Hadronization in small and large systems

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INFN - Sezione di Torino

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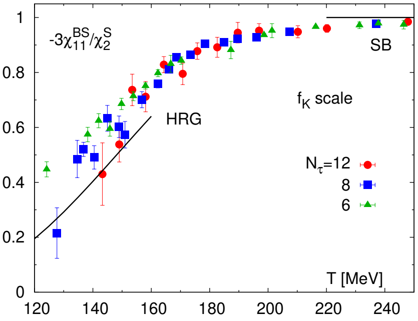
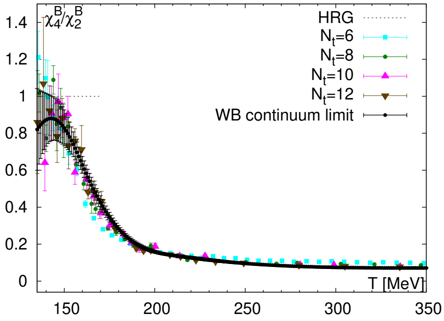
Premise: which are the carriers of conserved charges?





- In the QGP strangeness carried by quarks with $|B|=1/3$, PRD 86, 034509 (2012)
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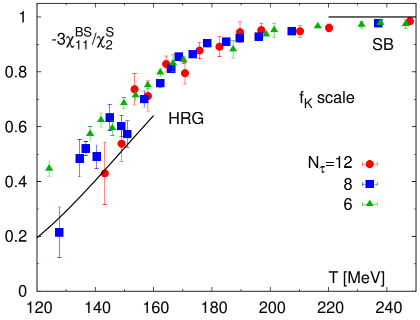

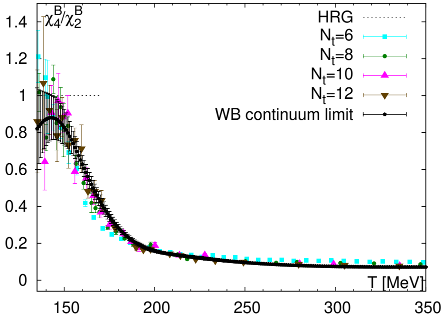

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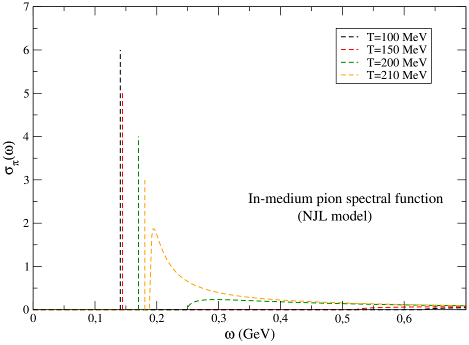
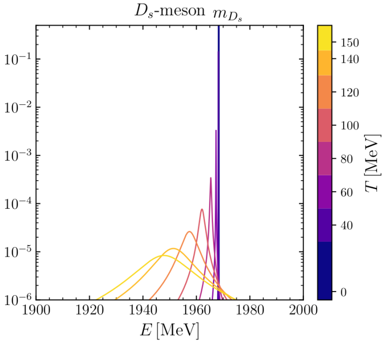
One would expect a sharp change in the nature of these carriers...
However, lQCD data show that also this change is very smooth!

What is a hadron around the QCD crossover?





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- At $T \neq 0$ effective Lagrangians predict much richer structure of hadronic spectral functions (broadening, mass shift), both for light (NJL model) and heavy (non-linear chiral $SU(3)$ model) hadrons[1]

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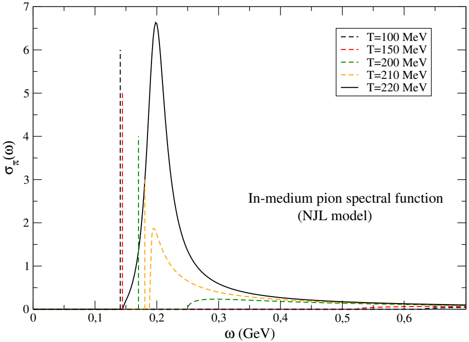

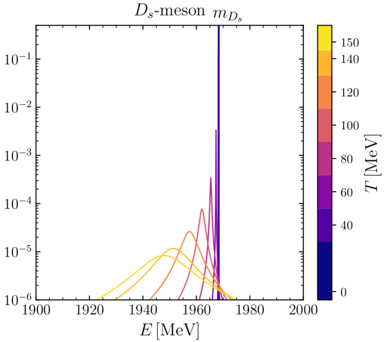

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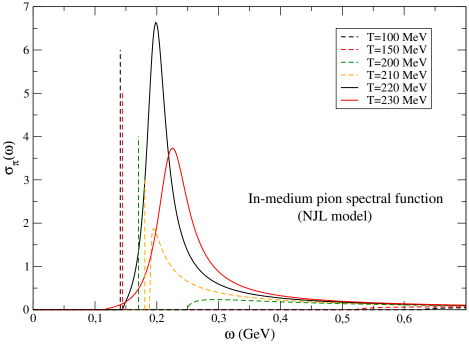

