

Heavy-ion physics with ALICE detector

(a tour through selected recent results)

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CERN, ALICE, and (inter)nationalism

CERN's mission

- provide a unique range of particle accelerator facilities that enable research at the forefront of human knowledge.
- perform world-class research in fundamental physics.
- unite people from all over the world to push the frontiers of science and technology, for the benefit of all.

40 countries, 172 institutes, 1968 members

ALICE



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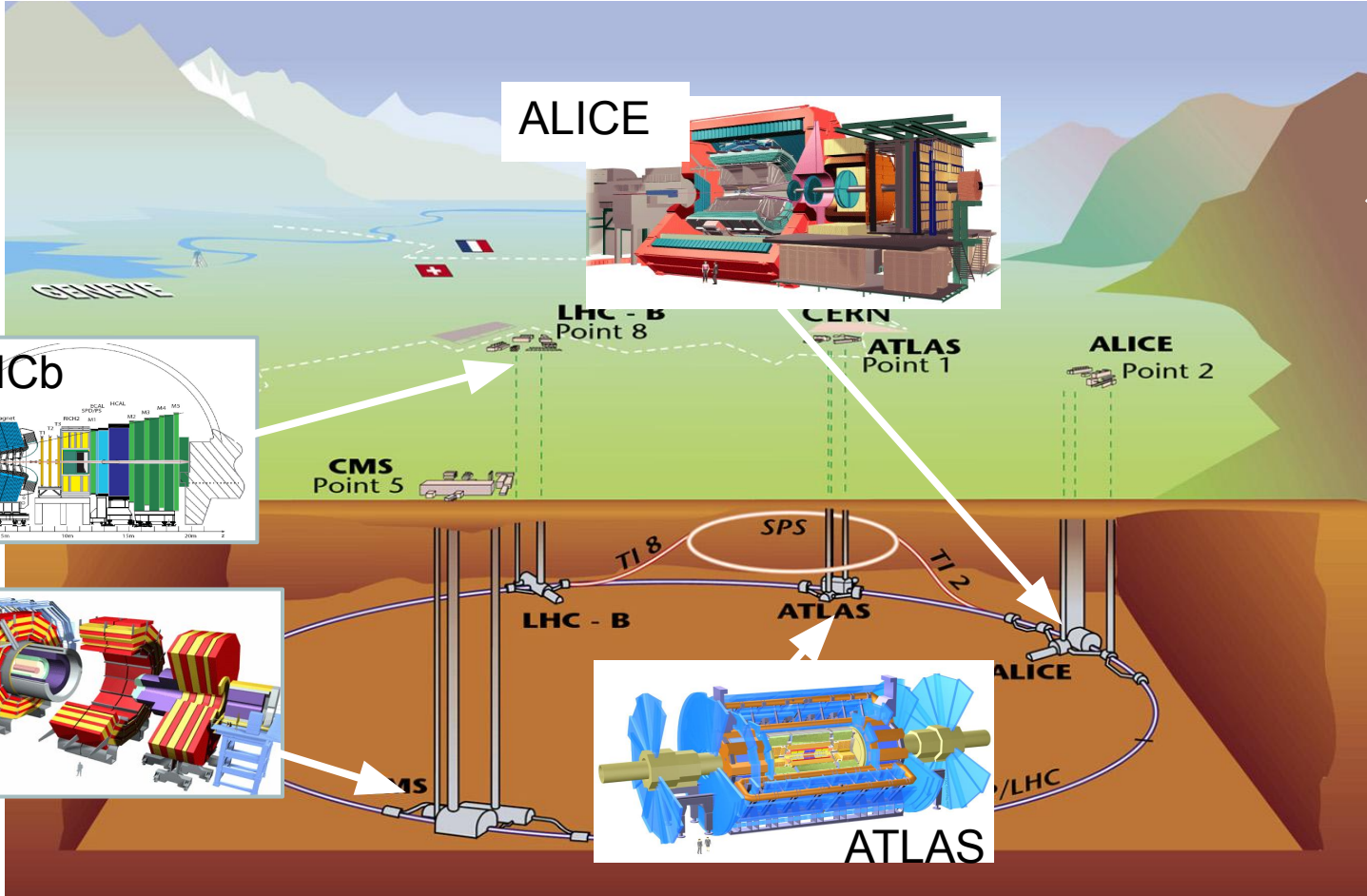
40 countries, 172 institutes, 1968 members

ALICE

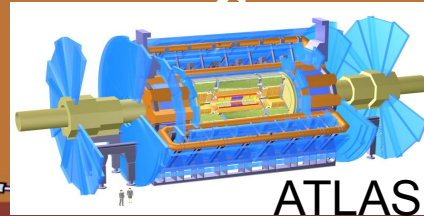
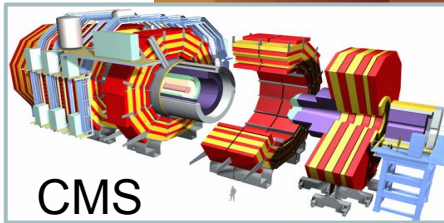
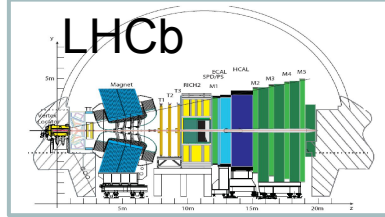


