

Status of nuclear PDFs after the first LHC p-Pb run

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Introduction

Analysis procedures

The use of experimental data is not unambiguous

Comparison of the current global fits

Effects of nuclear PDFs in LHC p-Pb observables

The way forward

Summary

Introduction

Theoretical Foundations: Collinear factorization

- Factorization

Parton distribution functions (PDFs)

$$d\sigma = \sum_{i,j} f_i(Q_f^2) \otimes d\sigma_{ij}(Q_f^2, Q_r^2) \otimes f_j(Q_f^2) + \mathcal{O}(Q_f^{-2n})$$

Theoretical Foundations: Collinear factorization

- Factorization

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Coefficient functions (calculable by perturbative methods)

Theoretical Foundations: Collinear factorization

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Coefficient functions (calculable by perturbative methods)

- PDFs obey the DGLAP equations

$$Q^2 \frac{\partial f_i(x, Q^2)}{\partial Q^2} = \sum_j P_{ij}(Q^2) \otimes f_j(x, Q^2)$$

Splitting functions (calculable by perturbative methods)

Theoretical Foundations: Collinear factorization

- Factorization

$$d\sigma = \sum_{i,j} f_i(Q_f^2) \otimes d\sigma_{ij}(Q_f^2, Q_r^2) \otimes f_j(Q_f^2) + \mathcal{O}(Q_f^{-2n})$$

- Non-linear power corrections predicted to be important even at perturbative scales, particularly for large A .
- Often supplemented with external models for hadronization (e.g. PYTHIA).
- Also used in computing the initial conditions for fluid dynamical description of heavy-ion collisions [[PRC93 \(2016\) no.2, 024907](#)].

Current global analyses: Situation 2 months ago

	EPS09	DSSZ12	KA15	NCTEQ15
Order in α_s	LO & NLO	NLO	NNLO	NLO
Neutral current DIS $l+A/l+d$	✓	✓	✓	✓
Drell-Yan dilepton $p+A/p+d$	✓	✓	✓	✓
RHIC pions $d+Au/p+p$	✓	✓		✓
Neutrino-nucleus DIS		✓		
Q cut in DIS	1.3 GeV	1 GeV	1 GeV	2 GeV
datapoints	929	1579	1479	708
free parameters	15	25	16	17
error analysis	Hessian	Hessian	Hessian	Hessian
error tolerance $\Delta\chi^2$	50	30	N.N	35
Free proton baseline PDFs	CTEQ6.1	MSTW2008	JR09	CTEQ6M-like
Heavy-quark effects		✓		✓
Flavour separation	none	none	none	some
Reference	[JHEP 0904 065]	[PR D85 074028]	[PRD 93, 014026]	[PR D93 085037]

Current global analyses: Situation now

	EPPS16	DSSZ12	KA15	NCTEQ15
Order in α_s	NLO	NLO	NNLO	NLO
Neutral current DIS $l+A/l+d$	✓	✓	✓	✓
Drell-Yan dilepton $p+A/p+d$	✓	✓	✓	✓
RHIC pions $d+Au/p+p$	✓	✓		✓
Neutrino-nucleus DIS	✓	✓		
Drell-Yan dilepton $\pi+A^1$	✓			
LHC p+Pb jet data	✓			
LHC p+Pb W, Z data	✓			
Q cut in DIS	1.3 GeV	1 GeV	1 GeV	2 GeV
datapoints	1811	1579	1479	708
free parameters	20	25	16	17
error analysis	Hessian	Hessian	Hessian	Hessian
error tolerance $\Delta\chi^2$	52	30	N.N	35
Free proton baseline PDFs	CT14NLO	MSTW2008	JR09	CTEQ6M-like
Heavy-quark effects	✓	✓		✓
Flavour separation	full	none	none	some
Reference	[ARXIV:1612.05741]	[PR D85 074028]	[PRD 93, 014026]	[PR D93 085037]

¹Poster by P. Paakkinen

Analysis procedures

What is actually parametrized?

- The standard definition of nuclear PDFs

$$f_i^{p/A}(x, Q^2) \equiv R_i^A(x, Q^2) f_i^p(x, Q^2)$$

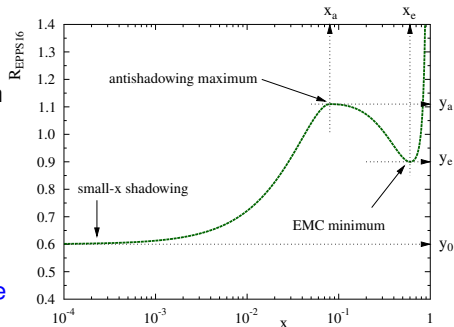
Free proton baseline

Nuclear modifications

- Why the two components?
- Much of the data are ratios of the form

$$F_2^A(x, Q^2)/F_2^p(x, Q^2)$$

- ⇒ In a global analysis f_i^p must always be supplied.
- ⇒ Nuclear PDFs are always relative to the free-proton PDFs.



