

# ALICE and the early universe

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for the ALICE Collaboration*

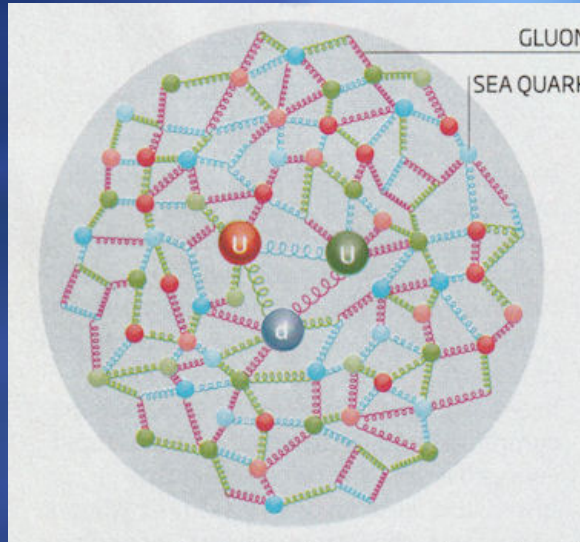


# Outline

- Strongly interacting matter in extreme conditions: the quark-gluon plasma
- Measuring apparatus and methodology
- Recent measurements
  - Global event observables
  - Hard probes and quarkonia
- Summary and outlook

# Quark confinement

- Strong interaction described by **Quantum Chromodynamics**
- Quarks are confined into hadrons
- Asymptotic freedom



Proton and neutron are colour neutral states

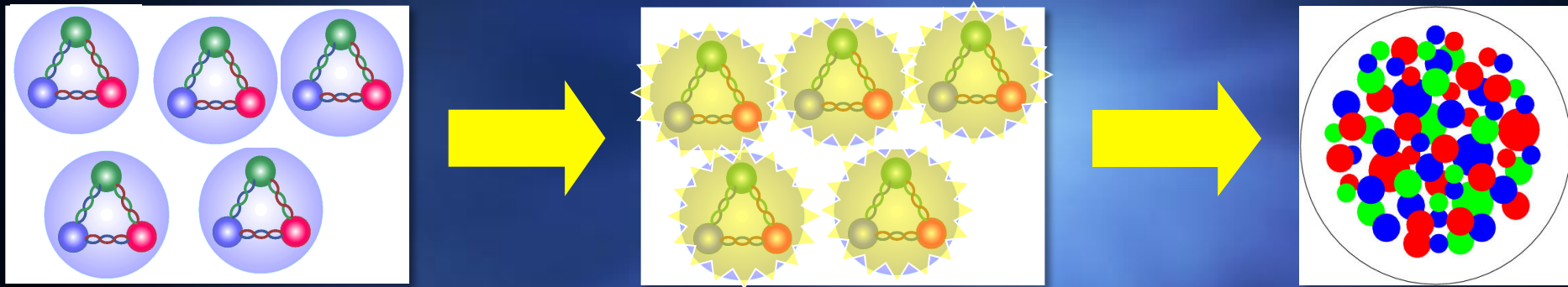
$$V(r) = -\frac{4}{3} \frac{\alpha_s(r)}{r} + kr$$

$k = 1 \text{ GeV/fm}$

How can we liberate quarks?

**Create a plasma of quarks and gluons**

# The quark-gluon plasma (QGP)



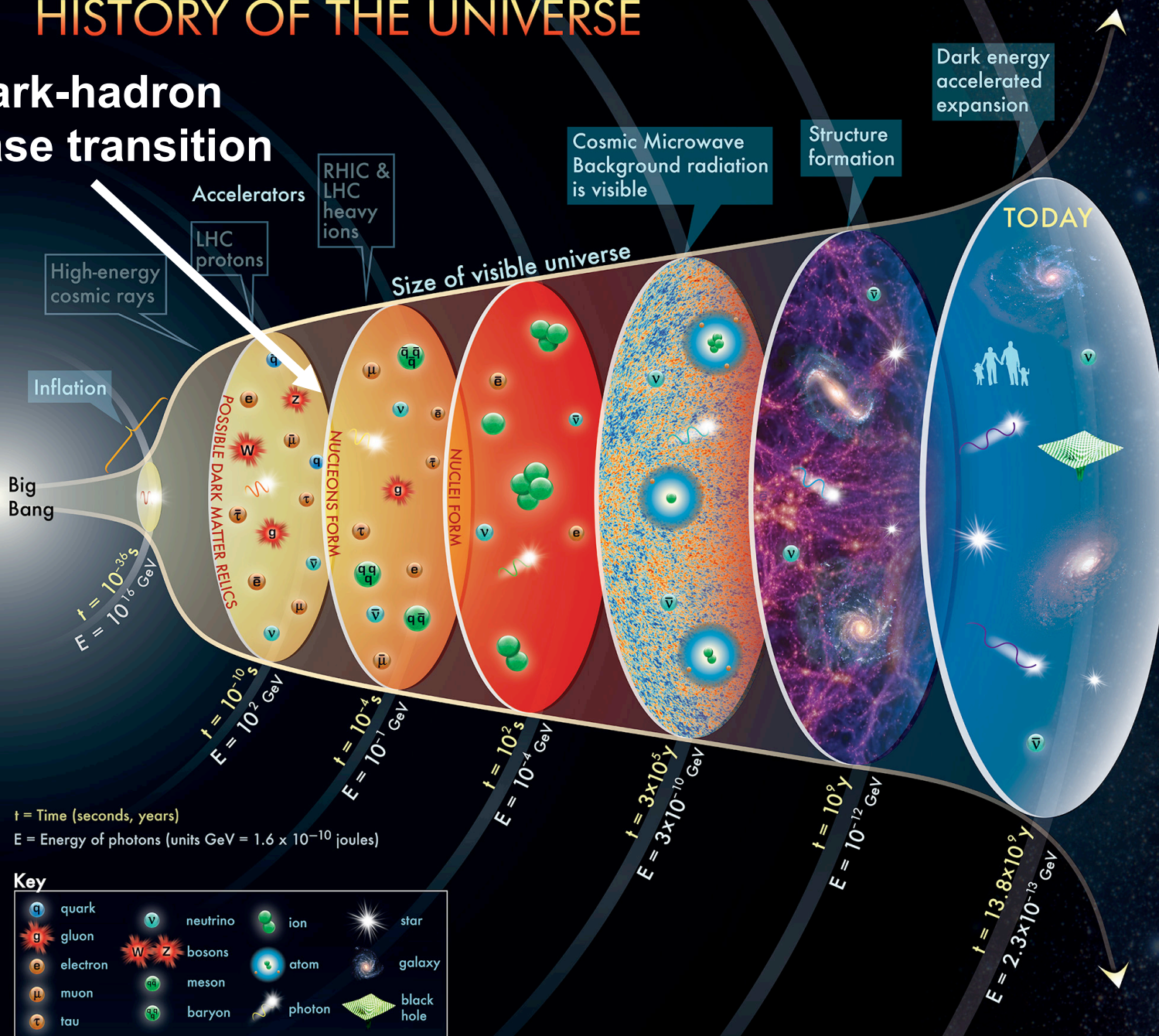
*Heat and pressure*

*Phase transition to QGP*  
 $T \approx 10^{12} \text{ K} \approx 10^5 \times \text{sun's core}$

- Primordial state of matter: quarks and gluons are liberated
- Evolution of the **early universe** (deconfinement)
  - **QGP** may still exist in neutron stars

# HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE

## Quark-hadron phase transition



$t$  = Time (seconds, years)  
 $E$  = Energy of photons (units GeV =  $1.6 \times 10^{-10}$  joules)

**Key**

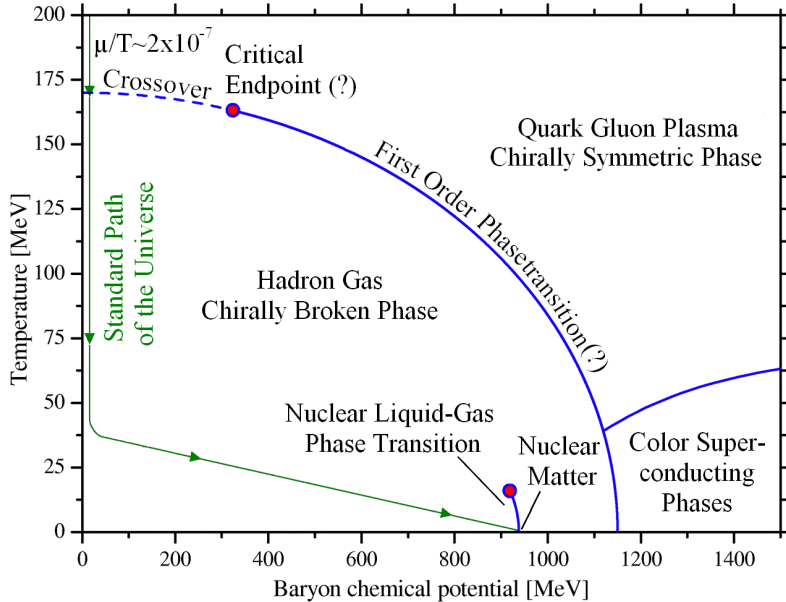
quark	neutrino	ion	star
gluon	bosons	atom	galaxy
electron	meson	photon	black hole
muon	baryon		
tau			

The concept for the above figure originated in a 1986 paper by Michael Turner.

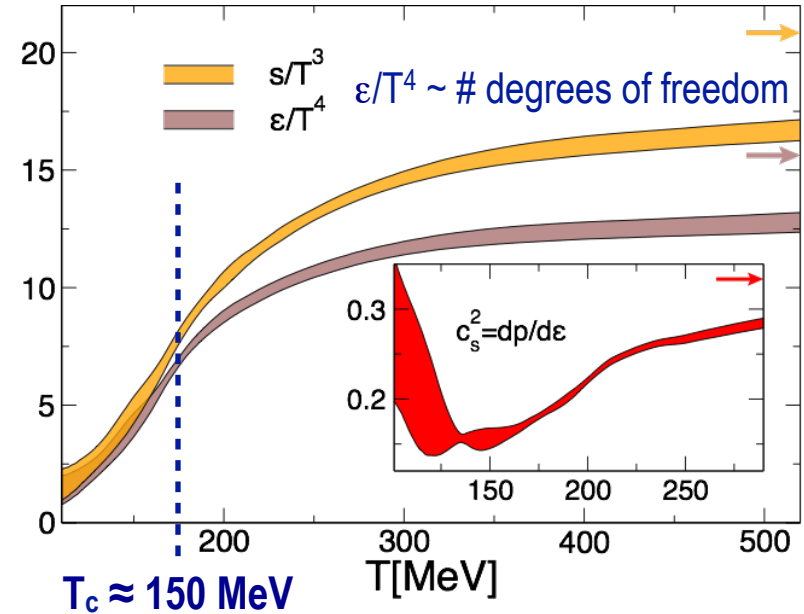
# QCD phase diagram of hadronic matter



T. Boeckel, J. Schaffner-Bielich, PRD 85 (2012) 103506



A. Borsányi et al, Phys. Lett. B730, 99 (2014)



- QCD matter at extreme conditions: high temperature and/or high density
- Deconfined strongly interacting matter with **color degrees of freedom**
- Restoration of **chiral symmetry breaking**: hadrons are much heavier than their constituents

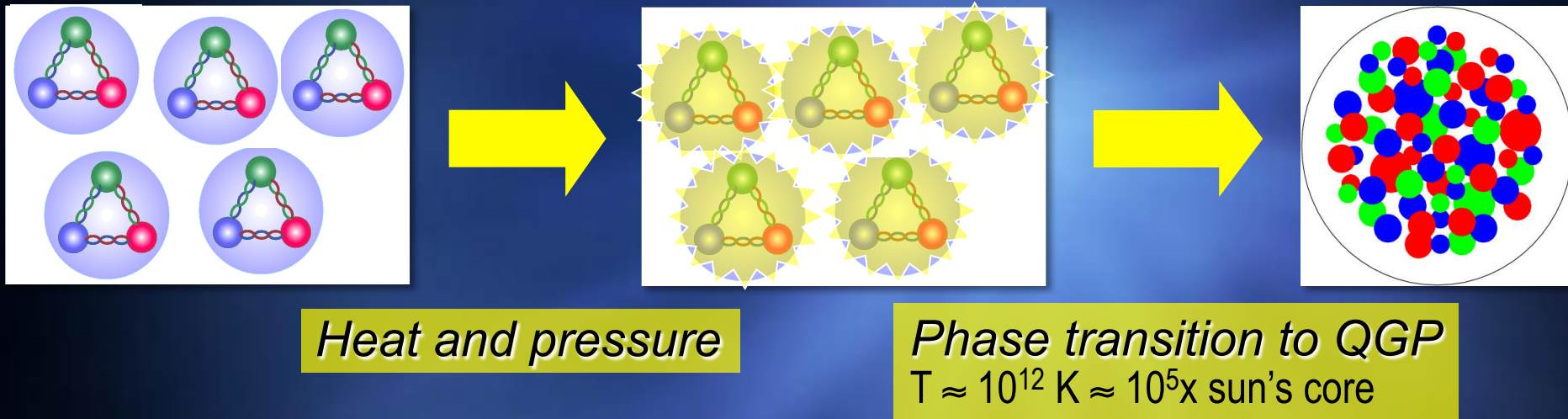
- QGP properties are in principle calculable from the QCD Lagrangian using **lattice QCD**
- Critical energy density  $\varepsilon_C = (6 \pm 2)T_C^4$