Large Hadron Collider at CERN

LAKE

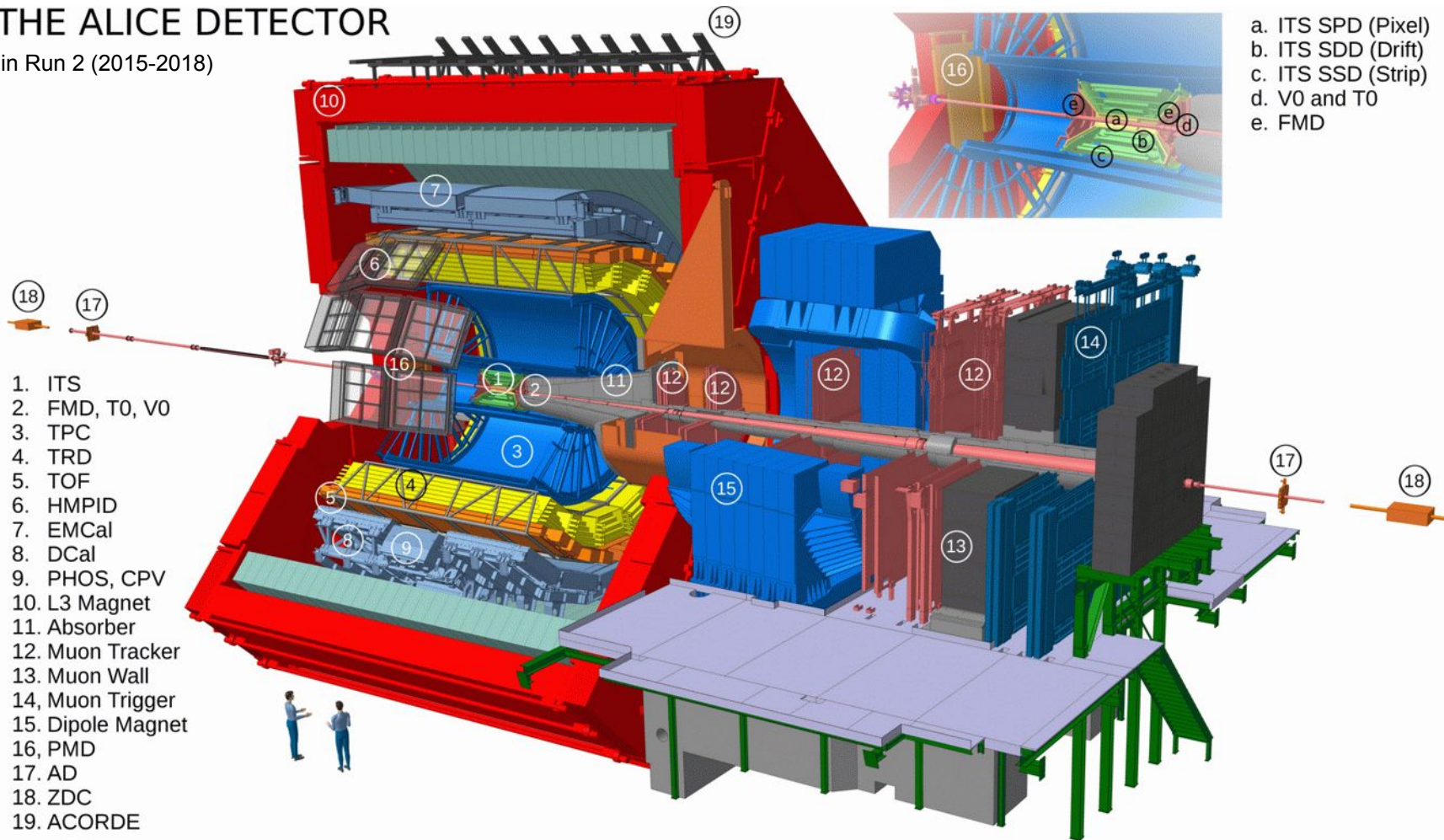


JURA



THE ALICE DETECTOR

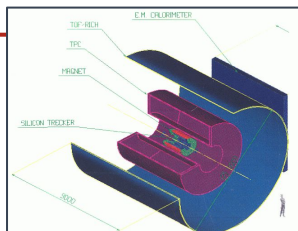
in Run 2 (2015-2018)



ALICE timeline

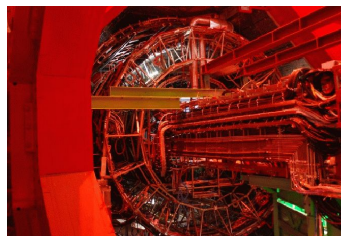
~1990

inception



1995-2008

construction



2009-2013

LHC Run 1: Pb-Pb, p-Pb,
pp at 50% energy

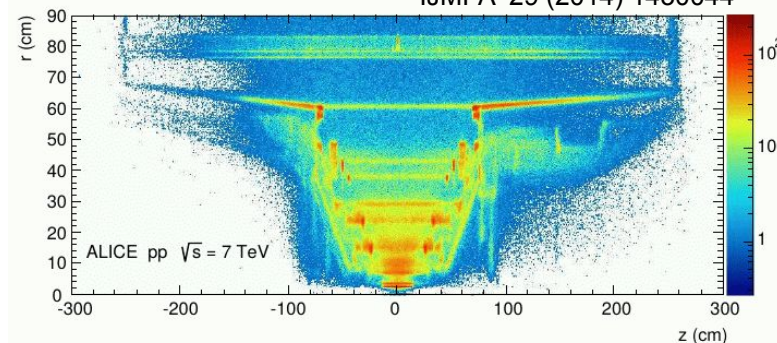
2015-2018

LHC Run 2: Pb-Pb, Xe-Xe,
p-Pb, pp at 93% energy

2022-2025

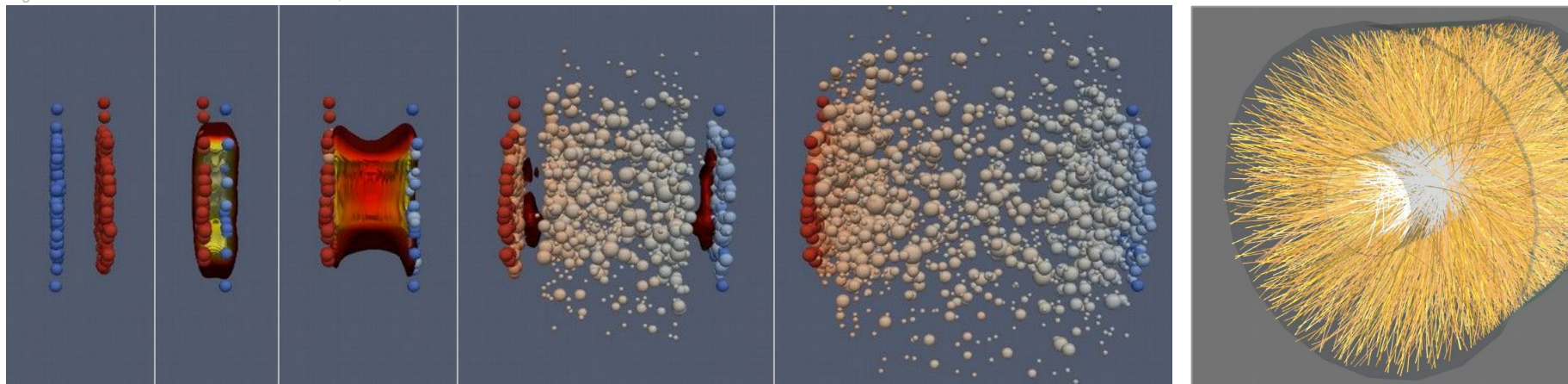
LHC Run 3: increased luminosity and 97% energy

