



Office of Science

# Recent results and prospects of UPC and diffraction physics at ALICE

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798. WE-Heraeus-seminar



Bad Honnef, October 25, 2023



# **ALICE** publications using Run 2 data

- Coherent J/ψ photoproduction at forward rapidity in ultra-peripheral Pb–Pb collisions at √s = 5.02 TeV Phys. Lett. B798 (2019) 134926
- Coherent photoproduction of p0 vector mesons in ultra-peripheral Pb–Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s}$  = 5.02 TeV JHEP 06 (2020) 035
- Coherent J/ $\psi$  and  $\psi'$  photoproduction at midrapidity in ultra-peripheral Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s}$  = 5.02 TeV Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 712
- First measurement of coherent p0 vector mesons in ultra-peripheral Xe–Xe collisions at √s = 5.44 TeV Phys. Lett B 820 (2021) 136481
- First measurement of the |t| dependence of coherent J/ $\psi$  photonuclear production PLB 817 (2021) 136280
- Neutron emission in ultraperipheral Pb–Pb collisions at √s = 5.02 TeV Phys. Rev. C 107 (2023) 6, 064902 -- published on June 5

# ALICE UPC analyses recently submitted for publication

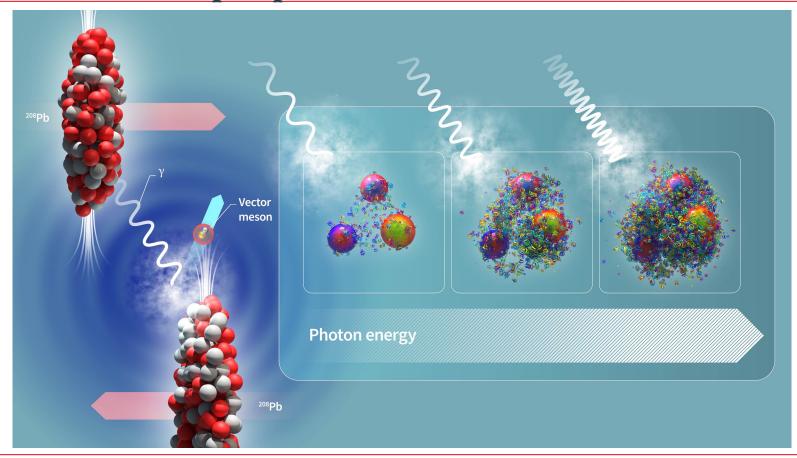
Energy dependence of coherent photonuclear production of J/ψ mesons in ultra-peripheral Pb-Pb collisions at 5.02 TeV
 https://aprily.org/aba/2205\_10060

https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.19060 https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP10(2023)119 Published by JHEP, October 20

- Exclusive and dissociative J/ψ photoproduction, and exclusive dimuon production, in p-Pb collisions at 8.16 TeV
   <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.12403</u>
   Accepted for publication by PRD
- First measurement of the |t|-dependence of incoherent J/ψ photonuclear production <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.06169</u> Submitted to PRL
- First polarisation measurement of coherently photoproduced J/ $\psi$  in ultra-peripheral Pb–Pb collisions at 5.02 TeV

https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.10928 Submitted to PLB

# Ultra peripheral collisions (UPC)



 <u>Ultra Peripheral Collisions (UPC)</u> can explore a wide range of energies using almost real photons

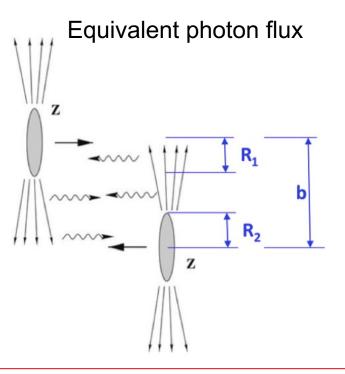
 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{k} = \gamma \mathsf{M}_{\mathsf{V}} \exp(\pm, \mathsf{y}) \\ \text{Up to several TeV in } \gamma \mathsf{p} \\ \text{Up to } \sim 700 \text{ GeV/nucleon in } \gamma \mathsf{A} \\ \text{Up to } \sim 150 \text{ GeV in } \gamma \gamma \text{ using UPC PbPb,} \\ \sim 4 \text{ TeV in in } \gamma \gamma \text{ using UPC pp} \end{array}$ 

<u>UPCs at the LHC probe the hadronic structure over a broad and unique Bjoren x region</u>, yet the precision not compatible to DIS machines like the EIC

 $x = M_V / \gamma m_p \exp(\pm, y)$ 



Interactions mediated by the EM interactions



# Gluon saturation FARE Sector of the sector

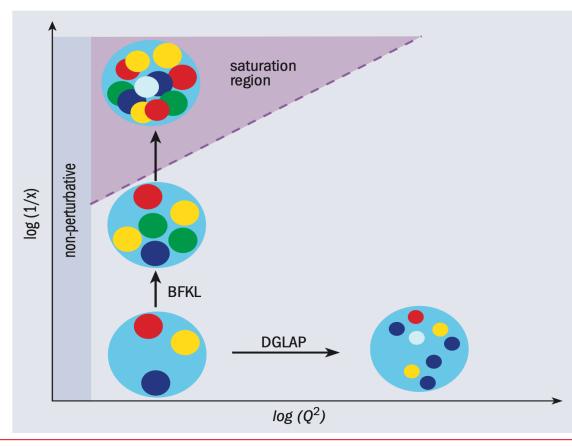
- gluon recombination tric
- Non-linear QCD evolution equations introduced, but how is gluon saturation triggered?
  - experimentally the saturation scale (Q<sub>S</sub>)?
    - Is there a state of matter formed by gluon saturated matter with universal properties?

