



Future facilities: SPS

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HP2024
NAGASAKI

MB 231

focus on hard
and em probes

Future facilities: SPS ✓

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The Super Proton Synchrotron @ CERN

3

- First proton beams in 1976



CERN LIBRARIES, GENEVA



CM-P00081587

CERN/1236
Original: English
1 September 1976

ORGANISATION EUROPÉENNE POUR LA RECHERCHE NUCLÉAIRE
CERN EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH

FIFTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

Geneva - 17 June 1976

4. PROGRESS REPORTS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL BY THE DIRECTORS-GENERAL (Item 4 of the Agenda) (CERN/1225, CERN/1225/Corr.)

- Oral Presentation by Dr Adams

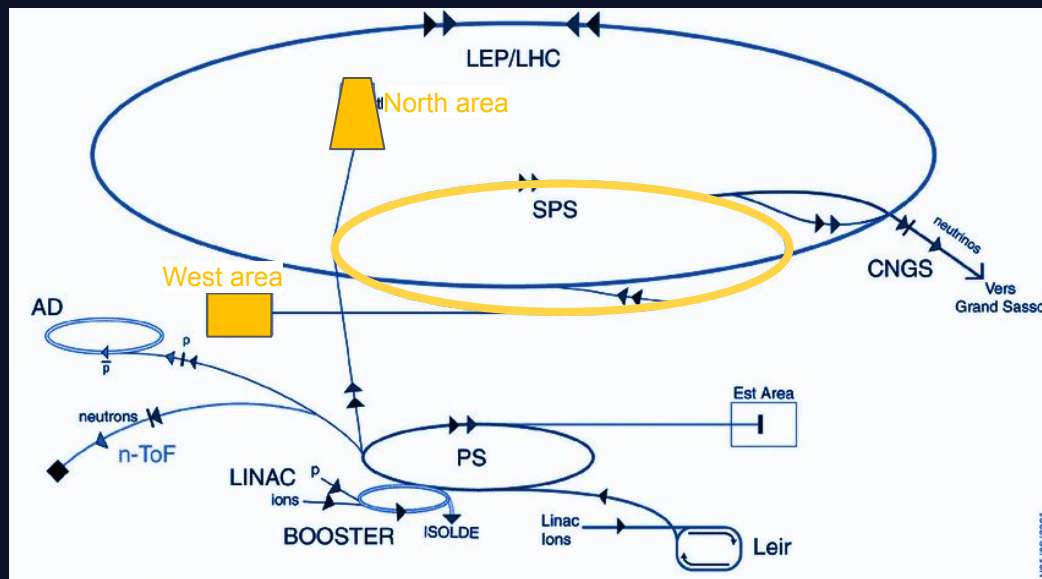
The Council agreed that the SPS could now proceed to energies above 300 GeV.**

** The SPS reached 400 GeV energy with an intensity of 10^{12} pp at 15.35 hours.

The Super Proton Synchrotron @ CERN

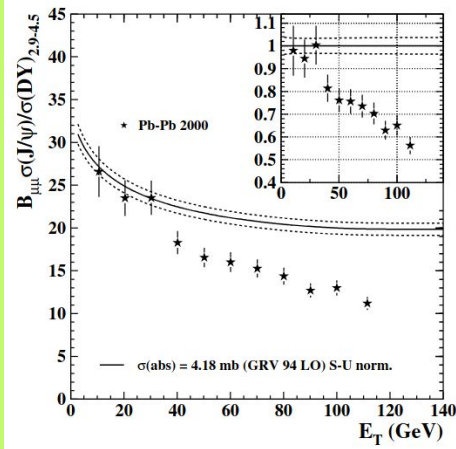
4

- First proton beams in 1976
- First CERN cross-border accelerator
- Multi-purpose accelerator:
 - proton and antiprotons (also as a collider)
 - electrons and positrons as injector for LEP
 - LHC injector (p from 26 to 450 GeV)
 - heavy-ions (since 1986)
 - wide energy range for fixed-target experiments: $6 < \sqrt{s_{NN}} < 17$ GeV
 - high luminosity ion beams, up to 10^6 - 10^7 s⁻¹
 - numerous beam lines and experimental areas



First SPS results on hard/em probes

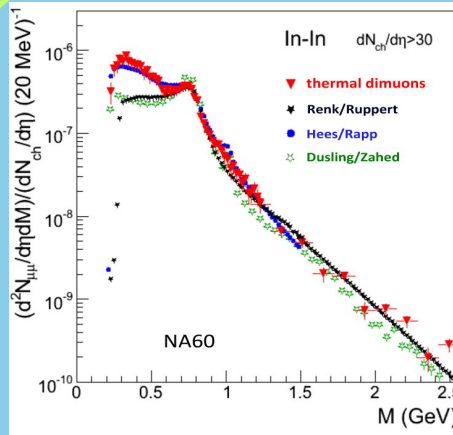
NA50



NA50 Coll., EPJ.C39:335,2005

Discovery of the
anomalous J/ψ
suppression

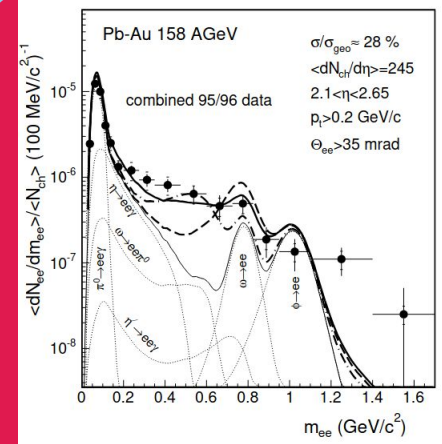
NA60



NA60 Coll., EPJ.C59:607,2009

First evidence of $T > T_c$ via
thermal dimuons

CERES



CERES Coll., EPJ.C41:475,2005

Observation of the ρ
spectral function
modification

Very rich “past” SPS program

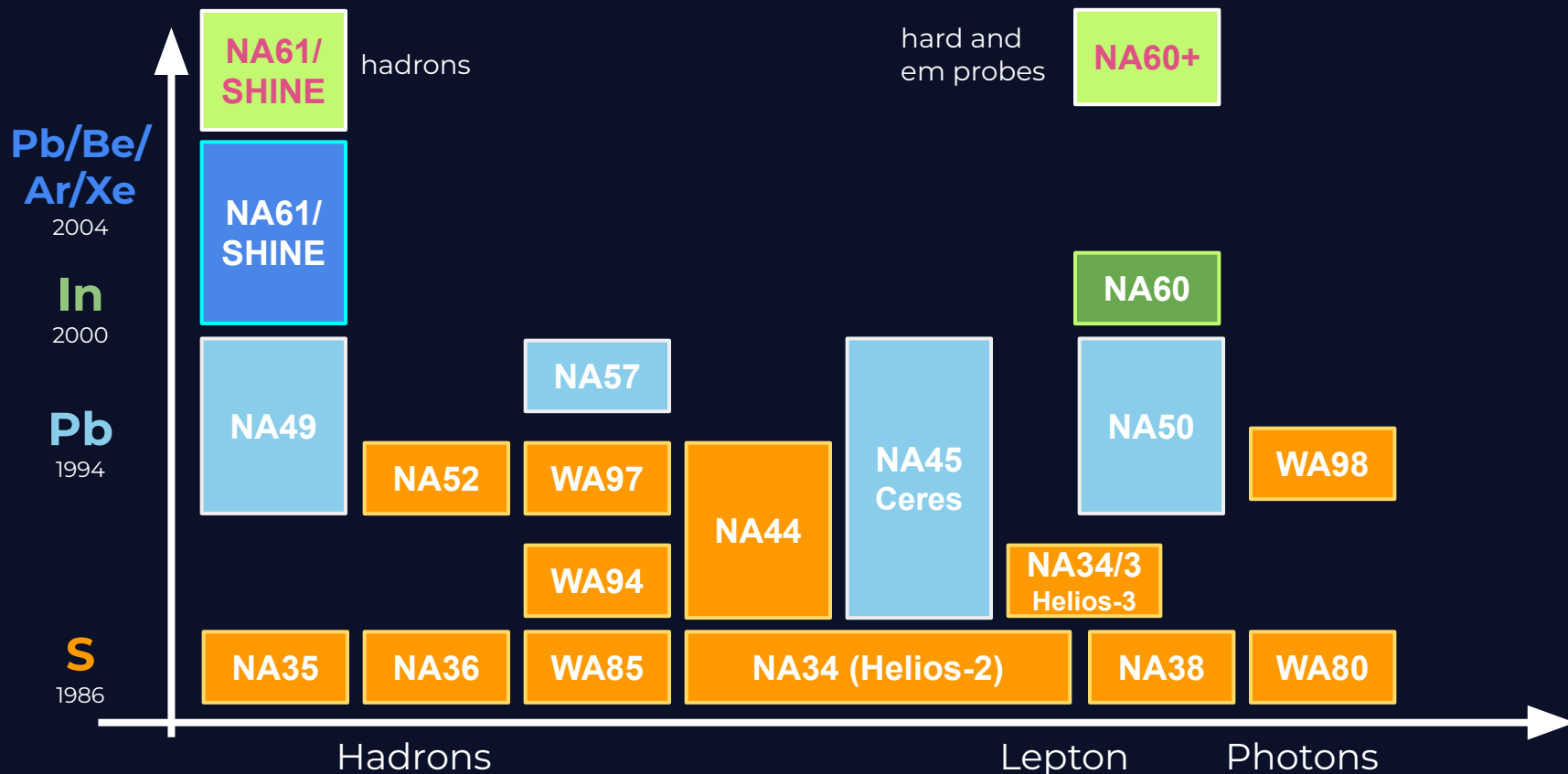
- most of the hard/em results obtained only at top SPS energy
- high accuracy not yet surpassed in many observables



A systematic study of hard/em probes with a beam energy scan at SPS will

- allow the exploration of the high μ_B region
- provide results complementary to RHIC and LHC measurements

Future HI experiments at SPS



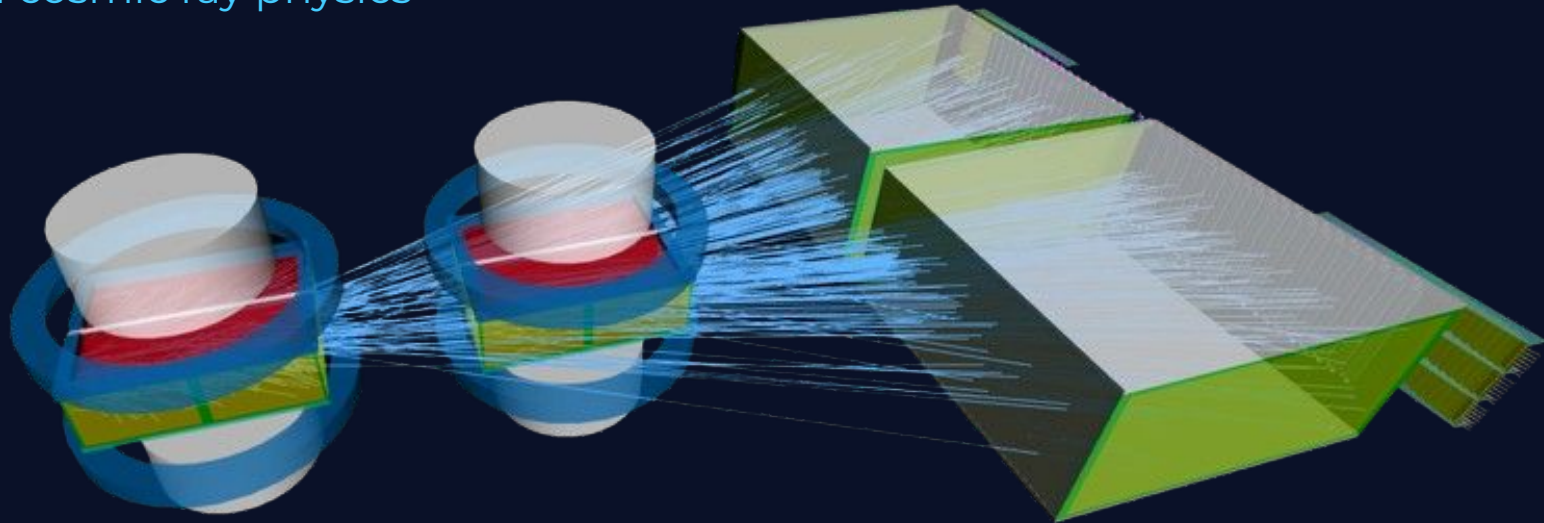
(E. Scomarini, HP2023)



1936 - 2024

Multi-purpose experiment exploring hadron production since 2009

- study the properties of the onset of deconfinement and fireball
 - search for critical point
 - measurement of open charm
 - neutrino and cosmic ray physics
- ➔
- energy scan with light ions for phase diagram studies
 - large statistics PbPb interactions for charm studies

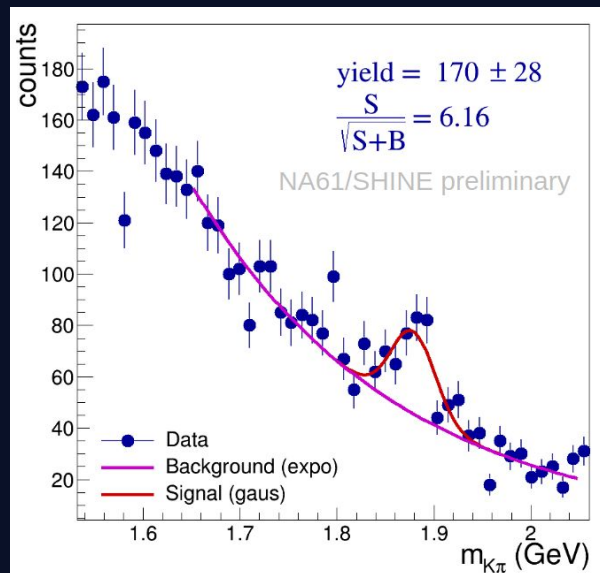


First direct charm measurement

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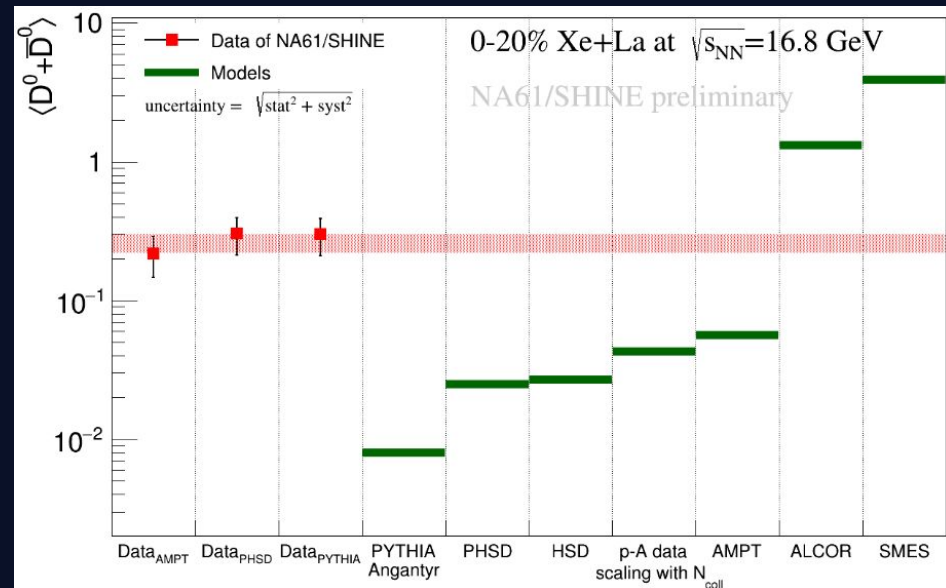
D reconstructed in the $K\pi$ decay channel in 0-20% Xe-La @ 150A GeV

