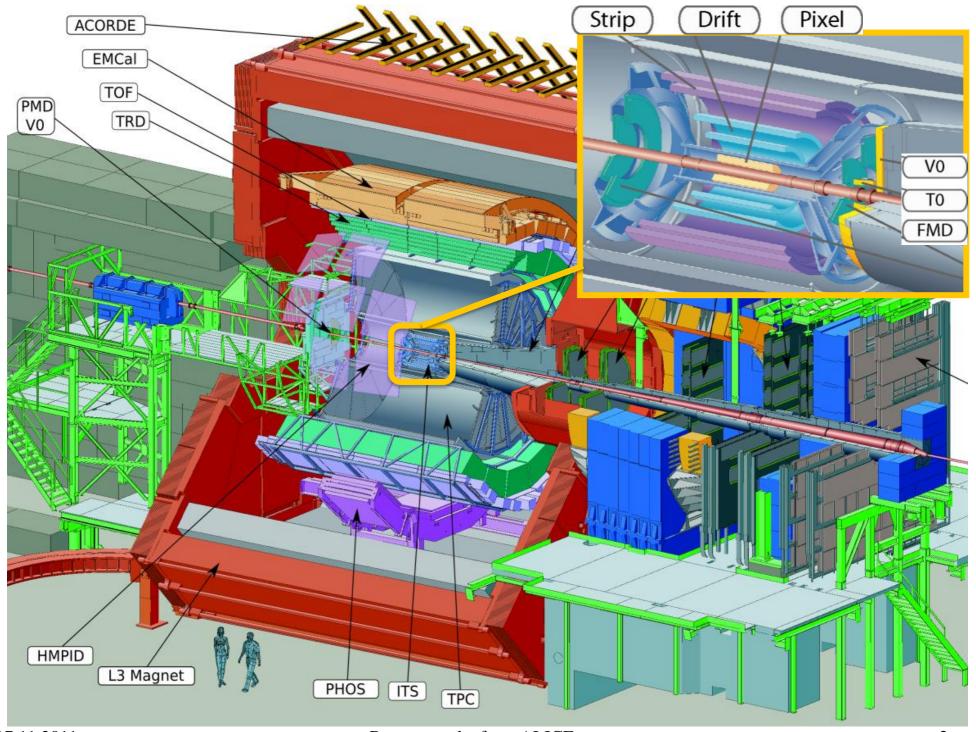




ALICE physics program



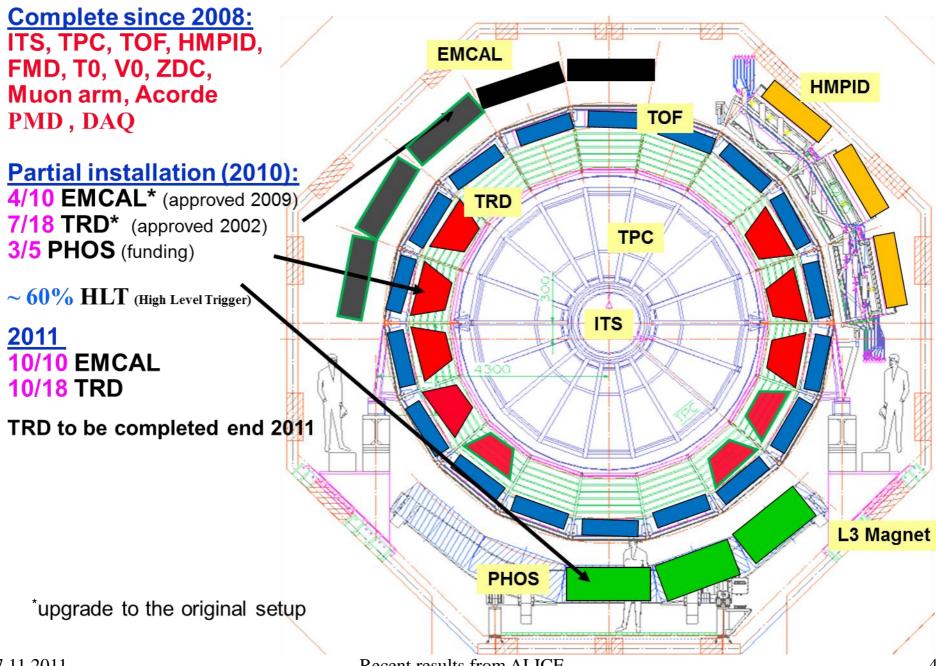
- ALICE is a dedicated heavy-ion detector to exploit the unique physics potential of nucleus-nucleus interactions at LHC energies.
- ALICE aim is to study the physics of strongly interacting matter at extreme energy densities, where the formation of a new phase of matter, the quark-gluon plasma, is expected.
- ALICE is carrying out a comprehensive study of the hadrons, electrons, muons and photons produced in the collision of heavy nuclei.
- ALICE is also studying proton-proton collisions both as a comparison with lead-lead collisions and in physics areas where ALICE is competitive with other LHC experiments.





Detector status



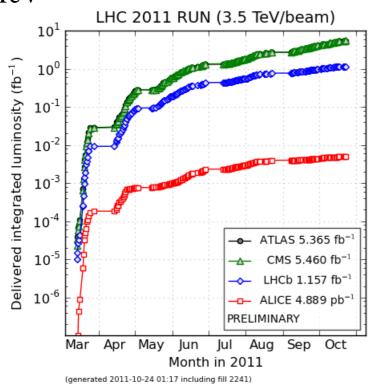


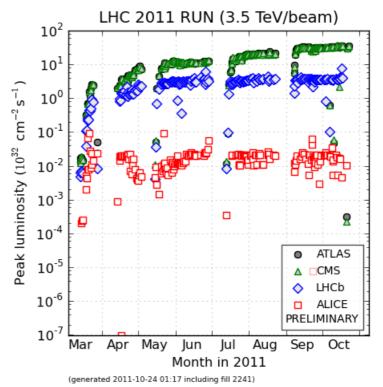


Physics with pp in 2011



- 500 M events with pp at \sqrt{s} =7 TeV to reach the original goal of 10⁹ events (double 2010 min bias statistics)
- > 10 pb⁻¹ (2011+2012) rare triggers with pp at \sqrt{s} =7 TeV (jets, muons, photons) for comparison with PbPb
- Data with with pp at \sqrt{s} =2.76 TeV for direct comparison with PbPb at \sqrt{s}_{NN} =2.76 TeV





