

Measurements of anisotropic flow and flow fluctuations in Xe-Xe and Pb-Pb collisions with ALICE

arXiv:1804.02944, arXiv:1805.01832

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Utrecht University & Nikhef (Netherlands)

15 May 2018



Netherlands Organisation
for Scientific Research

What is flow?

$$\frac{dN}{d\varphi} \propto 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} v_n \cos[n(\varphi - \Psi_n)]$$

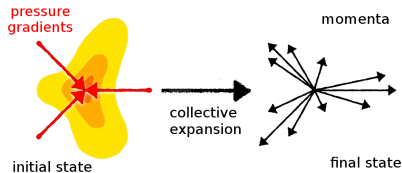
Flow: momentum anisotropies in azimuthal angle, quantified by coefficients v_n

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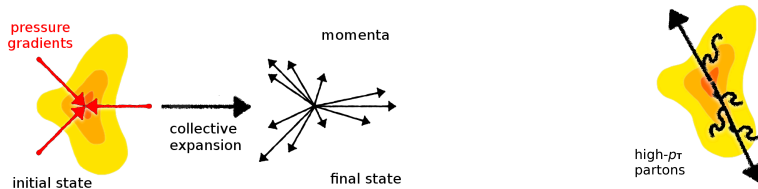


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- Hard sector (high p_T , $\gtrsim 10$ GeV/c): path-length dependent parton energy loss (partons lose energy differently according to how much medium they transverse)

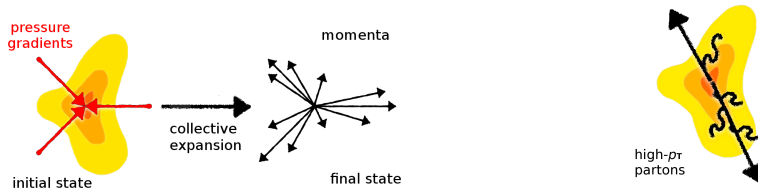


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- Common origin: spatial anisotropies from geometry of the collision and IS fluctuations



What are we studying?

Main questions addressed in this contribution

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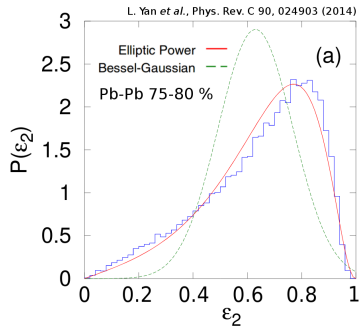
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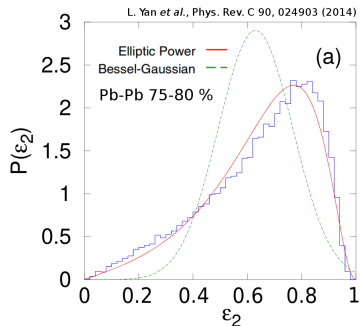


Distribution of IS eccentricity ϵ_2 in MC-Glauber

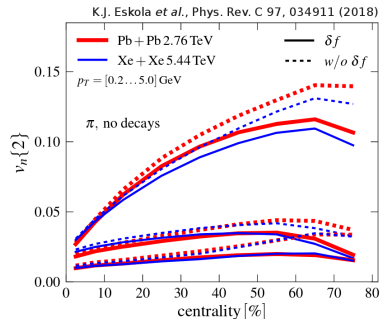
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- How does flow depend on system size / transverse energy density?



Distribution of IS eccentricity ε_2 in MC-Glauber



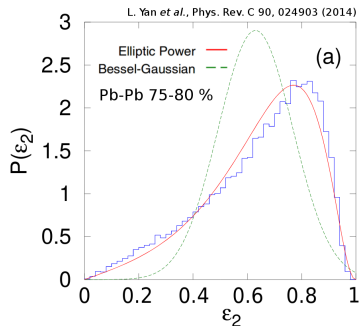
Predictions for v_n ($n = 2, 3, 4$) in Xe–Xe collisions, with (continuous line) and without (dashed line) viscous corrections

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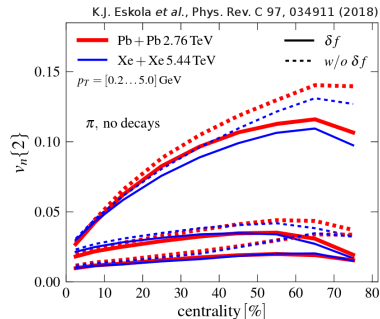
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→ two new ALICE papers: [arXiv:1804.02944](#), [arXiv:1805.01832](#)



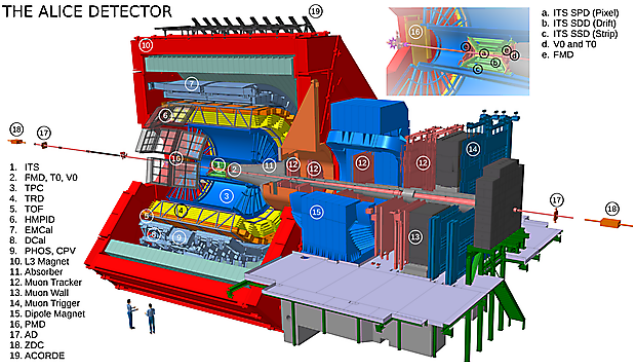
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Detectors and data sample

THE ALICE DETECTOR



Data samples

system	$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV)	events ($\times 10^6$)	\mathcal{L}_{int} (μb^{-1})
Pb-Pb	2.76	13	2
Pb-Pb	5.02	78	13
Xe-Xe	5.44	1	

Detectors employed

- **Inner Tracking System:**
tracking, vertexing, triggering
- **Time Projection Chamber:**
tracking, vertexing
- **V0:** triggering, event plane and centrality determination
V0A: $2.8 < \eta < 5.1$
V0C: $-3.7 < \eta < 1.7$

Track selection

- **inclusive charged particles**
- $|\eta| < 0.8$
- $0.2 < p_T < 50 \text{ GeV}/c$

What do we measure?

Multi-particle cumulants (à la Generic Framework¹)

- Correlating tracks at mid-rapidity with each other
- Analytically suppress non-flow
- Sensitive to flow fluctuations

$$v_n\{2\} = \sqrt[2]{\langle v_n^2 \rangle},$$

$$v_n\{4\} = \sqrt[4]{2\langle v_n^2 \rangle^2 - \langle v_n^4 \rangle},$$

$$v_n\{6\} = \sqrt[6]{\langle v_n^6 \rangle - 9\langle v_n^2 \rangle \langle v_n^4 \rangle + 12\langle v_n^2 \rangle^3}$$

2-particle cumulant with **Scalar Product** method

- Correlating tracks with Q -vectors at forward (backward) rapidity from V0A (V0C)
- Non-flow suppressed by large η -gap ($|\Delta\eta| > 2$)