gluon emission



Dynamical equilibrium of gluon saturation state reached

## Evolution of the hadronic structure with Bjorken-x and $Q^2$



- Experimental observables needed to map out the transition between the dilute and saturation regimes
- For nuclei, the saturation scale is enhanced by a A<sup>1/3</sup> factor

$$(Q_s^A)^2 \approx c Q_0^2 \left[\frac{A}{x}\right]^{1/3}$$

# Nuclear shadowing experimentally confirmed, but not fully understood

 $R = \frac{f_{i/A}}{A f_{i/p}}$ measured expected if no nuclear effects 1.5 Fermiantishadowing motion  $\tau_{\text{DIS}}(\text{nucleus})/\sigma_{\text{DIS}}(\text{nucleon})$ 1.0 EMC-0.6 effect shadowing 0.2  $10^{-3}$  $10^{-2}$  $10^{-1}$ x

- Experimental observation that parton distributions are different for protons and nuclei
- What's the mechanism responsible for shadowing? <u>How is gluon saturation</u> <u>related?</u>
  - The knowledge of the initial state of nuclei also needed for understanding the QGP evolution

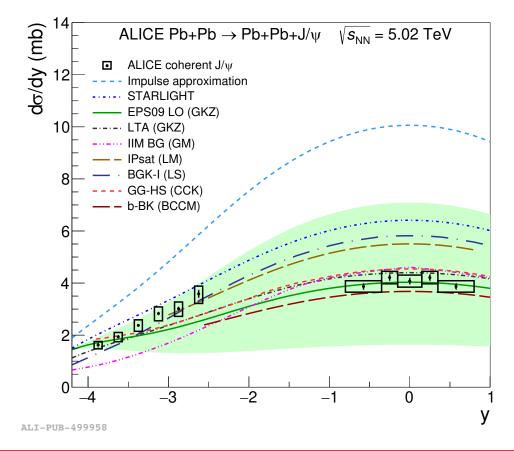
# **Coherent J/**ψ in UPC Pb-Pb

- Confirmation of nuclear shadowing with Run 2 data
- No model can describe the rapidity dependence

$$W_{\gamma p}^2 = 2E_p M_{J/\psi} e^{\pm y}$$

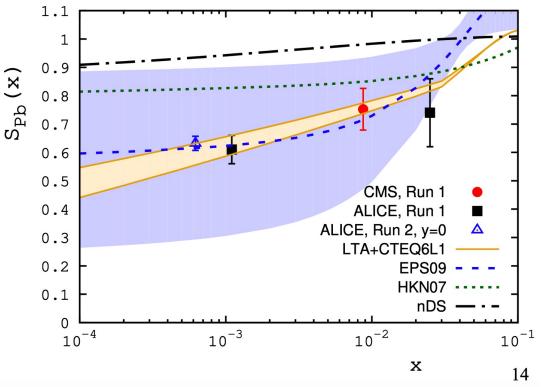
Mid-rapidity x ~10<sup>-3</sup>

Forward rapidity 95% at x  $\sim 10^{-2}$ 5% at x  $\sim 10^{-5}$ 



# Nuclear suppression factor for UPC J/ $\psi$ : Comparing $\gamma$ Pb to $\gamma$ p

V. Guzey et al. PLB 726 (2013)



An experimental definition, which can be linked to PDFs at LO

$$S_{Pb}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_{\gamma A \to J/\psi A}(W_{\gamma p})}{\sigma_{\gamma A \to J/\psi A}^{\mathrm{IA}}(W_{\gamma p})}} = \kappa_{A/N} \frac{xg_A(x,\mu^2)}{Axg_N(x,\mu^2)}$$

Run 1 data from ALICE was the first at indicating nuclear gluon shadowing at  $x \sim 10^{-3}$ 

Large scale NLO uncertainties should cancel in the  $S_{Pb}(x)$  ratio

ALICE results at y=0 have no ambiguity on the photon energy

Two-fold ambiguity on the photon direction in symmetric systems

$$W_{\gamma p}^2 = 2E_p M_{J/\psi} e^{\pm y}$$

# Symmetric systems (pp, A-A) suffer from the two-fold ambiguity on the photon direction

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy} = \frac{n(+y)\sigma(\gamma p, +y) + n(-y)\sigma(\gamma p, -y)}{n(-y)\sigma(\gamma p, -y)}$$

Analyses of UPC asymmetric systems (p-Pb) provide <u>a model independent way</u> to study the energy dependence of  $\sigma(\gamma p)$ 

## Neutron-dependence of coherent J/ $\psi$ in UPC Pb-Pb

#### The photon flux (n) depends on the impact parameter

Decomposed in terms of neutron configurations emitted in the forward region

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy} = \frac{d\sigma(0n0n)}{dy} + 2\frac{d\sigma(0nXn)}{dy} + \frac{d\sigma(XnXn)}{dy}$$