P. Braun-Munzinger et al., Phys. Rep. 621, 76 (2016)

J. Schukraft and R. Stock, Adv. Ser. Direct. High Energy Phys. 23, 61 (2015)

N. Brambilla et al., Eur. Phys. J. C74, 2981 (2014)

# The quark-gluon plasma (QGP)

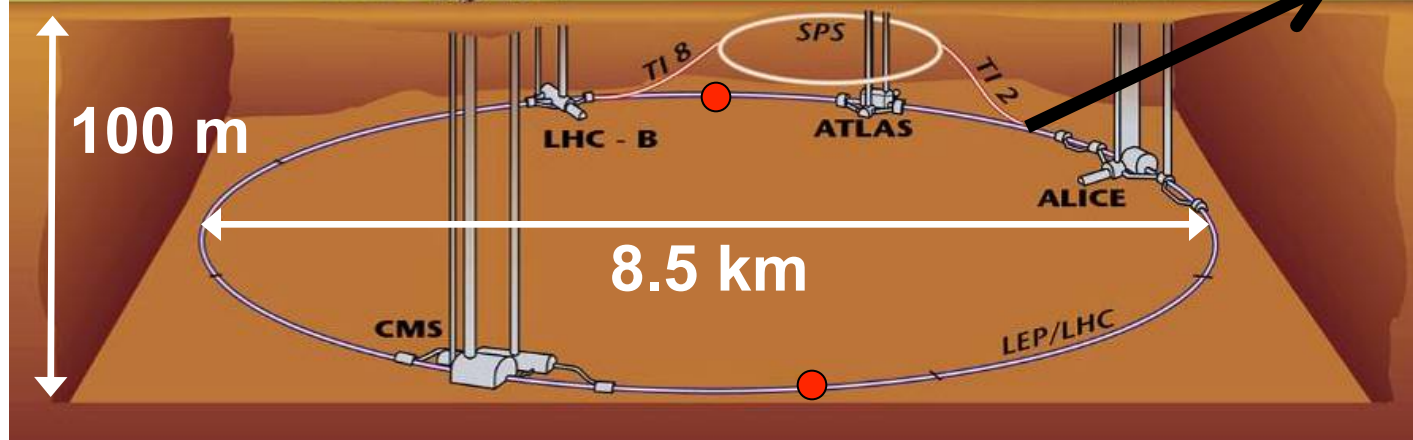
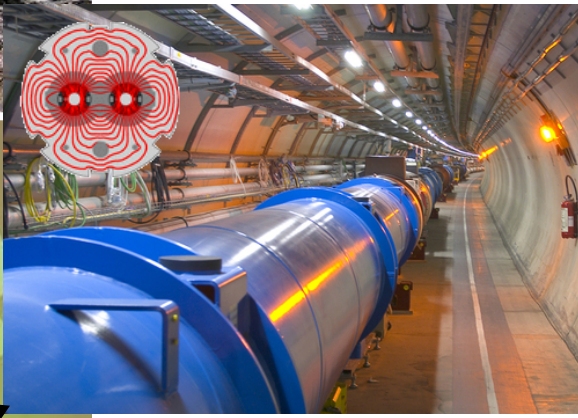
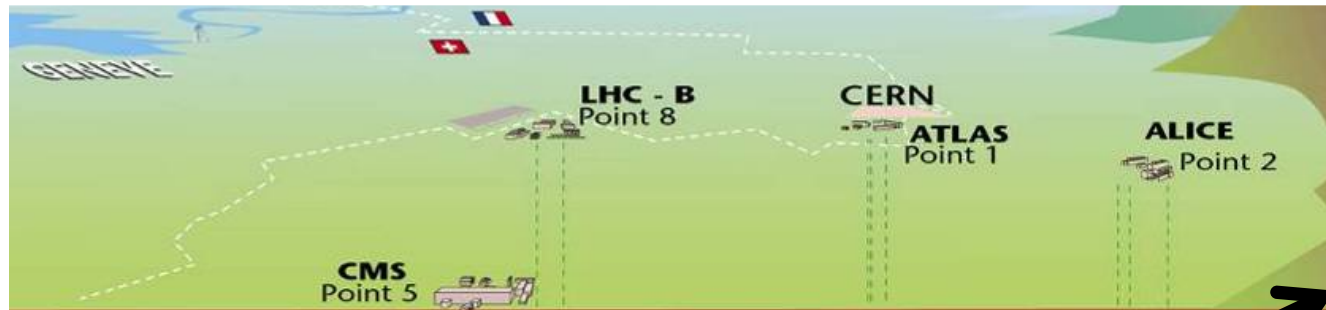


- Primordial state of matter: quarks and gluons are liberated
  - Evolution of the early universe (deconfinement)
  - Produce and study QGP in the laboratory
    - high density and temperature
    - sufficient large reaction volume
- Collisions of heavy atomic nuclei, e.g.  $\text{Pb}^{208}$  and  $\text{Au}^{197}$

# Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN



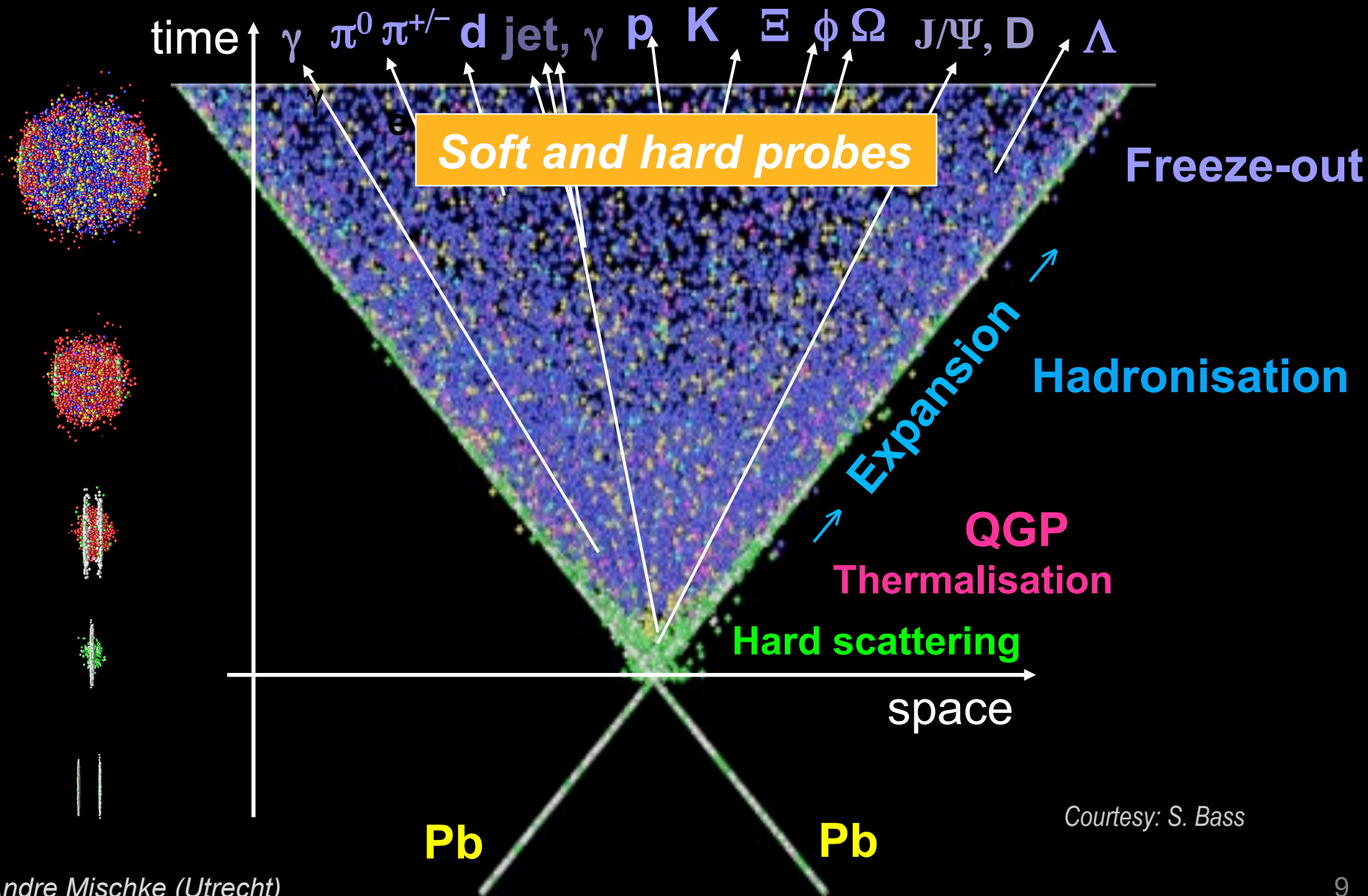
- 1232 dipole magnets
- Two counter-rotating beams
- Operation with super-fluid helium at 1.9K (~120t)
- 8 Tesla bending field



- Data taking since November 2010
- Systems and energies
  - Pb-Pb,  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76, 5.02$  TeV
  - pp,  $\sqrt{s} = 0.9, 2.36, 2.76, 5, 7, 8, 13$  TeV
  - p-Pb,  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02, 8.16$  TeV



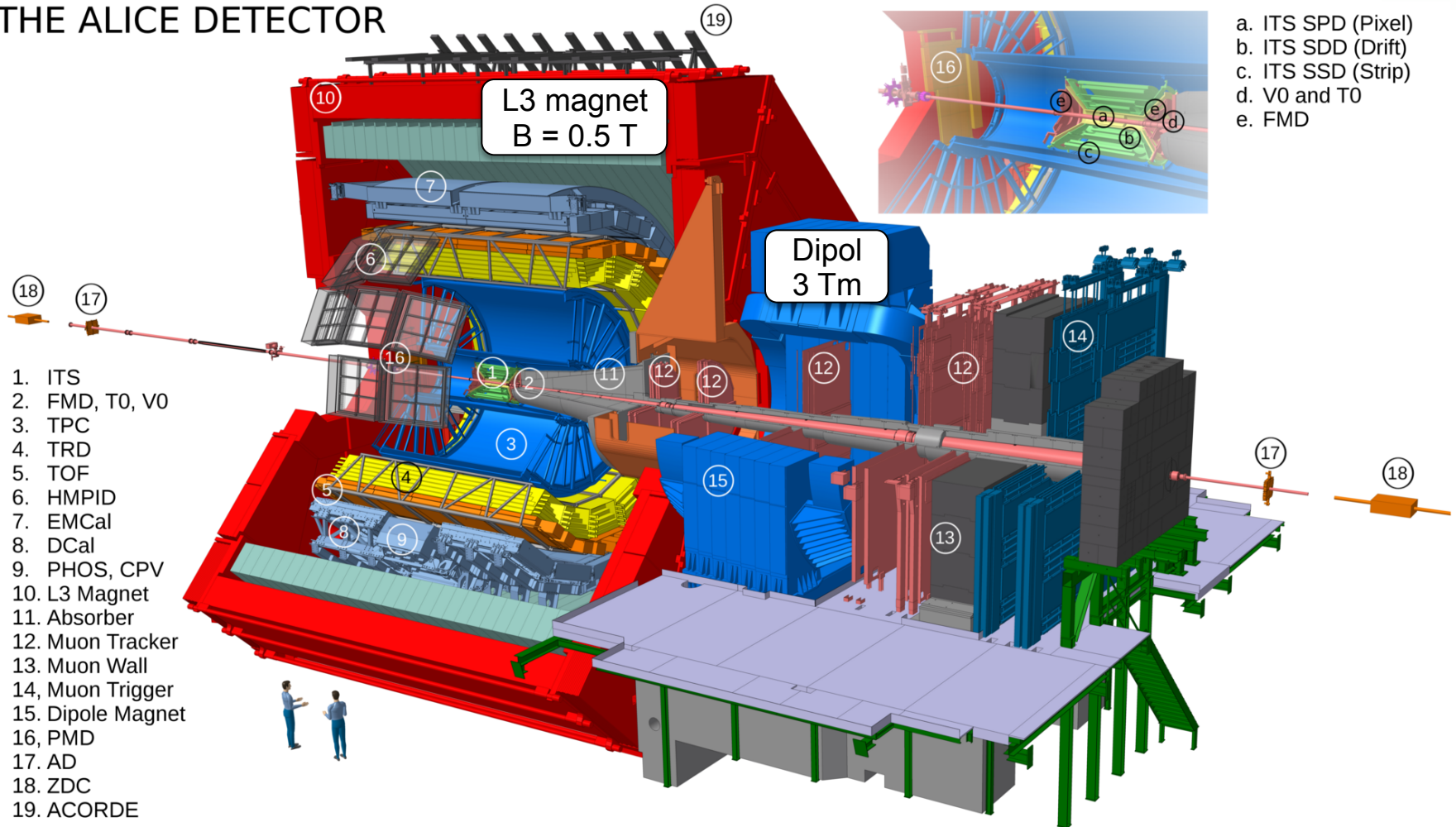
# Space-time evolution of a heavy-ion collision



