



Utrecht University



ALICE



Charmed meson and baryon production in pp collisions with ALICE at the LHC

Luuk Vermunt, Utrecht University
for the ALICE Collaboration



- Physics motivation for charmed hadron studies.
- Charm particle reconstruction with the ALICE detector.
- Latest results in pp (charmed meson and baryon production).
 - D-meson production measurements at $\sqrt{s} = 5, 7, 8$ and 13 TeV.
 - Λ_c^+ and Ξ_c^0 measurements at mid-rapidity at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV.
- Summary and outlook.

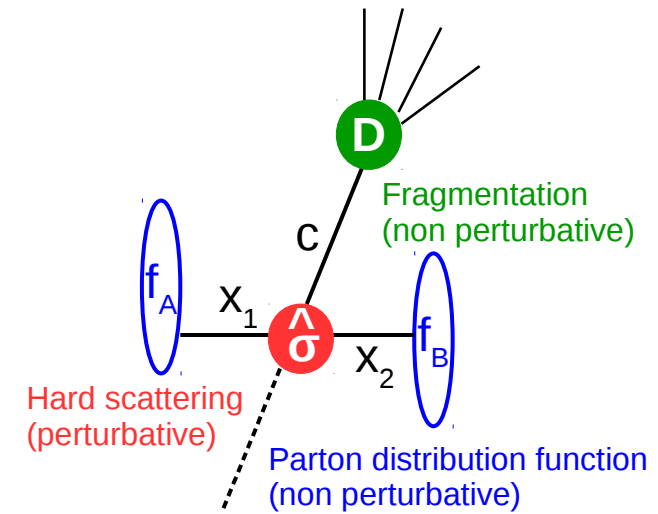


Heavy quark production



Heavy quarks (c, b) are mainly produced in initial hard scattering processes.

- Hard scale provided by large quark mass.
- Calculable with perturbative QCD.

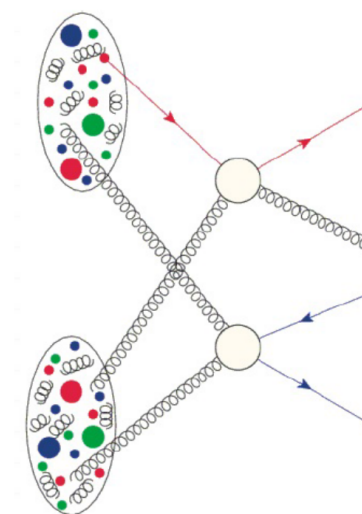
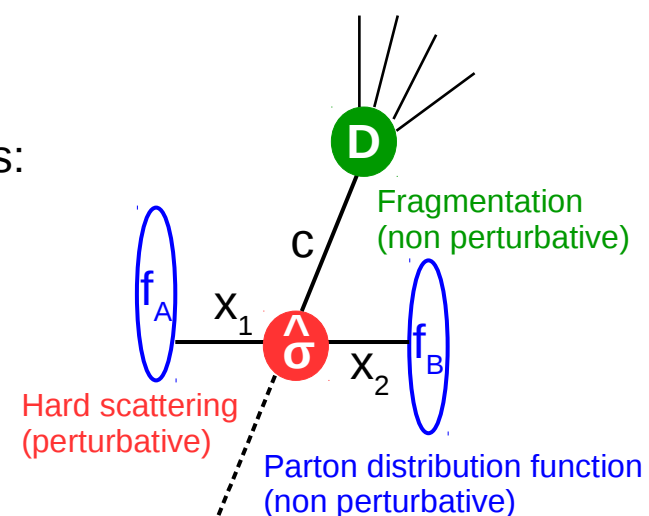


Heavy quarks (c, b) are mainly produced in initial hard scattering processes.

- Hard scale provided by large quark mass.
- Calculable with perturbative QCD.

Physics motivation for measuring charmed hadrons in pp collisions:

1. Production cross section down to $p_T \sim 0$.
 - Constraints for perturbative QCD models.
2. Production ratios of hadron species.
 - Fragmentation functions and hadronisation mechanisms.
3. Production ratios between various energies and rapidity regions.
 - Sensitive to gluon distribution function.
4. Production cross section as a function of particle multiplicity.
 - Role of Multiple-Parton Interactions (MPI).
5. Needed as reference for pA and AA collisions.
 - **See talk Robert Vertesi (29/8/17, 12:00-12:30).**



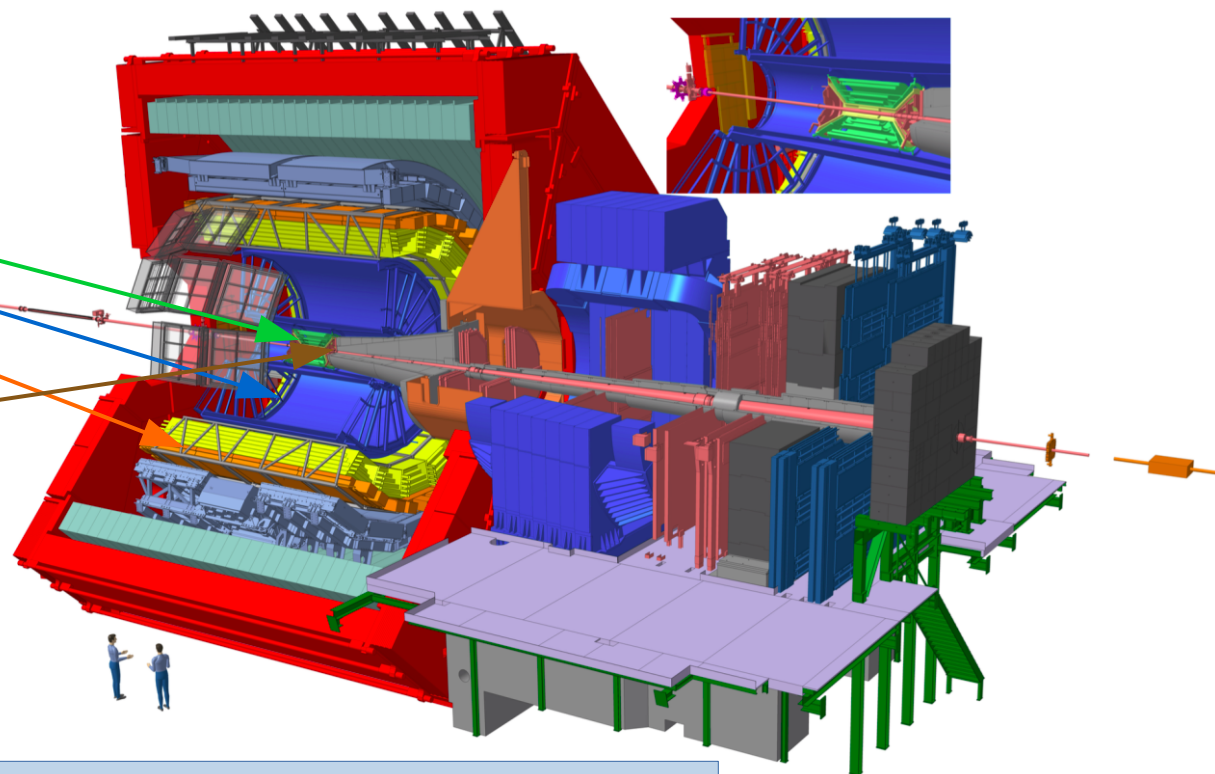
A Large Ion Collider Experiment:

Optimised for track reconstruction from low to high p_T in high-particle-density environment with excellent particle identification capabilities.

Relevant detectors for these analyses:

Inner Tracking System
Time Projection Chamber
Time Of Flight detector
Vertexing, Tracking, PID
 $|\eta| < 0.9$

V0
Trigger, Multiplicity
 $2.8 < \eta < 5.1$
 $-3.7 < \eta < -1.7$



Used data samples:

proton-proton collisions

Run-1:

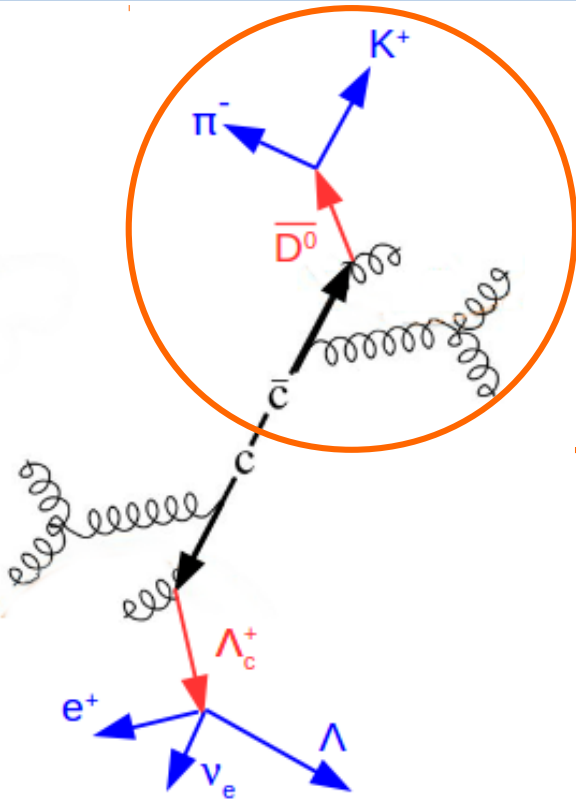
- $\sqrt{s} = 2.76$ TeV
~50M min. bias. events ($L_{int} \sim 0.9 \text{ nb}^{-1}$)
- $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV
~370M min. bias. events ($L_{int} \sim 6.0 \text{ nb}^{-1}$)
- $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV
~100M min. bias. events ($L_{int} \sim 1.8 \text{ nb}^{-1}$)

Run-2:

- $\sqrt{s} = 5.02$ TeV:
~120M min. bias. events ($L_{int} \sim 2.3 \text{ nb}^{-1}$)
- $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV:
~190M min. bias. events ($L_{int} \sim 3.3 \text{ nb}^{-1}$)



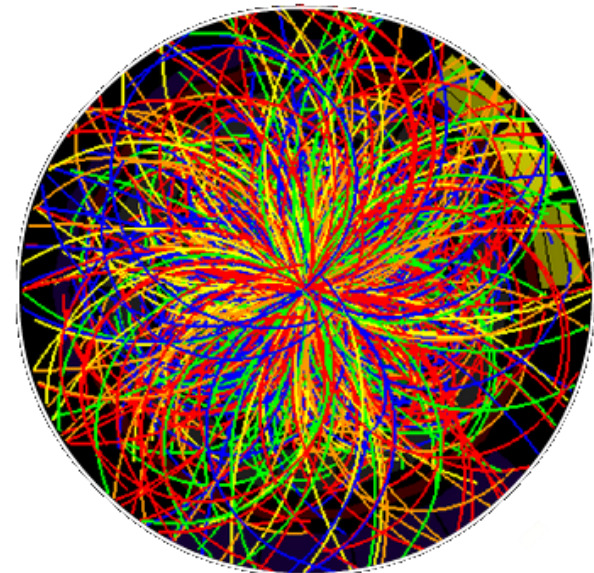
Particle reconstruction: Hadronic decays



Analysis strategy:

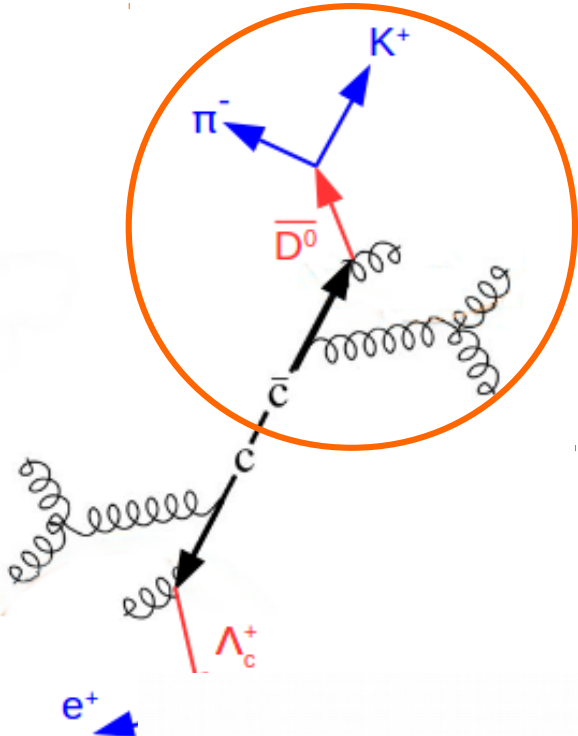
- Combine track pairs/triplets with proper charge combinations.
- Reconstruct secondary vertex.
- Apply selection cuts to select decay-like topologies, exploiting decay-vertex displacement.
- Further background reduction using PID information via dE/dx (TPC) and time of flight (TOF) to identify pions, kaons and protons.