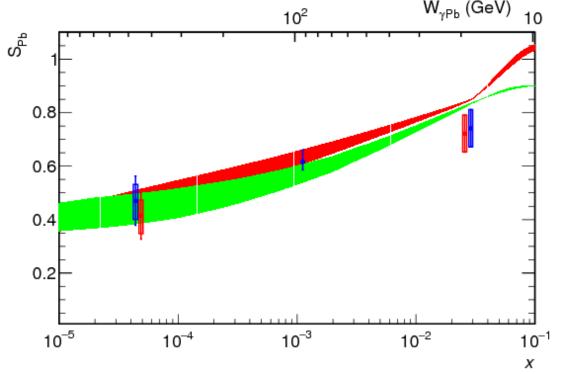
Solving the linear equations resolves the two-fold ambiguity for VMs at  $y \neq 0$ 

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy} = n(+y)\sigma(\gamma p, +y) + n(-y)\sigma(\gamma p, -y)$$

Guzey, Strikman, Zhalov, EPJC 74 (2014) 7, 2942

## Nuclear suppression factor for peripheral (not UPC) J/ $\psi$

J.G. Contreras, Phys. Rev. C 96 (2017) 1, 015203



Run 1 data from ALICE observed Coherent-like J/ $\psi$  from peripheral hadronic PbPb events. Process later confirmed by STAR

The photon flux depends on the impact parameter, these peripheral  $J/\psi$  explore  $\gamma P$  energies beyond coherent  $J/\psi$  at the same y interval at the same cms energy

Sensitivity to x ~ 10<sup>-5</sup>

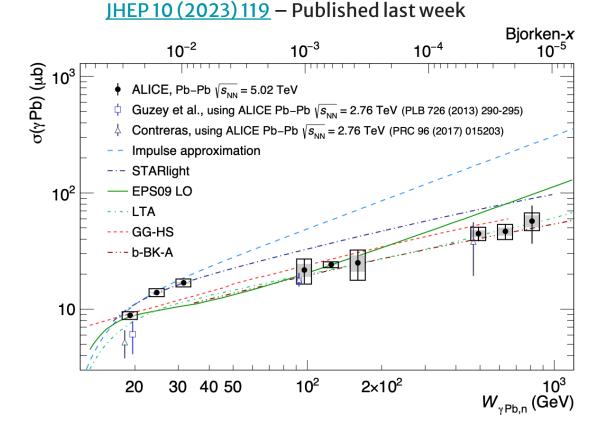
#### Energy dependence of coherent J/ $\psi$ in $\gamma$ Pb – ALICE Run 1 and Run 2 data

Confirmed Run 1 results. At low x, both shadowing and saturation models describe the data

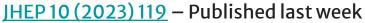
Energy dependence across the whole range not described by models

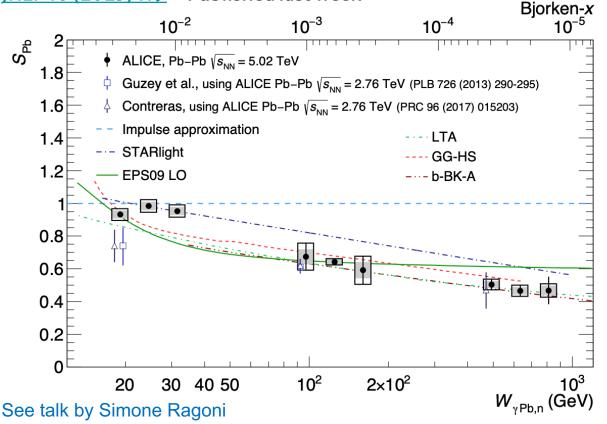
In a single experiment exploring (20,800) GeV in  $W_{\gamma Pb}$  and x from  $10^{-2}$  to  $10^{-5}$ 

See talk by Simone Ragoni



# Nuclear suppression factor – ALICE Run 1 and Run 2 data



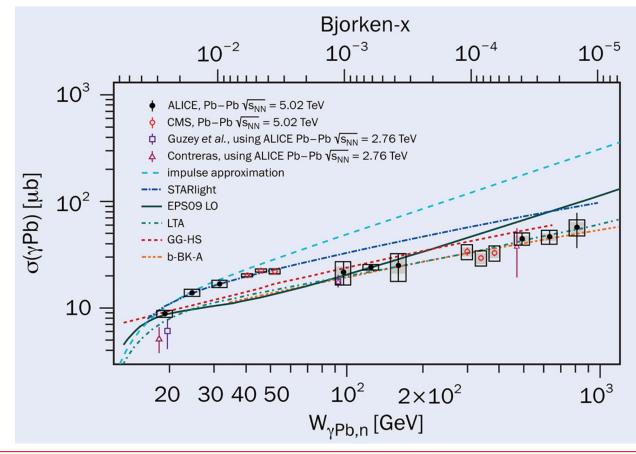


At low x, both shadowing and saturation models describe the data

Confirmation that peripheral hadronic events can be used to extract the energy dependence. Already explored down to x = 4.4×10<sup>-5</sup> using Run 1 data

With the neutrondependent analysis using Run 2 data, down to x =1.1×10<sup>-5</sup>, Run 2

