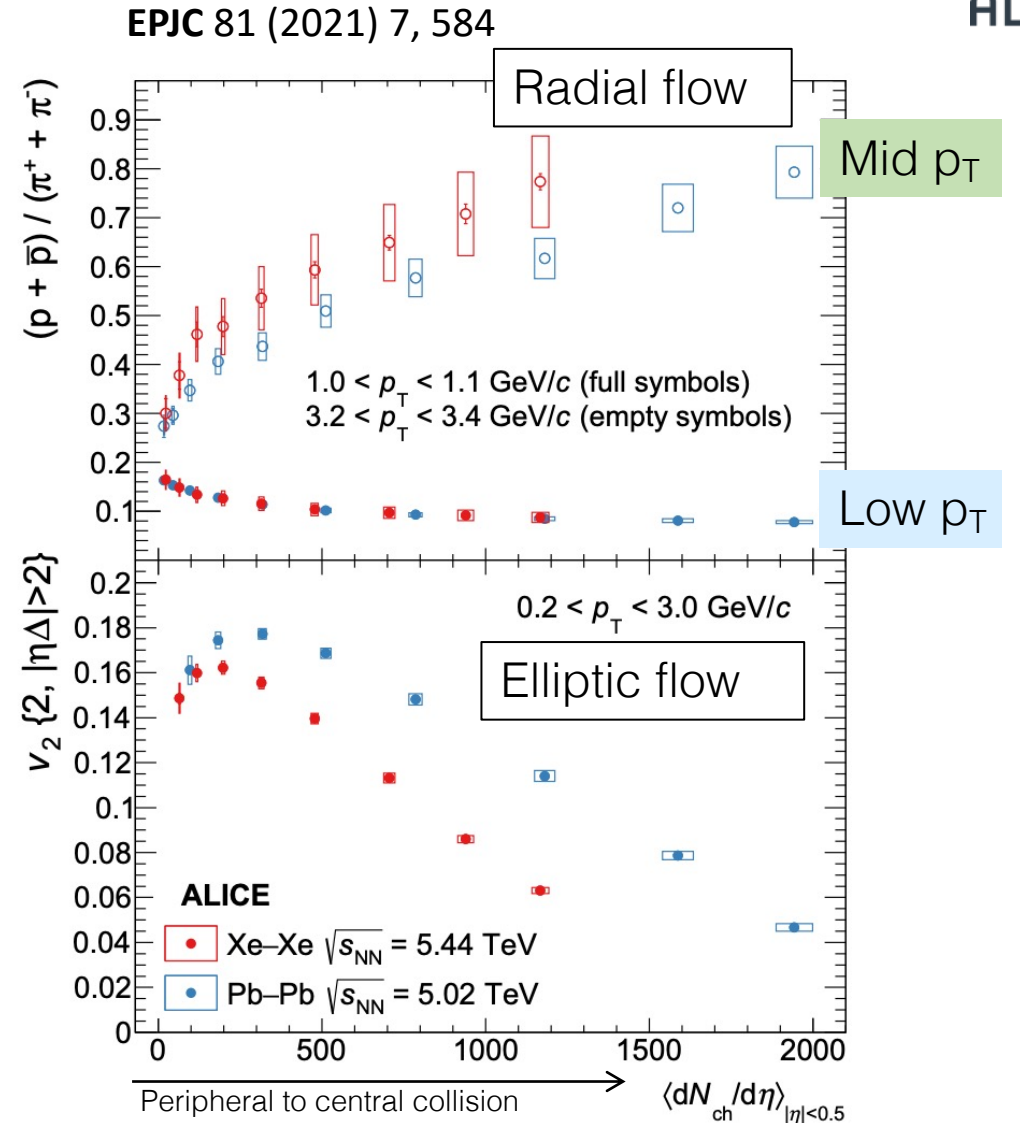
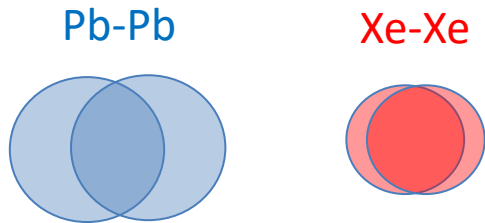


# Radial and elliptic flow in AA collisions

## Transverse expansion of the QGP

**Radial flow** depends only on the **final-state charged particle multiplicity** (system size)

**Elliptic flow** depends on multiplicity and on the eccentricity (initial **geometry**)



# Elliptic flow of hadrons ... and also light nuclei

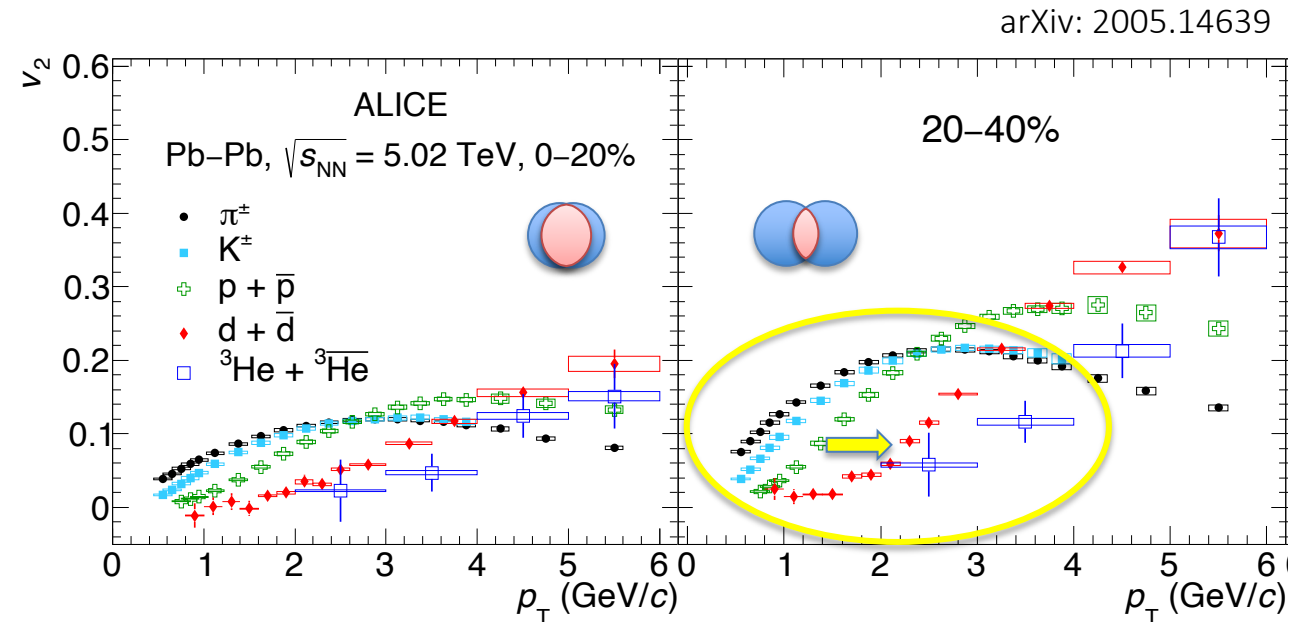
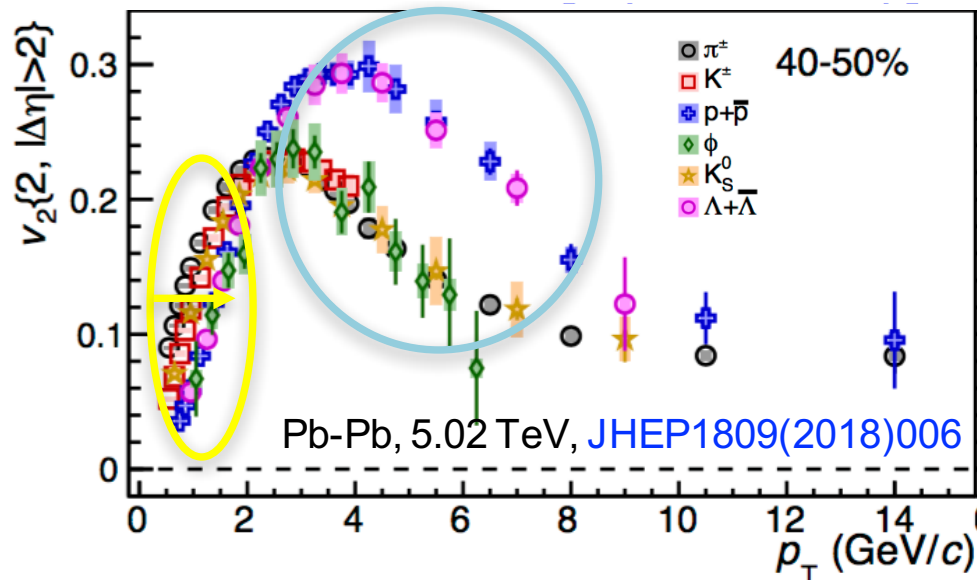
Nearly all particles species participate in collective flow, even  $A=2$  and  $A=3$  light nuclei

Mass ordering at low  $p_T$  ( $\pi$ ,  $K$ ,  $p$ ,  $d$ ,  ${}^3\text{He}$ )  $\Rightarrow$  hydrodynamic flow, very small viscosity

$p_T < 2\text{-}3$  GeV/c - from collective dynamics during hydro expansion (heavier hadrons shifted to higher  $p_T$  by radial flow)