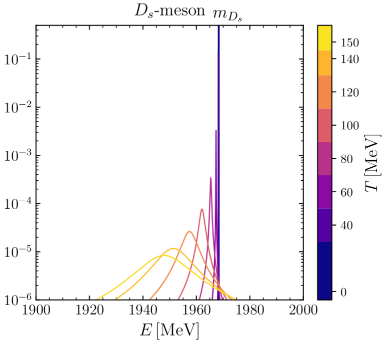

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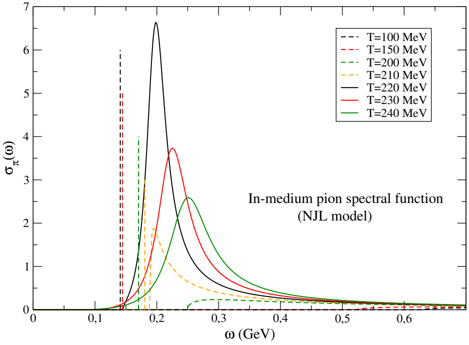

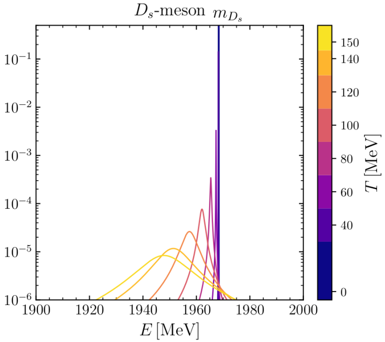

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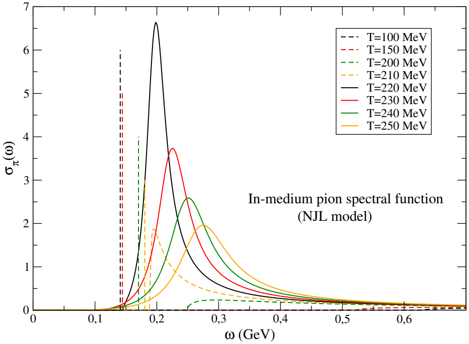

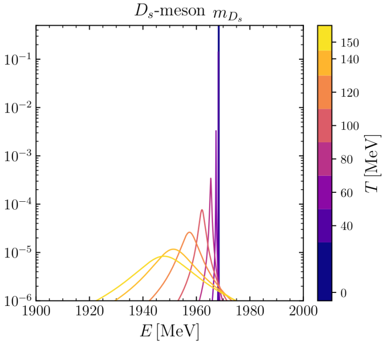

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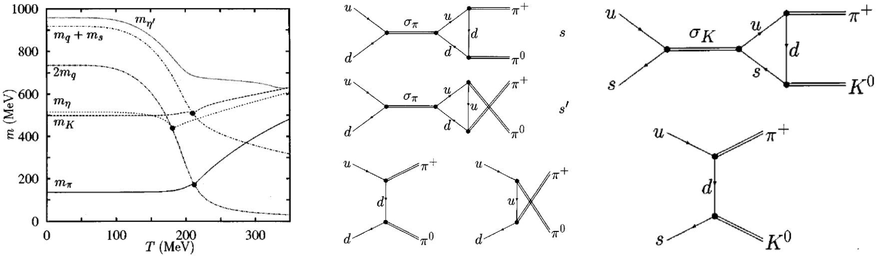
Light sector: hadronization in effective chiral Lagrangians



From $N_f = 2+1$ NJL Lagrangian (P. Rehberg et al, PRC 53 (1995) 410)