# **Energy dependence of coherent J**/ $\psi$ in $\gamma$ **Pb**

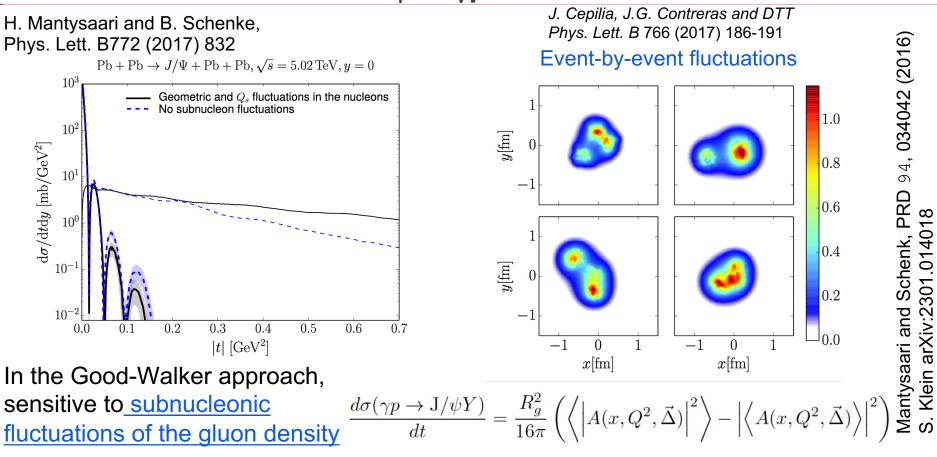


JHEP 10 (2023) 119 Published last week

Both gluon saturation and shadowing describe the data at high energies

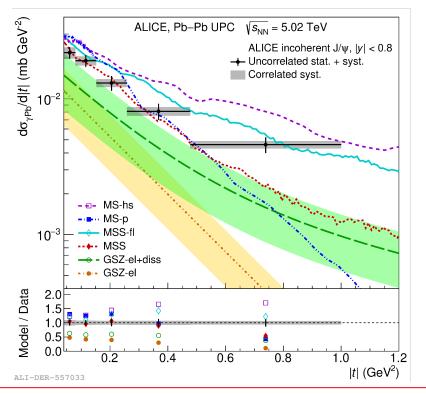
At low energies the data cannot be described by these models

# Dissociative/incoherent J/ $\psi$ in $\gamma p$

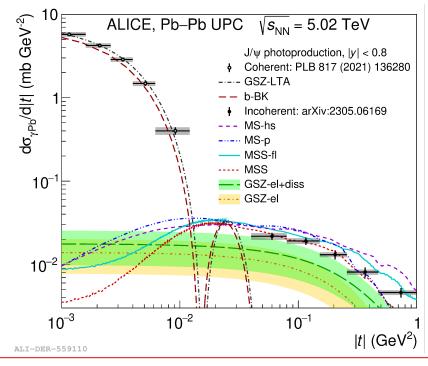


# t-dependence of coherent and incoherent J/ $\psi$ in UPC PbPb

First measurement of the |t|-dependence of incoherent J/ψ photonuclear production https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.06169 Probing for aluonic "hot spots" in



#### Probing for gluonic "hot spots" in Pb using UPCs for the first time!



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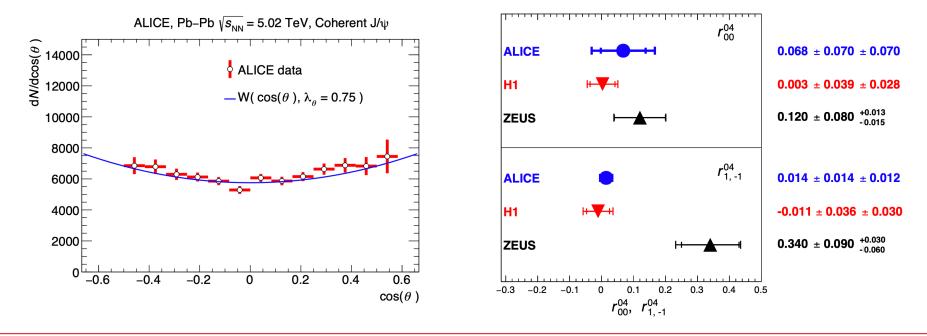
October 2023

# Polarization of coherent J/ $\psi$ in UPC Pb-Pb

First polarisation measurement of coherently photoproduced J/ $\psi$  in ultra-peripheral Pb–Pb collisions at 5.02 TeV

https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.10928

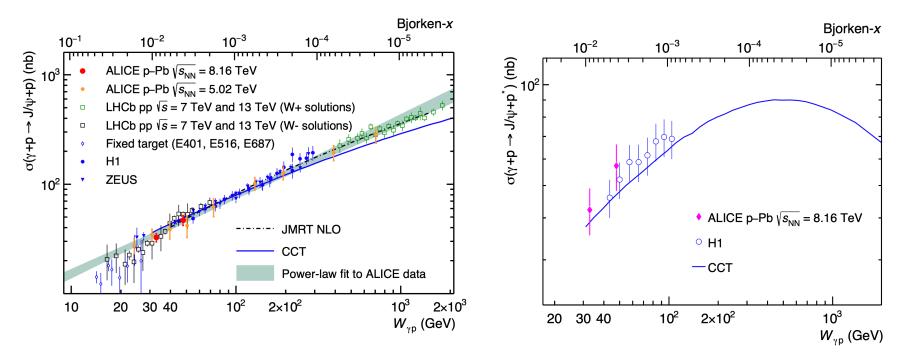
$$W(\cos\theta,\varphi) \propto \frac{1}{3+\lambda_{\theta}} \left[ 1+\lambda_{\theta}\cos^2\theta + \lambda_{\varphi}\sin^2\theta\cos2\varphi + \lambda_{\theta\varphi}\sin2\theta\cos\varphi \right].$$