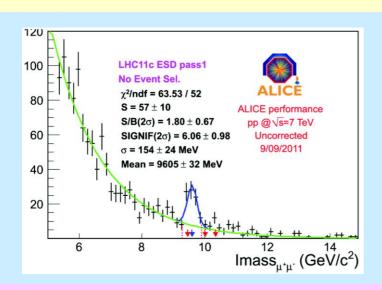


Rare event triggers at a glance



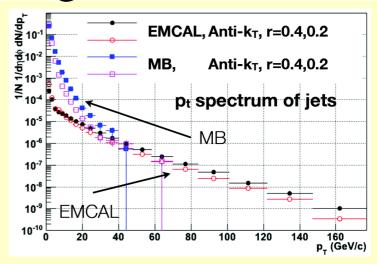
EMCAL: $L_{INT} > 2 \text{ pb}^{-1}$

• Jet spectrum till $p_T=160 \text{ GeV}$



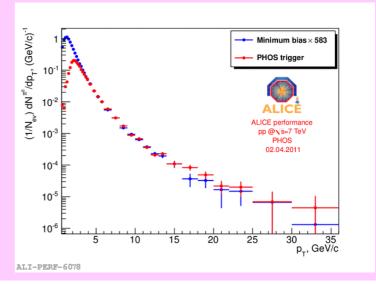
PHOS: $L_{INT} \sim 75 \text{ nb}^{-1}$

• Photon and neutral meson spectra measurements at p_T up to 40 GeV/c



MUON: $L_{INT} \sim 2 \text{ pb}^{-1}$

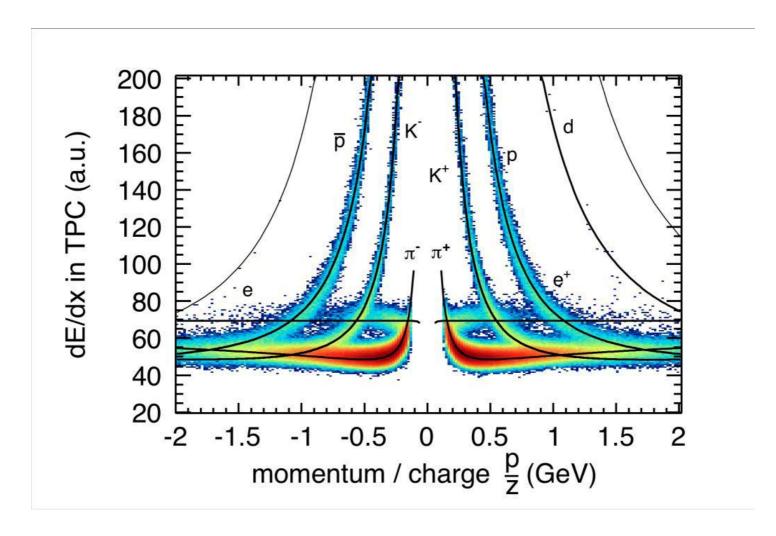
• High statistics J/ψ and Y signal in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$