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- The standard definition of nuclear PDFs

$$f_i^{p/A}(x, Q^2) \equiv R_i^A(x, Q^2) f_i^p(x, Q^2)$$

Free proton baseline

Nuclear modifications

- Most (EPS09, DSSZ,...) impose the flavour independence (FI) at $Q^2 = Q_0^2$:

$$R_{u_V}(x, Q_0^2) = R_{d_V}(x, Q_0^2)$$

$$R_{\bar{u}}(x, Q_0^2) = R_{\bar{d}}(x, Q_0^2) = R_{\bar{s}}(x, Q_0^2)$$

- The FI immediately destroyed by the DGLAP at $Q^2 > Q_0^2$

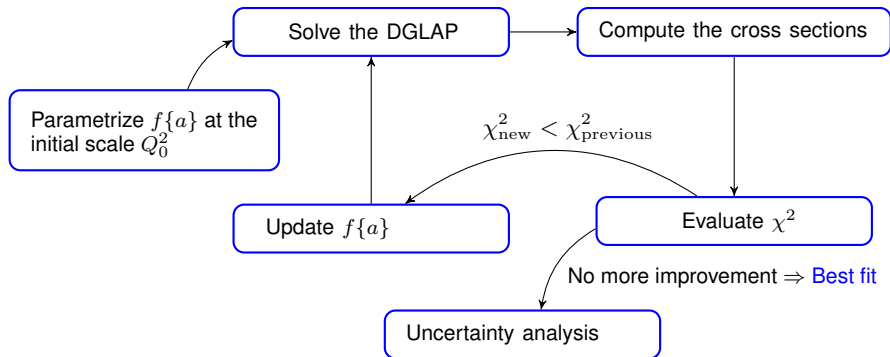
⇒ No reason to assume FI in the first place.

- nCTEQ15: flavour variation for the valence quarks.
- EPPS16: flavour dependent valence & sea quarks.

The standard analysis procedure

- Based on considering χ^2 figure-of-merit function

$$\chi_{\text{global}}^2 \equiv \sum_{i,j} [T_i(\vec{a}) - D_i] C_{ij}^{-1} [T_j(\vec{a}) - D_j]$$



Uncertainty analysis: the Hessian method

- Expand the global χ^2 around the minimum

$$\chi_{\text{global}}^2 \approx \chi_0^2 + \sum_{i,j} (a_i - a_i^0) H_{ij} (a_j - a_j^0) = \chi_0^2 + \sum_i z_i^2$$

Hessian matrix

Parameter variations

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Parameter variations

Hessian matrix

- The z_i coordinates (linear combinations of a_i) are \sim uncorrelated and one can use the standard law of error propagation

$$(\delta X)^2 = \sum_i \left(\frac{\partial X}{\partial z_i} \times \delta z_i \right)^2, \quad \delta z_i = \frac{\delta z_i^+ + \delta z_i^-}{2}$$

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- Define the PDF uncertainty sets S_i^\pm

$$S_1^\pm \equiv \pm \delta z_1^\pm (1, 0, \dots, 0)$$

\vdots

$$S_N^\pm \equiv \pm \delta z_N^\pm (0, 0, \dots, 1)$$

$$\implies (\delta X)^2 = \frac{1}{4} \sum_i [X(S_i^+) - X(S_i^-)]^2$$

Uncertainty analysis: the Hessian method

- The current fits define δz_i^{\pm} such that they correspond to fixed $\Delta\chi_{\text{global}}^2$.
- Ideally, $\Delta\chi_{\text{global}}^2 = 1$.
- For the parametrization bias, the global fits take $\Delta\chi_{\text{global}}^2 \gg 1$.

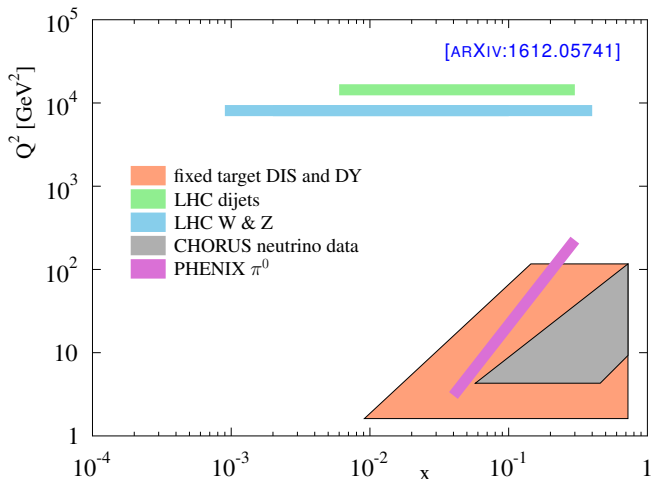
	EPPS16	DSSZ12	nCTEQ15
$\Delta\chi^2$	52	30	35

- The $\Delta\chi^2$ determination in EPS09, EPPS16, nCTEQ15:
 - Based on dynamical tolerance determination [EPJ C63 189] (90% confidence limits)
- The $\Delta\chi^2$ determination in DSSZ
 - Not exactly specified.

The use of experimental data is not unambiguous

The kinematic reach of the experimental input

- The data in global fits in a (x, Q^2) plane.
- The LHC data opens a previously unexplored kinematic region.



Experimental input: The LHC data — how should it be used?

- How to use the LHC data (p-Pb & Pb-Pb) to extract information on $R_i^A(x, Q^2)$?

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- How to use the LHC data (p-Pb & Pb-Pb) to extract information on $R_i^A(x, Q^2)$?
- Answer #1: Measured absolute distributions

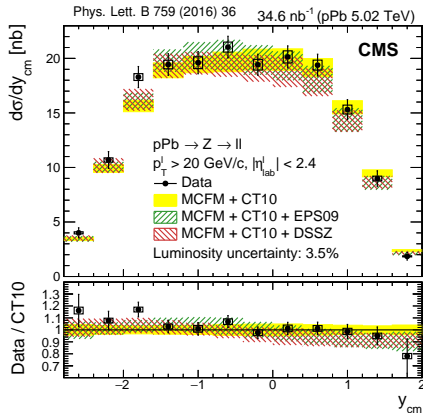
$$d\sigma = \sum_{i,j} f_i^P(Q_f^2) \otimes d\sigma_{ij}(Q_f^2, Q_r^2) \otimes f_j^{Pb}(Q_f^2)$$

$$f_i^{P/A}(x, Q^2) \equiv R_i^A(x, Q^2) f_i^P(x, Q^2)$$

⇒ Cannot disentangle the effects of proton PDF f_i^P (~90%) and nuclear modifications R_i^{Pb} (~10%).

