

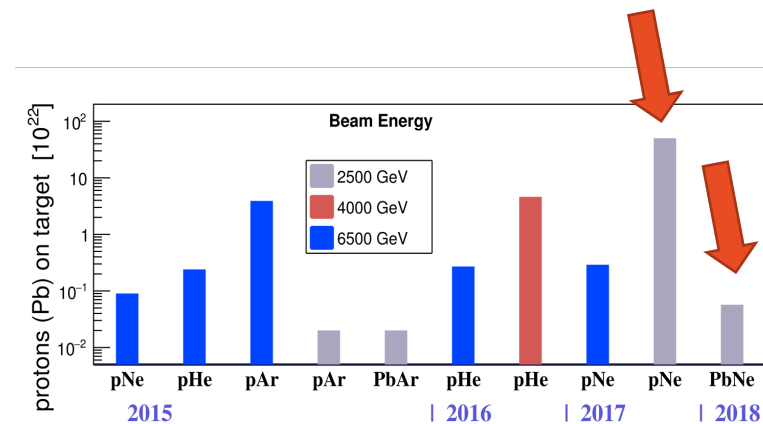
# Charm with fixed-target LHCb

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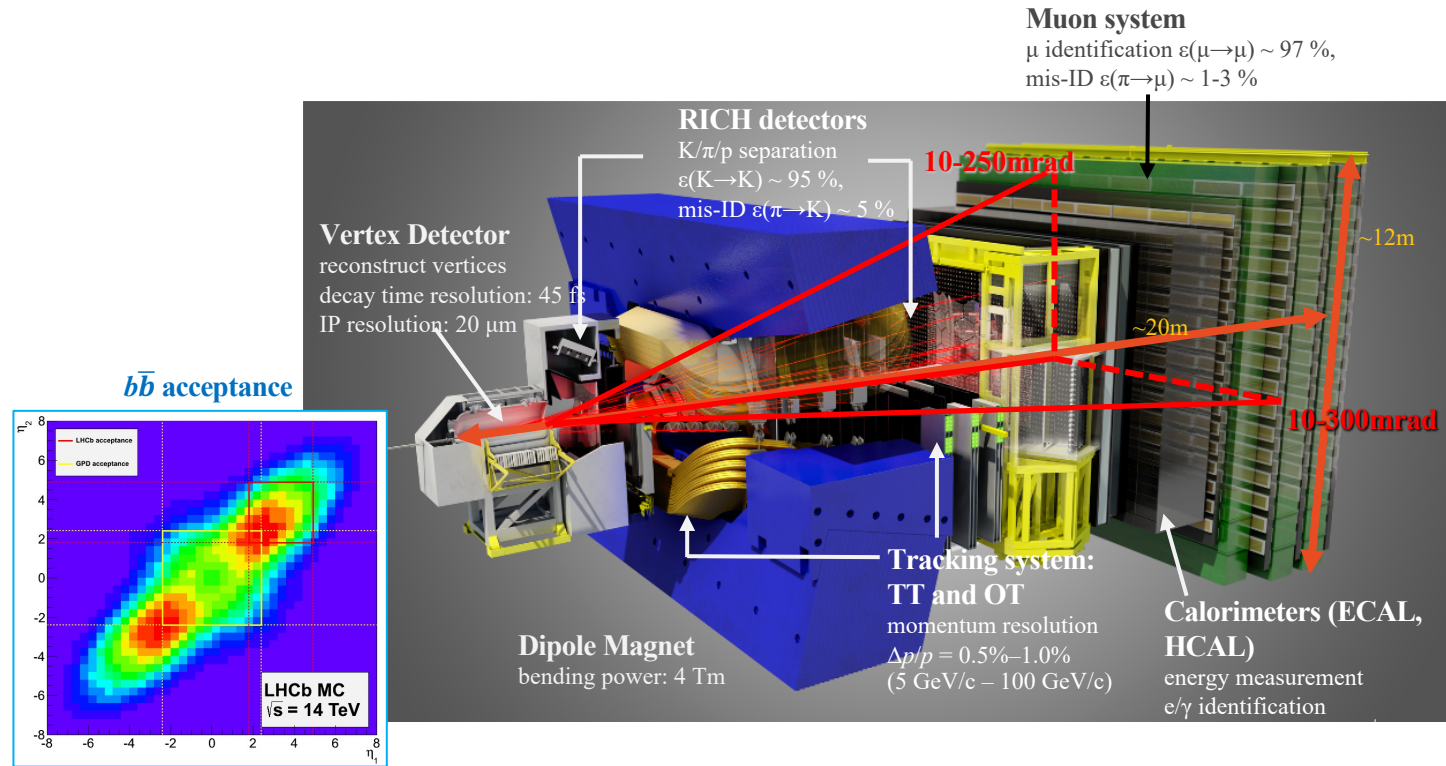
*Rencontres QGP France 2022*

*2-5 May 2022*



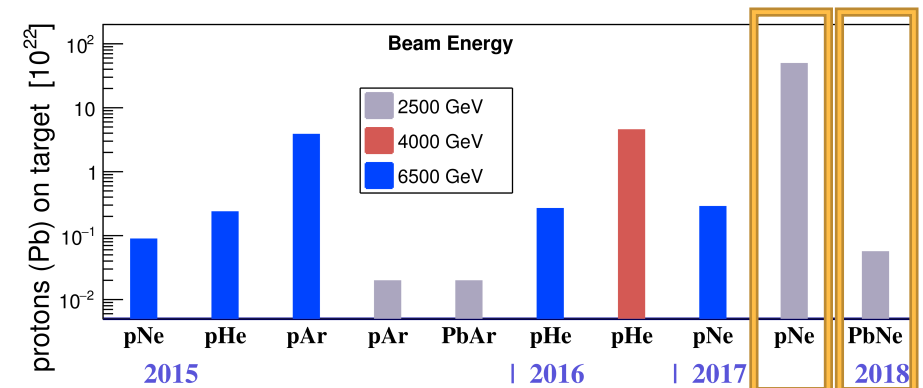
# The LHCb detector

[JMPA 30 (2015) 1530022]  
 [JINST 3 (2008) S08005]



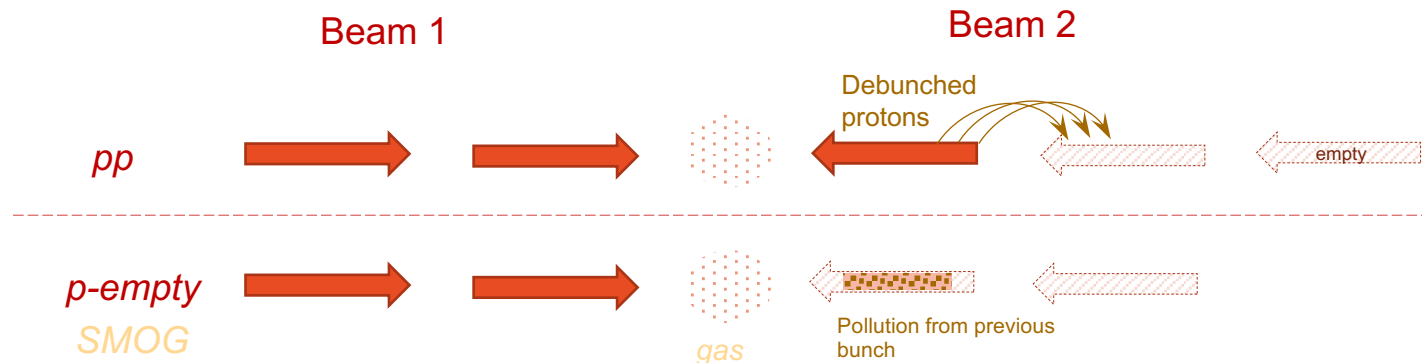
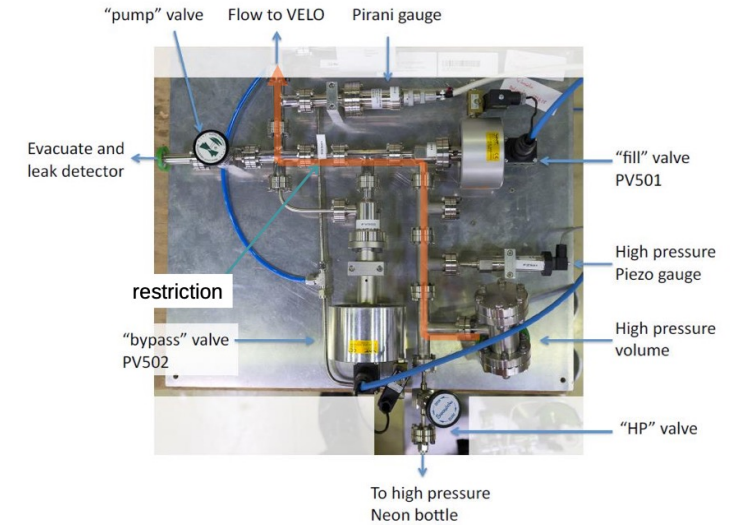
Single arm forward spectrometer with excellent vertexing, tracking, PID  
 (acceptance  $2 < \eta < 5$ )

- Excellent performances
- It is a “charm factory”: for  $pp$  collisions,
  - $4 \times 10^{32} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  luminosity for Run 2: the rate of  $c\bar{c}$  pairs is 0.96 MHz
  - The rate of  $\Lambda_c^+$  seen by the LHCb detector is 602 Hz
- Unique system to inject gas (SMOG) originally designed for luminosity measurements. Re-used to transform LHCb in a fixed-target experiment. [JINST 9 (2014) P12005]
- Data Samples SMOG:



# SMOG pollution

- Data sample: 2.5 TeV protons on Neon, center of mass energy of 68.9 GeV
- Data are taken simultaneously with  $pp$  collisions at 5 TeV, **no special runs**.
- Major problem: pollution from  $pp$  collisions « ghost charges ».
  - ❖  $pp$  and p-Gas data are taken at the same time alternating full and empty bunches.
  - ❖ Some debunched protons from the previous beam go to the following bunch which is supposed to be empty.