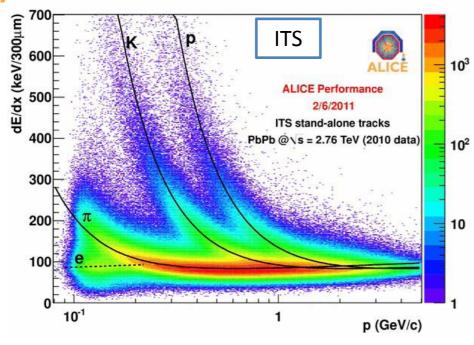
Hadron production in pp

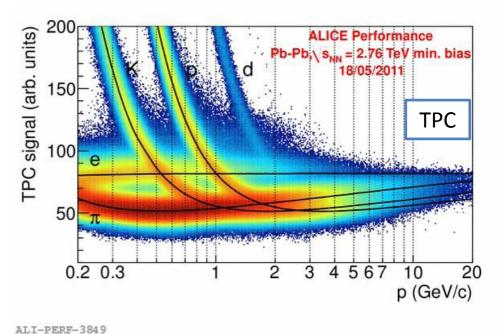


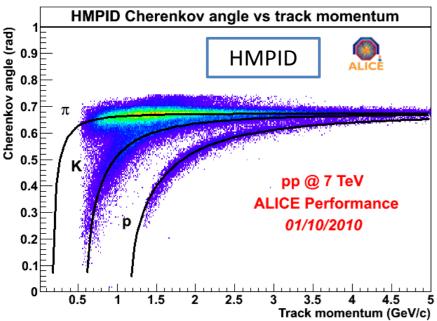


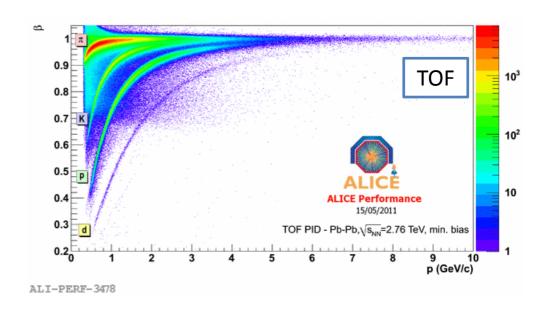
Particle identification with ALICE







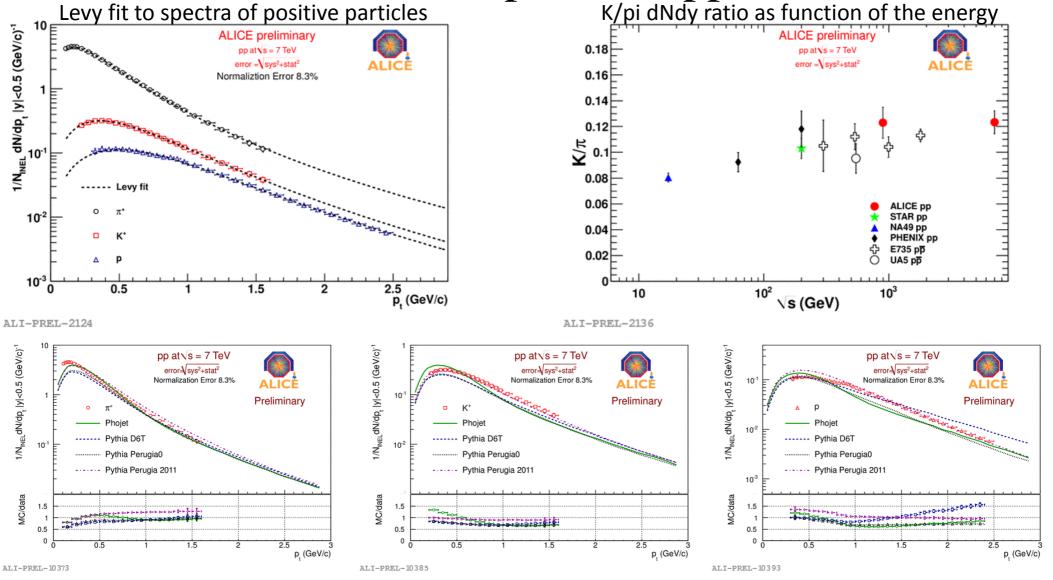






Identified hadron spectra in pp @ 7 TeV





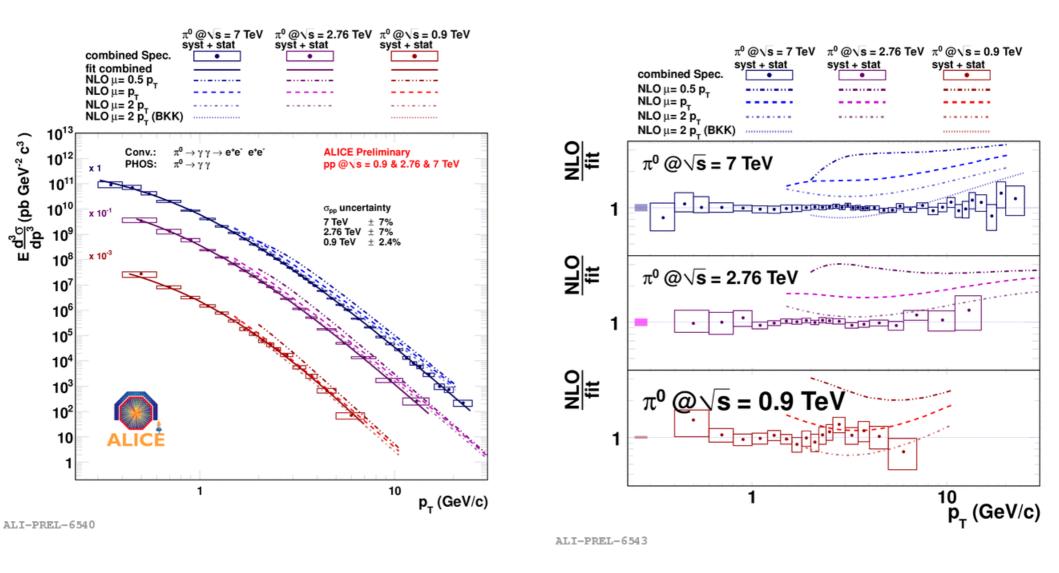
MC models do not describe particle spectra at low p_T .

B. Guerzoni, 16.11.2011



π^0 spectrum in pp @ 0.9, 2.76, 7 TeV





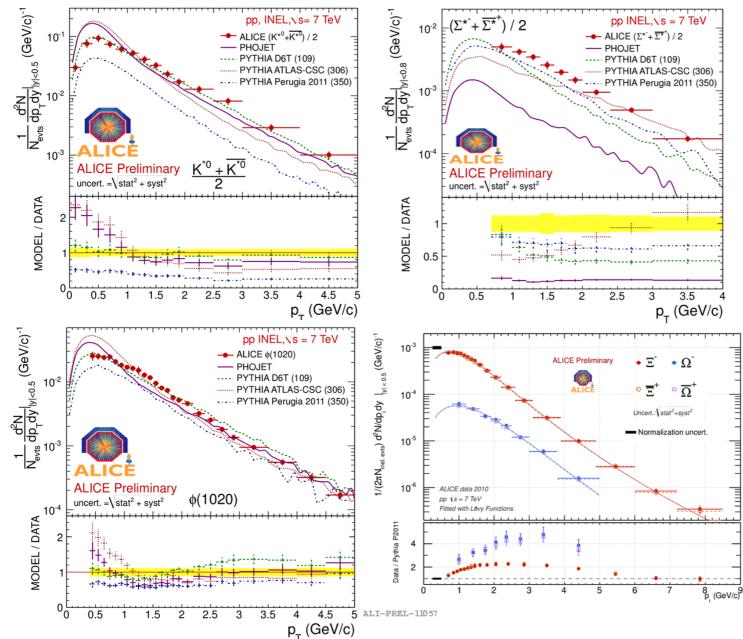
pQCD NLO does not describe particle spectra at high p_T.

B. Polishchuk, 16.11.2011



Resonance spectra in pp @ 7 TeV





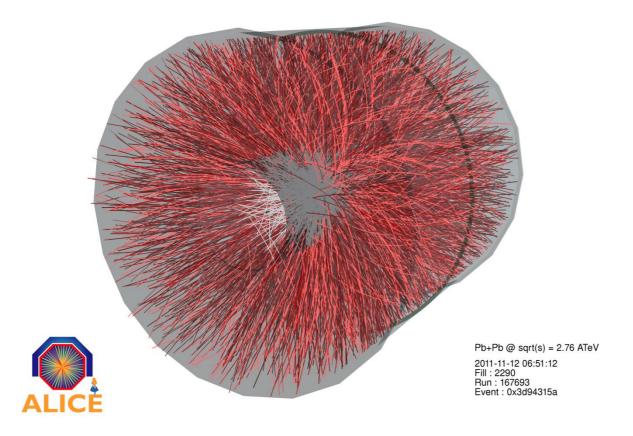
Important constraint on Monte Carlo generators:

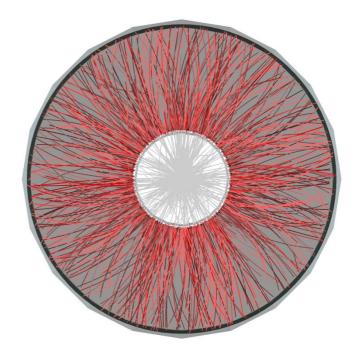
MC models yield a poor description of the data (some exceptions)





