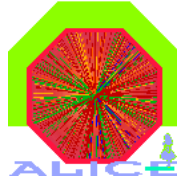


# Identified hadrons in pp and Pb-Pb collisions at LHC with ALICE detector

presented at 'ICFP2012', 10-16 June 2012,  
Kolymbari, Creta, Greece

Martha Spyropoulou-Stassinaki  
Physics Department  
University of Athens  
**for the ALICE Collaboration**



- INTRODUCTION

- ALICE Detector and **PID** ( **P**article **I**dentification)

- Detectors signals and identification of hadrons

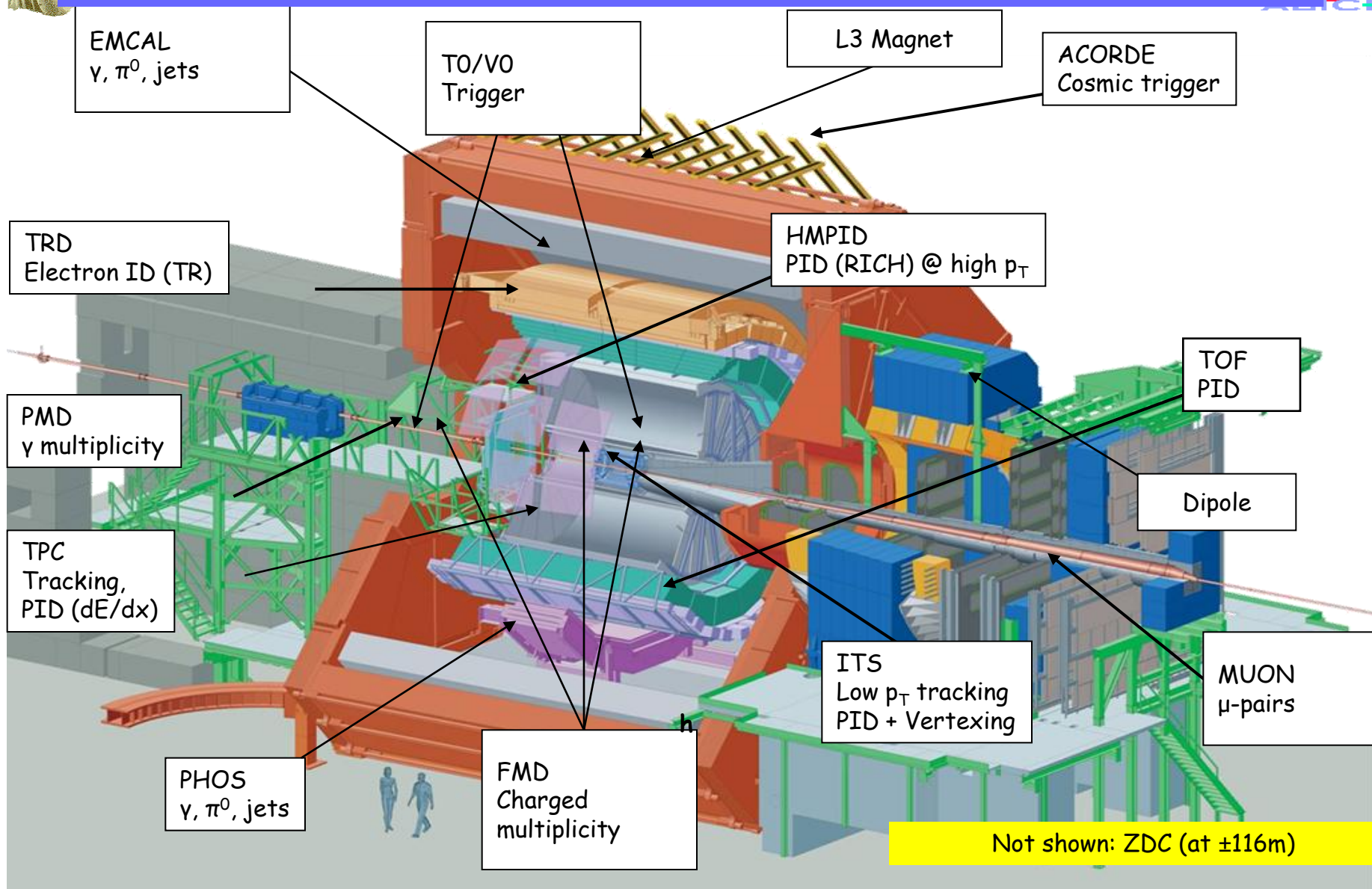
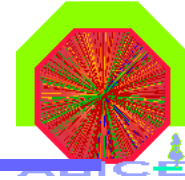
- Spectra results of identified hadrons in pp and Pb-Pb collisions

- SUMMARY



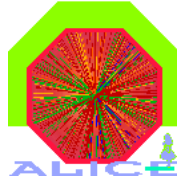
# ALICE: A Large Ion Collider Experiment at CERN-LHC

Size 16x26 m, weight 10.000 tonnes





# ALICE detector at the CERN-LHC



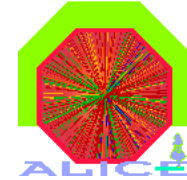
- Unique PID capabilities. Almost all known techniques are exploited:  
dE/dx measurements  
Time-of-flight measurements,  
Cherenkov radiation,  
Transition radiation,  
Calorimetry,  
Decay topologies (V0, cascades, kinks)
- Central region with small material budget

**Inner Tracking System– ITS:** Primary vertex, PID via dE/dx

**Time Projection Chamber–TPC:** Global tracking, PID via dE/dx

**Time Of Flight system–TOF:** PID via Time-Of-Flight measurement

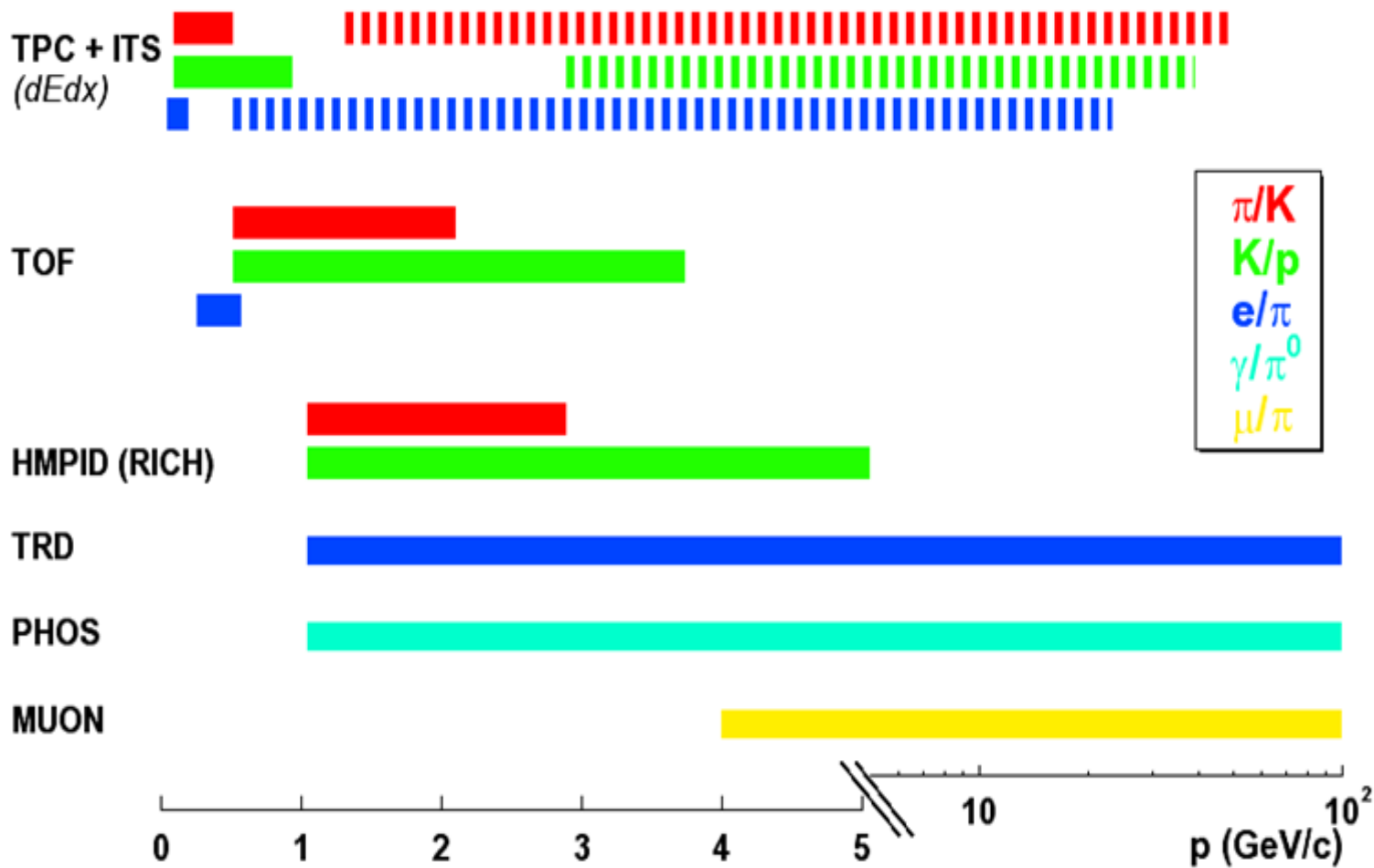
are used in this analysis

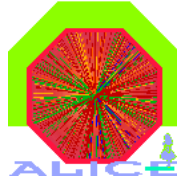


full bars:  $3\sigma$  separation, dashed bars:  $2\sigma$  separation

# PID in ALICE

ALICE PPR CERN/LHCC 2003-049





# Particle Identification in pp collisions



# Production of pions, kaons and protons in pp collision<sup>s</sup> at $\sqrt{s} = 900$ GeV with ALICE at the LHC

Eur. Phys. J. C (2011) 71:1655  
DOI 10.1140/epjc/s10052-011-1655-9

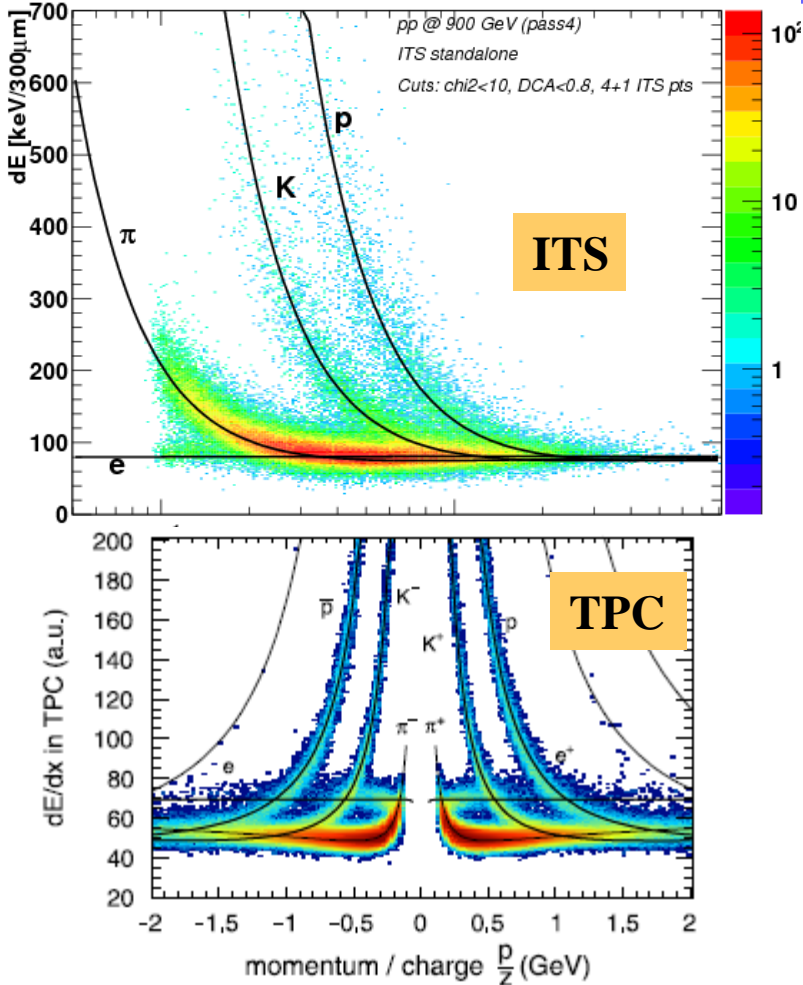
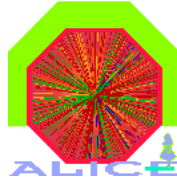


Fig. 4 (Color online) Specific energy loss  $dE/dx$  vs. momentum for tracks measured with the ALICE TPC. The *solid lines* are a parametrization of the Bethe–Bloch curve [25]

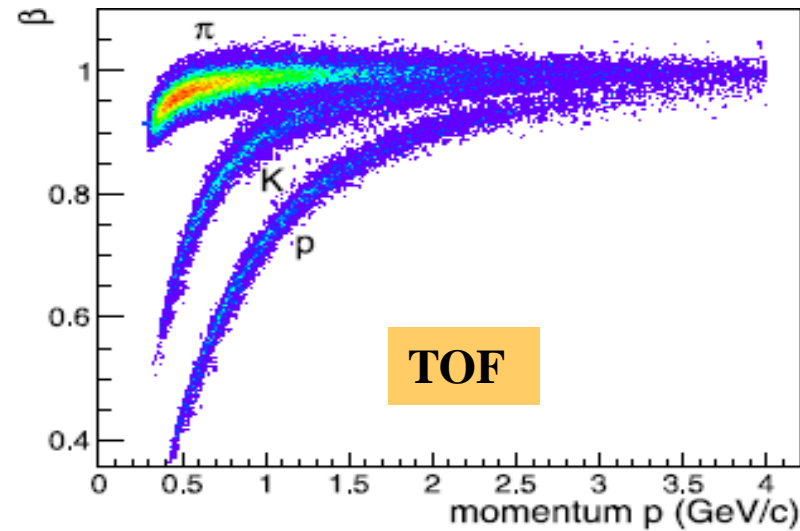
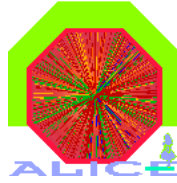