# SMOG pollution

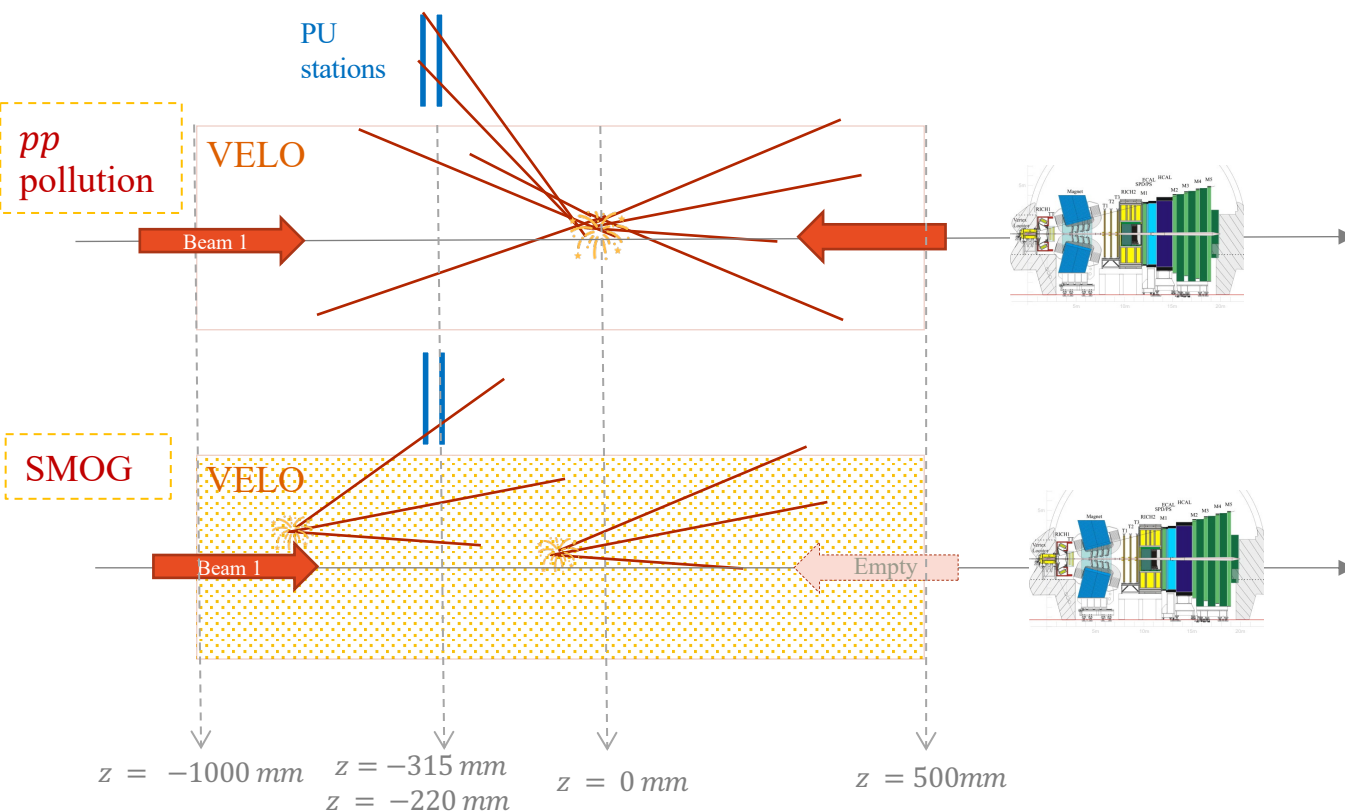
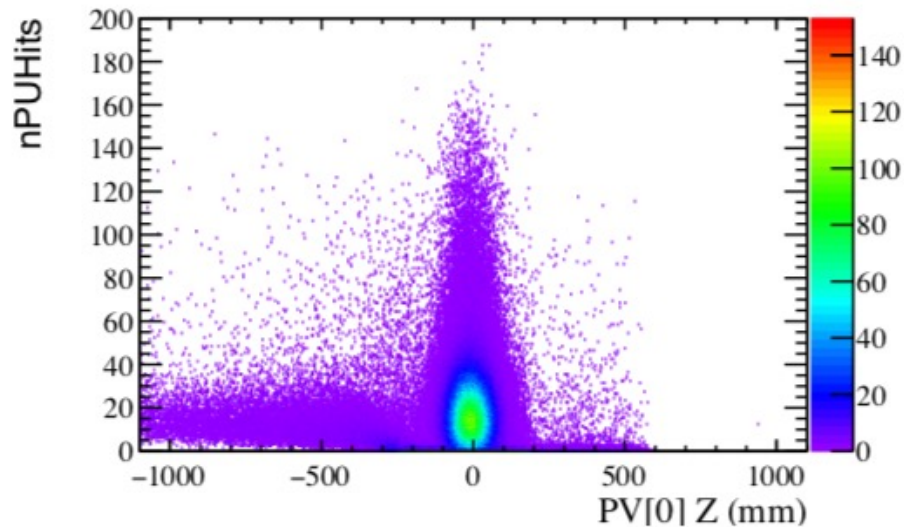
Global event cuts for 2017 pNe SMOG data. Technical report, CERN, Geneva, Jun 2020.

<https://cds.cern.ch/record/2720461>.

By Frédéric, Benjamin, Felipe and Emilie

Cleaning using the event topology:

- Z coordinate of the PV: SMOG has a larger PVZ region
- Number of hits in the Pile Up stations of VELO at  $z = -315$  and  $z = -220$  mm  $\rightarrow$  small for smog events which are forward
- Number of reconstructed tracks (nTracks) pointing opposite to LHCb



	$-200 < Z_{PV} < -100$	$-100 < Z_{PV} < +100$	$+100 < Z_{PV} < +200$
nPUHits=0 - GC	$(0.64 \pm 0.31)\%$	$(8.93 \pm 3.27)\%$	$(0.57 \pm 0.34)\%$
nPUHits=0 - SL	$(24.32 \pm 1.16)\%$	$(31.26 \pm 0.88)\%$	$(21.35 \pm 1.28)\%$
Correction factor	$1.235 \pm 0.012$	$1.195 \pm 0.044$	$1.207 \pm 0.013$
nPUHits<3 - GC	$(2.25 \pm 0.47)\%$	$(29.44 \pm 4.77)\%$	$(1.84 \pm 0.56)\%$
nPUHits<3 - SL	$(14.86 \pm 0.91)\%$	$(24.32 \pm 0.77)\%$	$(14.23 \pm 1.04)\%$
correction factor	$1.123 \pm 0.010$	$0.877 \pm 0.060$	$1.121 \pm 0.012$
nPUHits<5 - GC	$(4.69 \pm 0.62)\%$	$(49.08 \pm 5.35)\%$	$(3.76 \pm 0.78)\%$
nPUHits<5 - SL	$(11.91 \pm 0.81)\%$	$(21.79 \pm 0.73)\%$	$(12.17 \pm 0.96)\%$
correction factor	$1.067 \pm 0.010$	$0.620 \pm 0.065$	$1.080 \pm 0.013$

Table 7: GC: Fraction of Ghost-Charge residual contamination after nPUHits cut; SL: fraction of fixed-target Signal Loss after nPUHits cut. Correction factor is given by  $(1 - GC) \times (1 + SL)$

# Charm production as a probe for QCD

## Charmonium production

[T. Matsui, H. Satz, Physics Letters B 178 \(1986\), no. 4.](#)  
[Phys.Rev.D 64 \(2001\) 094015](#)

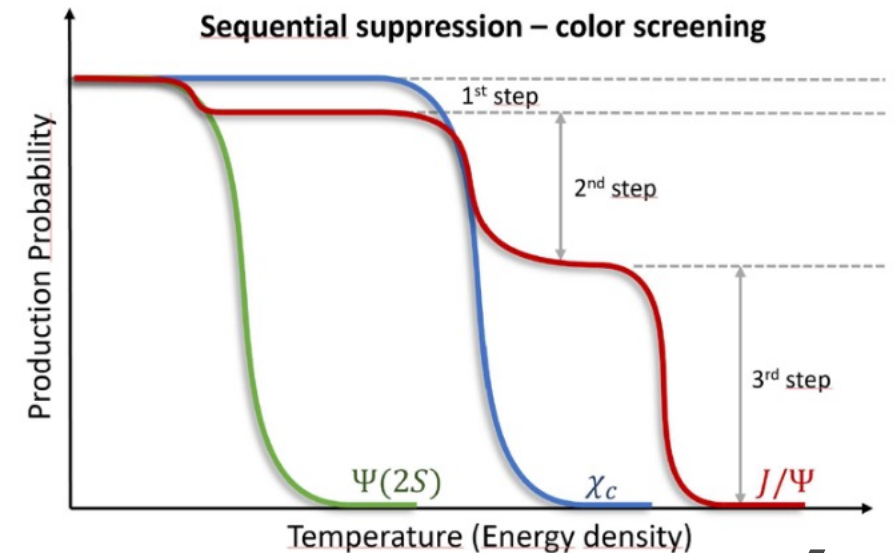
1. It's a smoking gun of QGP production via the color screen mechanism
2.  $J/\psi$  suppression has been studied in several fixed-target experiment, however the underlying mechanism is still not fully understood  $\rightarrow$  new measurements in different colliding systems are fundamental to constraint cold nuclear matter effects
3. Suppression compensated by statistical recombination at high  $\sqrt{s}_{NN}$
4. Other charmonium states also affected :  $\psi(2S)$  and  $\chi_c$  with lower binding energy (suppressed at lower temperature).  
For  $J/\psi$  produced from excited states  $\rightarrow$  sequential suppression.