Baryon vs. meson grouping at higher  $p_T$   $\Rightarrow$  **quark-level flow + recombination?**

$3 < p_T < 8\text{-}10$  GeV/c - **baryons flow more than mesons** consistent with hadronisation by coalescence



# Going heavy (flavour): charm and beauty also flow

## D mesons and $J/\psi$ exhibit large flow

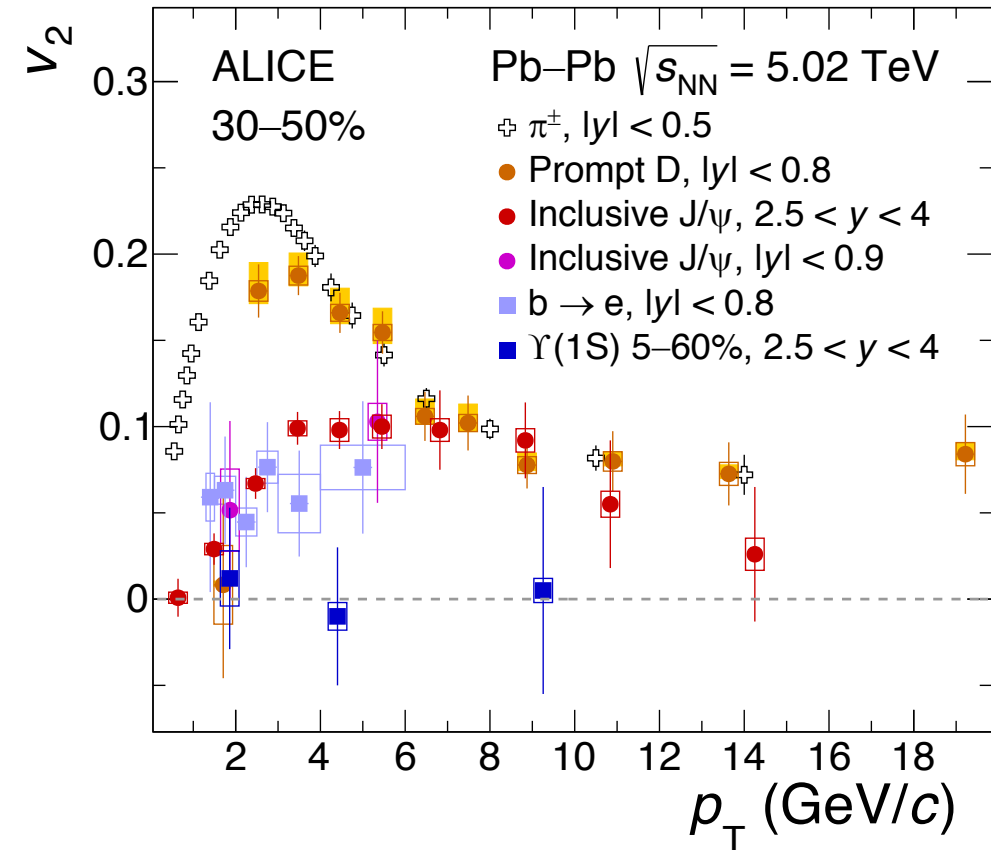
- At intermediate  $p_T$ ,  $J/\psi < D < \text{pions}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  consistent with contribution of recombination  
 Model description indicates c quark thermalisation time  $\sim 3\text{-}8 \text{ fm}/c < \text{QGP lifetime}$

## B mesons also flow

- Model description indicates smaller flow for b than for c

## No indication of $\Upsilon(1S)$ flow

- Consistent with large  $\Upsilon$  mass and small  $b\bar{b}$  recombination



$\pi$ : JHEP 1809(2018)006 D: arXiv: 2005.11131  $J/\psi$ : CERN-EP-2020-094

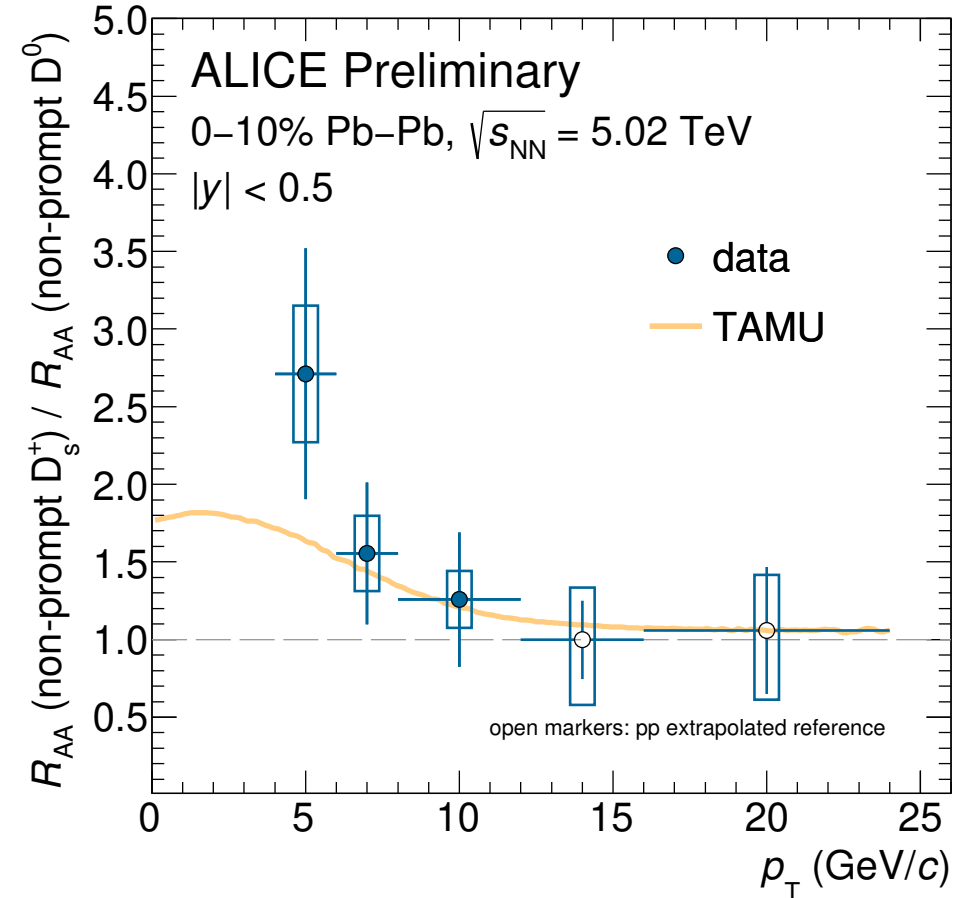
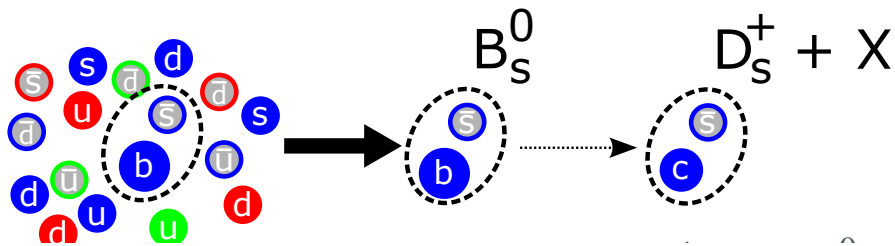
$b \rightarrow e$ : arXiv: 2005.11130  $\Upsilon(1S)$ : PRL 123(2019)192301



# Energy loss and hadronization of c and b quarks in the QGP

$R_{AA}(\text{non-prompt } D_s^+) > R_{AA}(\text{non-prompt } D^0)$  consistent with coalescence picture

- non-prompt  $D_s^+$  less suppressed than non-prompt  $D^0$  at low  $p_T$
- enhanced production of  $B_s^0$  from beauty hadronization via coalescence (50% of  $D_s^+$  from  $B_s^0$ )