# Exclusive and dissociative J/ $\psi$ in UPC pPb

# Exclusive and dissociative J/ $\psi$ photoproduction, and exclusive dimuon production, in p-Pb collisions at 8.16 TeV

https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.12403 - Accepted for publication by PRD



# **Exclusive four-pion in UPC PbPb – shown first QM 2023**

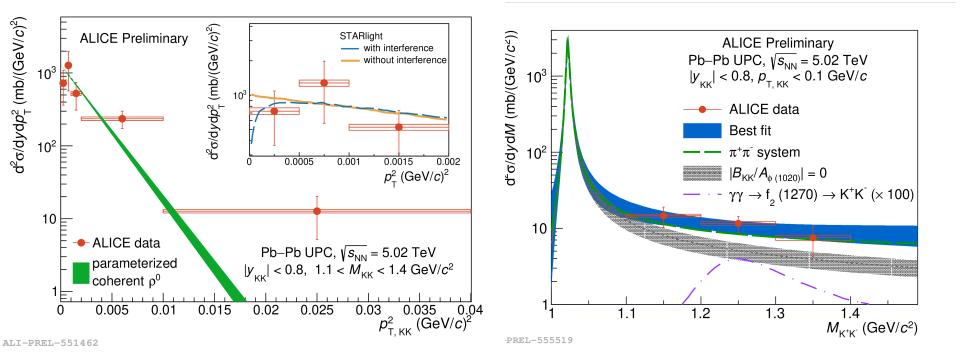
#### Excited $\rho^0$ states

(2) 4000 م(2) 4000 3500 ALICE Preliminary Pb + Pb  $\rightarrow$  Pb +  $\pi^{+}\pi^{-}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}$  + Pb,  $\sqrt{s_{_{NN}}}$  = 5.02 TeV ALICE Preliminary Pb + Pb  $\rightarrow$  Pb +  $\pi^{+}\pi^{-}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}$  + Pb,  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  = 5.02 TeV  $|y_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-}| < 0.5$  $\chi^2$ /ndf = 20 / 21 Data **ALICE** ρ(1700) Total 000E (2 Uncorr. Syst. **Theory** p(1700) Total Unc. — ALICE ρ(1450) - - ALICE ρ(1700) <u></u> ЭХР ЭХР Interference 2000 Events / 1500 **ALICE** ρ(1450) **Theory** p(1450) Two resonance scenario One resonance scenario 1000E ALICE fit 500 **Theory** ρ(1570) 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 100 0 90 1.2 1.4 1.6 1.8 2 2.2 2.4  $d\sigma/dy \bullet$  Branching Ratio (mb)  $M_{\pi^{+}\pi^{-}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}}$  (GeV/c<sup>2</sup>) ALI-PREL-556195

M. Klusek-Gawenda and DTT

Acta Phys.Polon.B 51 (2020) 6, 1393-1404

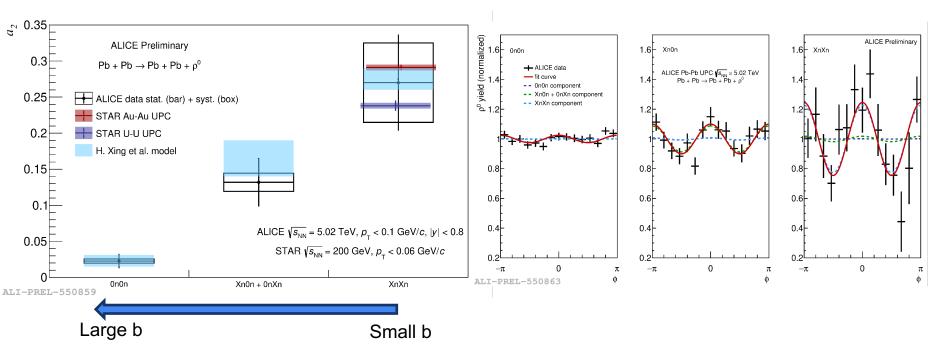
#### Exclusive K<sup>+</sup>K<sup>-</sup> in UPC PbPb - shown first QM 2023



Direct  $K^+K^-$  vs  $\phi$  production

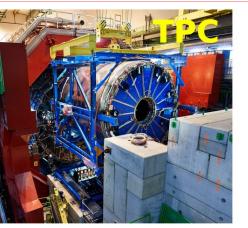
# Azimuthal anisotropies of coherent $\rho^0$ - shown first QM 2023

#### **First impact-parameter dependence**

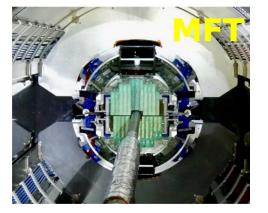


## ALICE in Run 3: A major upgrade





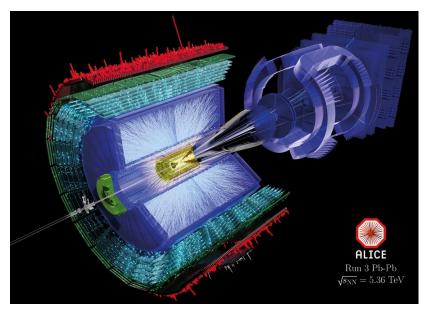
- 50 times increase in the readout rate
- 3 to 6x improvement in pointing resolution