## Why Open Charm?

1.  $D^0$  open charm, not affected by QGP and gives an estimate of the total amount of  $c\bar{c}$  pairs
2. Compare the ratio  $J/\psi$  to  $D^0$  in pNe and PbNe systems
3. Cross-section and asymmetry relevant to study the nucleon content

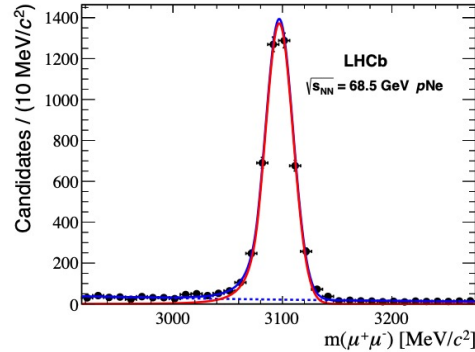
## Measurement with pNe LHCb data:

1.  $J/\psi$  cross-section (integrated and as a function of  $p_T$  and  $y^*$ )
2.  $J/\psi / \psi(2S)$  ratio using di-muon decay
3.  $D^0$  ratio , using  $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$
4.  $D^0$  production asymmetry

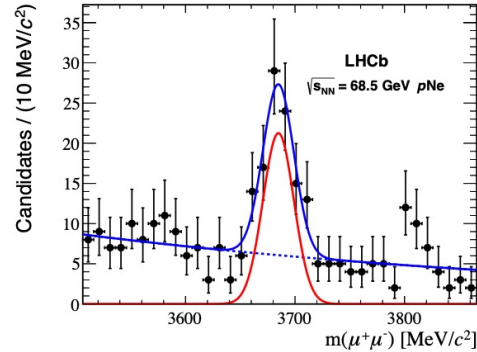


# Charmonium production

$$N_{sig} = 4\,542 \, J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$



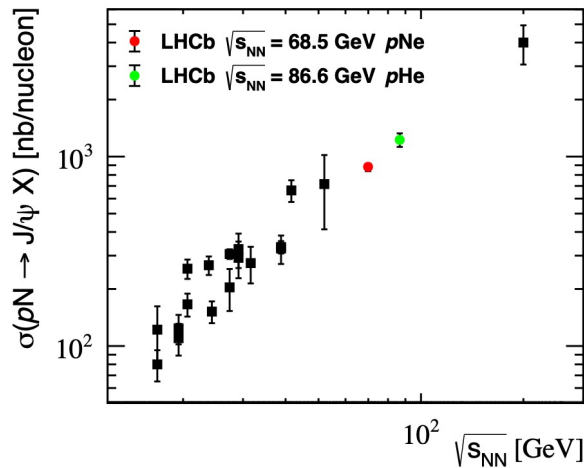
$$N_{sig} = 76 \, \psi(2S) \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$



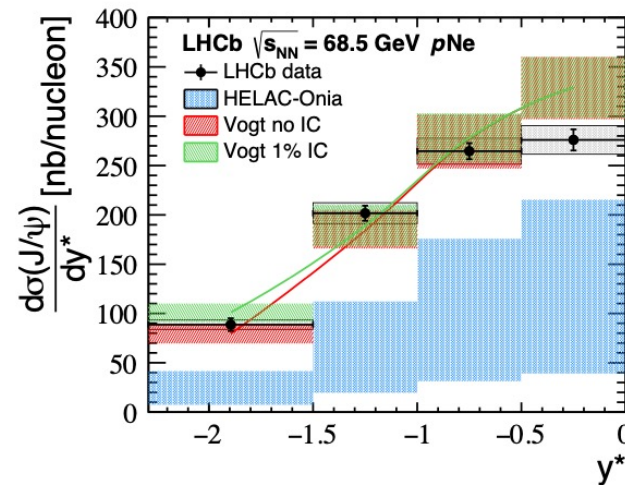
$$\sigma = \frac{N_{\text{After correction}}}{\mathcal{L} \times A_{\text{nucleus}} \times BR}$$

$$\sigma_{y^* \in [-2.29, 0]}^{J/\psi} = 444.1 \pm 6.9 \text{ (stat)} \pm 4.5 \text{ (uncorr syst)} \pm 21.2 \text{ (corr syst)} \text{ nb/A.}$$

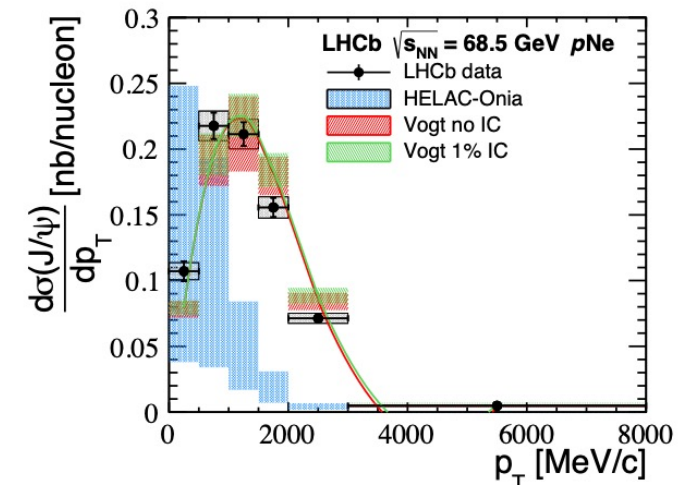
## 1. $J/\psi$ cross section measurement:



- Total cross-section: extrapolation to full phase space using Pythia8+CT09MCS PDF
- power-law dependency with  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$

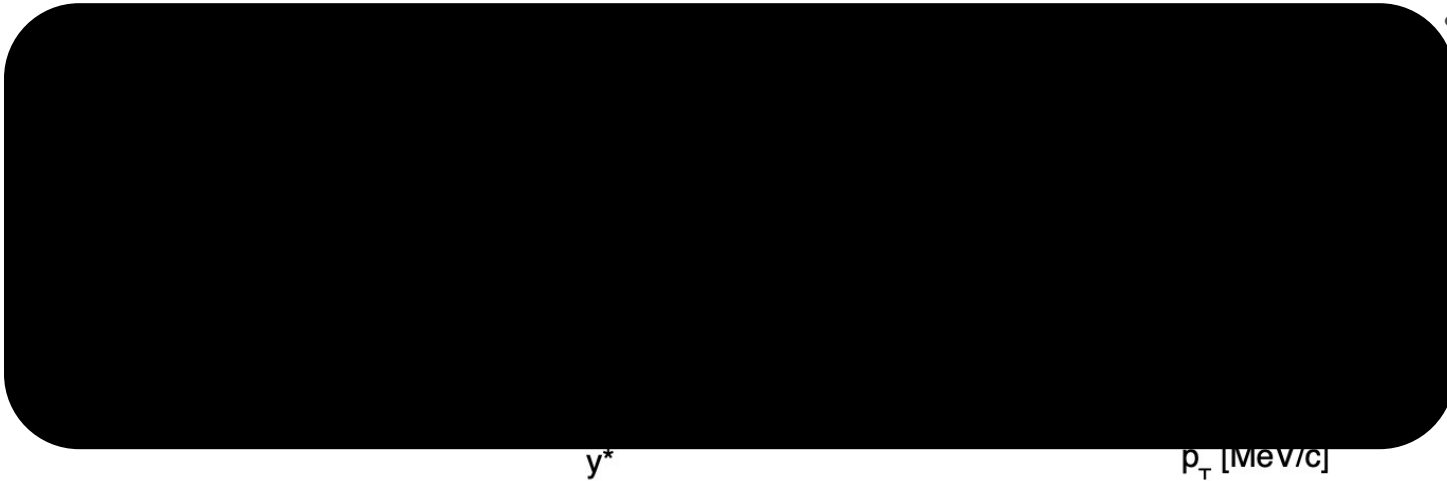


- HELAC-ONIA using CT14NLO and nCTEQ15 under shoot the data
- Good agreement with predictions with (1%) and without an Intrinsic Charm contribution