Global event features

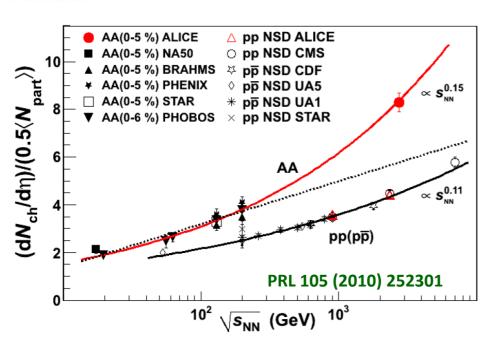


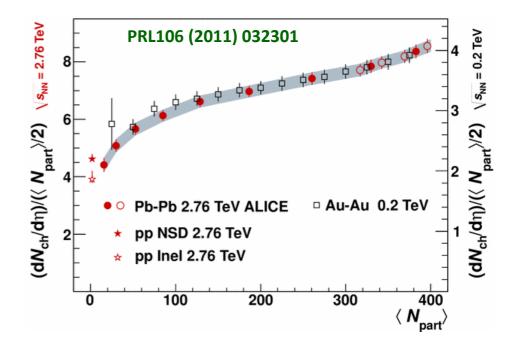




Charged particle multiplicity







- $dN_{ch}/d\eta = 1584 \pm 76$
- $(dN_{ch}/d\eta)/(N_{part}/2) = 8.3 \pm 0.4$
 - ≈ 2.1 x central AuAu at Vs_{NN}=0.2 TeV
 - ≈ 1 .9 x pp (NSD) at √s=2.36 TeV
- Stronger rise with \sqrt{s} in AA w.r.t. pp
- Stronger rise with \sqrt{s} in AA w.r.t. log extrapolation from lower energies

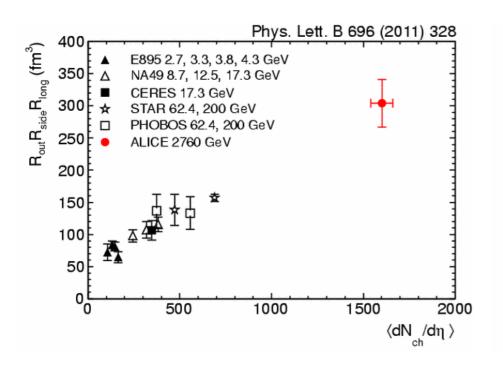
 Very similar centrality dependence at LHC & RHIC (RHIC results are scaled x2.1 to the multiplicity of central collisions at the LHC)

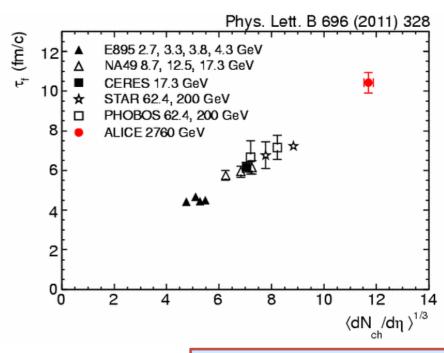


System size



- Spatial extent of the particle emitting source extracted from interferometry of identical bosons
 - Two-particle momentum correlations in 3 orthogonal directions -> HBT radii $(R_{long}, R_{side}, R_{out})$
 - Size: twice w.r.t. RHIC
 - Lifetime: 40% higher w.r.t. RHIC



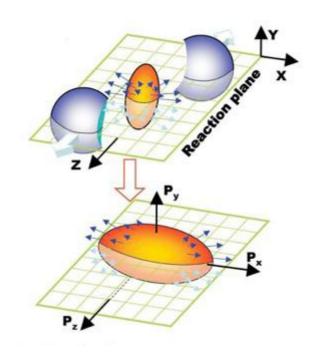


L. Malinina, 16.11.2011





Collective expansion



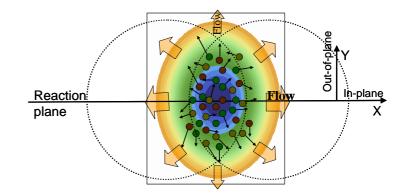


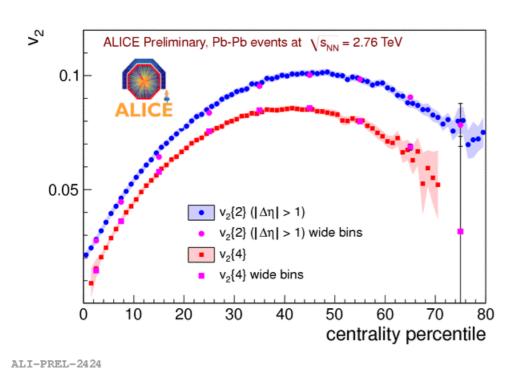
Elliptic flow

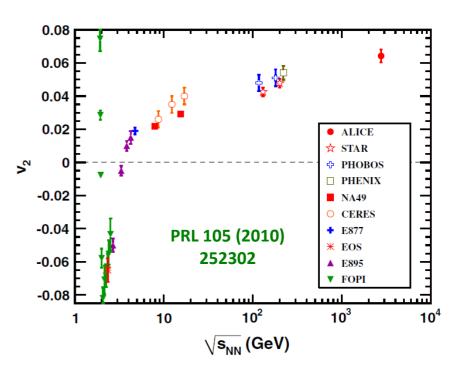


$$\frac{\mathrm{d}N}{\mathrm{d}(\varphi - \psi_{RP})} \propto 1 + 2\sum_{n=1} v_n \cos(n[\varphi - \psi_{RP}])$$

$$v_2 = \langle \cos \left[2(\varphi - \Psi_{RP}) \right] \rangle$$





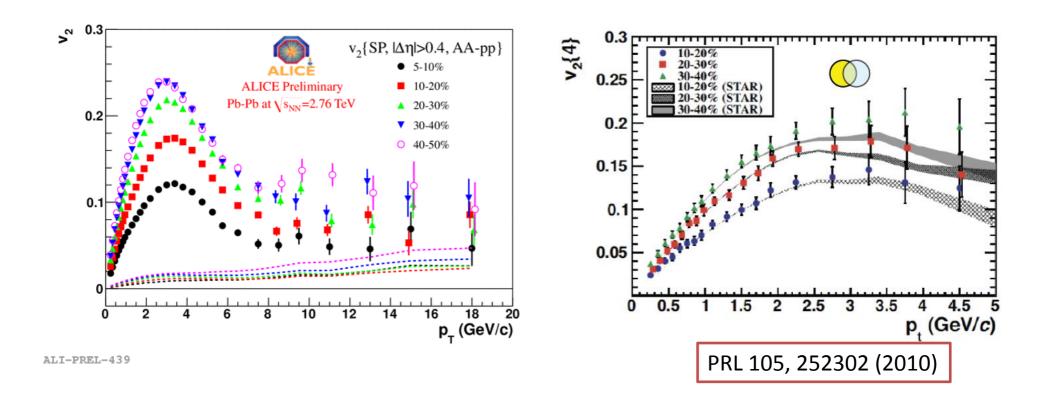


At LHC, p_T -integrated v_2 increases by 30% w.r.t RHIC data at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ =200 GeV