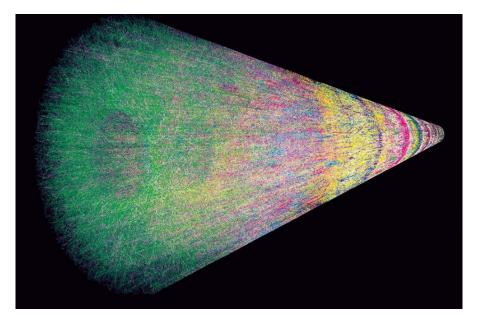




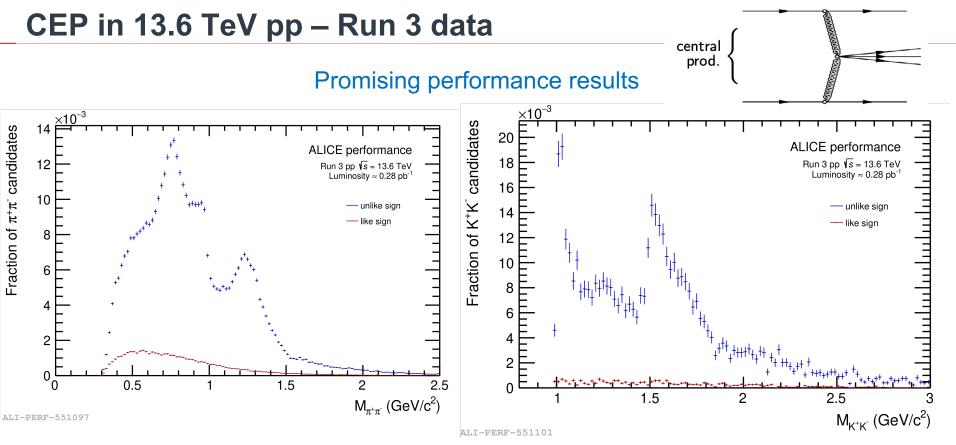
 Secondary vertexing for forward muons

# ALICE in Run 3: Trigger-less mode





2 msec time frame of Pb-Pb collisions at a 50 kHz interaction rate in the TPC

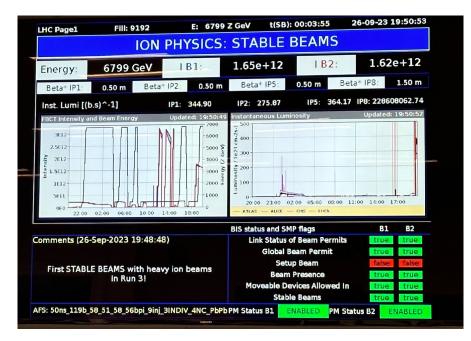


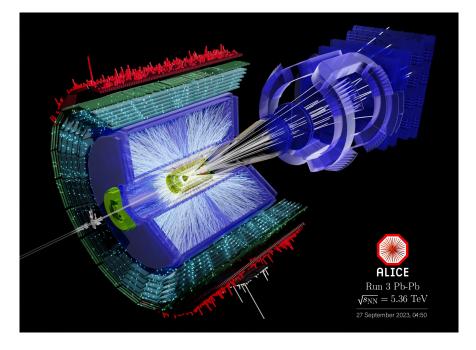
#### See talk by Rainer Schicker EMMI workshop "Forward physics in ALICE 3", October 2023

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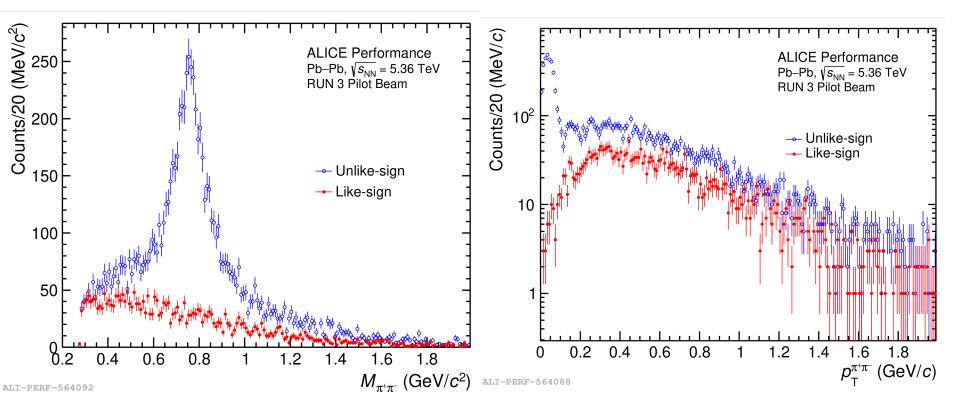
### First stable Pb beams in Run 3: September 26, 2023