Fig. 7 (Color online)  $\beta$  of tracks of particles measured by TOF vs. their momentum

## Charged hadron ID in ALICE:

- $dE/dx$  in **ITS and TPC**
- TOF
- $V^0$  topology ( $\Lambda$ ,  $K$ )
- Kink topology in TPC

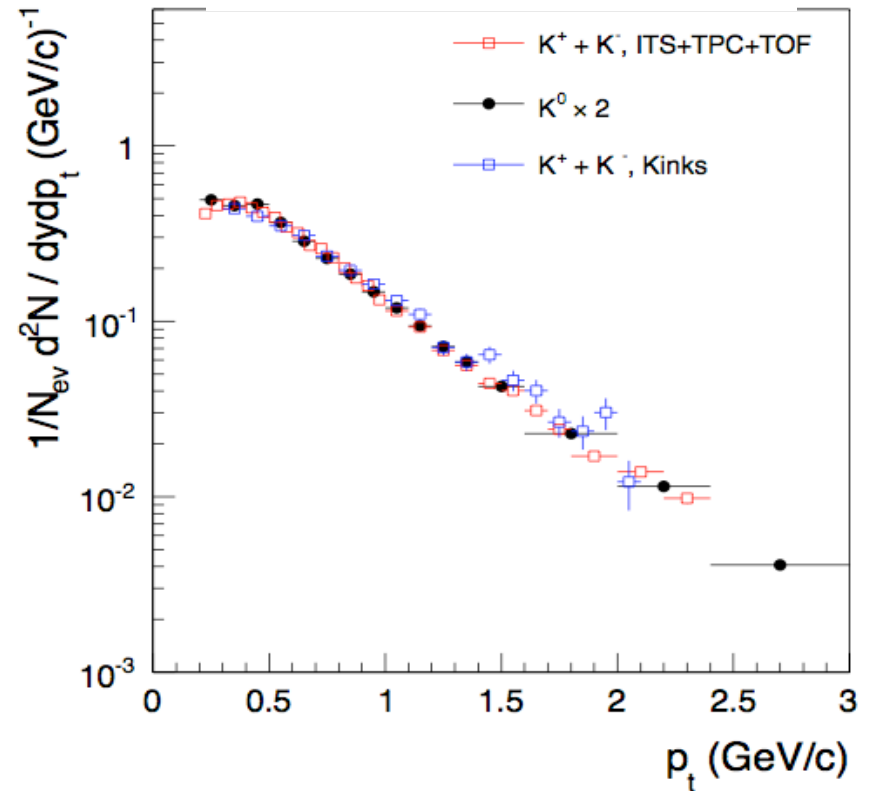
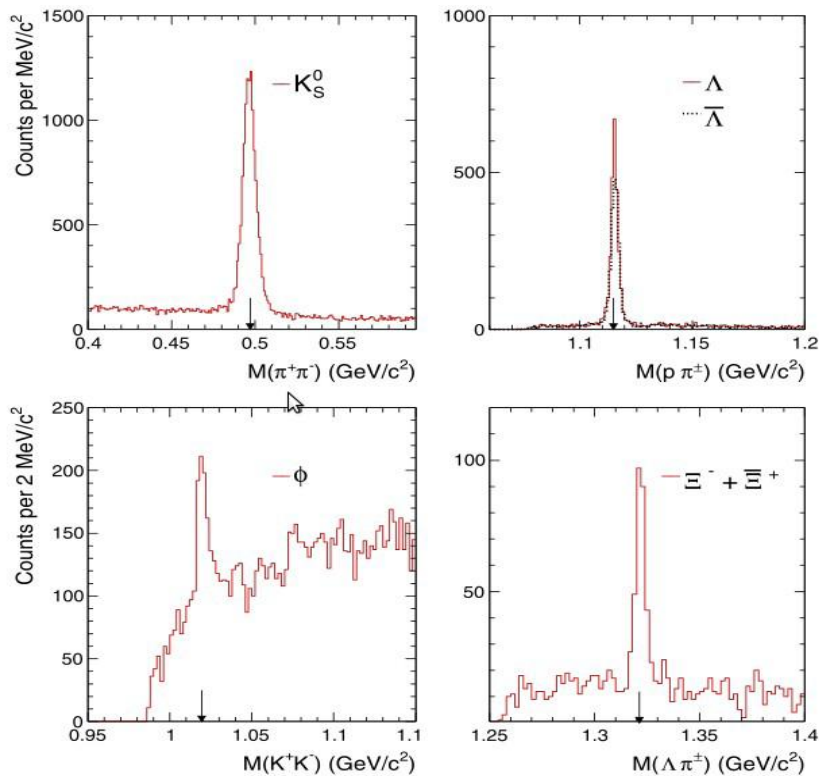


# Topological Identification in ALICE pp data at 900 GeV/c

	Particles	Charged decay	B.R. (%)
Mesons	$K_S^0$	$K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^-$	69.2
	$\phi (s\bar{s})$	$\phi \rightarrow K^+ + K^-$	49.2
Baryons	$\Lambda (uds)$ and $\bar{\Lambda} (\bar{u}\bar{s})$	$\Lambda \rightarrow p + \pi^-$ and $\bar{\Lambda} \rightarrow \bar{p} + \pi^+$	63.9
	$\Xi^- (dss)$ and $\Xi^+ (\bar{d}\bar{s}\bar{s})$	$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda + \pi^-$ and $\Xi^+ \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda} + \pi^+$	99.9

E.g. Kaons are identified by three different methods:  
 • direct PID:  $K^\pm$ , • V0s:  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ , • Kinks:  $K^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm \nu$

Eur. Phys. J. C (2011) 71:1655  
 DOI 10.1140/epjc/s10052-011-1655-9



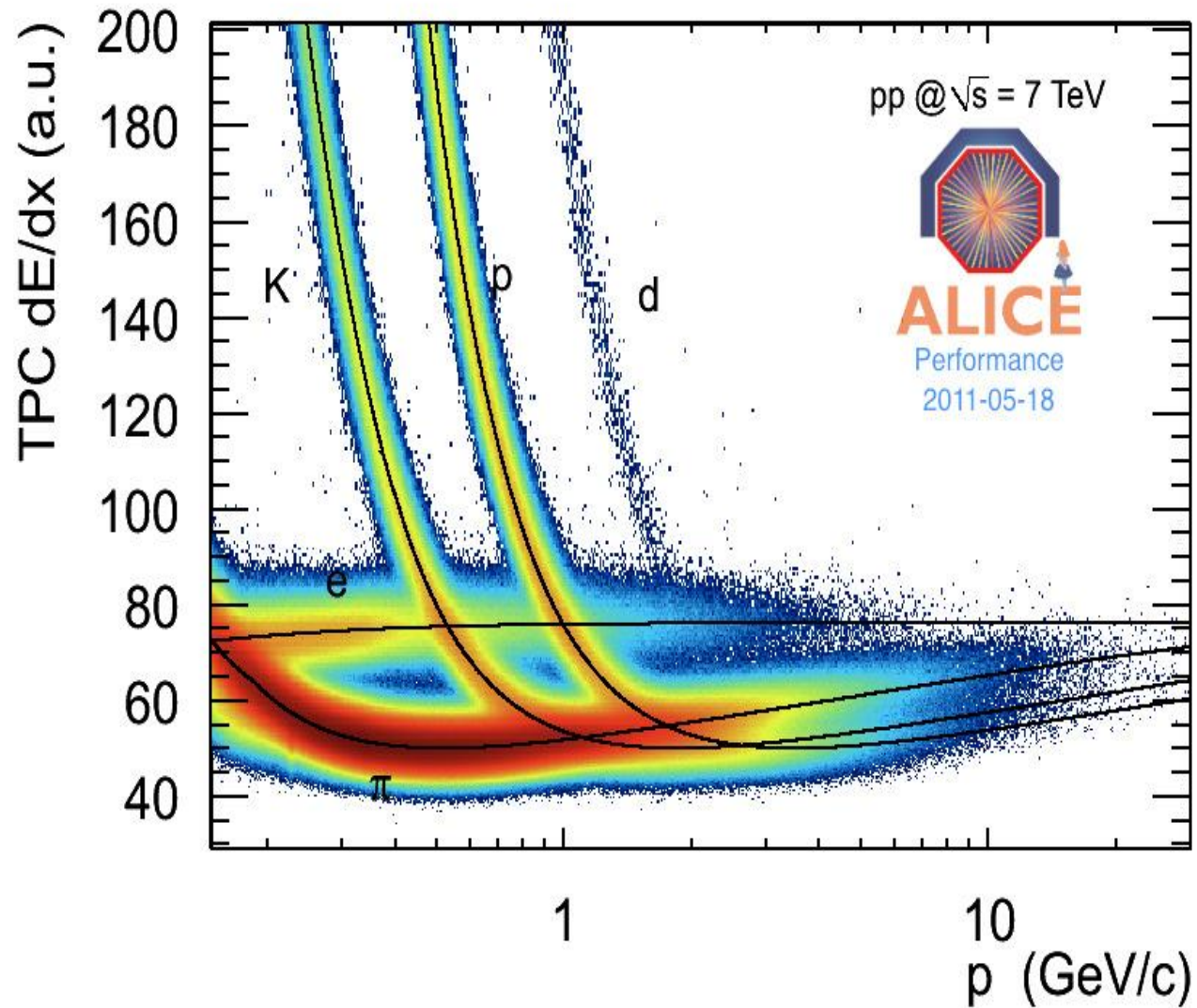
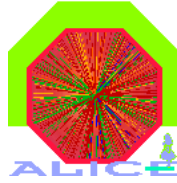
ALICE Collaboration, Eur. Phys. J. C **71(3), 1594 (2011)**

First pp data at 900 GeV



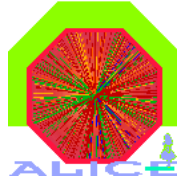


# Particle identification with Time Projection Chamber for pp at 7 TeV with a $dE/dx$ resolution of 5%

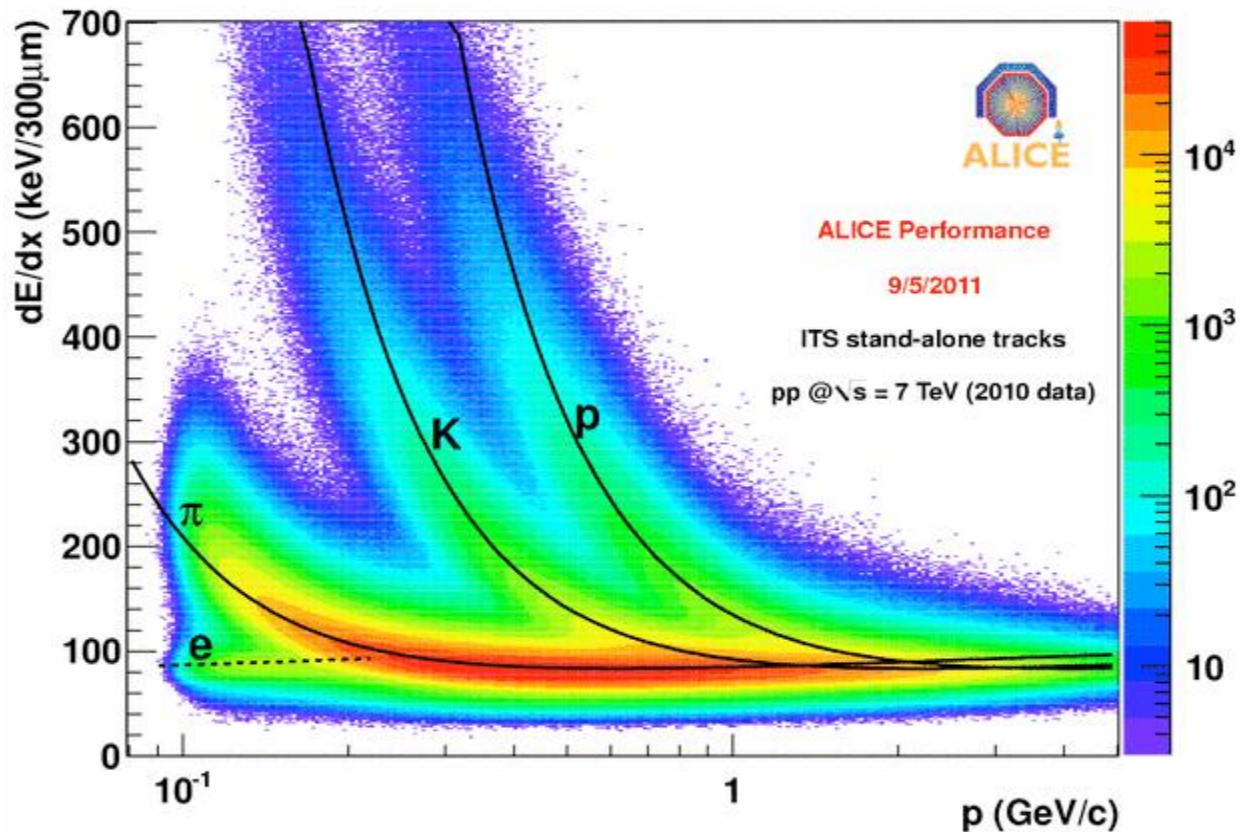




# *pp at 7 TeV, $dE/dx$ measurement in the Inner Tracking System*



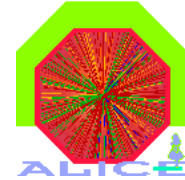
Drift and strip detectors have analog read-out for up to 4 samples of specific energy loss with  $\sigma \approx 10\text{-}15\%$ .