Differential elliptic flow



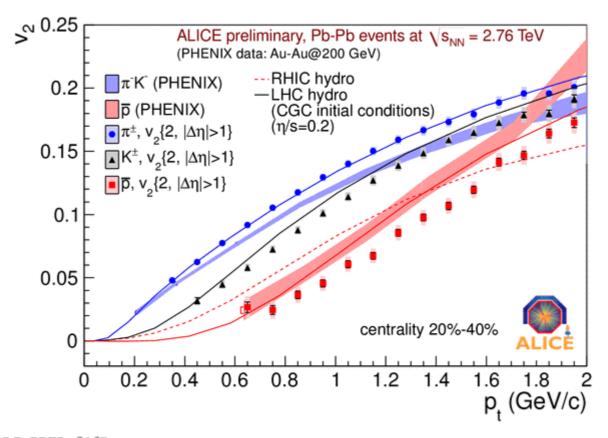


- v_2 vs. p_T does not change within uncertainties between v_{NN} =200 GeV and 2.76 TeV
 - 30% increase of p_T integrated flow explained by higher mean p_T due to stronger radial flow at higher energies



Elliptic flow of identified hadrons





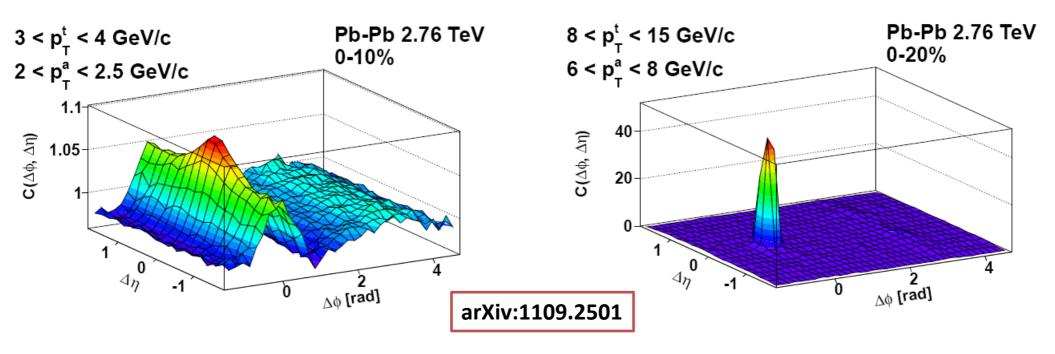
ALI-PREL-2467

- Stronger radial flow -> more pronounced mass dependence of elliptic flow
- Hydrodynamics predictions describe well the measured $v_2(p_T)$ for π and K for semi-peripheral (40%-50%) and semi-central (10%-20%) collisions
 - Mismatch for anti-protons in the more central bin
 Larger radial flow in the data than in the Hydro model
 Rescatterings in the hadronic phase play an important role (arXiv:1108.5323)



Di-hadron correlations





Lower p_T

- Near-side ridge
 - First observed at RHIC
 - Observed also by CMS in high multiplicity pp collisions at Vs=7 TeV
 - Broad away-side
 - Dominated by hydrodynamics and flow

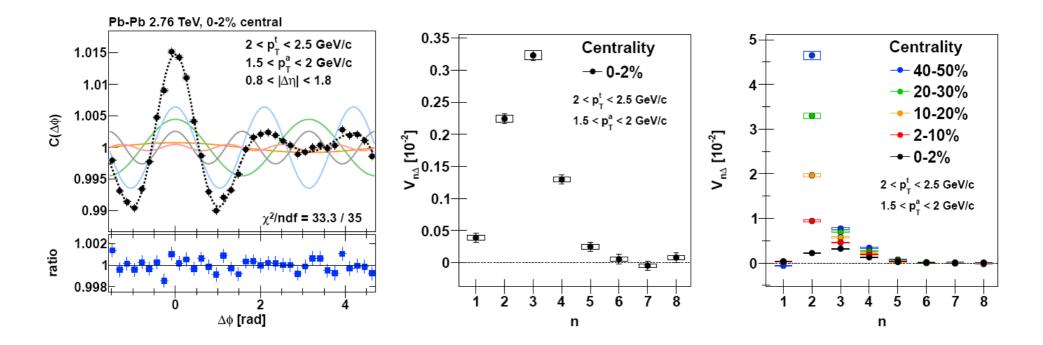
Higher p_T

- Near-side jet dominates
- Quenching/suppression and broadening of the away side jet



Di-hadron correlations: Fourier analysis





- The data also suggest that at low p_T (below approximately 3 GeV/c), any contribution from the away-side jet is constrained to be relatively small.
- In contrast, for associated p_T greater than 4–6 GeV/c, the long-range correlation appears dominated by a large peak from the recoil jet.

