# Diffraction in ALICE at the LHC



Introduction

Summary of measurements on Diffractive Physics

Central Diffractive studies

Studies on Ultra Peripheral Collisions

Possible improvements of ALICE for diffractive physics

Plans for the future

Wilhelm and Elsen Heraeus Summerschool Diffractive and electromagnetic processes at high energies Heidelberg, sept. 2-6, 2013

Gerardo Herrera Corral - CINVESTAV - México (on behalf of ALICE Collab.)

## Introduction



#### Pb = 82p + 126n

fully stripped Pb ions

 $Pb^{82+}$ 

Previous project in the field RHIC at Brookhaven National Laboratory 100 GeV/nucleon  $\rightarrow$  Gold nucleus each nucleus 100×197 GeV 🗞i.e. 19.7 TeV s = 39.4 TeV High Energy Heavy Ion Collisions is an emerging field of research LARGE amount of energy involved

RHIC at Brookhaven National Laboratory

100 GeV/nucleon  $\rightarrow$  Gold nucleus

each nucleus

 $100{\times}197~\text{GeV}$  i.e. 19.7 TeV

$$\sqrt{s_{_{NN}}} = 39.4$$
 TeV



A large amount of energy is deposited in a small region of space in a very short time

In this region the density of energy is very large ... this may favor the appearance of new forms of matter

# matter in extreme conditions

The search for new forms of matter under extreme conditions of high energy densities is an important objective of high energy heavy ion collisions

# **History of the Universe**





# The mini Big Bang



Lorentz Contraction : 7 fm  $\rightarrow$  0,003 fm

**1. Accelerated ions collide head on** 

2. The energy of collision is materialized into quarks and gluons

3. Quarks and gluons interact via the strong interaction: matter equilibrates

4. The system expands and cools down

5. Quarks and gluons condensate into hadrons

#### Phase Diagram of QCD Matter



# LHC heavy ion runs



## The program of ALICE

#### ALICE heavy-ion program approved for ~ 1 nb<sup>-1</sup>:

- 2013–14 Long Shutdown 1 completion of TRD and calorimeters
- 2015 Pb–Pb at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.1$  TeV
- 2016–17 Pb–Pb at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.5$  TeV
- 2018 Long Shutdown 2
- 2019 probably Ar–Ar high-luminosity run
- 2020 p–Pb comparison run at full energy
- 2021 Pb–Pb run to complete initial ALICE program
- 2022 Long Shutdown 3

This will improve statistical significance of our main results (~ x 3)

The physics reach will be extended both by the new energy and by the completion of TRD and Calorimeters



# all known techniques for particle identification:



ITS

inclusive and exclusive particle production in centrally produced systems, in various channels ...

in progress





TPC

HMPID







TOF



#### all known techniques for particle identification:

for tracking and PID via dE/dx

 $-0.9 < \eta < 0.9$ 

drift gas 90% Ne - 10%CO<sub>2</sub>





#### **Time Projection Chamber** largest ever: 88 m<sup>3</sup>, 570 k channels

#### all known techniques for particle identification:

**Multigap Resistive** Plate **Chambers** 



cathode pick up pad

4.5

p (GeV/c)

5

4

## **Time Of Flight**

for  $\pi$ , K, p PID  $\pi$ , K for p < 2 GeV/c **p** for *p* <4 GeV/c

> -0.9 < η < 0.9 full



5 gaps-

#### - 0.9 < η < 0.9

#### **Transition Radiation Detector**







Trigger

Centrality measurement

Beam Gas suppresion

Event plane determination

**VZEROA** 





 $2.8 < \eta < 5.1$ 

## Single Diffraction (SD)



Pseudorapidity gap

### Double Diffraction (DD)



#### Non Diffractive (ND)





#### **Summary of measurements on Diffractive Physics**

Measurements of Diffractive and Inelastic Cross Section Eur. Phys.J. C73 (2013) 2456 **Event samples** 

- Data at three energies :  $\sqrt{s} = 0.9$  2.76 7 TeV
- Low luminosity, low pile-up:

average number of collisions per bunch crossing = 0.1

• Trigger used: Minimum Bias – OR i.e.

at least one hit in SPD or VZERO

VZERO signal should be in time with particles produced in the collisions



• Filled and empty bunch buckets used to measure beam induced background, accidentals due to electronics noise and cosmic showers

#### Minimum Bias Trigger - OR







elastic - single - double - diffractive proton-proton scattering



experiment



#### offline event clasification: "1 arm-L" "1 arm-R" "2 arm"





• Once DD is chosen the ratios 1-arm-L and 1-arm-R to 2-arm can be used to compute SD fractions.