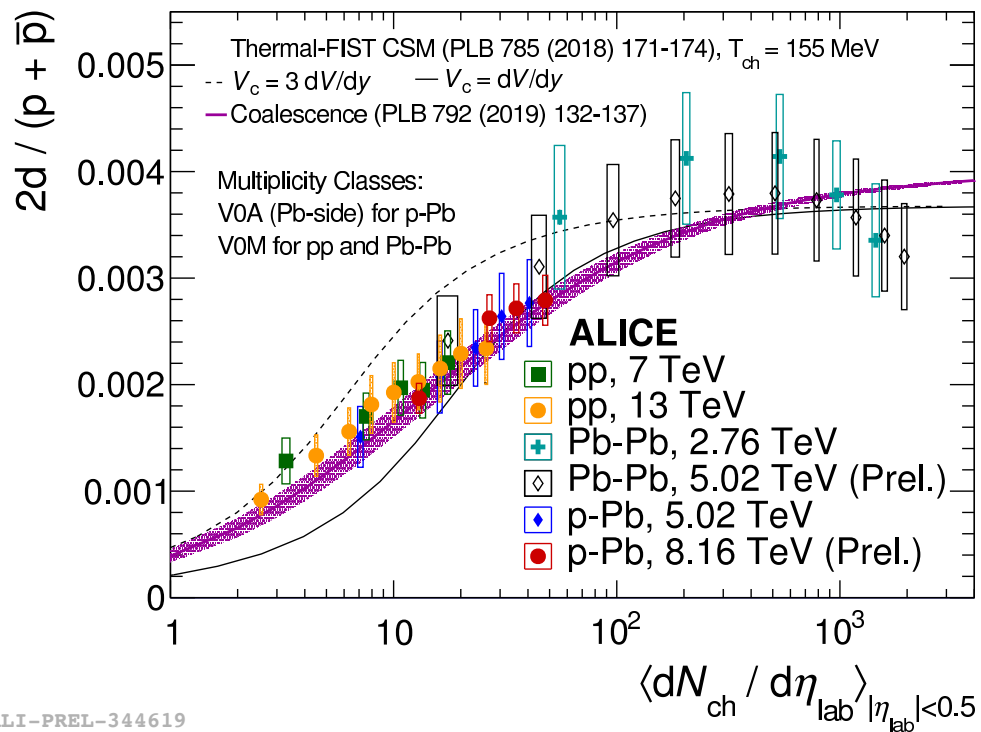


ALI-PREL-486723

# From hadrons to light nuclei

## Smooth evolution of production of rare light nuclei as a function of the system size

- ⇒ puzzle of the survival of loosely bound states ( $E_B \sim 2\text{MeV}$ ) in the hot hadron gas ( $T \sim 150\text{-}100\text{ MeV}$ ) produced in heavy-ion collisions
- ⇒ constrain models of nucleosynthesis in hadronic collisions: **statistical hadronization vs coalescence**



ALI-PREL-344619

## Coalescence

- cluster forms when nucleons are close in phase space
- dependence on the source size
- dependence on the nucleus internal structure

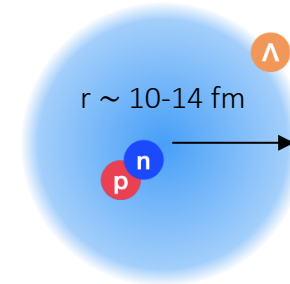
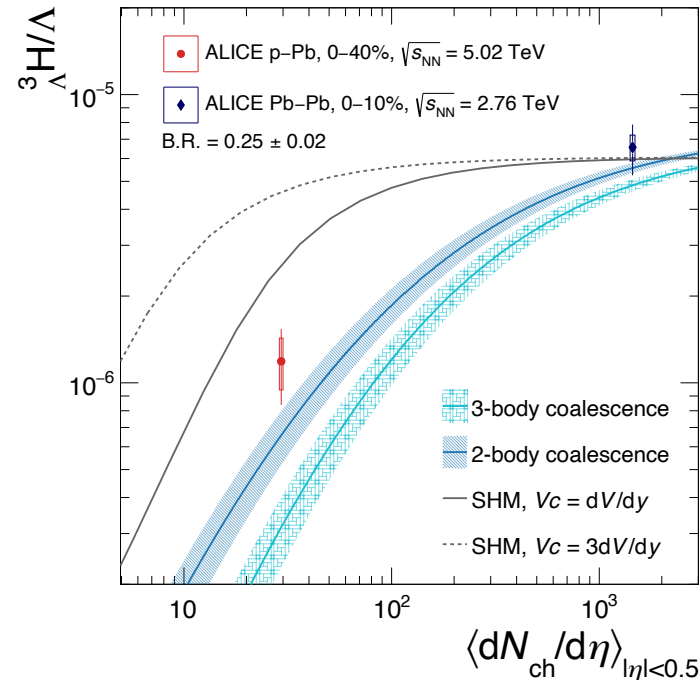
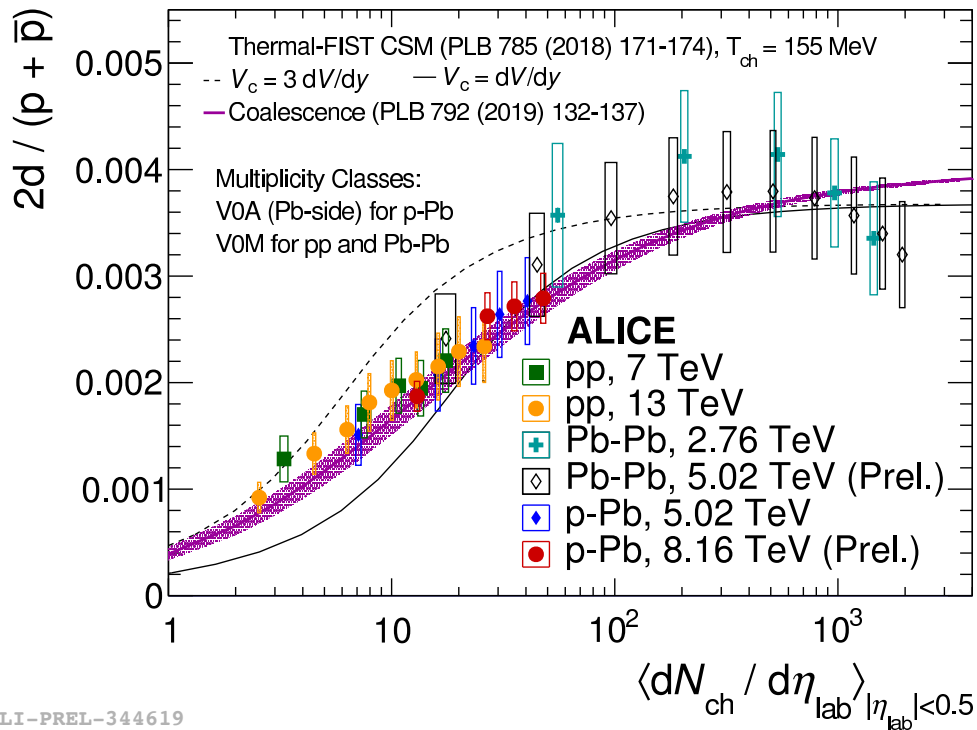
⇒ test with **hypertriton** ( $\Lambda pn$ ):

loosely bound ( $B_\Lambda \sim 130\text{ keV}$ ) and large ( $r \sim 10\text{-}14\text{ fm}$ )

# From hadrons to light nuclei

## Smooth evolution of production of rare light nuclei as a function of the system size

- ⇒ puzzle of the survival of loosely bound states ( $E_B \sim 2\text{MeV}$ ) in the hot hadron gas ( $T \sim 150\text{-}100\text{ MeV}$ ) produced in heavy-ion collisions
- ⇒ constrain models of nucleosynthesis in hadronic collisions: **statistical hadronization vs coalescence**
- ⇒ demonstrated by **first measurement of hypertriton in small system** (favours coalescence)