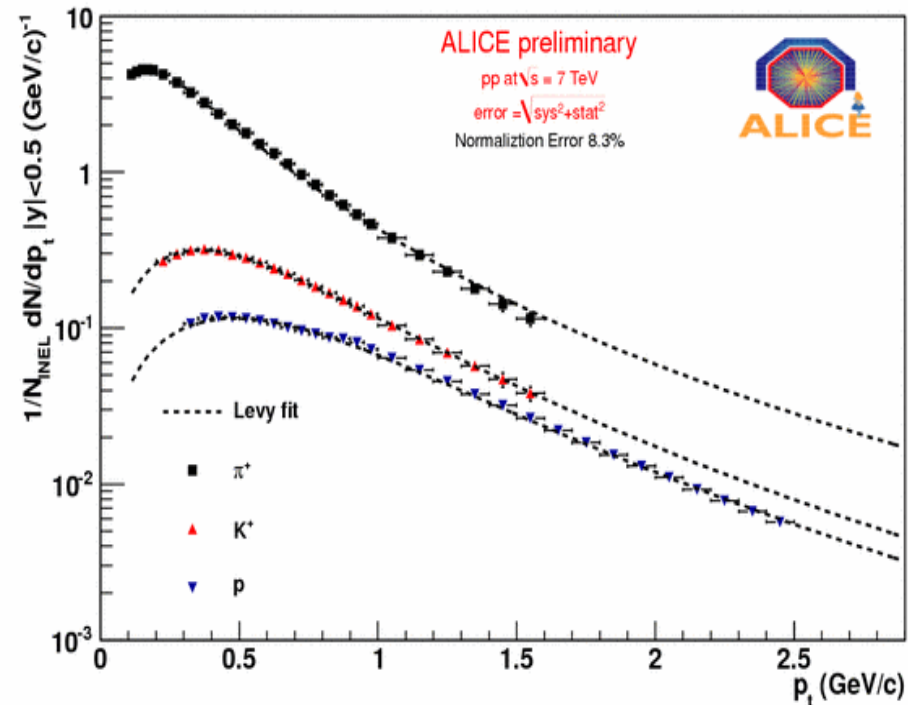
ALI-PERF-75



# pp at 7 TeV



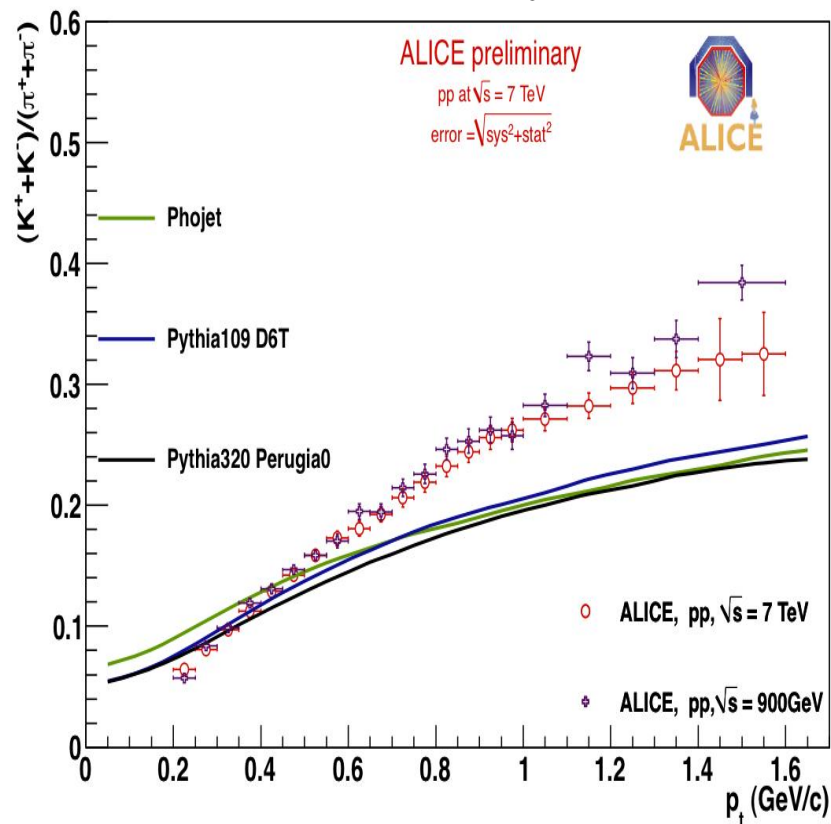
## Levy fits for 7 TeV spectra



Different techniques used

Minimum  $p_t = 0.1 / 0.2 / 0.3 \text{ GeV}/c$   
for  $\pi/K/p$

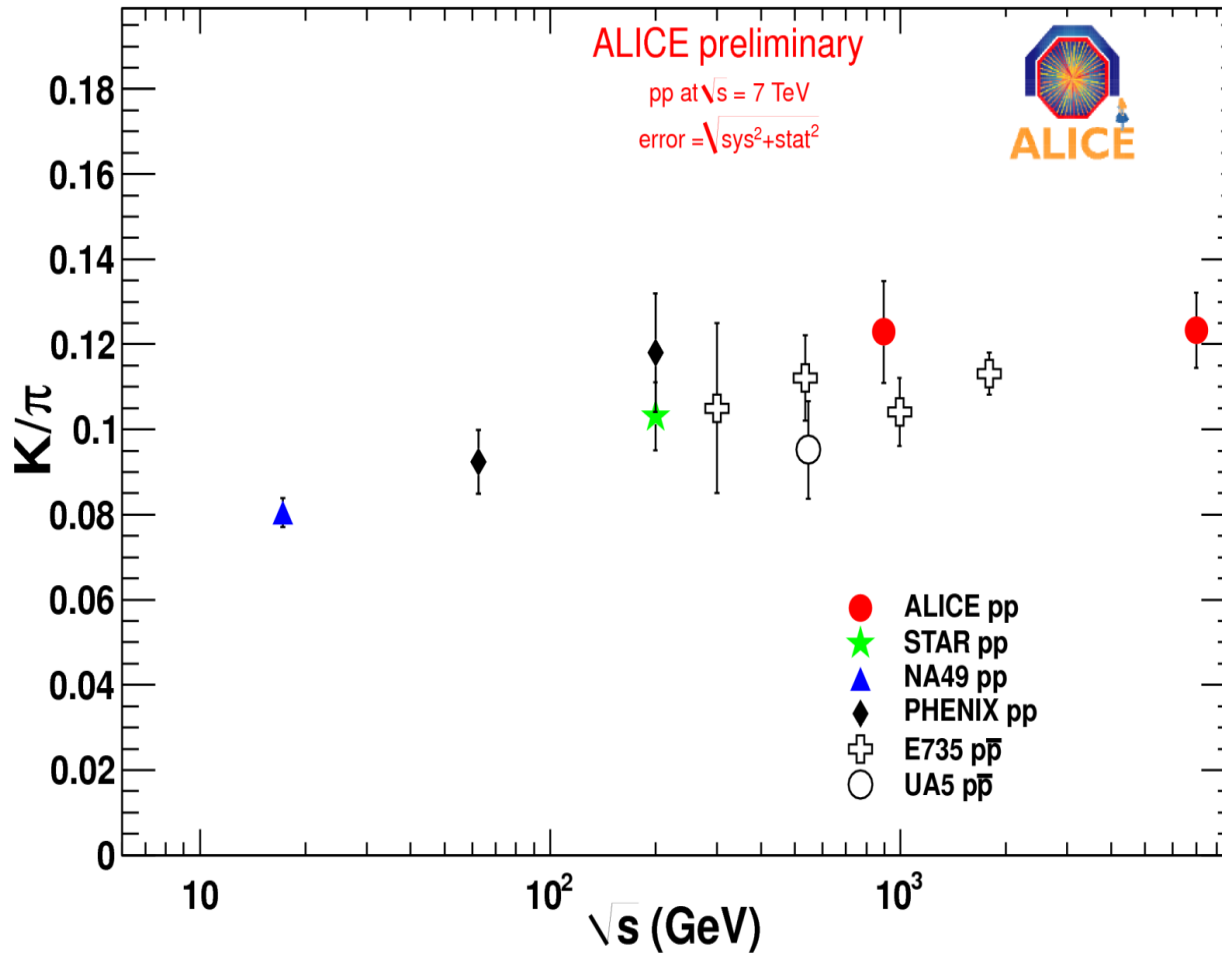
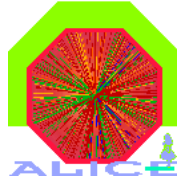
## $K/\pi$ vs $p_t$



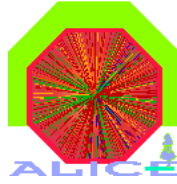
- Ratio is similar at both energies
- Ratio is not described by MC models for  $p_t > 0.6 \text{ GeV}/c$