$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$	$(3.93 \pm 0.04 \%)$	$c\tau \sim 123 \mu\text{m}$
$D^+ \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+$	$(9.46 \pm 0.24 \%)$	$c\tau \sim 312 \mu\text{m}$
$D^{*+} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^+$	$(67.7 \pm 0.50 \%)$	$c\tau \sim 2 \text{ fm}$
$D_s^+ \rightarrow \phi \pi^+$	$(2.27 \pm 0.08 \%)$	$c\tau \sim 150 \mu\text{m}$
$\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+$	$(6.35 \pm 0.33 \%)$	$c\tau \sim 60 \mu\text{m}$
$\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p K_S^0$	$(1.58 \pm 0.08 \%)$	$c\tau \sim 60 \mu\text{m}$



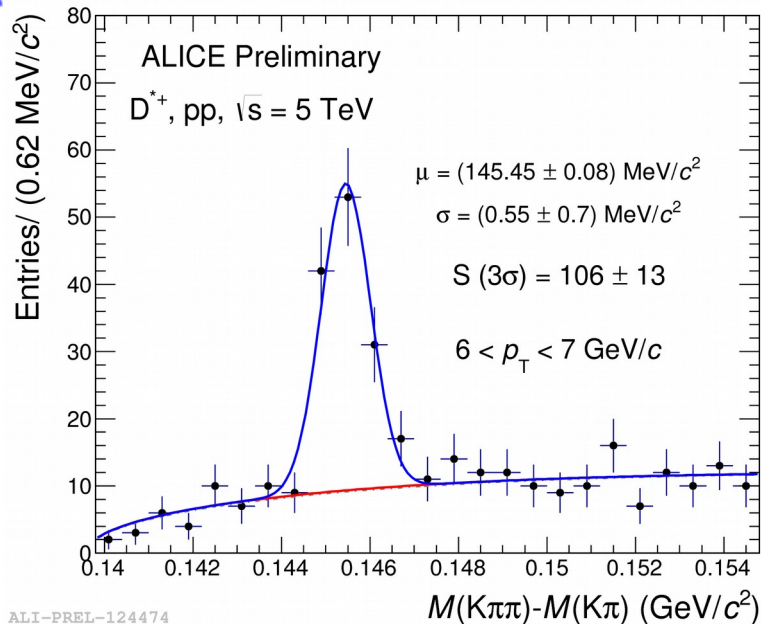


Particle reconstruction: Hadronic decays

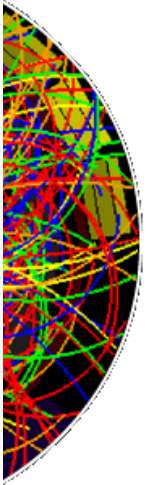
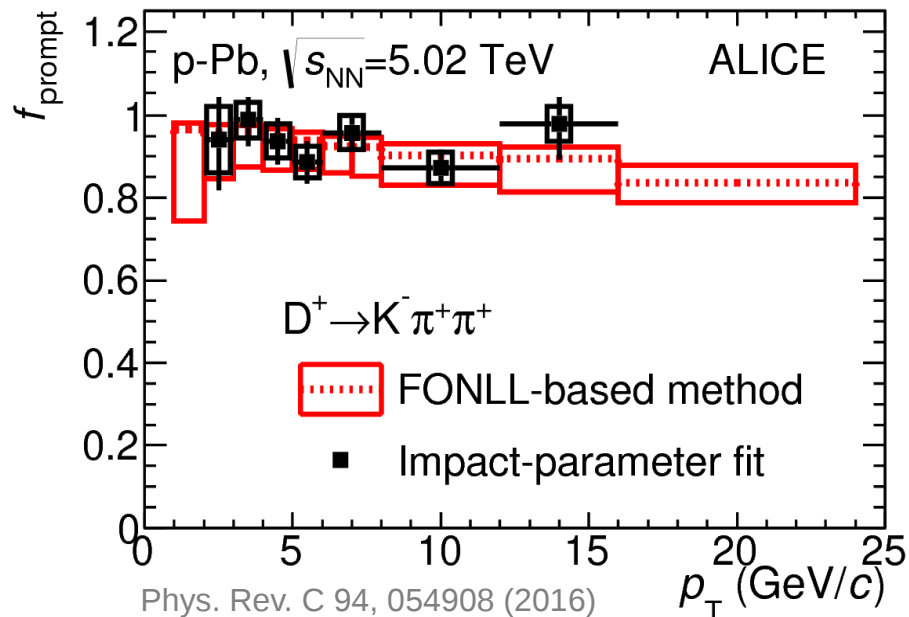


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- Extract charm hadron signal via **invariant mass distributions**.
- Subtract **beauty feed-down**.

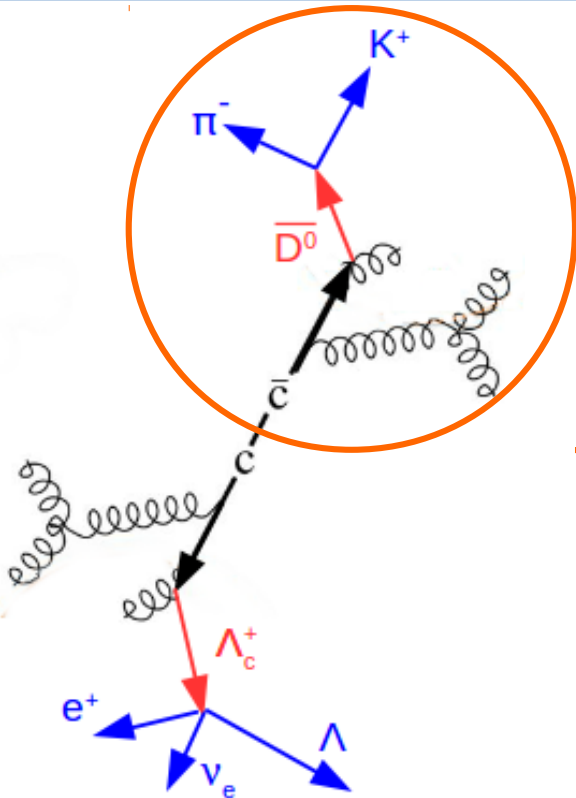


ALI-PREL-124474





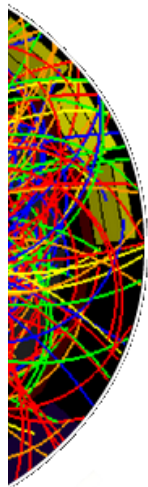
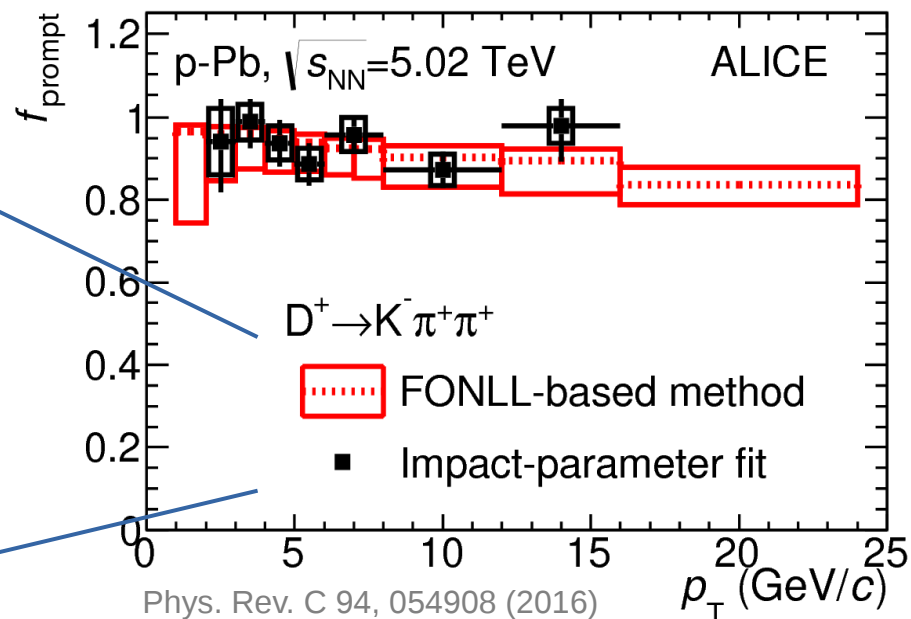
Particle reconstruction: Hadronic decays

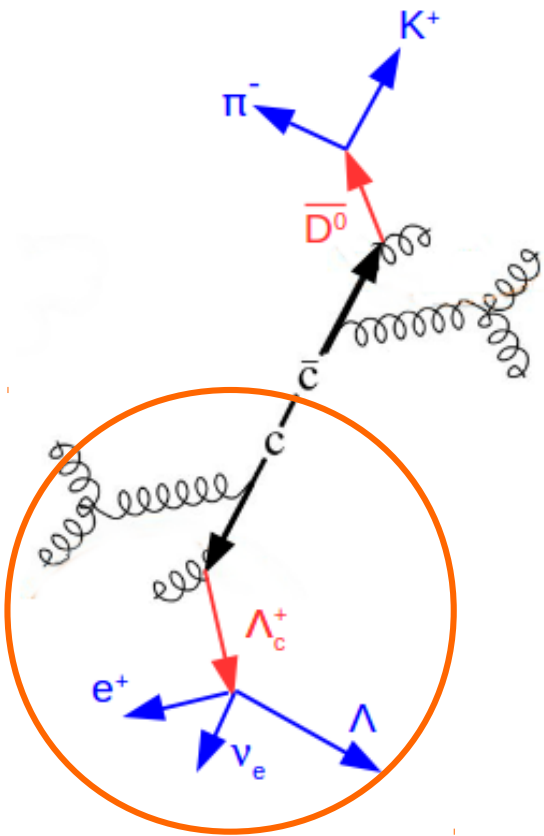


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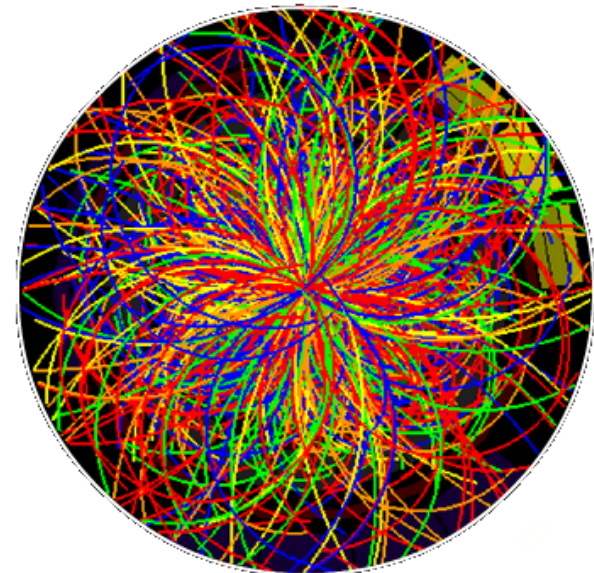
- Feed-down contribution estimated using FONLL predictions of D meson from beauty-hadron decay and prompt and feed-down D-meson reconstruction efficiencies.
- Method cross-checked with data-driven estimate from D-meson impact parameter fit.



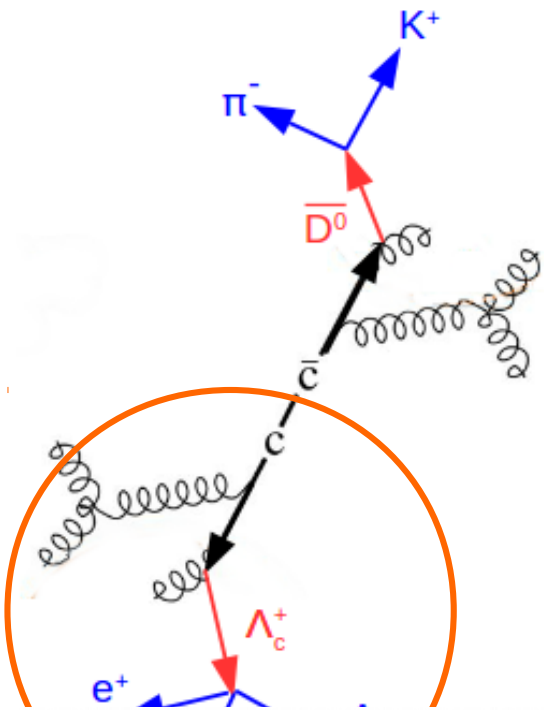


Analysis strategy:

- Combine an electron track originating close to primary vertex with a reconstructed Λ or Ξ^\pm ($c\tau \sim 7.9$ and 4.9 cm respectively).
- Apply selection cuts exploiting the decay vertex displacement of the Λ and Ξ^\pm baryon to enhance the Λ and Ξ^\pm signal purity.