# A Large Ion Collider Experiment

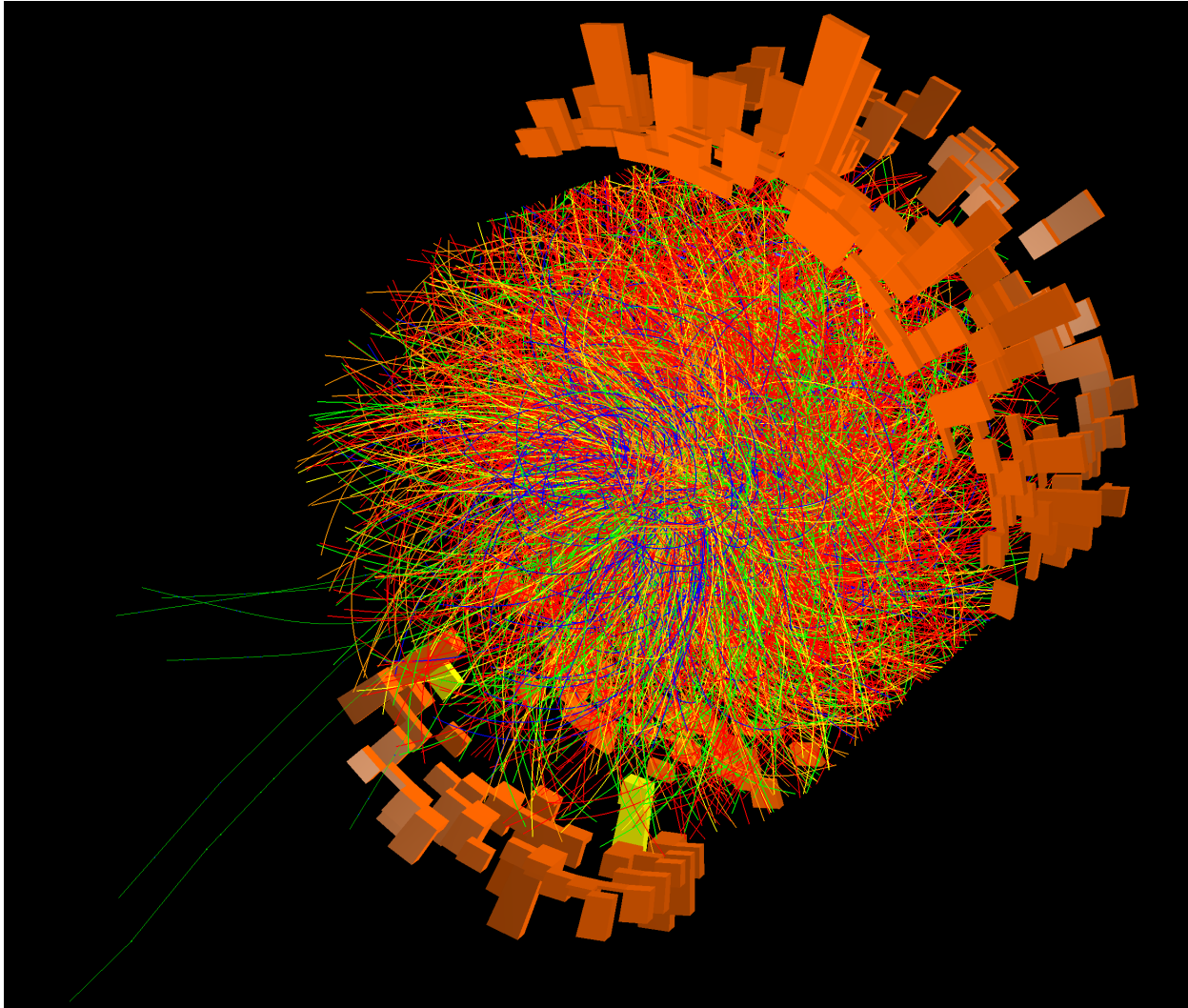


## THE ALICE DETECTOR



- PID over a very broad momentum range ( $> \sim 100 \text{ MeV}/c$ )
- Large acceptance in azimuth
- Mid-rapidity coverage ( $|\eta| < 0.9$ ) and  $-4 < \eta < -2.5$  in forward region

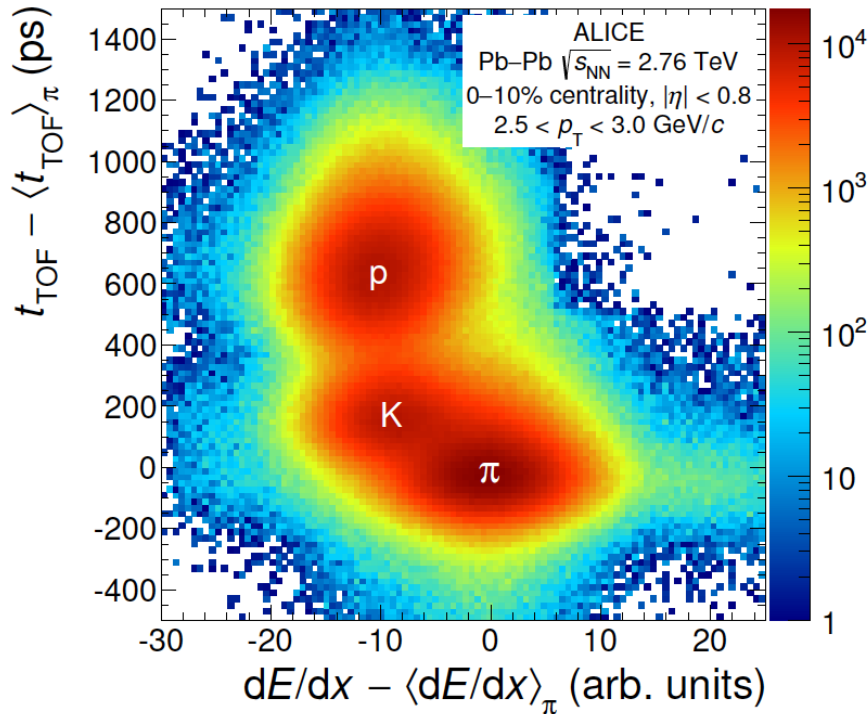
# Typical event display



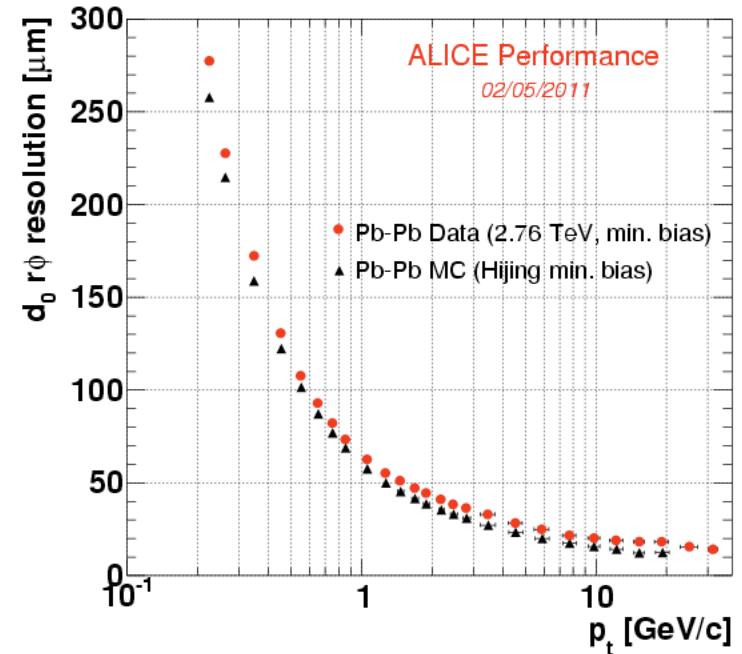
Tracks of particles recorded with the Time Projection Chamber and clusters in the calorimeter for a Pb-Pb collision at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV

# Experimental methodology

Particle identification



Impact parameter resolution



- Bayesian particle identification
  - Generalized approach for usage of full PID information in ALICE

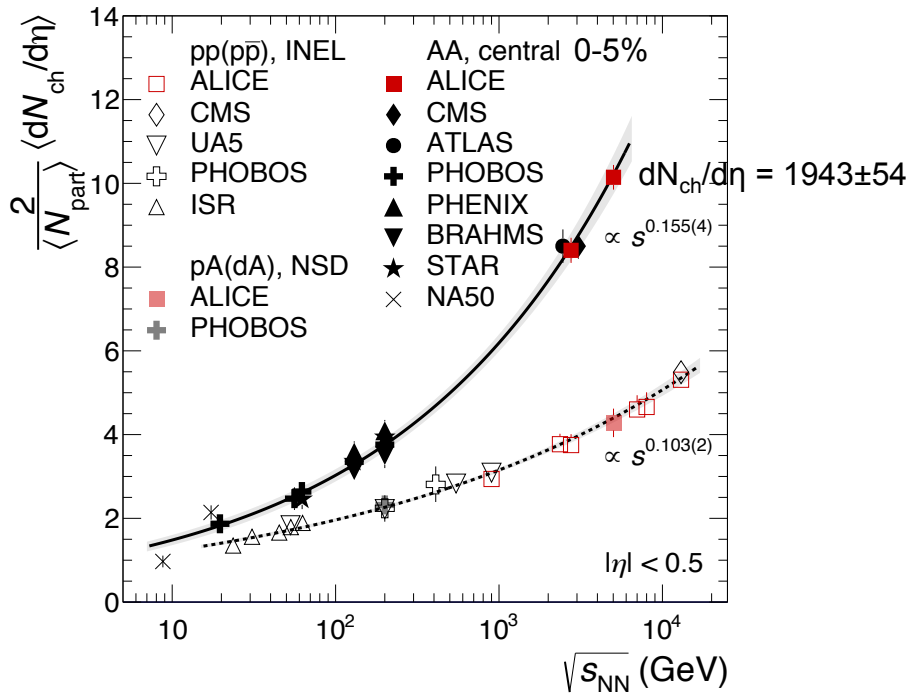
- Capabilities to measure open charm down to  $p_T=0$  in pp and p-Pb (1 GeV/c in Pb-Pb)
- High precision tracking, better than  $65 \mu\text{m}$  for  $p_T > 1$  GeV/c

# *Global event observables*

# Charged particle multiplicity

vs. cms energy

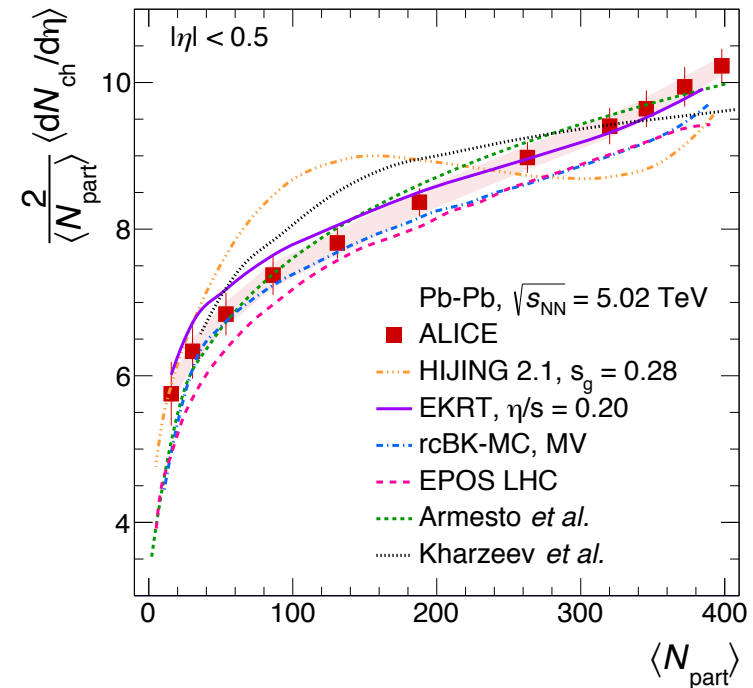
*Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 222302 (2016), Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 252301 (2010)*



- Power law dependence fits well and faster in Pb-Pb  $\sim s^{0.155}$  than in pp  $\sim s^{0.103}$

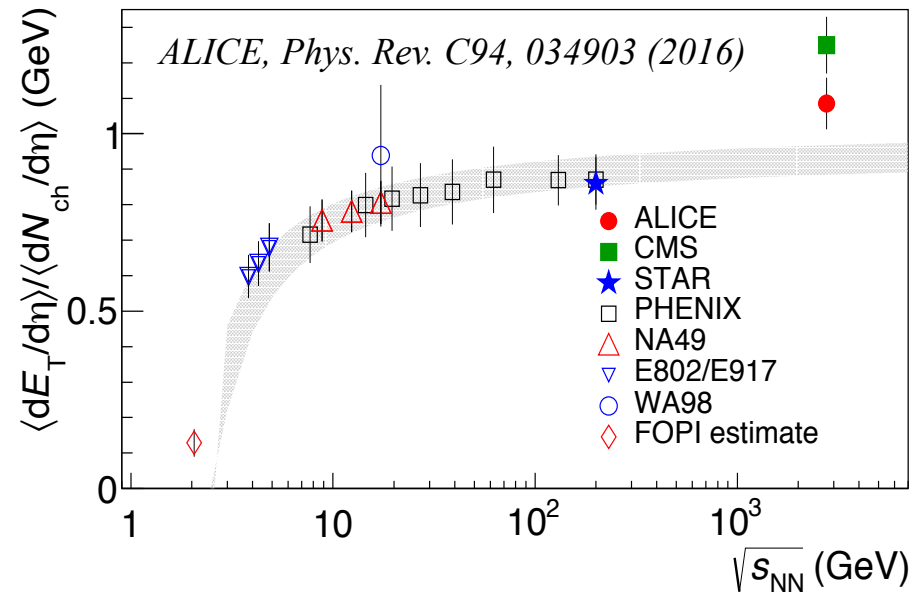
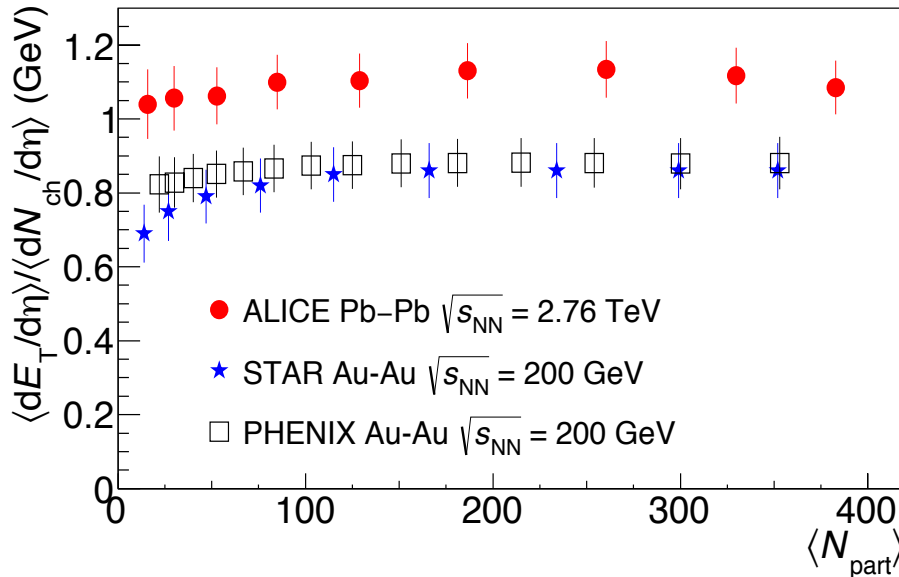
vs. number of participants

*Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 032301 (2011)*



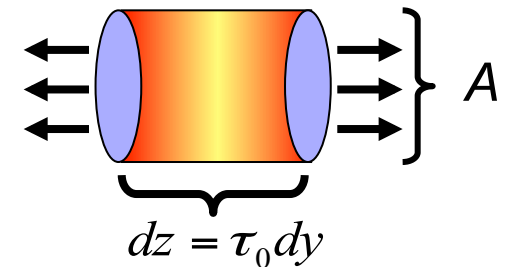
- Very similar centrality dependence at LHC and RHIC (not shown) Once corrected for difference in absolute values
- Shape almost energy independent

# Transverse energy density $E_T$



- $\langle dE_T/d\eta \rangle / \langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle$  rises much stronger than expected from extrapolation from low energies
- Bjørken estimate for volume averaged energy density assuming  $\tau_0 = 1$  fm/c as formation time

→  **$12.3 \pm 1.0$  GeV/fm<sup>3</sup>** for 5% most central Pb-Pb



$$\epsilon\tau_0 = \frac{1}{Ac} J \left\langle \frac{dE_T}{d\eta} \right\rangle$$

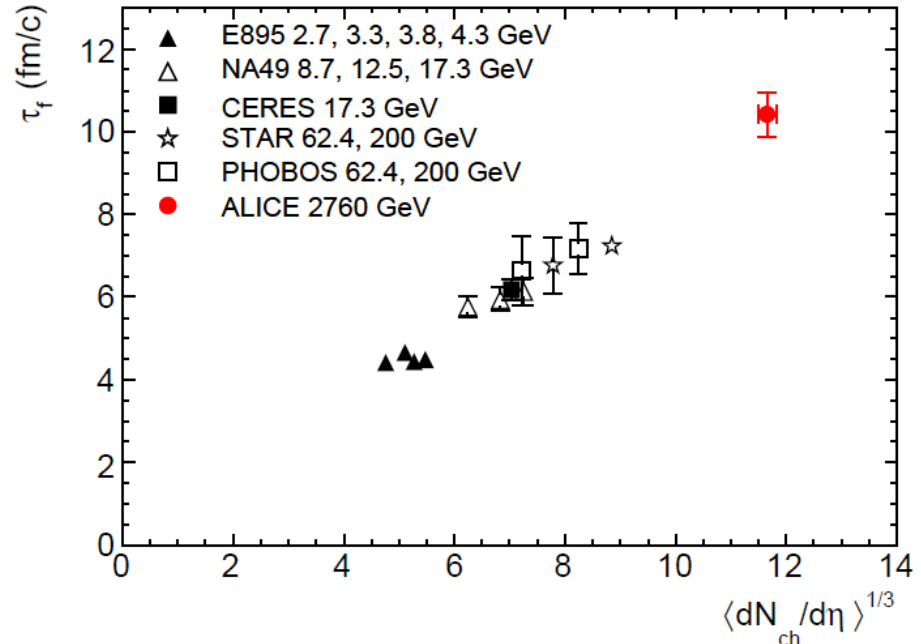
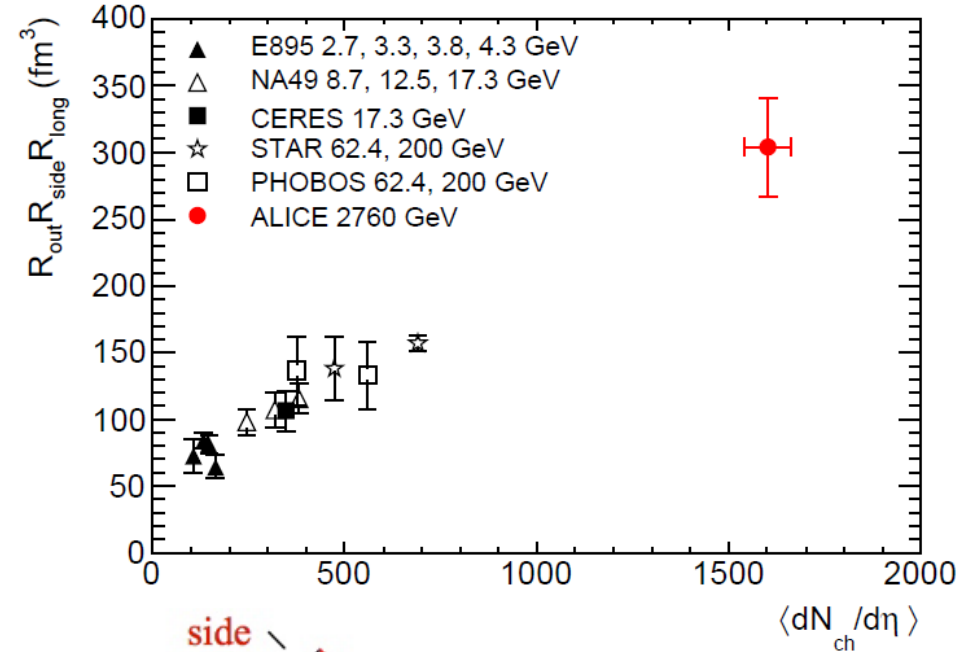
# System size and lifetime of the fireball



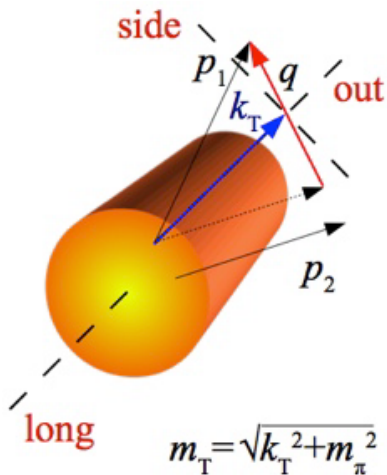
## System size

*Phys. Lett. B 696, 328 (2011)*

## Lifetime



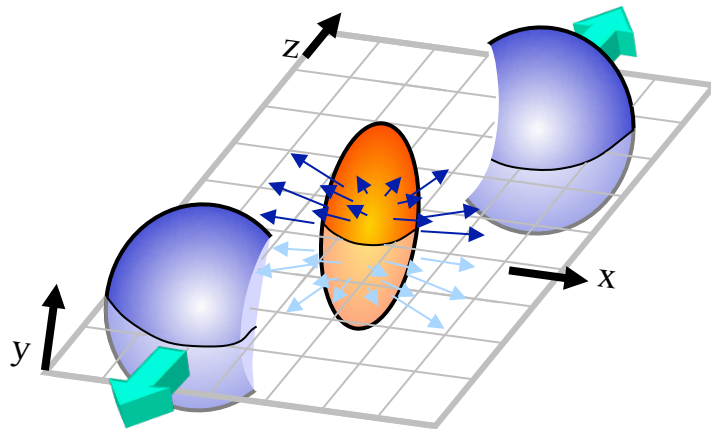
$\tau_f(\text{central } 2.76 \text{ TeV Pb-Pb}) \sim 10\text{-}11 \text{ fm/c}$



- From Bose-Einstein Correlations analysis (HBT)
- Fireball at LHC has larger volume and longer lifetime

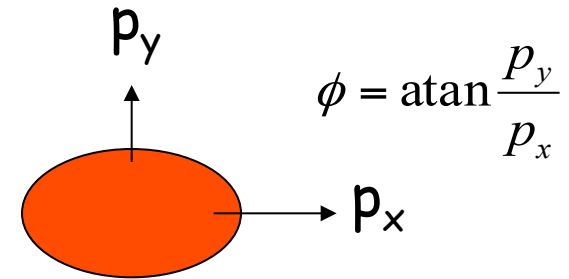


# Azimuthal anisotropy (elliptic flow)



coordinate space:  
initial anisotropy

pressure and  
multiple collisions

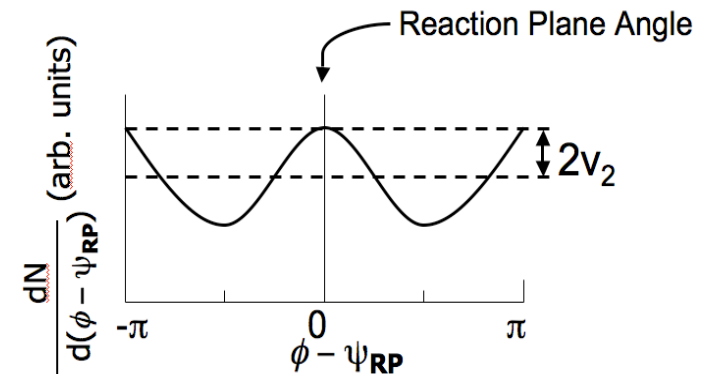


momentum space:  
final anisotropy

- Multiple interactions lead to thermalisation  
→ hydrodynamic behaviour of the system
- Pressure gradient generates collective flow → anisotropy in momentum space
- **Fourier decomposition:**

$$\frac{dN}{d(\phi - \psi_n)} \propto 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1} v_n \cos(n[\phi - \psi_n])$$

$$v_n = \langle \cos(n[\phi - \psi_n]) \rangle$$

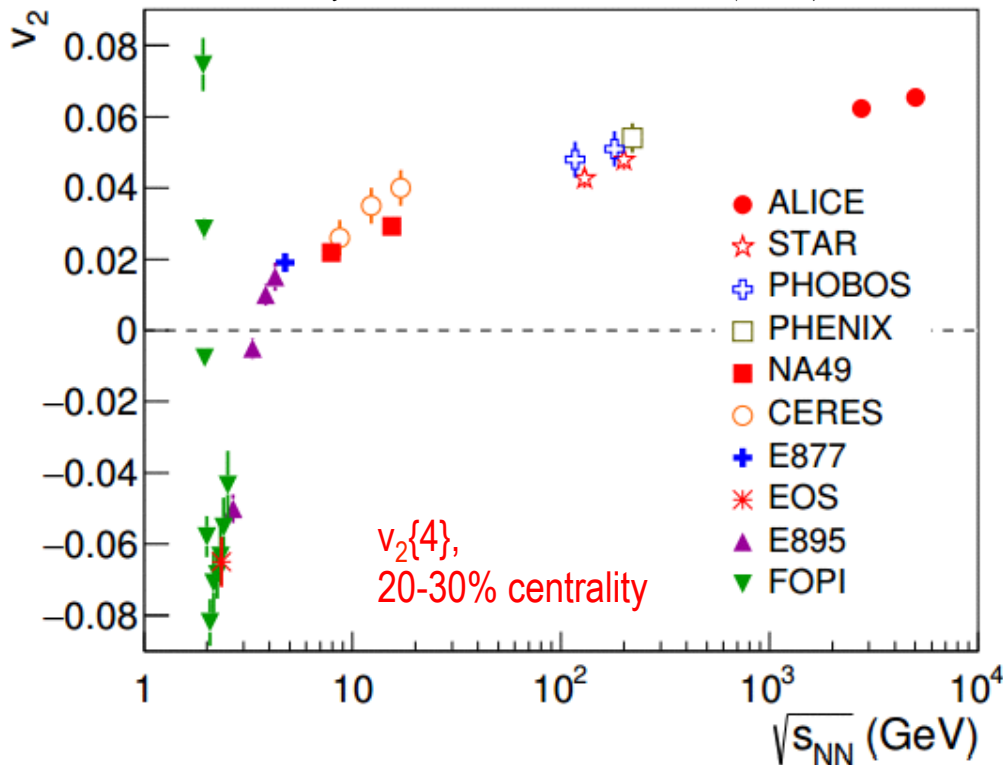


# Energy dependence of elliptic flow parameter



*Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 132302 (2016)*

*Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 252302 (2010)*



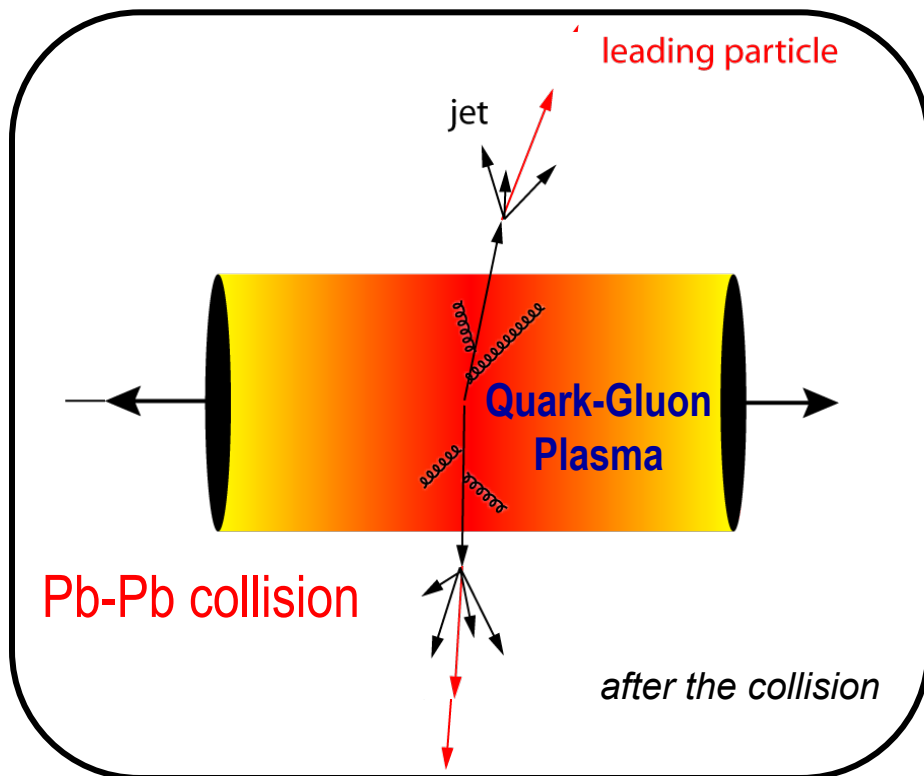
Described by hydrodynamic models with:

- Glauber geometry
- viscous corrections  
 $\eta/s$  still small ( $\sim 0.1-0.2$ )
- changes expected in space-time evolution

- Continuous increase in  $v_2$  at high collision energy
- **Strongly-coupled medium** with very low shear viscosity  
( $\rightarrow \eta/s = 1/4\pi$ ; **perfect liquid**)

# *Hard probes*

- *High- $p_T$  particle production and jets*
- *Heavy quarks (charm and beauty)*



## Heavy-ion collision

- hard processes serve as **calibrated probe** (pQCD)
- traverse through the medium and **interact strongly**
- **suppression pattern** provides density measurement
- General picture: parton energy loss through medium-induced gluon radiation and collisions with medium constituents

Quantify medium effects with **nuclear modification factor**

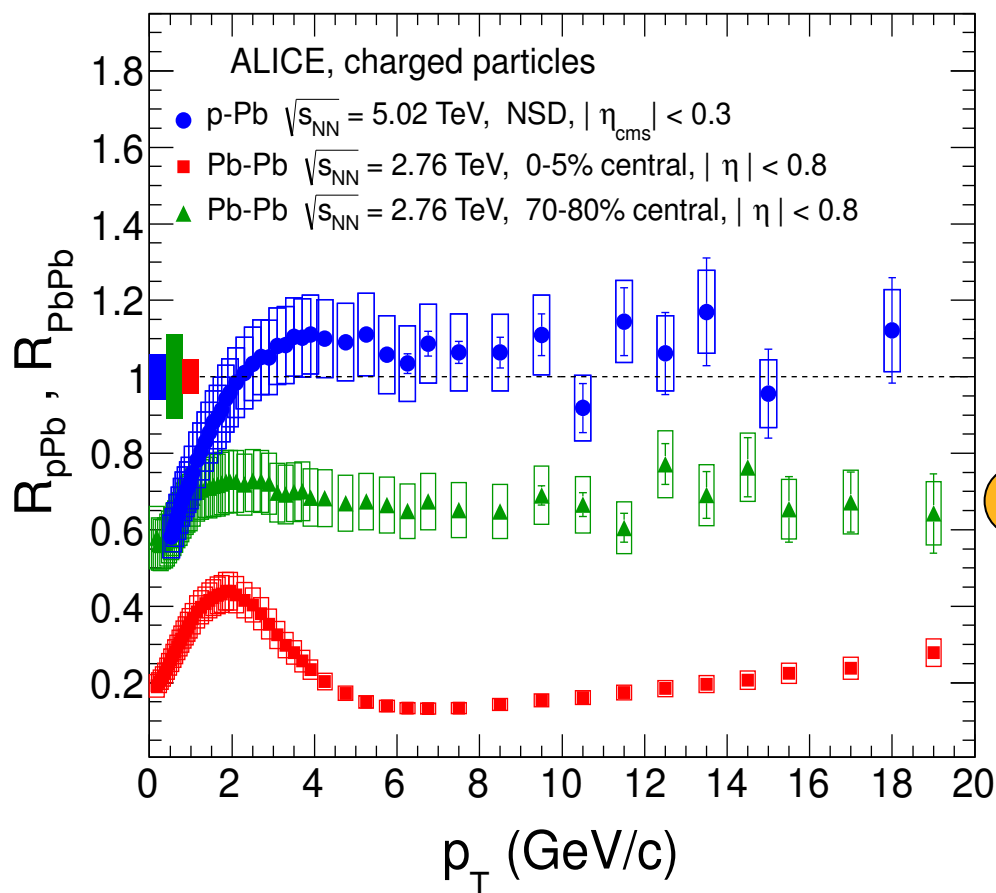
$$R_{AA}(p_T) = \frac{\text{Yield}_{AA}(p_T)}{\langle N_{bin} \rangle_{AA} \text{Yield}_{pp}(p_T)}$$

if  $R_{AA} = 1 \rightarrow$  no nuclear effects

if  $R_{AA} \neq 1 \rightarrow$  (hot or cold) medium effects

# High- $p_T$ particle production

Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 082302 (2013)



## p-Pb ( $p_T > 2$ GeV/c)

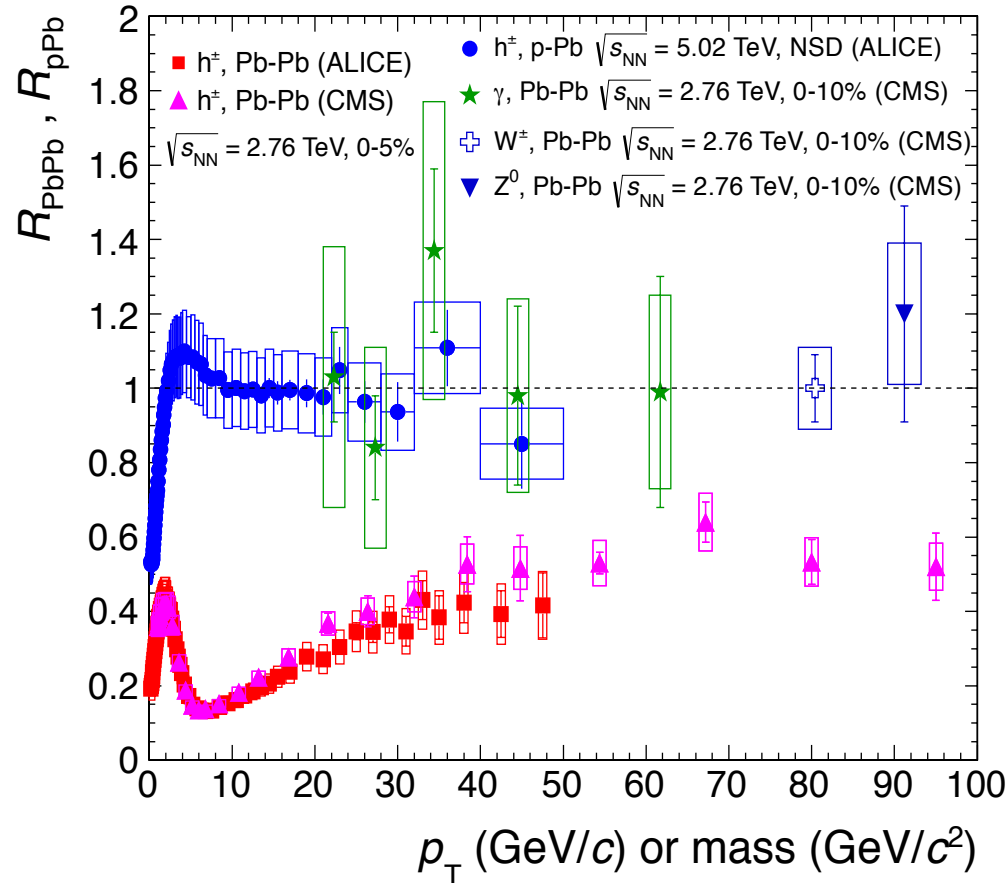
- Binary scaling ( $R_{pPb} \sim 1$ )
- Absence of nuclear modification
- Initial state effects small

## Pb-Pb – suppression

- Increases with centrality
- Not initial state
- Final state effect; due to hot and dense QCD matter

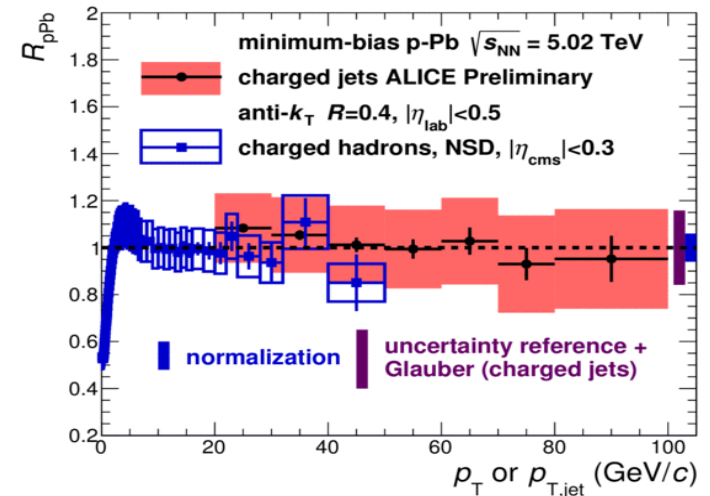
# High- $p_T$ particle production (cont'd)

Eur. Phys. J. C 74, 3054 (2014)



$Z^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$   
 $W \rightarrow \mu\nu$  using single muon recoil against missing  $p_T$

Z, W and  $\gamma$  production in Pb-Pb  
 consistent with  $N_{coll}$  scaling ( $R_{AA} \approx 1$ )  
 $\rightarrow$  not sensitive to the medium as  
 expected  
 $\rightarrow$  geometry ( $N_{coll}$ ) under control

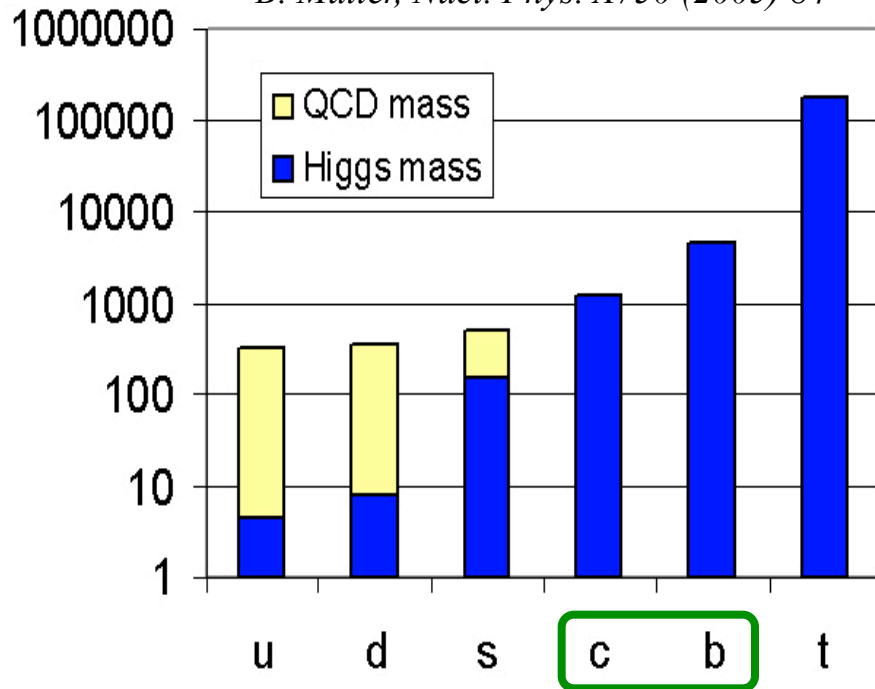


No modifications observed for  
**charged jets** up to 100 GeV/c

ALI-PREL-80555

# Heavy quarks are ideal probes

B. Müller, Nucl. Phys. A750 (2005) 84



Formation time:

$$\tau \sim 1/2m_Q \sim 0.1 \text{ fm} \ll \tau_{\text{QGP}} \sim 5-10 \text{ fm}$$

- Symmetry breaking
  - Higgs mass: electro-weak symmetry breaking → **current quark mass**
  - QCD mass: chiral symmetry breaking → **constituent quark mass**
- Charm and beauty quark masses are not affected by QCD vacuum → ideal probes to study QGP
- Test QCD at transition from perturbative to non-perturbative regime: Charm and beauty quarks provide hard scale for QCD calculations

# Radiative parton energy loss

- ...depends on
  - Medium properties (e.g. density, temperature, mean free path)
    - transport coefficients ( $\hat{q}$ )
  - Path length in the medium ( $L$ )
  - Parton properties (colour charge and mass) traversing the medium → Casimir coupling factor ( $C_R$ ):
    - $C_R = 4/3$  for quarks and 3 for gluons
    - R. Baier et al., Nucl. Phys. B483 (1997) 291 (BDMPS)*