arXiv:1109.2501



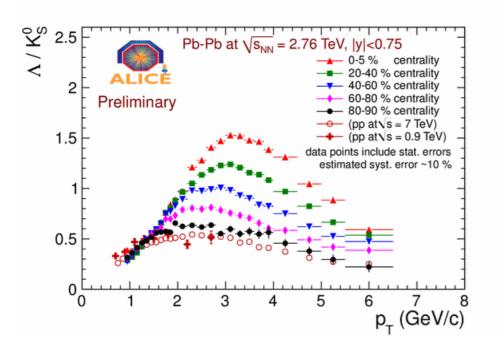


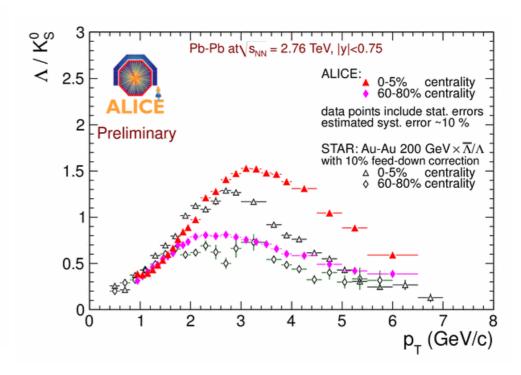
Strangeness production



Strange baryon/meson ratio







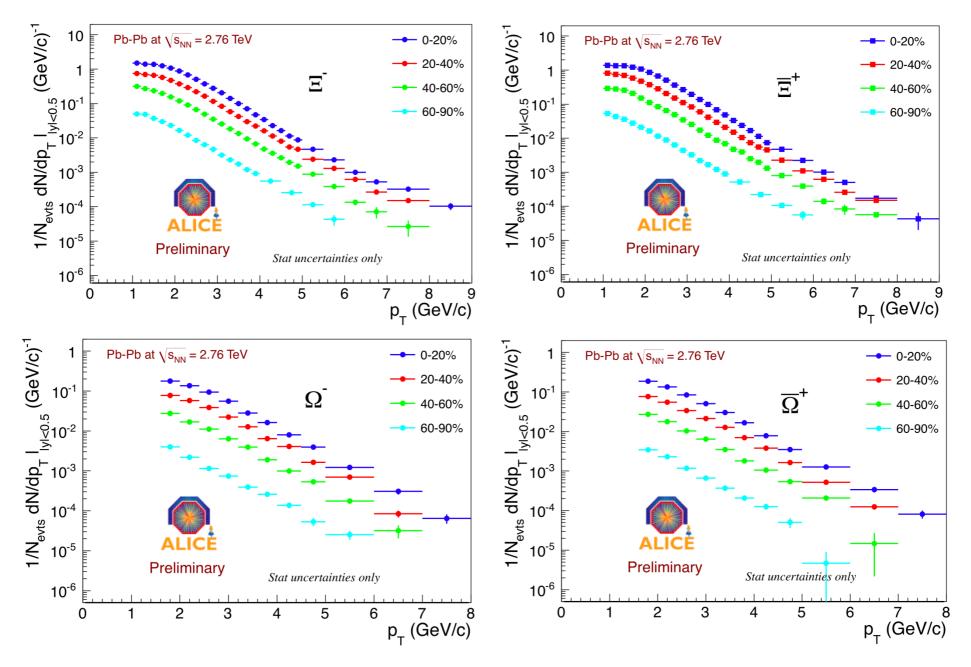
- Baryons are more abundant at intermediate p_T
- Baryon/meson ratio increases with centrality

- Enhancement is stronger at LHC than at RHIC
- Maximum of Λ/K is reached at higher p_T at LHC than at RHIC



Multi-strange baryons

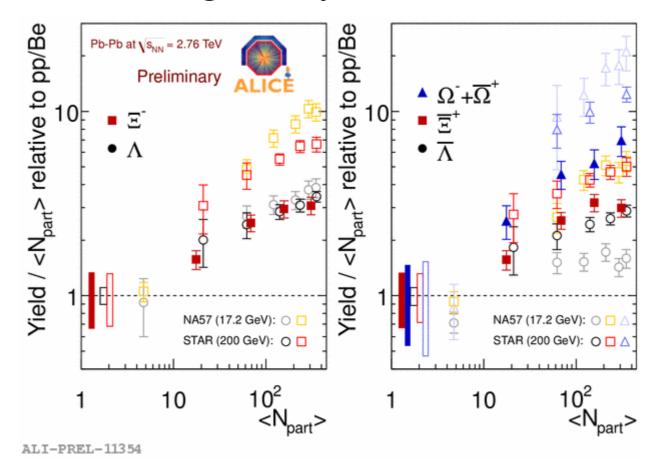






Multi-strange baryons: enhancement



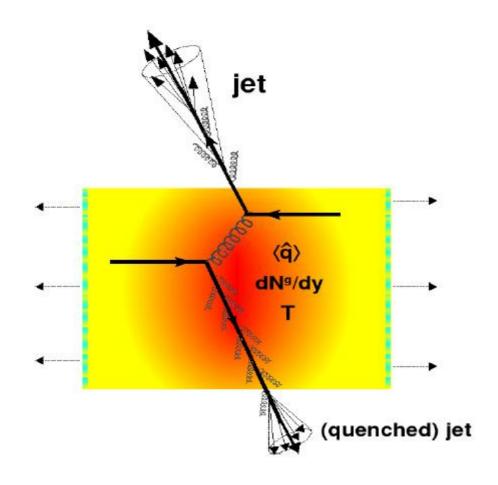


- Production of multi-strange baryons in PbPb collisions at Vs=2.76 TeV are enhanced with respect to pp.
- Enhancement scaled with N_{part}.
- The enhancement of strange baryons decreases with Vs