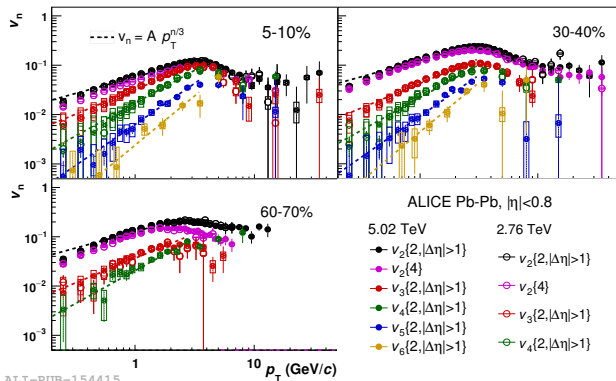
$$v_n\{2, |\Delta\eta| > 2\} = \frac{\langle u_n Q_n^{V0A*} \rangle}{\sqrt{\frac{\langle Q_n^{V0A} Q_n^* \rangle \langle Q_n^{V0A} Q_n^{V0C*} \rangle}{\langle Q_n Q_n^{V0C*} \rangle}}}, \quad u_n, Q_n = \sum_j w_j e^{in\varphi_j}$$

¹A. Bilandzic *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 89, 064904 (2014)



p_T and centrality evolution of v_n

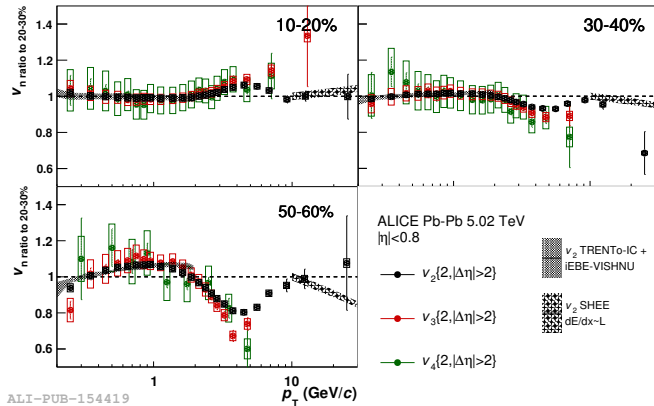
Power-law scaling



- $v_n(p_T)$ unchanged between $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ and 5.02 TeV
- Simple power-law scaling:**
 $v_n(p_T) \sim p_T^{n/3}$ at low p_T for $n = 2-6$
- Unexpected:** in ideal hydro
 $v_n(p_T) \sim p_T^n$ ¹

¹N. Borghini and J.Y. Ollitrault, PLB 642 (2006) 227-231

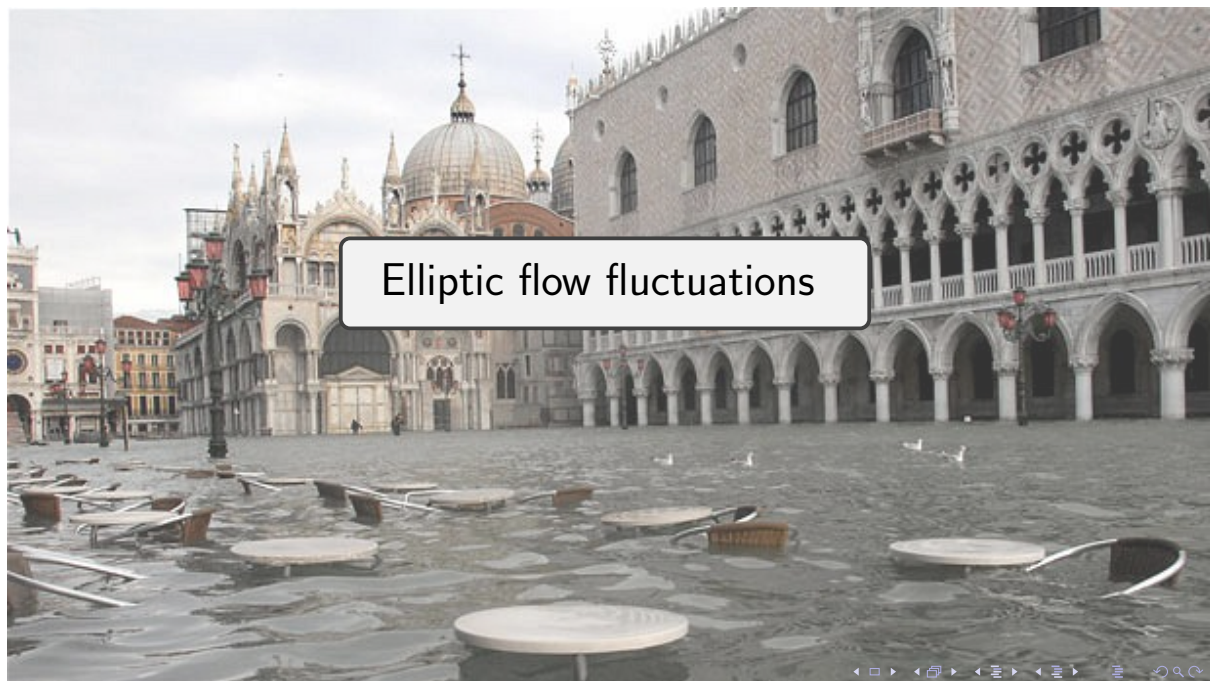
Centrality evolution



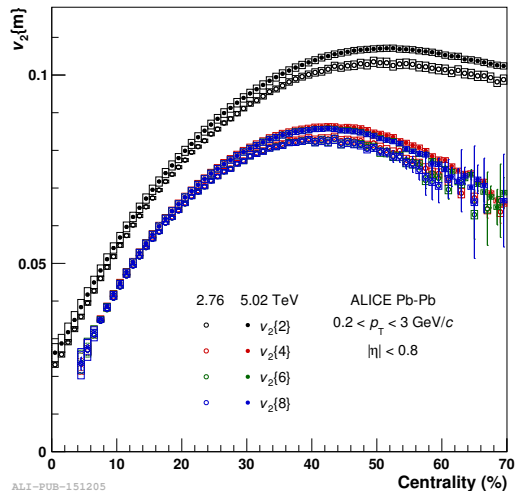
$$v_n(p_T)_{\text{ratio to 20-30\%}} = \frac{v_n(p_T)}{v_n(p_T)[20-30\%]} \frac{v_n[20-30\%]}{v_n},$$

$$v_n \equiv v_n(0.2 < p_T < 3 \text{ GeV}/c)$$

- Ratio at **low and high** p_T consistent with 1: **common origin (IS geometry)**
- Deviations at intermediate p_T : radial flow shifting the maximum of v_n
- Does not depend on change in particle composition of the inclusive charged particle sample (see backup)

A photograph of St. Mark's Square in Venice, Italy, during a high tide flood. The square is covered in dark, rippling water. In the background, the ornate facade of St. Mark's Basilica is visible, featuring a large dome and intricate carvings. To the right, the Procuratie Vecchie building with its characteristic loggia of arches and columns stands prominently. In the foreground, several circular stone covers for manholes are partially submerged in the water. A few white birds are seen swimming in the distance. A semi-transparent white box with a black border is centered over the image, containing the text "Elliptic flow fluctuations".