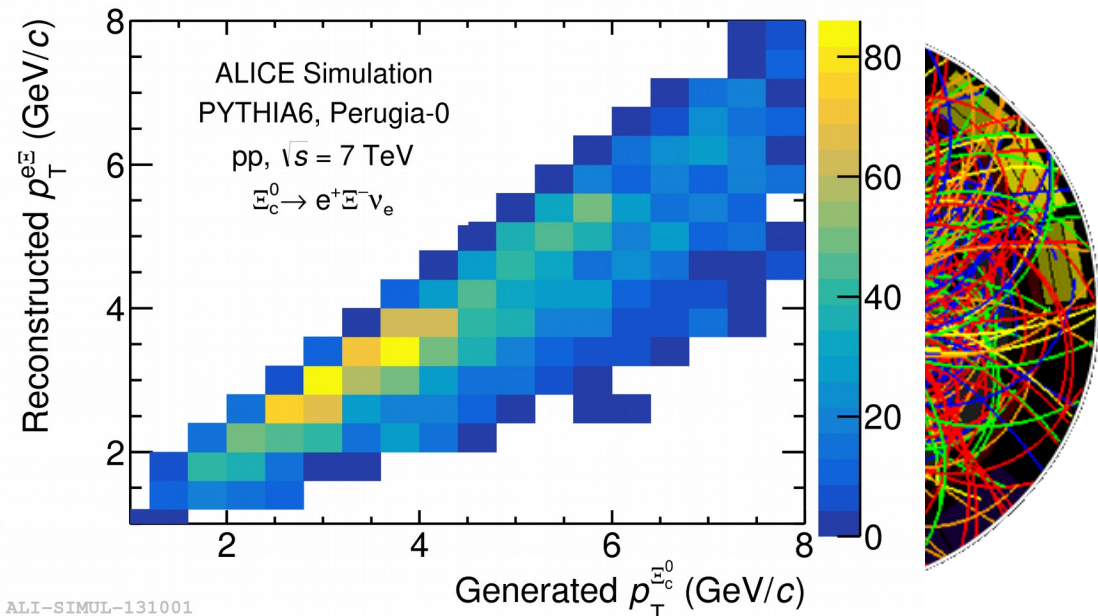
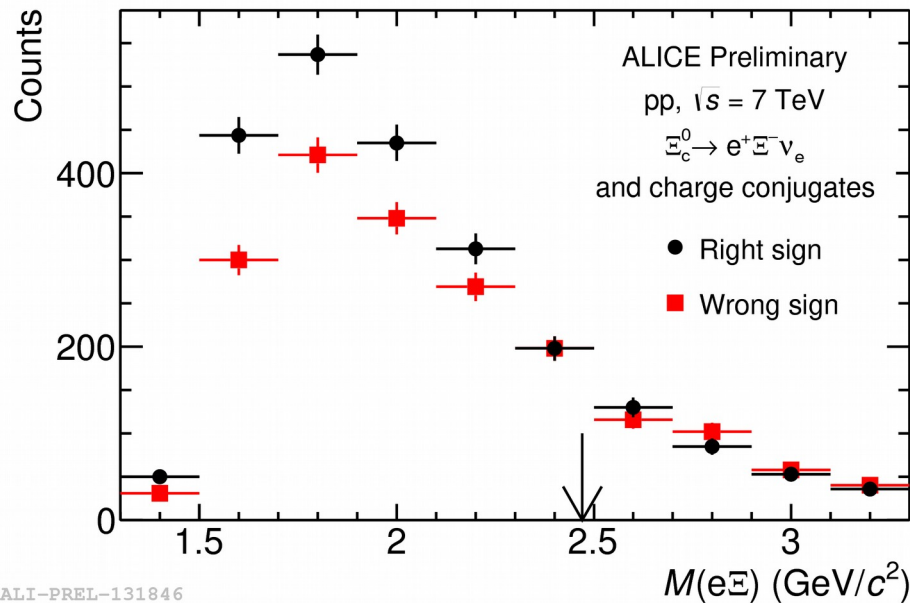


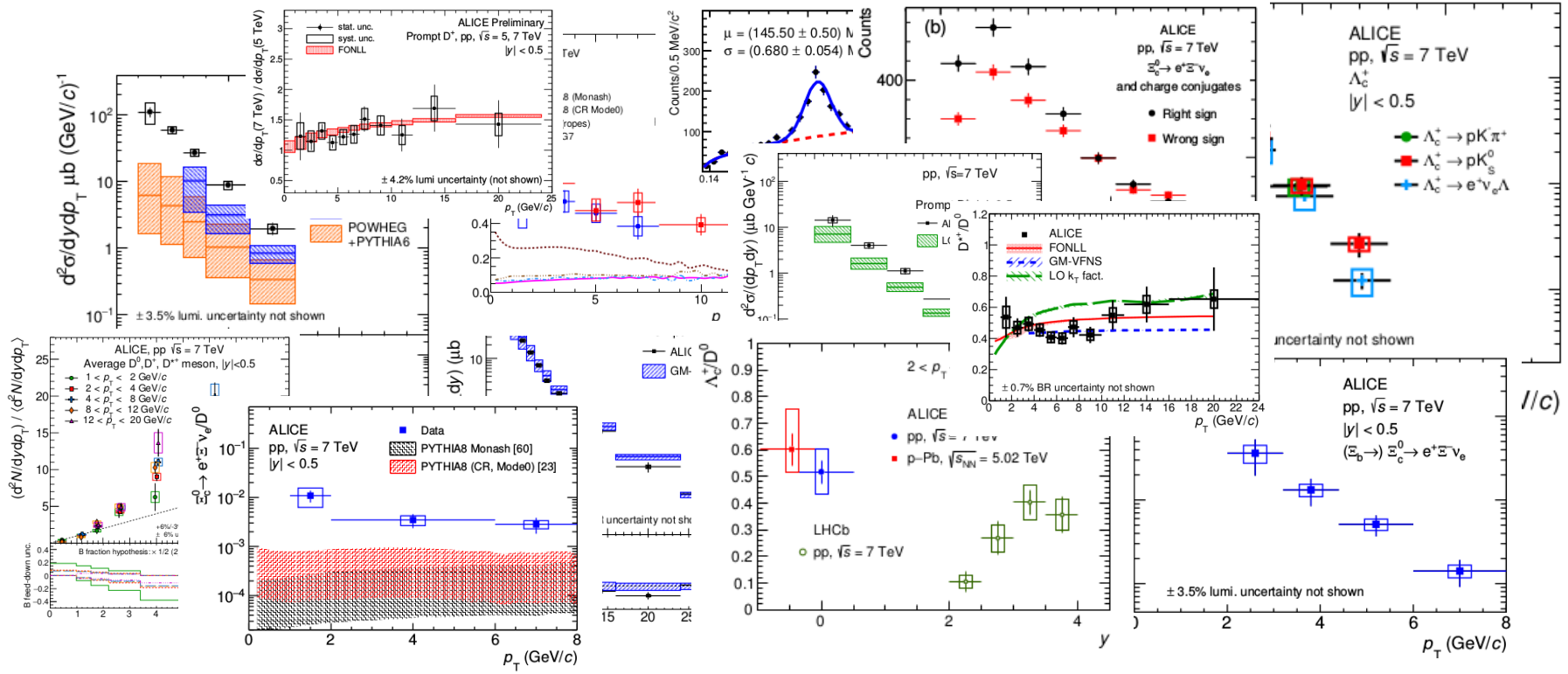
$\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \Lambda$	$(3.6 \pm 0.4 \%)$	$c\tau \sim 60 \mu\text{m}$
$\Xi_c^0 \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \Xi^-$	BR unknown	$c\tau \sim 34 \mu\text{m}$



Analysis strategy:

- Combine an electron track originating close to primary vertex with a reconstructed Λ or Ξ^\pm ($c\tau \sim 7.9$ and 4.9 cm respectively).
- Apply selection cuts exploiting the decay vertex displacement of the Λ and Ξ^\pm baryon to enhance the Λ and Ξ^\pm signal purity.
- **Wrong sign** pairs $e^-\Lambda$ ($e^-\Xi^+$) subtracted from **right sign** spectra $e^+\Lambda$ ($e^+\Xi^-$).
- Correct for Λ_b^0 and Ξ_b^0 ($\Xi_c^{0,+}$) in wrong sign (right sign) spectra.
- Correct for missing momentum ν_e by **unfolding** $e^+\Lambda$ ($e^+\Xi^-$) p_T spectra.





Results



D-meson cross sections



Production cross section of prompt D mesons:

$$\frac{d^2 \sigma^D}{dp_T dy} = \frac{1}{c_{\Delta y} \Delta p_T \text{BR}} \frac{1}{2} f_{\text{prompt}} \cdot \frac{N^{D+\bar{D}, \text{raw}}}{(\text{Acc} \times \epsilon)_{\text{prompt}}} \Big|_{|y| < y_{\text{fid}}} \frac{1}{L_{\text{int}}}$$

- 1) Number of reconstructed D mesons.
- 2) Efficiency and detector acceptance corrections.
- 3) Fraction of prompt D mesons.
- 4) Normalisation factors.



D-meson cross sections



Production cross section of prompt D mesons:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma^D}{dp_T dy} = \frac{1}{c_{\Delta y}} \frac{1}{\Delta p_T \text{ BR}} \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{f_{\text{prompt}}}_{\text{purple}} \cdot \underbrace{N^{\text{D}+\bar{\text{D}},\text{raw}}}_{\text{red}} \Big|_{|y| < y_{\text{fid}}} \underbrace{(\text{Acc} \times \epsilon)_{\text{prompt}}}_{\text{green}} \frac{1}{L_{\text{int}}}$$

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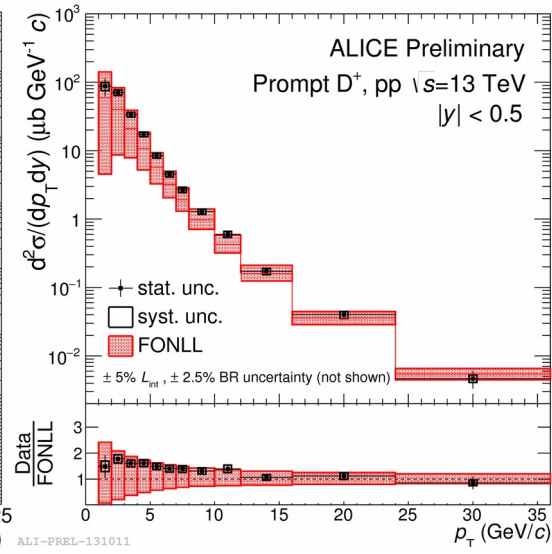
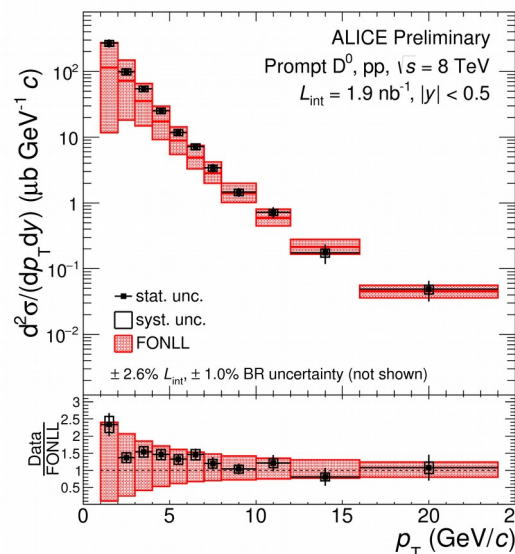
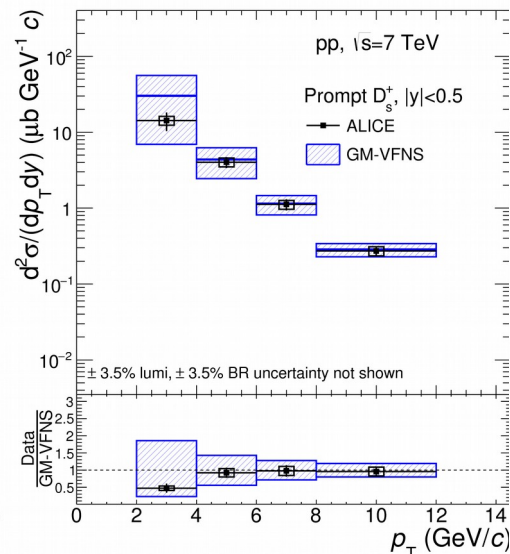
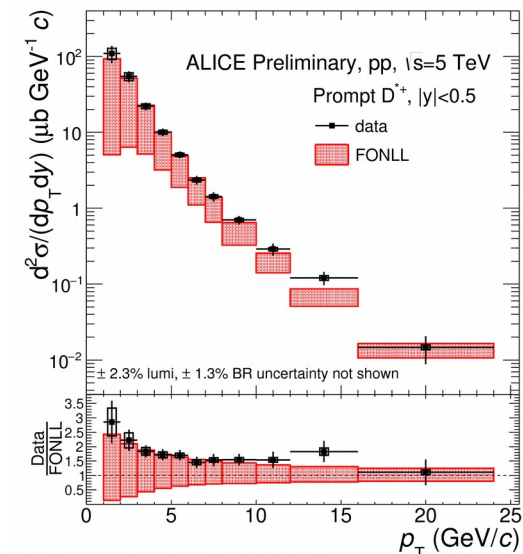
→ p_T -differential cross section of D mesons described within uncertainties by pQCD calculations (FONLL and GM-VFNS) at $\sqrt{s} = 5, 7, 8, 13$ TeV.

