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Initial Stages of the upgraded ALICE TPC

The ALICE experiment, located at the CERN LHC, is dedicated to study the physics of ultra-relativistic heavy-ion collisions. In order to operate the ALICE Time Projection Chamber (TPC) in continuous mode, recording the full minimum-bias interaction rate of 50 kHz in Pb – Pb collisions, as anticipated at the LHC in Run 3 and beyond, the gated Multi Wire Proportional Chambers (MWPCs) were replaced by Gas Electron Multiplier-based readout chambers (GEMs). After the assembly and before commissioning of the TPC underground, pre-commissioning was performed in the clean room at the LHC Point 2 during November 2019 – August 2020, in order to ensure the functionality of all readout chambers (ROCs) and Front End Electronics (FEE).

During this pre-commissioning phase, an idea emerged to document some aspects of the upgrade. This resulted in a music video filmed inside the clean room, featuring close-ups of the detector as well as typical issues encountered during the shifts, as experienced by two master students.

Youtube link : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G0RS-32VvA&ab_channel=AnnaYiota

Authors: ONNERSTAD, Anna (Lund University (SE)); CHATZIDAKI, Panagiota (Ruprecht Karls Universitaet Heidelberg (DE))

Presenters: ONNERSTAD, Anna (Lund University (SE)); CHATZIDAKI, Panagiota (Ruprecht Karls Universitaet Heidelberg (DE))

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