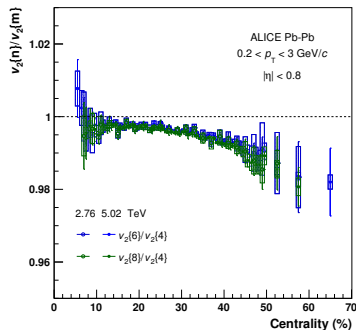
Elliptic flow fluctuations



ALI-PUB-151205

- v_2 from **multi-particle cumulants** $v_2\{2, 4, 6, 8\}$ has **different sensitivities to fluctuations**: possible to extract information on the flow p.d.f. from their combination
- differences between $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ and 5.02 TeV from increase in $\langle p_T \rangle$

Ratios of cumulants



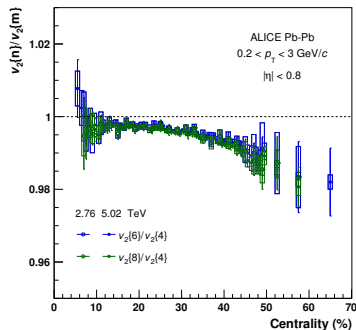
ALI-PUB-151221

- Ratios $v_2\{6\}/v_2\{4\}$ and $v_2\{8\}/v_2\{4\}$ below unity: **non-Gaussian fluctuations** ($v_2\{8\}/v_2\{6\}$ in backup)
- Small but finite centrality dependence: decreasing from central to peripheral

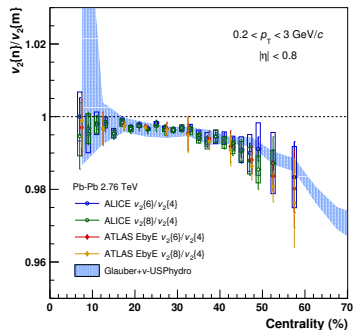
¹ATLAS, Eur. Phys. J. C (2014) 74: 3157

²G. Giacalone *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 95, 014913 (2017)

Ratios of cumulants



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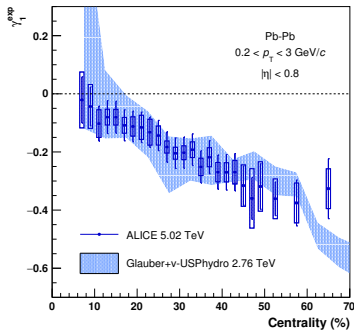
ALI-PUB-151225

- Ratios $v_2\{6\}/v_2\{4\}$ and $v_2\{8\}/v_2\{4\}$ below unity: **non-Gaussian fluctuations** ($v_2\{8\}/v_2\{6\}$ in backup)
- Small but finite centrality dependence: decreasing from central to peripheral
- Consistency between results at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ (ATLAS¹) and 5.02 TeV: **no significant energy and p_T dependence**; consistent with hydro model predictions²

¹ATLAS, Eur. Phys. J. C (2014) 74: 3157

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Skewness and upper limit on kurtosis



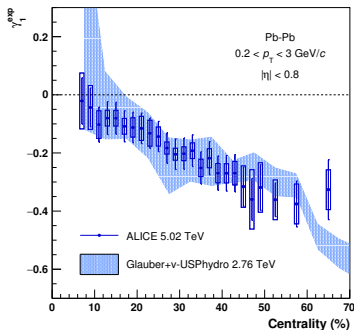
ALI-PUB-151237

$$\gamma_1^{\text{exp}} = -6\sqrt{2}v_2\{4\}^2(v_2\{4\} - v_2\{6\})/(v_2\{2\}^2 - v_2\{4\}^2)^{3/2}$$

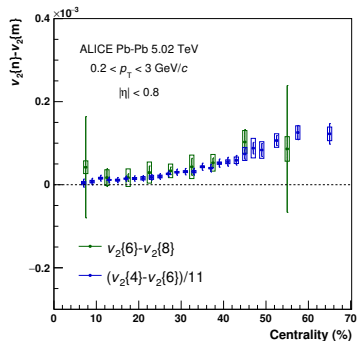
- **Negative skewness** of v_2 , suppressed for more central collisions. Consistent with hydro model predictions¹.

¹G. Giacalone *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 95, 014913 (2017)

Skewness and upper limit on kurtosis



ALI-PUB-151237

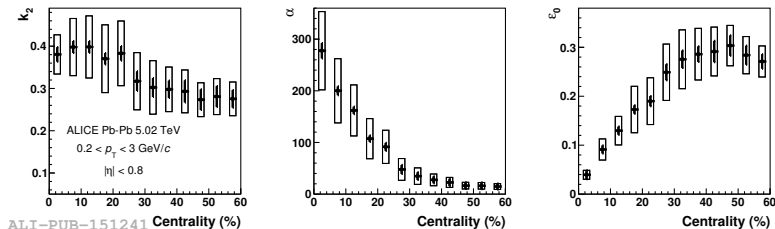


ALI-PUB-151233

$$\gamma_1^{\text{exp}} = -6\sqrt{2}v_2\{4\}^2(v_2\{4\} - v_2\{6\})/(v_2\{2\}^2 - v_2\{4\}^2)^{3/2}$$

- **Negative skewness** of v_2 , suppressed for more central collisions. Consistent with hydro model predictions¹.
- Differences between $v_2\{4, 6, 8\}$ also sensitive to higher order moments (**kurtosis**): contribution **not significant**, $< 4 \times 10^{-4}$ at 95% C.L.

¹G. Giacalone *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 95, 014913 (2017)



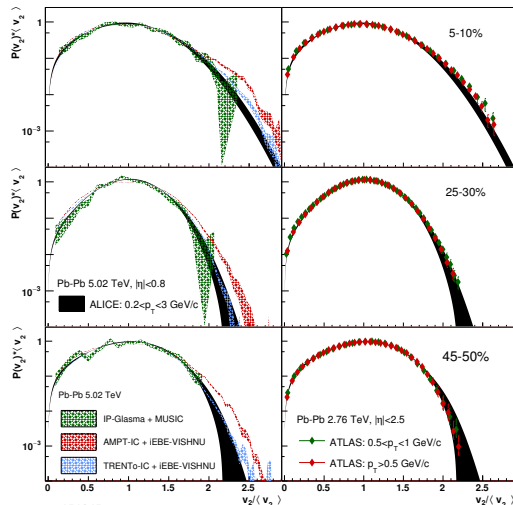
The full flow p.d.f. $P(v_2)$ can be extracted **fitting the cumulants** $c_2\{2, |\Delta\eta| > 1\}$, $c_2\{4, 6, 8\}$ with the **Elliptic Power distribution**^{1,2}

$$P(v_2) = \frac{1}{k_2} P(\varepsilon_2) = 2 \alpha \varepsilon_2 (1 - \varepsilon_2^2)^{\alpha-1} (1 - \varepsilon_0^2)^{\alpha+1/2} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi (1 - \varepsilon_2 \varepsilon_0 \cos \varphi)^{-2\alpha-1} d\varphi,$$

Free parameters: α (fluctuations), ε_0 (average eccentricity), k_2 (hydro response, defined as $v_2 = k_2 \varepsilon_2$). All equations in backup.

¹L. Yan and J.Y. Ollitrault, Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 082301 (2014)

²L. Yan et al., Phys. Rev. C 90, 024903 (2014)



ALI-PUB-151245


- $P(v_2)$ rescaled by $\langle v_2 \rangle$ in agreement with ATLAS results¹ at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV and different p_T range: flow fluctuations depend minorly on energy and p_T (at low p_T)
- Good agreement with hydro models employing **IP-Glasma initial-conditions**^{2,3}, in a wide centrality range

All centralities in backup.