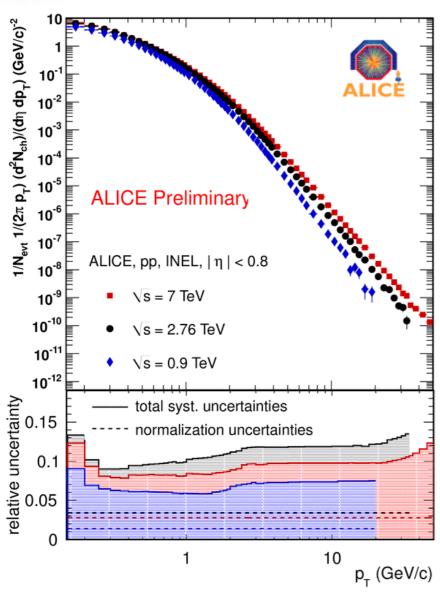
Parton energy loss in medium

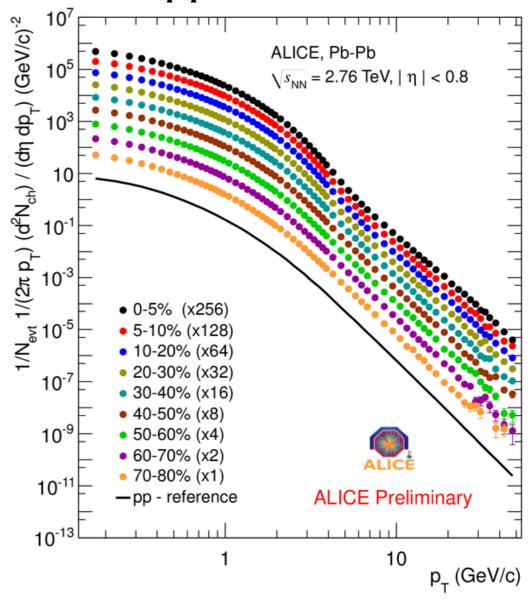




Charged particle spectrum: pp vs PbPb







ALI-PREL-11366 ALI-PREL-10231

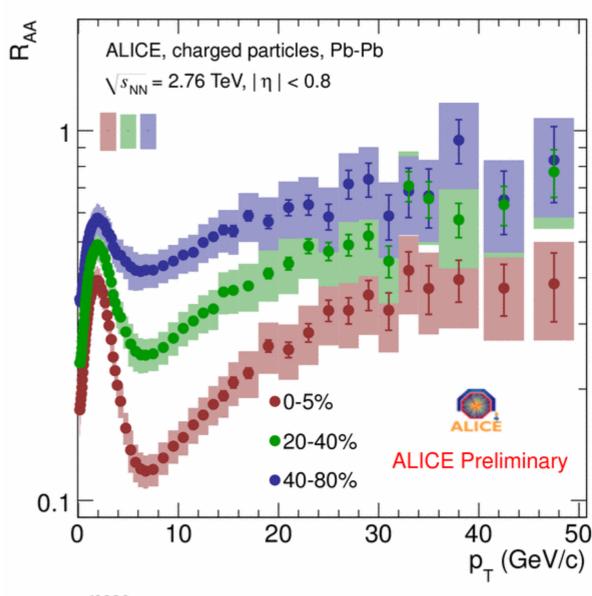


Charged particle suppression



$$R_{AA} (p_T) = \frac{1}{\langle T_{AA} \rangle} \frac{dN_{AA} / dp_T}{d\sigma_{pp} / dp_T}$$

- Suppression increases with increasing centrality
- Minimum for p_T ~ 6-7 GeV/c in all centrality classes
- R_{AA} increases in the region p_T>10 GeV/c
- Hint of flattening above 30 GeV/c



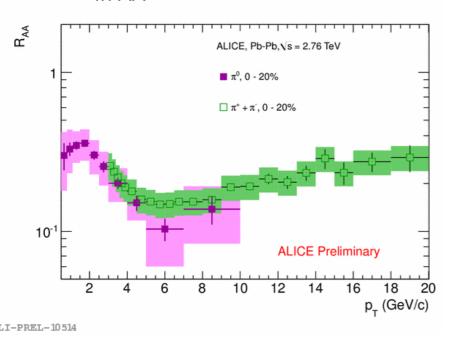
ALI-PREL-10239

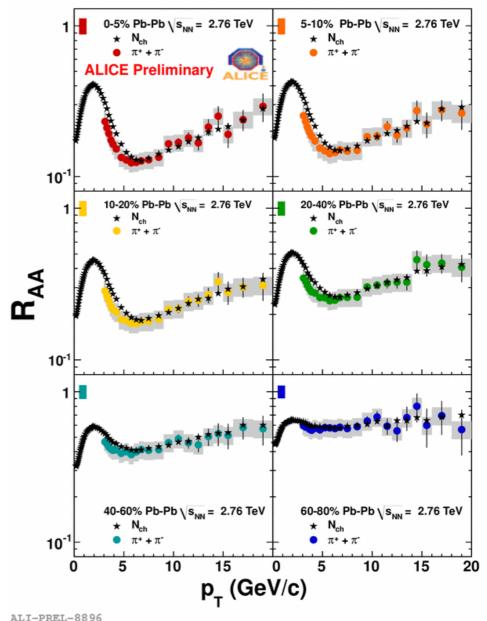


R_{AA} of light identified mesons



- π[±], K[±], p, anti-p are identified in TPC by ionization loss dE/dx
- π^0 are identified by γ conversions and by calorimeters.
- Same suppression for π^0 and π^\pm
- π^{\pm} are stronger suppressed than charged particles:
 - Possible baryon enhancement in AA

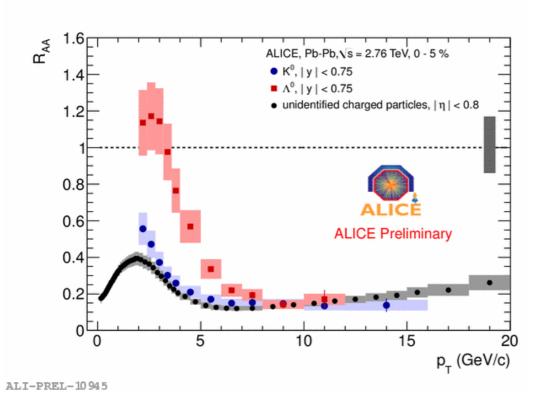


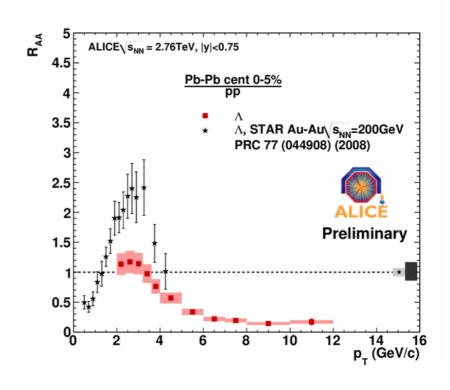




R_{AA} of strange hadrons







- K_s⁰ is suppressed similarly to charged particles
- Suppression of Λ :

At high p_T similar to charged particles At low p_T is less suppressed due to baryon enhancement Different at RHIC and LHC



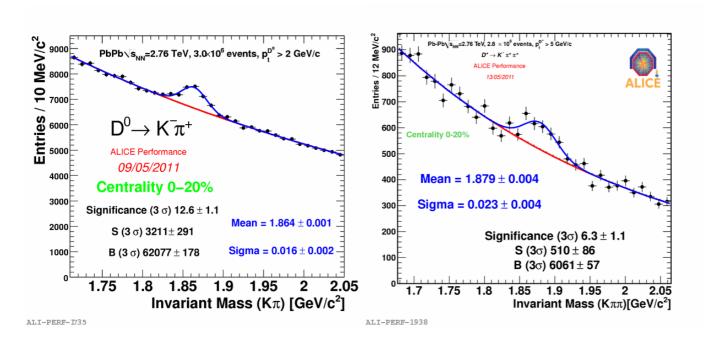


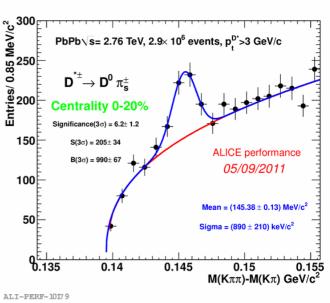
Heavy flavors



Open charm: D mesons





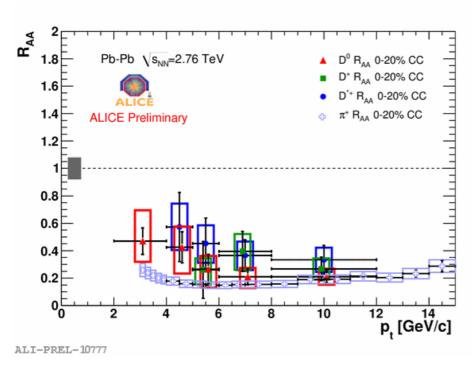


- Invariant mass analysis of fully reconstructed decay topologies displaced from the primary vertex
- Reconstructed D-meson spectra are corrected for B decays (10-15%, FONLL).