(1.9M events, 2017 data)



First direct open charm observation at SPS, significance better than 5

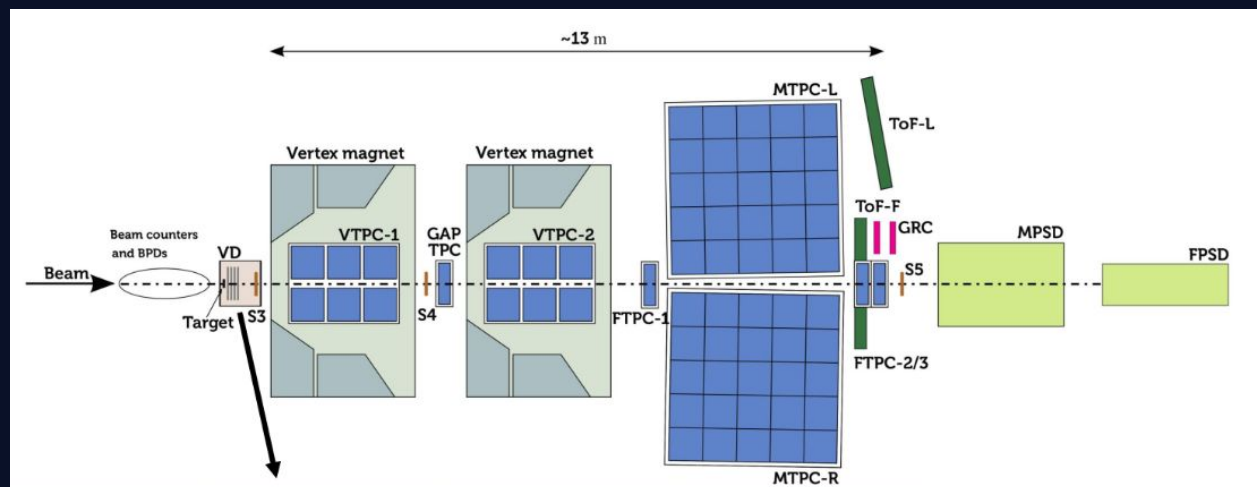
Anastasia Merzlaya, Mon Parallel 2



- data precision is sufficient to discriminate between extreme model predictions
- results are above pA extrapolation by 2-3 σ

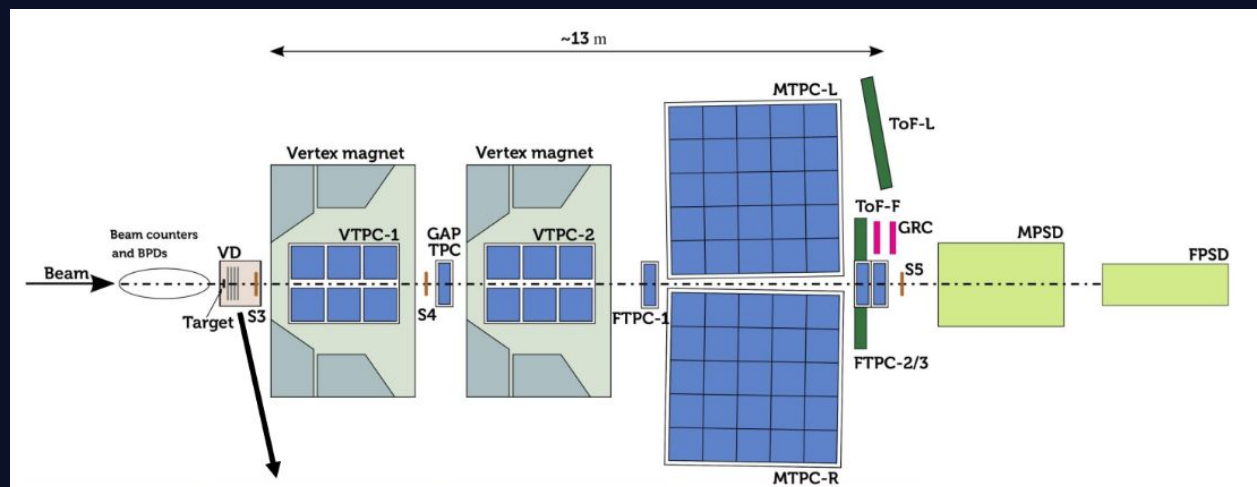
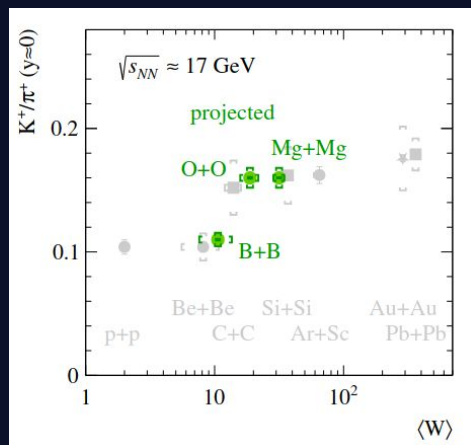
Detector significantly upgraded in LS2, already in data taking since 2022

- new VT detector, with ALPIDE pixel sensors
- upgrade of the TPC readout electronics and DAQ
- data taking ~ 1 kHz rate



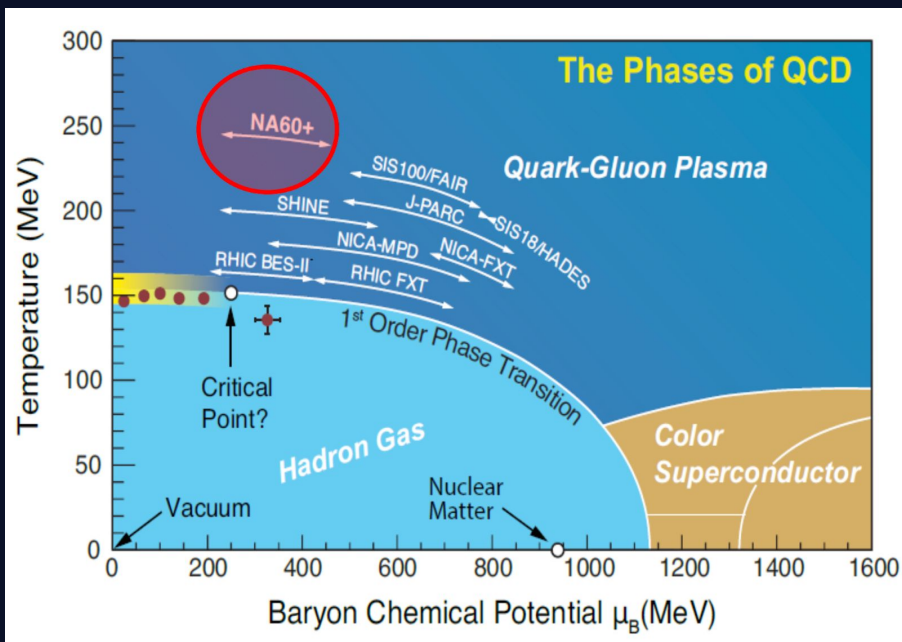
➔ open charm will be studied in PbPb @ 150 GeV/c
 ~ 180 M PbPb events collected in 2022+23

No further upgrade needed for post-LS3



- ➔ Light beam energy scan: ^4Mg , ^{16}O , ^{10}B beams at 13, 30, 150A GeV/c, to investigate signals of the onset of deconfinement (addendum submitted to SPSC SPSC-P-330-ADD-14)
- ➔ Future upgrade beyond : replace a VTPCs with a fast Si tracker
 - at least a 10-fold increase of the readout speed
 - charm-correlation studies might be feasible

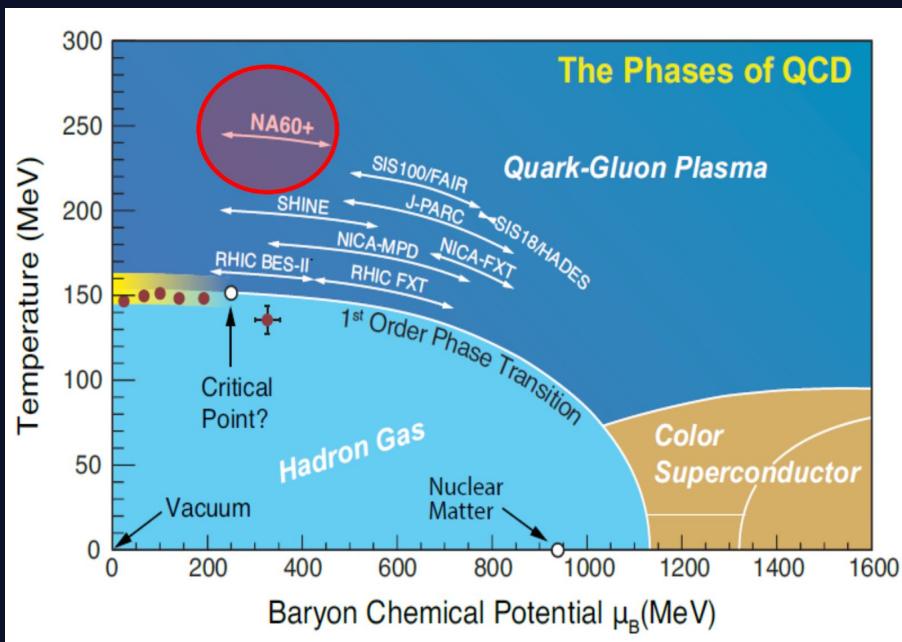
aims to explore the QCD phase diagram at high baryon chemical potential (μ_B)



NA60+ will perform precision studies of hard and electromagnetic processes

- accessing muon pair production from threshold up to $m_{\mu\mu} \sim 4 \text{ GeV}/c^2$:
 - dilepton continuum
 - low mass resonances
 - quarkonia
- measuring hadronic decays of strange and charm hadrons and hypernuclei

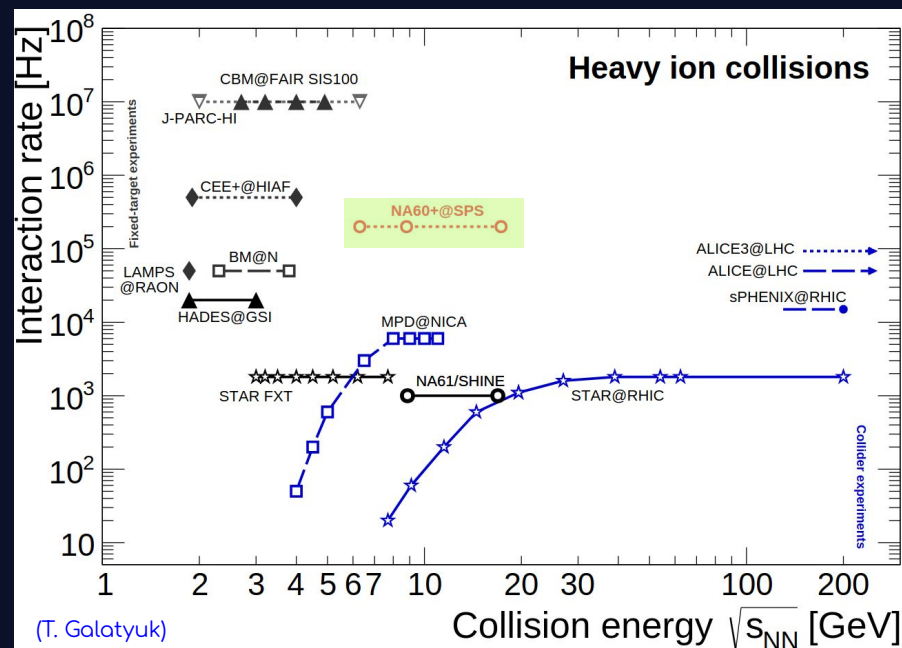
aims to explore the QCD phase diagram at high baryon chemical potential (μ_B)



NA60+ will perform precision studies of **hard and electromagnetic processes**

- via a **beam energy scan** between $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 6 - 17$ GeV, to access the μ_B region $\sim 220 - 550$ MeV
- exploiting **large luminosities**, needed for rare QGP probes studies
 - PbPb interactions rates $> 10^5$ Hz, reachable with 10^6 Pb/s in a fixed target environment

- NA60+ is unique, for energy coverage AND interaction rate, in the heavy-ion landscape
- NA60+ is complementary to experiments accessing:
 - different (hadronic) observables in the same energy range (STAR BES, NICA, NA61)
 - similar observables in a lower energy range (CBM)