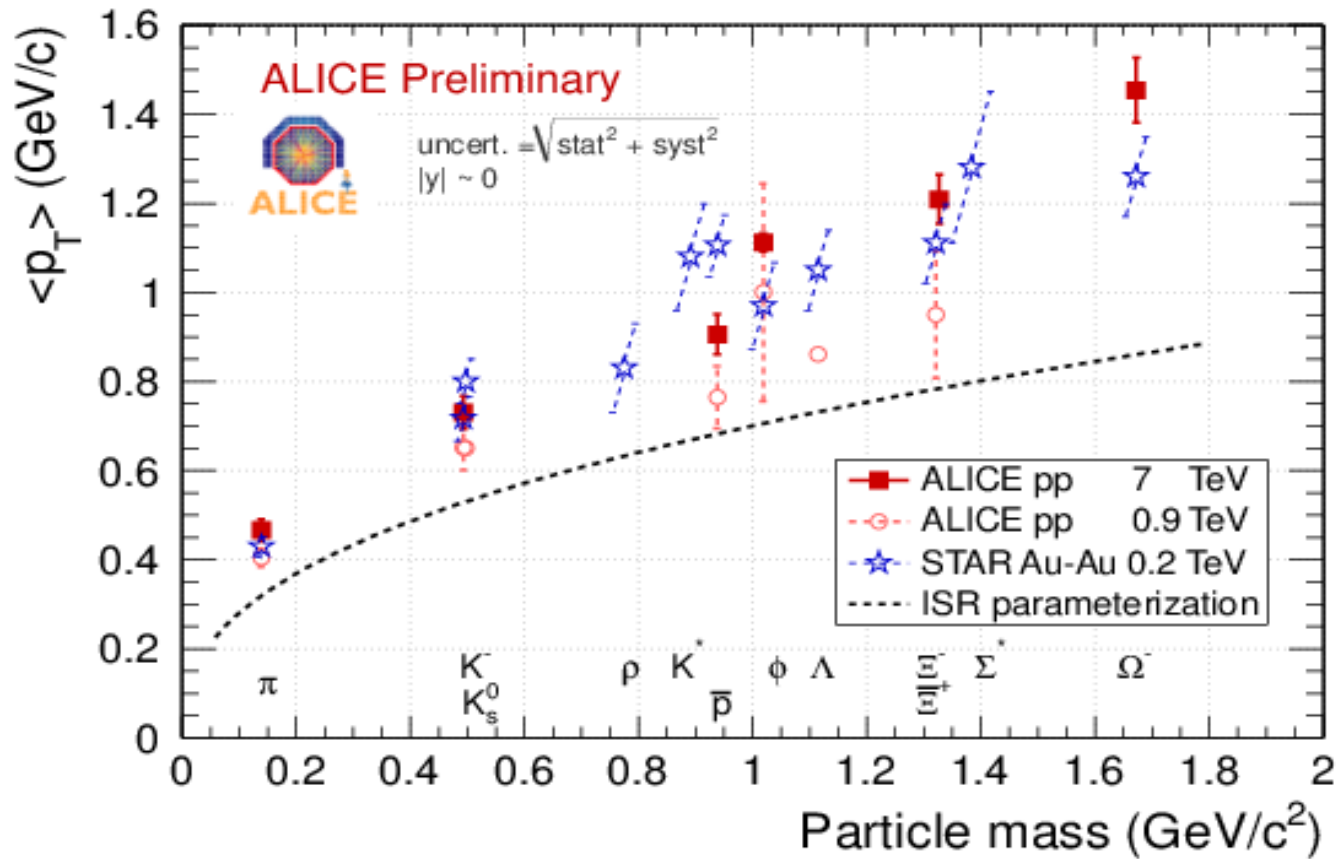
# pp at 7 TeV, K/ $\pi$ vs energy



K/ $\pi$  ratio is constant between 900 GeV and 7 TeV



# $\langle p_t \rangle$ of identified particles as a function of energy

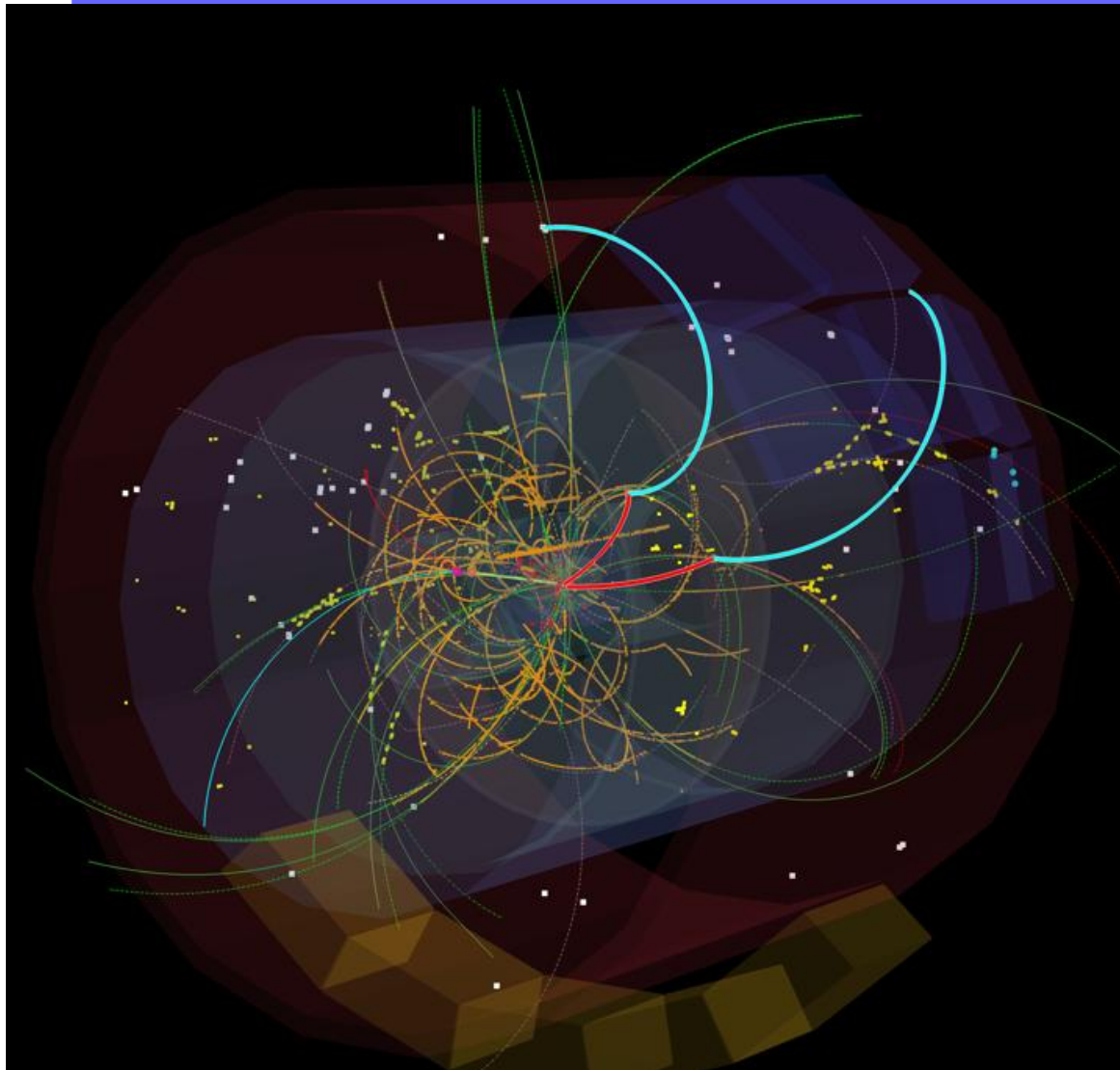
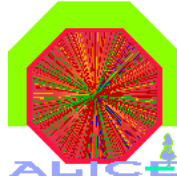


STAR: Central collisions

- Linear increase of  $\langle p_t \rangle$  with mass
- Increase of the  $\langle p_t \rangle$  with collision energy



# Kaon/pion 'identification' from their weak decay inside the ALICE TPC detector



## K- kinks

$$K \rightarrow \mu\nu \quad 63.43\%$$

$$K \rightarrow \pi\pi^0 \quad 21.13\%$$

$$K \rightarrow e\pi^0\nu \quad 4.87\%$$

$$K \rightarrow \mu\pi^0\nu \quad 3.27\%$$

$$K \rightarrow \pi\pi^0\pi^0 \quad 1.73\%$$

## $\pi$ - kinks

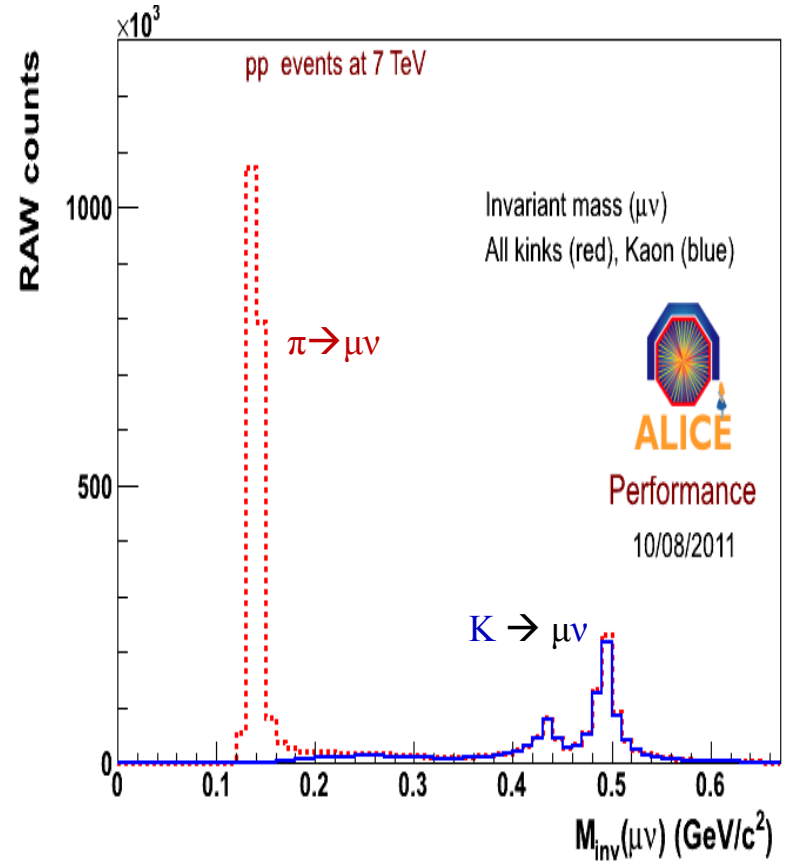
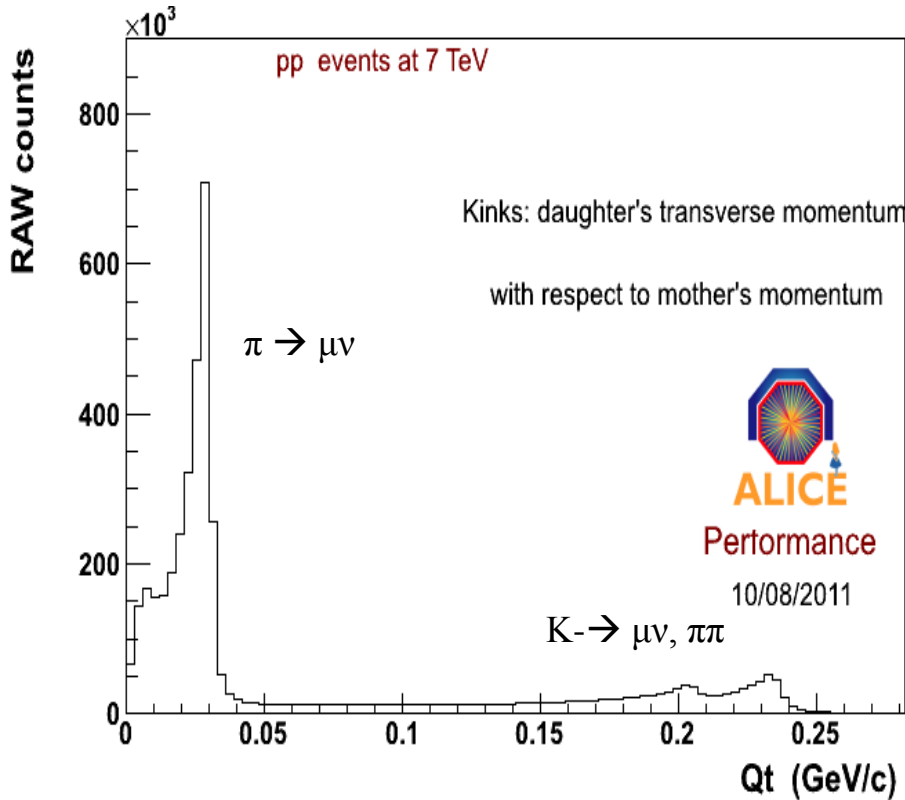
$$\pi \rightarrow \mu\nu \quad 99\%$$

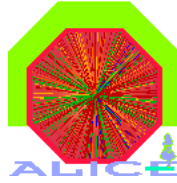
$$(K_{+-} \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^+\pi^-, 5.6\%)$$



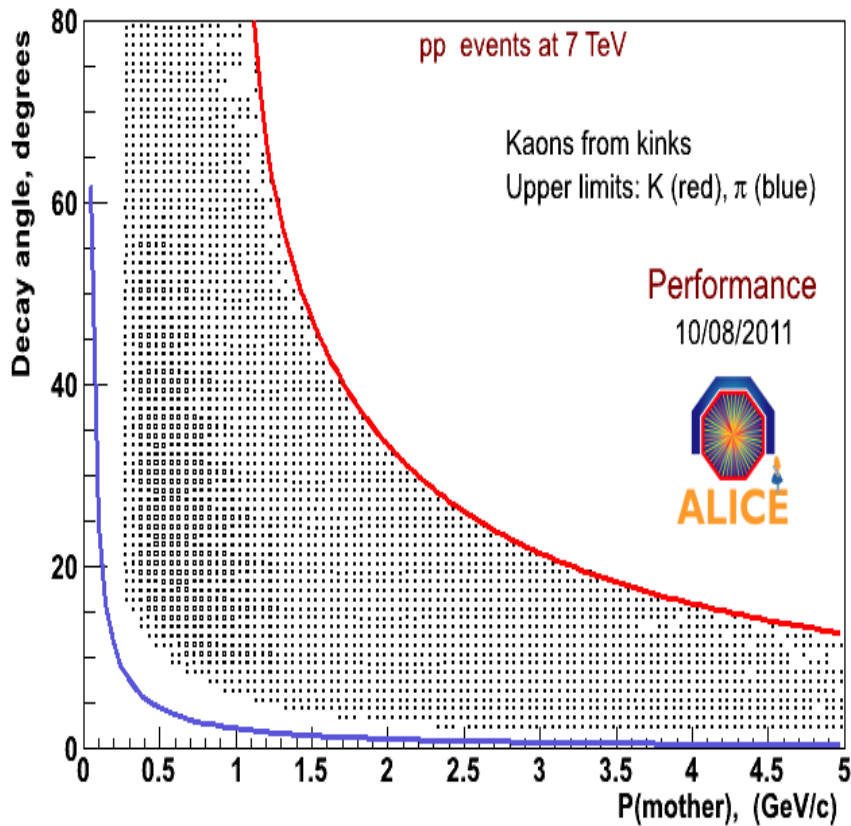
# pp collisions at 7 TeV, kinks study, ~22 M Minimum Bias events

The two body-decay kinematics are used for the decay  $K \rightarrow \mu\nu$  and  $\pi \rightarrow \mu\nu$ .  
The kink vertex inside the radius 120-210 cm, with  $p_t$  (mother)  $> 250$  MeV/c,  $|y(K)| < 0.7$





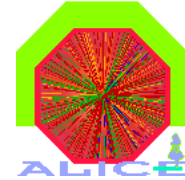
The two dimensional plot vs P shows the 'identified' Kaons after  $Q_t > 120$  MeV/c,  $\text{Minv}(\mu\text{v})$  and maximum angle cuts



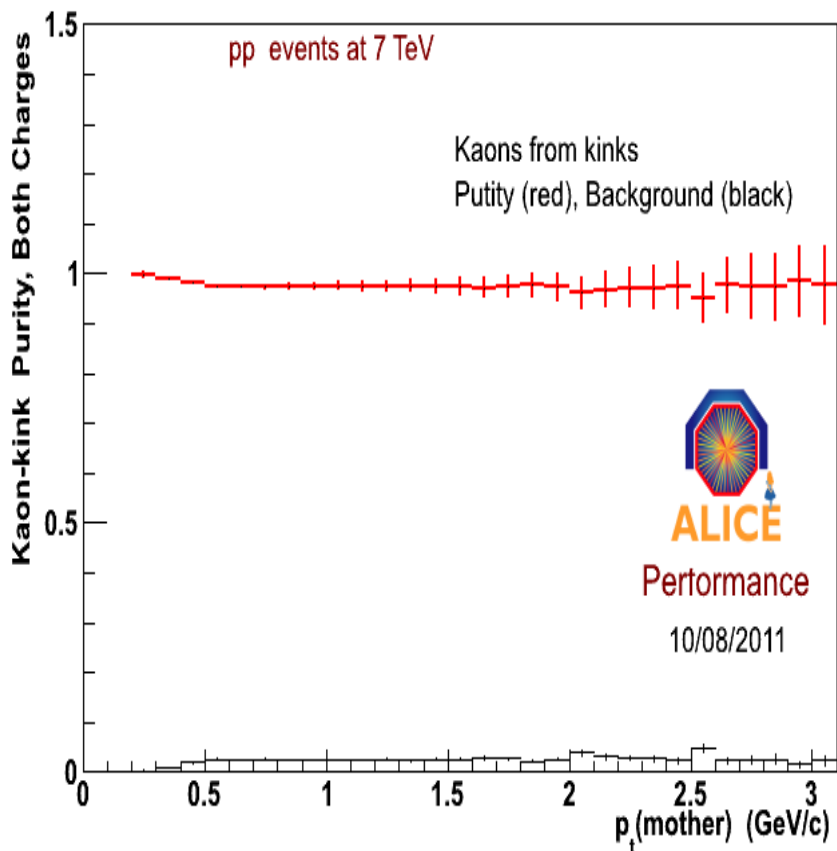
The sample of the 'identified' Kaons in MC studies has a measurement of  $dE/dx$  inside TPC consistent with Kaon, with a background  $\sim 5\%$ . A large fraction of it has been removed with a  $3.5\sigma$  cut around the Bethe-Bloch curve of Kaon.