¹ATLAS, JHEP 11 (2013) 183

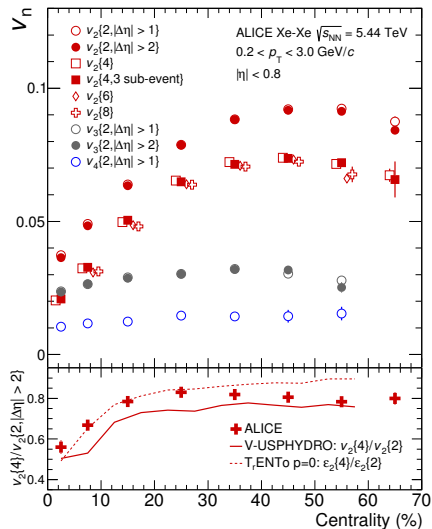
²S. McDonald *et al.*, PRC 95, 064913 (2017)

³W. Zhao *et al.*, EPJ C77 no.9, 645 (2017)

Two Venetian carnival masks are shown in the foreground. Each mask is gold with purple and green accents. The masks are topped with a large, ornate clock face. The clock faces are white with purple Roman numerals and are surrounded by a golden frame with intricate designs. The background is a blurred view of a Venetian canal with water, gondolas, and buildings.

Flow in Xe-Xe

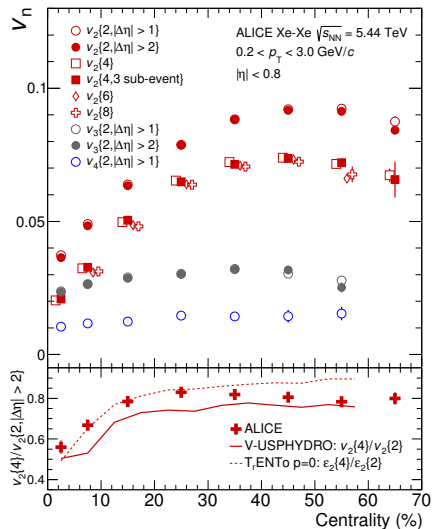
Centrality dependence



- First measurements of v_2 , v_3 , v_4 in Xe-Xe at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.44$ TeV
- $v_2\{4\}/v_2\{2\}$ sensitive to **flow fluctuations**: qualitatively described by initial conditions, some tension with hydro model predictions¹

¹G. Giacalone *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 97, 034904 (2018)

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- Models include **nuclear deformation** β_2 , which modifies Wood-Saxon as

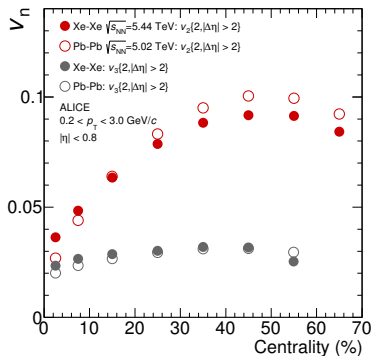
$$\rho(r, \theta) = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + e^{(r-R_0-R_0 \beta_2 Y_{20}(\theta))/a}}$$

ρ_0 density at center, R_0 nuclear radius, r distance from center, Y_{20} Bessel function of second kind, a skin depth

Effect: $\sim 20\%$ larger $v_2\{2\}$ in central, decreasing towards peripheral

¹G. Giacalone *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 97, 034904 (2018)

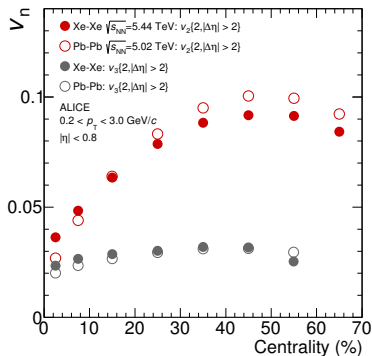
Comparison with Pb-Pb



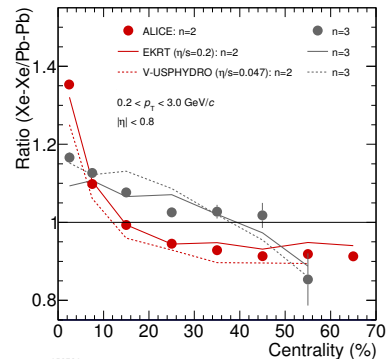
ALI-PUB-150777
 v_n in Xe-Xe vs Pb-Pb

¹K.J. Eskola *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 97, 034911 (2018); G. Giacalone *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 97, 034904 (2018)

Comparison with Pb-Pb



ALI-PUB-150777



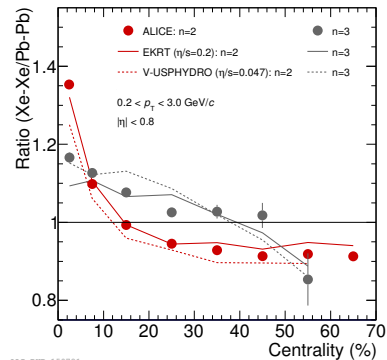
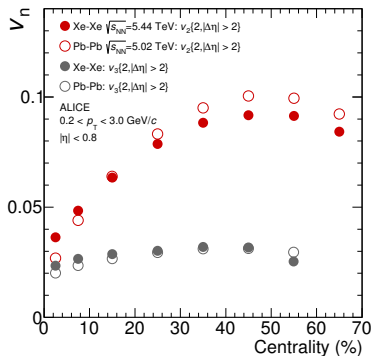
ALI-PUB-150781

v_n in Xe-Xe vs Pb-Pb

- v_2 : larger $\leq 35\%$ in central \rightarrow larger IS fluctuations + nuclear deformation;
smaller $\sim 10\%$ in semi-central and peripheral \rightarrow smaller radial flow and/or larger viscous effects

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Comparison with Pb-Pb

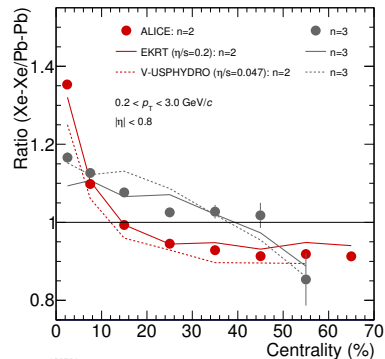
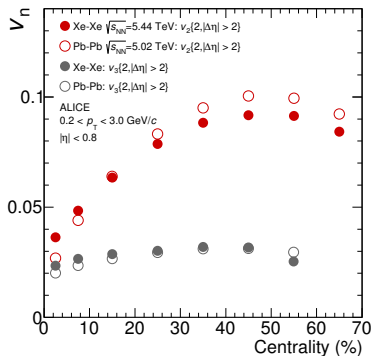


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smaller $\sim 10\%$ in semi-central and peripheral \rightarrow smaller radial flow and/or larger viscous effects
- v_3 : larger in all centralities, decreasing from central to peripheral \rightarrow larger IS fluctuations

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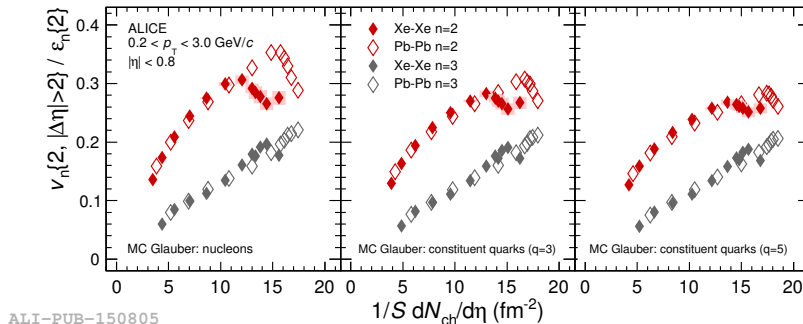
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Quantitatively described by models¹ up to a few %. Finer centrality bins in backup