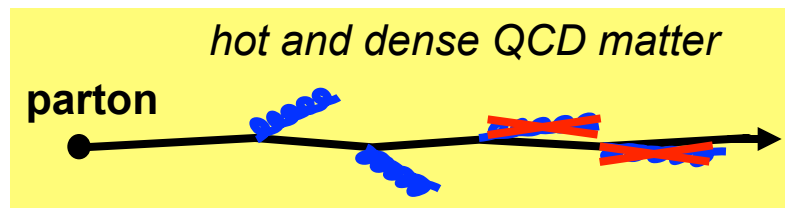
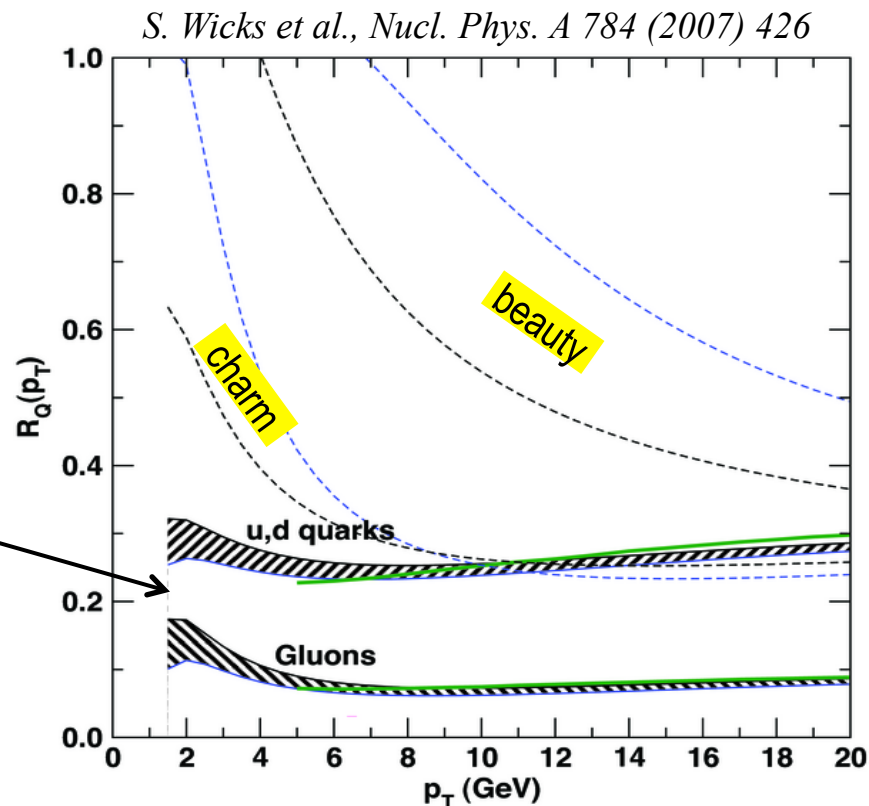
$$\langle \Delta E_{medium} \rangle \propto \alpha_S C_R \hat{q} L^2$$

- **Dead-cone effect:** gluon radiation suppressed at small angles ( $\theta < m_Q/E_Q$ )

*Y. Dokshitzer, D. Kharzeev, PLB 519 (2001) 199, hep-ph/0106202*

- **Expectation:**  $\Delta E_g > \Delta E_{u,d,s} > \Delta E_c > \Delta E_b$

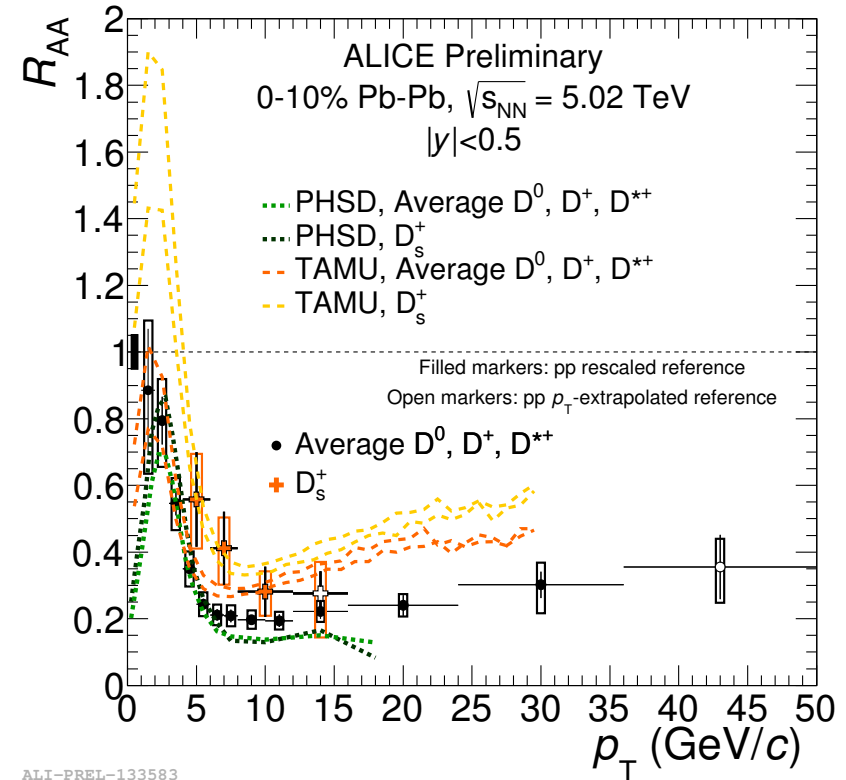
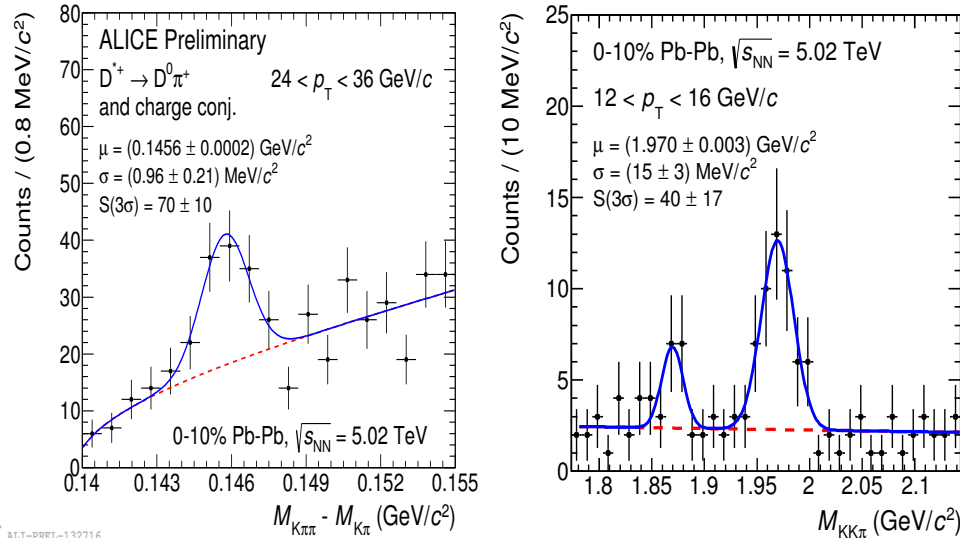
$$R_{AA}(\pi) < R_{AA}(D) < R_{AA}(B)$$





# Prompt D-meson $R_{AA}$ in Pb-Pb

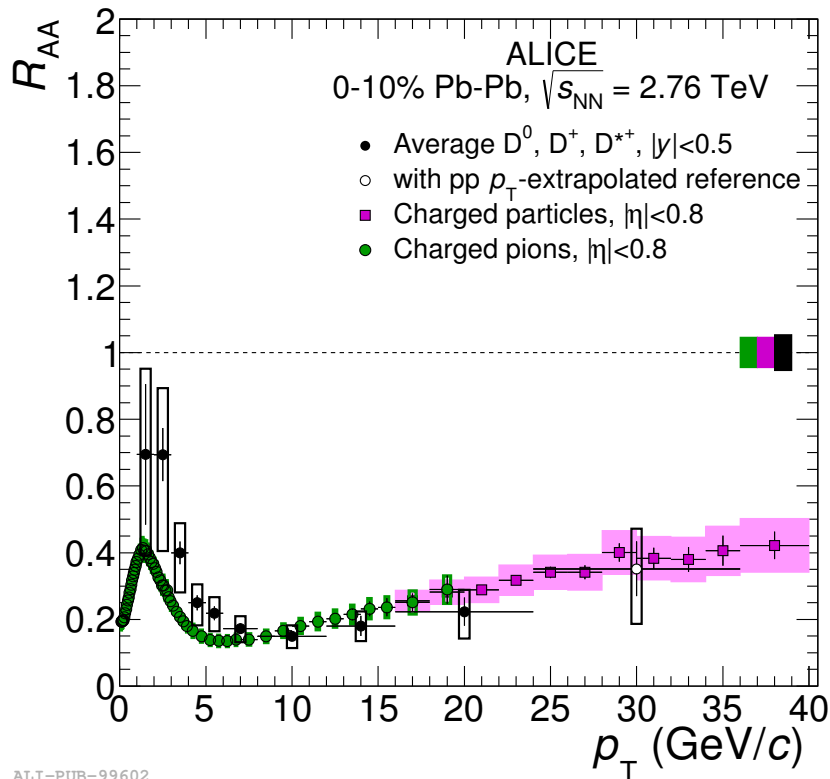
ALICE, JHEP 03 (2016) 081 and JHEP 03 (2016) 082



- Above 5 GeV/c strong suppression (factor 4-5) of D-meson yield in central Pb-Pb, compared to binary scaling from pp
- First  $D_s^+(c\bar{s})$  measurement in heavy-ion collisions
- Expectation: **enhancement of strange D-meson yield** at intermediate  $p_T$  if charm hadronises via recombination in the medium

# Probe flavour and mass dependence

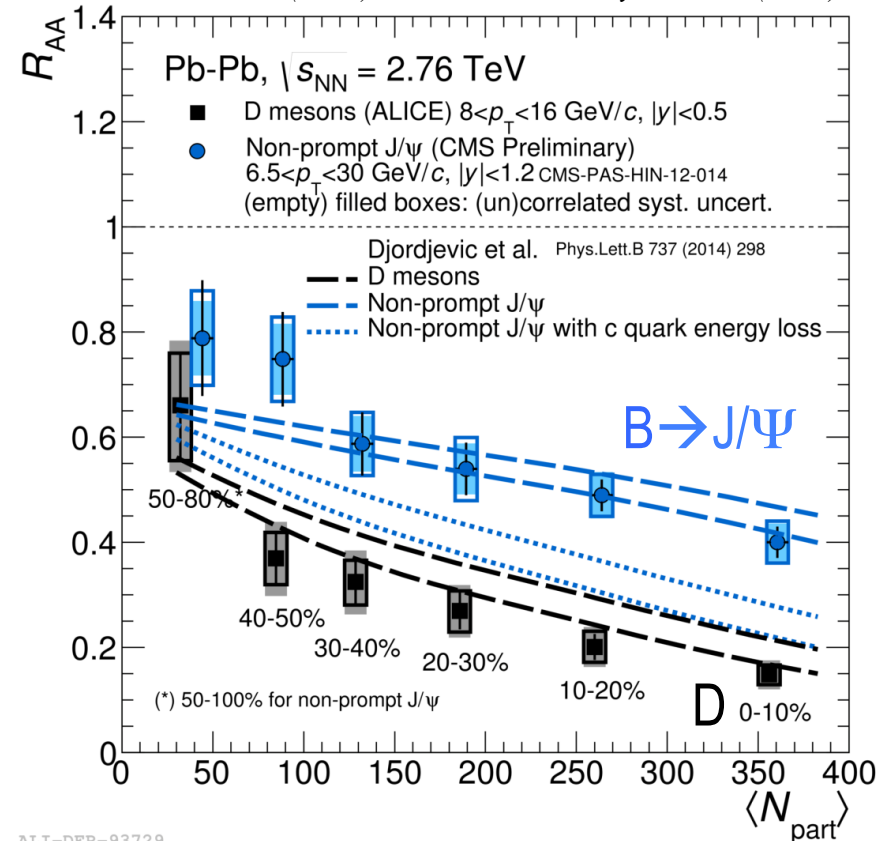
JHEP 1603 (2016) 081



ALI-PUB-99602

- Slight enhancement of D at low  $p_T$  for 10% most central collisions
- Indication for rising  $R_{AA}$

ALICE, JHEP 11 (2015) 205, CMS, Eur. Phys. J. C77 (2017), 252



ALI-DER-93729

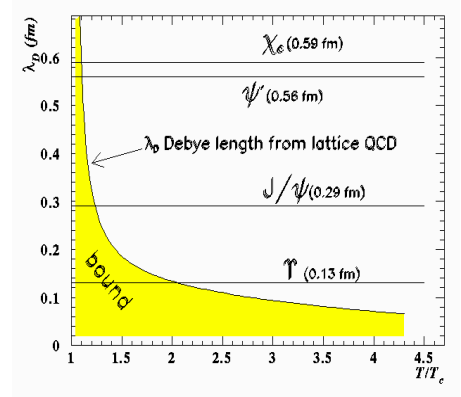
- D and B meson  $\langle p_T \rangle \sim 10$  GeV/c
- Described by theoretical calculations including quark-mass dependent energy loss ( $R_{AA}^D < R_{AA}^B$ ) in the studied  $p_T$  range

# Quarkonia production in hot QCD matter



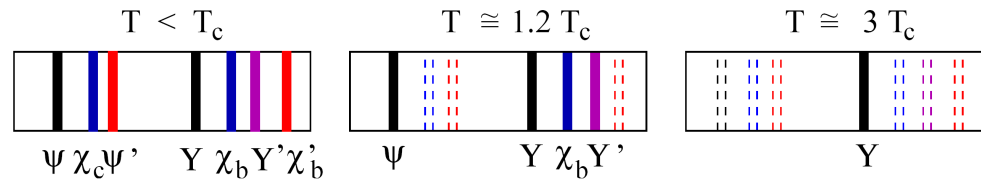
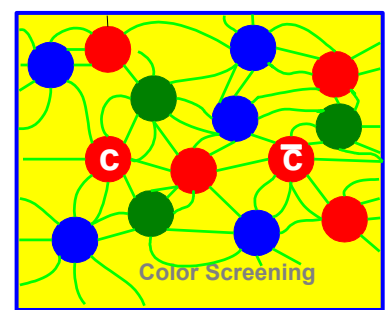
- Colour screening length  $\lambda_D$  in the deconfined medium decreases with temperature
- Quarkonia “melt” when their binding distance becomes bigger than screening length  $\rightarrow$  yields suppressed (**one of the first QGP signatures**)