- Different Mott temperatures for the different hadrons, below which the decay channel $H \to q_1 + \overline{q}_2$ gets closed (non-universal hadronization temperature?)
- Hadronization, modeled as $q_1 + \overline{q}_2 \to H_1 + H_2$ process (exact *four-momentum conservation* $\neq$ coalescence) , takes time to occur:

$$\tau_u^{-1}(T_H) = \langle\sigma_{u\bar{u}}v\rangle\rho_{\bar{u}} + \langle\sigma_{u\bar{d}}v\rangle\rho_{\bar{d}} + \langle\sigma_{u\bar{s}}v\rangle\rho_{\bar{s}} \approx (2\!-\!3\ \mathrm{fm/c})^{-1}$$
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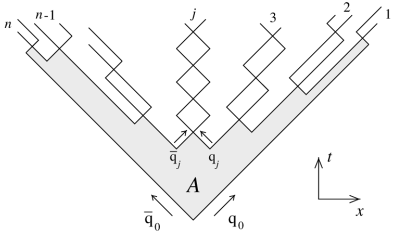
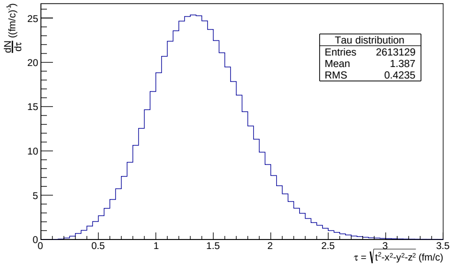
Hadronization does not occur suddenly





Also in string-fragmentation model (PYTHIA) primary hadron production takes time to occur, $\langle\tau\rangle \approx 1.3$ fm/c, however only recently model builders started investigating its implications (S. Ferreres-Solé and T. Sjostrand, EPJC 78 (2018) 11, 983)

- Probably irrelevant in e^+e^- collisions
- Important to consider if a dense medium (big or small), *with its own time scales* (lifetime, interaction rate, expansion rate...), is formed.

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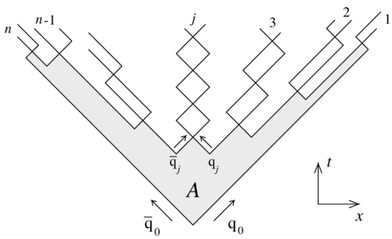

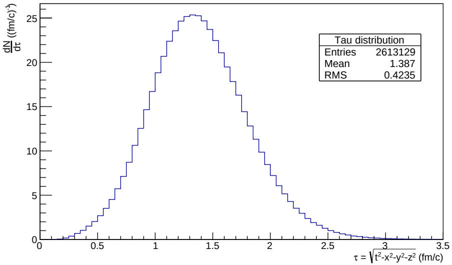

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Notice that in most cases in HIC's hadronization is modeled as an instantaneous process (e.g. Cooper-Frye particlization or standard coalescence approaches)

Hadronization models: common features

Grouping colored partons into color-singlet structures: strings (PYTHIA), clusters (HERWIG), hadrons/resonances (coalescence/recombination).

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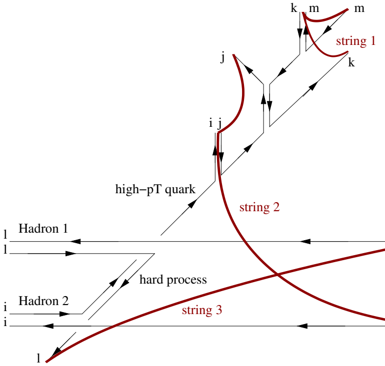

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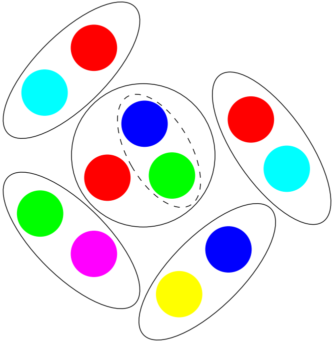
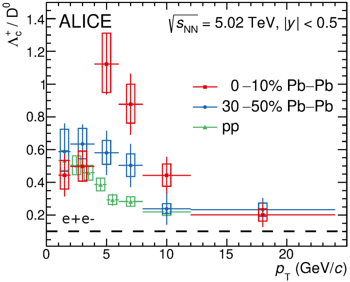


- in "elementary collisions" (what is elementary?): from the hard process, shower stage, underlying event and beam remnants;
- in heavy-ion collisions (only?): from the hot medium produced in the collision. NB Involved partons closer in space in this case and this has deep consequence!

Why the title of this talk?



- Strong enhancement of charmed baryon/meson ratio *both in AA and pp collisions*, incompatible with hadronization models tuned to reproduce e^+e^- data.