The remaining background ( $\sim 2\%$ ) is mainly random association of primary and secondary tracks.

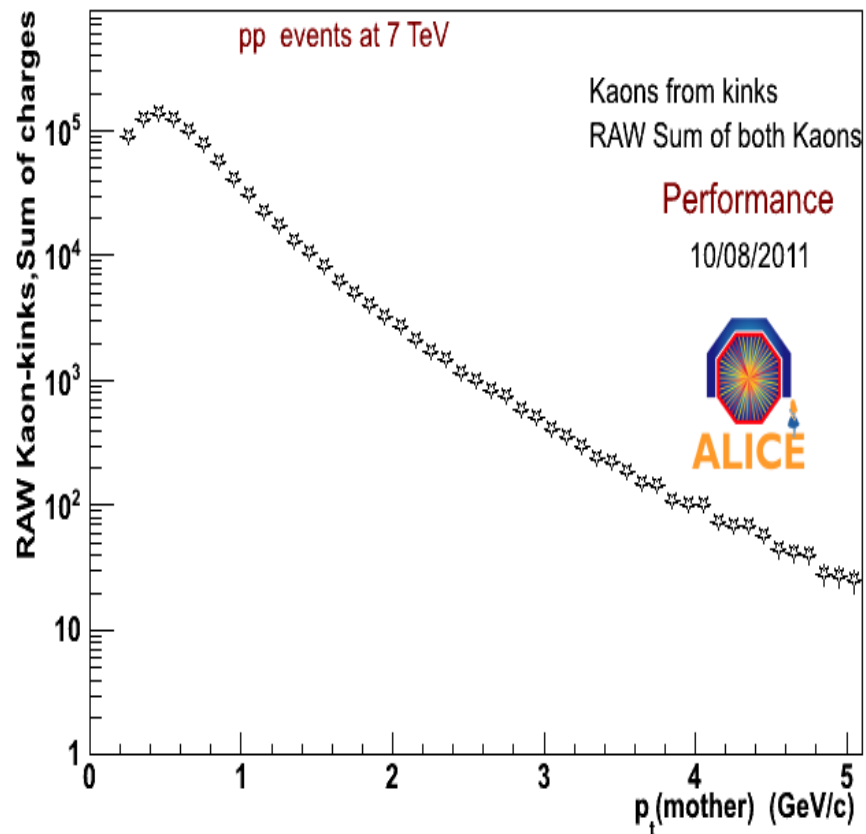




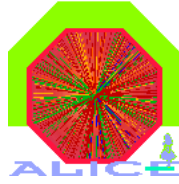
### MC calculation of the Kaon purity



The RAW  $p_t$  distribution of both charges, shows that the method allows for K-identification at intermediate  $p_t$



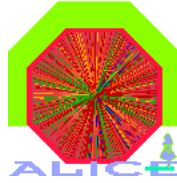
The contamination is smaller than 3% in the measured momentum range



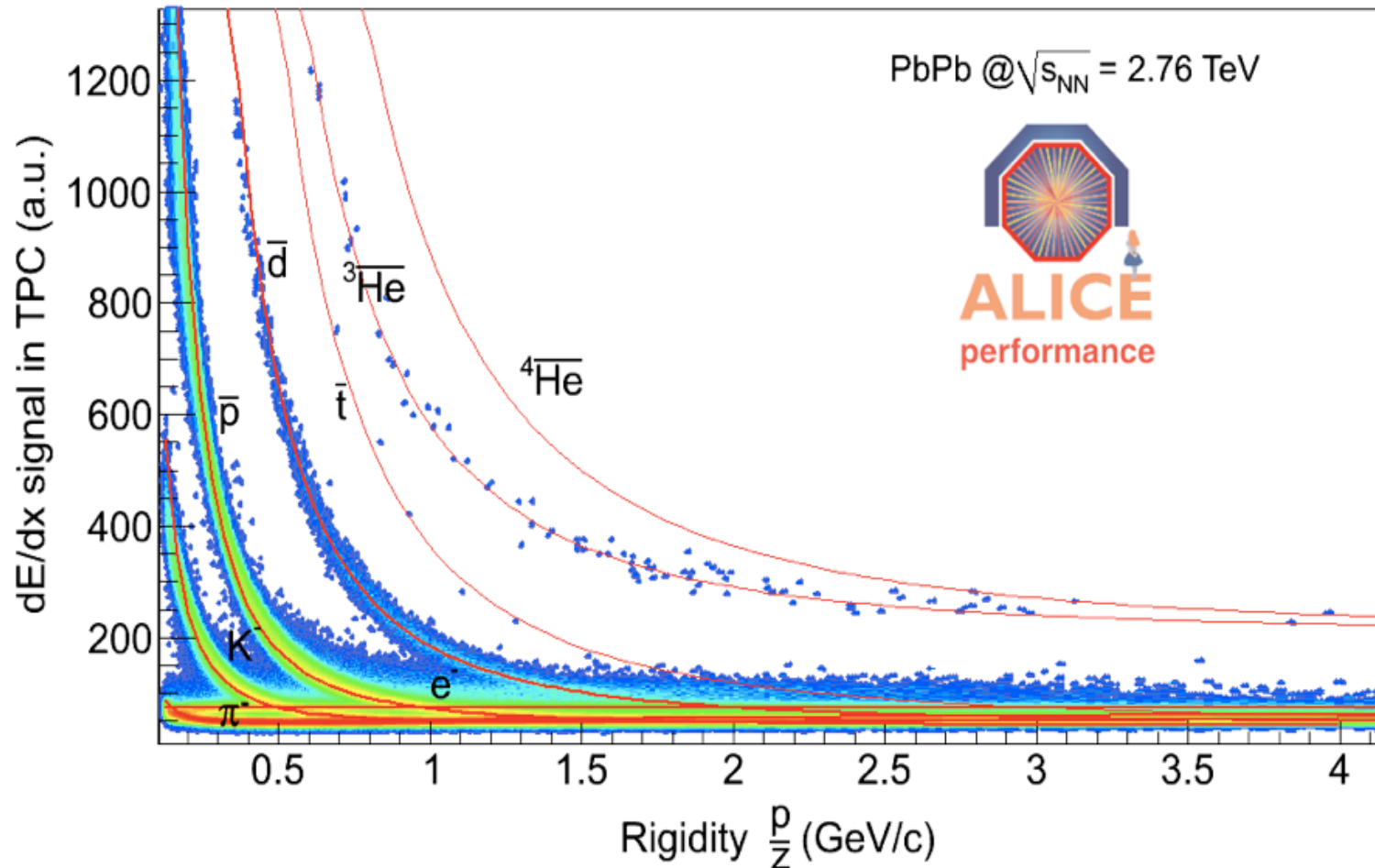
# Particle spectra in Pb-Pb collisions



# $dE/dx$ measurement in TPC in Pb-Pb collisions

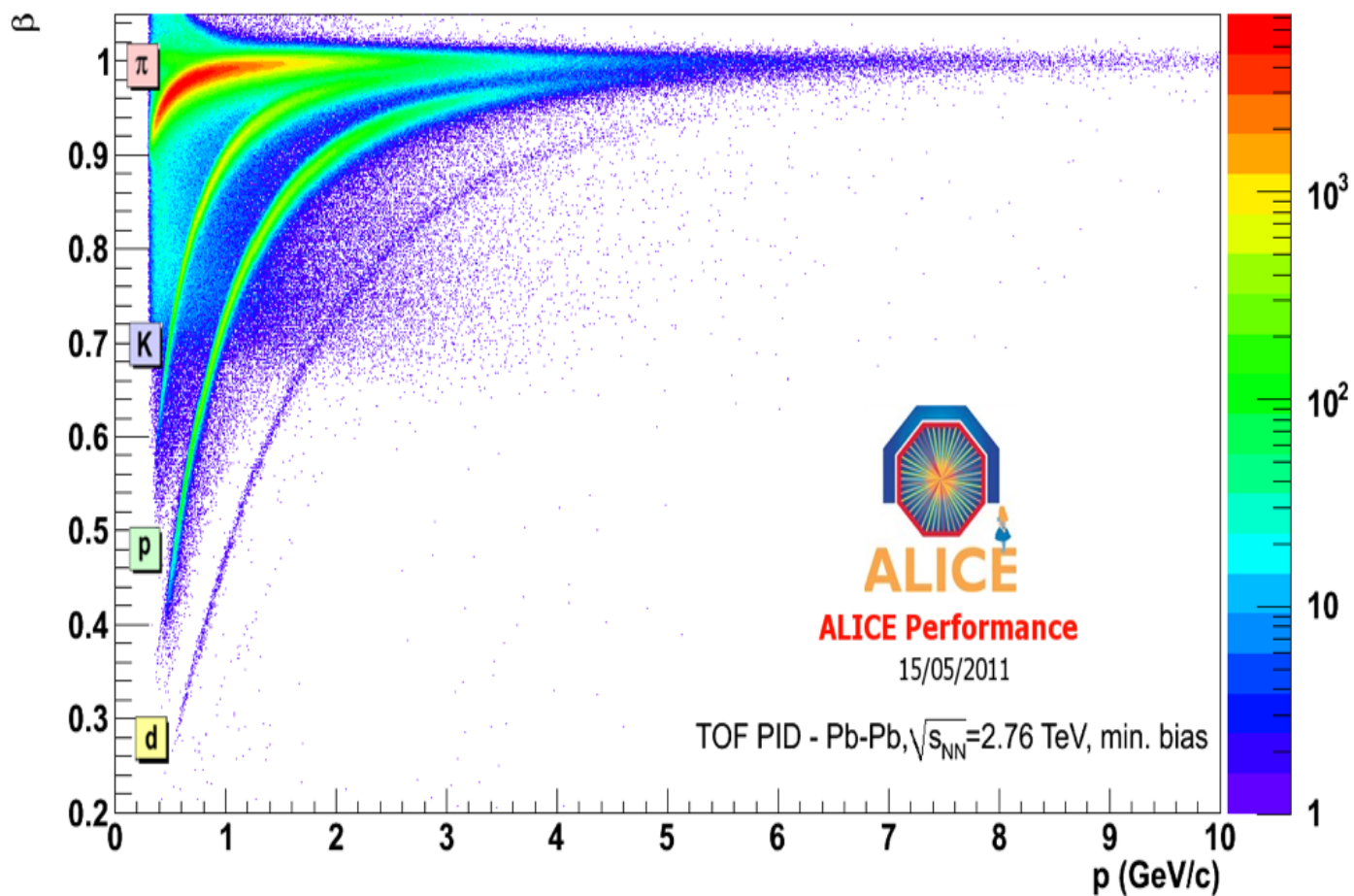
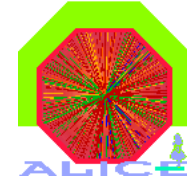


Very large dynamic range (up to 26x min. ionizing) allows one to identify light nuclei and separate their charge.