⇒ Interpretation ambiguous.

- This approach was nevertheless used in a recent PDF-reweighting study by nCTEQ [[ARXIV:1610.02925](https://arxiv.org/abs/1610.02925)].



Experimental input: The LHC data — how should it be used?

- How to use the LHC data (p-Pb & Pb-Pb) to extract information on $R_i^A(x, Q^2)$?
- Answer #2: Distributions normalized to the integrated one

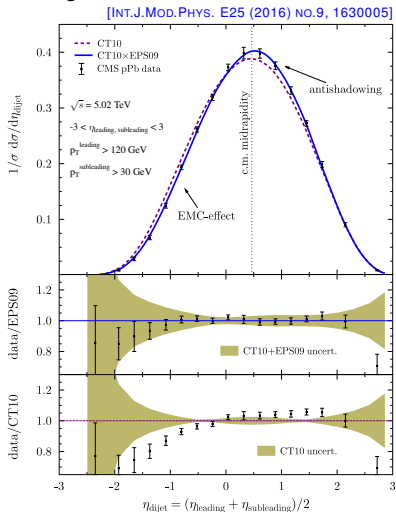
- Part of the dependence of the proton PDF f_i^P cancels. How much?

- CMS dijets:

[EPJ C76 (2016) NO.4, 218]

PDF + nPDF	dijets _{CMS} (15)
CT10 + DSSZ	94.441
CT10 + EPS09	10.526
CT10 only	116.187
MSTW2008 + DSSZ	56.365
MSTW2008 + EPS09	5.522
MSTW2008 only	67.763

⇒ Still significant dependence on the baseline $f_i^P(x, Q^2)$.



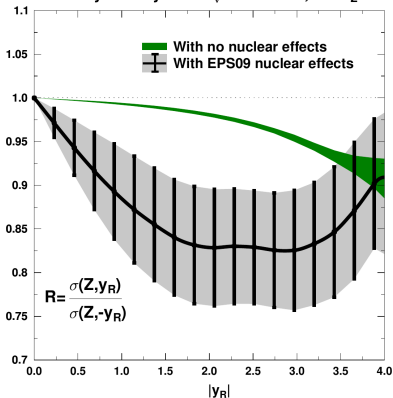
Experimental input: The LHC data — how should it be used?

- How to use the LHC data (p-Pb & Pb-Pb) to extract information on $R_i^A(x, Q^2)$?
- Answer #3: Forward-to-backward ratios R_{FB}

$$R_{FB} = \frac{d\sigma(\eta > 0)}{d\sigma(\eta < 0)}$$

[JHEP 1103 (2011) 071]

Z Asymmetry Pb at $\sqrt{s} = 8.8\text{TeV}$, $M=M_Z$



⇒ As much as possible of the dependence on the proton PDF f_i^P cancels.

⇒ Cancel also experimental uncertainties (especially if the correlations are known) but lose some information also.

⇒ Cannot use the Pb-Pb data in this way.

⇒ $R_{FB} \neq 1$ for: nuclear mods in PDFs + isospin + phase-space effects.

Experimental input: The story of neutrino-nucleus DIS

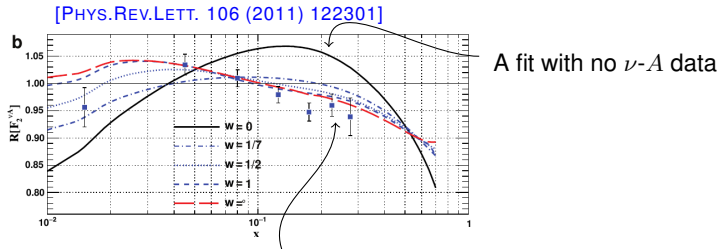
- Several measurements (NuTeV, CCFR, CHORUS, CDHSW, Minerva) on high-energy neutrino-nucleus DIS (ν - A and $\bar{\nu}$ - A).

- Data available only as absolute cross sections $\frac{d\sigma_{i,\text{exp}}^{\nu,\bar{\nu}}}{dx dy}$.

⇒ Sensitive to both the free proton baseline & nuclear corrections.

- The works of nCTEQ & DSSZ use directly the extracted structure functions.

⇒ nCTEQ found tension with the ℓ^- - A DIS data:



Experimental input: The story of neutrino-nucleus DIS

- To reduce the theoretical bias & experimental uncertainties a following observable was suggested [PRL 110 (2013) 212301]

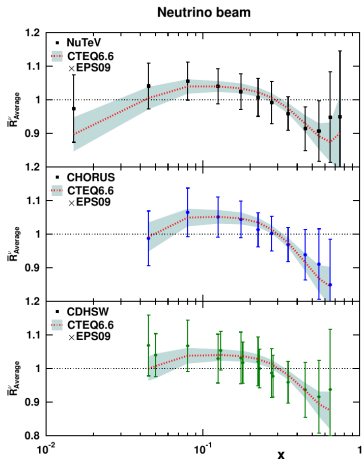
$$\frac{d\tilde{\sigma}_{i,\text{exp}}^{\nu,\bar{\nu}}}{dxdy} \equiv \frac{d\sigma_{i,\text{exp}}^{\nu,\bar{\nu}}}{dxdy} / \sigma_{\text{exp}}^{\nu,\bar{\nu}}(E_i),$$

$$\sigma_{\text{exp}}^{\nu,\bar{\nu}}(E) = \sum_i \frac{d\sigma_{i,\text{exp}}^{\nu,\bar{\nu}}}{dxdy} \Delta_i^{xy} \delta_{E,E_i}$$

\approx integrated xsec at fixed E

Size of the (x,y) bin

- A typical pattern of antishadowing + EMC effect clearly visible.
- The CHORUS ν -Pb and $\bar{\nu}$ -Pb data included in the EPPS16 analysis in this way — accounting for the correlated systematics.