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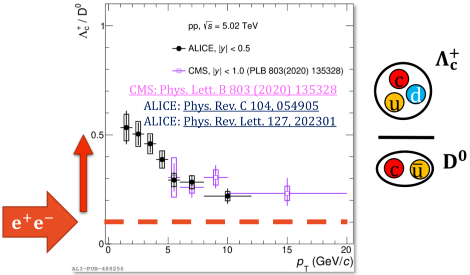

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$$d\sigma_h \neq \sum_{a,b,X} f_a(x_1)\, f_b(x_2) \otimes d\hat{\sigma}_{ab\to c\bar{c}X} \otimes D_{c\to h_c}(z)$$

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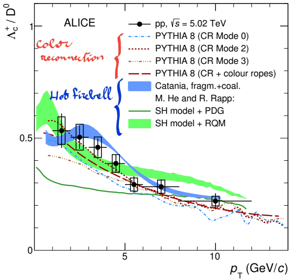

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- Recent theory attempts to explain the data either based on Color Reconnection (CR) or on the formation of a small fireball: really different pictures?

Non-universality of hadronization: not the first observation

Breaking of factorization already observed in fixed target experiments at Fermilab and SPS (e.g. $\pi^- + p$ collisions) in the production of charmed hadrons sharing a valence (di-)quark with the beam or target remnant (D^-/D^+, D_s^-/D_s^+, $\Lambda_c^+/\overline{\Lambda}_c^-$)

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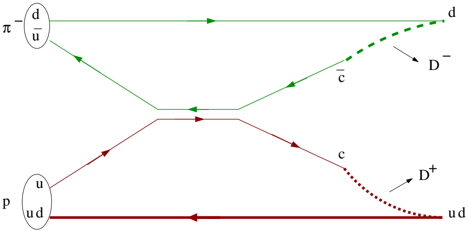

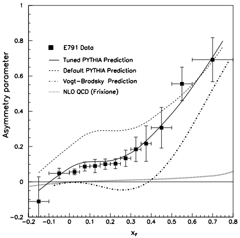

Second endpoint boosts the string along the direction of the beam-remnant (*beam-drag effect*), leading to an asymmetry in the rapidity distribution of D^-/D^+ mesons

$$A = \frac{\sigma_{D^-} - \sigma_{D^+}}{\sigma_{D^-} + \sigma_{D^+}}$$

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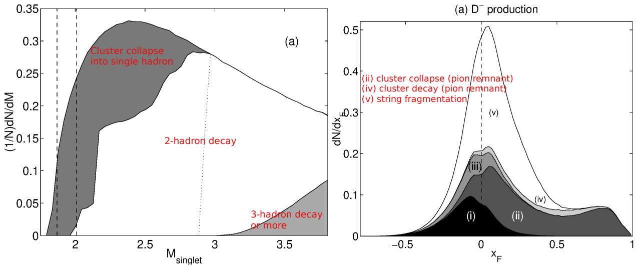

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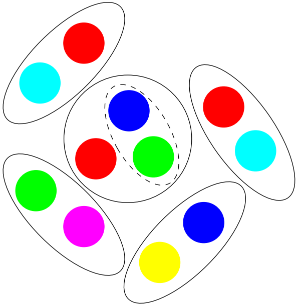
Major contribution to asymmetry from collapse of a *very light cluster* into a single hadron (E. Norbin and T. Sjostrand, PLB 442 (1998) 407 and EPJC 17 (2000) 137)!

Local Color Neutralization (LCN): basic ideas



Both in AA and pp collisions a big/small deconfined fireball is formed. Around the QCD crossover temperature quarks undergoes recombination with the *closest* opposite color-charge (antiquark or diquark, favoring baryon production).

- Why? screening of color-interaction, minimization of energy stored in confining potential
- Implication: recombination of particles *from the same fluid cell* $\longrightarrow$ Space-Momentum Correlation (SMC), recombined partons tend to share a common collective velocity

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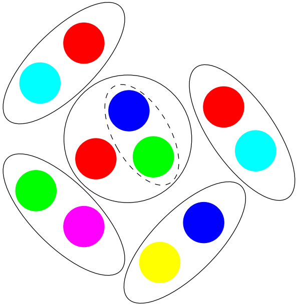

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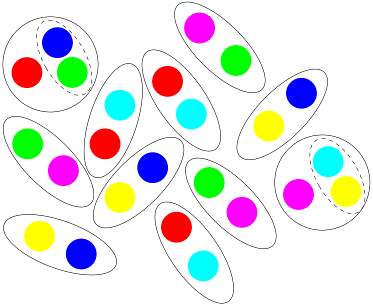
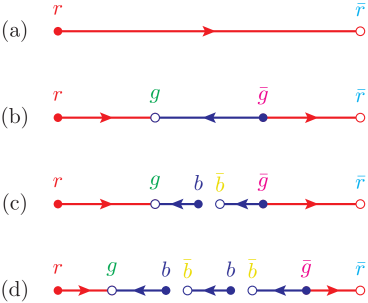
Color-singlet structures are thus formed, eventually undergoing decay into the final hadrons: $2 \to 1 \to N$ process, usually a charmed hadron plus a very soft particle