# Charmonium production

- Ratio  $J/\psi / D^0$



- Benchmark for  $c\bar{c}$  suppression in PbNe

Strong dependency in  $p_T$

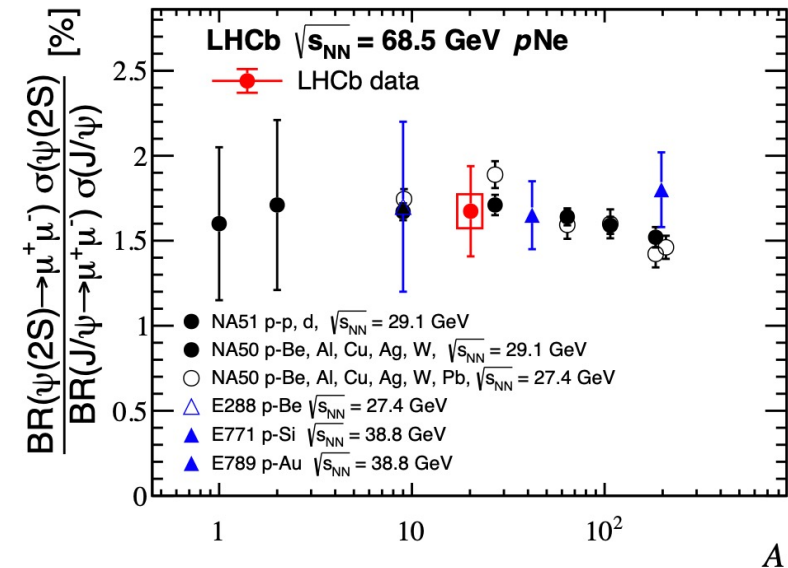
Integrated:

$$\frac{\sigma_{J/\psi}}{\sigma_{D^0}} = 0.0106 \pm 0.0005(\text{stat} + \text{uncorr}) \pm 0.0008(\text{corr})$$

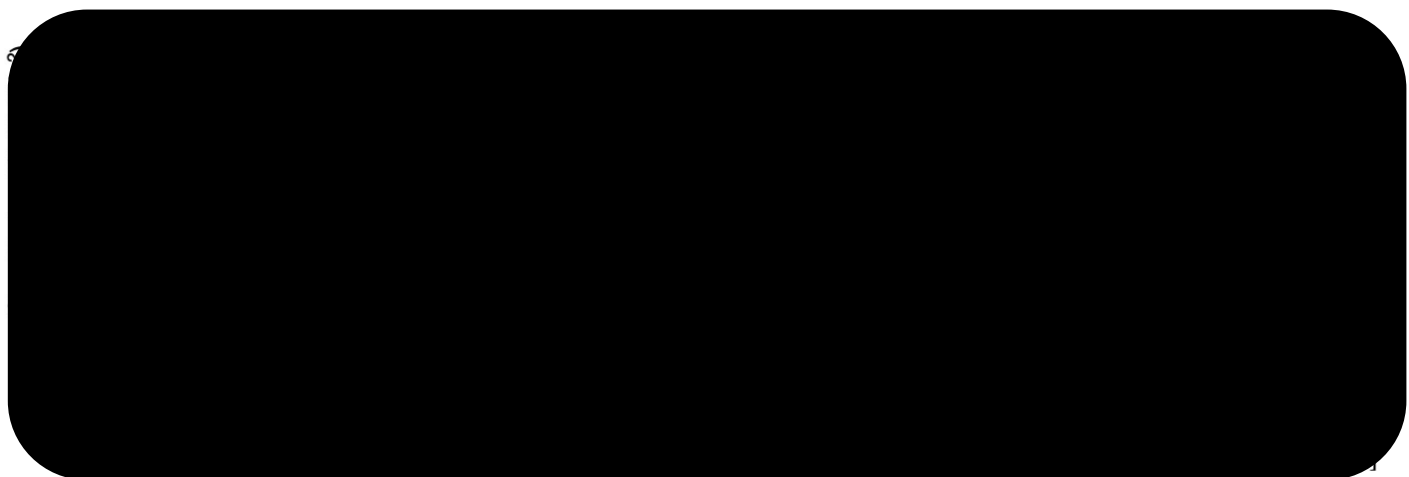
- Ratio  $\psi(2S)/J/\psi$  first measurement in SMOG:

In line with other measurements for different values of target atomic mass number (A)

$$\frac{Br_{\psi(2S) \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-} \sigma_{\psi(2S)}}{Br_{J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-} \sigma_{J/\psi}} = 1.67 \pm 0.27 (\text{stat.}) \pm 0.10 (\text{syst.}) \%$$



# Open charm results



$$\sigma_{y^* \in [-2.29, 0]}^{D^0} = \blacksquare \pm 0.3(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.4(\text{uncorr. syst.}) \pm 2.8(\text{corr. syst.}) \mu\text{b}/A.$$

$$\sigma_{4\pi}^{D^0} = \blacksquare \pm 0.6(\text{stat}) \pm 0.7(\text{uncorr syst}) \pm 5.7(\text{corr syst}) \mu\text{b}/A.$$

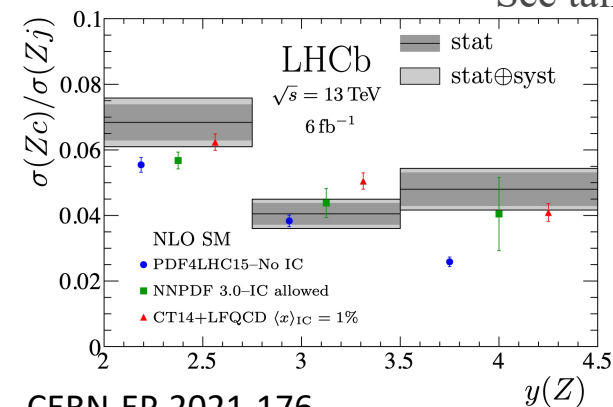


1. Previous measurement in pHe/pAr no strong evidence of intrinsic charm in the nucleon was observed in the large bjorken-x region: Phys. Rev. Lett. 122 (2019) 132002

$$x \simeq \frac{2m_c}{\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}}} \exp(-y^*)$$

2. Here the IC component should enhance the  $D^0$  production for negative  $y^*$
3. A contribution at the 1% level of valence-like IC improves the agreement between data and theoretical predictions
4. Even more relevant, Z jets measurement pp:

See talk from Oscar





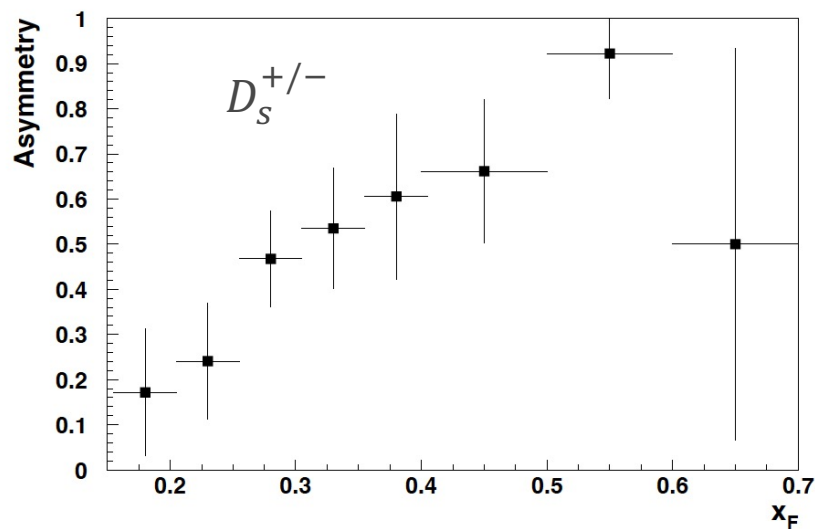
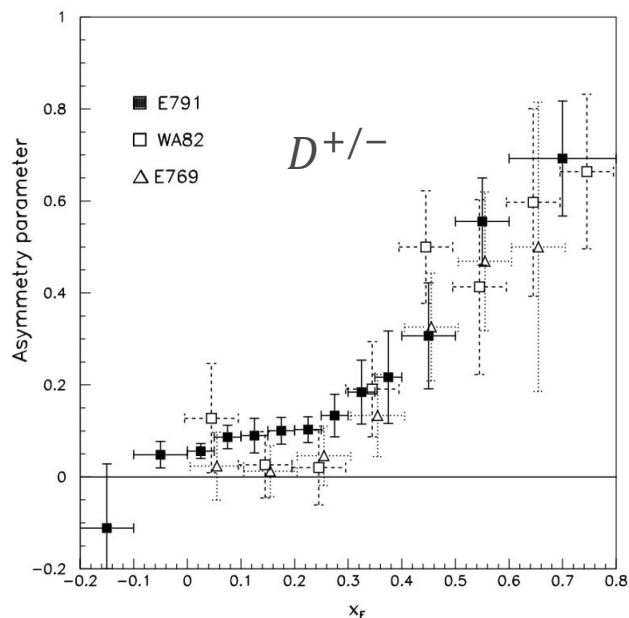
# Open charm results

Asymmetry:

$$A_{\text{prod}} = \frac{\sigma(D^0) - \sigma(\bar{D}^0)}{\sigma(D^0) + \sigma(\bar{D}^0)}$$

Experiment	Beam Momentum (GeV/c)	Beam Particle	Target Material
E690	800	$p$	$LH_2$
E771	800	$p$	Si
E866/NuSea, E789 and E772	800	$p$	$LH_2, LD_2, C, Ca, Fe, W$ Ag, Au, and Cu dump
E769	250	$\pi^\pm, K^\pm, \text{ and } p$	Be, Al, Cu, and W
E781/SELEX	600 572	$\Sigma^- \text{ and } \pi^-$ $p$	C and Cu C and Cu
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E687	220	$\gamma$	Be
E831/FOCUS	170	$\gamma$	BeO and Si
WA89	340	$\Sigma^- \text{ and } \pi^-$	C and Cu
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WA92/Beatrice	350	$\pi^-$	Cu and W

- Asymmetry measured in fixed target for  $D^+$  (pion beam) and  $D_s^+$  ( $\Sigma$  beam)
- Beam hadron shares a quark with only one of the charged states leading particle effect



$D^+ : c\bar{d}$   
 $D^- : d\bar{c}$   
 $D^0 : c\bar{u}$   
 $\bar{D}^0 : u\bar{c}$   
 $D_s^+ : c\bar{s}$   
 $D_s^- : s\bar{c}$

$$A \equiv \frac{N_{D_s^-} - N_{D_s^+}}{N_{D_s^-} + N_{D_s^+}}$$

Phys Rev Lett. 72 (1994), no. 06 812.