Experimental input: Rethink the old $\ell^- A$ DIS data

- Ambiguities in the use of old NMC, EMC, SLAC $\ell^- A$ DIS data:

“Isoscalarized” structure functions
reported by the experiments
(used e.g. in [EPS09](#), [DSSZ](#),
[nCTEQ15](#) analyses):

$$\hat{F}_2^A = \frac{1}{2}F_2^{\text{p},A} + \frac{1}{2}F_2^{\text{n},A}$$

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The true structure functions (used now in [EPPS16](#)):

$$F_2^A = \frac{Z}{A}F_2^{\text{p},A} + \frac{N}{A}F_2^{\text{n},A}$$

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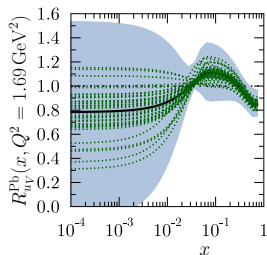
$$F_2^A = \frac{Z}{A}F_2^{\text{p},A} + \frac{N}{A}F_2^{\text{n},A}$$

- Both ways have been used — the latter one less sensitive to experimental assumptions.

Comparison of the current global fits

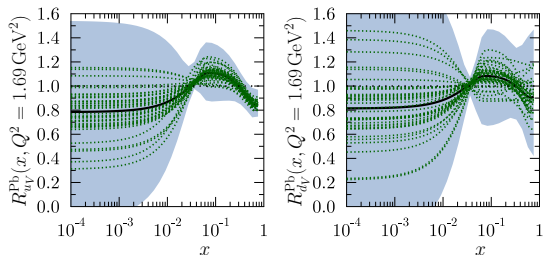
The EPPS16 nuclear modification for ^{208}Pb at $Q^2 = m_{\text{charm}}^2$