- Exact four-momentum conservation;
- No direct bound-state formation, hence no need to worry about overlap between the final hadron and the parent parton wave-functions

Implementation of global conservation laws

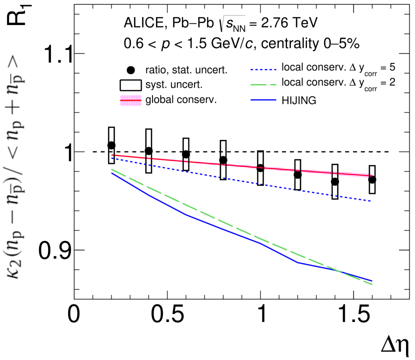


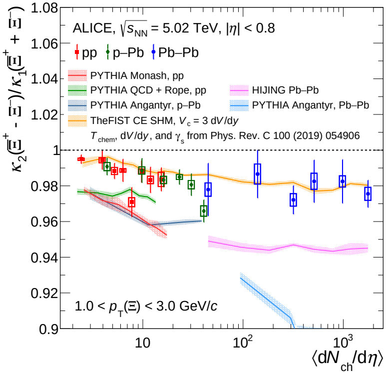


- In LCN and similar *recombination approaches* baryon number (and other charges as well) can be conserved over a very large volume;
- On the other hand in PYTHIA string-breaking (and possibly pop-corn) mechanism charge conservation occurs *locally*[2]

[2] L. Lonnblad and H. Shah, EPJC 83 (2023) 12, 1105

Global conservation of charges: experimental results

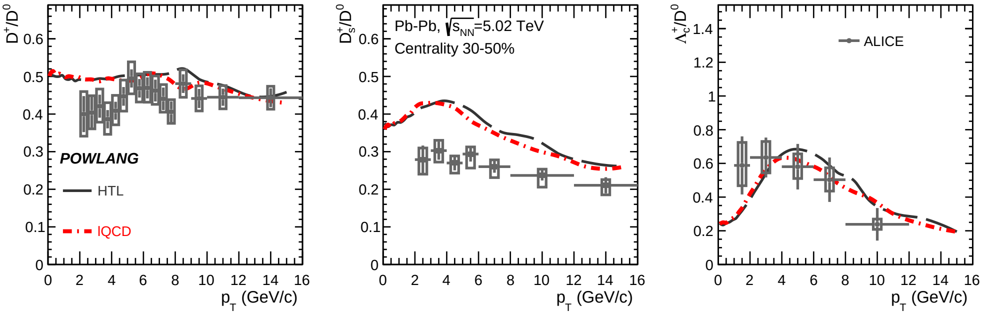




Normalized net-particle cumulants favour charge conservation (e.g. B, S) over a very big *correlation volume*[3]

[3] ALICE Coll. PLB 807 (2020) 135564 and 2405.19890

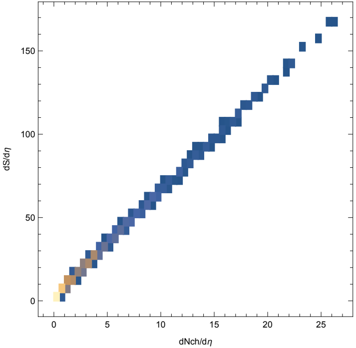
LCN: results in AA collisions

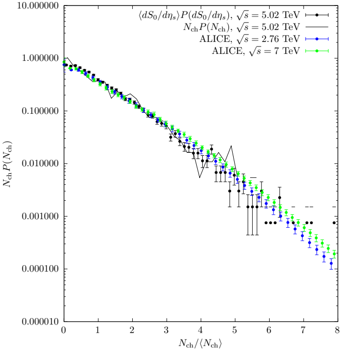


- Enhanced HF baryon-to-meson ratios up to intermediate p_T nicely reproduced, thanks to formation of *small invariant-mass* charm+diquark clusters[4]
- Smooth approach to e^+e^- limit ($\Lambda_c^+/D^0 \approx 0.1$) at high p_T: high-M_c clusters fragmented as Lund strings, as in the vacuum

[4] A.B. et al., EPJC 82 (2022) 7, 607

Addressing pp collisions...