ALICE performance in Run 1
IJMPA 29 (2014) 1430044



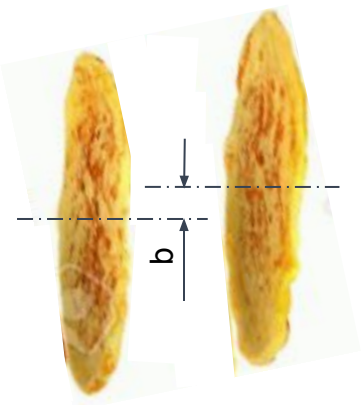
phases of a relativistic nucleus-nucleus collision

Figure: Hannah Petersen and Jonah Bernhard, MADAI collaboration



| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| quarks gluons | hard scattering of partons | q,g energy loss | in-jet hadronization | hadron scattering | particles interact with detectors |
| collision geometry | | bulk expansion | bulk hadronization | | |

phases of a relativistic nucleus-nucleus collision



impact parameter b ,
density non-uniformities



viscosity, temperature,
collective flow



multiplicity, momenta, particle id

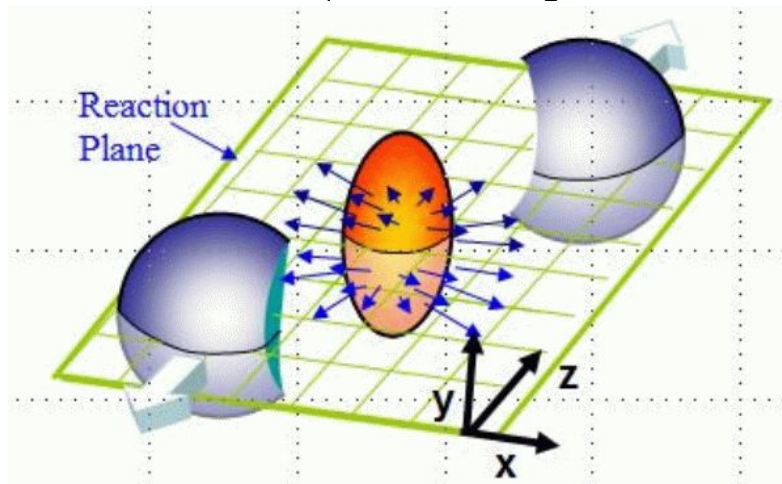
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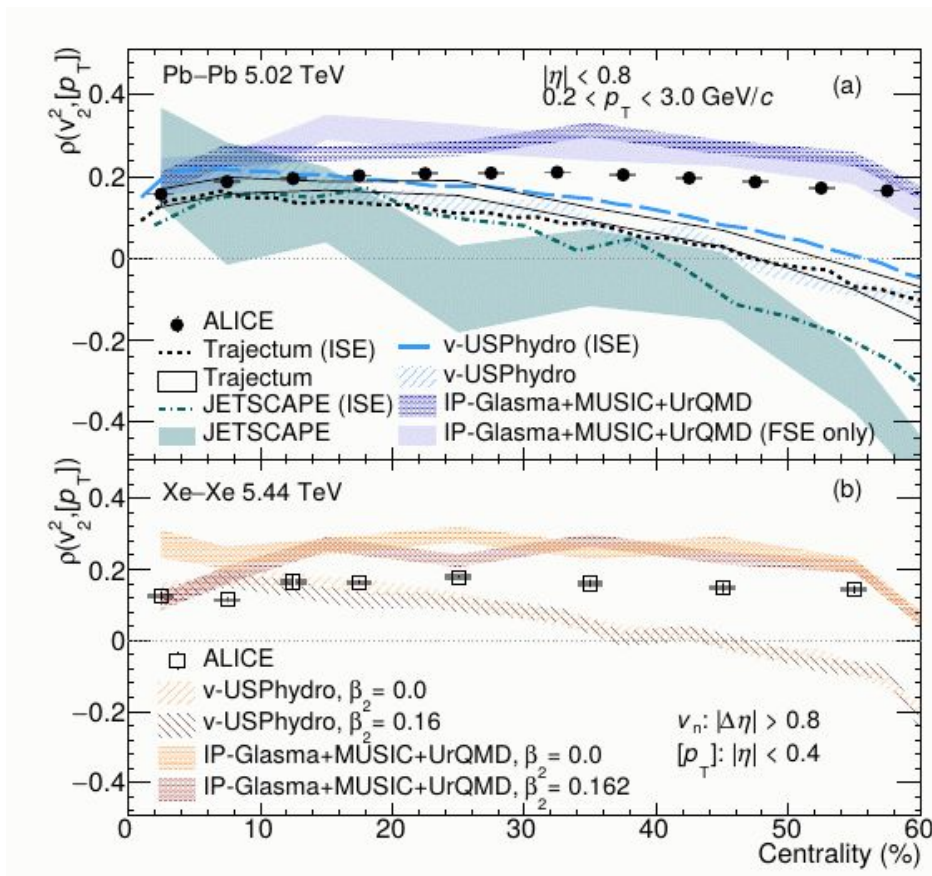
initial-state correlations