Phys. Lett. B 558 (2003) 34, arXiv:hep-ex/0302039.

# Open charm results

Asymmetry:

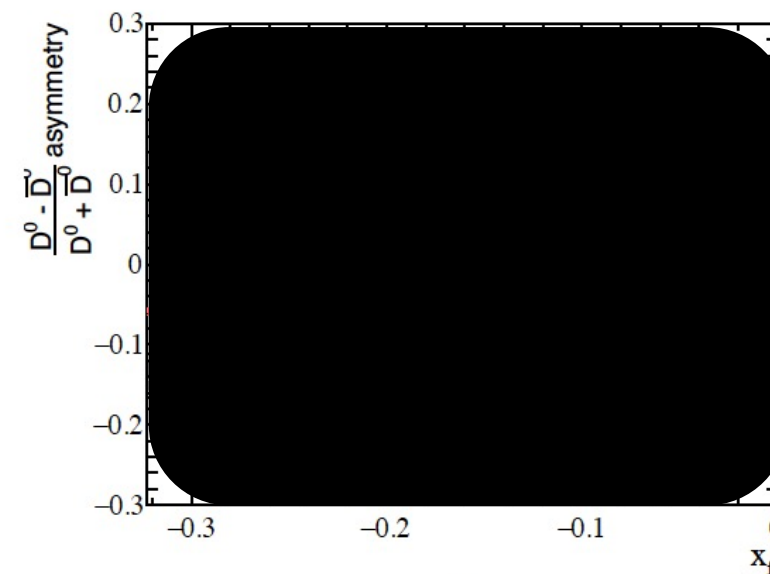
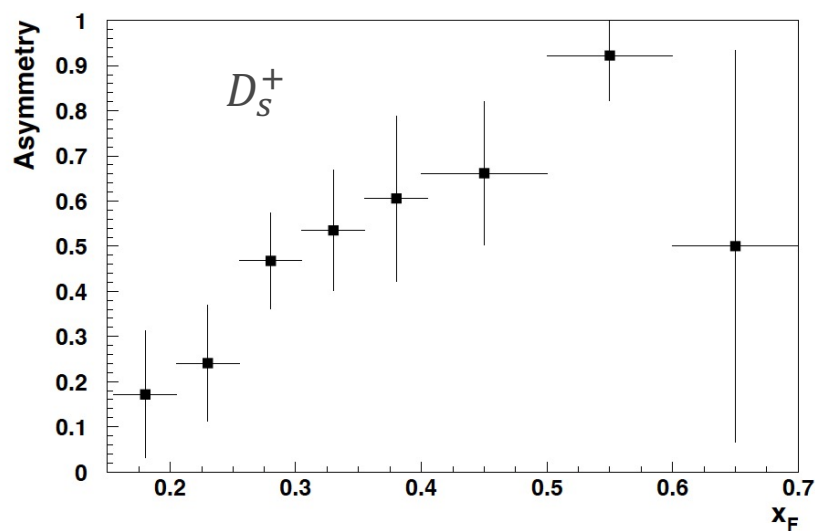
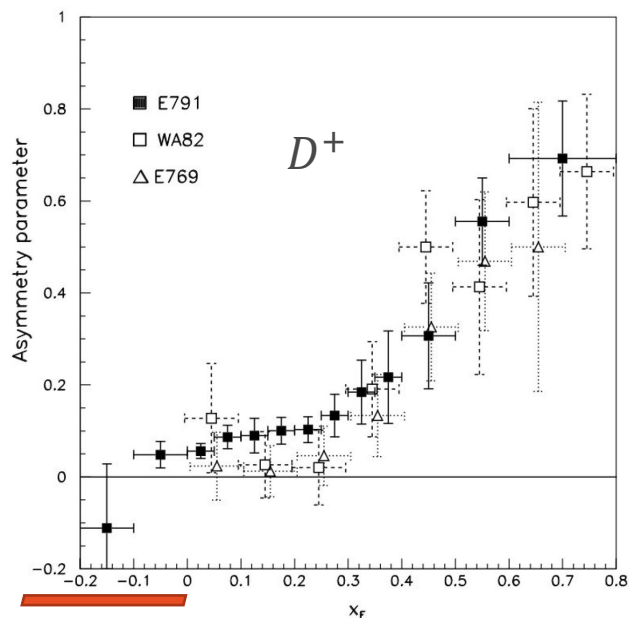
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$$x_F = 2 \sinh y^* \sqrt{\frac{m^2 + p_T^2}{s_{NN}}}$$

SMOG pNe



# Open charm results

Asymmetry:

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{prod}} = \frac{\sigma(D^0) - \sigma(\bar{D}^0)}{\sigma(D^0) + \sigma(\bar{D}^0)}$$

**LHCb observes a negative asymmetry, up to -15%, with a clear  $y^*$ -dependency**

1. Pythia predicts a negative asymmetry, independent of  $y^*$
2. This production asymmetry shows the  $x_F$  dependency, where the asymmetry increases when reaching the valence quark region (i.e  $x_F \sim -0.3$ ).

**Does this come from the quark content of the target Ne? What about other charm hadrons ?**

We would expect smaller  $D^+/D^-$  asymmetry, opposite  $D_s/D_s\bar{}$  and  $L_c/L_c\bar{}$  asymmetries  $\rightarrow$  to be confirmed!

$D^+ : c\bar{d}$   
 $D^- : d\bar{c}$   
 $D^0 : c\bar{u}$   
 $\bar{D}^0 : u\bar{c}$   
 $D_s^+ : c\bar{s}$   
 $D_s^- : s\bar{c}$

# Charm baryons cross section measurement: $\Lambda_c^+$ and $\Xi_c^+$

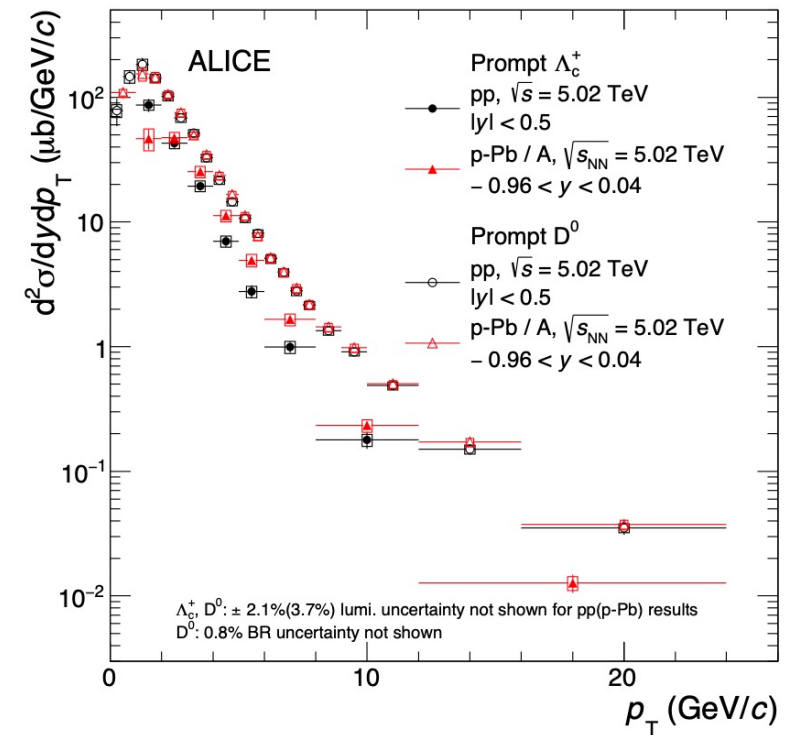
➤ Since the luminosity for the pNe sample is measured, absolute cross section measurement is possible

For PVZ in [-200,-100] and [100,150] mm  $24.9 \pm 0.3 \pm 1.6 \text{ nb}^{-1}$   
(by Giacomo Graziani, used in open charm and charmonium analysis)