- Total uncertainties shown as blue bands, individual error sets in green



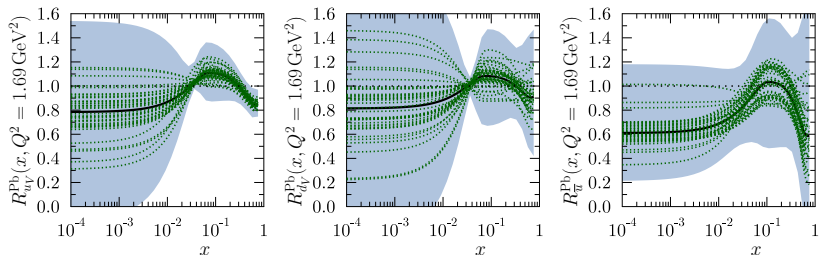
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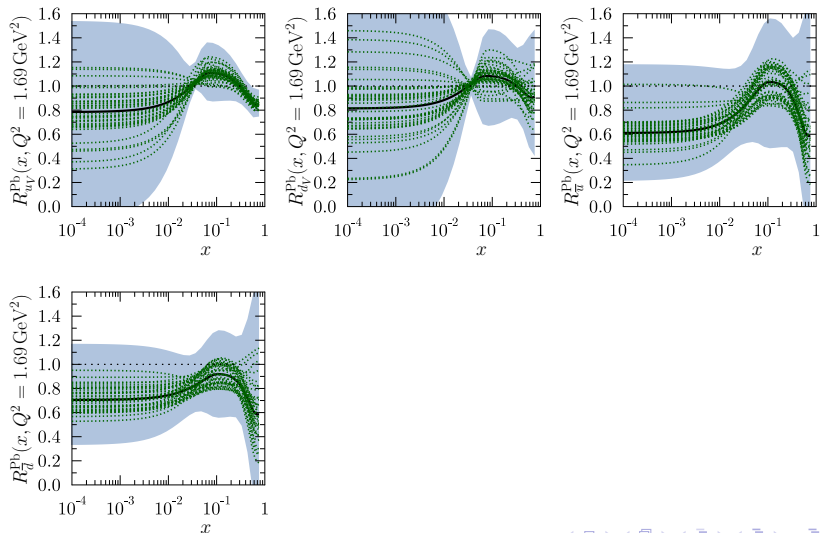
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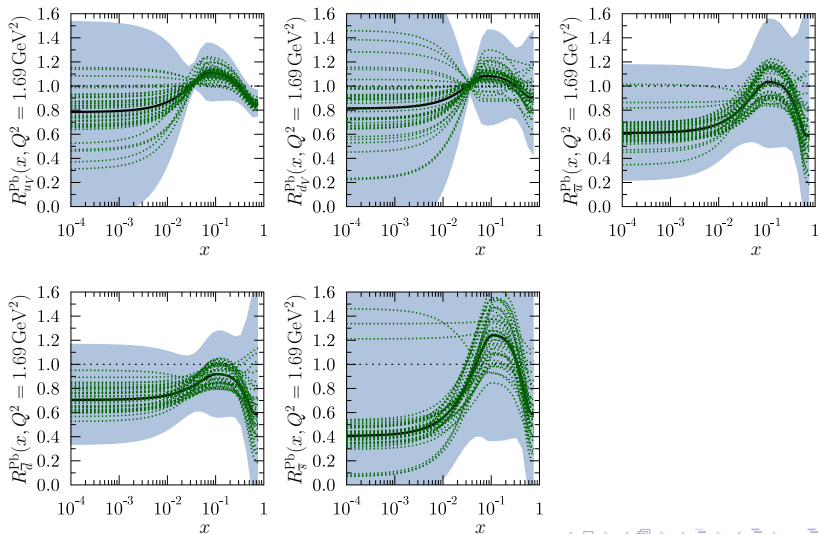
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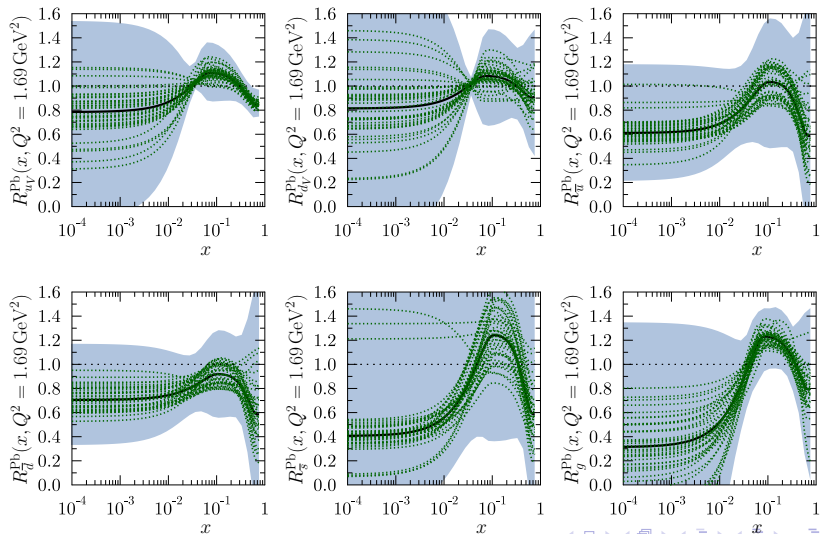
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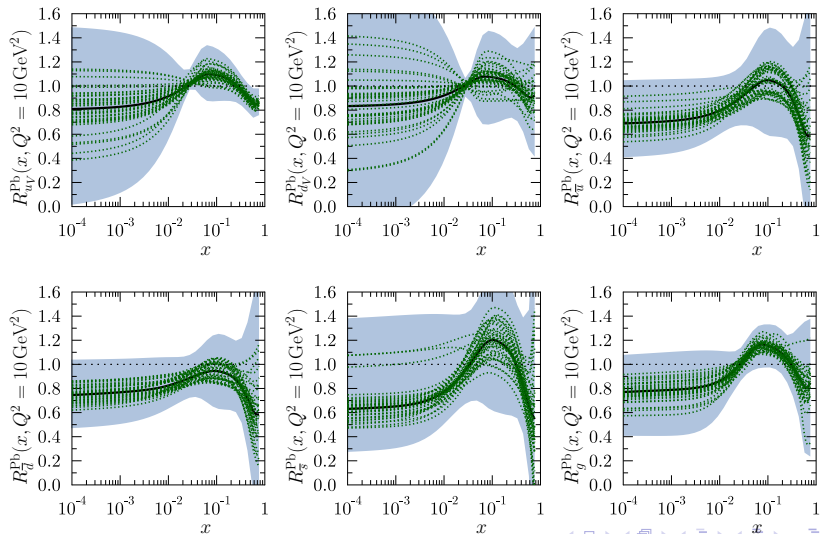
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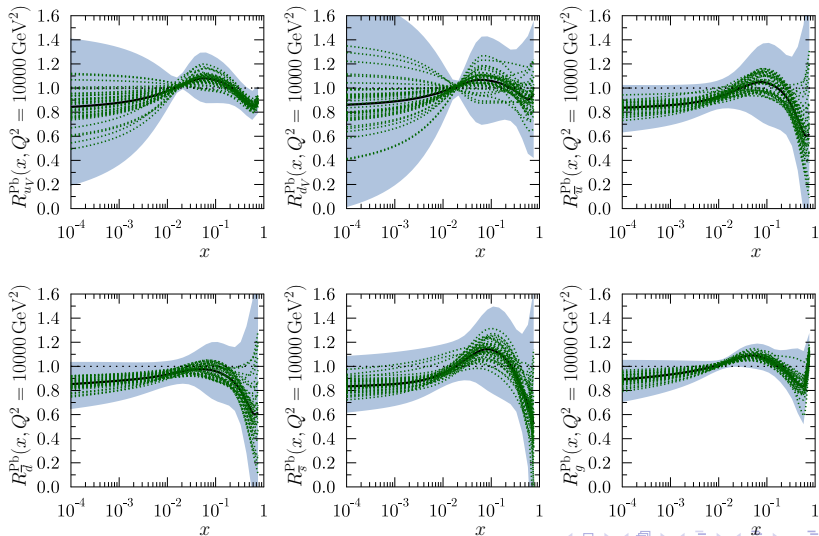
The EPPS16 nuclear modification for ^{208}Pb at $Q^2 = 10 \text{ GeV}^2$