$$\rho(v_2^2, \langle p_T \rangle)$$

$$dN/d\varphi \sim 1 + 2 v_1 \cos(\varphi) + 2 v_2 \cos(2\varphi) + \dots$$



p_T : average transverse momentum of particles in an event



← positive correlation observed
 IP-Glasma closer to the exp data than Trento

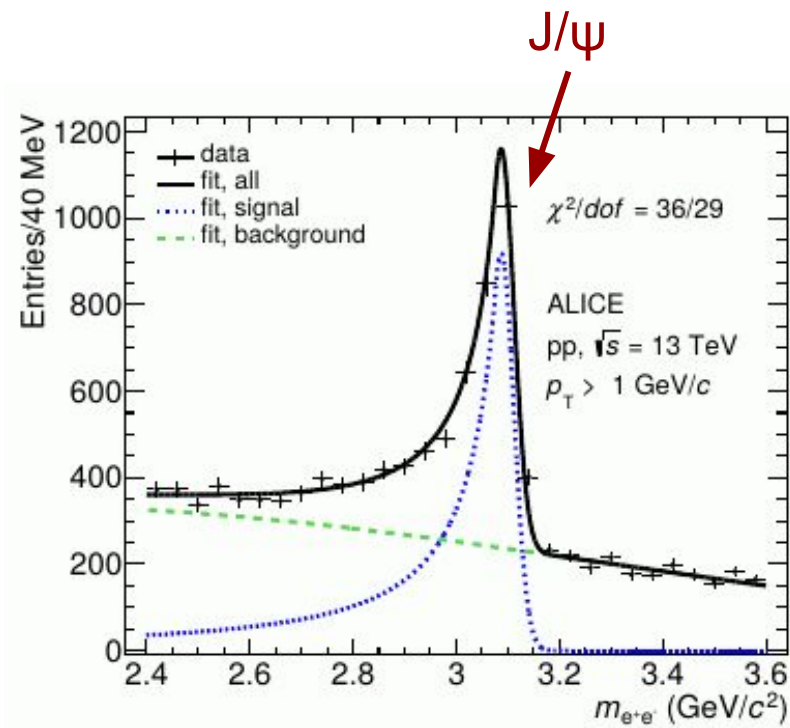
← little difference between ISE and full hydro

→ **constraining initial conditions**
(prerequisite for study of QGP
transport properties)