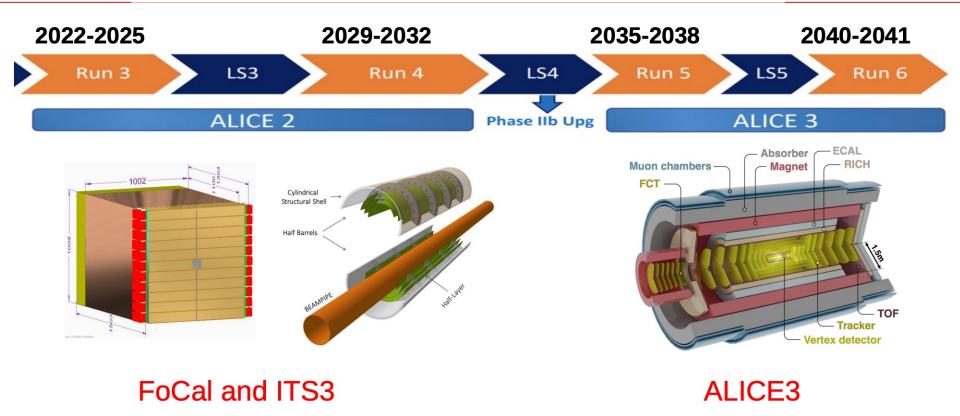


# UPC results – Run 3 data from this month! - first shown here

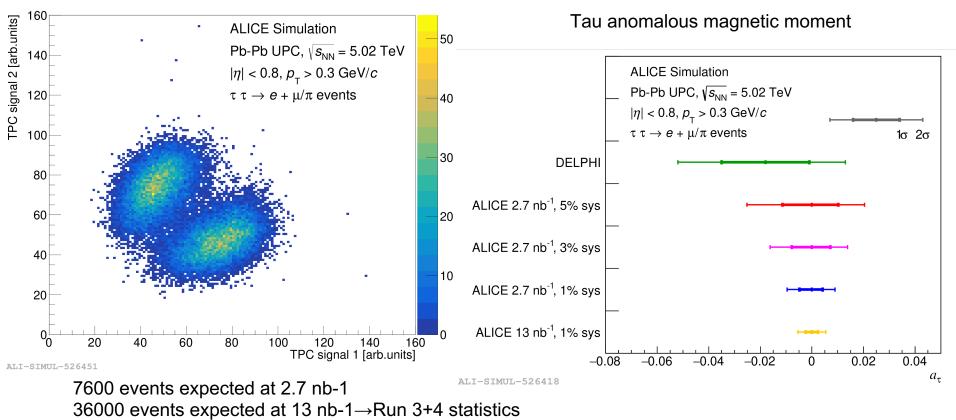
#### See talk by Anisa Khatun



#### ALICE timeline

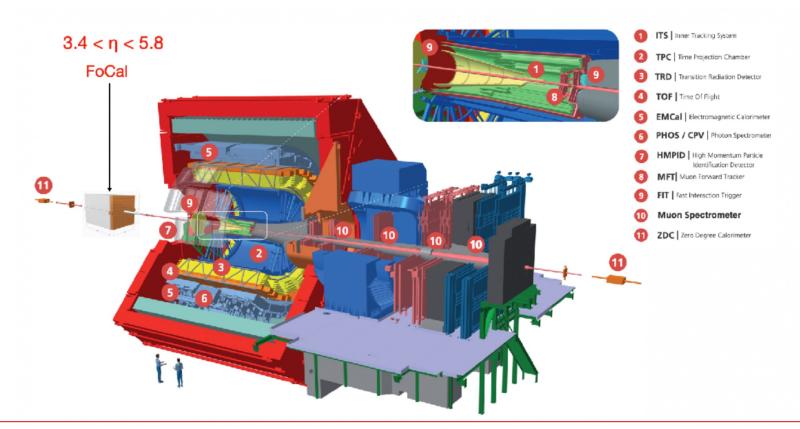


## **Prospects: tau analysis in UPCs with ALICE**



Purity of the selection larger than 96%

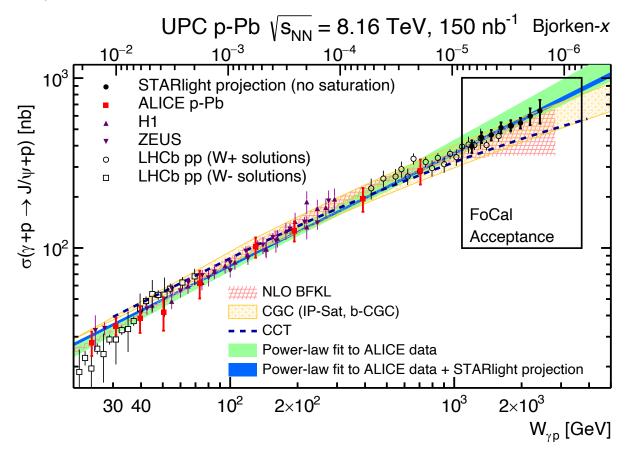
## The ALICE FoCal project for Run 4



### UPC VM projections for FoCal

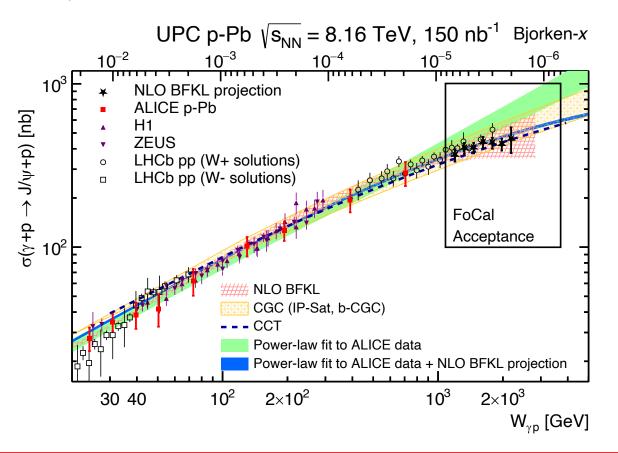
VM	$\sigma(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{Pb} \rightarrow \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{Pb} + \mathbf{VM})$	$\sigma(3.4 \le \eta_{1,2} \le 5.8)$	Yield
		$p \rightarrow FoCal$	$\mathbf{p} \to \mathbf{FoCal}$
$ ho^0$	35  mb	140 nb	21,000
$\phi$	1.7 mb	51  nb	7,700
${ m J}/\psi$	$98 \ \mu b$	400 nb	60,000
$\psi(2S)$	$16 \ \mu b$	8.9 nb	$1,\!300$
$\Upsilon(1S)$	220 nb	0.38 nb	60
		$Pb \rightarrow FoCal$	$Pb \rightarrow FoCal$
$\rho^0$	35 mb	17 nb	2,600
$\phi$	1.7 mb	5.3  nb	800
${ m J}/\psi$	$98 \ \mu b$	36 nb	$5,\!400$
$\psi(2S)$	$16 \ \mu b$	0.53  nb	80
$\Upsilon(1S)$	220 nb	0.67 pb	$\sim 0$

Projections for exclusive  $J/\psi$  off protons



- Deviations from a power-law trend should signal non-linear QCD dynamics
- Here, projections based on STARlight which uses a parametrization based on HERA data  $\sigma_0 (W_{\gamma p}/W_0)^{\delta}$
- For all figures, 60% efficiency. Conservative assumption after acceptance selection