• efficiency/in-efficiency versus diffractive mass for SD :



efficiencies used: mean between PYTHIA and PHOJET

efficiency of SD & NSD to be classified as 1-arm L(R), 2-arm

# at high energy the ratio remains constant



results symmetric despite different acceptance from ALICE

corrected for acceptance, efficiency, beam background, electronic noise and collision pileup

DD events defined as NSD with large gap

$\sqrt{s}$ (TeV)	$\sigma_{ m DD}/\sigma_{ m INEL}$	with	$\Delta \eta > 3$
0.9	$0.11\pm0.03$		
2.76	$0.12\pm0.05$		
7	$0.12\substack{+0.05\\-0.04}$		

#### **Measurement of Inelastic Cross Section**



#### Measurements of Diffractive Cross Section

with inelastic cross section and relative rates we obtain SD and DD cross sections

for  $\sqrt{s} = 0.9 TeV$  we do not have vdM scan and  $\sigma_{inel}$  from UA5 was used

$$\sigma_{INEL} = 52.5^{+2}_{-3.3} mb$$

Gotsman et al.
Goulianos
Kaidalov et al.
Ostapchenko
Ryskin et al.

### single diffractive



#### **Central Diffractive Physics**

Central diffraction in proton proton collisions at  $\sqrt{s}$  = 7 TeV

#### **Double Gap topology as a filter for Central Diffraction**



Low mass central diffractive final states decaying into a small number of particles production of meson states: glueballs, hybrids,

A search for structure in the mass spectra of exclusive decays such as  $\pi^+ \pi^- K^+ K^- 2 \pi^+ 2 \pi^- K^+ K^- \pi^+ \pi^-$  etc.

#### **Double Gap topology**



 $N_{DG} = \frac{\text{Number of Double Gap events}}{\text{Number of VZERO-L} - R coincidence}$ 

#### Potential measure of the amount of Central Diffractive events in Minimum Bias data

#### **Double Gap fraction in proton proton** $\sqrt{s} = 7 TeV$



 fraction uniform over several data taking periods

Next:

turn it into a cross section

$$\frac{N_{DG}}{N_{\text{MBand}}} = (7.63 \pm 0.02(st \, at.) \pm 0.95(syst.)) \cdot 10^{-4}$$

#### we are exploring the invariant mass distribution

2011 data

- 361 M events with the Minimum Bias Trigger
- 32.3 M events with primary vertex and exactly 2 tracks in the TPC+ITS
- 29.2 M events with no gaps





M<sub>inv</sub> for two track events with-out gaps.

M<sub>inv</sub> for two track events with gaps on both sides

#### **Studies in Ultra Peripheral Colisions**



 $\begin{array}{l} \gamma + p \ \rightarrow \ J/\psi + p \\ modelled \ in \ pQCD: \ exchange \ of \ two \\ gluons \ with \ no \ net-colour \ transfer \end{array}$ 

#### Two ions (or protons) pass by each other with impact parameters b > 2R. Hadronic interactions are strongly suppressed

Number of photons scales like Z<sup>2</sup> for a single source ⇒ exclusive particle production in heavy-ion collisions dominated by electromagnetic interactions.

The virtuality of the photons  $\rightarrow 1/R \sim 30 \text{ MeV}/c$ 

#### **Coherent production:**

Photon couples coherently to all nucleons <p\_>~60MeV/c; target nucleus normally

does not break up

#### Incoherent production

Photon couples to a single nucleon Quasi-elastic scattering off a single nucleon  $<p_{T}>\sim500 \text{ MeV}/c$ 









two muons in the muon arm

one muon in the muon arm one in the barrel

two muons in the barrel



*In agreement with models that include moderate gluon shadowing:* AB EPS09 parametrization

possible improvements to ALICE performance on photon induced and diffractive physics

# AD detectors: Beam Diagnostic and Diffractive Physics ADC 19 m AD-R IP VZERO-R VZERO-L ADA AD-L 17 m





- Two arrays of 4 scintillators 25x25x4 cm surrounding the beam pipe both sides of the interaction point. Hamamatsu fine mesh PMT
- Conceived for diffractive physics
- Readout board: Beam Phase Intensity Monitor
- Bunch by bunch rates, collision and background.