D mesons in PbPb



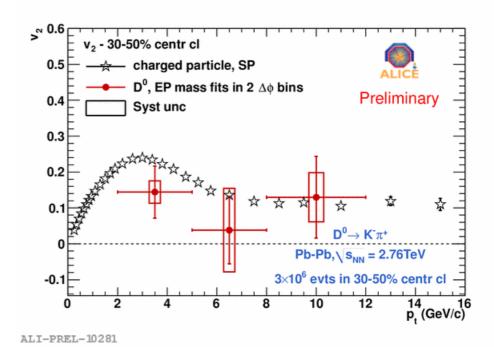


Suppression of prompt D mesons in central (0-20%) PbPb collisions by a factor 4-5 for $p_T>5$ GeV/c

Little shadowing at high $p_T \rightarrow$ suppression is a hot matter effect

Similar suppression for D mesons and pions

Maybe a hint of $R_{AA}^{D} > R_{AA}^{\pi}$ at low p_{T}



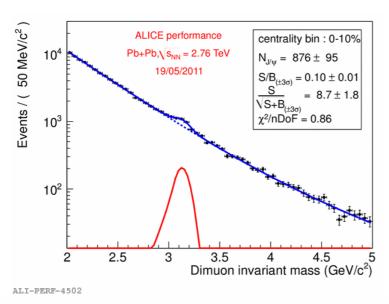
First direct measurement of D flow in heavy-ion collisions

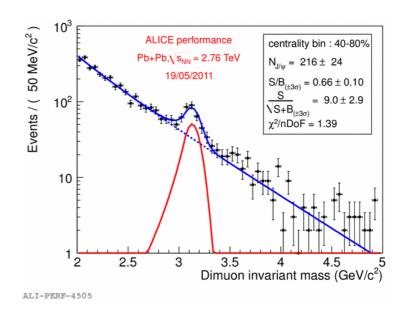
Yield extracted from invariant mass spectra of $K\pi$ candidates in 2 bins of azimuthal angle relative to the event plane

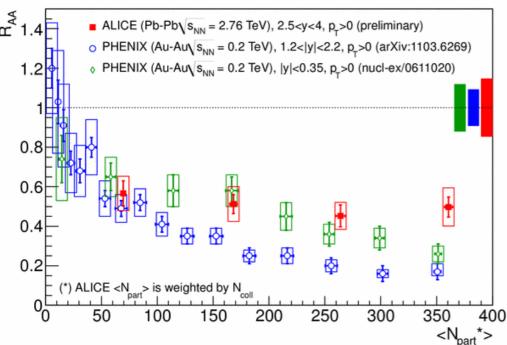


Charmonium in PbPb









Less suppression at LHC than at RHIC at forward rapidity:

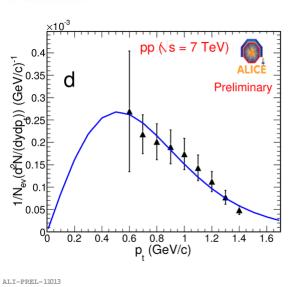
 $R_{AA}(ALICE) > R_{AA}(PHENIX, 1.2 < y < 2.2)$

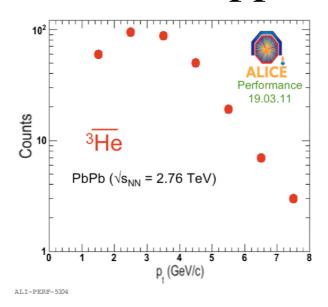
F. Bossu, 18.11.2011

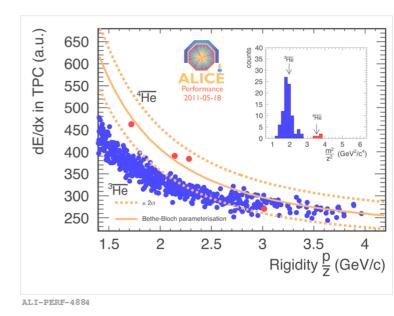


Light nuclei in pp and PbPb

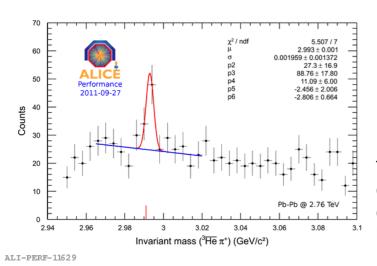








Raw Anti-Helium3 spectra for PbPb collisions at \sqrt{s} =2.76 ATeV



Light nuclei in pp and PbPbThe figure shows the observation of four anti-alpha candidates in the ALICE experiment. The plot shows the measured dE/dx signal in the ALICE TPC versus rigidity together with the expected curve for anti-alpha. The dotted lines show a 2sigma-band around this expected curve. Below R = 2.3 GeV/c a clean identification with only the TPC is possible. Above this, the bands from He-3 and He-4 are overlapping so that information from the TOF for tracks inside the 2sigma-band must be included.

The plot shows the invariant mass distribution of v0 candidates whose negative daughter was identified as a anti-He3 nucleus based on TPC dEdx.



Summary



- ALICE is exploring hadron production in pp collisions at \sqrt{s} =0.9, 2.76, 7 TeV:
 - Tests of various models, constraints on the model parameters
- ALICE is exploring quark matter with PbPb at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ =2.76 TeV
 - Medium with 3 times higher energy density than at RHIC
 - Abundance of hard probes
- Smooth evolution of global (bulk) event characteristics from RHIC to LHC energies
 - Precision measurements in 2011 with x10 times more statistics
 - Better constraints for existing models
- Hard probes: novelties, surprises, challenges for theory
 - High p_T hadrons
 - Strong suppression (factor 7 at $p_T \sim 7 \text{ GeV/c}$)
 - Heavy quark R_{AA} similar to that of pions at high p_T
 - Quarkonia:
 - J/ψ less suppressed than at RHIC at forward rapidity