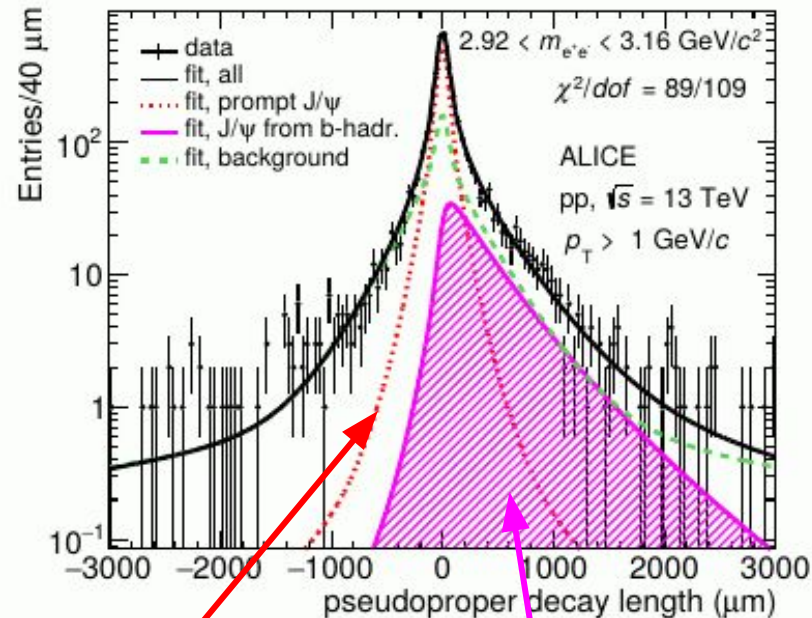


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beauty production

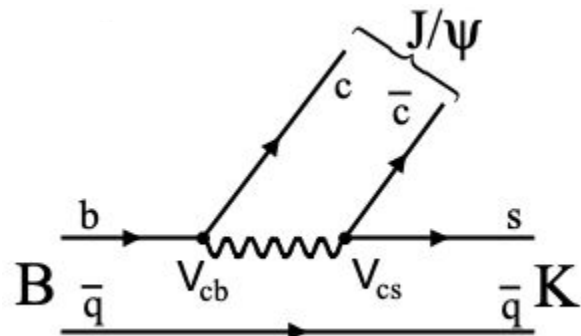


invariant mass of e^+e^-



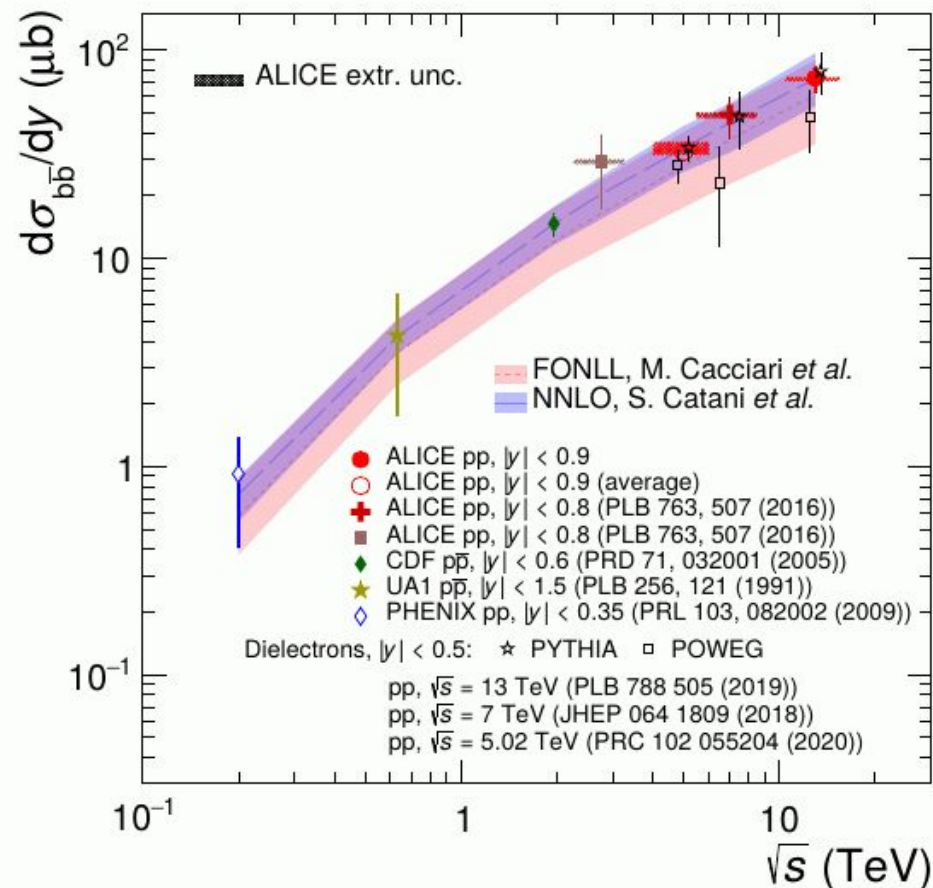
prompt J/ψ

non-prompt J/ψ



Norbert Neumeister, DELPHI, Ph.D. thesis, 1996

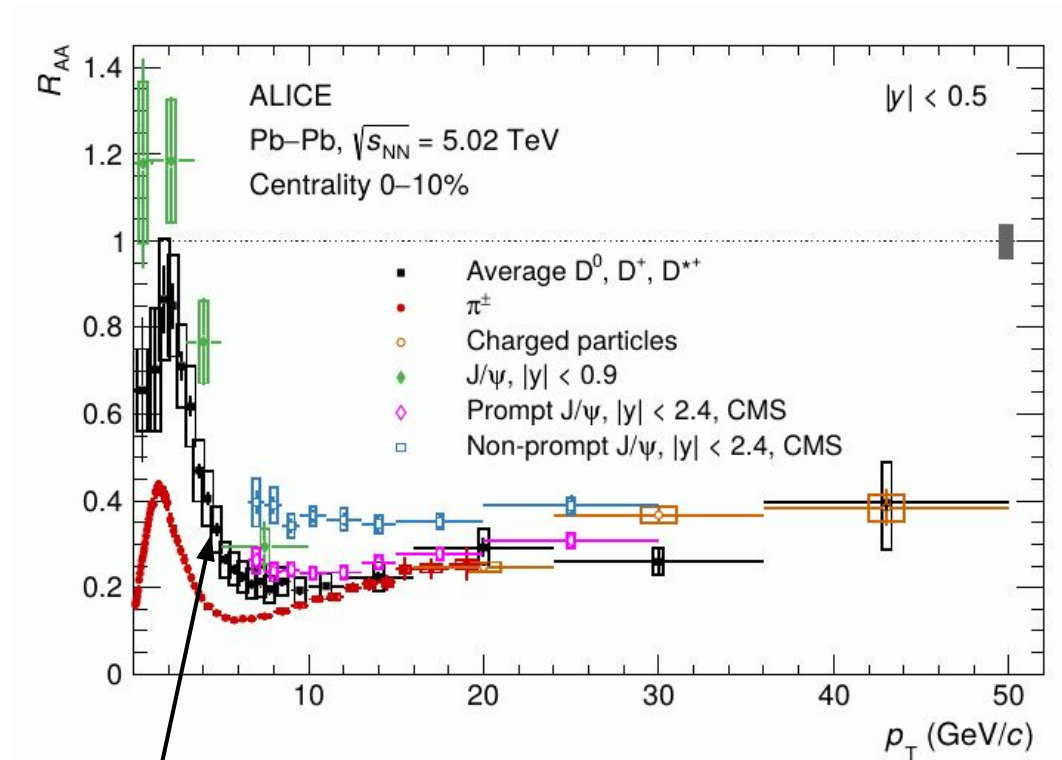
| hadron | CT |
|---------------|-------------------|
| B^\pm | 491 μm |
| B^0 | 456 μm |
| B_s^0 | 458 μm |
| Λ_b^0 | 440 μm |





| | | | | | |
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parton energy loss



$$R_{AA}(p_T) = \frac{1}{\langle N_{\text{coll}} \rangle} \frac{dN_{AA}/dp_T}{dN_{pp}/dp_T}$$

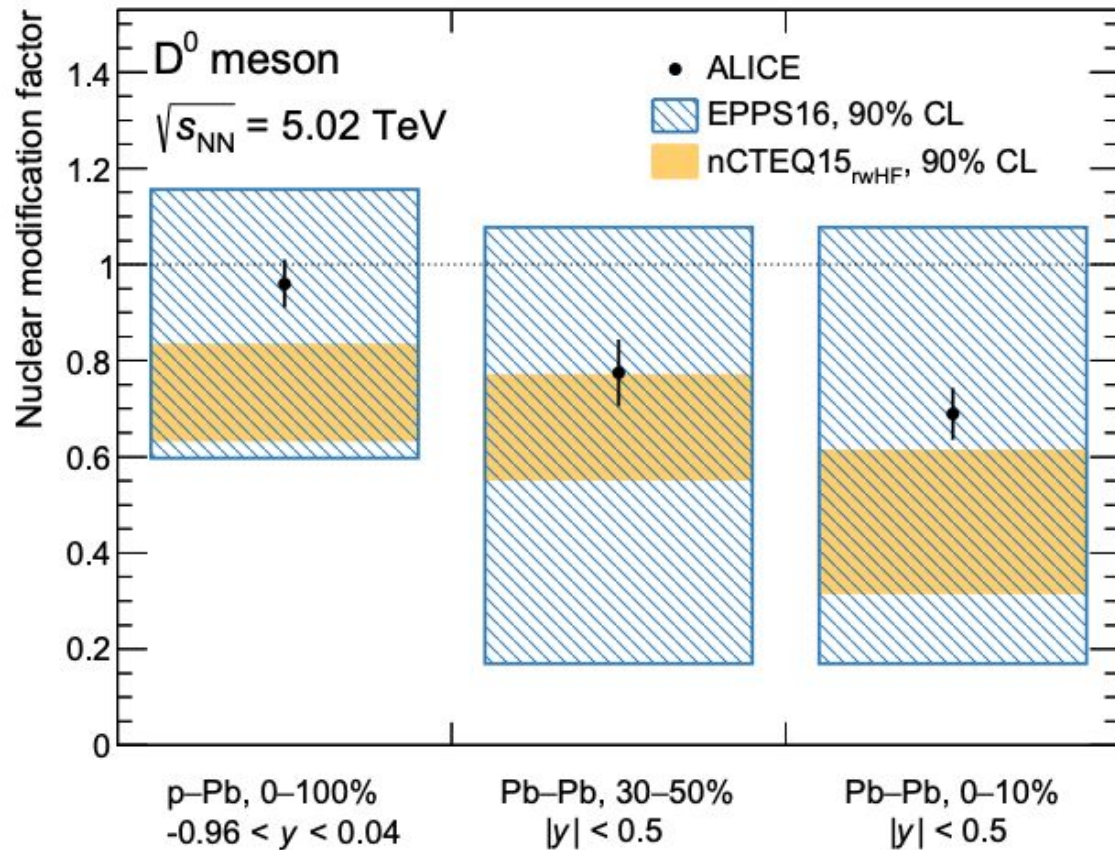
$R_{AA} < 1$ basic signature of energy loss