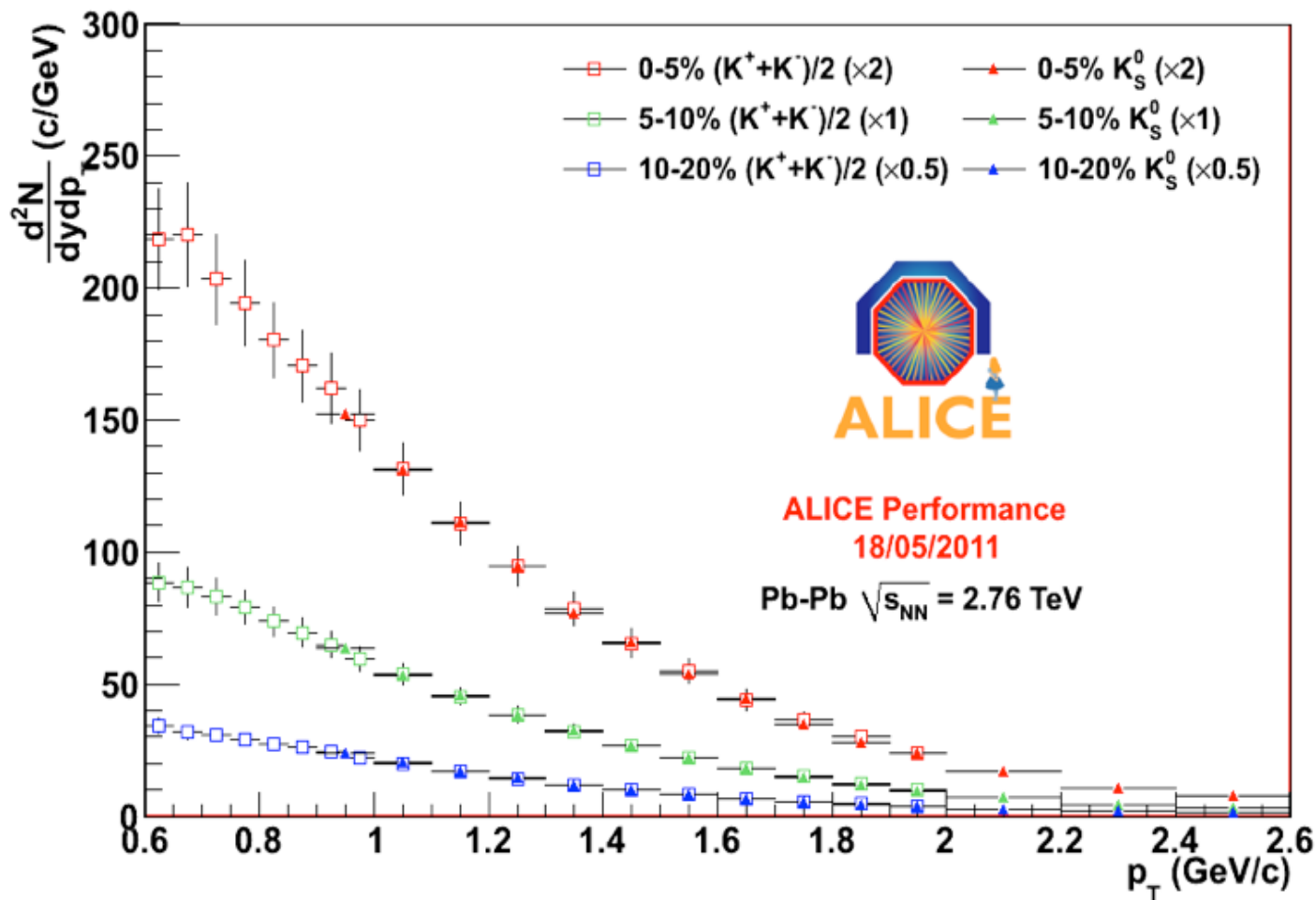
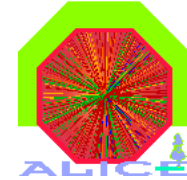
# Time of Flight (TOF) in *Pb-Pb* collisions





# Pb-Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV.

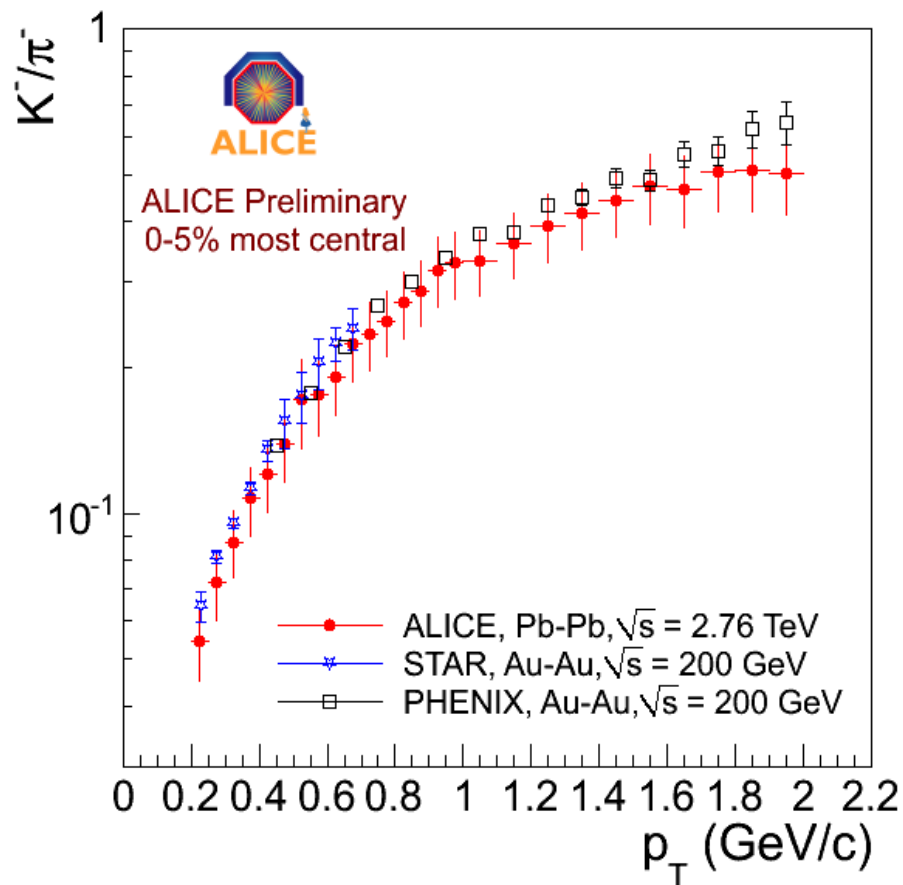
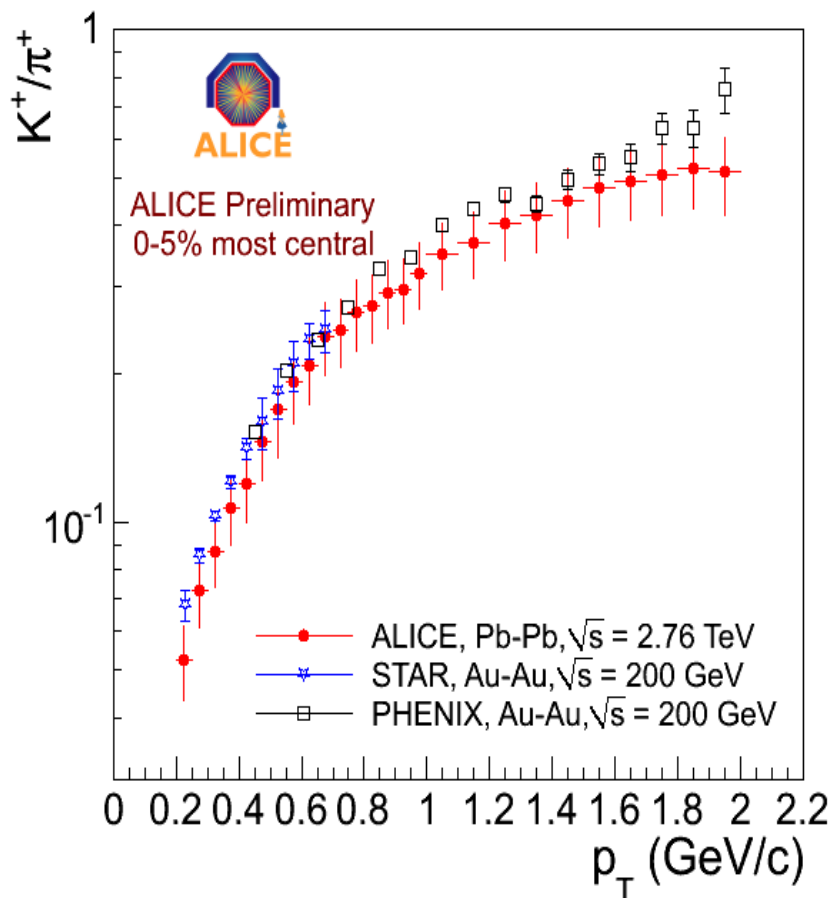
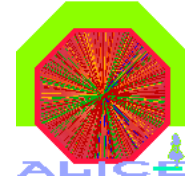
## Agreement of charged kaons and $K_S^0$ in 3 centrality bins

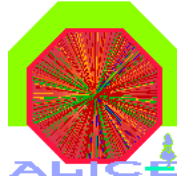




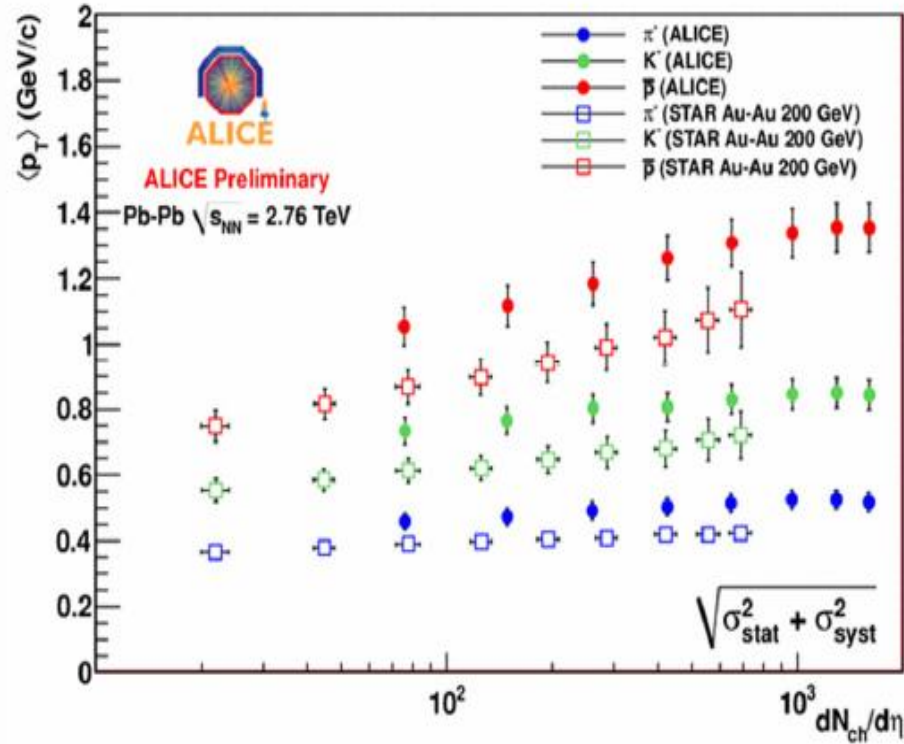
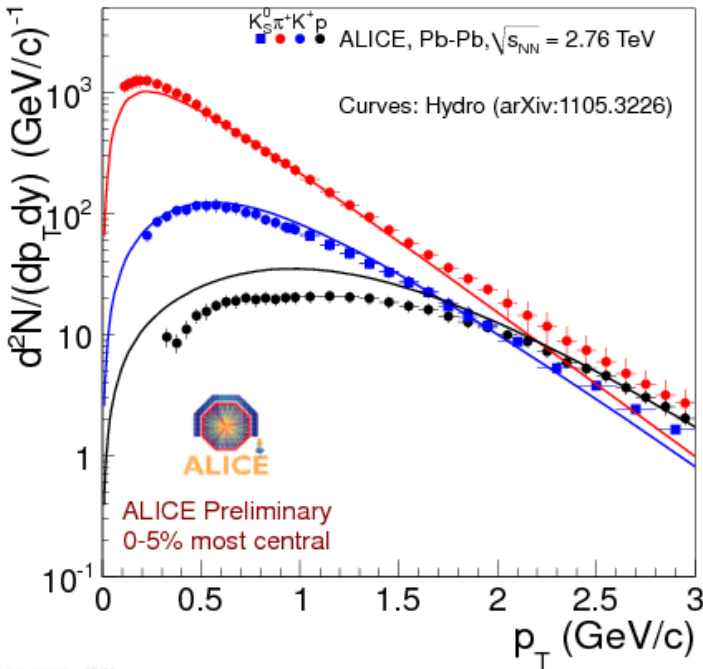
# Pb-Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV.

K/ $\pi$  ratios are similar at RHIC and LHC energies





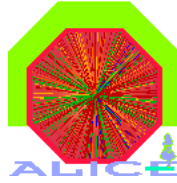
# Positive $K/\pi$ , $p$ and $K^0$ spectra in Pb-Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV together with hydro predictions