¹K.J. Eskola *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 97, 034911 (2018); G. Giacalone *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 97, 034904 (2018)

Transverse density dependence



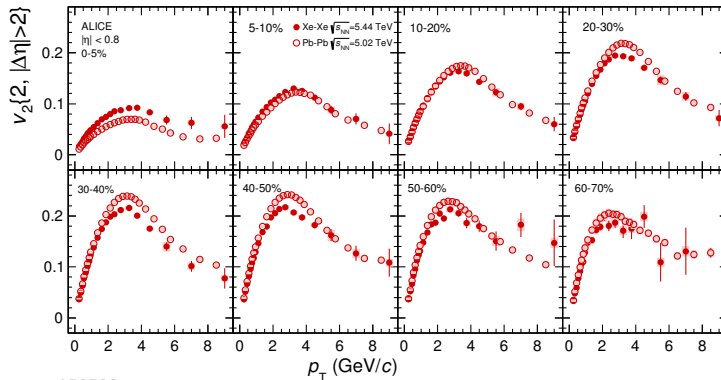
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Transverse energy density quantified as $1/S \, dN_{ch}/d\eta$ ¹, from IS models

- Hydro predicts v_n/ε_n to **increase** with $1/S \, dN_{ch}/d\eta$, same for Xe–Xe and Pb–Pb
- **Not observed** for most models in **central collisions**: deficiencies in estimating ε_2 ?

More models and details of the calculation in backup

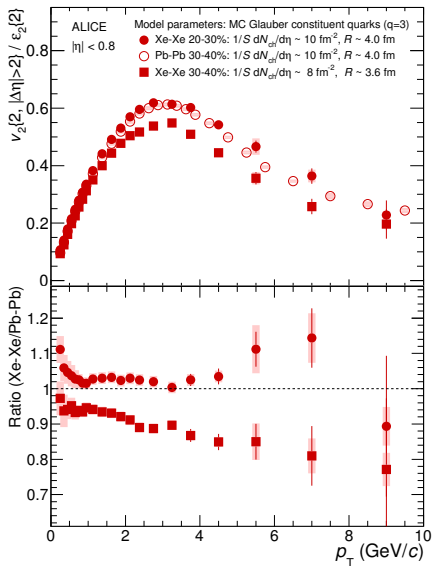
¹ S transverse area, $dN_{ch}/d\eta$ charged particle density



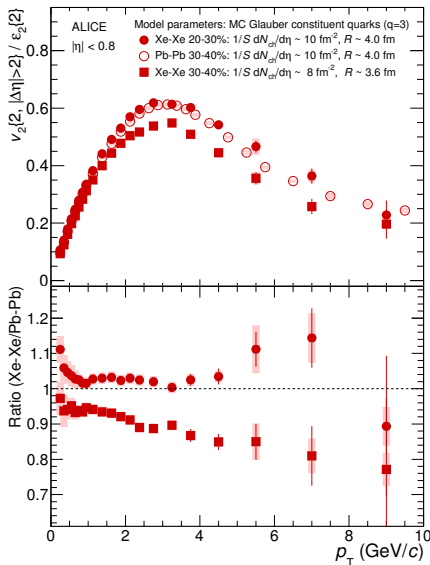
ALI-PUB-150789

$v_2(p_T)$ in Xe-Xe vs Pb-Pb ($v_3(p_T)$ in backup)

- same trend w.r.t. centrality: larger in central, smaller otherwise
- larger differences at intermediate p_T (see next slide)
- differences not arising from difference in energy (see slide 6)

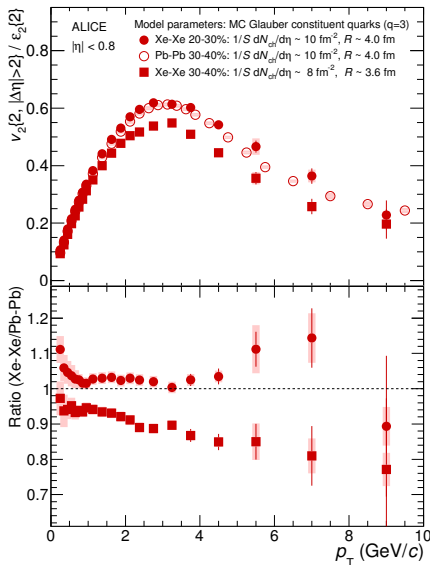


$v_2(p_T)$ in Xe-Xe vs Pb-Pb, mid-central collisions



$v_2(p_T)$ in Xe-Xe vs Pb-Pb, mid-central collisions

- Two centrality classes with similar $1/S$ $dN_{ch}/d\eta$ consistent with each other
 \rightarrow **transverse energy scaling does not depend on p_T**



$v_2(p_T)$ in Xe-Xe vs Pb-Pb, mid-central collisions

- Two centrality classes with similar $1/S$ $dN_{ch}/d\eta$ consistent with each other
→ **transverse energy scaling does not depend on p_T**
- At fixed centrality / eccentricity, **differences increase with p_T**
→ viscous effects and/or radial flow

v_n of inclusive charged particles in Pb–Pb and Xe–Xe

arXiv:1804.02944, arXiv:1805.01832

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- Elliptic flow fluctuations investigated in detail
 - Evidence of non-Gaussian p.d.f. from fine-splitting of $v_2\{2, 4, 6, 8\}$
 - Non-zero skewness measured, upper limits on kurtosis placed
 - Flow p.d.f. $P(v_2)$ extracted from Elliptic-Power fits
 - No significant energy and p_T dependence observed

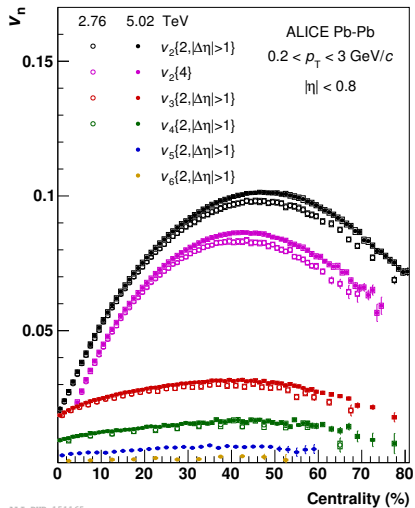
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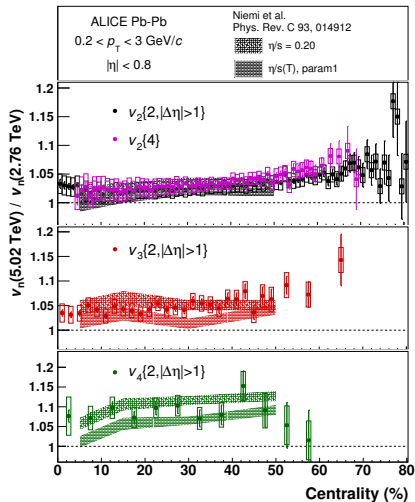
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 - No significant energy and p_T dependence observed
- First measurement of flow in Xe–Xe: evidence of nuclear deformations at play
- Comparing Xe–Xe to Pb–Pb
 - Approximate transverse energy scaling observed, broken in central collisions
 - Differences attributed to larger IS fluctuations, smaller radial flow and/or larger viscous effects