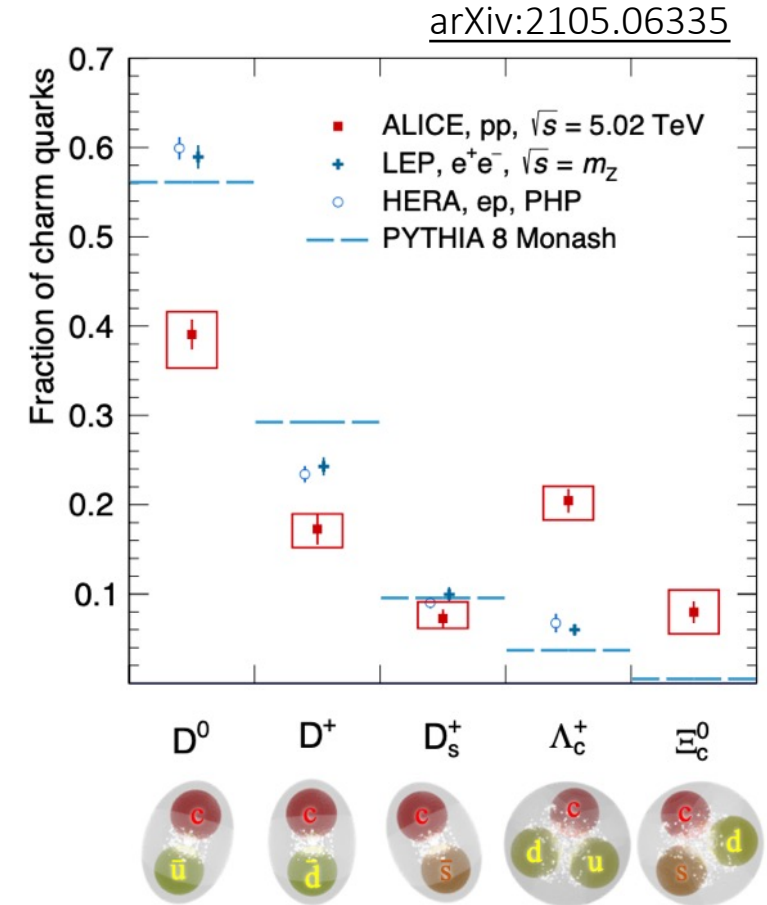
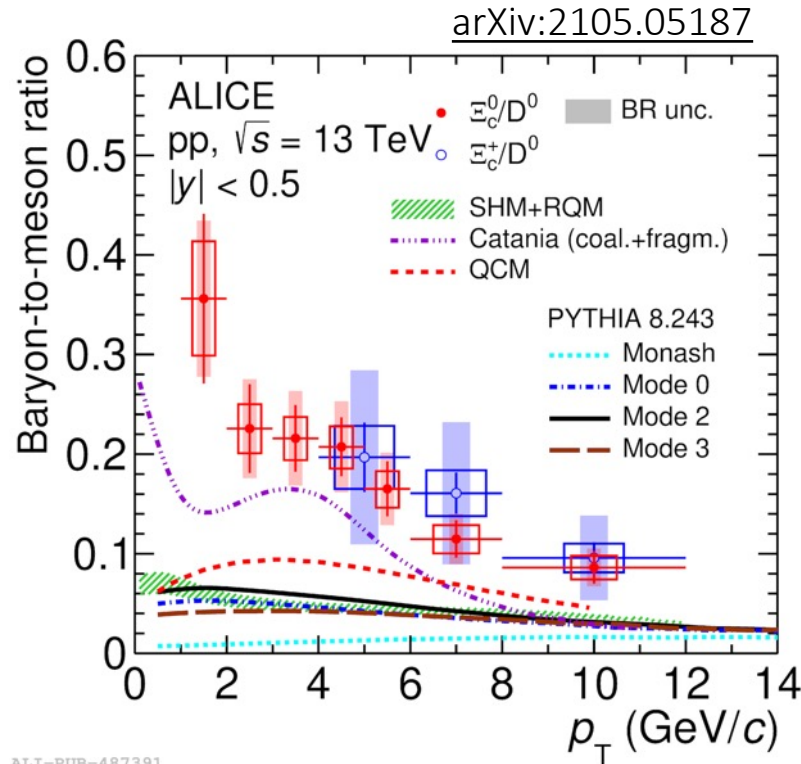
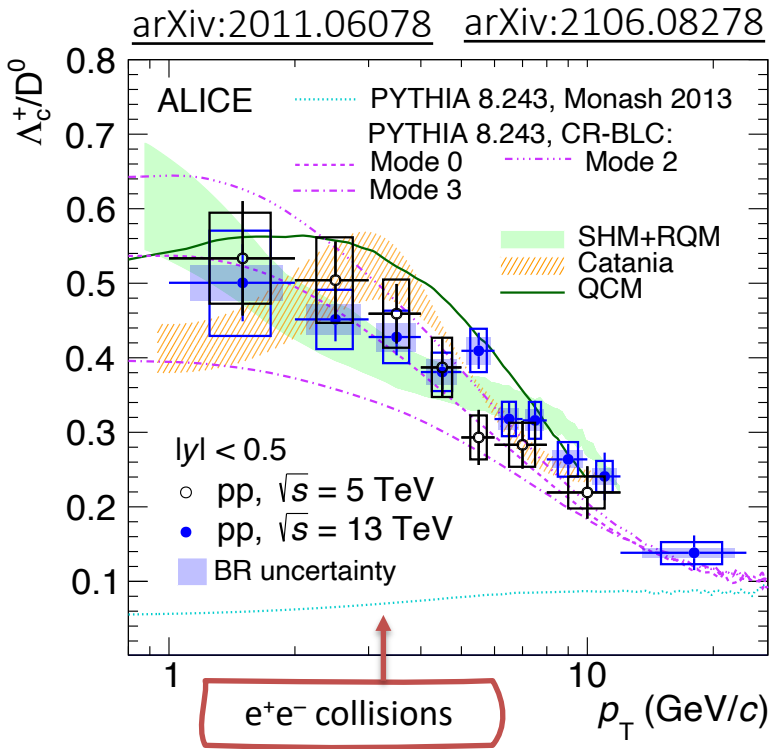
Systematic and precise measurements as function of system size and momentum in Runs 3 and 4

# Beyond QGP physics

## ... a few examples

# Charm baryon/meson measurements in pp collisions

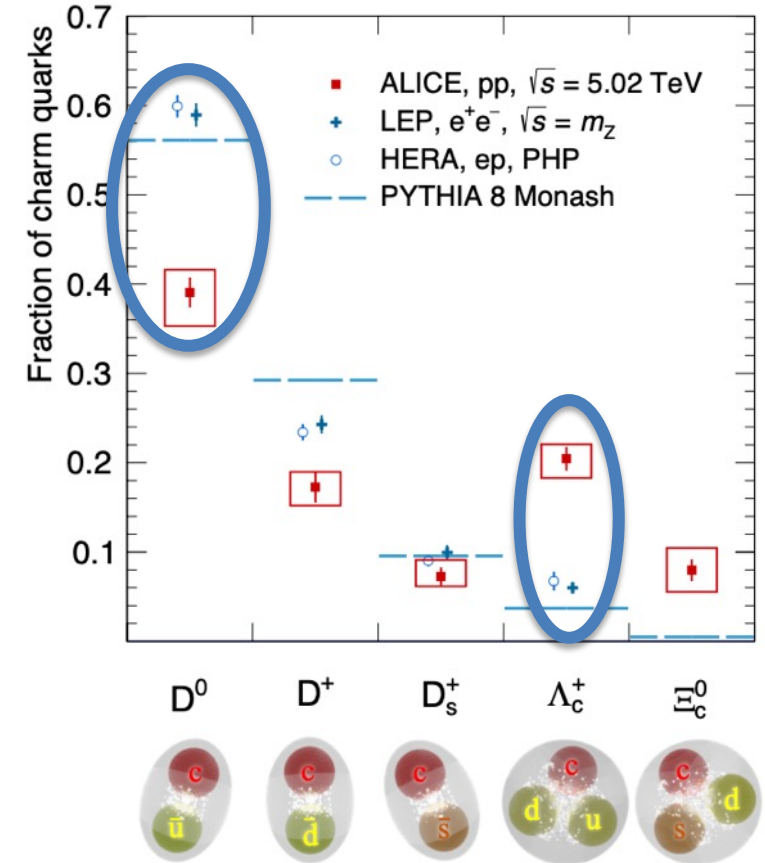
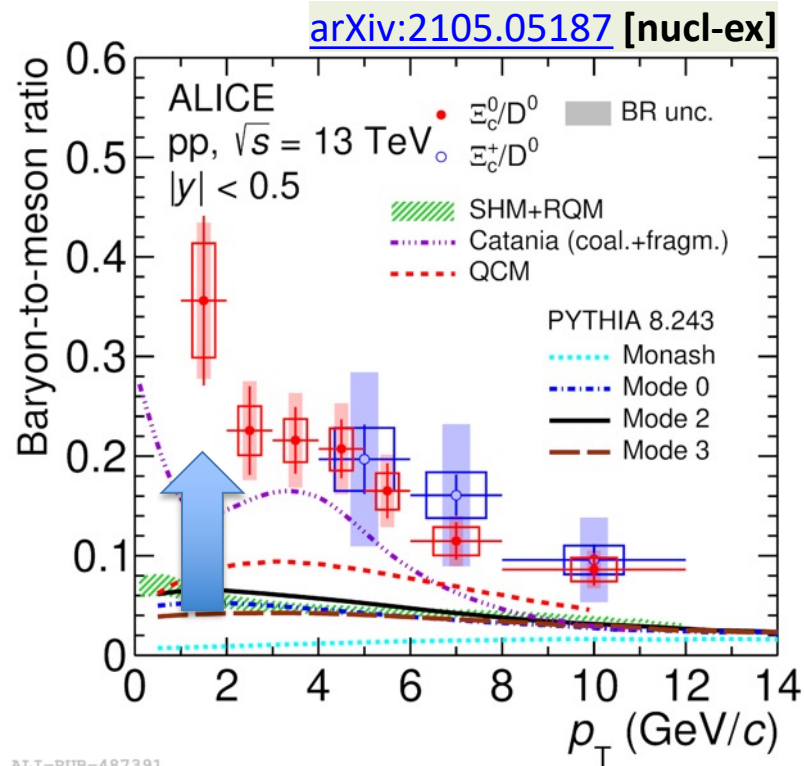
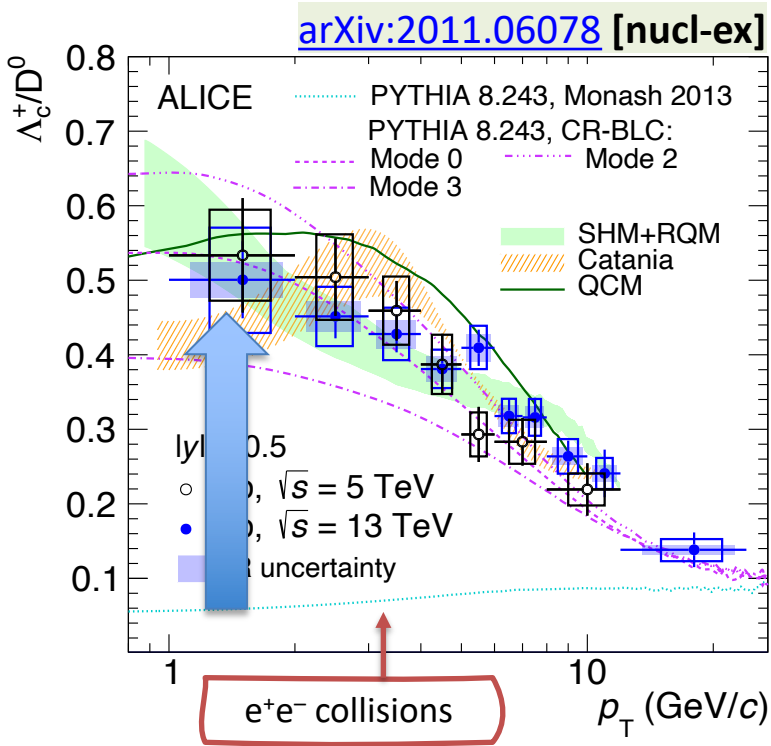
Charm hadronization differs at the LHC