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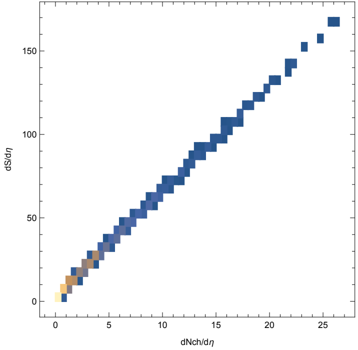

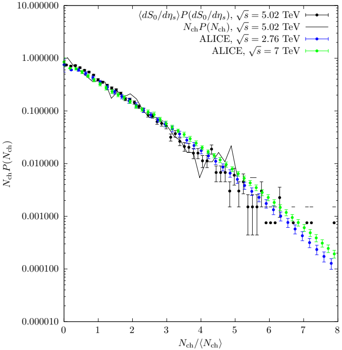

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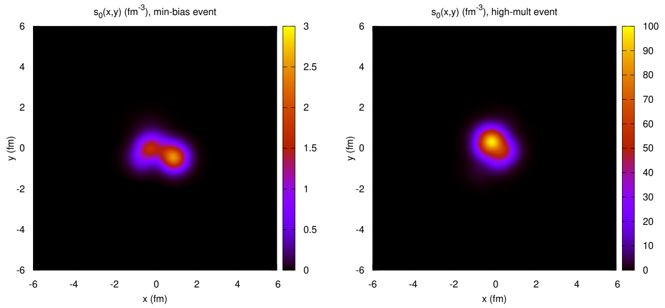

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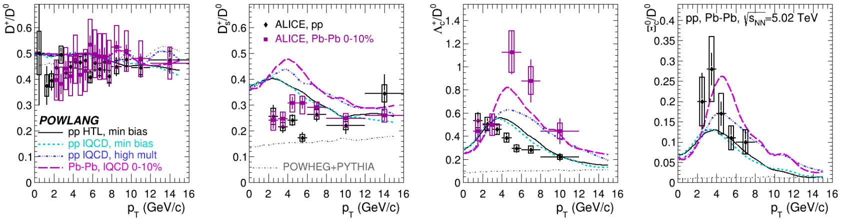
- Perfect correlation between initial entropy (dS/dy) and final particle multiplicity ($dN_{\rm ch}/d\eta$), $S \approx 7.2 N_{\rm ch}$. $P(N_{\rm ch})$ satisfying KNO scaling nicely reproduced;
- Samples of 10^3 minimum-bias ($\langle dS/dy \rangle_{\rm mb} \approx 37.6$, tuned to experimental $\langle dN_{\rm ch}/d\eta \rangle$) and high-multiplicity ($\langle dS/dy \rangle_{0-1\%} \approx 187.5$) events used to simulate HQ transport and hadronization.

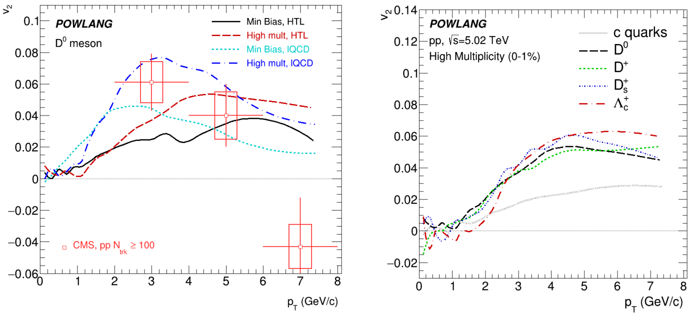


First results for particle ratios[5]:

- POWHEG+PYTHIA standalone strongly underpredicts baryon-to-meson ratio
- Enhancement of charmed baryon-to-meson ratio *qualitatively* reproduced if propagation+hadronization in a small QGP droplet is included
- Multiplicity dependence of radial-flow peak position (just a reshuffling of the momentum, without affecting the yields): $\langle u_\perp \rangle^{\rm mb}_{\rm pp} \approx 0.33$, $\langle u_\perp \rangle^{\rm hm}_{\rm pp} \approx 0.53$, $\langle u_\perp \rangle^{0-10\%}_{\rm PbPb} \approx 0.66$

[5] In collaboration with D. Pablos, A. De Pace, F. Prino et al., PRD 109 (2024) 1, L011501