# AD Aside AD Cside







#### The readout system in Control Room

BLS boards connected to AD ۲

signals

The boards need clock/orbit signals ٠ to work



#### **Beam Losses**

- Losses during injection: ALICE under the fire of showers
- Losses during circulating beams: beam Halo, fast losses due to scraping, losses due to beam movements, increasing background, beam-beam effects, etc...

#### Luminosity

 Independent luminosity measurement: cross-check with official ALICE luminosities measurement (from trigger rate)

May be provide Lumi to ALICE when not available (detector not running or not ready during collisions). Bunch by bunch luminosity.

#### **Physics**

**Forward Physics** 

During the injection of Beam1 in Fill 2054, four big losses were observed and AD signal reproduced them very well.



When the LHC problem was solved and the beam injected correctly, ADA didn't see significant losses anymore

#### performance on April 12 2012



- VDM scan on December 1, 2011
- The 4 curves are the bunch-by-bunch rates, integrated on the same class of bunches

- BX11 (blue) are the colliding bunches
- BX01 and BX10 (red/green) are the non colliding bunches (coming from A side-beam1, C-side beam2)
- BX00 (pink) are the empty bunches

(note that the 4 scales are different)



## ALICE - Diffractive R

# AD-R

#### **Present:**

 beam monitor with asynchronous read-out of charge deposited in the detectors → working

#### Future:

 interesting diffractive physics using the particle identification of ALICE ... could be offline trigger

 Measures relative rates of background particles and collision products entering ALICE



#### Run 2: Diffraction (SD and DD)

ADA and ADC counters will increase the pseudorapidity coverage from 8.8 to 13.2



**C** side

A side

Integration of AD-L and AD-R in ALICE would enhance considerably the efficiency at low diffractive mass.



## **Triggers for Diffractive Physics**

The triggers for Single Diffractive Single  $SD-L_0 =$  $\sim V0A \wedge \sim SPD \wedge V0C$ **Diffractive**  $SD-L_1 = \sim (ADA \lor V0A) \land \sim SPD \land (V0C \lor ADD)$  $SD-L_2 = \sim (ADA2 \lor ADA \lor V0A) \land \sim SPD \land (ADD2 \lor ADD \lor V0C)$ Left Single  $SD-R_0 =$  $V0A \land \sim SPD \land \sim V0C$ **Diffractive**  $SD-R_1 = (ADA \lor V0A) \land \sim SPD \land \sim (V0C \lor ADD)$  $SD-R_2 = (ADA2 \lor ADA \lor V0A) \land \sim SPD \land \sim (ADD2 \lor ADD \lor V0C)$ Right (2.2)The triggers for double diffraction  $(DD_i)$  are:  $V0A \land \sim SPD \land V0C$  $DD_0 =$ Double  $DD_1 = (ADA \lor V0A) \land \sim SPD \land (V0C \lor ADD)$ Diffractive  $DD_2 = (ADA2 \lor ADA \lor V0A) \land \sim SPD \land (ADD2 \lor ADD \lor V0C)$ (2.3)and for central diffraction (CD).  $CD_0 =$  $\sim V0A \wedge SPD \wedge \sim V0C$ Central  $CD_1 = \sim (ADA \lor V0A) \land SPD \land \sim (V0C \lor ADD)$ **Diffraction**  $CD_2 = \sim (ADA2 \lor ADA \lor V0A) \land SPD \land \sim (ADD2 \lor ADD \lor V0C)$ 

### PHOJET 7 TeV

	trigger	Efficiency Pure–events (%)	Efficiency Minimum–Bias (%)	Purity (%)
VZERO, SPD & FMD VZERO, SPD & FMD+2 stations VZERO, SPD & FMD+4 stations	$\begin{array}{c} SD\text{-}L_0\\ SD\text{-}L_1\\ SD\text{-}L_2 \end{array}$	$13.14 \\ 27.66 \\ 31.15$	$1.26 \\ 2.25 \\ 2.45$	71.44 84.33 87.48
	$SD-R_0$ $SD-R_1$ $SD-R_2$	19.68 30.92 33.47	$     \begin{array}{r}       1.98 \\       2.55 \\       2.66     \end{array} $	68.45 83.17 86.57
	$DD_0$ $DD_1$ $DD_2$	$4.69 \\ 13.60 \\ 16.35$	$0.45 \\ 0.99 \\ 1.14$	51.57 68.37 71.37
	$CD_0$ $CD_1$ $CD_2$	$3.28 \\ 3.11 \\ 3.10$	$0.11 \\ 0.06 \\ 0.06$	55.55 97.29 98.73