D*+ 5 TeV

D_s+ 7 TeV

D⁰ 8 TeV

D+ 13 TeV



ALI-PREL-123975

LI-PUB-125423

ALI-PREL-130977

ALI-PREL-131011

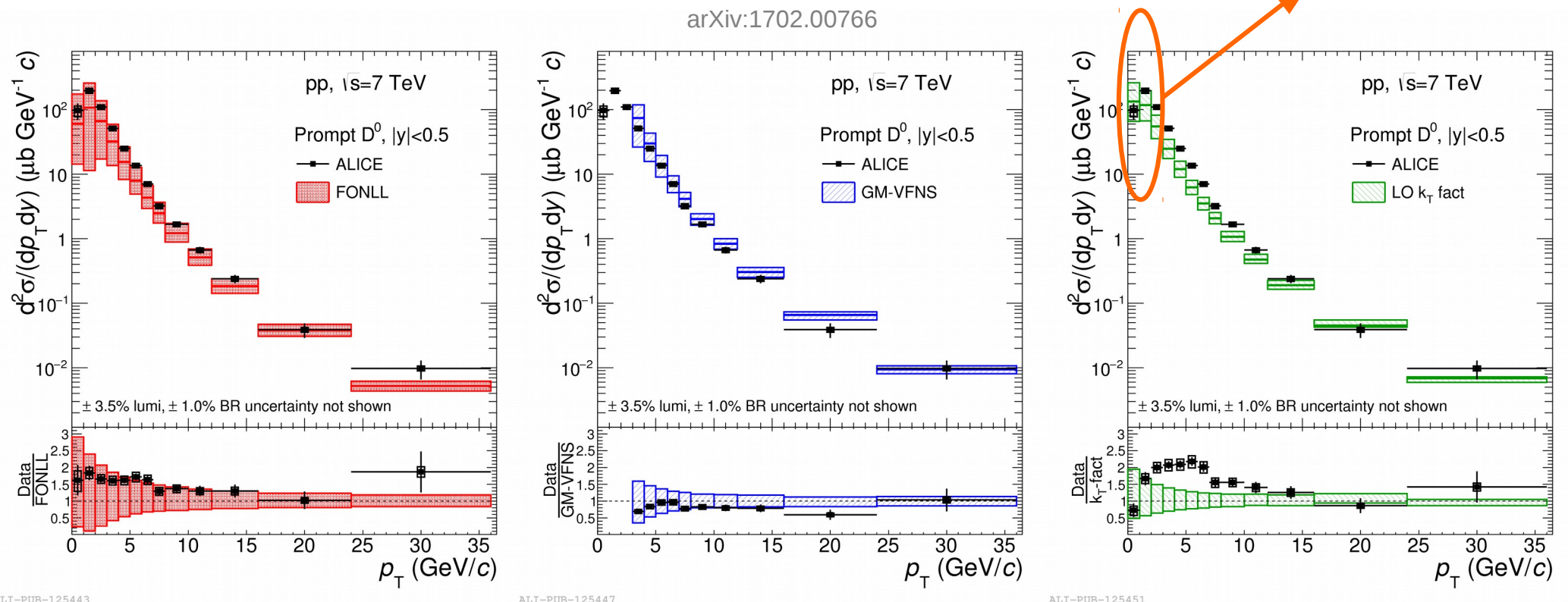


D-meson cross sections



- Analysis of pp data at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV (collected in 2010).
 - p_T coverage down to zero for the D^0 meson.
- ➔ Data described within uncertainties by FONLL and GM-VFNS. LO k_T factorisation calculations underestimate cross section at intermediate p_T .

Data point in $0 < p_T < 1$ GeV/c is obtained from analysis without decay vertex reconstruction.



ALI-PUB-125443

ALI-PUB-125447

ALI-PUB-125451

FONLL: JHEP 10 (2012) 137;

GM-VFNS: Eur. Phys. J. C41 (2005), Eur. Phys. J. C72 (2012) 2082

kT: Phys. Rev. D87 no. 9 (2013)



Cross section ratios



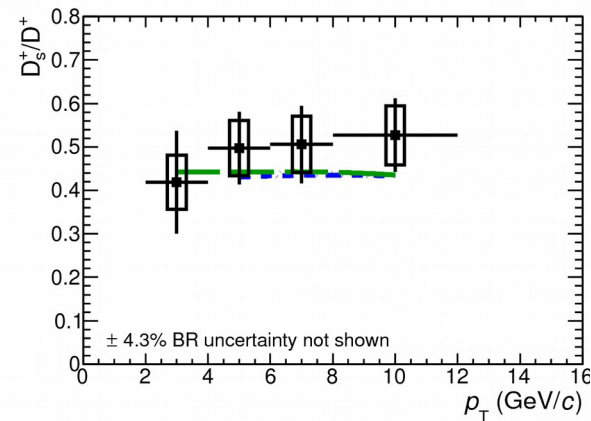
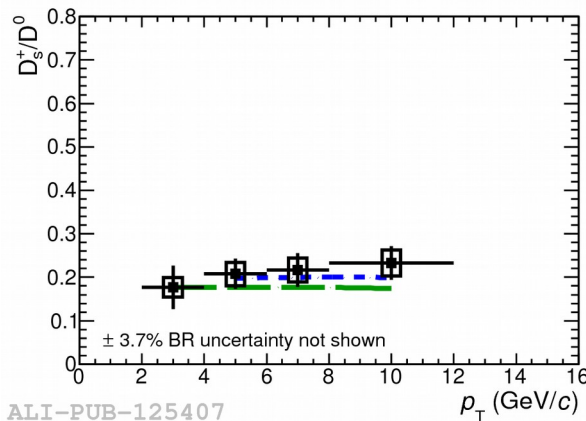
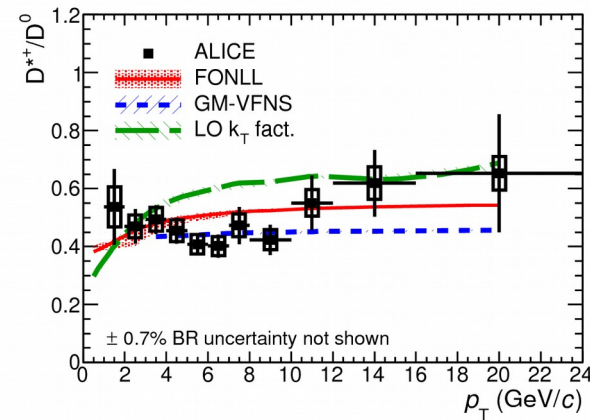
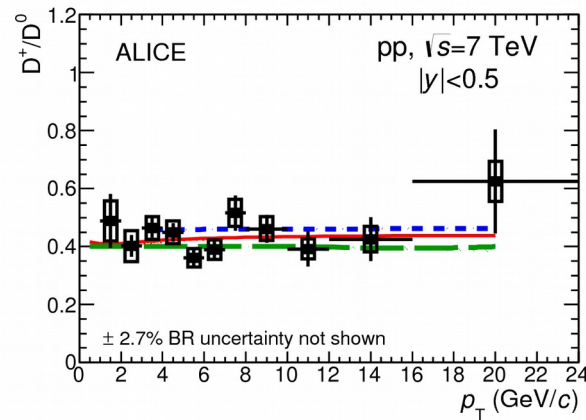
D-meson cross section ratios help to further constrain pQCD calculations.

- **Species**, *rapidity* and *energy* ratios.
- Several systematic uncertainties of pQCD models cancel.

→ D-meson species ratios well described by models.

- Sensitive to fragmentation functions.
- No significant p_T dependence observed.

arXiv:1702.00766



ALI-PUB-125407

FONLL:

JHEP 10 (2012) 137

JHEP 05 (1998) 007

GM-VFNS:

Eur. Phys. J. C41 (2005)

Eur. Phys. J. C72 (2012) 2082

kT:

Phys. Rev. D87 no. 9 (2013)

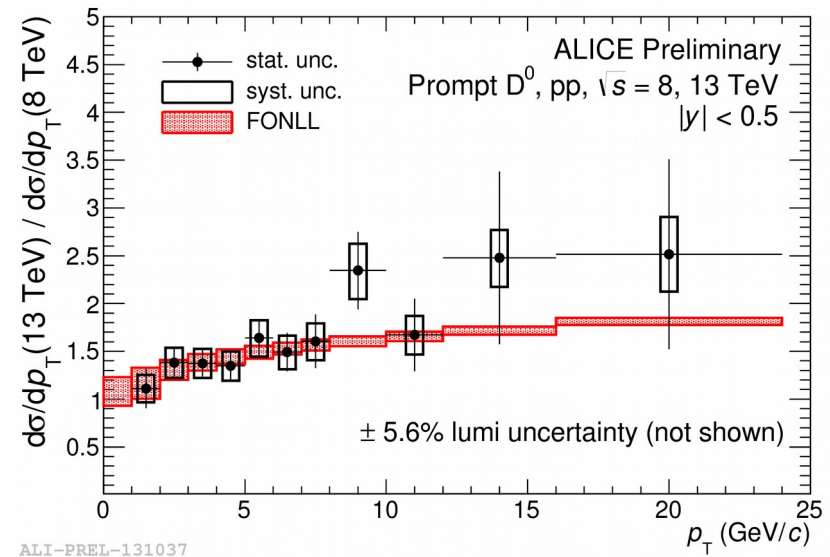
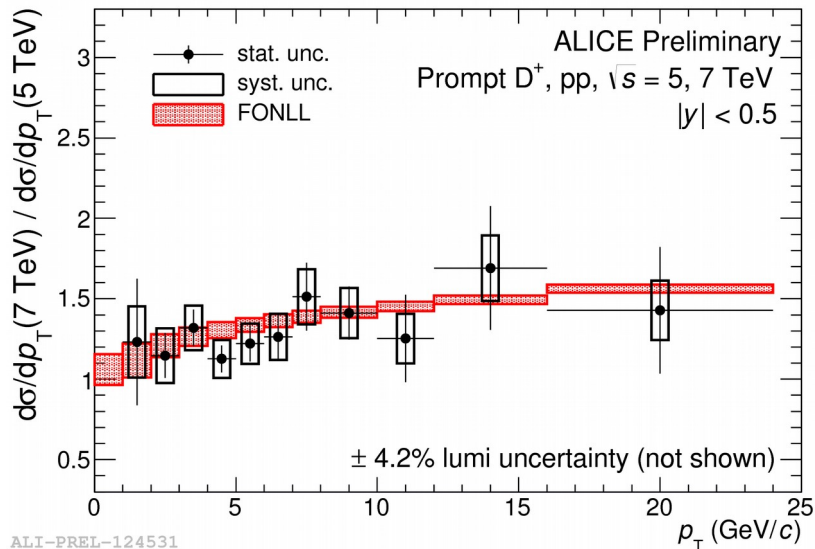
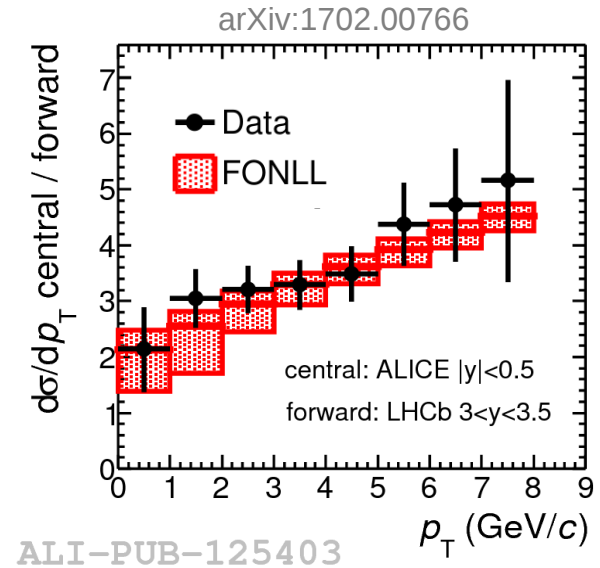


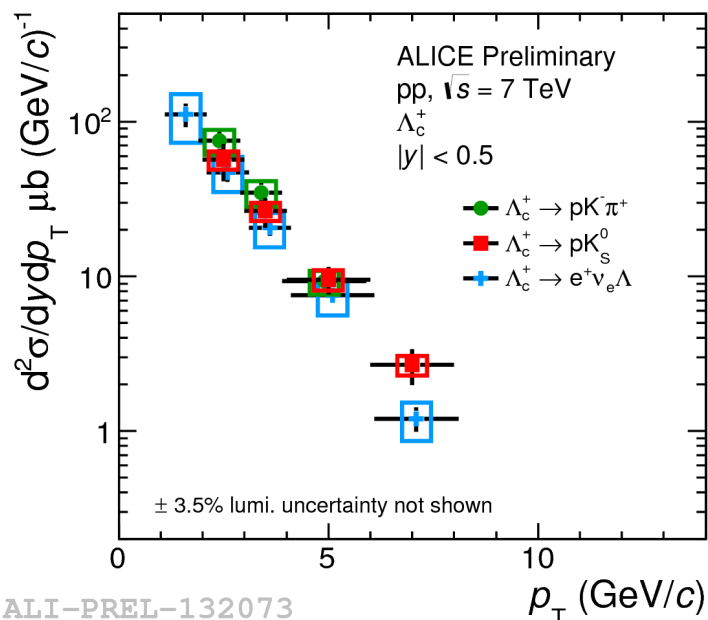
Cross section ratios



D-meson cross section ratios help to further constrain pQCD calculations.