*T. Matsui and H. Satz, Phys. Lett. B 178 (1986) 416*



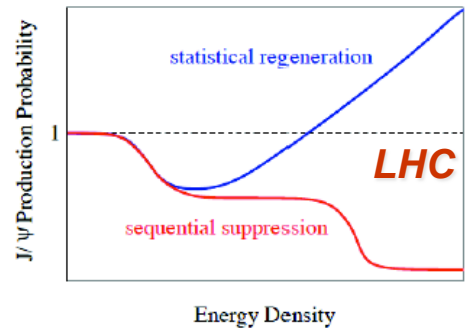
- Screening at different temperature for different states (binding energy)  $\rightarrow$  sequential suppression of the quarkonium states  $\rightarrow$  QCD thermometer

*S. Digal, P. Petreczky and H. Satz, Phys. Rev. D 64 (2001) 0940150*

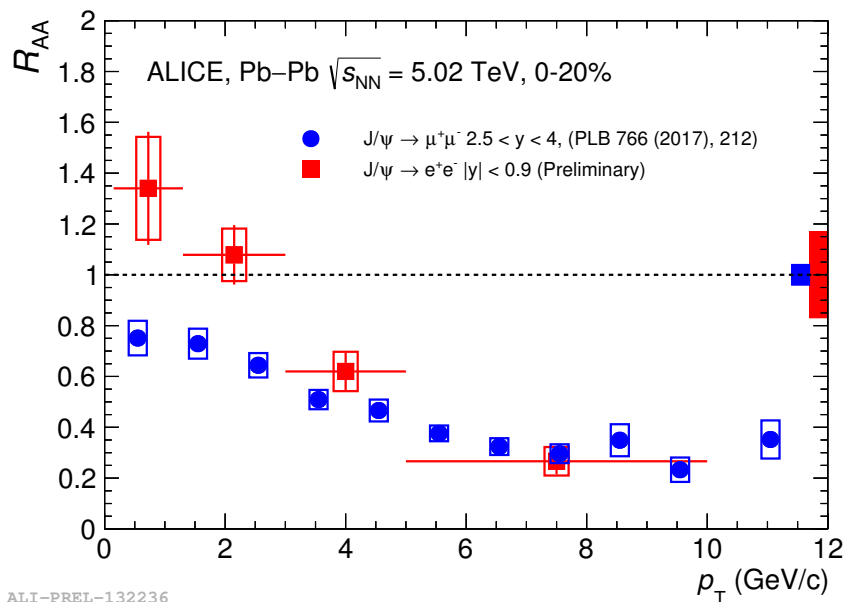


- Enhancement via (re-)generation of quarkonium states due to large heavy quark multiplicity

*A. Andronic, P. Braun-Munzinger, K. Redlich and J. Stachel, Phys. Lett. B 571(2003) 36*



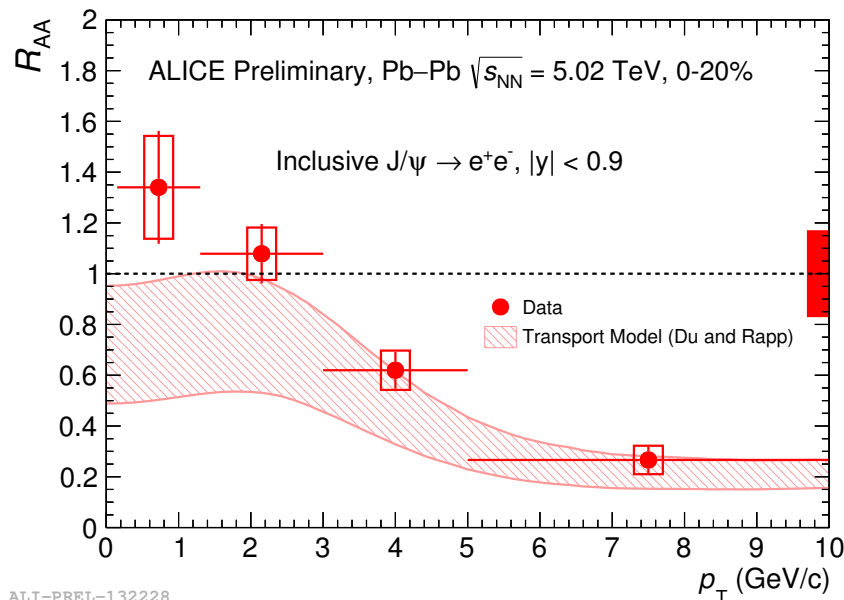
# J/ψ production in 5.02 TeV Pb-Pb



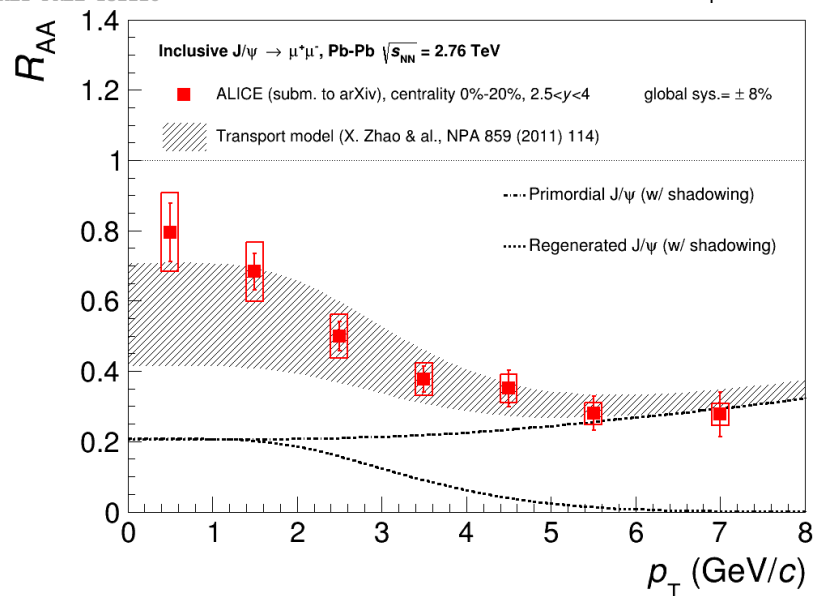
ALI-PREL-132236

- Data indicate a smaller suppression **at mid-rapidity** than **at forward rapidity** in central collisions and low  $p_T$

- Transport model with **sizeable QGP regeneration** component describes data within uncertainties; data on the upper side of the theory band

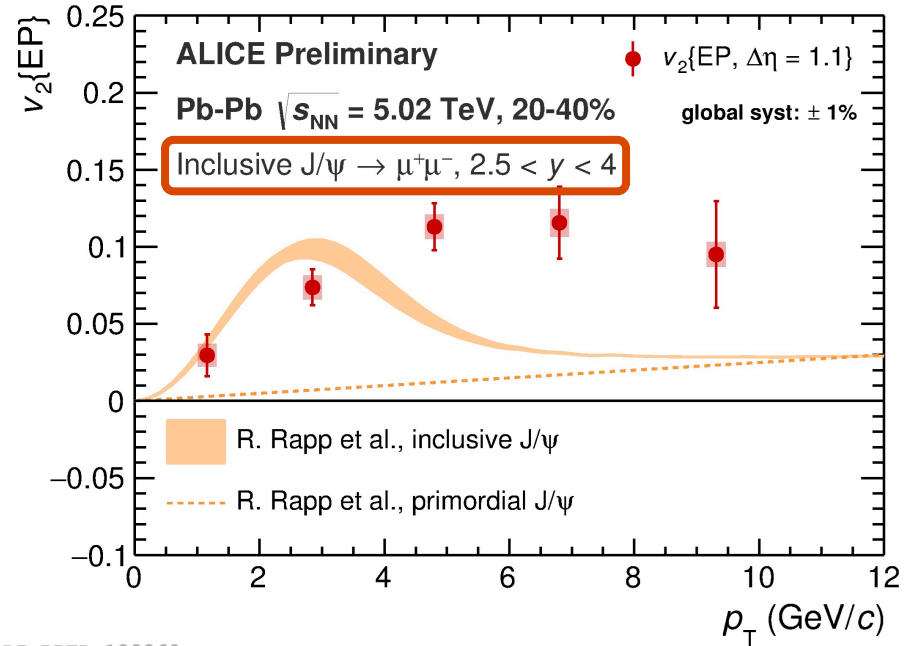
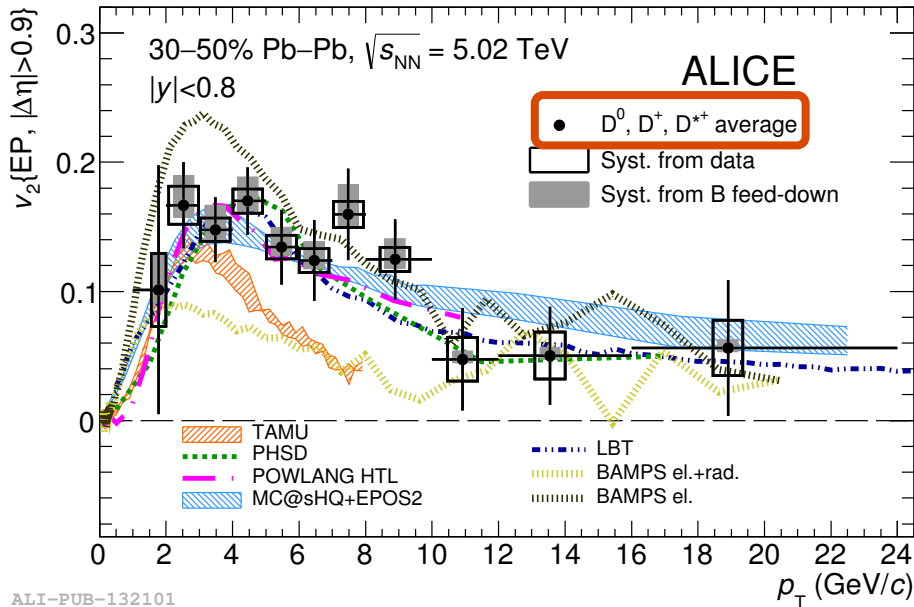


ALI-PREL-132228



# Azimuthal anisotropy of D and J/ψ

Submitted to PRL (arXiv:1707.01005)

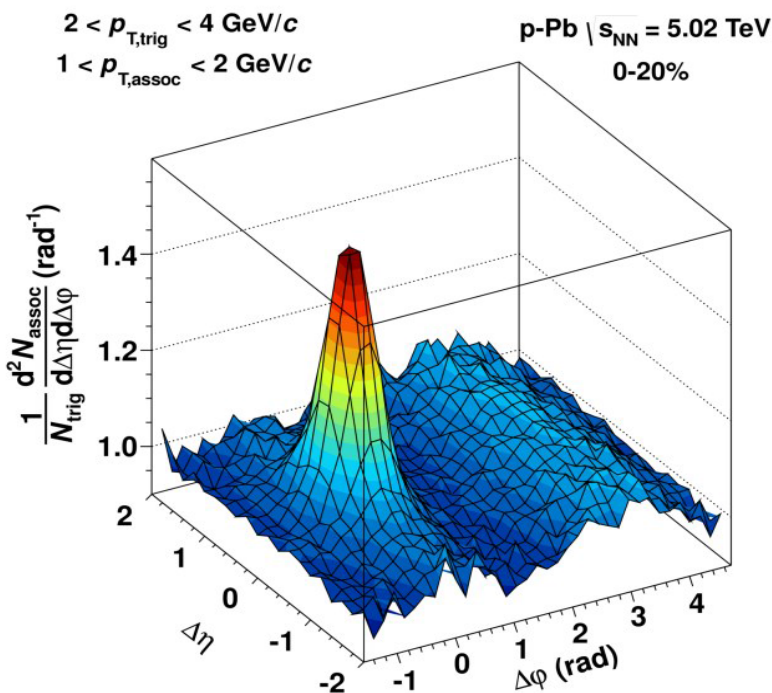


- Due to the large mass, long thermalisation process is expected for heavy quarks  $\rightarrow$  less influenced by collective expansion
- $\rightarrow$  Significant interaction of charm quarks with the medium
- $\rightarrow$  The observed  $v_2$  suggests that D mesons and  $J/\psi$  are formed by “flowing” charm quarks

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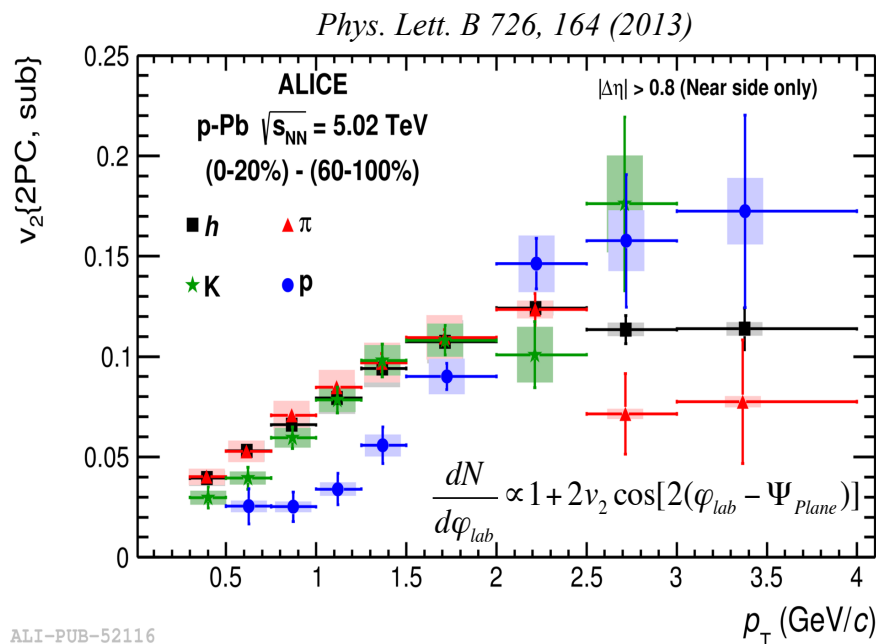
*Small systems –  
How small can a droplet of  
early-Universe matter be?*