Flow in Pb-Pb: energy dependence

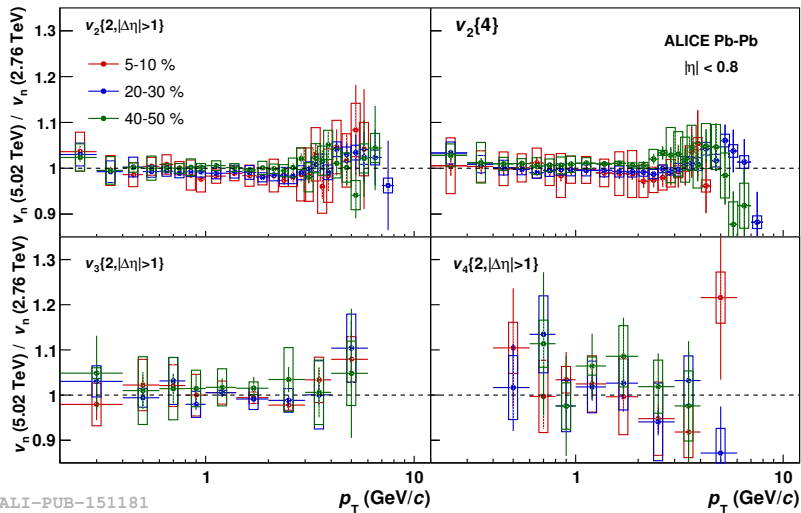


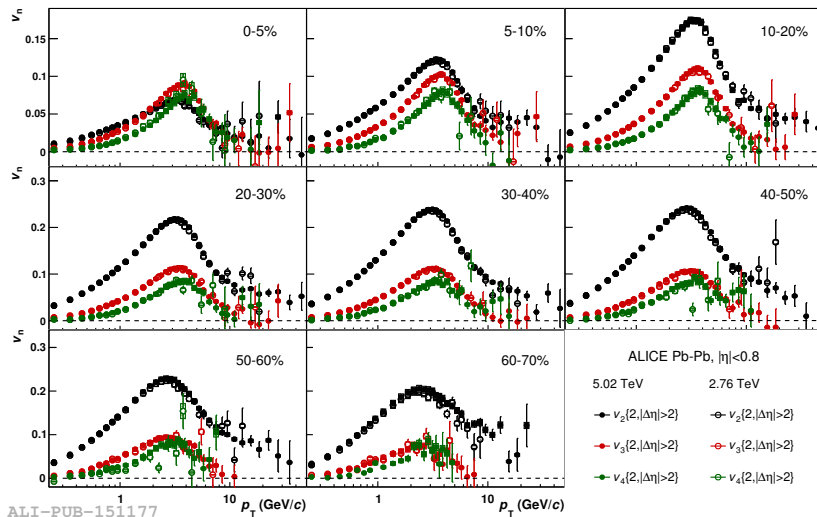
ALI-PUB-151165



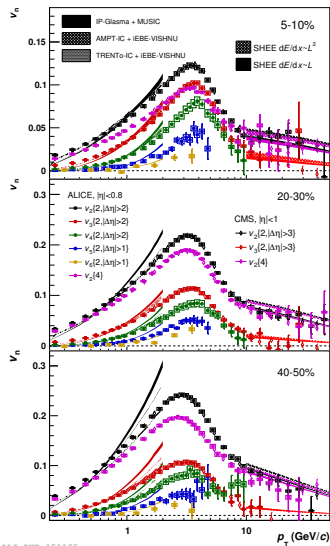
ALI-PUB-151169

Flow in Pb-Pb: energy dependence



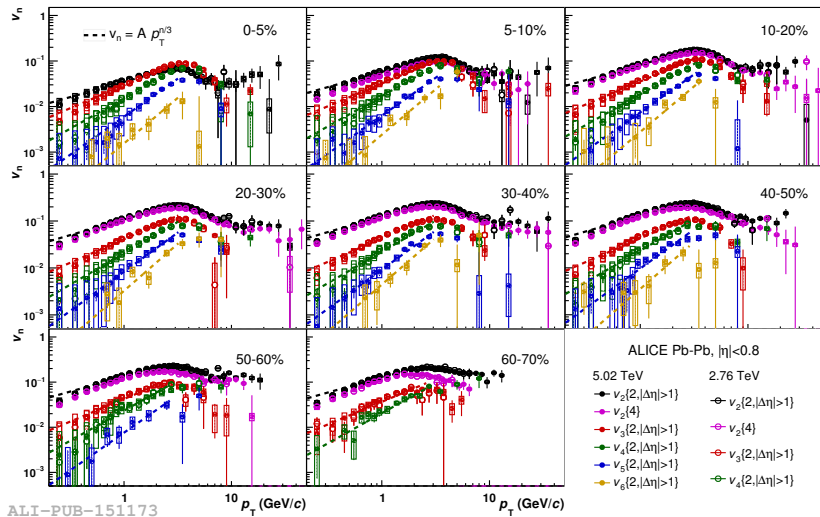


Flow in Pb-Pb: model comparison

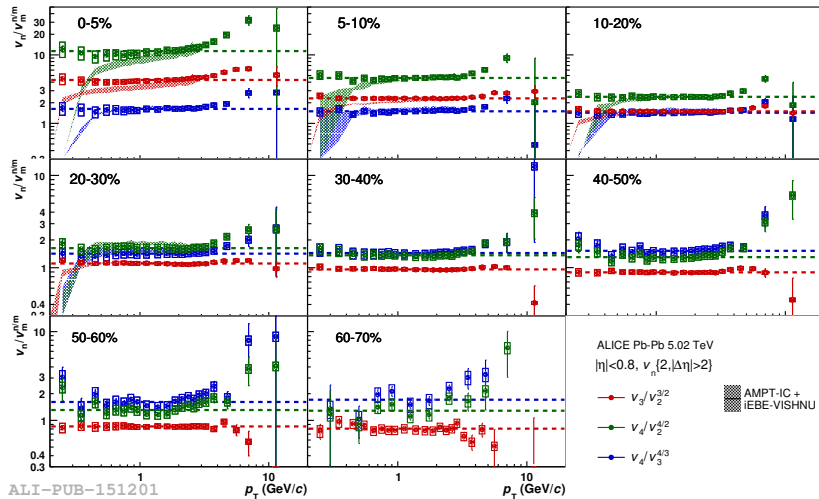


ALI-PUB-151185

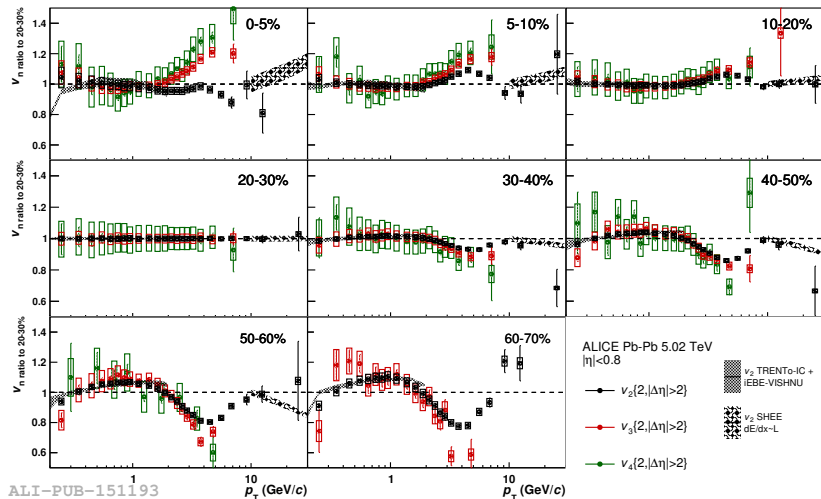
Flow in Pb-Pb: power-law scaling



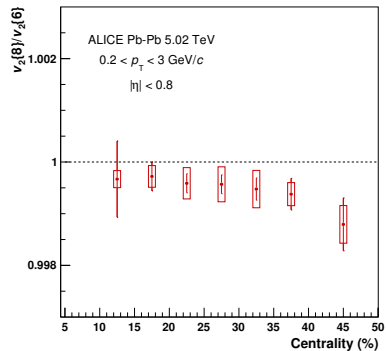
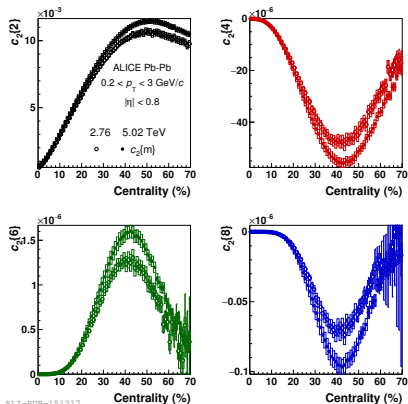
Flow in Pb-Pb: power-law scaling, ratios



Flow in Pb-Pb: centrality evolution



Flow fluctuations: cumulants



Cumulants $c_2\{2, 4, 6, 8\}$ fit with functions¹

$$c_2\{2\} = k_2^2 (1 - f_1),$$

$$c_2\{4\} = -k_2^4 (1 - 2f_1 + 2f_1^2 - f_2),$$