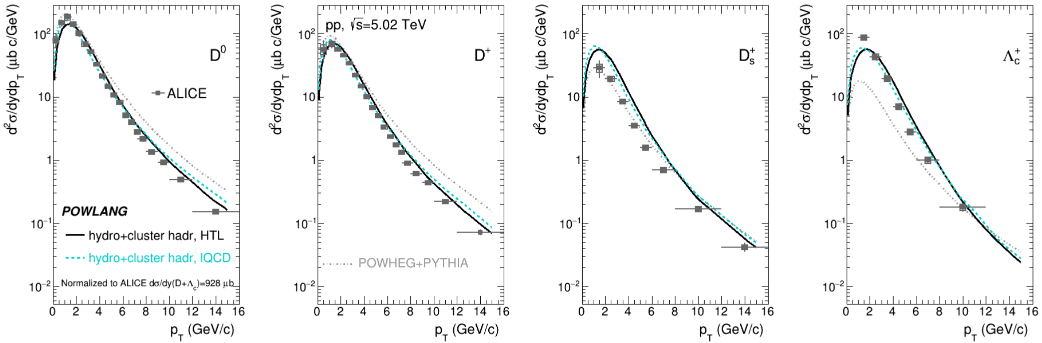
Results in pp: elliptic flow



Response to initial elliptic eccentricity ($\langle\epsilon_2\rangle^{\rm mb}\approx\langle\epsilon_2\rangle^{\rm mh}\approx 0.31$) $\longrightarrow$ non-vanishing v_2 coefficient

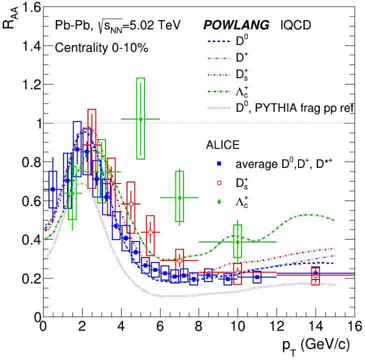
- Differences between minimum-bias and high-multiplicity results only due to longer time spent in the fireball ($\langle\tau_H\rangle^{\rm mb}\approx 1.95$ fm/c vs $\langle\tau_H\rangle^{\rm hm}\approx 2.92$ fm/c)
- Mass ordering at low p_T ($M_{qq} > M_q$)
- Sizable fraction of v_2 acquired at hadronization

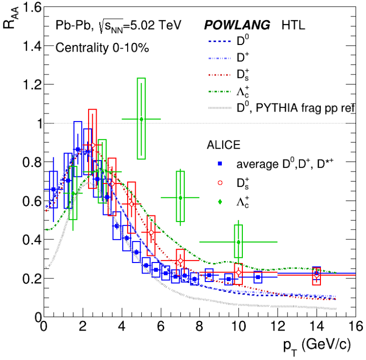
Relevance to quantify nuclear effects



- Slope of the spectra in pp collisions better described including medium effects

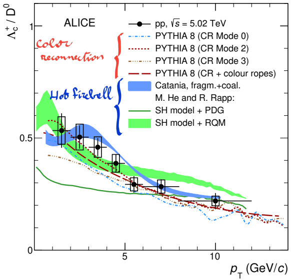
Relevance to quantify nuclear effects





- Slope of the spectra in pp collisions better described including medium effects
- Inclusion of medium effects in minimum-bias pp benchmark fundamental to better describe charmed hadron R_{AA}, both the radial-flow peak and the species dependence

Looking for alternative (?) explanations: Color Reconnection (CR)



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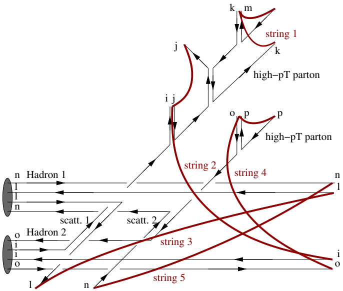

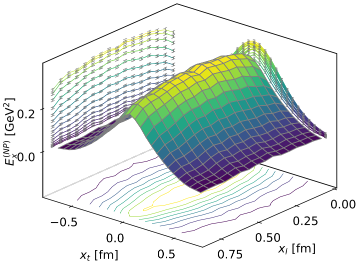

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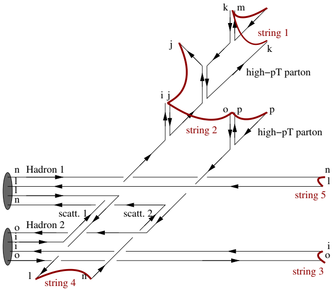

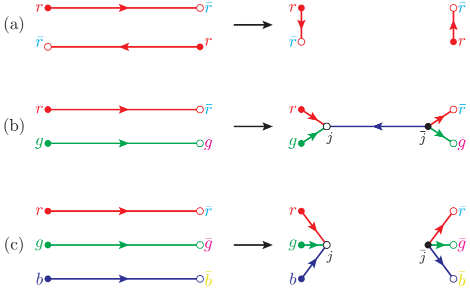

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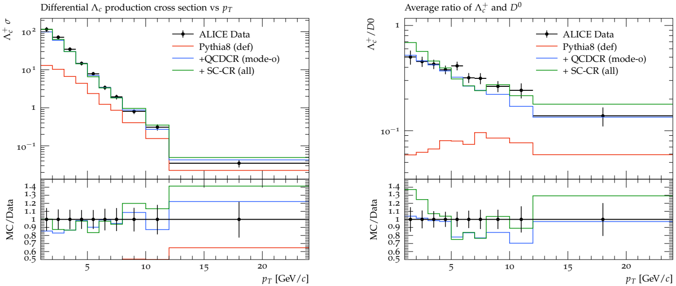