Projections for exclusive  $J/\psi$  off protons



- Projections assuming a broken power-law
- Projected points based on NLO BFKL calculation

$$\sigma(\gamma p) \approx \frac{\sigma_0}{\frac{1}{W_{\gamma p}^{\delta}} + A}$$

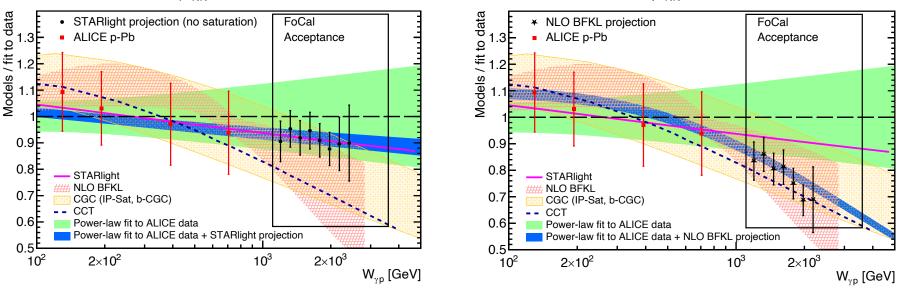
# Projections for exclusive $J/\psi$ off protons

#### Power-law behavior (STARlight)

UPC p-Pb  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16 \text{ TeV}, 150 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ 

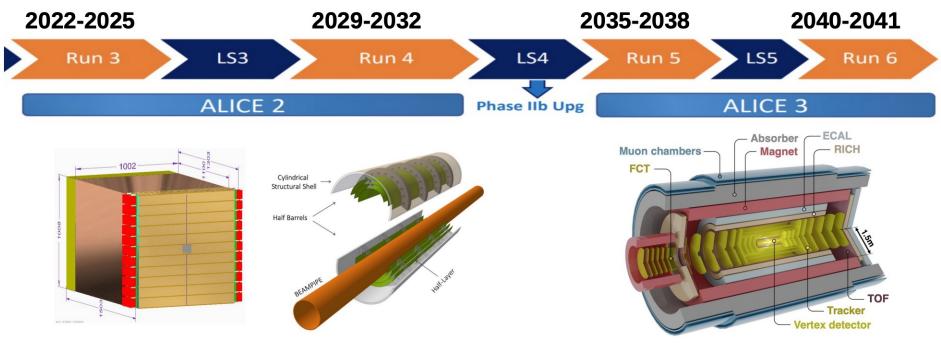
#### Broken power-law behavior (NLO BFKL)

UPC p-Pb  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16 \text{ TeV}, 150 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ 



FoCal measurement would be sufficient <u>to observe</u> <u>a deviation from a power law behavior, if exists</u>

#### ALICE timeline



#### FoCal and ITS3

ALICE3

ALICE 3 prospects not discussed in this talk

# **UPC 2023** First international workshop on the physics of Ultra Peripheral Collisions

#### Scientific Topics

Photon-Proton and Photon-Nucleus Physics Two Photon Physics Nonlinear And Gluon Saturation Parton Distribution Developments Hadronization In Exclusive Processes Soft Nucleon And Nucleus Interactions Photoproduction In Events With Nuclear Overlap UPCs And Future Electron-Ion Colliders

Playa del Carmen (Riviera Maya), Mexico December 11-15, 2023

Registration and abstract deadline: September 15

Student day on December 10

# Thanks!