$$D^0 = c \bar{u}$$

$$\text{BR}(D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) = 4\%$$

D^0 measured down to $p_T=0$

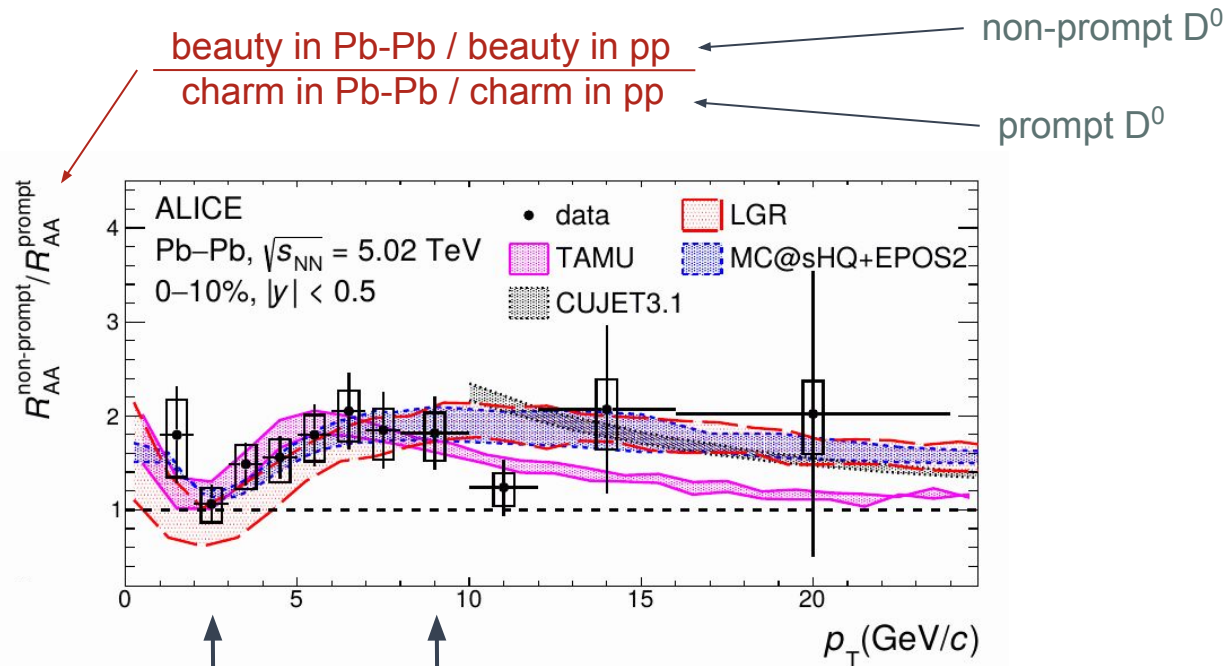
R_{AA} at $p_T > 8$ GeV agrees with calculation of collisional and radiative energy loss



integrating the yields over $p_T \rightarrow$
overall nuclear modification factor


deviation from unity caused by

- shadowing
- hadronization in medium



at low p_T collisional energy loss:
comparable for c and b

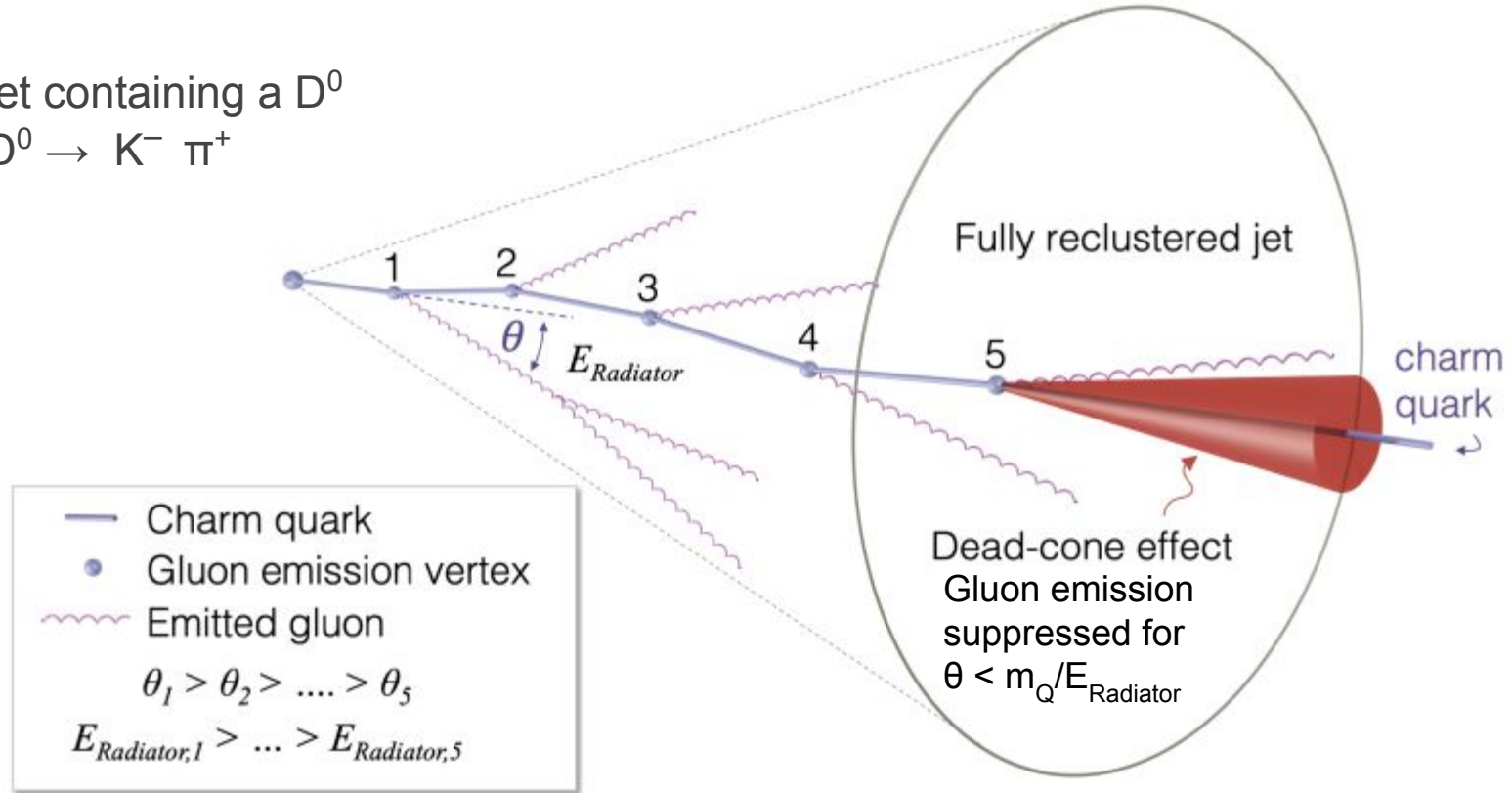
at high p_T radiative energy loss:
less for b than c