- Total uncertainties shown as blue bands, individual error sets in green



The EPPS16 nuclear modification for ^{208}Pb at $Q^2 = 10000 \text{ GeV}^2$

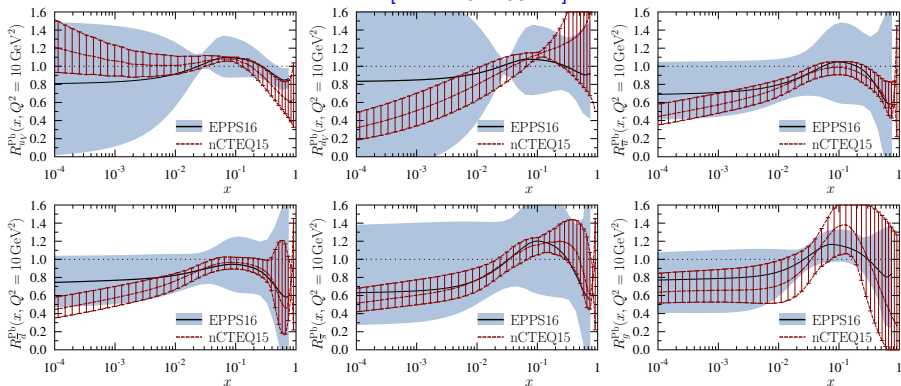
- Total uncertainties shown as blue bands, individual error sets in green



Comparison between nCTEQ15 and EPPS16, $Q^2 = 10 \text{ GeV}^2$

- Typically smaller uncertainties in nCTEQ15 \leftarrow more restrictive parametrization
- Larger high- x gluon uncertainties in nCTEQ15 \leftarrow looser cuts and no LHC data
- Behaviour of the nCTEQ15 valence sector \leftarrow isospin-symmetric DIS data + no ν -A DIS

[ARXIV:1612.05741]



Comparison between EPS09, DSSZ and EPPS16

- No flavour freedom in EPS09 nor DSSZ.

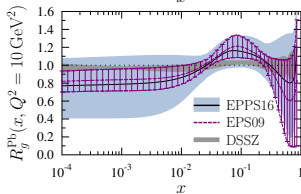
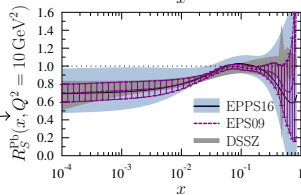
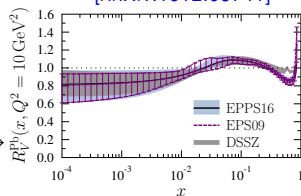
⇒ compare the averages

$$R_{\text{valence}} \equiv \frac{u_V^{\text{p/Pb}} + d_V^{\text{p/Pb}}}{u_V^{\text{p}} + d_V^{\text{p}}}$$

$$R_{\text{light sea}} \equiv \frac{\bar{u}^{\text{p/Pb}} + \bar{d}^{\text{p/Pb}} + \bar{s}^{\text{p/Pb}}}{\bar{u}^{\text{p}} + \bar{d}^{\text{p}} + \bar{s}^{\text{p}}}$$

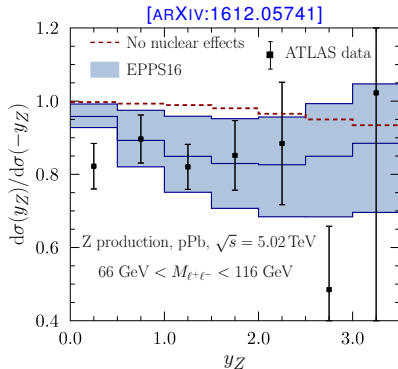
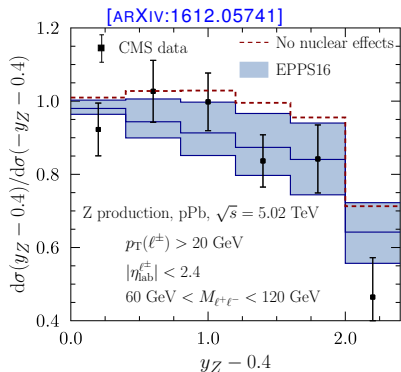
- All three consistent (modulo the large- x valence quarks of DSSZ).
- Typically larger uncertainties in EPPS16 (more degrees of freedom).

[ARXIV:1612.05741]



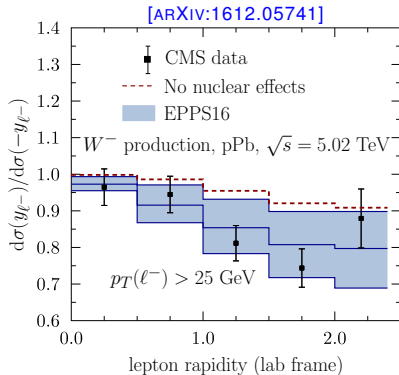
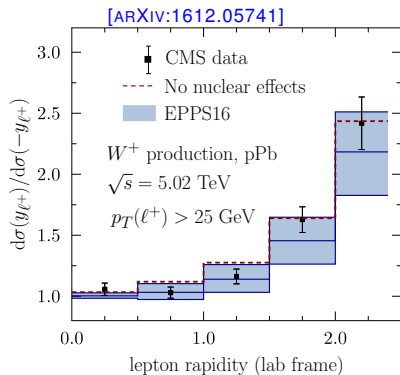
Effects of nuclear PDFs in LHC p-Pb observables

Effects of nuclear PDFs in the p-Pb data: Z production



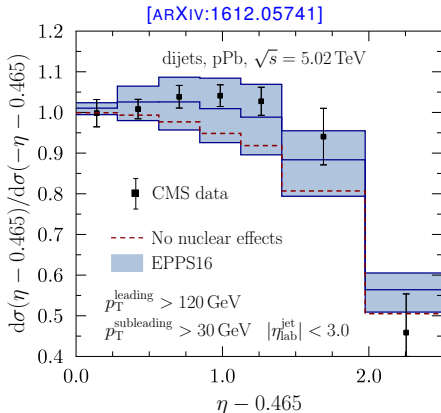
- More net shadowing for $y_Z > 0$ than for $y_Z < 0$
 \implies suppression in R_{FB}
- The CMS data deviates significantly from unity for non-symmetric acceptance in the c.m. frame.