- unique measurements (at low-momenta) of  $\Lambda_c$  (also  $\Xi_c$  and  $\Omega_c$ )
- cross section (fragmentation fraction) larger than expected (ee and ep)

# Charm baryon/meson measurements in pp collisions

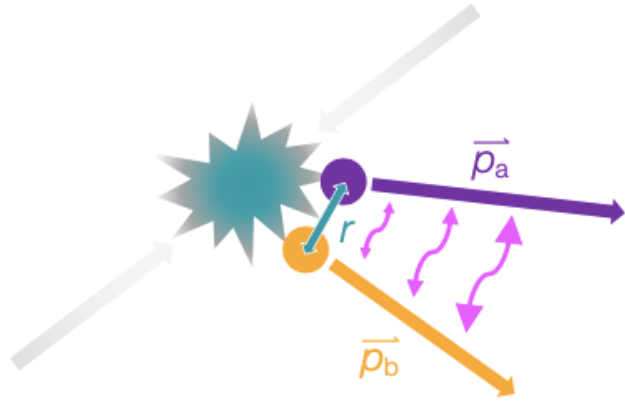
Charm hadronization differs at the LHC



- unique measurements (at low-momenta) of  $\Lambda_c$  (also  $\Xi_c$  and  $\Omega_c$ )
- cross section (fragmentation fraction) larger than expected (ee and ep)

# Strong interaction between hadrons

Correlation function sensitive to interaction potential



1. Fix source geometry
  2. Measure correlation fct.  $C(k^*)$
- study the strong interaction

$$C(k^*) = \int S(r) |\psi(\vec{k}^*, \vec{r})|^2 d^3r$$

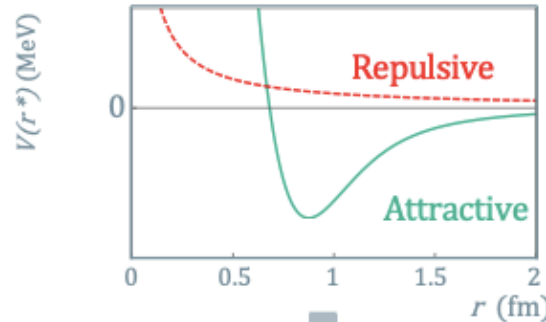
Emission source    Two-particle wave function

Source parametrisation



Gaussian source

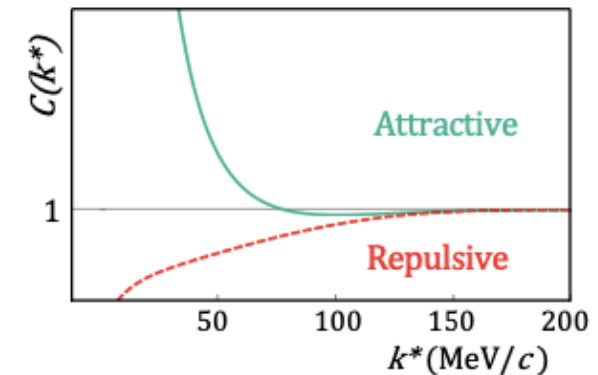
Interacting potential



Schrödinger equation\*\*

Two-particle wave function  $|\Psi(k^*, r)|$

Correlation function



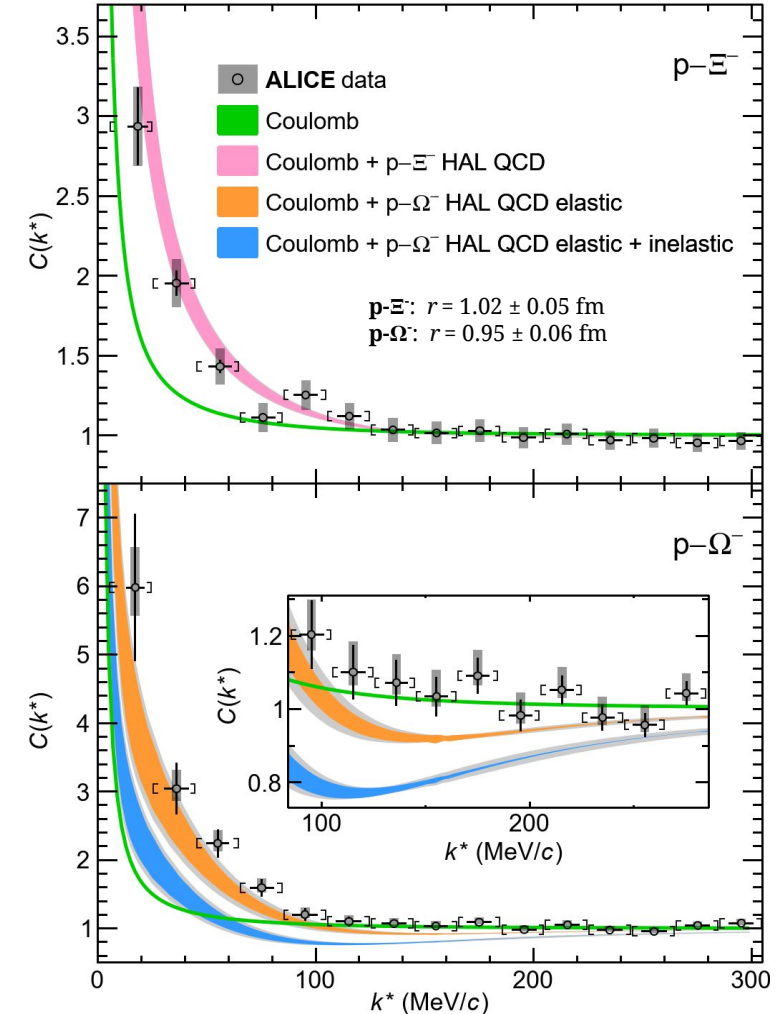
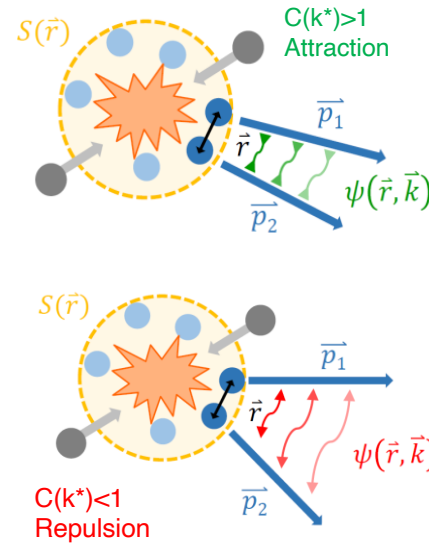
# Strong interaction between hadrons

## ALICE measurements on topic

Phys. Rev. C 99 (2019) 024001	p-p, p- $\Lambda$ , $\Lambda$ - $\Lambda$ (pp)
Phys. Lett. B 797 (2019) 134822	$\Lambda$ - $\Lambda$ (p-Pb)
Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 112002	p- $\Xi^-$ (p-Pb)
Phys. Rev. Lett. 124 (2020) 092301	p-K (pp)
Phys. Letters B 805 (2020) 135419	p- $\Sigma$ (pp)
Phys. Lett. B 811 (2020) 135849	source size in pp
<b>Nature 588 (2020) 232-238</b>	<b>p-<math>\Omega</math> (pp)</b>
arXiv:2104.04427	N $\Lambda$ - N $\Sigma$ (pp)
arXiv: 2105.05578	p- $\phi$ (pp)
<b>arXiv:2105.05683</b>	<b>K-p (Pb-Pb)</b>
arXiv:2105.05190	p-/p, p-/ $\Lambda$ , $\Lambda$ -/ $\Lambda$ (pp)

“Unveiling the strong interaction among stable and unstable”

**Nature 588 (2020) 232-238**



Proton-hyperon (p-Y) strong interaction poorly known

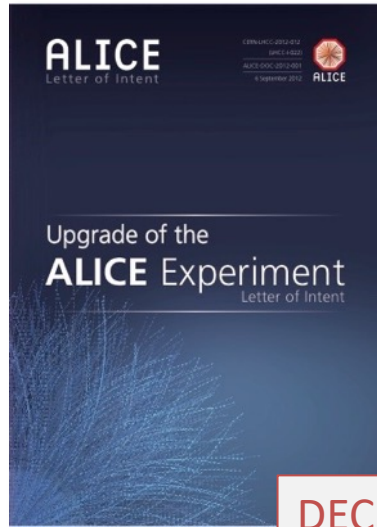
precise measurement of strong interaction for p- $\Xi^-$  and p- $\Omega^-$

- direct comparison to lattice QCD
- p- $\Xi^-$  important for the EoS of neutron stars (which contain hyperon-rich matter)