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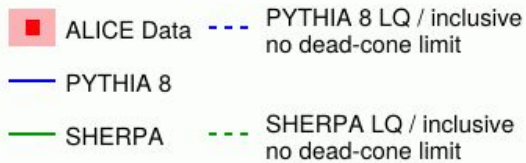
dead cone

jet containing a D^0
 $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$



dead cone in the radiation of gluons by c quark

arxiv:2106.05713



pp $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV

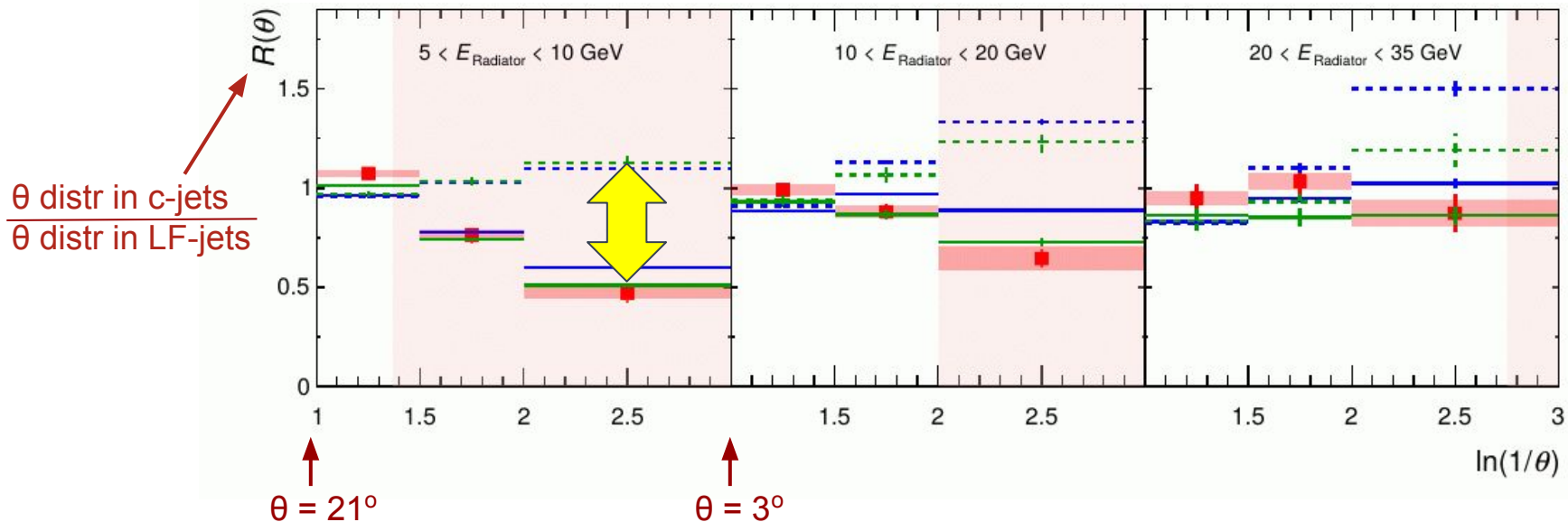
charged jets, anti- k_T , $R=0.4$

C/A reclustering

$p_{T,\text{inclusive jet}}^{\text{ch,leading track}} \geq 2.8$ GeV/c

$k_T > \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$, $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} = 200$ MeV/c