Effects of nuclear PDFs in the p-Pb data: W production



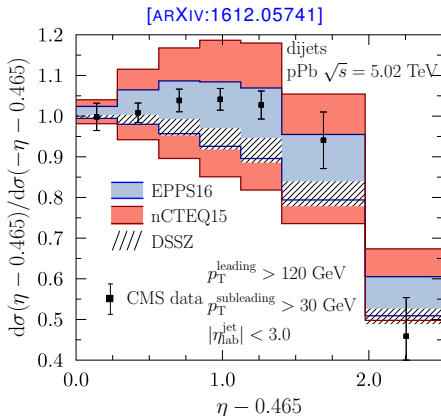
- More net shadowing for $y_{\ell^\pm} > 0$ than for $y_{\ell^\pm} < 0$
⇒ suppression in R_{FB}
- A large isospin effect present in W production [JHEP 1103 (2011) 071]
⇒ The data deviates significantly from unity

Effects of nuclear PDFs in the p-Pb data: dijet production



- An EMC effect for $\eta_{\text{dijet}} < 0$, antishadowing for $\eta_{\text{dijet}} > 0$
⇒ an enhancement in R_{FB}
- The data deviates significantly from unity for non-symmetric acceptance [JHEP 1310 (2013) 213].

Effects of nuclear PDFs in the p-Pb data: dijet production



- nCTEQ15: larger high- x gluon uncertainty \Rightarrow a wider uncertainty band for dijets.
- The mild nuclear effects of DSSZ gluons lead to a result similar with no effects.
- Dijets constitute currently the most stringent probe of large- x gluons.

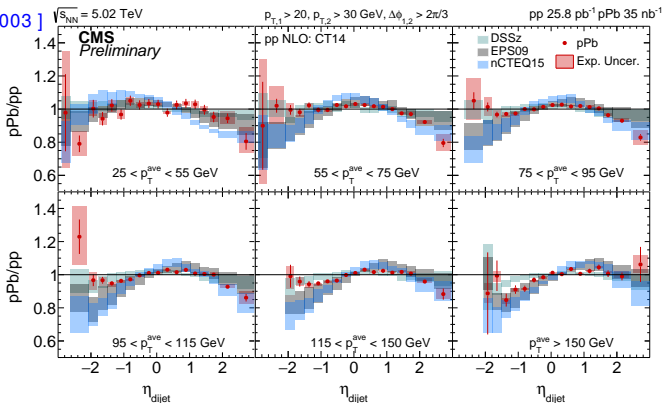
The way forward

The way forward... just a part of it

Near-future prospects

- For the new p-p baseline at $\sqrt{s} = 5$ TeV direct measurements of nuclear modification R_{pPb} are now possible (more or less also at $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV).

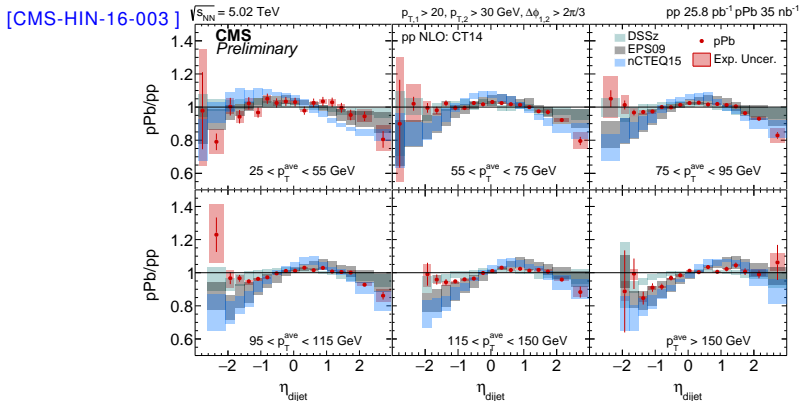
[CMS-HIN-16-003]



- Provide theoretically a cleaner sensitivity to $R_i^A(x, Q^2)$ but...

Near-future prospects

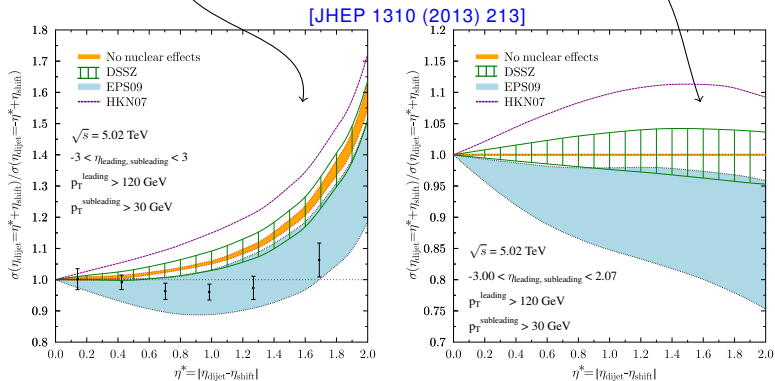
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- Provide theoretically a cleaner sensitivity to $R_i^A(x, Q^2)$ but...
- It is important that in such measurements the correlated systematics between p-p and p-Pb are accounted for.
- Preferably in a common fiducial phase space.