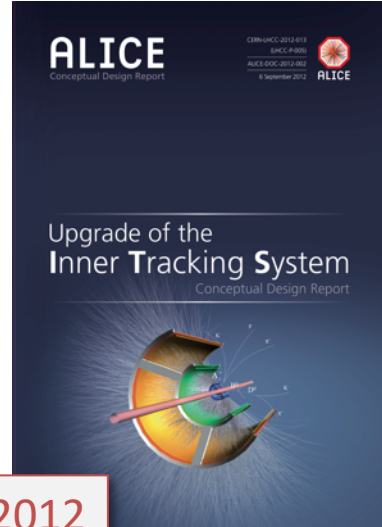


# ALICE Upgrades ongoing activities and future plans

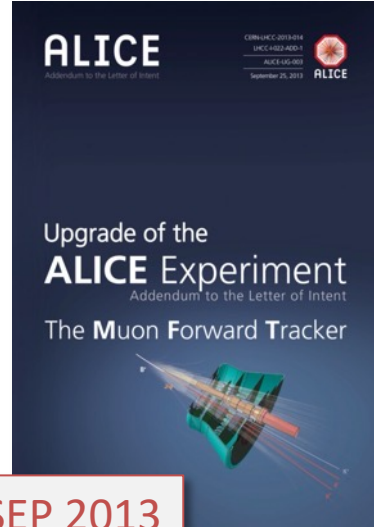
# ALICE Detector Version 2.0 (Upgrades for Run 3+)



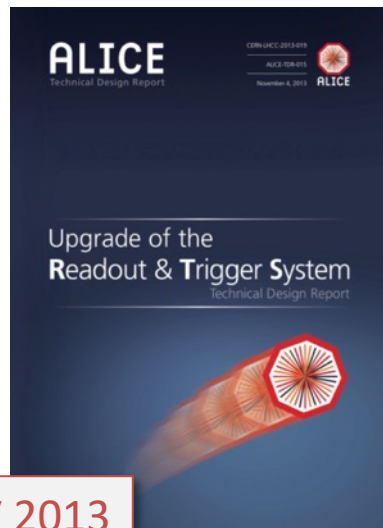
DEC 2012



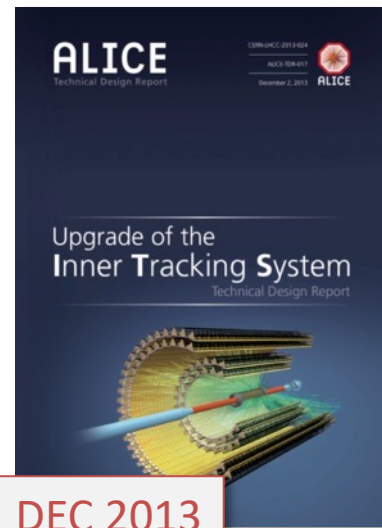
SEP 2013



- From Lol to last TDR: 2013 – 2015 ✓
- Construction: 2016 – 2019 ✓
- Installation: 2020 – 2021 ✓
- Global commissioning: ongoing



NOV 2013



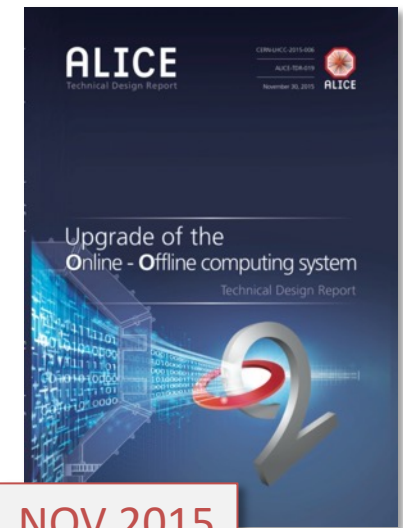
DEC 2013



MAR 2014



MAY 2015



NOV 2015

# ALICE Detector Version 2.0 (Upgrades for Run 3+)

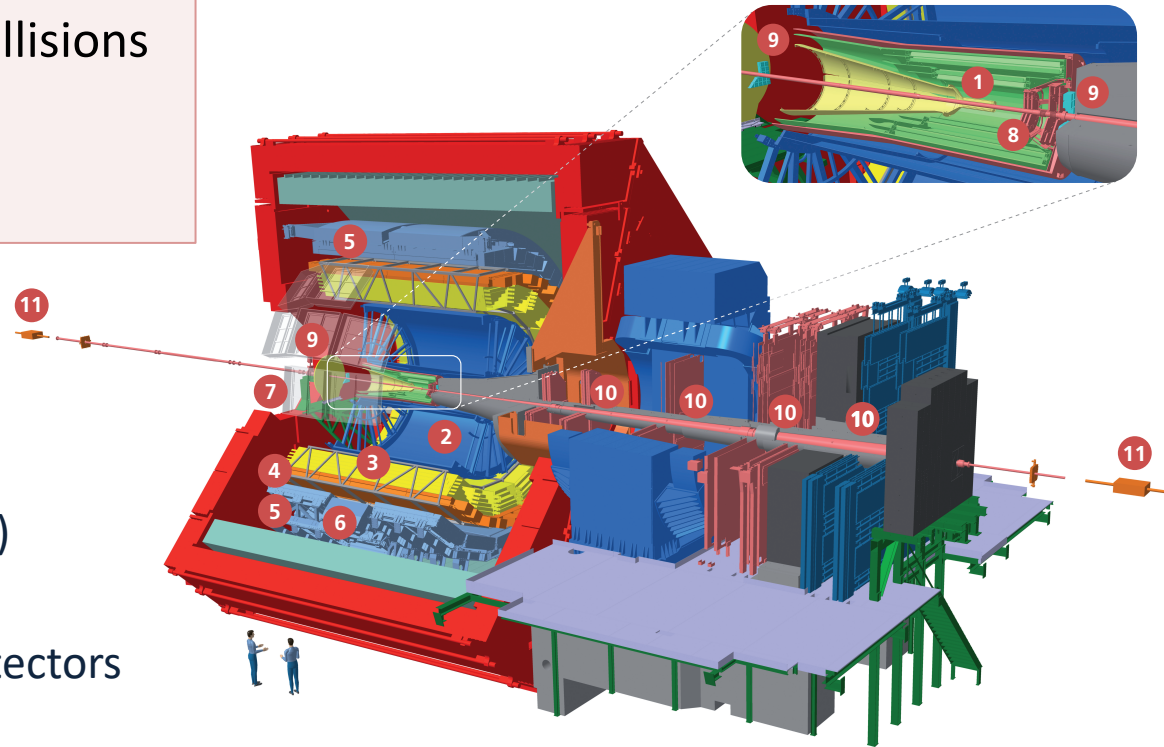
Runs 1 and 2:  $1 \text{ nb}^{-1}$  of Pb-Pb collisions

Interaction rate  $\sim 8 \text{ kHz}$

readout rate  $\approx 1 \text{ kHz}$

## LS2 upgrade

- **New** TPC R/O planes
- **New** silicon tracker (ITS & MFT)
- **New** Fast Interaction Trigger (FIT)
- **New** Online/Offline system (O2)
- **Upgrade readout** of all other detectors



- 1 ITS | Inner Tracking System
- 2 TPC | Time Projection Chamber
- 3 TRD | Transition Radiation Detector
- 4 TOF | Time Of Flight
- 5 EMCal | Electromagnetic Calorimeter
- 6 PHOS / CPV | Photon Spectrometer
- 7 HMPID | High Momentum Particle Identification Detector
- 8 MFT | Muon Forward Tracker
- 9 FIT | Fast Interaction Trigger
- 10 Muon Spectrometer
- 11 ZDC | Zero Degree Calorimeter

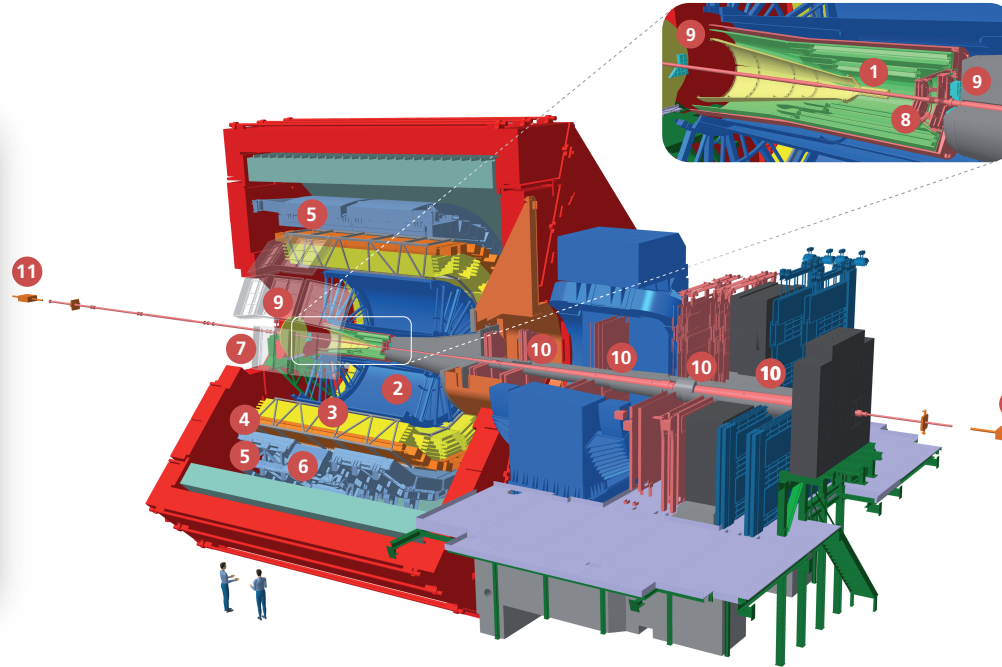
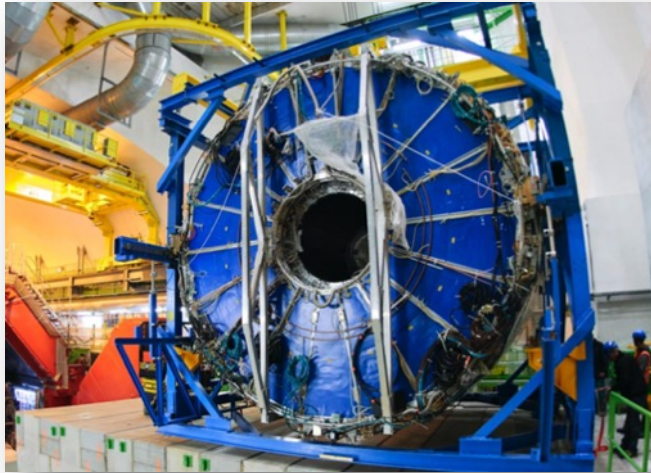
> Improve tracking resolution at low  $p_T$