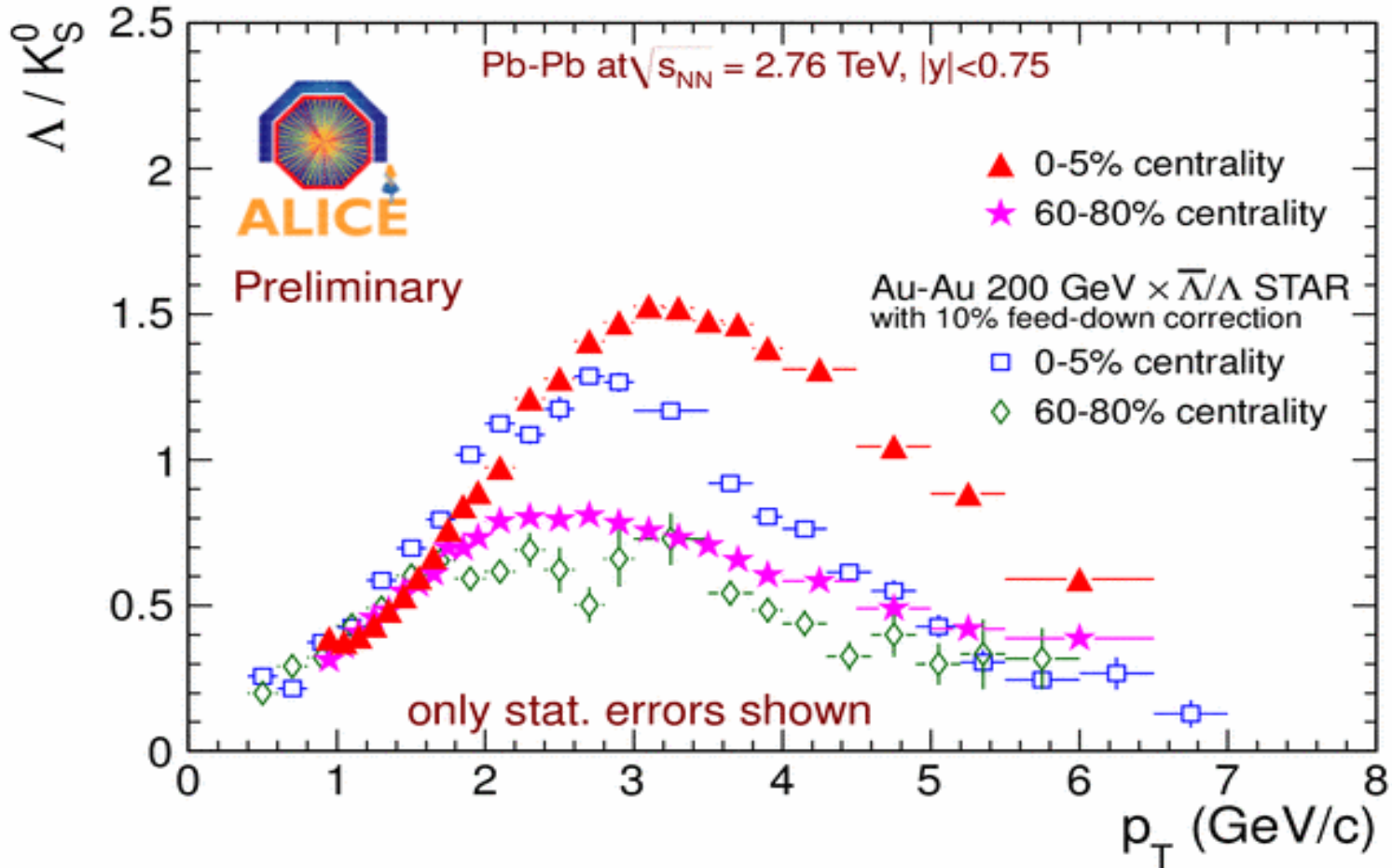
Yields and spectra of  $\pi$  and  $K$  are in good agreement with hydro predictions  
 Harder spectra and flatter protons than at RHIC  
 $\langle p_T \rangle$  increases with  $dN_{ch}/d\eta$   
 $\langle p_T \rangle$  is higher than at RHIC for similar  $dN_{ch}/d\eta$



# Pb-Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV.



The production of  $\Lambda$  is enhanced compared with the production of  $K_S^0$

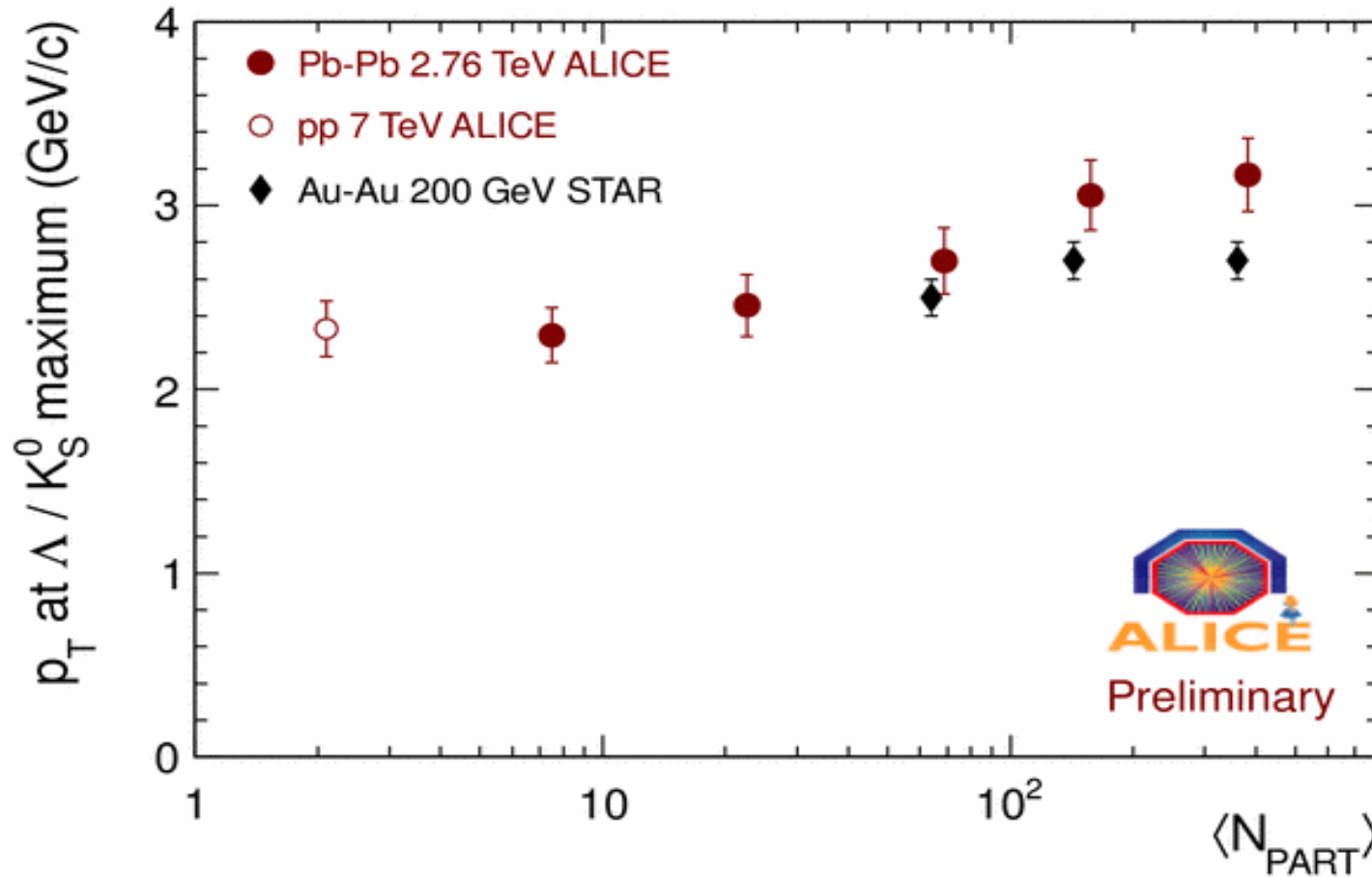
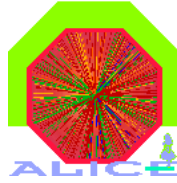


ALI-PREL-8780





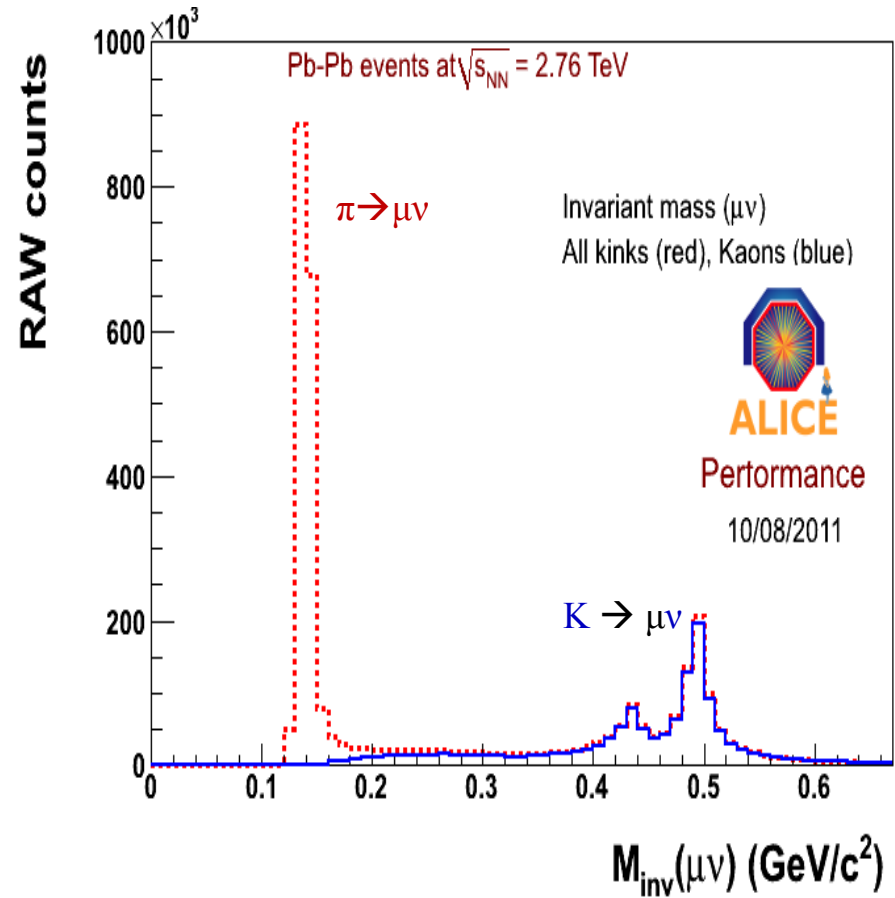
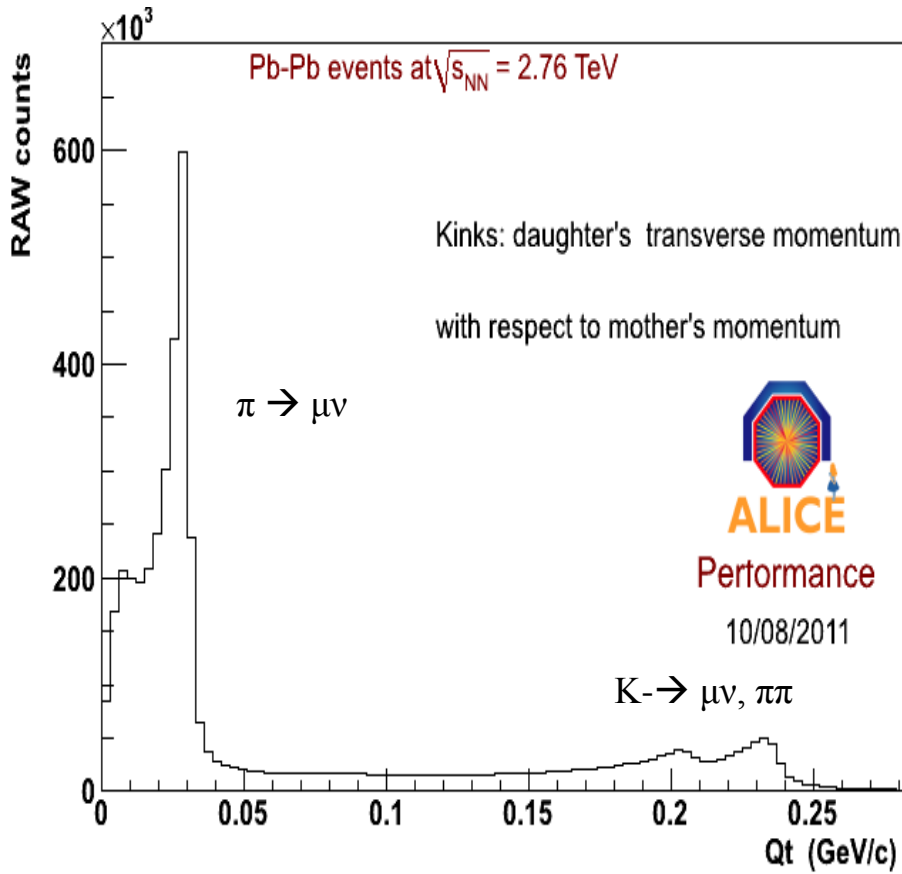
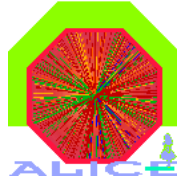
The position of the maximum value of the  $\Lambda/K$  ratio measured by ALICE is higher than that observed by STAR at RHIC.