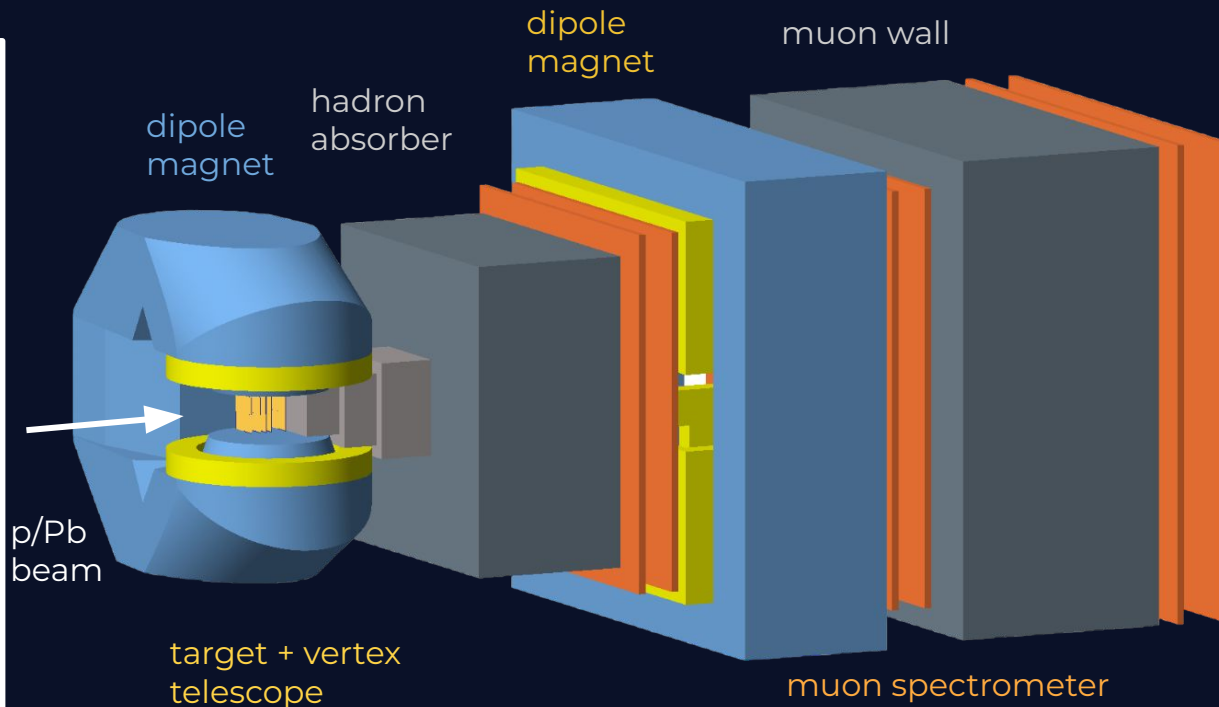
Setup inspired by the former NA60 detector:

- muon spectrometer
- vertex spectrometer

To be installed in the H8 beam line at SPS

Energy/systems:

- Pb-Pb and p-A collisions
- energy scan: $6 < \sqrt{s} < 17 \text{ GeV}/c$
($20 < E_{\text{lab}} < 158 \text{ GeV}/c$)





Reconstruction framework

Beam studies

- planning HI and p beams
- test beams

MS magnet

- toroidal magnet
- MNP33 magnet

MS chambers

- beam test of first prototype
- second prototype

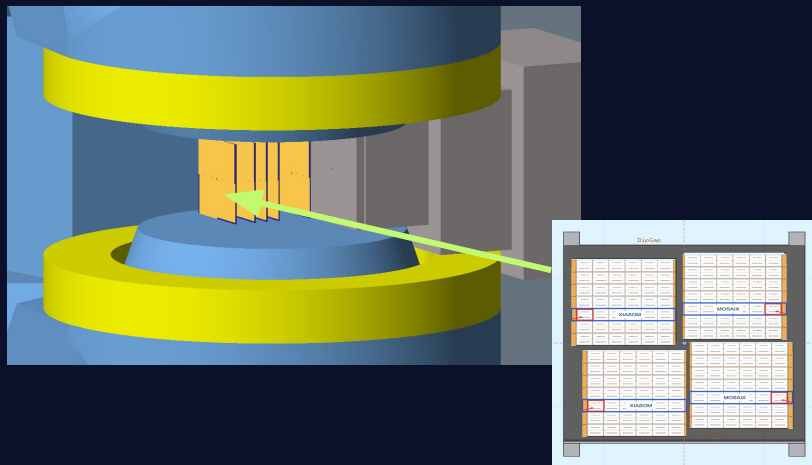
Vertex Telescope

- design of the sensor
- mechanics and cooling



The vertex telescope

5 planes of MAPS detectors inside the VT dipole (MEP48)



realistic sensor floorplan available (13.6×13.7 cm²)

- MOSAIX with 6 stitched RSU (25 mm long units)
- 7 MOSAIX replicated vertically

(almost) final sensor prototype expected in 2025

synergy with ALICE ITS3

→ first large area stitched sensor (MOSS) tested

Sasha Milov, Tue Parallel 20

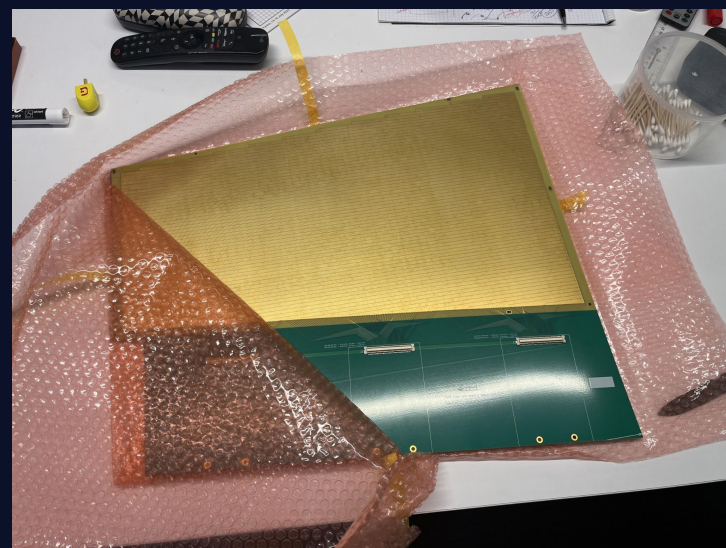
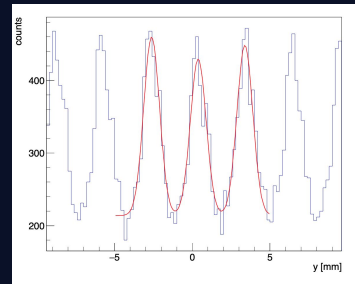
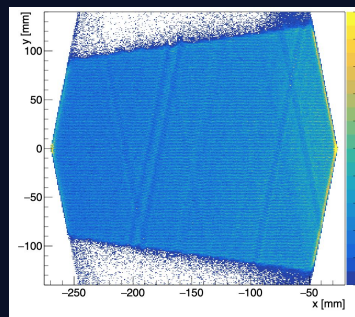
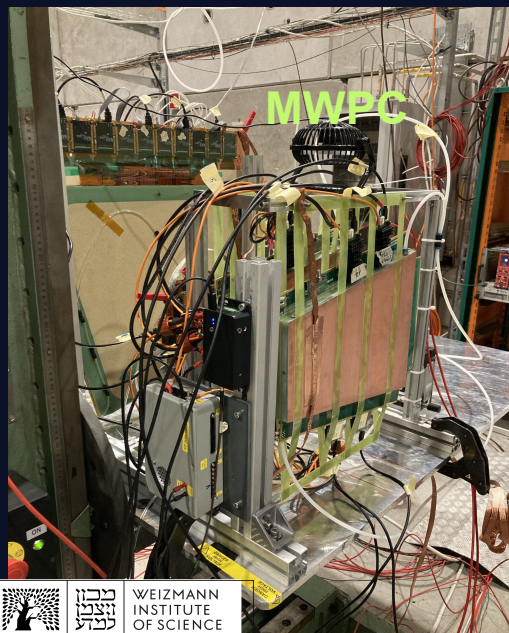
The Muon Spectrometer chambers

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GEM or MWPC → can match the expected rates of charged particles (2 kHz/cm^2)

Prototype 1 characterised in a Pb test beam at CERN (Fall 23)

Prototype 2 to be used in the Pb test beam at CERN (Fall 24)



- New optimized design
- Real electronics (USTC)

The dipole magnet MNP33

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A new opportunity: the NA62 dipole **MNP33** will become available in LS3



MNP33 looks very promising

- Potential significant simplification of integration of NA60+ in H8
 - more compact setup
- Cost reduction of NA60+ project by ~3 M€
- Detailed simulations to assess the physics performances on-going

- Iron yokes: 2.40 m x 3.20 m
- Integrated field: 0.864 T m, similar to that of the toroid

Planning of HI and p beams quickly converging

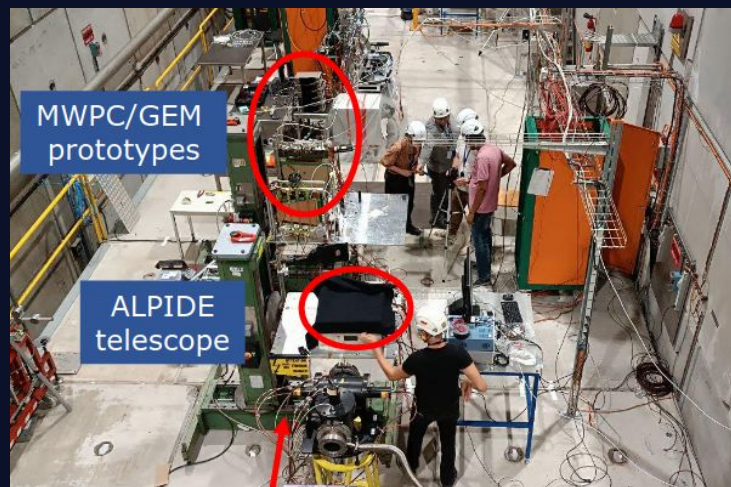


- to achieve 10^{12} Pb on target, in 1 month at all energies
- to collect pA at the same energy ($\sim 5\text{-}6 \times 10^8$ p/spill)

Very stringent beam requests at all energies



- high-intensity (10^7 Pb/spill)
- very focussed sub-mm beam (vertex spectrometer has 6 mm hole)

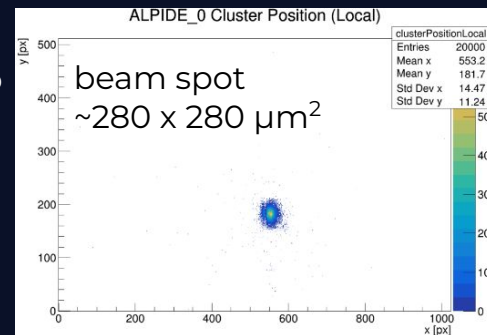


Beam optics studies ongoing:

up to 2.4×10^5 Pb/s at 150 GeV (25% of expected NA60+ intensity)

Second high intensity test in Fall 2024:

- reach 10^6 Pb/s
- low energy (15 AGeV) Pb beam, with larger emittance



Track reconstruction

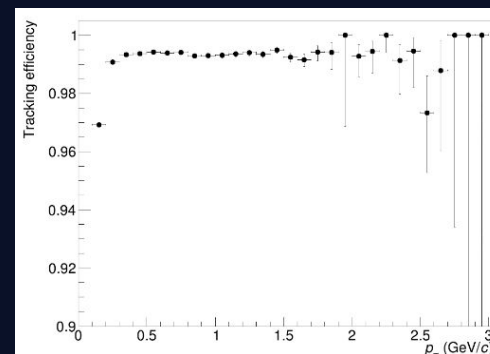
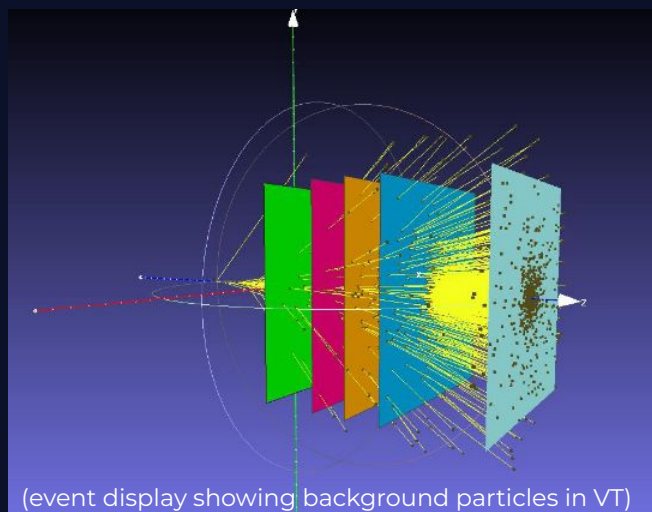
22

Based on **ACTS**, an experiment-independent toolkit for (charged) particle track reconstruction in (high energy) physics



➔ Currently developing track reconstruction in the vertex telescope and muon spectrometer

- **realistic multiplicities** and particle distributions (from NA49 measurements)
- ACTS resolutions in agreement with fast simulation studies (used for LOI)
- two step reconstruction: primary particles followed by reconstruction of secondaries
→ **large tracking efficiencies** in both cases



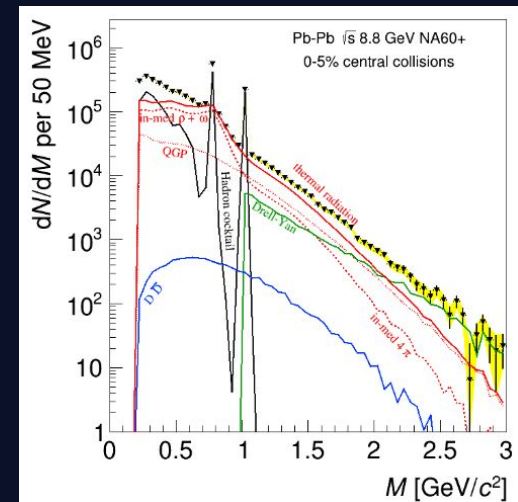
Performances: thermal dimuons

Thermal radiation yield

- accessible up to $M = 2.5-3 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- dominated by ρ contribution at low mass

Drell-Yan to be estimated via pA measurements

Open charm negligible dimuon source



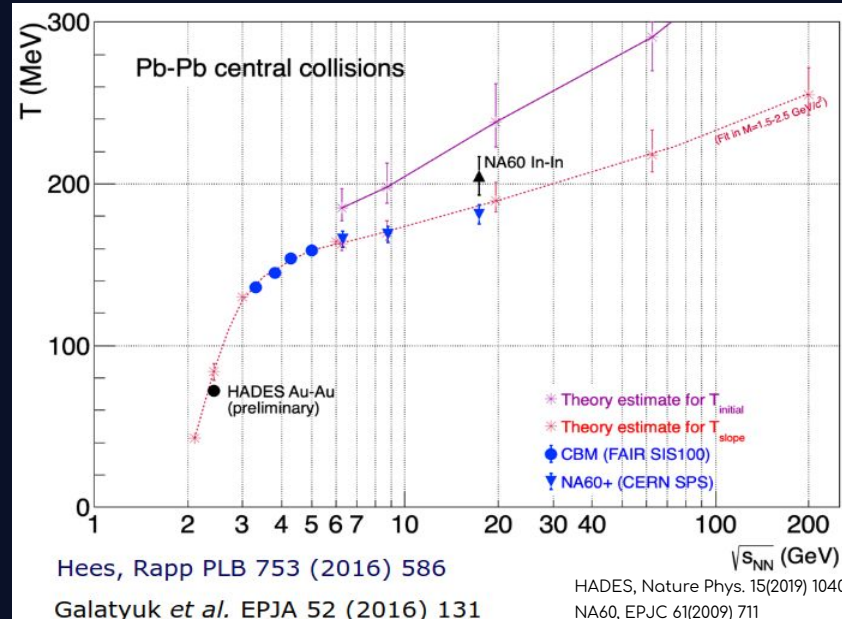
→ T_{slope} from fit to $1.5 < M < 2.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