# Di-hadron correlations in p-Pb



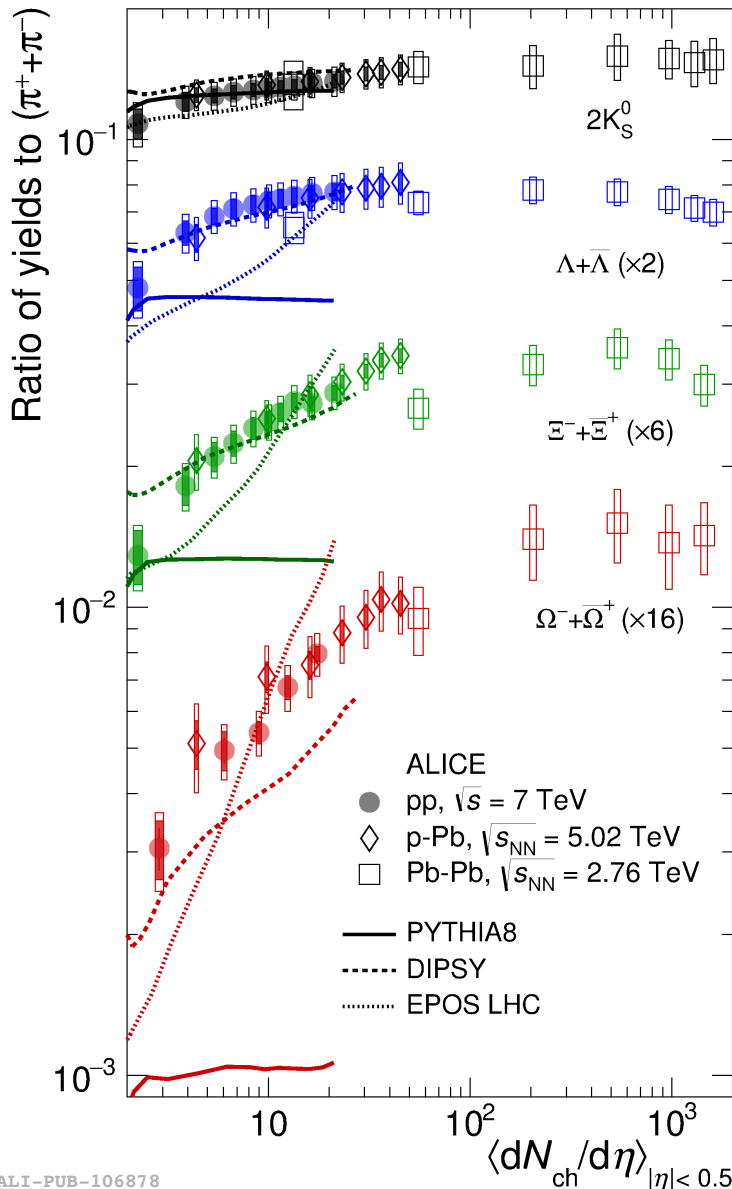
ALI-PUB-46228

## hadron – ( $\pi$ , K, p) correlations



- $v_2$  obtained from two-particles correlations
  - mass ordering at low  $p_T$
  - crossing at  $p_T \sim 2 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Qualitatively similar to Pb-Pb and consistent with hydrodynamic calculations
  - Suggests similar physics (collectivity?) at place?

# Hyperon production in pp, p-Pb and Pb-Pb

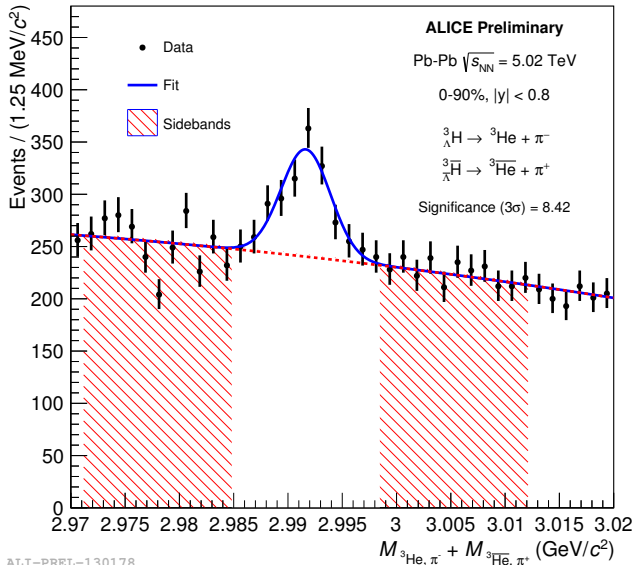


*Nature Physics* 13 (2017) 535

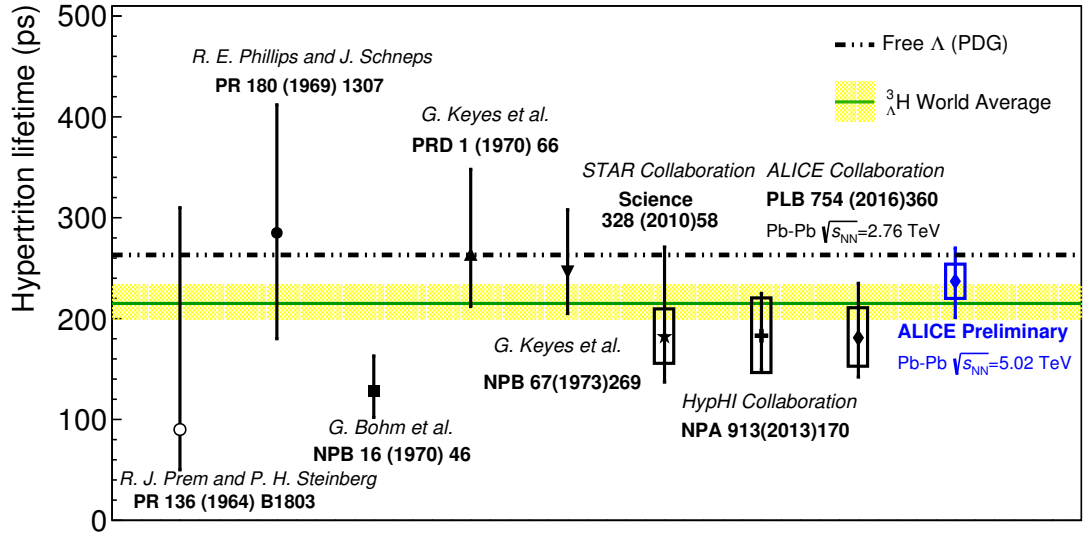
- Significant enhancement of strangeness production
- At high multiplicities, pp ratio reaches values similar to the one in Pb-Pb
- No evident dependence on cms energy: strangeness production apparently driven by **final state** rather than collision system or energy
- **Same mechanism in smaller system?**
- String hadronisation models do not describe the data; only DIPSY gives a qualitative description



# (Anti-)hypertriton lifetime in Pb-Pb



ALI-PREL-130178



ALI-PREL-130195

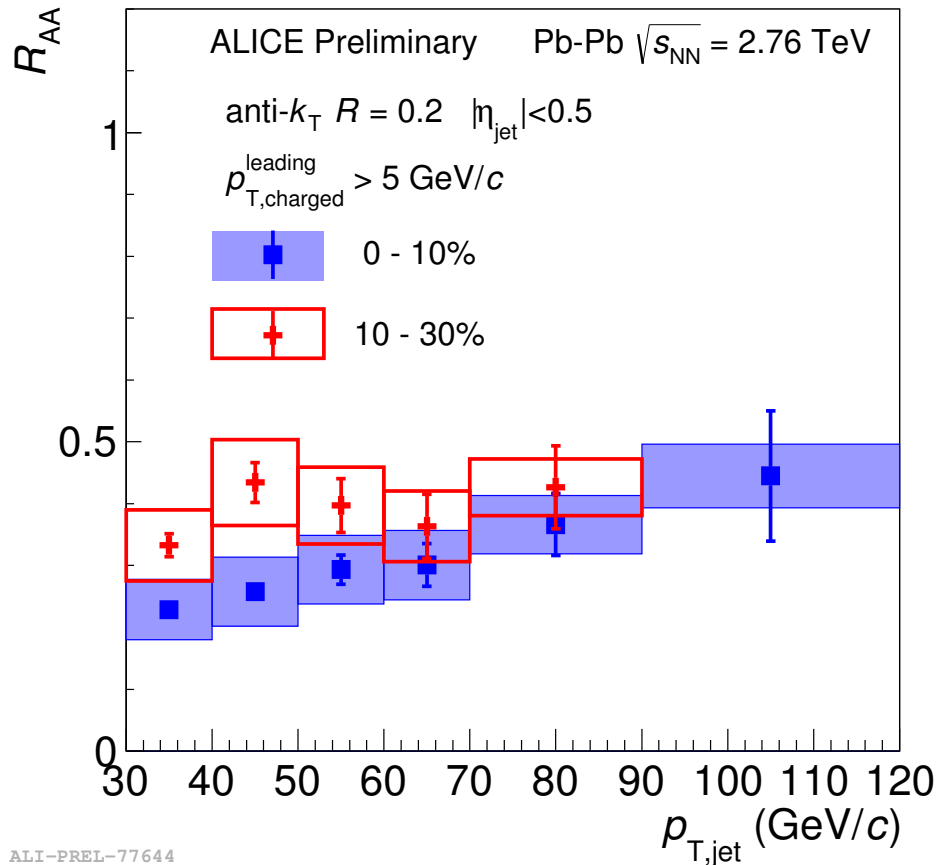
- ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$  reconstructed in the  ${}^3\text{He}-\pi$  decay channel
- Result fully compatible with the world-average and with the free  $\Lambda$  lifetime
- Significantly improved uncertainties wrt Run-1 (and one of the most precise available measurements)

# Conclusions

- LHC ideal for the study of the properties of the matter of the early Universe, the quark-gluon plasma
- Lots of exciting measurements from Pb-Pb collisions
  - High degree of collectivity  $\rightarrow$  perfect liquid
  - Parton-medium interaction  $\rightarrow$  parton energy loss
  - $R_{AA}(\pi) \sim R_{AA}(D, \text{single leptons}) < R_{AA}(B \rightarrow J/\psi)$  at low  $p_T$
  - Quarkonia melting and regeneration
- p-Pb (and also pp) data: More than control measurements; mechanisms at work not fully understood
  - Indication for collective-like behaviour in small systems, reminiscent of that observed in Pb-Pb collisions
- Many more exciting results ahead of us
  - After detector upgrades in 2019/20

Thank you

# Back-up



Expectation:

Jet fragmentation is modified by the medium

- suppression of jet yield
- broadening of jet shape
- di-jet imbalance

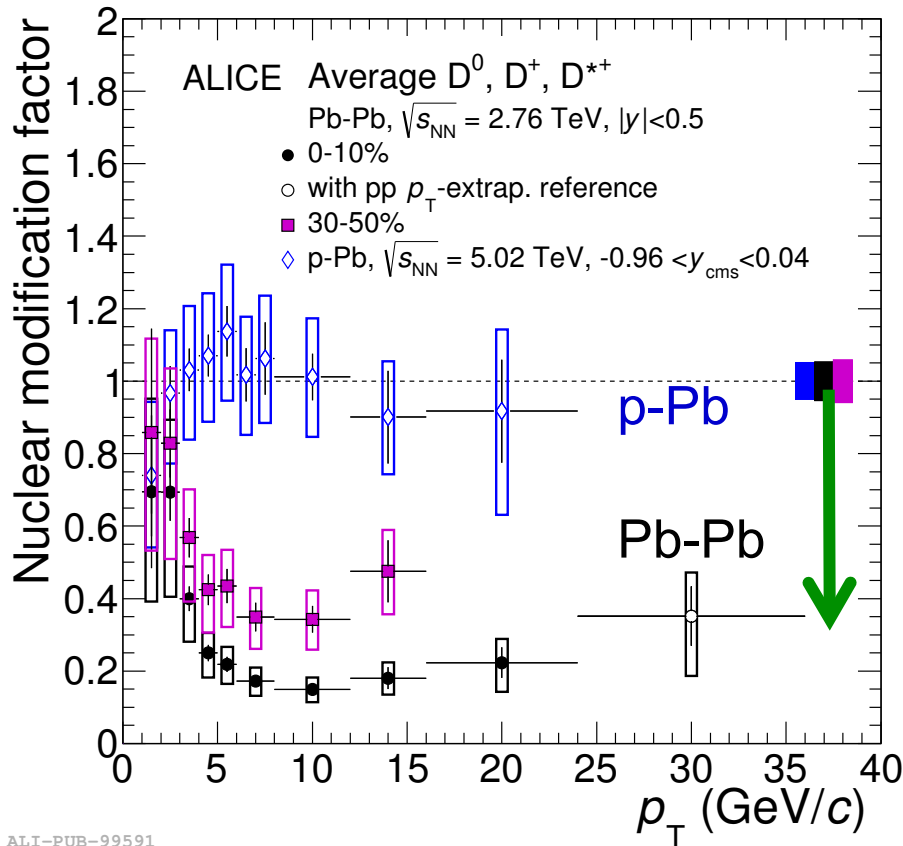
Findings:

- Strong suppression of jet yields in most central Pb-Pb collisions  
 → Moderate increase of  $R_{AA}$  with increasing  $p_T$
- Dependence on centrality class → Jet energy is moved from high to low  $p_T$  and from small to large angles (with respect to the jet axis)

# Prompt D-meson $R_{pPb}$ at 5.02 TeV



ALICE, *Phys. Rev. C* 94, 054908 (2016)  
and *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 113 (2014) 232301



- D-meson  $R_{pA}$  shows consistency with unity
  - High- $p_T$  suppression of production yield in Pb-Pb is a **final-state effect**
- Due to interactions of charm quarks with the medium

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