- Species, **rapidity** and **energy** ratios.
- Several systematic uncertainties of pQCD models cancel.
- D-meson species ratios well described by models.
- Sensitive to fragmentation functions.
- No significant p_T dependence observed.
- D-meson rapidity and energy ratios compatible with FONLL.
- Sensitive to gluon PDF at small Bjorken-x.



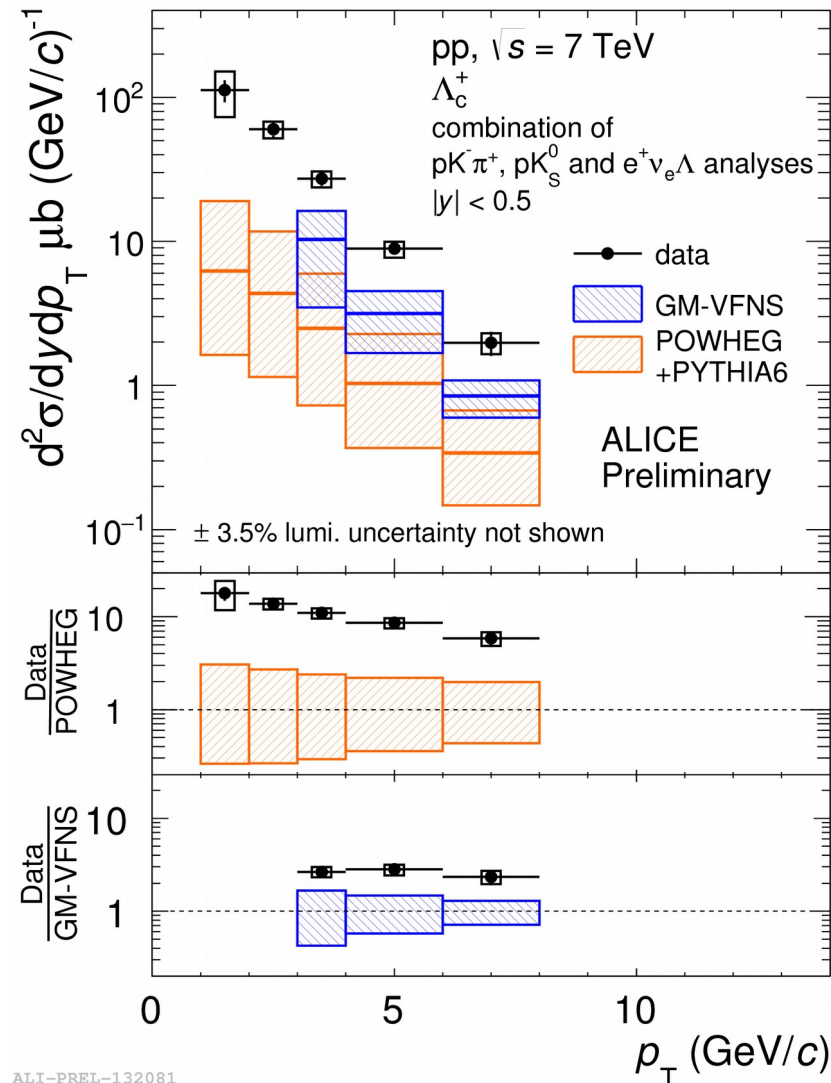


Λ_c^+ cross section is measured in three decay channels.

- **First** Λ_c^+ production measurements at mid-rapidity at the LHC.
- Compatible within uncertainties (1.7σ deviation in p_T bin 6 – 8 GeV/c).
- Averaged to one final cross section.

Cross section underestimated by theory.

- ~ 2 (~ 20) times higher than GM-VFNS (POWHEG+PYTHIA6).
- GM-VFNS compatible with Λ_c^+ measurement by LHCb at $2 < y < 4.5$ [1].

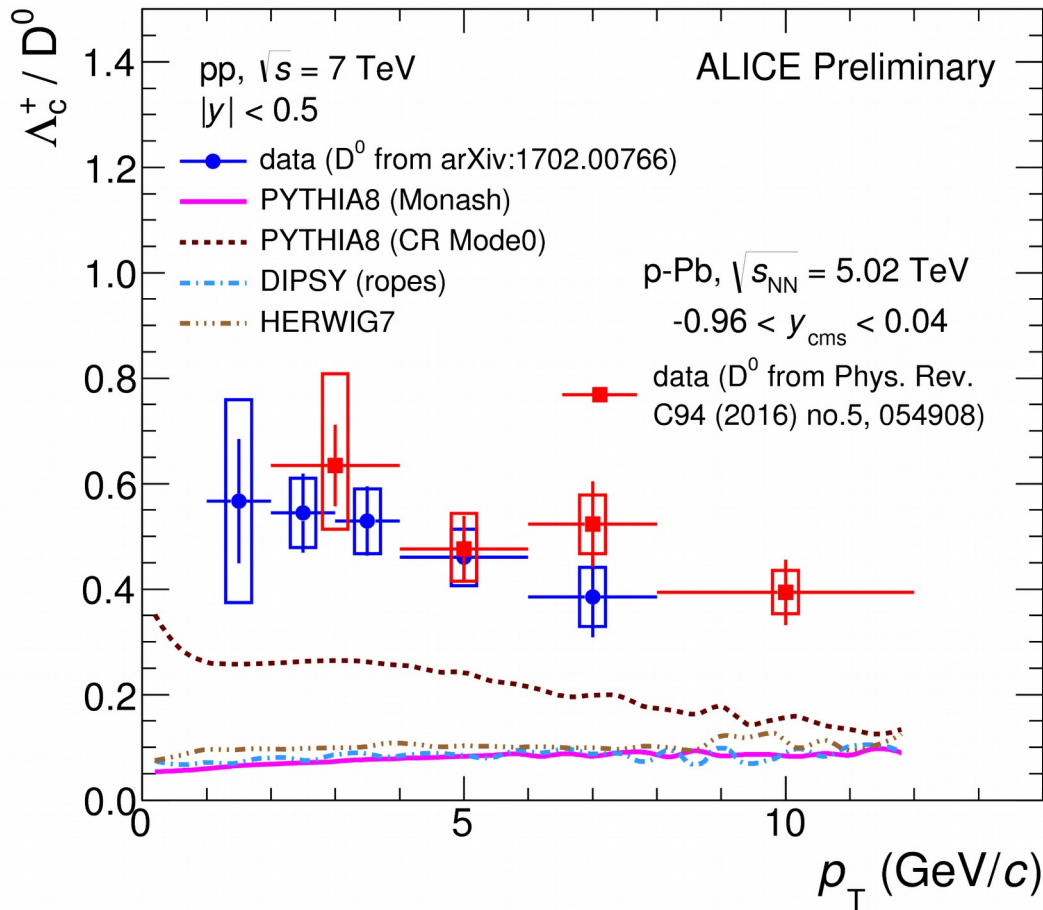


GM-VFNS: Eur. Phys. J. C41 (2005) 199–212
Eur. Phys. J. C72 (2012) 2082
POWHEG: JHEP 09 (2007) 126

[1] Nucl.Phys. B871 (2013) 1-20



Λ_c^+ / D^0 baryon-to-meson ratio



Sensitive to implementation of hadronisation:

PYTHIA8

- String formation model.
- **Monash** (standard) and **Mode0** tune (beyond leading-colour approximation).

DIPSY

- Colour rope model.
- Expected to increase baryon-to-meson ratio.

HERWIG7

- Cluster hadronisation mechanism.

→ All theoretical predictions underestimate Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratio.

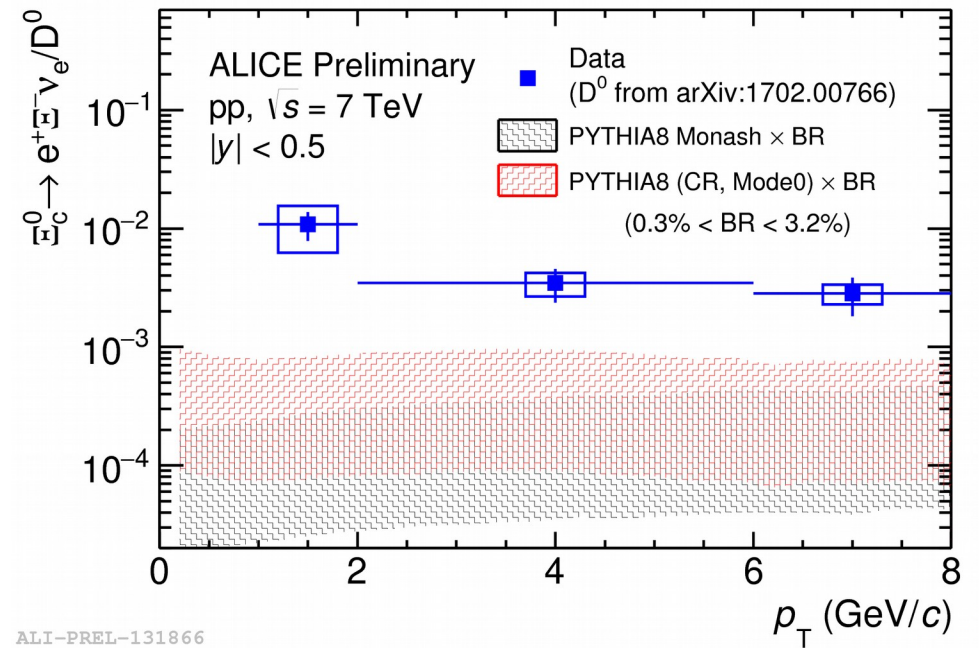
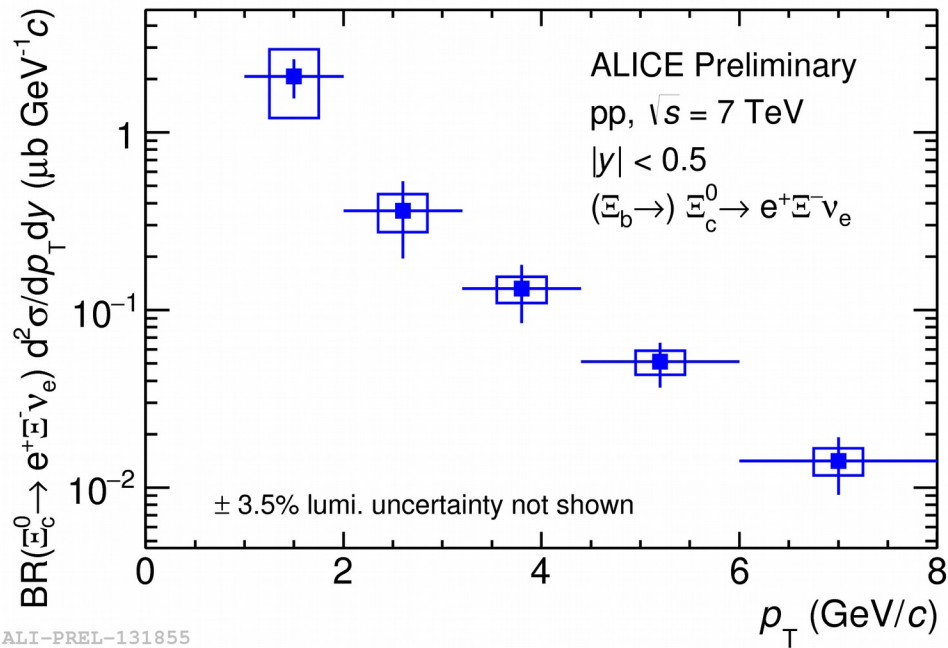
- PYTHIA8 with colour-reconnection closest to data.
- Ratios in pp and p-Pb collisions compatible with each other.