~1-3% uncertainty on T_{slope}



- accurate mapping of T_{slope} \sqrt{s} -dependence
- strong sensitivity to possible flattening of the caloric curve due to 1st order transition

Gianluca Usai, poster



Hees, Rapp PLB 753 (2016) 586

Galatyuk et al. EPJA 52 (2016) 131

HADES, Nature Phys. 15(2019) 1040

NA60, EPJC 61(2009) 711

Performances: ρ - a_1 mixing

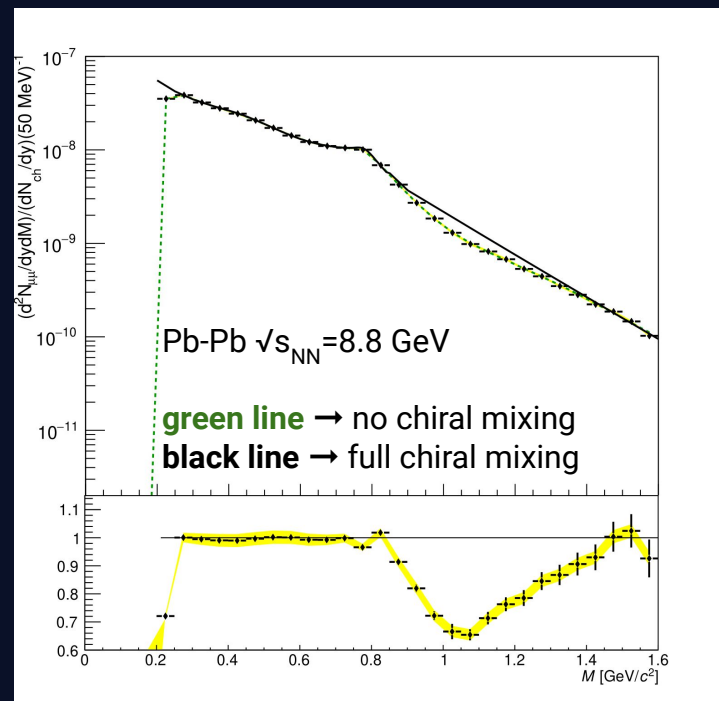
Chiral symmetry restoration investigated with the measurement of the ρ - a_1 mixing

Full ρ - a_1 chiral mixing detected studying the modification of the dimuon continuum

→ a 20-30% enhancement is expected in the region $0.8 < M < 1.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ w.r.t. no mixing



NA60+ could clearly detect a signal of chiral symmetry restoration



Gianluca Usai, poster

Performances: charmonium

Quarkonium never studied below top SPS energies

SPS

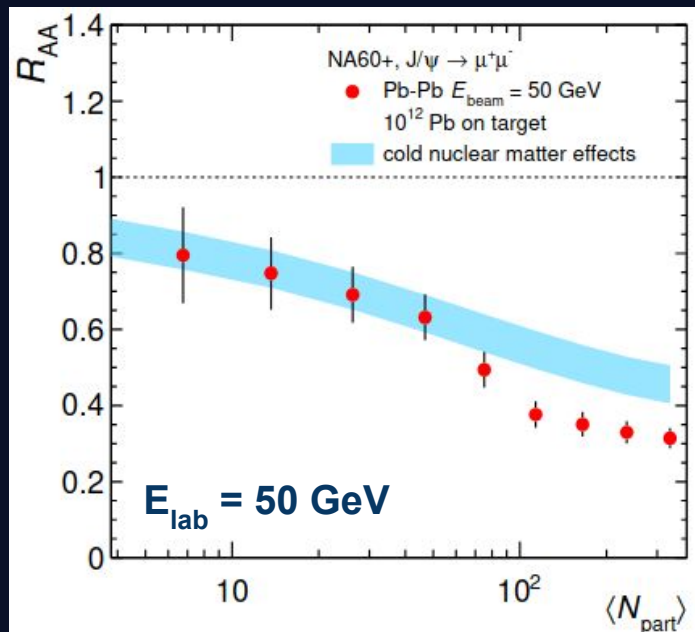
hot matter effects
suppression

AA

initial state effects
(anti)shadowing
 $x_{\text{BJ}} \sim 10^{-1}$ for $y \sim 0$

final CNM effects
sizable breakup in
nuclear matter
 $\tau \sim 0.5$ fm/c for $y \sim 0$

pA



Precise evaluation of
anomalous suppression
within reach even at
low energy

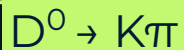
$\sim O(10^4-10^5)$ J/ψ at 50-158 GeV

Intrinsic charm in p-A collisions will also be investigated

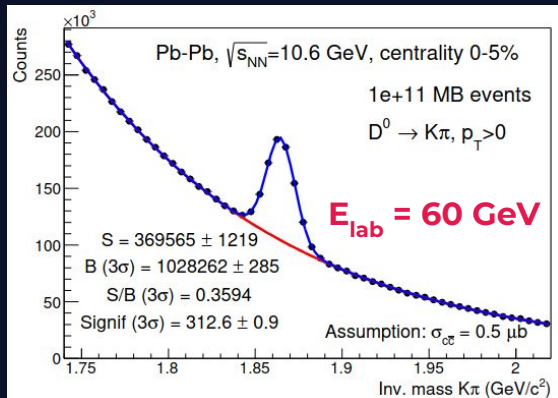
Enrico Scomparin, poster

Performances: open charm

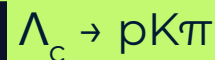
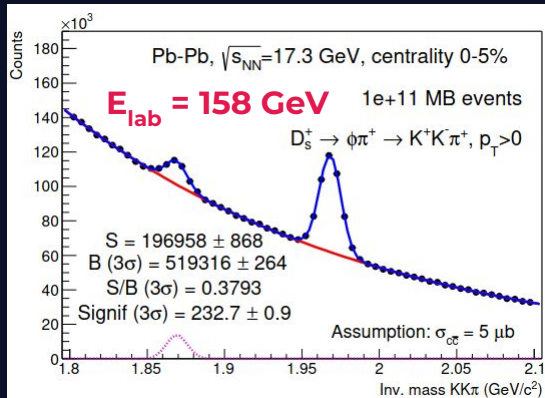
Hadronic decays reconstructed in the vertex telescope, with topological cuts



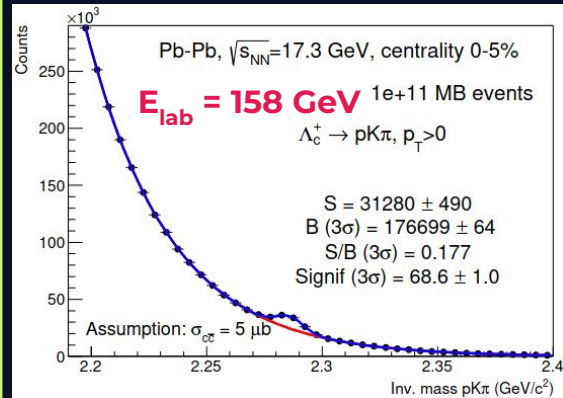
accessible also at low $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$,
~1% statistical precision



yields measurement, few
percent statistical precision



feasible, improvement with
timing layers under study



First studies at SPS
energies of



- QGP transport properties
- charm thermalization
- hadronization mechanisms
- total charm cross section

with 10^{11} MB Pb-Pb collisions
(1 month of data taking)

Enrico Scomparin, poster



- Project is part of CERN Physics Beyond Collider Initiative
- LOI (arXiv:2212.14452) discussed with SPSC in February 2023
- Expect proposal to SPSC in Spring 2025
- Aim is taking data in 2029/30, after LHC LS3
 - 7-years running with Pb beam (one beam energy per year)
 - proton beams for reference and dedicated p-A studies



<https://na60plus.ca.infn.it/>

C. Ahdida¹, G. Alocco^{2,3}, F. Antinori⁴, M. Arba³, M. Aresti^{2,3}, R. Arnaldi⁵, A. Baratto Roldan¹, S. Beolè^{6,5}, A. Beraudo⁵, J. Bernhard¹, L. Bianchi^{6,5}, M. Borysova^{7,8}, S. Bressler⁷, S. Bufalino^{9,5}, E. Casula^{2,3}, C. Cicalò³, S. Coli⁵, P. Cortese^{10,5}, A. Dainese⁴, H. Danielsson¹, A. De Falco^{2,3}, K. Dehmelt¹¹, A. Drees¹¹, A. Ferretti^{6,5}, F. Fionda^{2,3}, M. Gagliardi^{6,5}, A. Gerbershagen¹², F. Geurts¹³, V. Greco^{14,15}, W. Li¹³, M.P. Lombardo¹⁶, D. Marras³, M. Maserà^{6,5}, A. Masoni³, L. Micheletti¹, L. Mirasola^{2,3}, F. Mazzaschi^{1,6}, M. Mentink¹, P. Merut⁵, A. Milov⁷, A. Mulliri^{2,3}, L. Musa¹, C. Oppedisano⁵, B. Paul^{2,3}, M. Pennisi^{6,5}, S. Plumari¹⁴, F. Prino⁵, M. Puccio¹, C. Puggioni³, R. Rapp¹⁷, I. Ravinovich⁷, A. Rossi², V. Sarritzu^{2,3}, B. Schmidt¹, E. Scomparin⁵, S. Siddhanta³, R. Shahoyan¹, M. Tuvèri³, A. Uras¹⁸, G. Usai^{2,3}, H. Vincke¹, I. Vorobyev¹

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17. Cyclotron Institute and Department of Physics and Astronomy, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, USA
18. Institut de Physique des 2 Infinis de Lyon, Université de Lyon, CNRS/IN2P3, Lyon, France

- the Lol was signed by 62 physicists, engineers, technicians
- support also from members of the QGP theory community



- funding for the R&D phase since 2020
- still ample space for contributions on many items, more Collaborators welcome!

Significant progresses made so far, towards a bright SPS future!

- support of experimental and theoretical heavy-ion community is crucial



Two projects followed by CERN Physics Beyond Collider initiative:

- **NA61/SHINE**, breaking the ground with first measurements of open charm cross section
- **NA60+**, proposed for high precision measurements of thermal dileptons, charmonium, open-heavy flavors from 2029/30

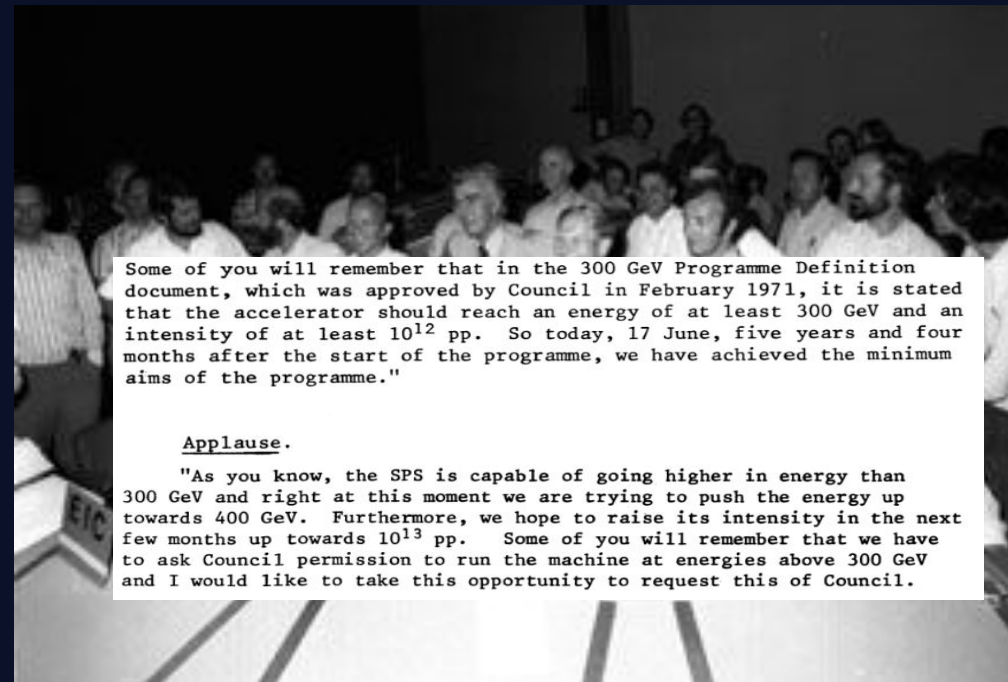
Precision studies of em and hard probes in $6 < \sqrt{s_{NN}} < 17$ GeV are currently lacking big interest in dusting off the glories of the first generation of SPS experiments

Thank you!

Backup

The Super Proton Synchrotron @ CERN

- First proton beams in 1976



Some of you will remember that in the 300 GeV Programme Definition document, which was approved by Council in February 1971, it is stated that the accelerator should reach an energy of at least 300 GeV and an intensity of at least 10^{12} pp. So today, 17 June, five years and four months after the start of the programme, we have achieved the minimum aims of the programme."

Applause.

"As you know, the SPS is capable of going higher in energy than 300 GeV and right at this moment we are trying to push the energy up towards 400 GeV. Furthermore, we hope to raise its intensity in the next few months up towards 10^{13} pp. Some of you will remember that we have to ask Council permission to run the machine at energies above 300 GeV and I would like to take this opportunity to request this of Council.

CERN LIBRARIES, GENEVA

CERN/1236
Original: English
1 September 1976

CM-P00081587

ORGANISATION EUROPÉENNE POUR LA RECHERCHE NUCLÉAIRE
CERN EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH

FIFTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL
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- Oral Presentation by Dr Adams

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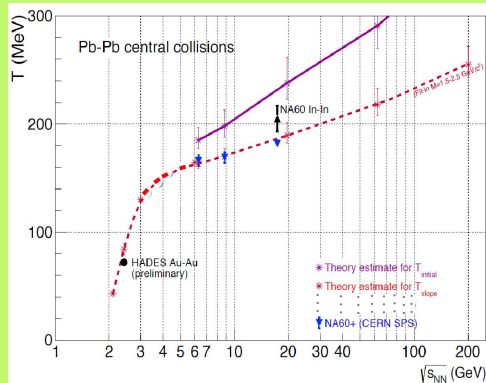
** The SPS reached 400 GeV energy with an intensity of 10^{12} pp at 15.35 hours.