$$c_2\{6\} = k_2^6 (4 + 18f_1^2 - 12f_1^3 + 12f_1(3f_2 - 1) - 6f_2 - f_3),$$

$$c_2\{8\} = -k_2^8 (33 - 288f_1^3 + 144f_1^4 - 66f_2 + 18f_2^2 - 24f_1^2(-11 + 6f_2) \\ - 12f_3 + 4f_1(-33 + 42f_2 + 4f_3) - f_4)$$

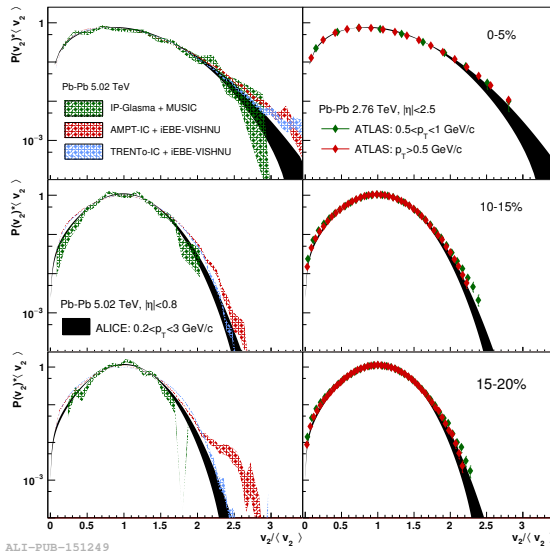
where

$$f_k \equiv \langle (1 - \varepsilon_n^2)^k \rangle = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + k} (1 - \varepsilon_0^2)^k {}_2F_1 \left(k + \frac{1}{2}, k; \alpha + k + 1, \varepsilon_0^2 \right)$$

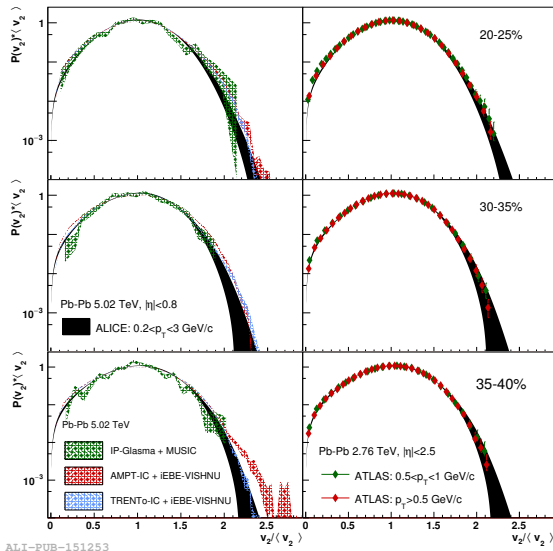
and ${}_2F_1$ is the hypergeometric function

¹L. Yan *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 90, 024903 (2014)

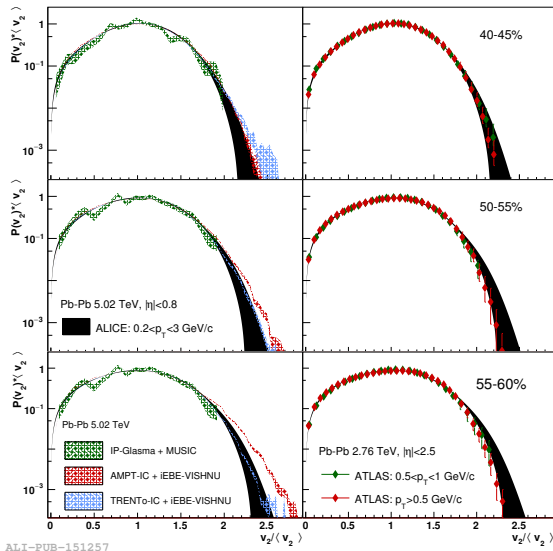
Flow fluctuations: flow p.d.f.



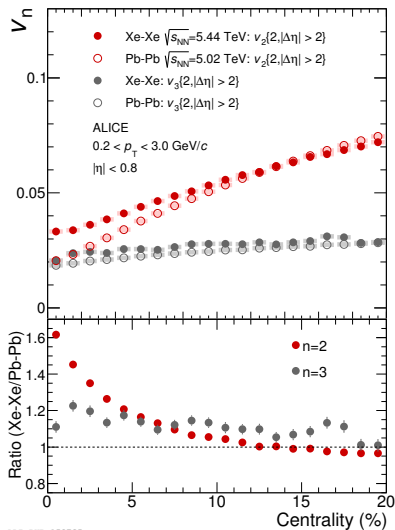
Flow fluctuations: flow p.d.f.



Flow fluctuations: flow p.d.f.