PYTHIA8 Monash:
 PYTHIA8 (CR, Mode0):
 DIPSY:
 HERWIG7:

Eur. Phys. J. C74 (2014) 3024
 JHEP 08 (2015) 003
 Phys. Rev. D 92 094010 (2015)
 Eur. Phys. J. C58 (2008) 639–707



Ξ_c^0 cross section and Ξ_c^0 / D^0 ratio

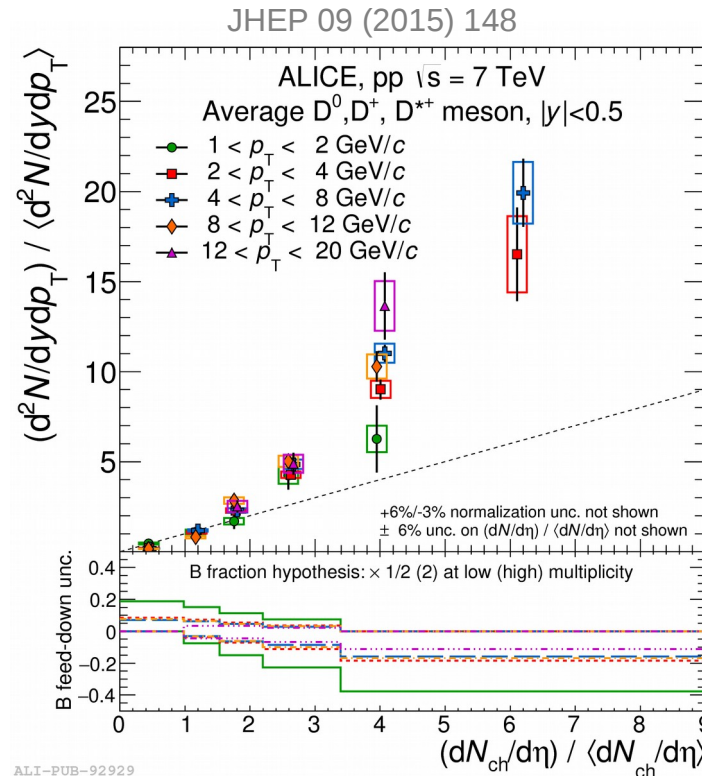
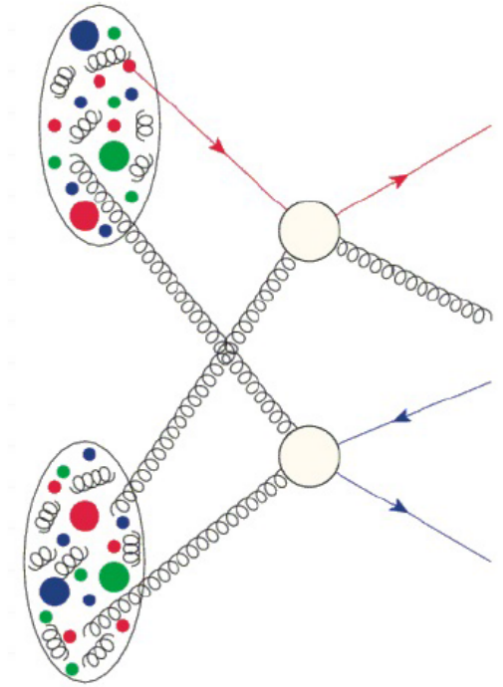


- **First measurement of Ξ_c^0 baryon at LHC.**
- Cross section multiplied by branching ratio (theoretical expectation: 0.3 – 3.2% [1]).
- Feed-down contribution not subtracted.
- Ξ_c^0 / D^0 ratio significantly underestimated by both PYTHIA 8 tunes.

[1] Phys. Rev. D40 (1989) 2955, Phys. Rev. D43 (1991) 2939, Phys. Rev. D53 (1996) 1457
 PYTHIA8 Monash: Eur. Phys. J. C74 (2014) 3024
 PYTHIA8 (CR, Mode0): JHEP 08 (2015) 003

Multiple-parton interactions on hard scale?

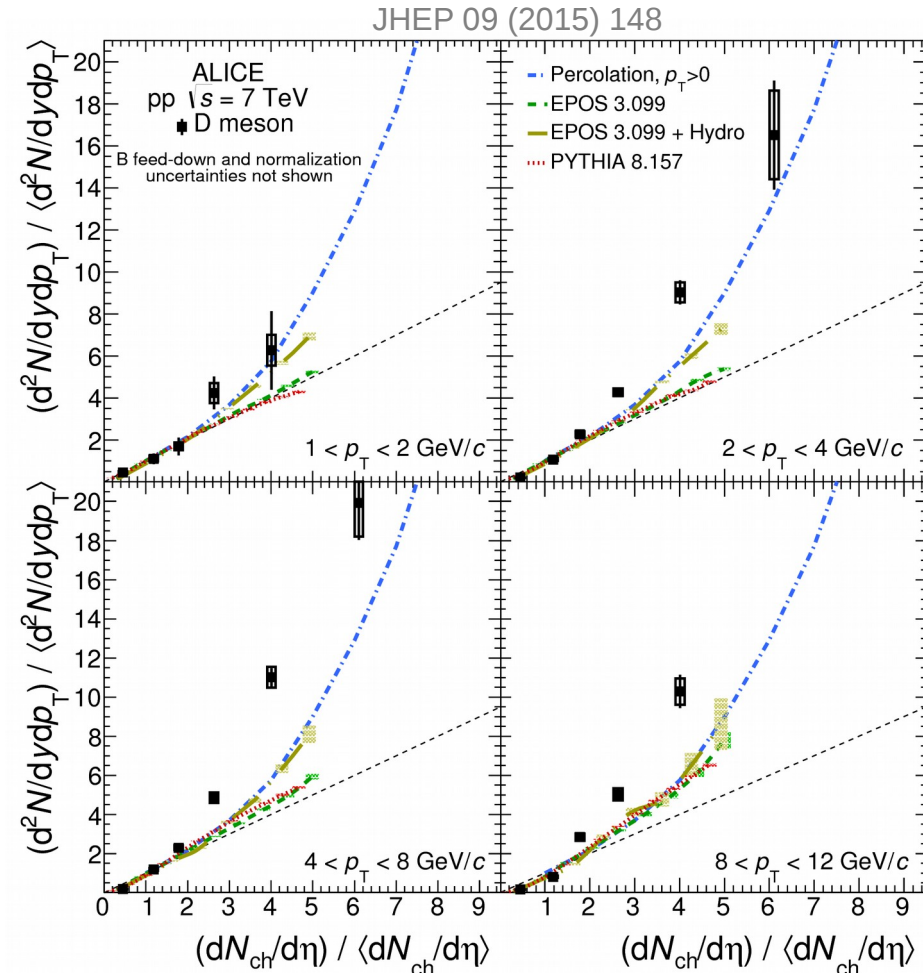
- D-meson yield may be correlated to the event charged-particle multiplicity.
- ➔ Steeper-than-linear increase of D^0 , D^+ and D^{*+} yields versus multiplicity.
- Similar trend for prompt and non-prompt J/Ψ .
- Multi-parton interactions and/or additional hadronic activity?



ALI-PUB-92929

Multiple-parton interactions on hard scale?

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- Steeper-than-linear increase of D^0 , D^+ and D^{*+} yields versus multiplicity.
 - Similar trend for prompt and non-prompt J/Ψ .
 - Multi-parton interactions and/or additional hadronic activity?
- Models including MPI predict steeper-than-linear increase.
 - Reproduce the data at low multiplicity while deviate at high multiplicity.



ALI-PUB-92985

Phys.Rept. 350 (2001) 93–289, Phys.Rev. C89 (2014) 064903

Percolation

- Colour sources with finite spatial extension (similar scenario as MPI).
- Steeper-than-linear increase.

EPOS 3.099 + Hydro

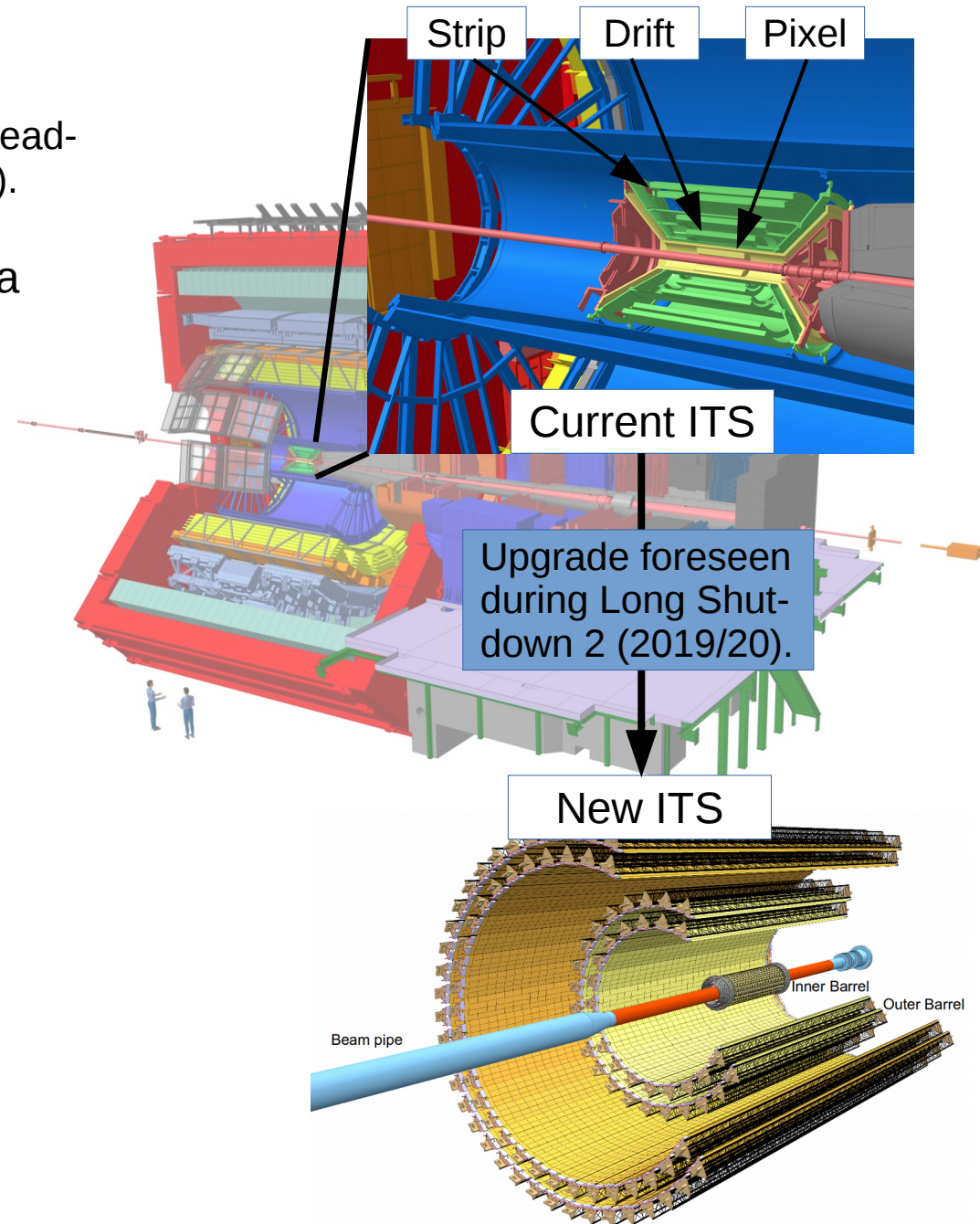
- Parton based Gribov-Regge formalism.
- N_{MPI} directly related to multiplicity.
- Steeper-than-linear for hydro.

Pythia 8.157

- Soft QCD with colour reconnection.
- MPI implemented in combination with initial- and final-state radiation.
- Almost linear increase.