Several new and unique measurements

1) caloric curve of QGP

measurement of thermal dimuons temperature vs $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$

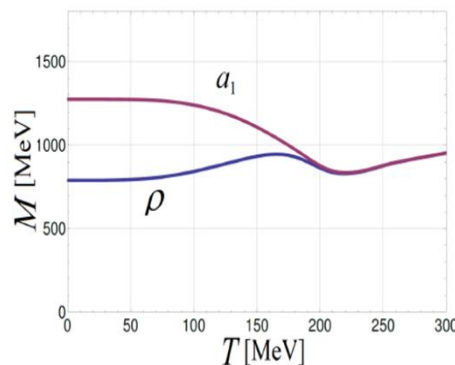
Rapp and v.Hees, PLB753(2016) 586
T. Galatyuk et al., EPJA52(2016) 131



2) chiral symmetry restoration

ρ - a_1 mixing in the dimuon channel

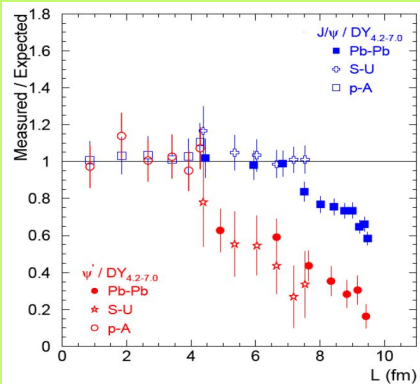
C. Jung et al.,
PRD 95 (2017) 036020



3) charmonium melting in the QGP

suppression of charmonium vs $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (dimuon decay channel)

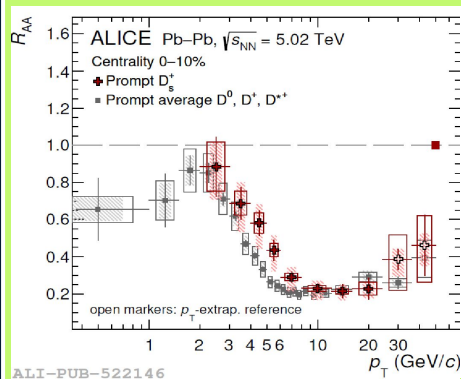
NA50, PLB 477 (2000) 28
NA50, EPJC49 (2007) 559

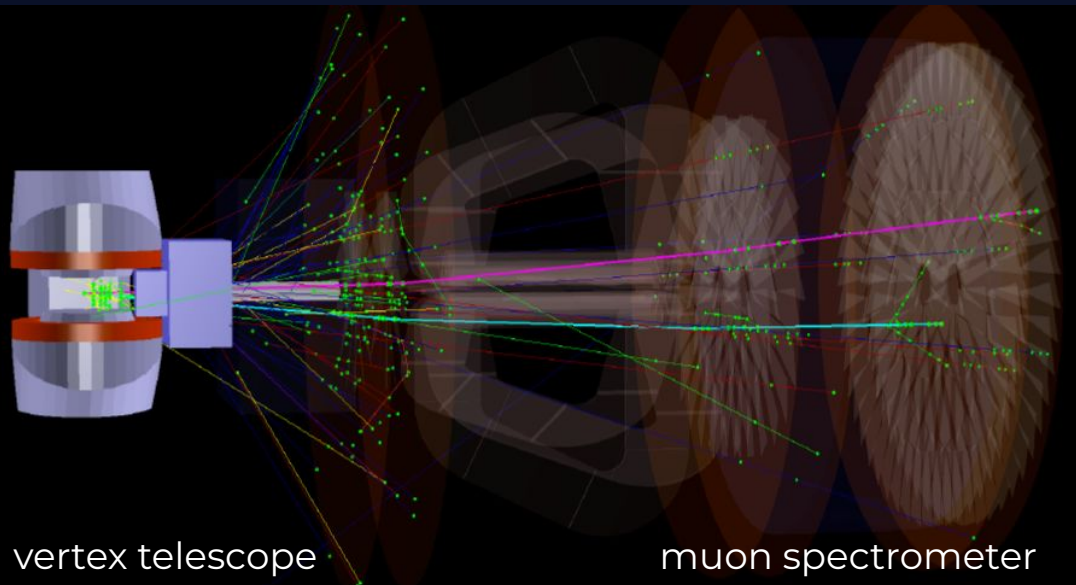


4) QGP transport coeff and charm hadronization

hadronic decays of open HF mesons and baryons

ALICE, PLB 827 (2022) 136986



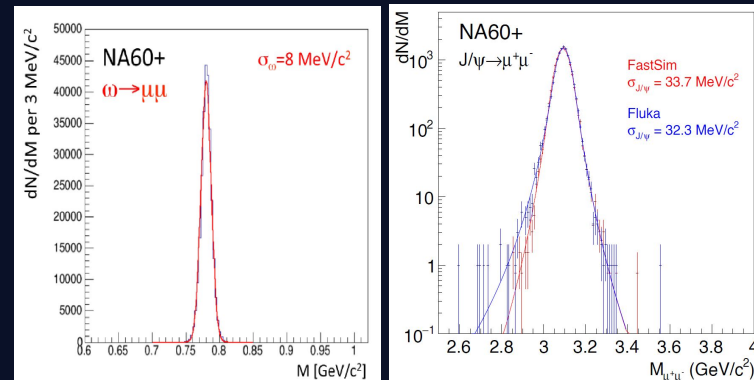


Muon tracks

- matching (in coordinates and momentum space) of tracks in vertex and muon spectrometer
- measure muon kinematics before multiple scattering and energy loss



very good mass resolution



Quarkonium never studied below top SPS energies

1

AA: onset of charmonium suppression

accessible via energy scan

- evaluate the threshold temperature of the charmonium melting correlating the onset with T measured via thermal dimuons

2

pA: cold nuclear matter effects

CNM effects increase at low \sqrt{s}

- mandatory (at the same \sqrt{s} as AA) for a correct evaluation of hot matter effects
- disentangle the various contributions (shadowing, nuclear breakup...)

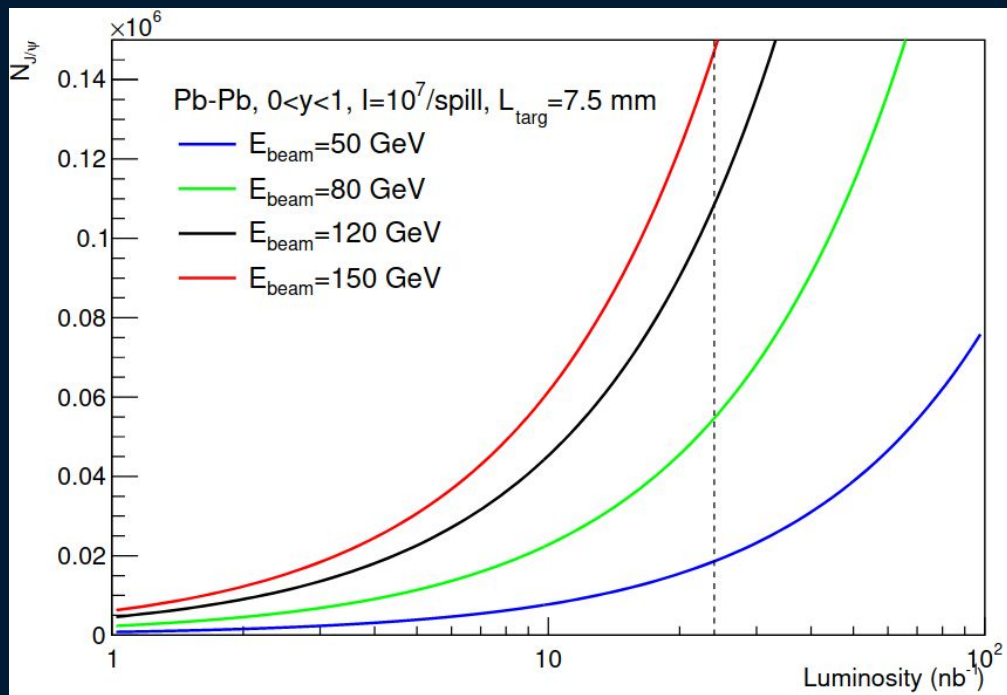
3

pA: intrinsic charm

expected enhanced charm production at large x_F

- fixed target is the ideal configuration \rightarrow enhancement is expected closer to mid- y
- dominant effect even with 0.1% probab. of intrinsic charm contribution in the proton
(R. Vogt. PRC 103 (2021)3, 035204)

High luminosity is needed to cope with the low production cross sections at low \sqrt{s}



Assuming:

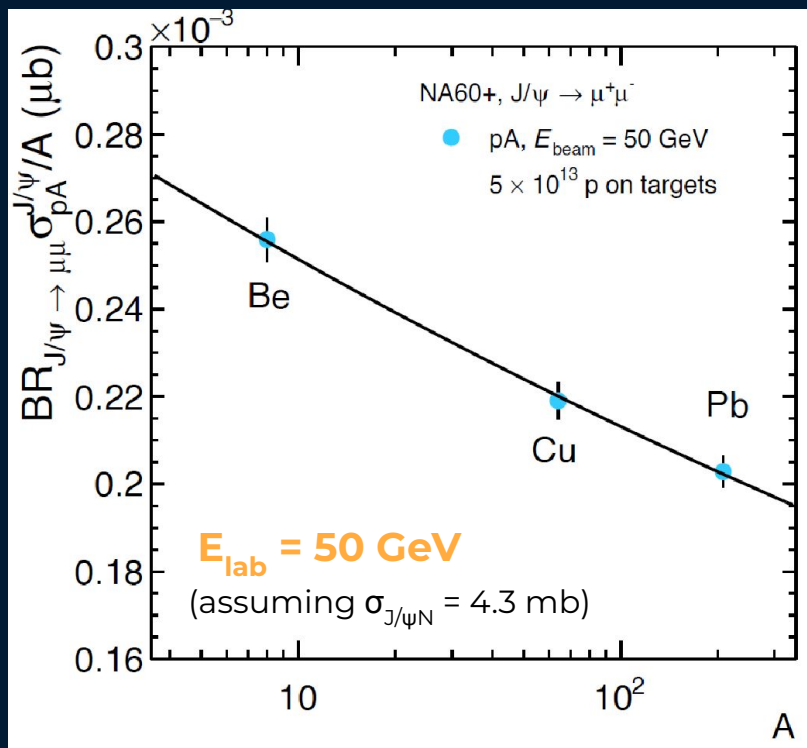
- $I_{\text{beam}} \sim 10^7$ Pb/spill, 7.5 mm target, 1 month data taking $\rightarrow L_{\text{int}} \sim 24 \text{ nb}^{-1}$
- a factor 3 overall suppression (CNM+ QGP)



NA60+ can aim at

- $\sim O(10^4)$ J/ψ at 50 GeV
- $\sim O(10^5)$ J/ψ at 158 GeV

ρ -A data taking mandatory to calibrate CNM effects



Assuming:

- $I_{\text{beam}} \sim 5 \cdot 10^{13}$ p on target, target thickness 8.3 g/cm²

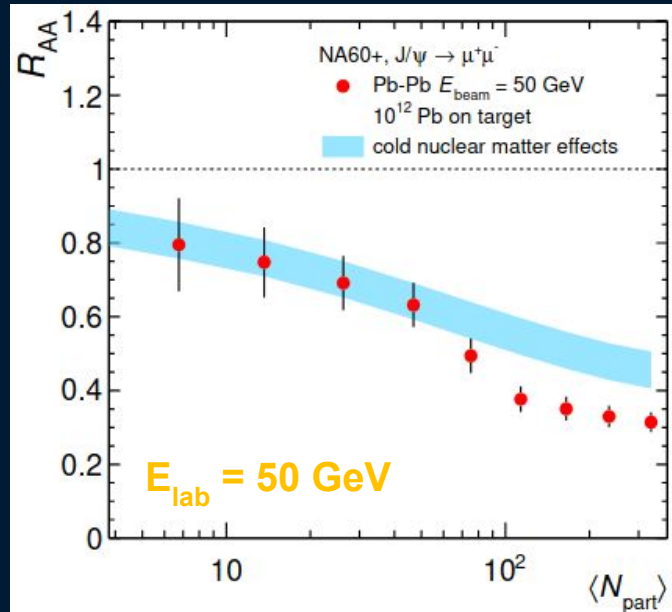
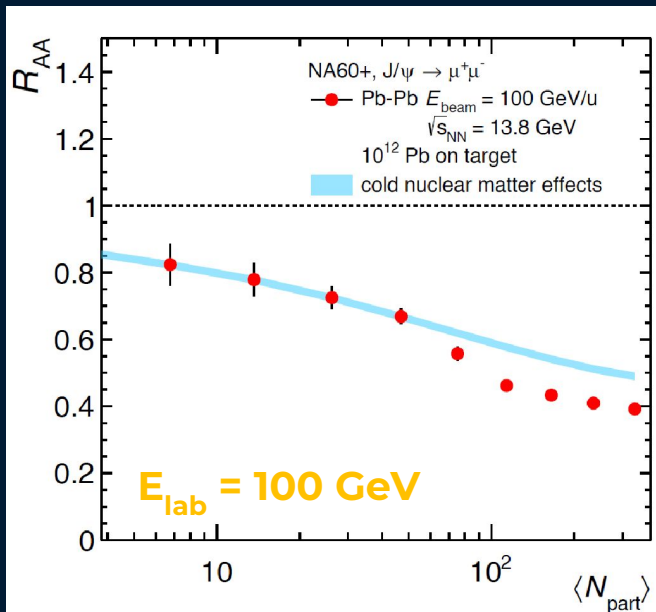


- NA60+ can aim at

~ 8000 J/ψ at 50 GeV

~ 60000 J/ψ at 158 GeV

- pA data will provide an estimate of CNM effects
- extrapolating the pA measurements down to $A = 1$, we can estimate $\sigma_{\rho\rho}$, to be used in the R_{AA} evaluation



Based on

- 10^{12} Pb ions, 8.5 g cm^{-2} target
- 5×10^{13} protons, 8.3 g cm^{-2} target

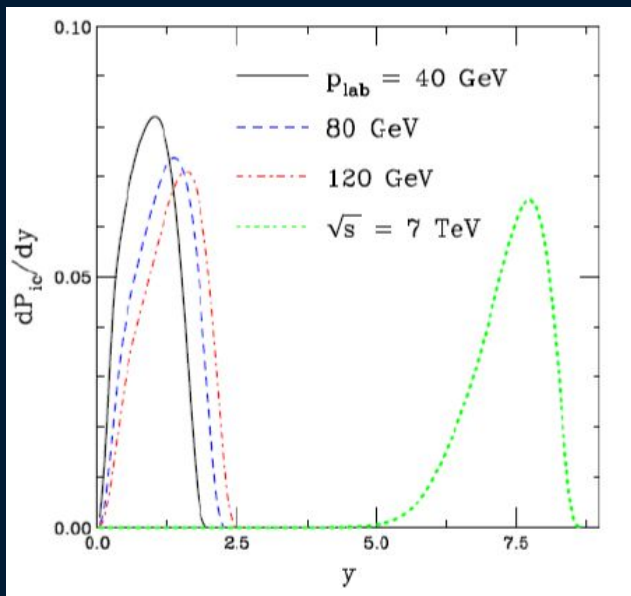
Assume

- CNM effects for $N_{\text{part}} < 50$
- CNM effects + 20% QGP suppression for $N_{\text{part}} > 50$