Flow in Xe-Xe: finer centrality bins



ALICE-PUB-150785

Transverse energy density determined from IS models as

$$\varepsilon_n = \frac{\sqrt{\langle r^n \cos(n\varphi) \rangle^2 + \langle r^n \sin(n\varphi) \rangle^2}}{\langle r^n \rangle}$$

$$\varepsilon_2\{2\} = \sqrt{\langle \varepsilon_n^2 \rangle}$$

$$S = 4\pi \sigma_x \sigma_y$$

where x , y , and φ , r are the cartesian and polar coordinates of the source, respectively, properly re-centered so that $\langle x \rangle = \langle y \rangle = 0$

- S normalized so that the average energy density coincides with N_{part}/S
- A nuclear deformation $\beta_2 = 0.18 \pm 0.02$ is assumed for ^{129}Xe , extrapolated from available measurements¹
- Centrality in IS models is defined as percentiles of entropy density / multiplicity distributions, matched to the measured charged particle distributions used to define centrality in ALICE^{2,3}

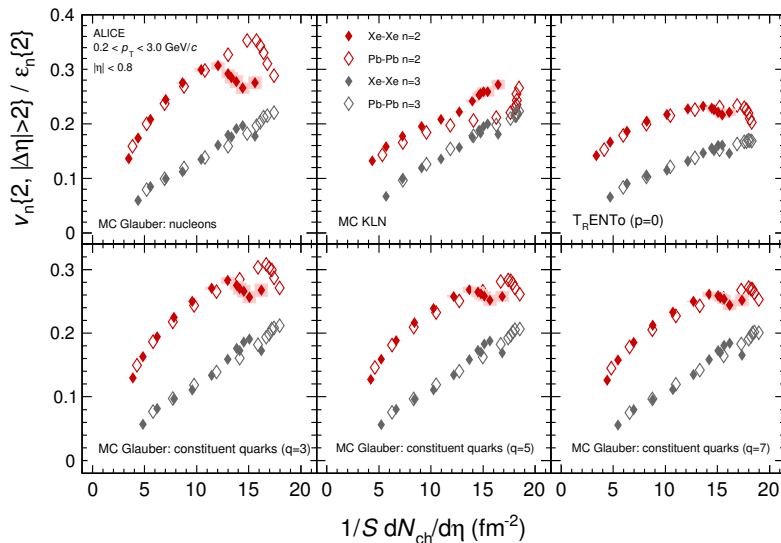
S is normalized so that the average energy density coincide with N_{part}/S

¹S. Raman *et al.*, Atom. Data Nucl. Data Tabl. 78 (2001) 1-128; P. Moller *et al.*, Atom. Data Nucl. Data Tabl. 109-110 (2016) 1-204; E. Zoltan *et al.*, Nucl. Data Shee. 129 (2015) 191-436.

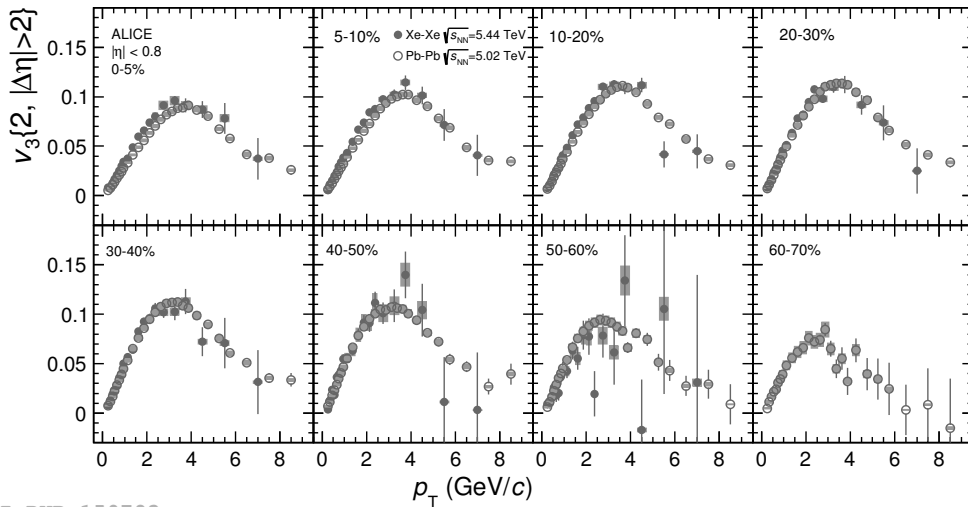
²ALICE-PUBLIC-2018-003

³ALICE, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 222302 (2016)

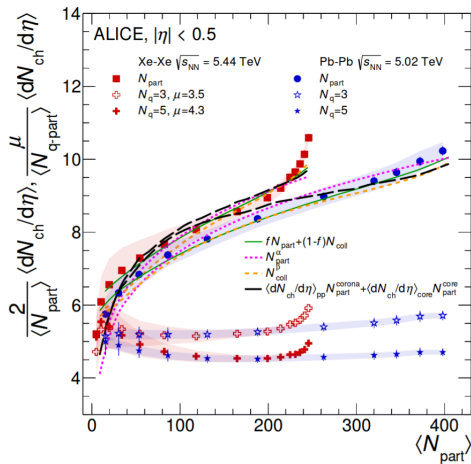
Transverse density dependence



Flow in Xe-Xe: $v_3(p_T)$

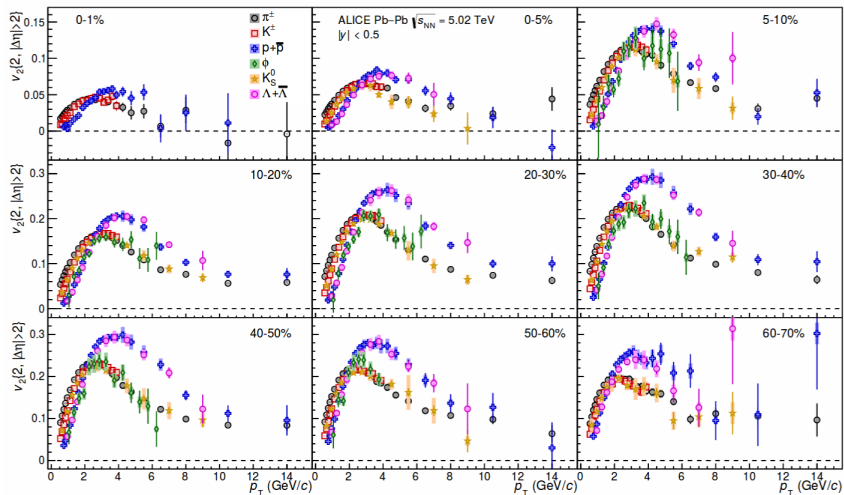


ALI-PUB-150793



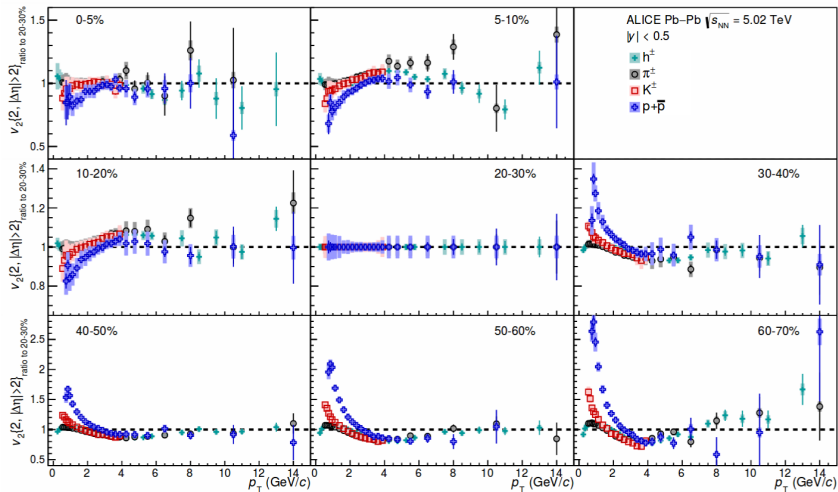
arXiv:1805.04432

PID flow in Pb-Pb



arXiv:1805.04390

PID flow in Pb–Pb: centrality evolution



arXiv:1805.04390