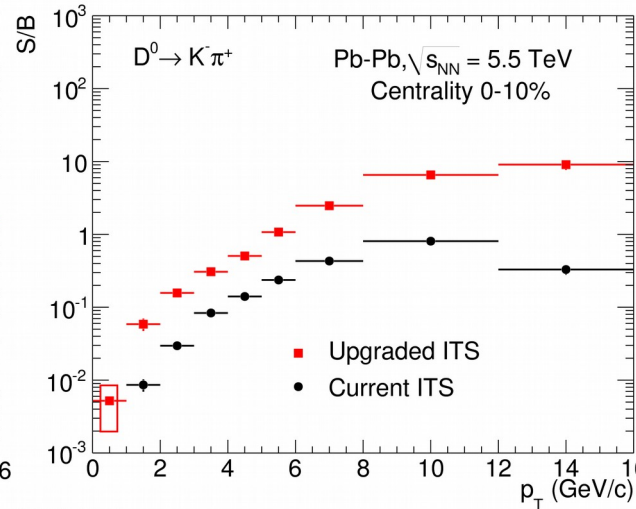
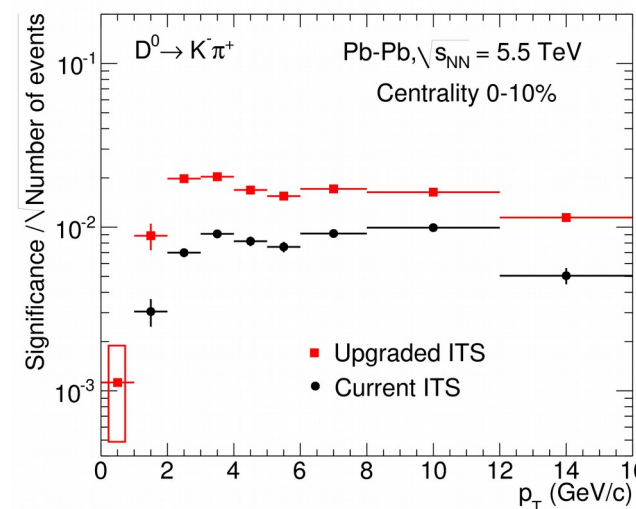
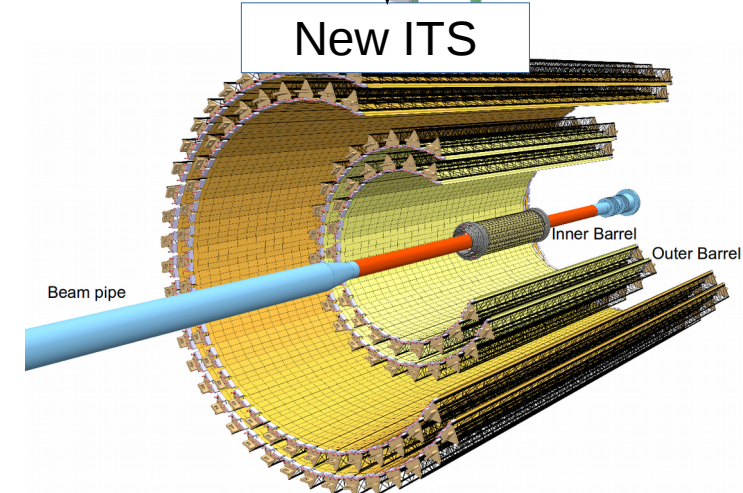
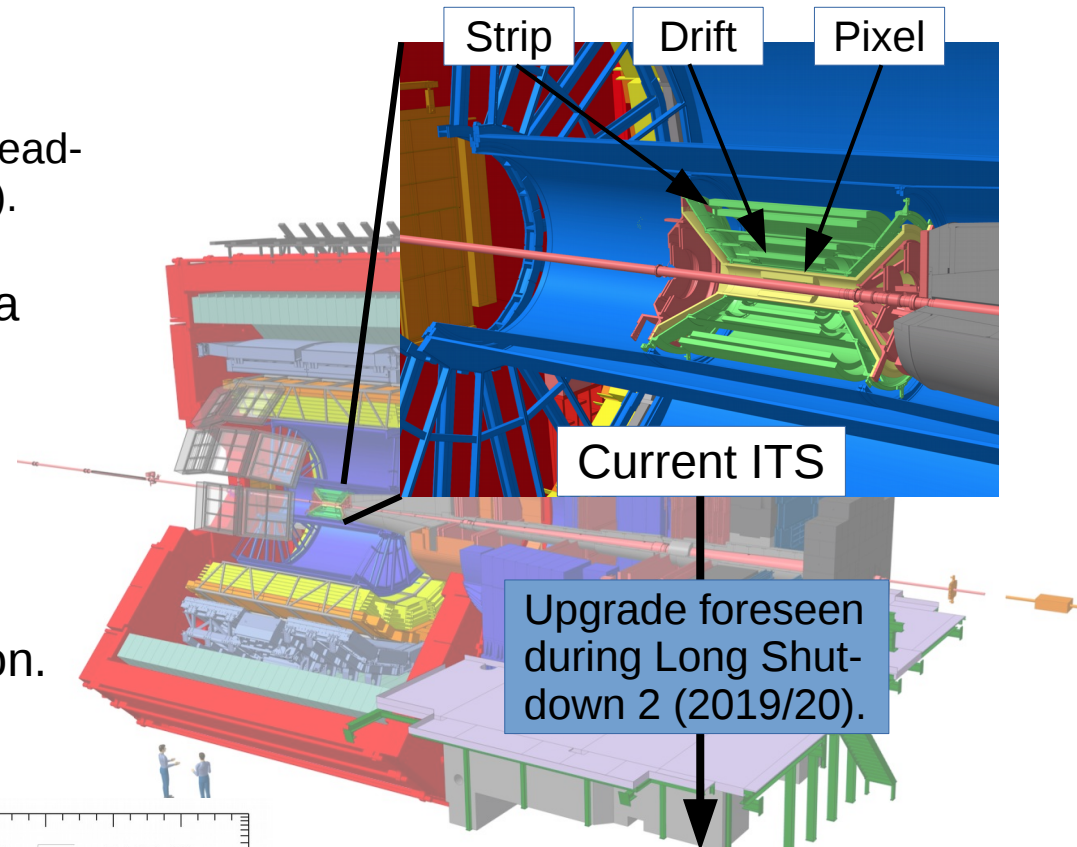
Major upgrade ALICE foreseen:

- **New ITS**, new Muon Forward Tracker, TPC, read-out electronics, trigger and Online/Offline (O^2).
- Improve low p_T tracking, vertexing and data rate performances.
- 6 → 7 layers (closer to interaction point).
- Reduce material budget and pixel size.
- Improve read-out electronics.



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- Improve low p_T tracking, vertexing and data rate performances.
 - 6 → 7 layers (closer to interaction point).
 - Reduce material budget and pixel size.
 - Improve read-out electronics.
- Improve heavy-flavour background rejection.
 - A factor 4-5 for D^0 mesons with $p_T > 2$ GeV/c.



ALI-PUB-85194

ALI-PUB-85184



D mesons in proton-proton collisions:

- p_T -differential cross sections at $\sqrt{s} = 5, 7, 8$ and 13 TeV are **compatible with pQCD predictions**.
- **Provide constraints** to models with precise differential cross section measurements and ratios amongst charmed hadrons, energies and rapidities.

Charmed baryons in proton-proton collisions:

- **First** Λ_c^+ and Ξ_c^0 production measurements at mid-rapidity.
- Production cross section **underestimated by models**.
- Λ_c^+ / D^0 and Ξ_c^0 / D^0 ratios **higher than MC predictions**.

Charm production versus event charged-particle multiplicity:

- D-meson yield increases **steeper-than-linear** with multiplicity.
- Suggests that **multiple-parton interactions** and/or additional hadronic activity play an important role at high multiplicity.

Prospects:

- *LHC Run 2*: Additional measurements in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 5$ and 13 TeV with more statistics.
- *LHC Run 3*: Improvement of factor 10-100 on statistics and better vertexing with the new ITS.
 - Precision measurements on charm sector and direct access to beauty sector.



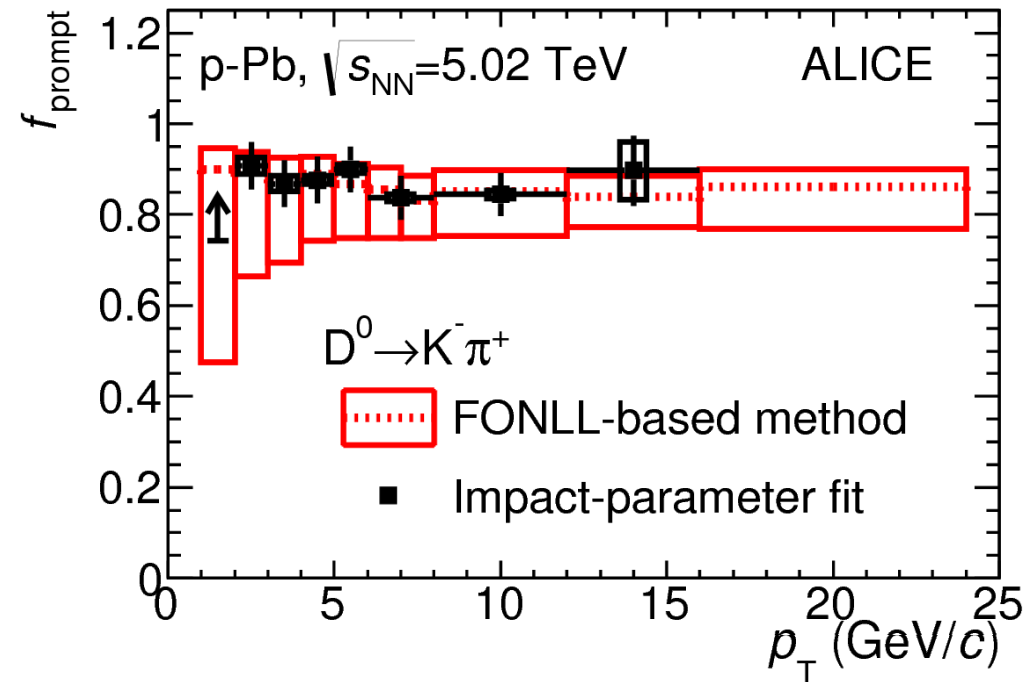
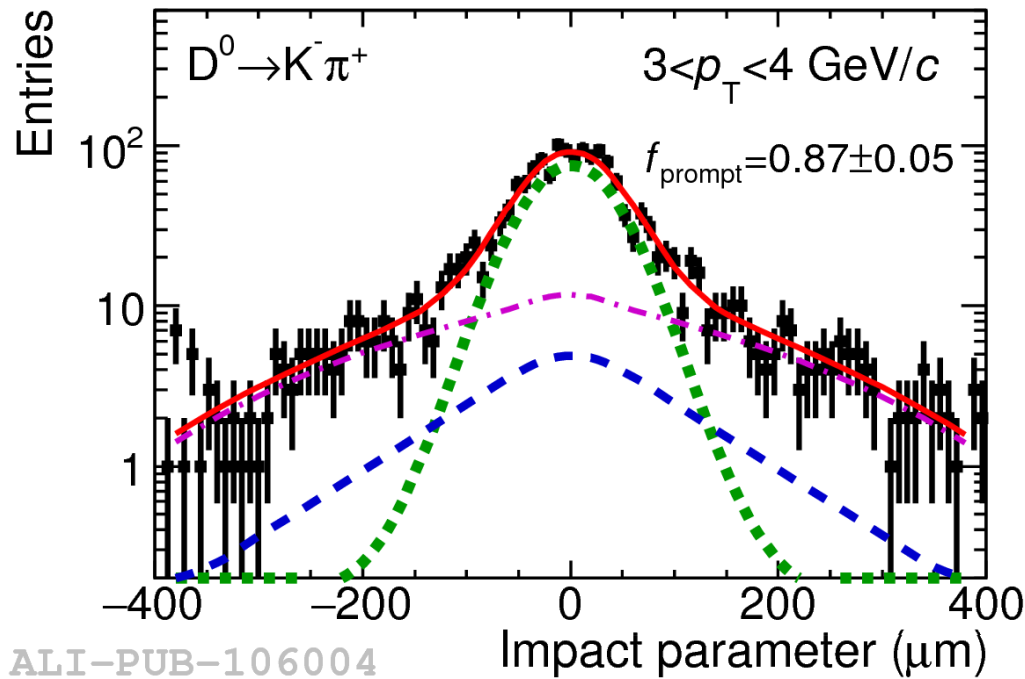
Back-up



Feed-down correction



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- Feed-down for D mesons and Λ_c baryon determined using theory-based method using theoretical prediction of charmed hadrons from beauty.
 - Λ_c measurements uses input from measured Λ_b cross section for systematic uncertainties.
- Up to now, D mesons in p-Pb collisions checked using data-driven method.
 - Unbinned log-likelihood fit to impact parameter distribution with different distributions for prompt and feed-down D mesons.