#### PYTHIA 6 7 TeV

trigger	Efficiency Pure–events(%)	Efficiency Minimum–Bias (%)	Purity (%)
$\begin{array}{c} SD\text{-}L_0\\ SD\text{-}L_1\\ SD\text{-}L_2 \end{array}$	11.30 26.38 31.54	1.80 3.23 3.56	59.95 78.18 84.84
$SD-R_0$ $SD-R_1$ $SD-R_2$	$   \begin{array}{r}     16.73 \\     29.05 \\     32.93   \end{array} $	$2.96 \\ 3.76 \\ 3.85$	54.08 74.01 81.84
$\begin{array}{c} DD_0\\ DD_1\\ DD_2 \end{array}$	$5.31 \\ 16.80 \\ 21.93$	$1.00 \\ 2.63 \\ 3.28$	64.96 78.43 82.15

## PYTHIA 6 7 TeV

trigger	Efficiency Pure–events(%)	Efficiency Minimum–Bias(%)	Purity (%)	
$\begin{array}{c} 1-\mathrm{Arm}-\mathrm{L}_{0}\\ 1-\mathrm{Arm}-\mathrm{L}_{1}\\ 1-\mathrm{Arm}-\mathrm{L}_{2} \end{array}$	23.61 38.60 41.25	3.87 4.77 4.71	58.36 77.42 83.84	VZERO, SPD & FMD VZERO, SPD & FMD+2 stations VZERO, SPD & FMD+4 stations
$\begin{array}{c} 1-\mathrm{Arm-R_0}\\ 1-\mathrm{Arm-R_1}\\ 1-\mathrm{Arm-R_2} \end{array}$	30.23 40.96 42.79	$5.79 \\ 5.49 \\ 5.17$	49.93 71.37 79.14	_

## PHOJET 7 TeV

trigger	Efficiency	Efficiency Efficiency	
	Pure-events(%)	$\operatorname{Minimum-Bias}(\%)$	
$1-Arm-L_0$	27.01	2.87	64.67
$1-Arm-L_1$	41.38	3.67	77.37
$1-Arm-L_2$	44.85	3.82	80.59
$1-Arm-R_0$	35.10	3.97	60.73
$1-Arm-R_1$	46.00	4.19	75.49
$1-Arm-R_2$	48.53	4.21	79.17

As defined in the recent paper: arXiv:1208.4968 accepted in Eur. Phys. J. C



**Plans for the future** 

## **Future running of ALICE**

#### Run 2 2015 – 2017:

- 2015 proton–proton at  $\sqrt{s_{pp}} = 13$  TeV starting at  $\sqrt{s_{pp}} = 12$  TeV -- 25 ns bunch spacing
- Possibility of low luminosity and low beam intensity Minimum Bias Trigger - OR
- Lab energy increases  $\rightarrow$
- Better pseudorapidity coverage  $\rightarrow$
- UPC cross section increase with energy

#### Run 3 2019 – 2021:



- proton–proton at  $\sqrt{s_{pp}}$  = 14 TeV
- Upgraded ALICE detector (Calorimetry, faster read-out, new beam pipe, different Internal Tracking System etc.)
- New Trigger Detectors

#### ALICE upgrade

- luminosity upgrade 50 kHz for Pb–Pb collisions and 2 MHz in pp
- improved vertex measurement and tracking at low  $p_{\rm T}$
- preserve particle-identification capability
- high-luminosity operation without dead-time
- new, smaller radius beam pipe
- new inner tracker (ITS) (performance and rate upgrade)
- high-rate upgrade for the readout of the TPC, TRD, TOF, CALs, DAQ-HLT, Muon-Arm and Trigger detectors
- Muon Forward Tracker (MFT)
- Forward Calorimeter (FoCal)
- target for installation and commissioning LS2 (2018)
- collect more than 10 nb<sup>-1</sup> of integrated luminosity
  - implies running with heavy ions for a few years after LS3
- physics program factor > 100 increase in statistics
  - (today maximum readout ALICE ~ 500 Hz)
- for triggered probes increase in statistics by factor > 10
- ALICE upgrade Letter Of Intent submitted to LHCC

#### encore

#### **Diffractive physics in proton - Pb**

- diffractive physics in p A is almost completely unknown
- One could analyze central diffraction processes searching several final states :
- Compare *pp* and *pA*





#### ALICE Collab. arXiv:1210.4520