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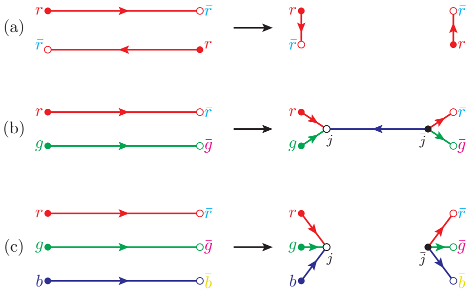

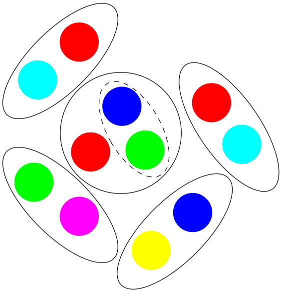

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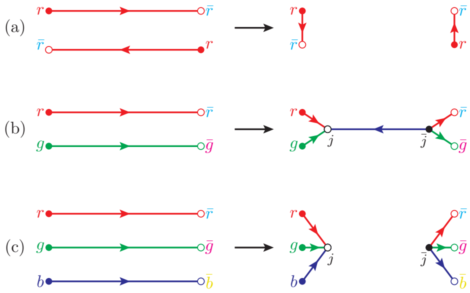

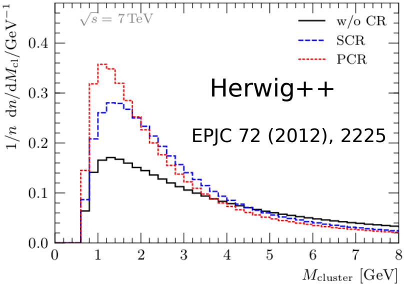

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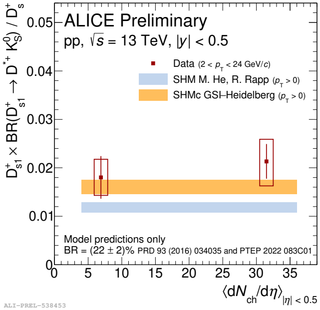
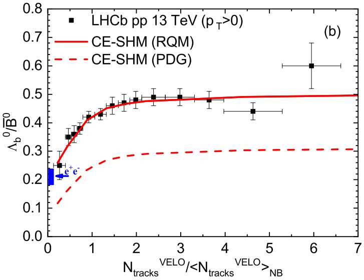
HF statistical hadronization





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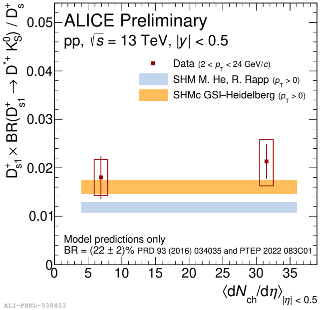

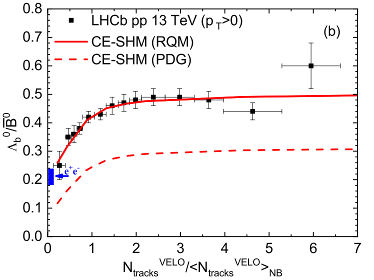

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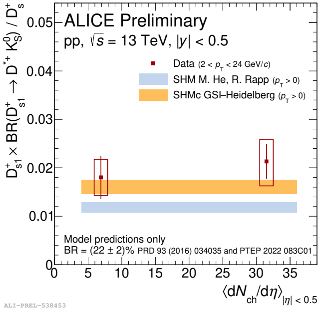

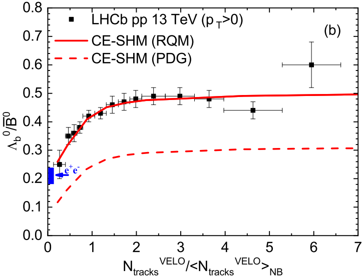

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- A cross-fertilization between different communities will be welcome (lattice-QCD, QCD event generators, nuclear physics...) and necessary to achieve a deeper understanding of hadronization