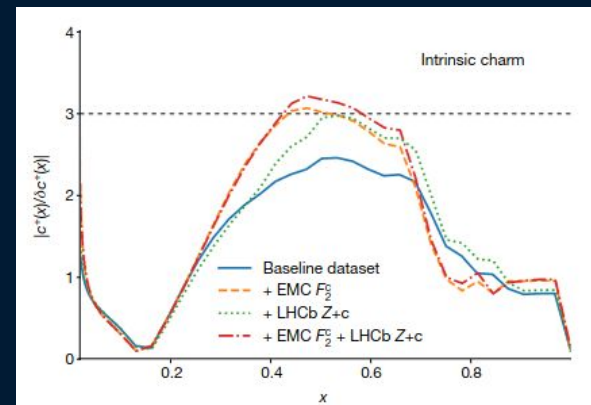
Precise evaluation of anomalous suppression within reach even at low energy

Uncertainties on CNM (σ_{obs}) are ~6 - 15% at 158 and 50 GeV, respectively

Intrinsic charm component of the hadron wave function $|\text{uudc}\bar{c}\bar{b}\rangle$
enhanced charm production in the forward region



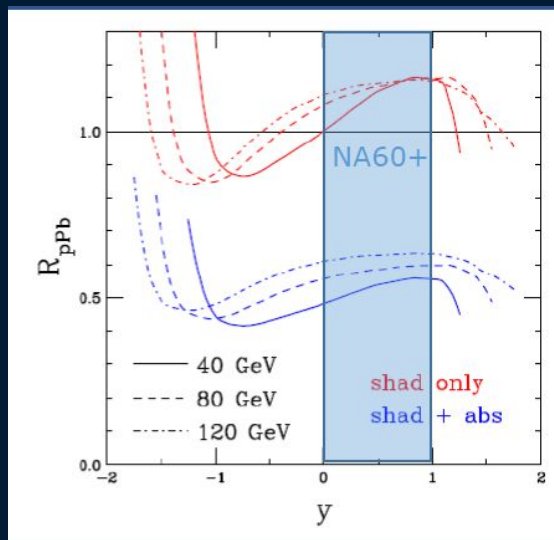
- at collider energies, the region where the IC effects can be observed is at very large y
- for fixed-target, low \sqrt{s} , the enhancement is closer to mid- y
- first evidence recently claimed by NNPDF group based on LHCb data (Nature 608,483(2022))



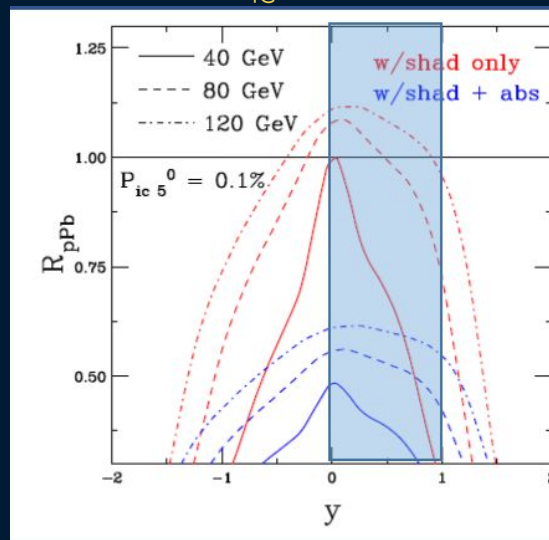
R. Vogt PRC 103, 035204 (2021)
R. Vogt arXiv:2207.04347

- ρ -Pb collisions:
- EPPS16 shadowing
 - $\sigma_{\text{obs}} = 9, 10, 11 \text{ mb}$, $E_{\text{lab}} = 120, 80, 40 \text{ GeV}$
 - Intrinsic charm content P_{ic} varied between 0.1 and 1%

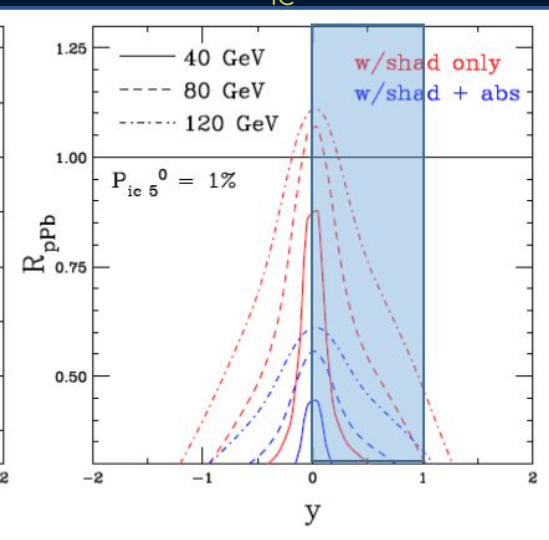
without intrinsic charm



with $P_{\text{ic}} = 0.1\%$



with $P_{\text{ic}} = 1\%$



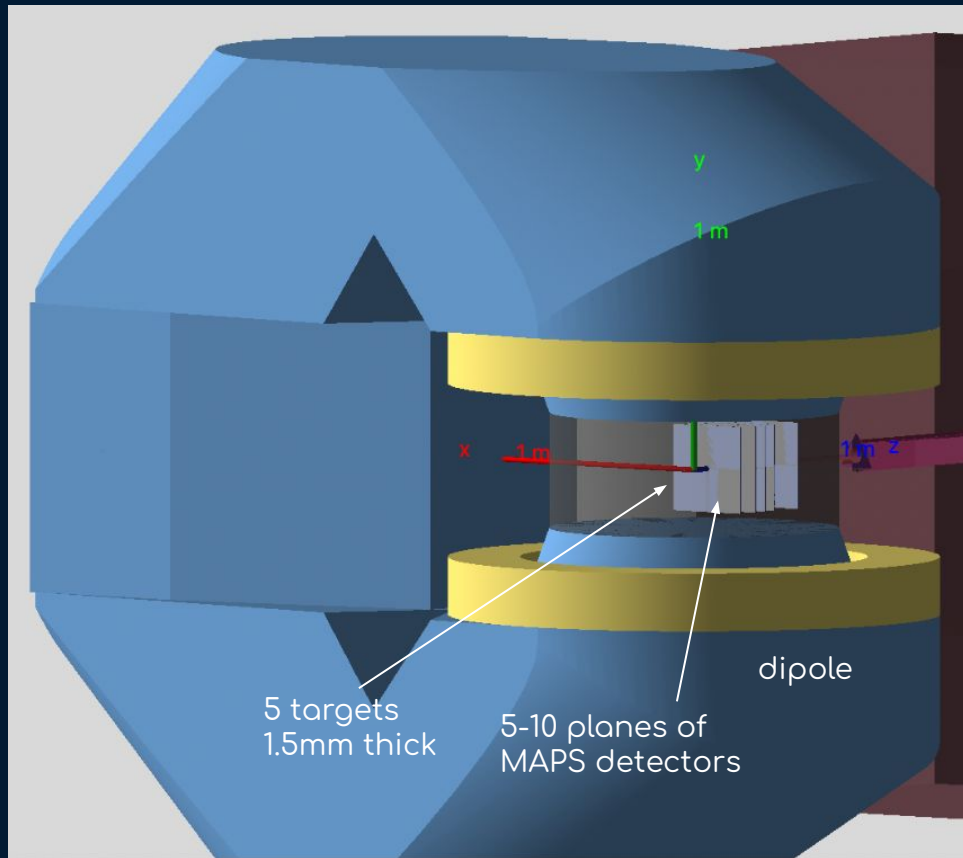
$R_{\rho\text{Pb}}$ shape is dominated by intrinsic charm already with $P_{\text{ic}} = 0.1\%$

open charm in NA60+

Measurement performed through hadronic decays reconstructed in the vertex telescope

	Mass (MeV)	$c\tau$ (μm)	decay	BR
D^0	1865	123	$K^-\pi^+$	3.95%
D^+	1869	312	$K^-\pi^+\pi^+$	9.38%
D_s^+	1968	147	$\phi\pi^+$	2.24%
Λ_c	2285	60	$\rho K^-\pi^+$ ρK_s^0 $\Lambda\pi^+$	6.28% 1.59% 1.30%

Combinatorial background reduced via geometrical selection on the displaced decay-vertex topology



open charm in AA at low \sqrt{s}

1 QGP transport properties

Charm diffusion coefficient depends on the medium T , being larger in the hadronic than in QGP phases

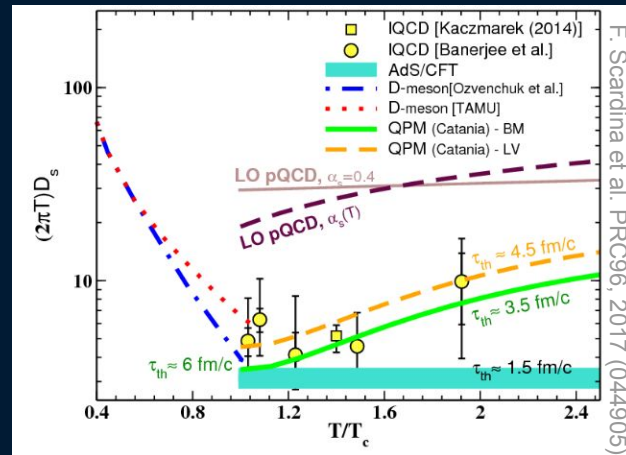
At SPS

- temperatures closer to T_{PC} can be explored
- hadronic phase is a large part of the collision evolution
 - sensitivity to hadronic interactions
 - input for precision measurements at LHC

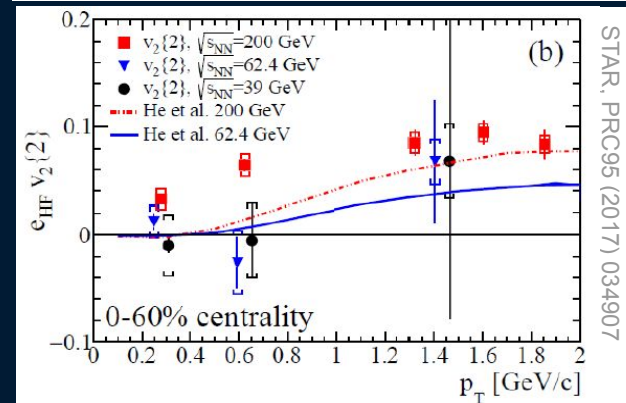
2 charm thermalization

Impact on charm of a shorter-lived medium can be explored

- current measurements on HF-decay electron v_2 at RHIC $\sqrt{s}_{NN} = 39$ and 62 GeV/c show small v_2 wrt 200 GeV, not conclusive on $v_2 > 0$



F. Scardina et al. PRC96, 2017 (044905)



STAR, PRC95 (2017) 034907

open charm in AA at low \sqrt{s}

3 hadronisation mechanisms

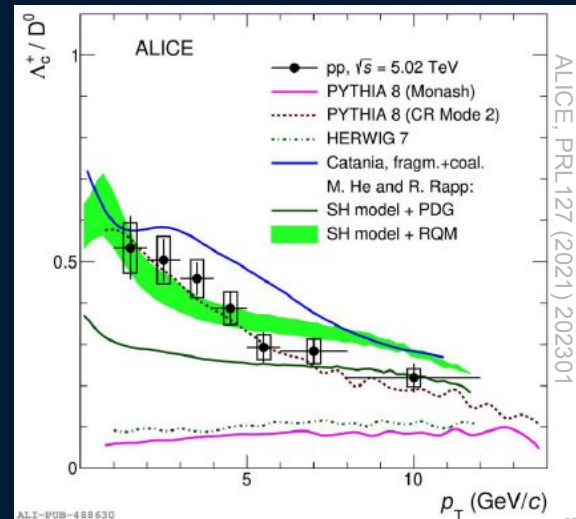
Measure the relative abundances of charm-hadrons (D^0 , D^+ , D_s^+ mesons and Λ_c baryons) in a high μ_B environment

- Strange/non-strange meson ratio (D_s/D^0)
 - enhanced in AA due to recombination in the strangeness rich QGP
- Baryon/meson ratio (Λ_c/D)
 - enhanced in AA in case of hadronisation via coalescence
 - interesting also in pp and pA, as observed at LHC

4 total charm cross section

Limited measurements so far (NA60,NA49) because of low yields

- precise measurement requires to reconstruct mesons and baryons ground states
- ideal reference for charmonia



open charm in pA at low \sqrt{s}

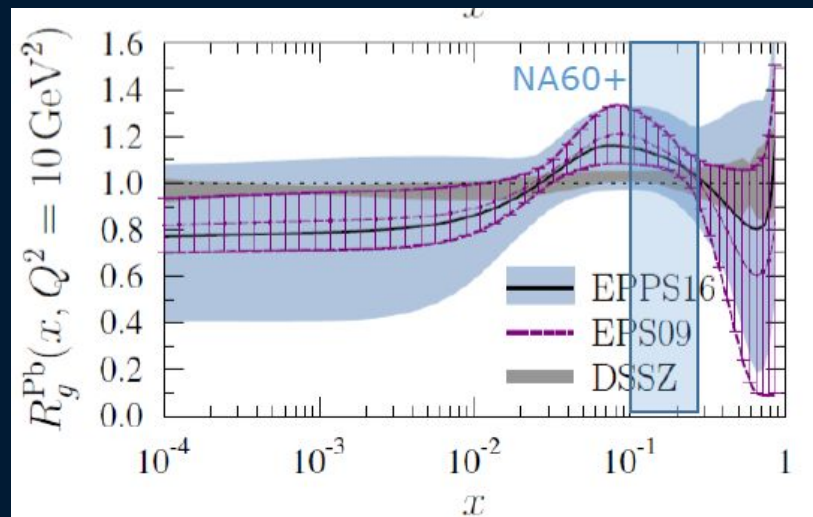
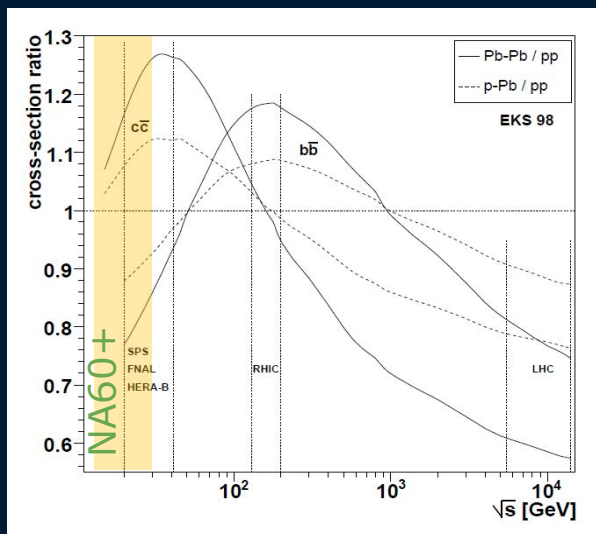
5

nuclear PDFs via D meson production in pA



NA60+ will cover the range $0.1 < x_{Bj} < 0.3$ at $Q^2 \sim 10\text{-}40 \text{ GeV}^2$

