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Upgrade and physics prospects of ALICE

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ALICE at LHC, collecting data in Pb-Pb, p-Pb and pp collisions, aims for the characterization of the QCD matter at high temperature and energy density.
While the first running period until 2017 can provide detailed description of
the global and bulk phenomena and a first set of results on rare probes of heavy-ion collisions, many important questions involving rare processes cannot be addressed in details with the current experimental setup.
In this talk we give an overview of the ALICE Upgrade program focusing on the physics prospects related to heavy-quarks, quarkonia, low-mass dileptons, jets and exotica searches achievable in high luminosity Pb-Pb collisions at LHC. We also discuss the technological challenges and choices of the detector upgrades to be installed during the LHC Long Shutdown 2.

Author: MOLNAR, Levente (Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien (FR))

Presenter: MOLNAR, Levente (Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien (FR))

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