➤ Measure differential cross section as a function of  $y^*$  and  $p_T$

**Motivation** (similarly to the  $D^0$  and  $J/\psi$  analysis) :

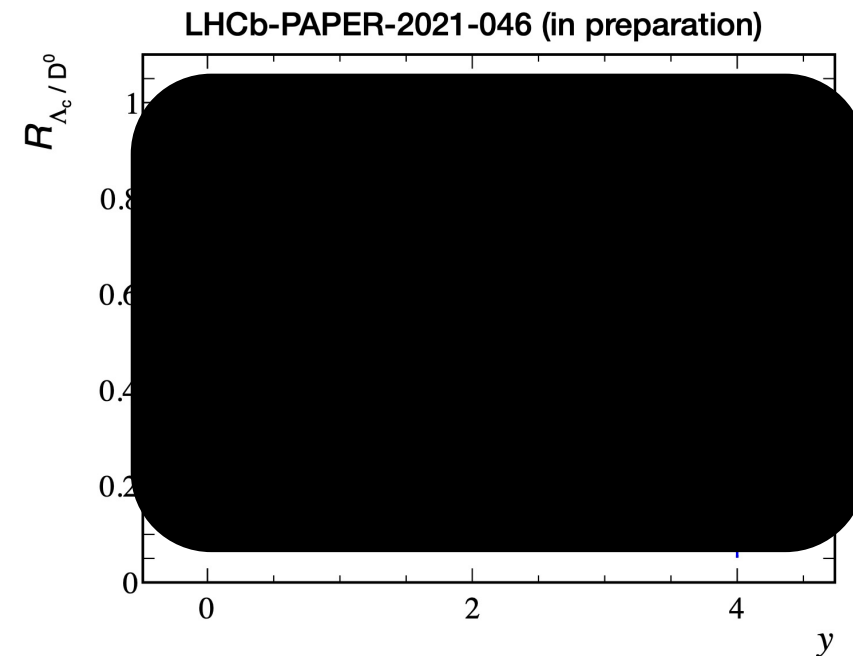
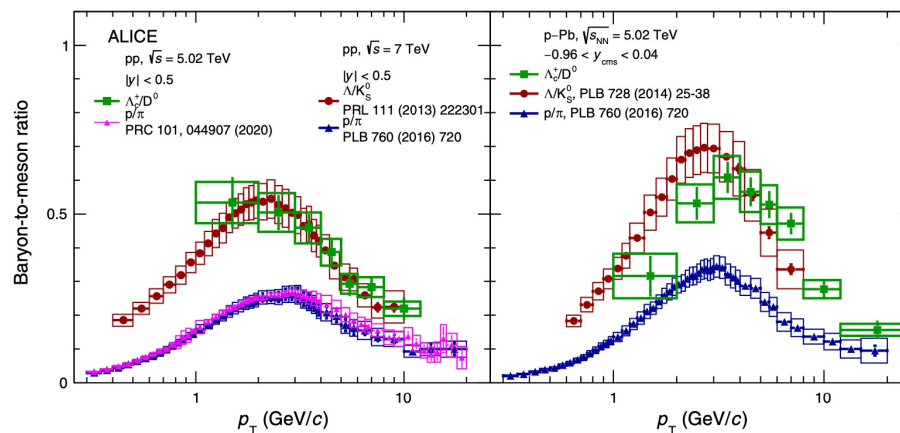
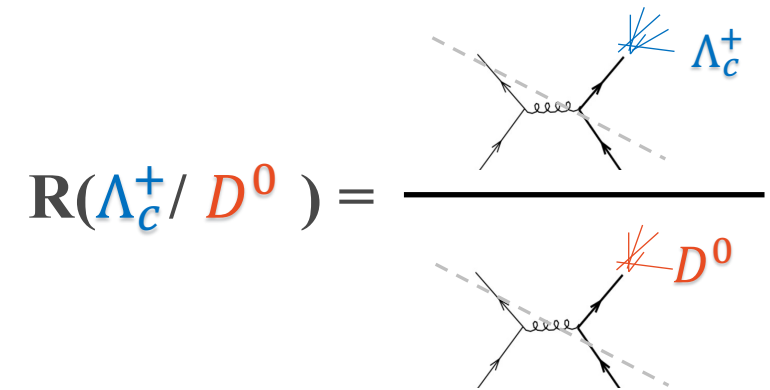
1. First measurement of baryon cross-section in SMOG
2. Compare with theory prediction (heavy quark production in pQCD)
3. Compare to  $D^0$  as in pPb for ALICE
4.  $\Lambda_c^+$  polarization measurement



<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2011.06078.pdf>

# Ratios baryons/mesons

- It is even more interesting to study ratios of:  $\Lambda_c/D^0$ ,  $\Lambda_c/D^+$ ,  $\Lambda_c/D_s$
- Heavy-flavours can be used to test pQCD
- Common part for baryons and mesons = production  $\rightarrow$  cancels in the ratio
- Ratios allow to study heavy quark **coalescence** :  
if coalescence happens, then  $p_T^{\Lambda_c^+} \gg p_T^{D^0}$   
 $\rightarrow$  enhanced  $\Lambda_c^+$  production (w.r.t. heavy quark fragmentation)
- For SMOG:
  1. Different energy or multiplicity
  2. Do we have more/less coalescence?
  3. We could even compare with strange baryon/meson ratio, is it the same for s and c quarks?



<https://journals.aps.org/prl/pdf/10.1103/PhysRevLett.127.202301>

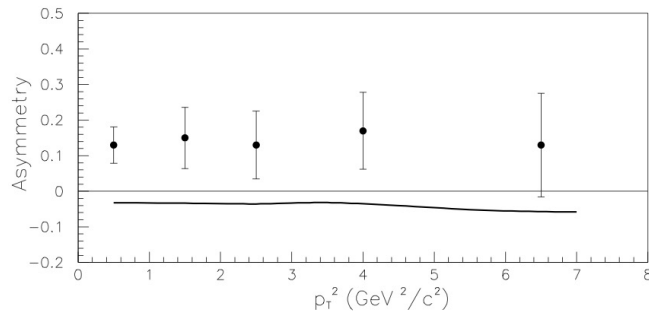
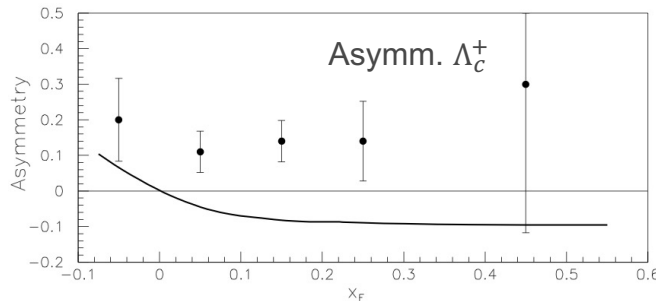
# The puzzling asymmetries

- Asymmetry:

$$\mathcal{A}_X = \frac{N(X) - N(\bar{X})}{N(X) + N(\bar{X})}$$

- There is one (non conclusive) measurement from FermiLab (E791) for  $\Lambda_c^+$  asymmetry, compatible with no asymmetry or with increasing at  $x_F = 0$ .
- There is also a measurement from SELEX, with different beams

[Phys.Lett.B495:42-48,2000](#)



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Questions we would like to answer after seeing this large asymmetry for charm mesons:

- How is the  $c/\bar{c}$  hadronization asymmetry changing for  $\Lambda_c^+(udc)$ : same trend? Inverted trend?
- At  $y^*$  (very) negative, valence region  $\rightarrow$  more u/d quarks available  $\rightarrow$  do we produce more  $\Lambda_c^+$ ?
- Compare the different charm asymmetries in SMOG

**SMOG could largely improve this!**

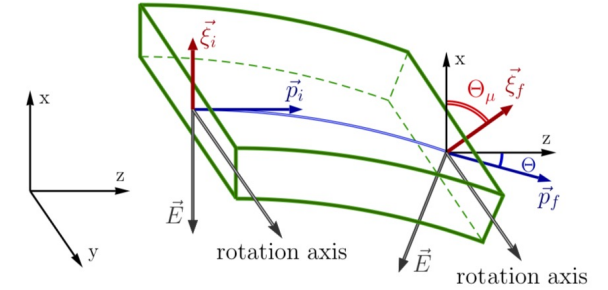
# Polarisation in SMOG

## First polarisation measurement in fixed-target

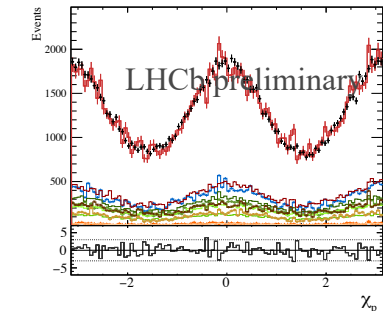
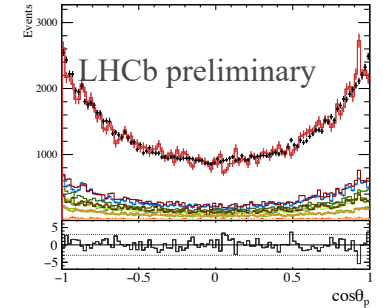
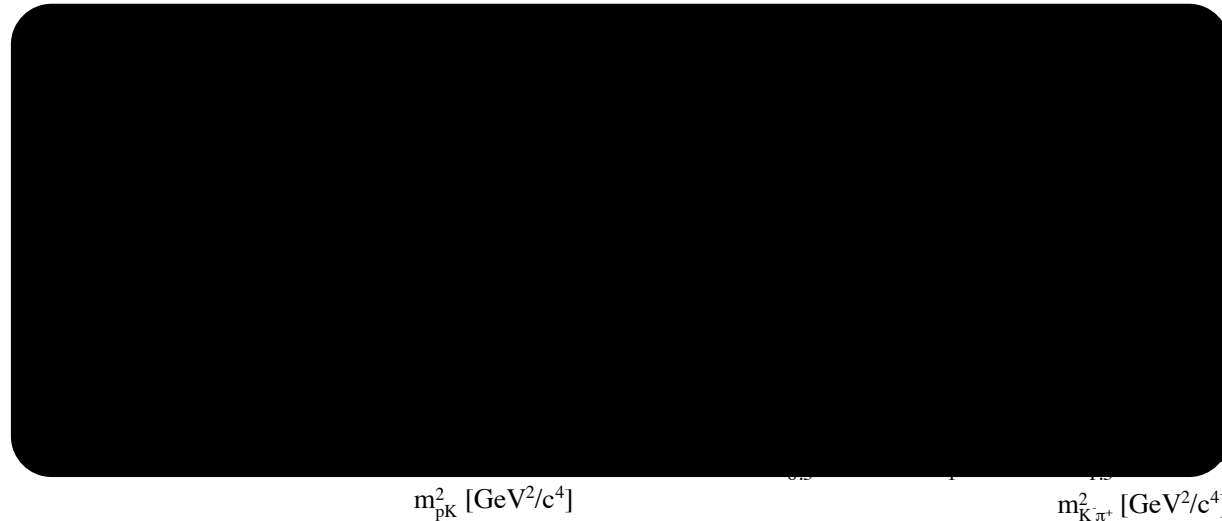
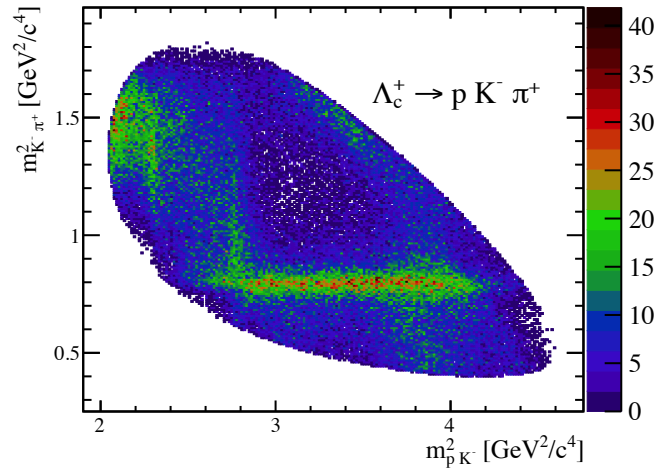
**Why:** Proposal for **MDM measurement** of charm baryons at LHCb.  
 The combined measurements of MDMs of  $\Xi_c^+$  and  $\Lambda_c^+$  can help understand the g-factor of the charm quark