- EMC and anti-shadowing regions accessible,
- PDFs poorly constrained by existing data



open charm in pA in NA60+

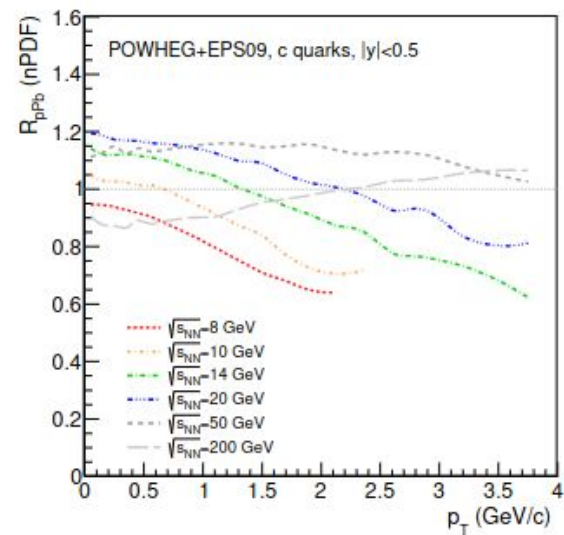
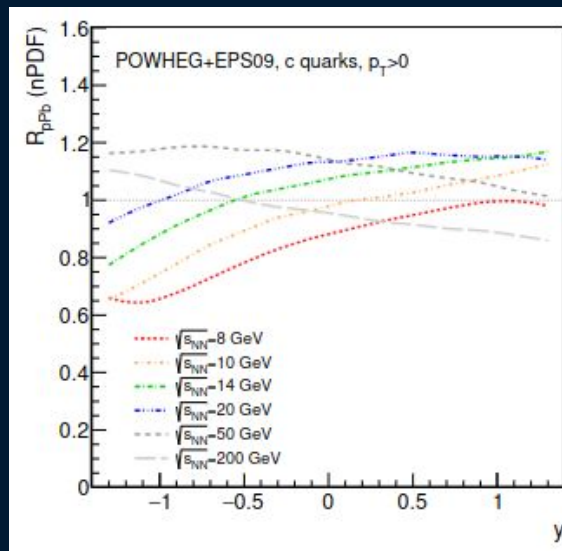
5

nuclear PDFs via D meson production in pA



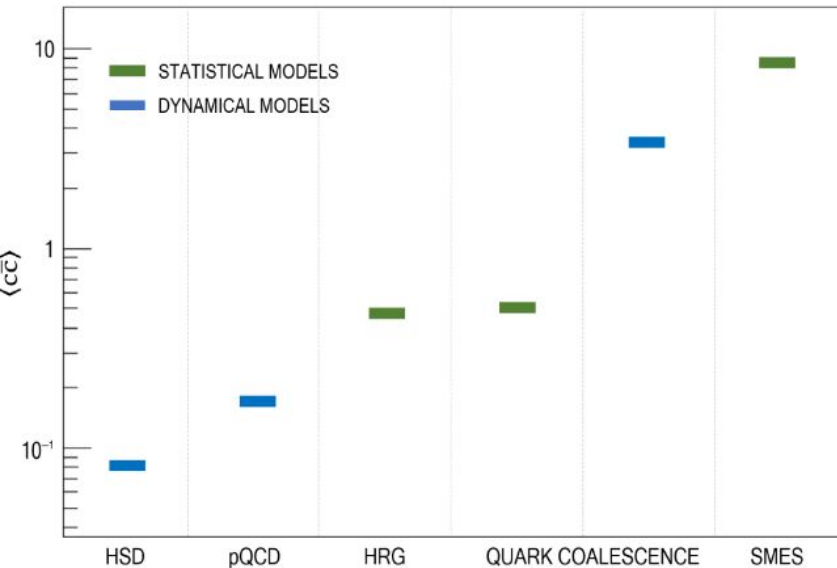
NA60+ will use several nuclear targets, from Be to Pb

- access to the A-dependence of nPDF
- precise inputs to nPDF from D production ratios pA/pBe at different \sqrt{s} , vs y and p_T



Models of charm production

- Predictions of charm yield differ by up to two orders of magnitude for central heavy-ion collisions at the top SPS energy (beam momentum $150A \text{ GeV}/c$, $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 16.8 \text{ GeV}$);



- Obtaining precise data on $D^0 + \bar{D}^0$ is expected to narrow the spectrum of viable theoretical models and thus learn about the charm quark and hadron production mechanisms.

- **HSD:** Hadron-String Dynamics
O. Linnyk et al. Int. J. Mod. Phys. E 17 (2008), 1367-1439
- **pQCD:** the scaled PYTHIA calculations
P. Braun-Munzinger et al. Phys. Lett. B 490 (2000), 196-202
- **HRG:** Hadron Resonance Gas Model
M. I. Gorenstein et al. J.Phys.G 27 (2001) L47-L52
- **Statistical Quark Coalescence:**
M. I. Gorenstein et al. Phys.Lett.B 509 (2001) 277-282
- **Dynamical Quark Coalescence:** ALCOR and MICOR models extended to charm formation.
P. Levai et al. J.Phys.G 27 (2001) 703-706
- **SMES:** A statistical model of the early stage
M. Gazdzicki et al., Acta Phys. Polon. B 30 (1999), 2705

Visible yield of $D^0 + \bar{D}^0$ in 0-20% Xe+La at $150A$ GeV/c

correction with:	$N_{visible}(D^0 + \bar{D}^0)$
AMPT	0.184 ± 0.032 (stat)
PHSD	0.204 ± 0.036 (stat)
PYTHIA/Angantyr	0.201 ± 0.035 (stat)



$N_{visible}(D^0 + \bar{D}^0)$
0.196 ± 0.035 (stat) ± 0.051 (syst)

$-0.5 < y < 1.0$
 $0.2 < p_T < 2.0$ GeV/c

- Systematic uncertainties include:
- Model-dependent phase space;
 - Track quality cut selection;
 - Spatial cuts selection;
 - Signal extraction procedure;
 - Background fitting procedure.

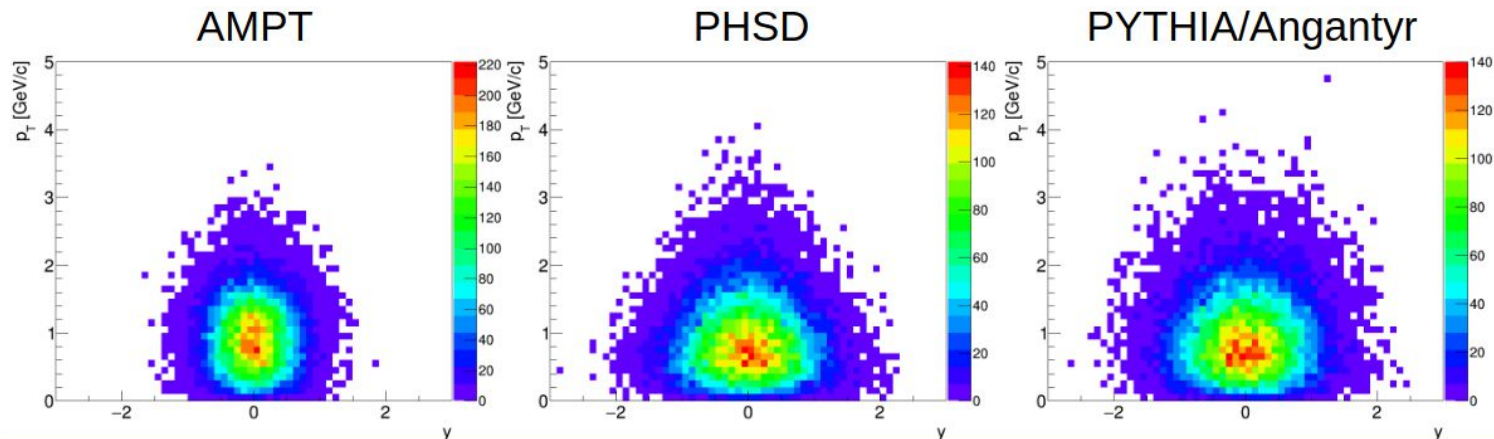
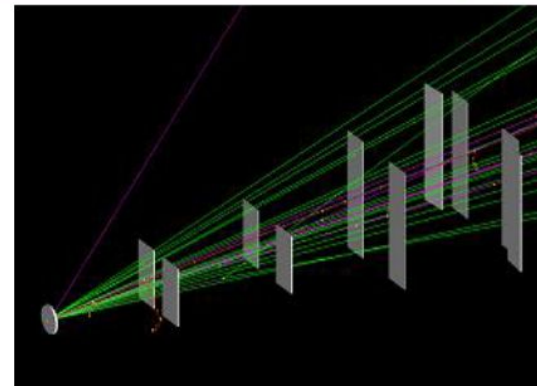
$\langle D^0 + \bar{D}^0 \rangle$ and dN/dy in 0-20% Xe+La at 150A GeV/c

correction with:	$\frac{dN(D^0 + \bar{D}^0)}{dy}$ for $-0.5 < y < 1.0$	Yield in 4π $\langle D^0 + \bar{D}^0 \rangle$
AMPT	$0.129 \pm 0.023(\text{stat}) \pm 0.035(\text{syst})$	$0.218 \pm 0.039(\text{stat}) \pm 0.060(\text{syst})$
PHSD	$0.148 \pm 0.026(\text{stat}) \pm 0.036(\text{syst})$	$0.303 \pm 0.054(\text{stat}) \pm 0.074(\text{syst})$
PYTHIA/Angantyr	$0.147 \pm 0.026(\text{stat}) \pm 0.037(\text{syst})$	$0.300 \pm 0.052(\text{stat}) \pm 0.075(\text{syst})$

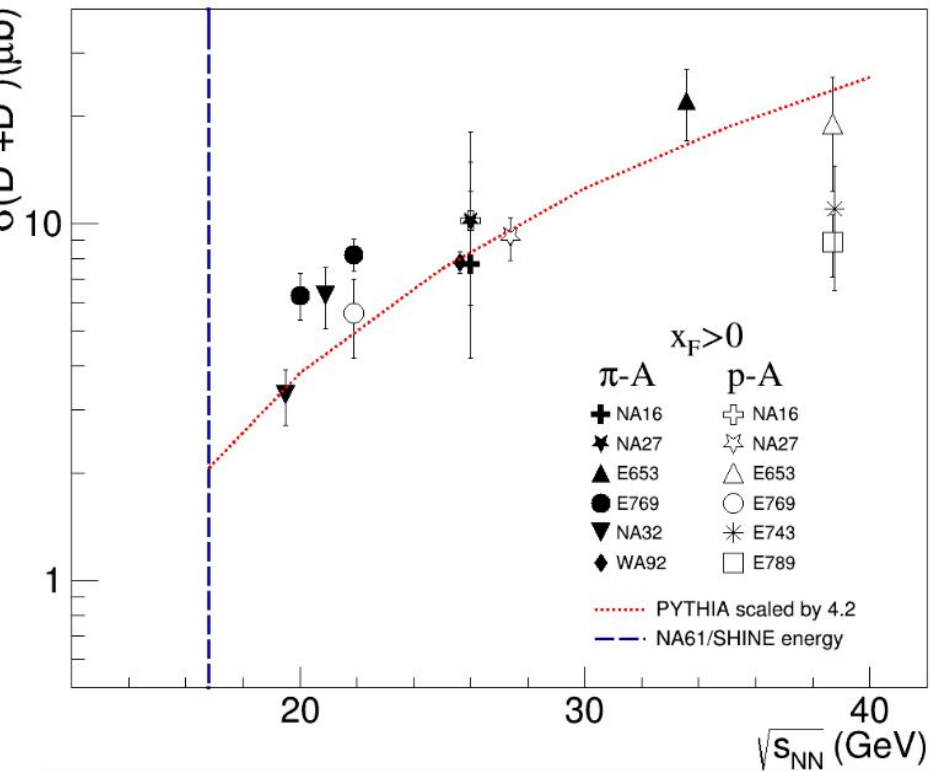
- Extrapolation factors for AMPT significantly differ from PHSD and PYTHIA/Angantyr due to different phase space distribution of $D^0 + \bar{D}^0$:
 - AMPT: 84.1% of all $D^0 + \bar{D}^0$ are in the selected $y - p_T$ bin
 - PHSD: 67.4%
 - PYTHIA/Angantyr: 66.9%

Simulations in GEANT4

- For obtaining the corrections the simulation in GEANT4 was performed:
 - The background was described using the EPOS model;
 - The signal phase space was parametrized using 3 models;
 - The yield of $D^0 + \bar{D}^0$ from the models not used;
 - Parametrized signal is used to enrich background event.