Near-future prospects: The importance of symmetric phase space

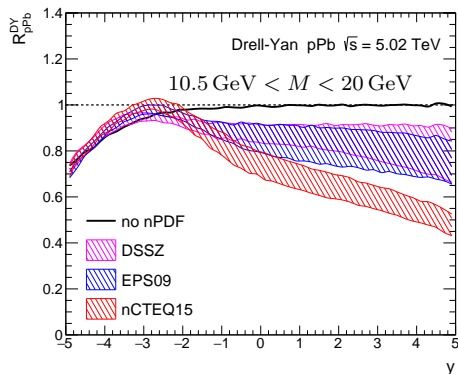
- An example of the importance of common fiducial phase space: R_{BF} with a symmetric acceptance in lab frame vs. symmetric acceptance in c.m. frame



⇒ Theoretical uncertainties can be made smaller by experimental cuts.

Near-future prospects: The Drell-Yan process

- Intermediate-mass Drell-Yan process at forward direction would provide a nice probe of small- x sea quarks [ARLEO ET.AL, PHYS.REV. D95 (2017) 011502]



- Within the possibilities of e.g. LHCb with the Run-II luminosity [LHCb-PUB-2016-011].
- New low-mass Drell-Yan measurements expected from Fermilab SeaQuest experiment [FERMILAB-THESIS-2016-13].

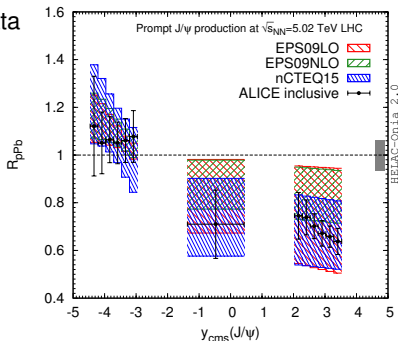
Prospects for other probes — J/ψ (+ other quarkonia)

- The theoretical description of J/ψ in p-A collisions not yet fully understood — could involve nuclear absorption etc...
- Fresh idea [LANSBERG ET.AL, EUR.PHYS.J. C77 (2017) NO.1, 1]:

$$d\sigma^{J/\psi} = f_g(Q_f^2) \otimes d\sigma_{gg}^{J/\psi}(Q_f^2, Q_r^2) \otimes f_g(Q_f^2)$$

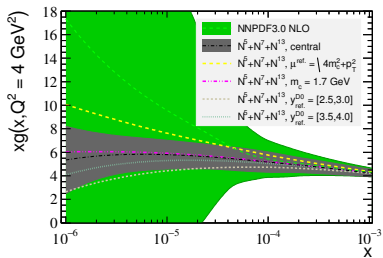
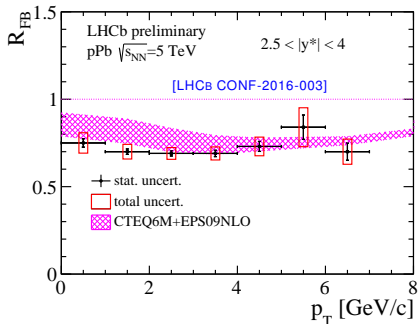
Fit the coefficient functions to p-p data

- Neglects all but the gluon-gluon channel
- A consistent description of the data with only effects from nuclear PDFs.



Prospects for other probes — open heavy flavour

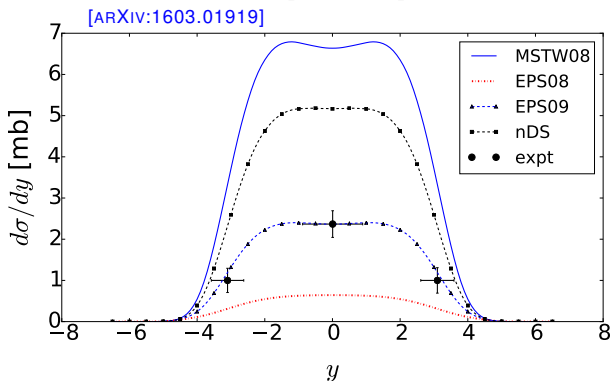
- The potential of D (and B) meson production has been demonstrated in p-p
[ARXIV:1610.09373 & EUR.PHYS.J. C75 (2015) NO.8, 396]:
- Different theoretical treatments e.g.
 - NLL parton-level calculation + PYTHIA
 - NLO GM-VFNS + fragmentation functions
- Can be done also in p-Pb collisions (e.g. ALICE, LHCb)



Prospects for other probes — ultra peripheral collisions (UPC)

- It has been argued that UPC vector meson (e.g. J/ψ) production in Pb-Pb collisions is particularly sensitive to nuclear gluon

$$\sigma^{\gamma A \rightarrow V} \propto [g^A(x, Q^2)]^2$$



- Exact relation to inclusive NLO (and beyond) PDFs?

Summary

- Overviewed the recent progress on the global analysis of nuclear PDFs
- The most important developments new ingredients in the latest global analysis:

LHC Run I data	↪ completely novel constraints
neutrino DIS data	↪ $R_{uV} \sim R_{dV}$
full flavour dependence	↪ significantly less bias but larger uncertainties

- The universality of nuclear PDFs now verified up to the electroweak scale.
- More (much!) data expected in the near future — e.g. the p-Pb run at $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$
 - The availability of correlated systematics would be advantageous.
 - Symmetric acceptance in the c.m. frame would reduce theoretical uncertainties.