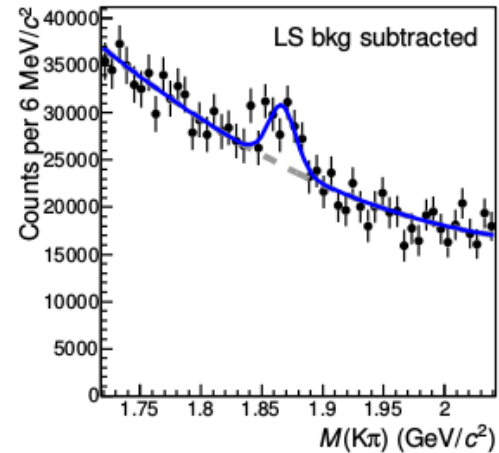
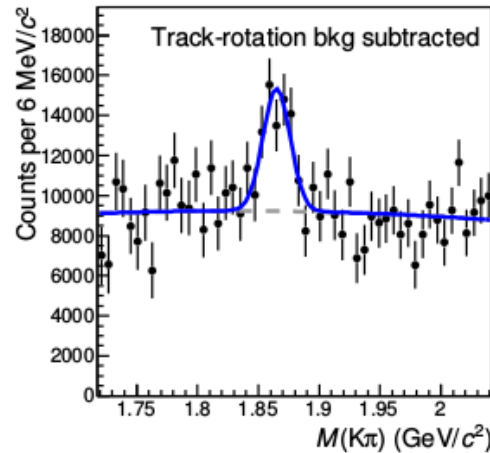
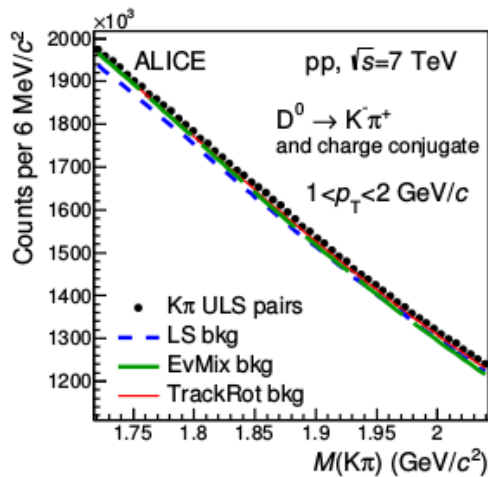
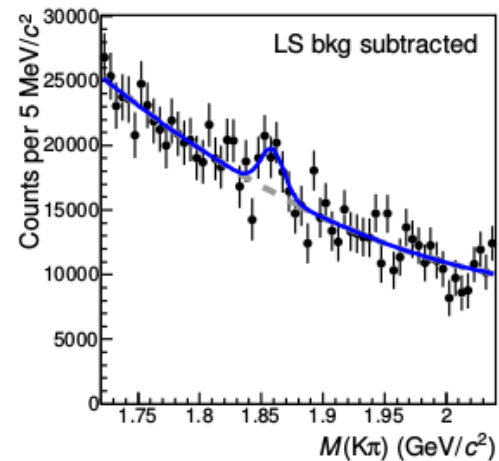
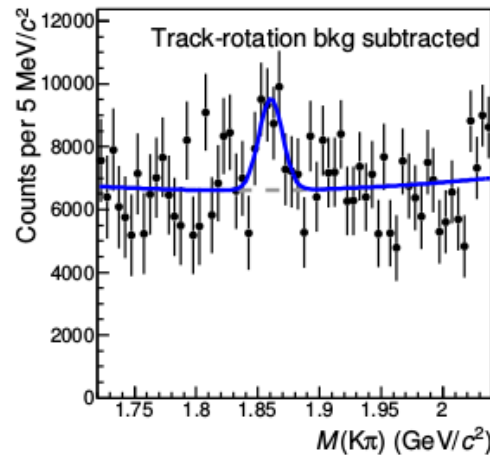
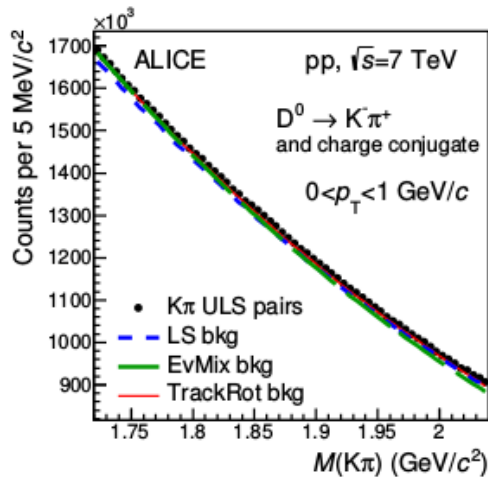


D⁰ cross section down to zero p_T



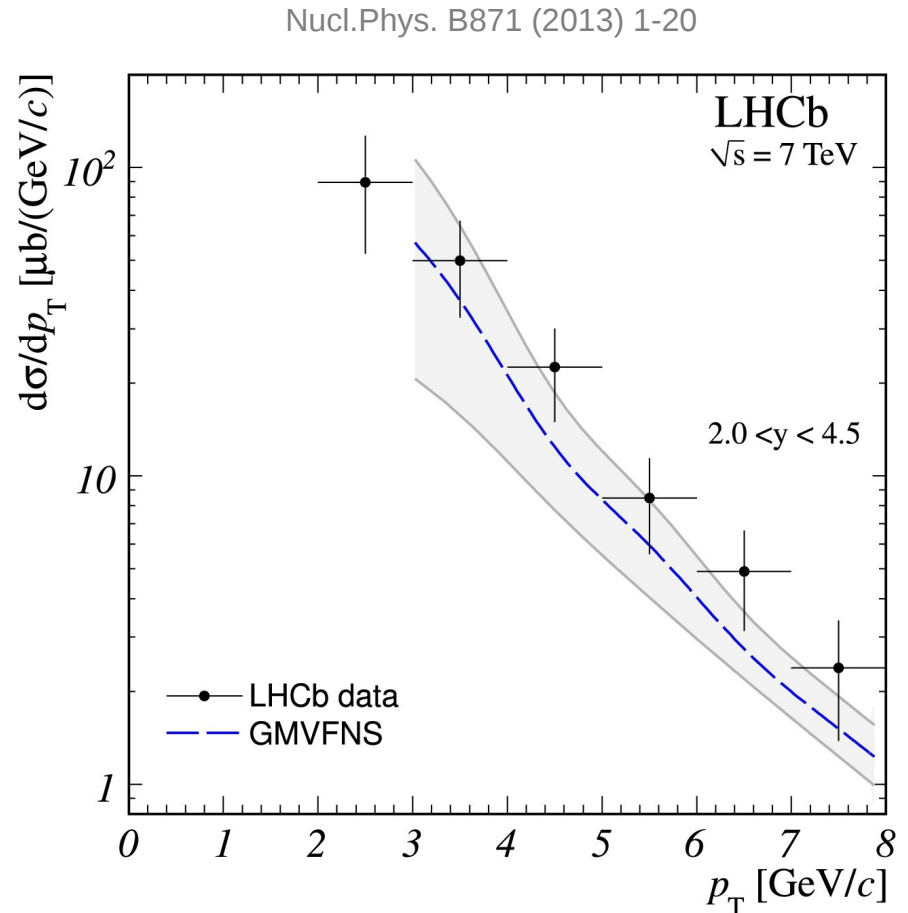
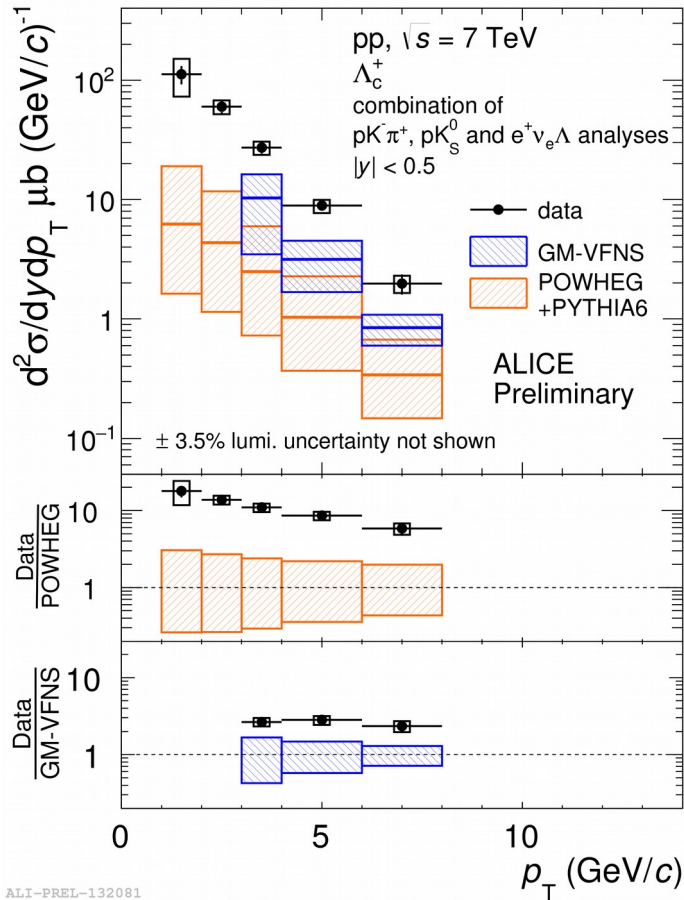
- Different analysis method allows us to measure D⁰ down to p_T = 0.
- No secondary vertex reconstruction, no topological selection.
- Background subtraction by event mixing, like-sign distribution, track rotation or fit of sidebands.

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Λ_c^+ measurement in LHCb



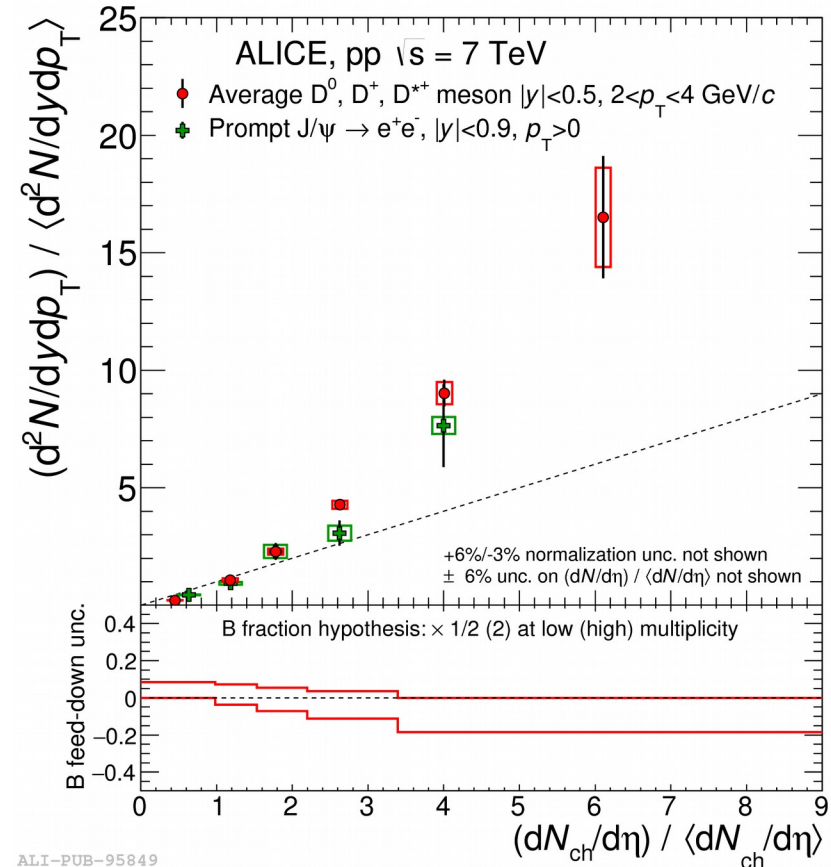
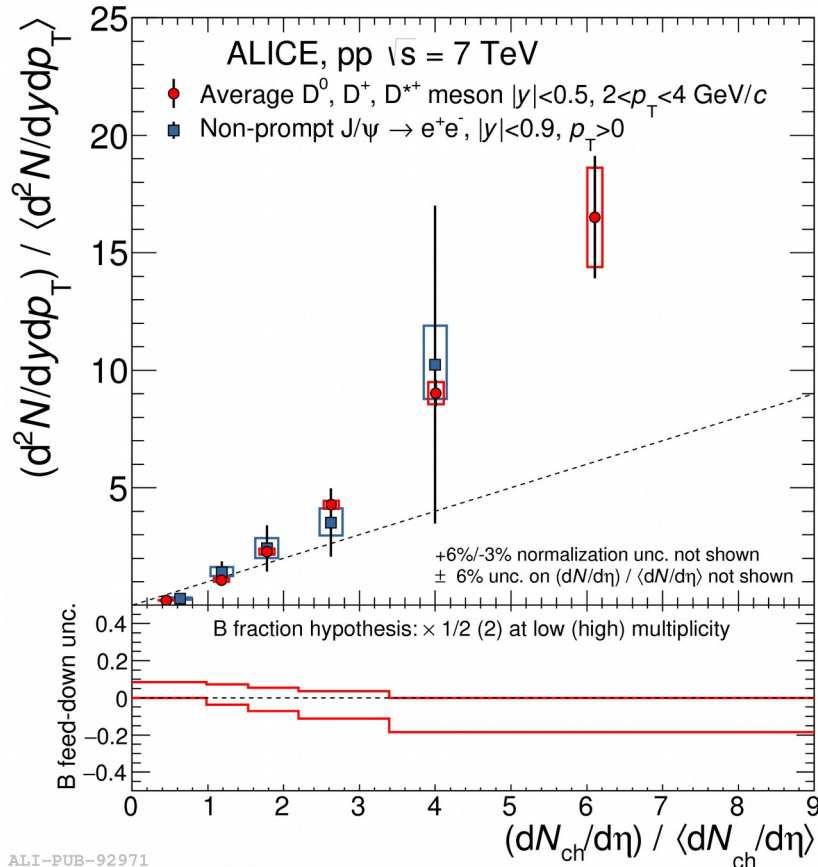
- Differential cross sections for Λ_c^+ baryon production compared to GM-VFNS for ALICE ($|y| < 0.5$) and LHCb ($2.0 < y < 4.5$).
- Suggests a rapidity dependence.



J/ψ yields versus multiplicity



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- Production of **D mesons** increases steeper-than-linear with multiplicity.
- Same trend for **non-prompt (B →) J/ψ** as well as **prompt J/ψ** yields.
 - *Caveat:* Different η and p_T regions.