Estimation of $\langle D^0 + \bar{D}^0 \rangle$ for Xe+La from p+A data

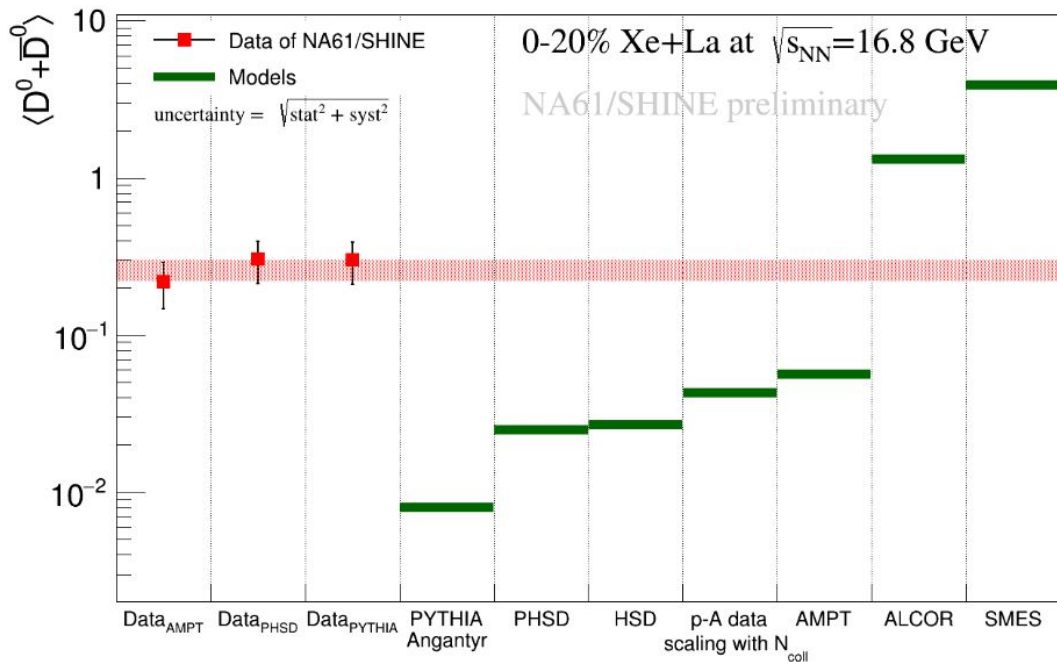


- Fit p+A data with PYTHIA:
 - PYTHIA reasonably describes energy dependence;
 - PYTHIA underestimates the $D^0 + \bar{D}^0$ production cross-section by the **factor 4.2**.

- One can estimate $D^0 + \bar{D}^0$ yield for Xe+La at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 16.8$ GeV from the extrapolation of π +A and p+A data:

$$\langle D^0 + \bar{D}^0 \rangle = 2 \times \frac{\sigma_{D^0 + \bar{D}^0}}{\sigma_{inelastic \text{ for } p+p=32\text{mb}}} \times N_{coll} = 0.043$$

Comparison of $\langle D^0 + \bar{D}^0 \rangle$ with models



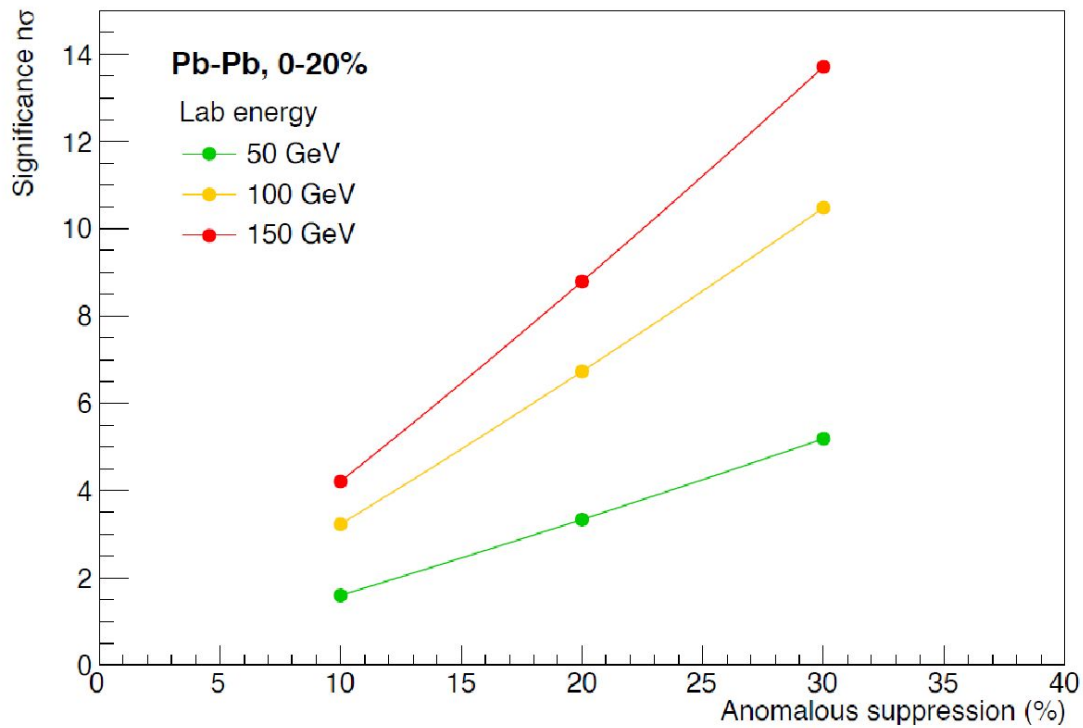
Red band indicates theoretical uncertainty of the obtained result.

- Precision of the data is sufficient to discriminate between extreme model predictions;
- The dynamical microscopic models (Pythia, PHSD, HSD) significantly underestimate $\langle D^0 + \bar{D}^0 \rangle$ while ALCOR and SMES overestimate it;
- AMPT predicts value slightly ($\sim 2\sigma$) lower;
- The obtained results are above $p+A$ extrapolation at the level of $\sim 2-3\sigma$:
 - Imprecision of the extrapolated $p+A$ cross-section;
 - Imprecision of the obtained result due to unknown phase space;
 - Hadronisation in A+A vs $p+A$?
 - Fermi-motion?
 - N_{coll} or N_{part} scaling?

Results and discussion

SMES: scaled from 0-20% Pb+Pb using $N_{part} = 173.7/272.5$

ALCOR (Dynamical Quark Coalescence): scaled from *J.Phys.G* 27 (2001) 703-706 using $N_{coll} = 331.1/598.8$



SPS

very few results

- indirect open charm measurement by NA60 with 20% uncertainty ($1 < M_{\mu\mu} < 2.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$)
- upper limit on D^0 by NA49
- new NA61 result (Xe-La, $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 16.8 \text{ GeV}$)

NA60+:

measurement performed through hadronic decays reconstructed in the vertex telescope (combinatorial background reduced via topological cuts)

1

QGP transport properties

charm diffusion coefficient depends on the medium T , being larger in the hadronic than in QGP phases

2

charm thermalization

impact on charm of a shorter-lived medium can be explored

3

hadronization mechanisms

measure the relative abundances of charm-hadrons (D^0 , D^+ , D_s^+ mesons and Λ_c baryons) in a high μ_B environment

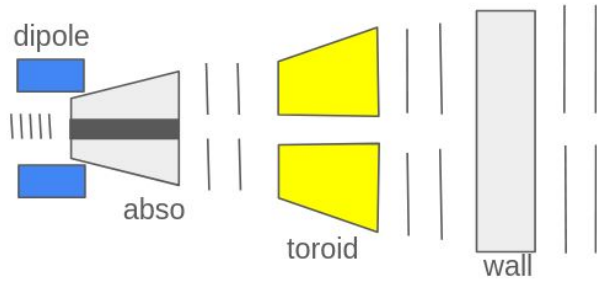
4

total charm cross section

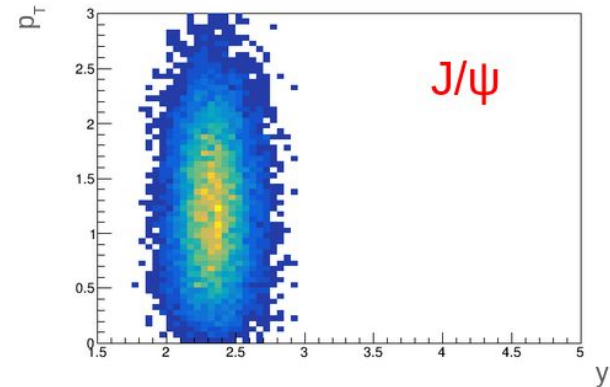
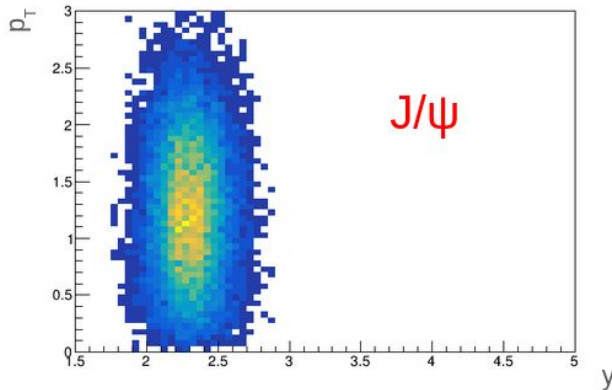
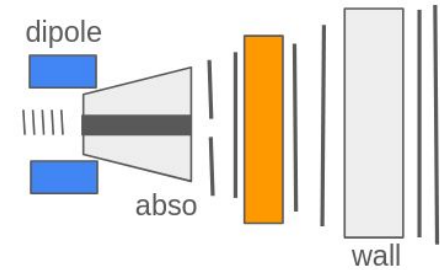
limited measurements so far because of low yields

Preliminary physics performance studies: $J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$

- Toroidal magnets have a significant dead-zone at small angle, that affects the measurement of relatively soft particles (in our case, dimuon and Dalitz-decays of hadronic resonances)
- This limitation is removed with the use of a dipole

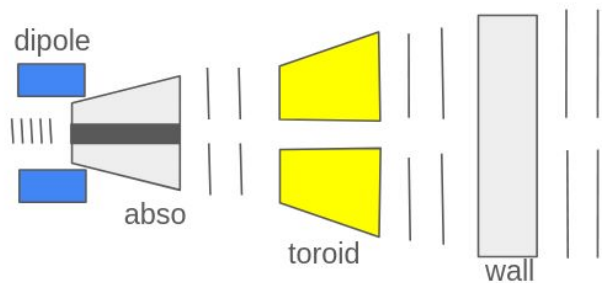


Acceptance for high-mass hadrons does not change significantly, harder muons less affected by the toroid dead zone

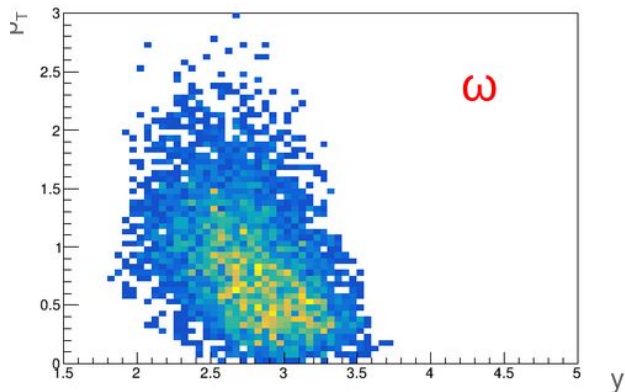
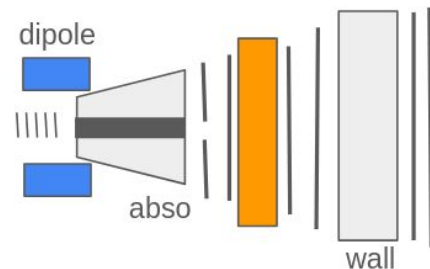


Preliminary physics performance studies: $\omega \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

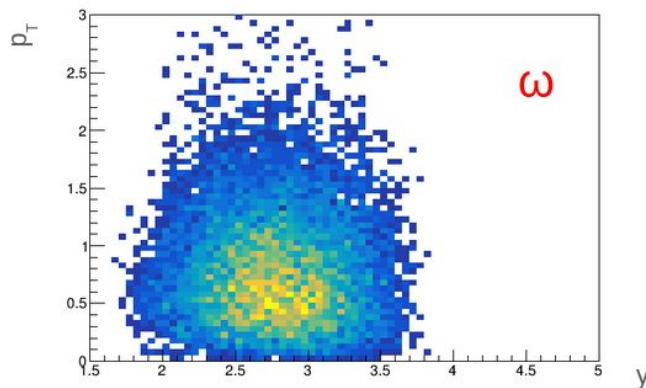
- Toroidal magnets have a significant dead-zone at small angle, that affects the measurement of relatively soft particles (in our case, dimuon and Dalitz-decays of hadronic resonances)
- This limitation is removed with the use of a dipole



Very significant increase of the acceptance in particular at low mass/low p_T



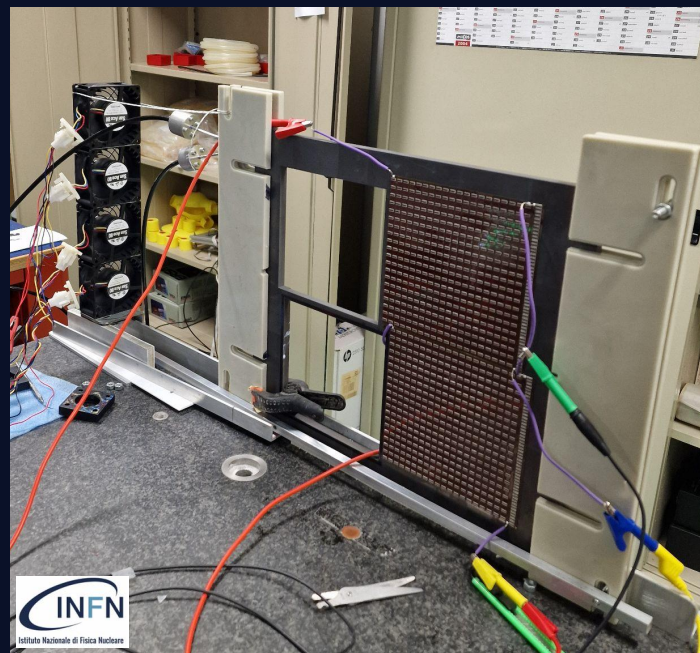
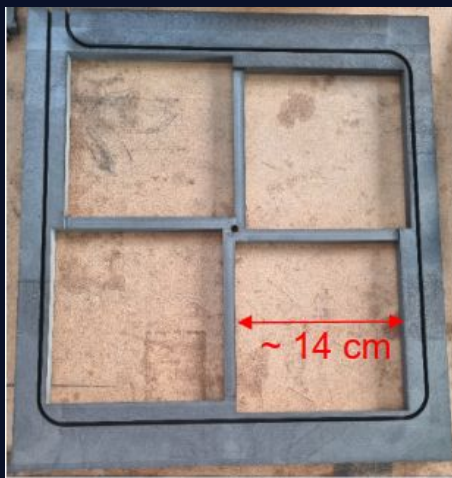
factor ~ 3
increase



The vertex telescope

Each plane is composed by 4 sensors, to be glued on a graphite frame

Air and water cooling is foreseen



Lab measurements using PCB with resistor array to mimics MOSAIX power dissipation

The toroidal magnet

21

- 8 sectors with 36 turns per coil
- light design → low material budget in the acceptance area

Warm toroid

Prototype (1:5 scale)

built and tested to check calculations and investigate mechanical solutions



Design of the full-scale magnet (including mechanics) ongoing, CERN/TE-MS-C