**The idea:** crystal 1 deflect the beam  $\rightarrow$  target + bending crystal

- crystals will be placed upstream of LHCb (used to analyze the decay products)
- already used for  $\Sigma^+$  MDM measurement  $c\tau \sim 2.4 \text{ cm}$  (E761, Fermilab, D.Chen, PhD thesis, SUNY, Albany, 1992).
- For  $\Lambda_c^+$  harder due to shorter  $c\tau \sim 60 \mu\text{m}$
- Preliminary measurement in pp collisions to fix the amplitude model performed



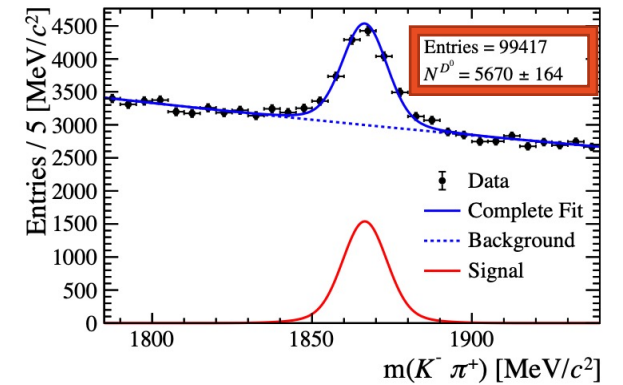
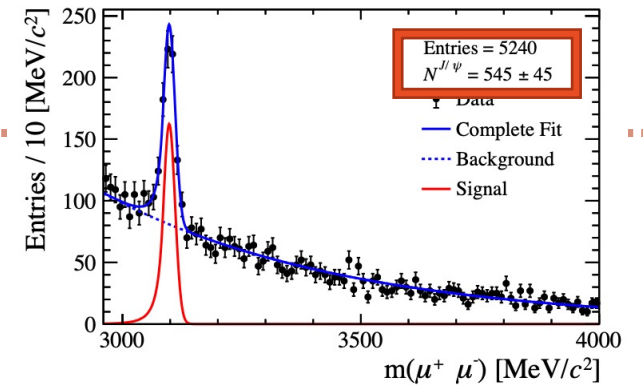
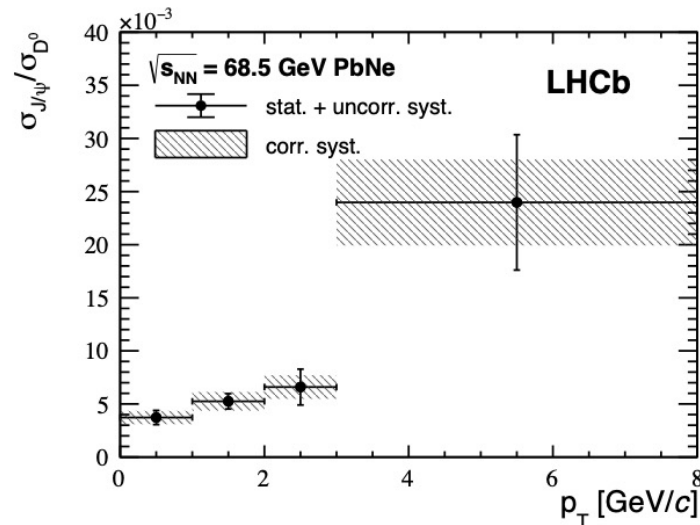
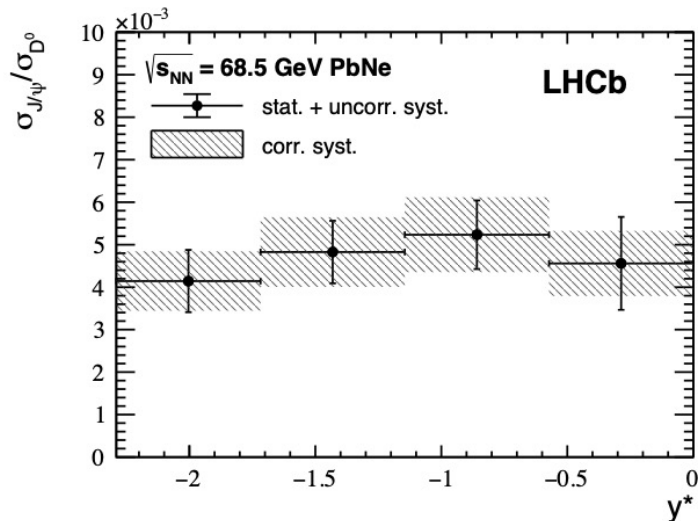
$\Lambda_c^+$  precession in a crystal



# $D^0$ and $J/\psi$ in PbNe collisions

- First measurement of  $J/\psi$  and  $D^0$  in fixed target nucleus-nucleus collisions
- Centrality determined by energy deposit in electromagnetic calorimeter arXiv:2111.01607
- The ratio of  $J/\psi$  over  $D^0$  is evaluated integrated and binned in  $y$ ,  $p_T$ , and  $nSPDHits$ .
- Luminosity measurement still missing, no absolute cross section available yet
- Ratio integrated:

$$\frac{\sigma_{J/\psi}}{\sigma_{D^0}} = (5.1 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-3}$$



- No dependence on rapidity
- Strong dependence on  $p_T$



# Charm in pNe vs PbNe

- Evaluate suppression as a function of the nucleons participating to the collision  $N_{par}$  and the nb of binary nucleon-nucleon collisions  $N_{coll}$  (estimated from Glauber model to the actual data)
- pNe collisions = very peripheral PbNe collisions , ratio in pNe:

$$\frac{\sigma_{J/\psi}}{\sigma_{D^0}} = \blacksquare \pm 0.0005(\text{stat} + \text{uncorr}) \pm 0.0008(\text{corr})$$

- Ratio for PbNe and pNe vs  $N_{coll}$  fitted with a power law:

- $D^0$  not suppressed due to CNM effects or QGP  $\rightarrow \sigma_{AB}^{D^0} \propto N_{coll}$
  - whereas  $J/\psi$  could be  $\rightarrow \sigma_{AB}^{J/\psi} \propto N_{coll}^{\alpha'}$
- $$\left. \begin{array}{l} \sigma_{AB}^{D^0} \propto N_{coll} \\ \sigma_{AB}^{J/\psi} \propto N_{coll}^{\alpha'} \end{array} \right\} \sigma^{J/\psi} / \sigma^{D^0} \propto N_{coll}^{\alpha'-1} \rightarrow$$

$\alpha' = \blacksquare 0.05$   
 $\rightarrow J/\psi$  suppressed by additional nuclear effects compared to  $D^0$

$\sigma_{J/\psi} / \sigma_{D^0}$

10



- product of the mass number of the nuclei A and B:  
pNe = 20 , PbNe = 4160
- $\alpha = \blacksquare 0.04$  close with the v  $\blacksquare$  littérature  $\sim 0.92$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 84 (2000) 3256.  
 Physics Letters B 466 (1999) 408.

The European Physical Journal C -  
 Particles and Fields 33 (2004) 31.

Phys. Lett. B 410 (1997) 337

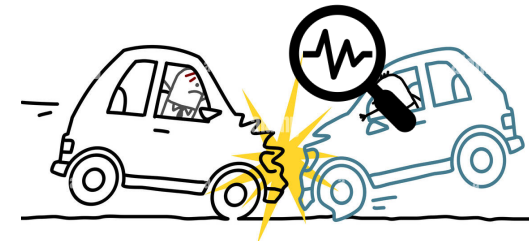
# Conclusions

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- SMOG data have produced unique results and more results are to come!
- Today : Open charm and charmonium production in pNe and PbNe
- Future: charm baryons ( $\Lambda_c^+$  and  $\Xi_c^+$ ) polarization, production cross-section and asymmetry
- SMOG2 successfully installed, first runs are coming soon!



Ready to collide???