x50 statistics increase for most observables

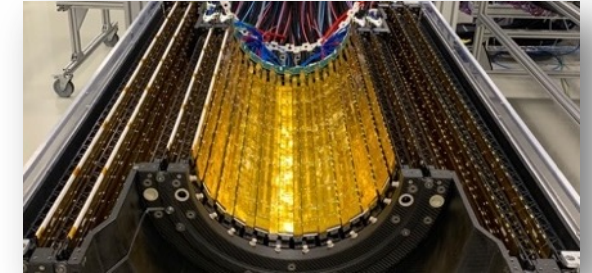
Run 3+Run 4:  $13 \text{ nb}^{-1}$  of Pb-Pb collisions  
 readout rate  $\approx 50 \text{ kHz}$  (Pb-Pb),  $\approx 1 \text{ MHz}$  (pp)  
 online reconstruction : all events to storage!

# ALICE Detector Version 2.0 (Upgrades for Run 3+)

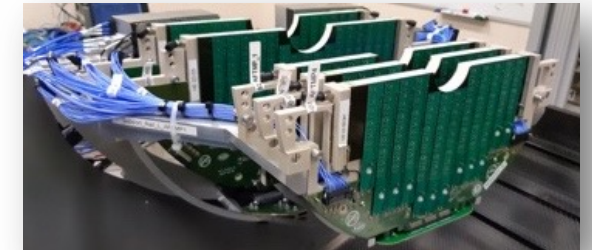
GEM-based TPC readout



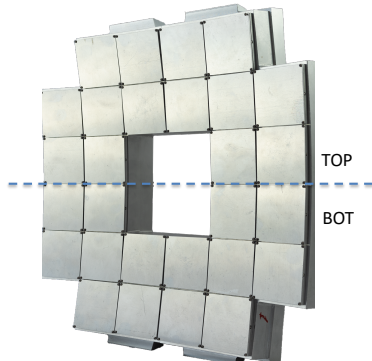
Monolithic-pixel - ITS2



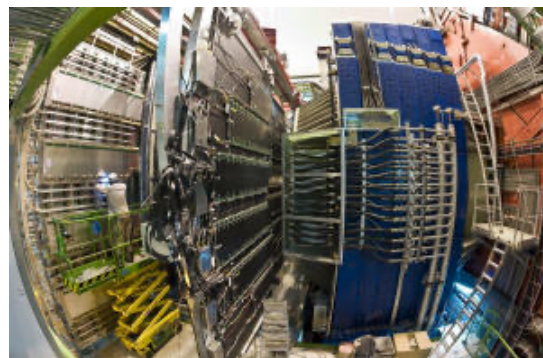
Pixel Muon Forward Tracker (MFT)



Fast Interaction Trigger FIT

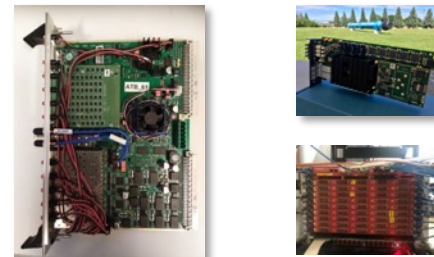


Muon Spectrometer



New Central Trigger Processor (CTP)

Upgrade of R/O for EMCal, PHOS, TRD, HMPID, ZDC



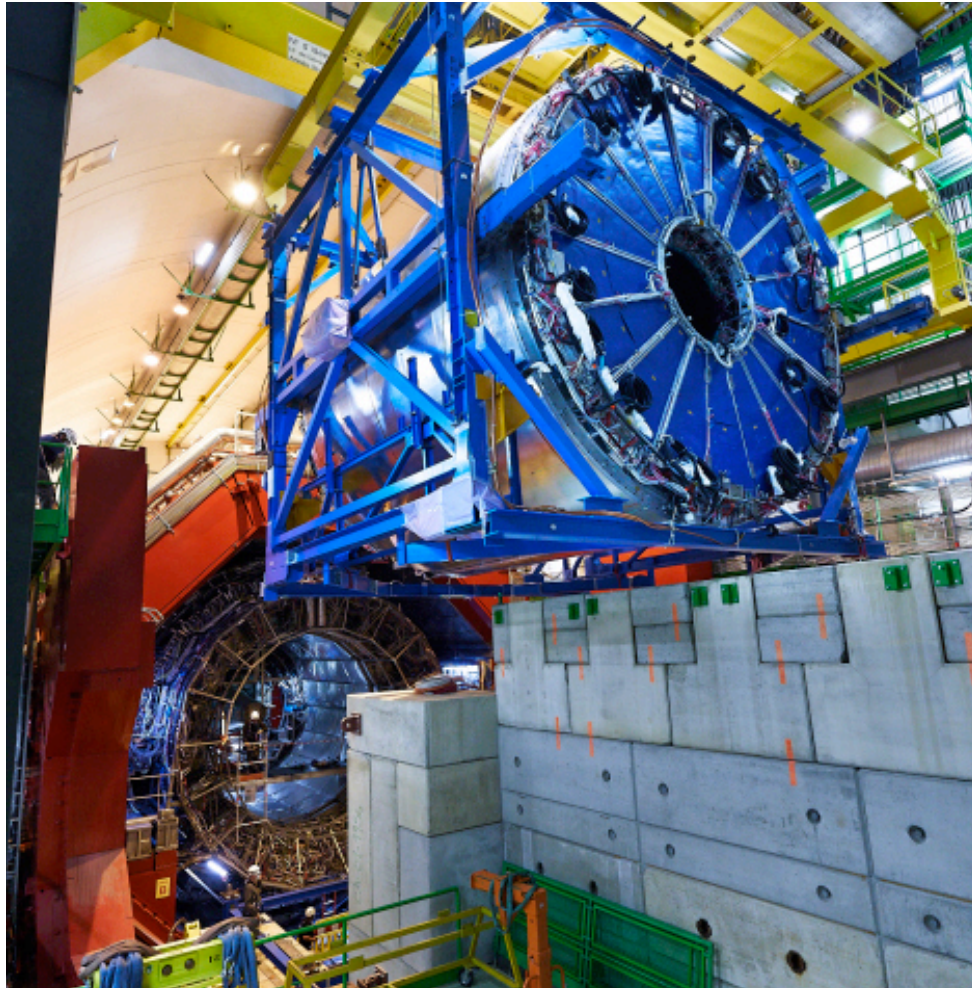
New Online/Offline (O2)



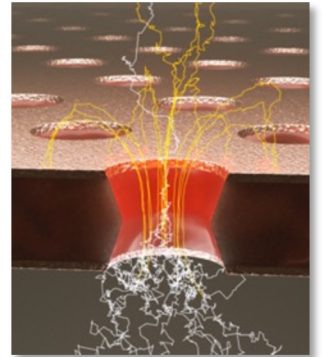
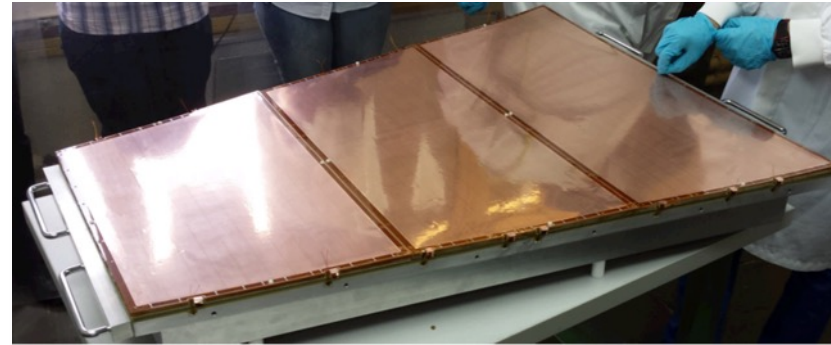
# TPC Upgrade for continuous readout