ALI-PREL-1485



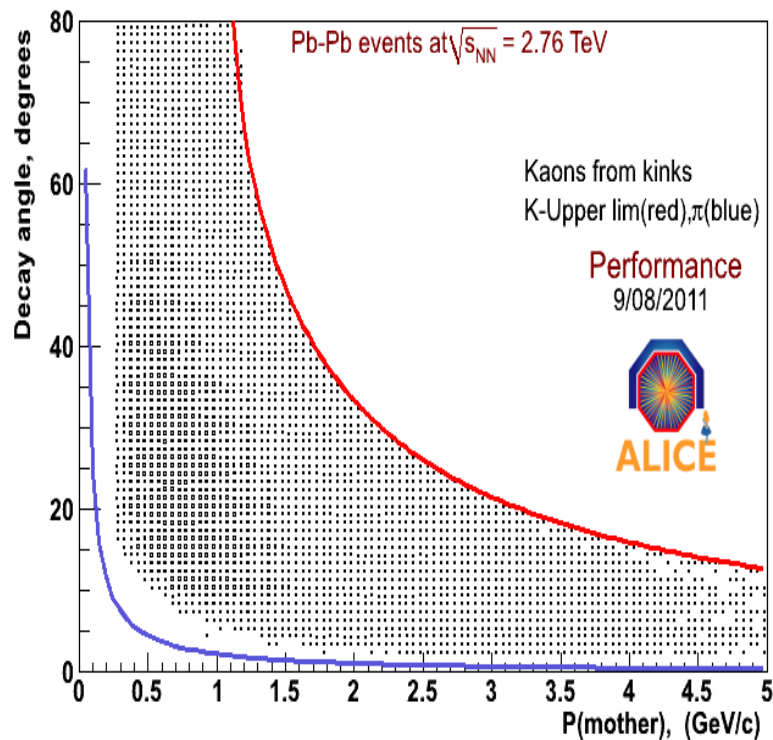
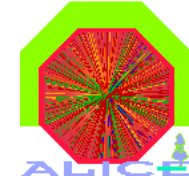
# Pb-Pb collisions at 2.76 TeV, kinks study, 560k events



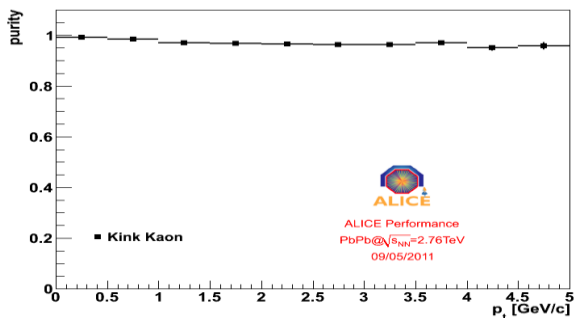
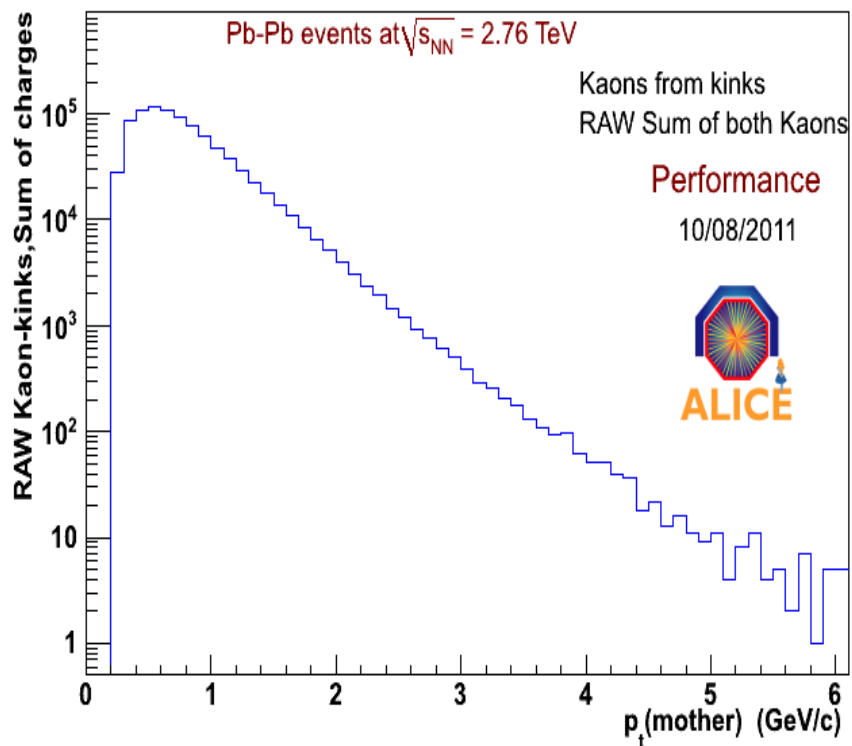


# Pb-Pb collisions at 2.76 TeV, **kinks study**, 560k events

Clean sample. Background ~2%

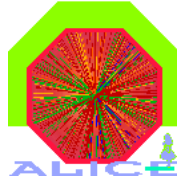


The RAW pt distribution of both charges, shows that the method allows the K- identification at intermediate  $p_t$  up, at least, 10 GeV/c





# SUMMARY I



**ALICE** has very good capabilities for the **measurement of identified particles**

- Particle spectra of various identified spectra have been extracted, e.g. charged pions, kaons, protons, neutral  $K$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Xi$ ,  $\Omega$ , resonances.

The identified particles are used in many signatures in exploring the hot dense medium created in HI collisions

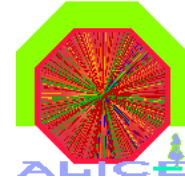
- Various internal cross-checks between different detectors and identification techniques show consistent results., e.g. detectors signals and topological identification.

The kink topology can be used for Kaon identification in a  $p_t$  range 0-10GeV/c (at least, slides 17 and 27) on **a track by track** level with purity  $\sim 98\%$ , both in pp and Pb-Pb collisions.

At intermediate transverse momentum, together with  $dE/dx$  studies in ALICE, will provide a useful tool in signatures using the relativistic rise region (e.g.  $K/\pi$  ratio).



## SUMMARY II

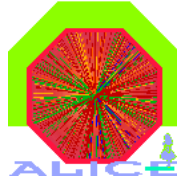


For pp collisions, as the energy increases from 900 GeV to 7 TeV :

- spectra become harder (increase of  $\langle p_t \rangle$ )
- K/ $\pi$  ratios as function of  $p_t$  are similar
- ratios (dN/dy) K/ $\pi$ , remain constant

In Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$  TeV :

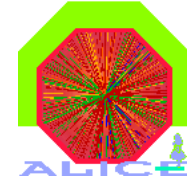
- Yields and spectra of  $\pi$  and K are in good agreement with hydro predictions
- Harder spectra and flatter protons than at RHIC
- $\langle p_t \rangle$  increases with  $dN_{ch}/d\eta$
- $\langle p_t \rangle$  is higher than at RHIC for similar  $dN_{ch}/d\eta$
- K/ $\pi$  ratios are similar at RHIC and LHC energies
- At intermediate  $p_t$ , the production of  $\Lambda$  is enhanced compared with the production of  $K^0_S$ . The magnitude of this enhancement increases with the collision centrality



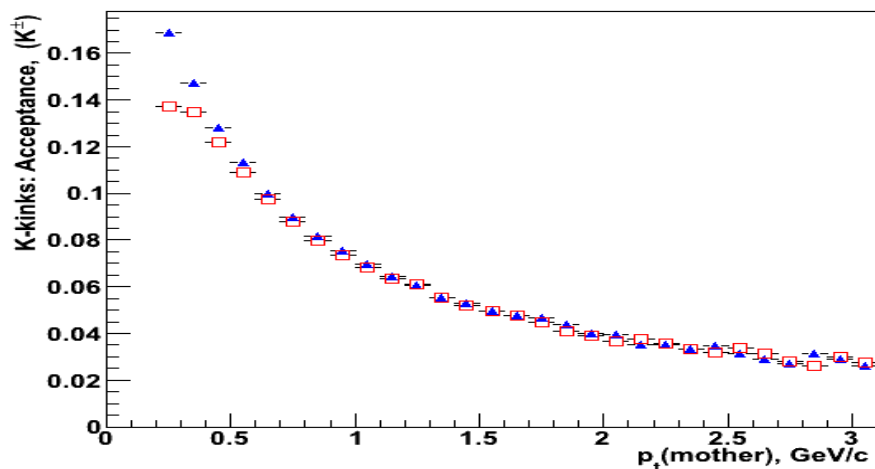
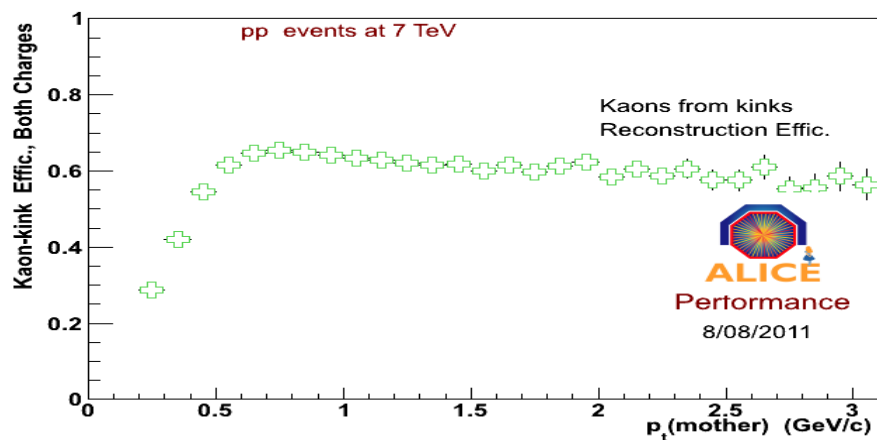
# BACKUP



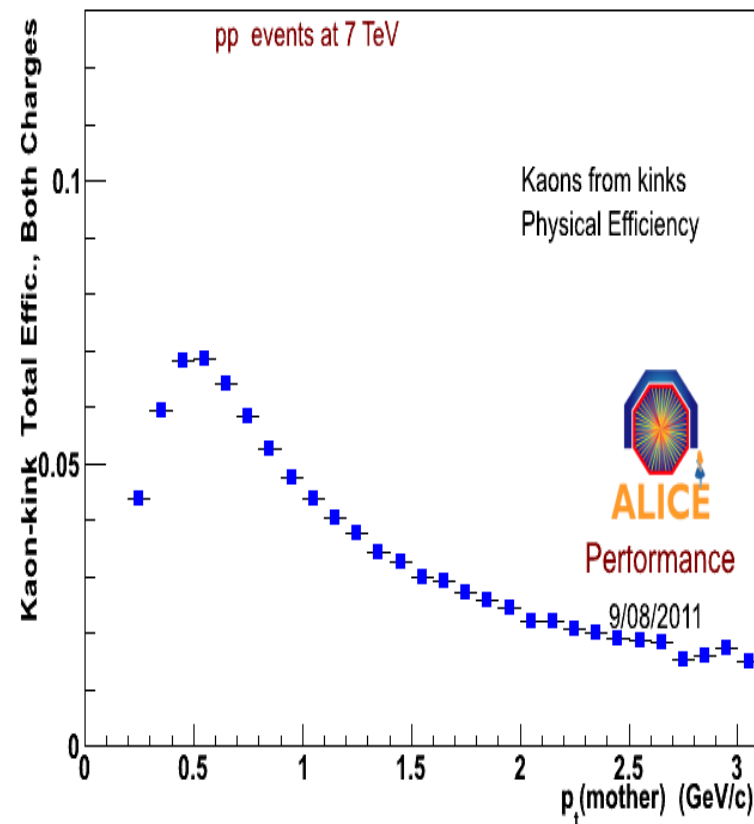
# p-p collisions at 7 TeV, kinks study



## Reconstruction efficiency

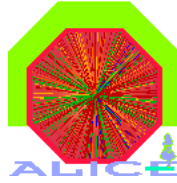


## Total correction factor

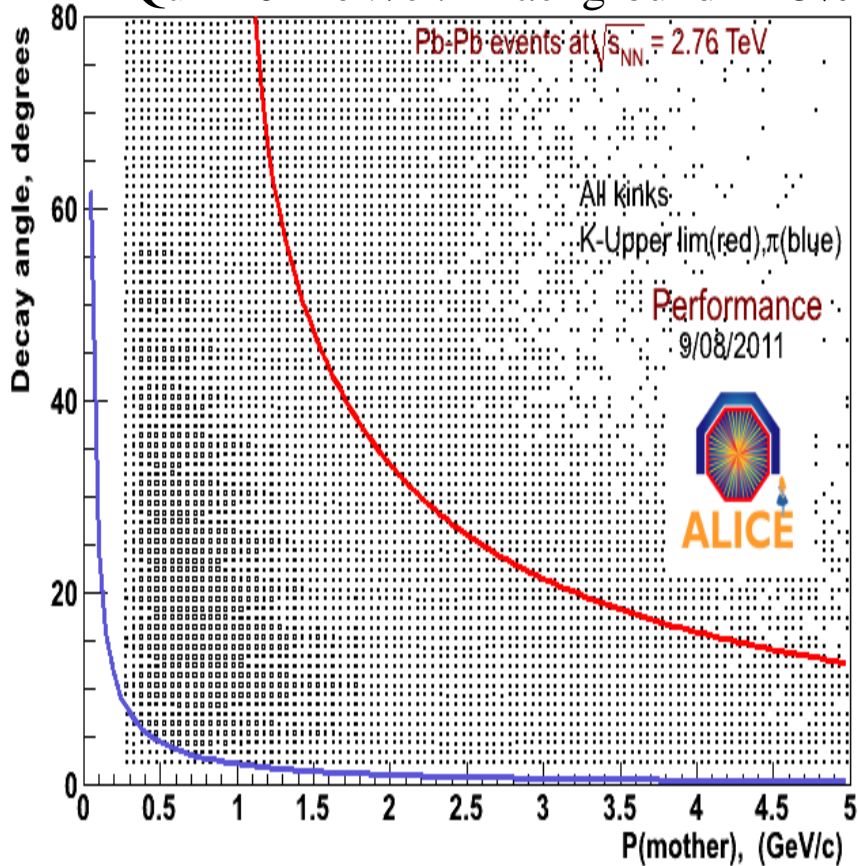




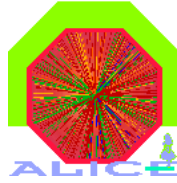
# ALICE Pb-Pb interactions at 2.76 TeV, RAW kaons from kinks



The two dimensional plot  $\theta$  vs  $P$  shows the 'identified' Kaons ONLY after the  $Q_t > 120$  MeV/c . Background  $\sim 15\%$







# Kinematics of kink $K/\pi$ to $\mu\nu$ decays,

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The momentum of the daughter muon in the  $K/\pi$  rest frame is 236 and 30 MeV/c respectively.

This is the maximum  $Q_t$  value of the muon in the Lab frame.

The muon decay angle in the parent rest frame and in the lab system are connected as:

$$\tan \theta_{lab} = \frac{p_{rest} \sin \theta_{rest}}{\gamma^* p_{rest} \cos \theta_{rest} + \beta^* \gamma^* E_{rest}}$$

The maximum Lab. Decay angle is :

$$(\tan \theta_{lab})_{\max} = \frac{p_{rest}}{\gamma^* E_{rest}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\beta^{*2} - p_{rest}^2 / E_{rest}^2}}$$