# Charmed baryons: $\Lambda_c^+$ at Fermilab E791

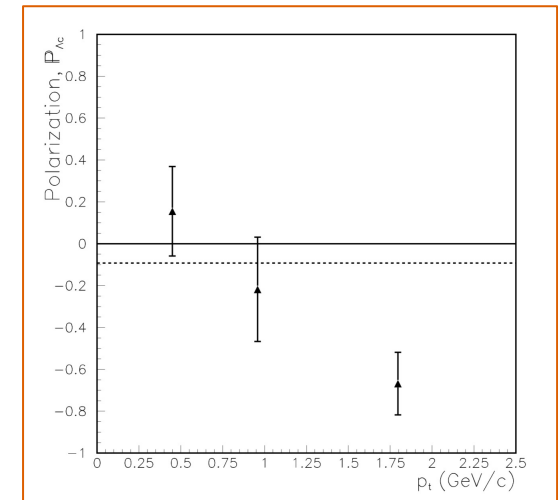
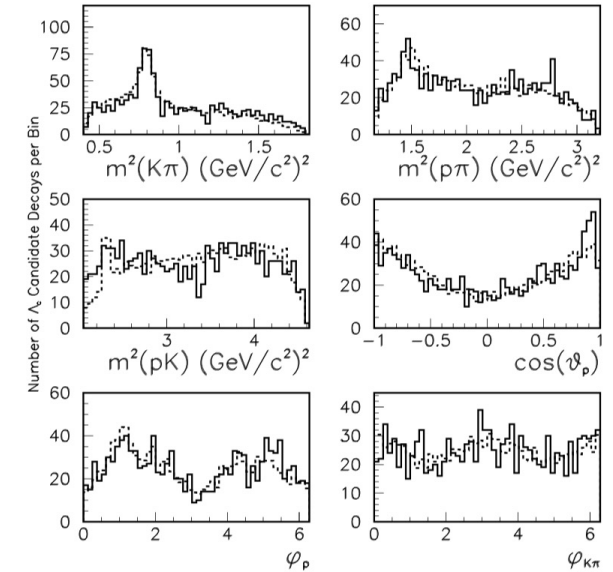
- 1999 Phys.Lett.B471:449-459, 2000
- 500 GeV/c  $\pi^-$  N interactions by Fermilab experiment E791
- First five-dimensional resonant amplitude analysis of  $\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow pK^-\pi^+$  with **946  $\pm$  38** events

$\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+$	non resonant
$\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow (K^* \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) p$	$K^*$ chain
$\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow (\Delta^{++} \rightarrow p \pi^+) K^-$	$\Delta$ chain
$\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow (\Lambda \rightarrow p K^-) \pi^+$	$\Lambda$ chain

$\Lambda_c$  branching ratios relative to the inclusive  $\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow pK^-\pi^+$  branching fraction. The NA32 and ISR values were calculated from one-dimensional projections only.

Mode	E791	NA32[16]	ISR[17]
$p\bar{K}^{*0}(890)$	$0.29 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.03$	$0.35^{+0.06}_{-0.07} \pm 0.03$	$0.42 \pm 0.24$
$\Delta^{++}(1232)K^-$	$0.18 \pm 0.03 \pm 0.03$	$0.12^{+0.04}_{-0.05} \pm 0.05$	$0.40 \pm 0.17$
$\Lambda(1520)\pi$	$0.15 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.02$	$0.09^{+0.04}_{-0.03} \pm 0.02$	
Nonresonant	$0.55 \pm 0.06 \pm 0.04$	$0.56^{+0.07}_{-0.09} \pm 0.05$	

- evidence for an increasingly **negative polarization of the  $\Lambda_c^+$  baryons** as a function of  $p_T$
- Additional data are needed in order to conclusively demonstrate the presence of additional resonances
- Today we know that the amplitude model used by E791 was incomplete



# Moving towards SMOG measurement

- To measure the polarization: fix the helicity couplings to the values obtained in  $pp$  data, let only the polarization vary
- Expected number of  $\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+$  events after cleaning with an handmade selection: **~200-300 signal events**
- Increase of the number of events using machine learning technique to optimise the selection: **~400 signal events**
- Simplified model, not all the resonances seen in  $pp$  data, for now only:  $K^*(890)$ ,  $\Lambda^*(1520)$ ,  $\Delta^{++}(1232)$ .
- Conclusion from toy studies: the measurement can be performed with a **statistical error ~0.12**
- The statistics will be improved during Run 3 thanks to SMOG2: **statistical error ~0.004**, systematic uncertainties will dominate

Table 2: Expected yields of reconstructed events for selected processes using fixed-target data samples acquired with SMOG during the LHC Run 2, and possible with SMOG2 during Run 3 (using as an example the  $pAr$  sample according to the scenario in Table 1).

	SMOG published result $pHe@87$ GeV	SMOG largest sample $pNe@69$ GeV	SMOG2 example $pAr@115$ GeV
Integrated luminosity	$7.6 \text{ nb}^{-1}$	$\sim 100 \text{ nb}^{-1}$	$\sim 45 \text{ pb}^{-1}$
syst. error on $J/\psi$ x-sec.	7%	6 - 7%	2 - 3 %
$J/\psi$ yield	400	15k	15M
$D^0$ yield	2000	100k	150M
$\Lambda_c^+$ yield	20	1k	1.5M
$\psi(2S)$ yield	negl.	150	150k
$\Upsilon(1S)$ yield	negl.	4	7k
Low-mass Drell-Yan yield	negl.	5	9k

Nb signal events	Statistical error
200	0.144
300	0.118
400	0.103
<b>SMOG2</b>	
300 000	0.004

# Initial plan

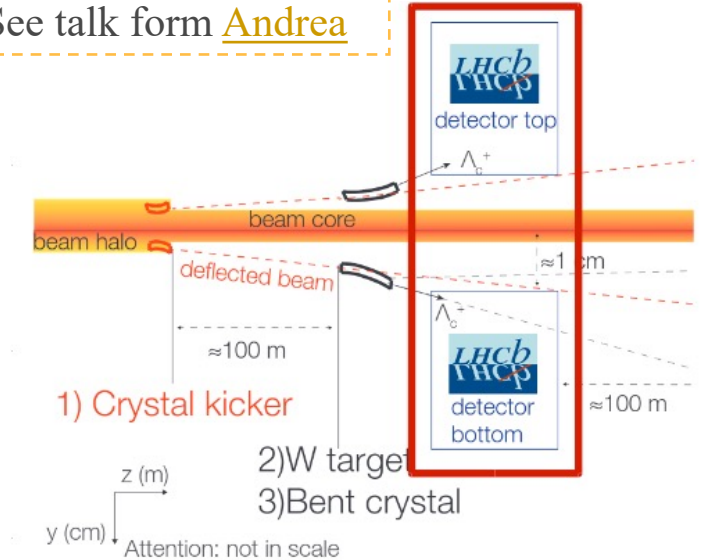
## Measure $\Lambda_c^+$ polarization in the pNe sample (2017) using $\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+$

See talk form [Andrea](#)

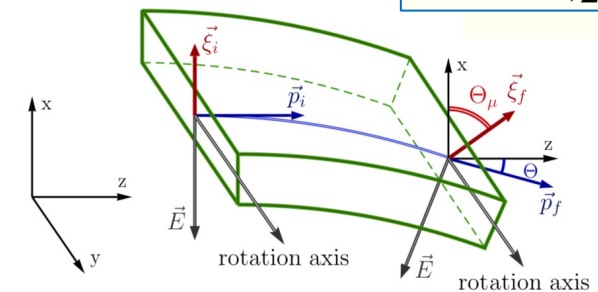
- **Why:** Proposal for MDM and EDM measurement of charm baryons at LHCb. The combined measurements of MDMs of  $\Xi_c^+$  and  $\Lambda_c^+$  can help understand the g-factor of the charm quark
- **The idea:** crystal 1 deflect the beam  $\rightarrow$  target + bending crystal
  - crystals will be placed upstream of LHCb (used to analyse the decay products)
  - already used for  $\Sigma^+$  MDM measurement  $c\tau \sim 2.4 \text{ cm}$  (E761, Fermilab, [D.Chen, PhD thesis, SUNY, Albany, 1992](#)). For  $\Lambda_c^+$  harder due to shorter  $c\tau \sim 60 \mu\text{m}$

$\rightarrow$  Need the polarization in fixed-target collision as input of MDM measurements.

- Fixed-target pNe sample collected at LHCb in 2017 is too small, need to perform a preliminary analysis in the pp collision system to fix the amplitude model and fit the amplitude parameters.
- Final step: use the model obtained in pp collisions to measure the polarization in the fixed-target sample (well advanced)



$$\Theta_\mu \approx \gamma \left( \frac{g}{2} - 1 \right) \Theta$$



$\Lambda_c^+$  precession in a crystal

[LHCb-INT-2017-011](#)  
[JHEP 08 \(2017\)](#)  
[EPJC-C \(80\) \(2019\)](#)  
[EPJC 77 \(2017\)](#)  
[JHEP 1708:120 \(2017\)](#)  
[EPJC 77 \(2017\) 828](#)  
[EPJ.C 80 \(2020\) 10, 929](#)  
[arxiv:2010:11902](#)

# Previous SMOG results

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1. Charm production in  $p\text{Ar}$ ,  $p\text{He}$  collisions Phys. Rev. Lett. 122 (2019) 132002
2. Prompt antiproton in  $p\text{He}$  collisions at 110 GeV Phys. Rev. Lett. 121 (2018) 222001

## New Technical publications

1. A Neural-Network-defined Gaussian Mixture Model for PID with SMOG data JINST 17 (2022) P02018
2. Centrality determination in heavy-ion collisions with the LHCb detector arXiv:2111.01607