**Goal:** TPC continuous readout (⇒ no gating grid)

**Solution:** Replace MWPC with 4-GEMs



100 m<sup>2</sup> single-mask foils GEM production

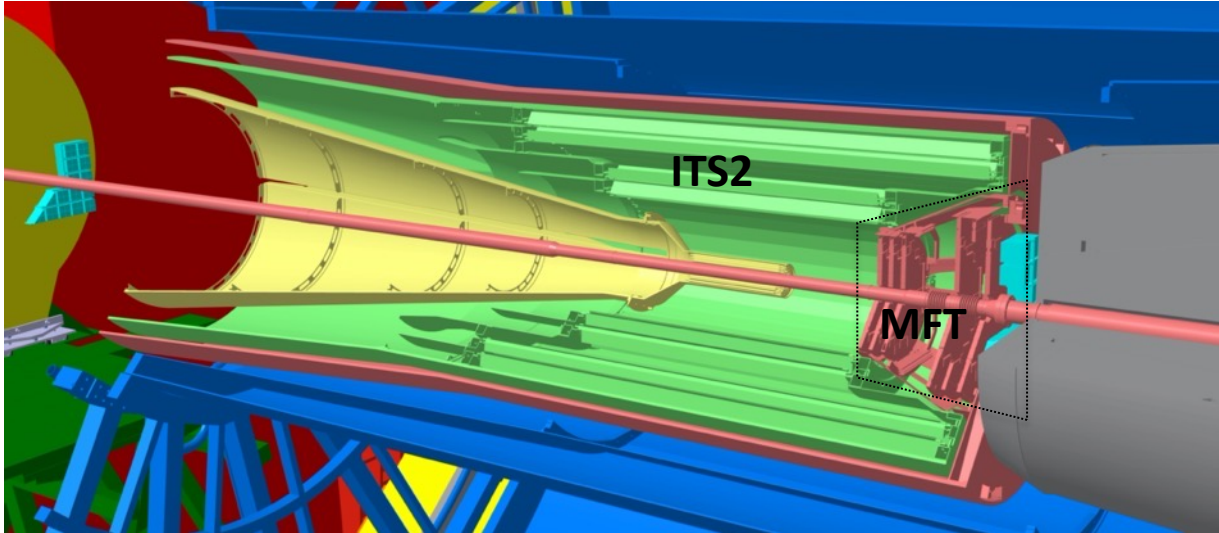


Read Out Chamber

⇒ GEM provides ion backflow suppression to < 1%

⇒ 524 000 pads readout continuously ⇒ **3.4 TByte/sec**

# New Inner Tracking System and Muon Forward Tracker



## Inner Tracking System upgrade (ITS2)

- Closer to the IP: first layer at  $\approx 22$  mm
- Smaller pixels:  $28 \times 29 \mu\text{m}^2$
- Lower material budget:  $0.35\% X_0$

⇒ improved pointing resolution (x 3)

⇒ Improved tracking efficiency at low  $p_T$

## New Muon Forward Tracker (MFT)

- New forward vertex detector upstream muon absorber

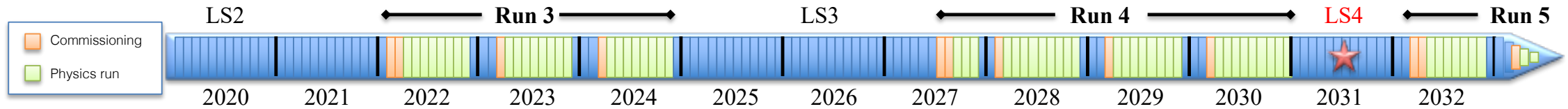
⇒ improved muon pointing resolution



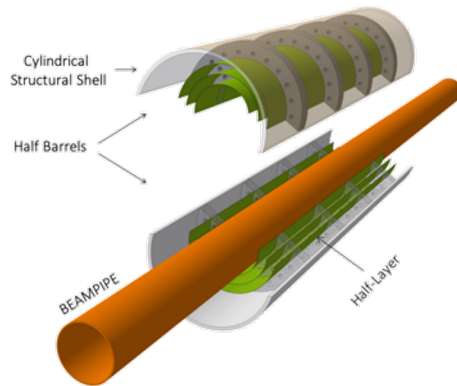
Based on MAPS technology (ALPIDE)

- **10 m<sup>2</sup>** active silicon area
- **12.5 G-pixels**
- **50  $\mu\text{m}$**  thin sensor
- Spatial resolution  $\sim 5\mu\text{m}$
- Max particle rate  $\sim 100 \text{ MHz /cm}^2$

# Perspectives: upgrades for Run 4, ALICE 3 for Run 5



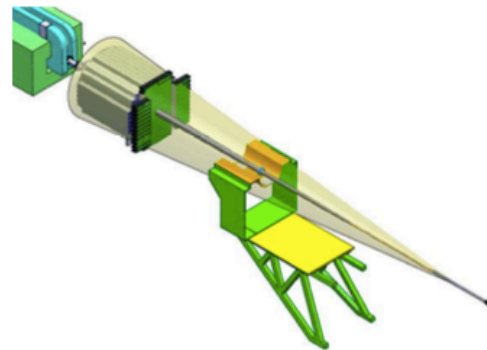
## ITS3



**ITS3:** wafer-scale, ultra-thin, bent MAPS improvement in the measurement of low  $p_T$  charm and beauty hadrons and low-mass dielectrons

*LoI: CERN-LHCC-2019-018*

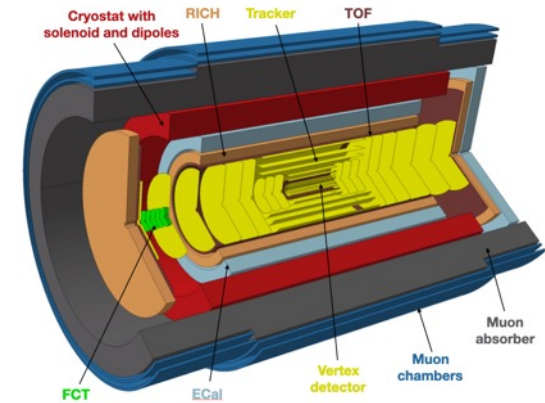
## FoCal



**FoCal:** forward EM calo with Si readout for isolated  $\gamma$  measurement in  $3.4 < \eta < 5.8$  in p-Pb

*LoI ALICE-PUBLIC-2019-005*

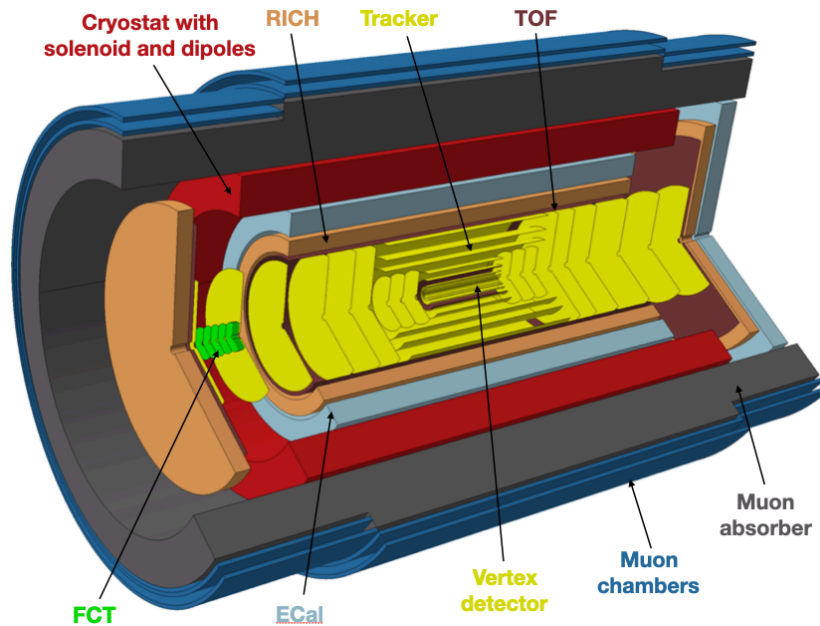
## ALICE 3



# ALICE 3: a new dedicated heavy-ion detector for Run 5+ (> 2030)

## Novel measurements of electromagnetic and hadronic probes of the QGP at very low momenta

⇒ mechanism of hadron formation in the QGP, QGP transport properties, QGP electrical conductivity, QGP radiation and access to the pre-hydrodynamization phase, Chiral Symmetry restoration, ...

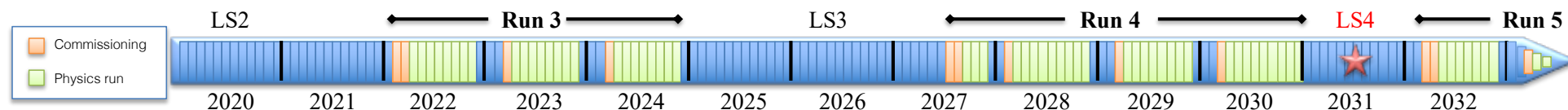


Expression of Interest [arXiv:1902.01211](https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.01211)

Also submitted as input to the European Strategy for Particle Physics Update (Granada, May 2019)

## Timeline

- Conceptual studies ongoing 2019-2021
- Public workshop in October 2021
- **Submit a Lol to the LHCC by 2021**
- Construction and installation by LS4





# Conclusions

A wealth of results based on full Run 2 samples offer:

- Detailed insights into **QGP workings and properties**
- plus a broader and **rich QCD programme**:
  - pQCD, hadron structure, formation of hadrons and nuclei

**Underway and coming up:**

- Major upgrade for Run 3 on track (ALICE v. 2.0)
- In preparation: ITS3, FoCal for Run 4 (ALICE v. 2.1)
- Plans for next generation dedicated HI experiment for Run 5+ (ALICE v. 3.0)