$|\eta_{\text{lab}}| < 0.5$

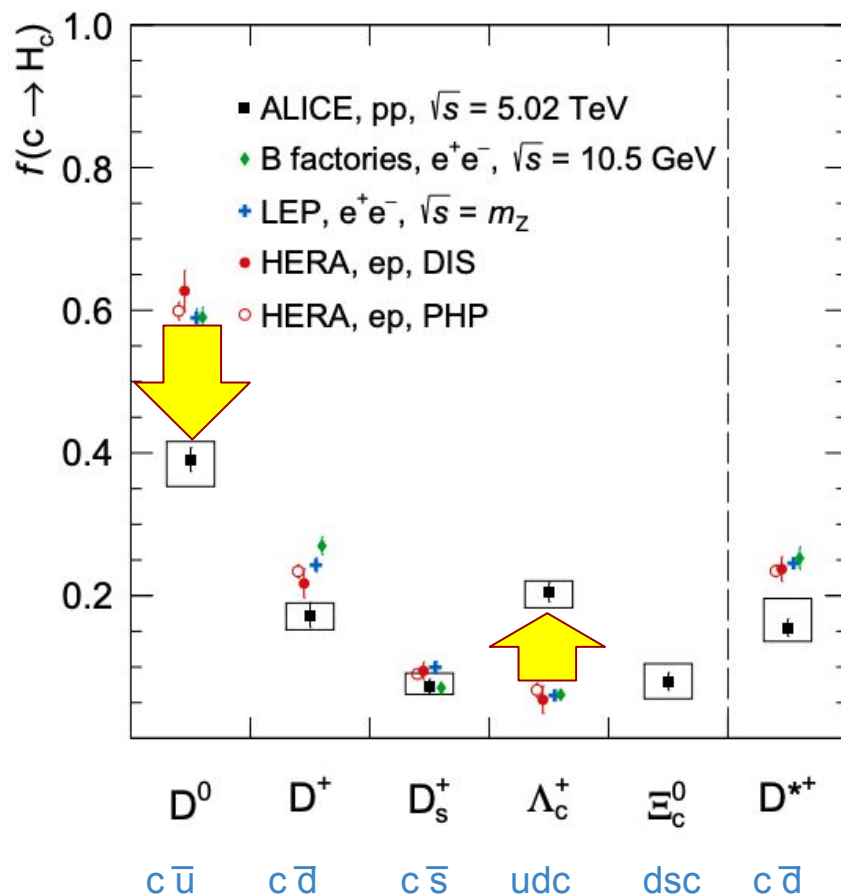


first direct observation of dead cone

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in-medium hadronization



first measurement of charm fragmentation fractions including baryons at the LHC

first measurement of fragmentation fraction to Ξ_c



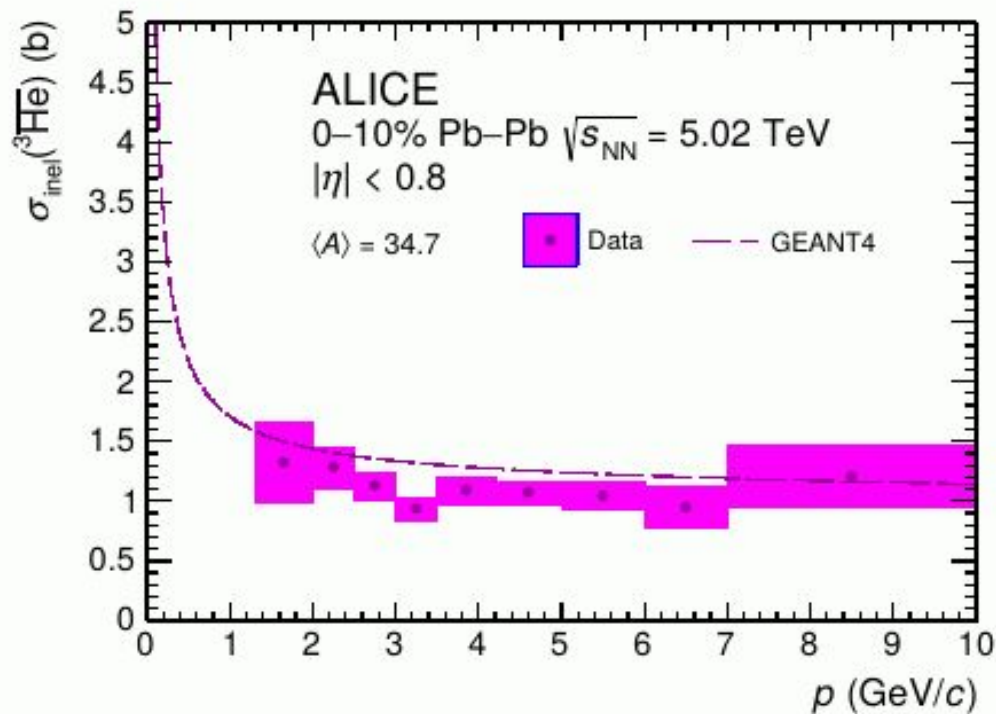
Λ_c fraction enhanced
 D^0 fraction reduced
 compared to ee and ep

hadronization depends on environment

| | | | | | |
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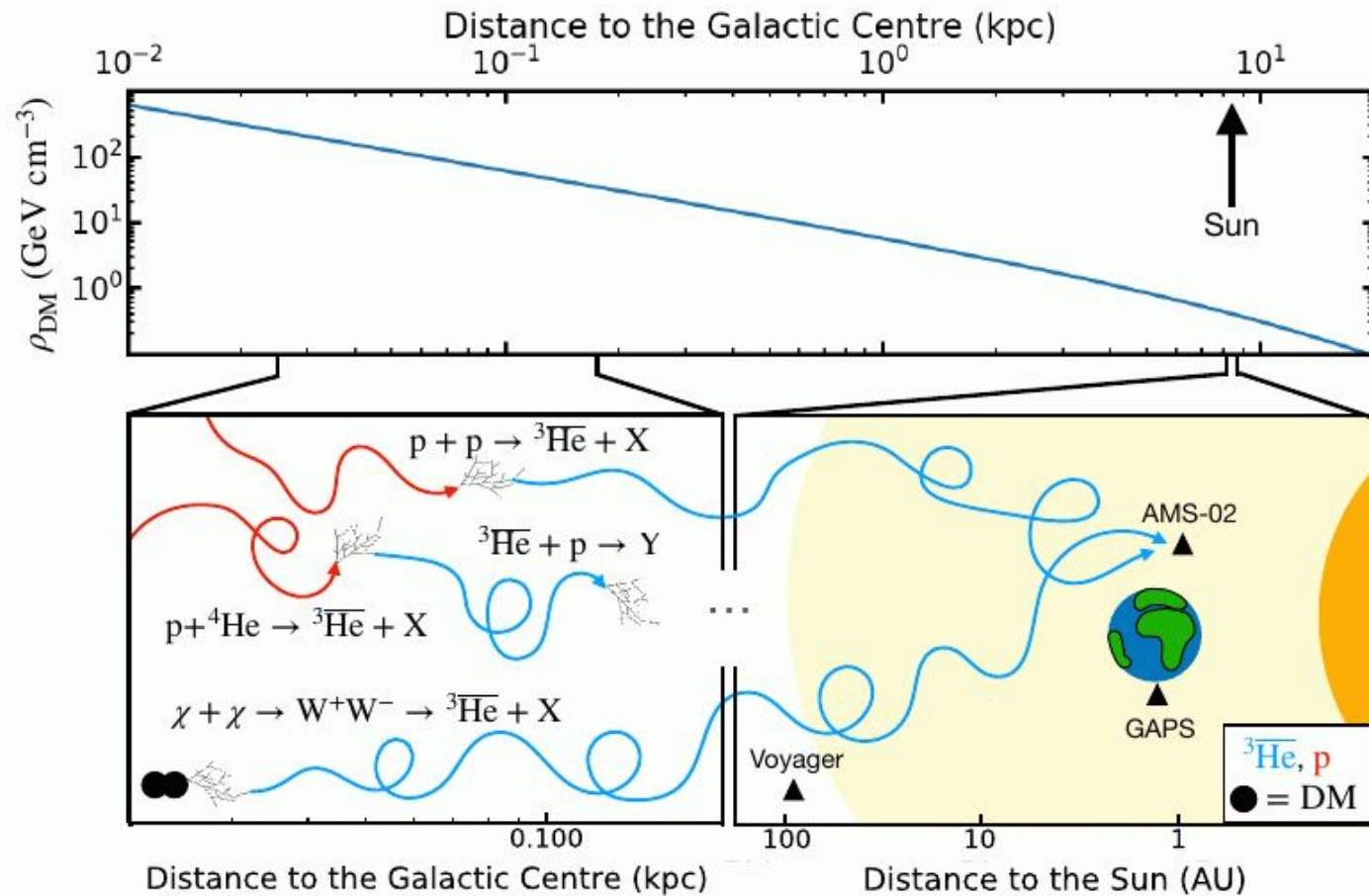
interaction of anti-³He with matter



first measurement of inelastic interaction cross section of anti- ^3He with matter

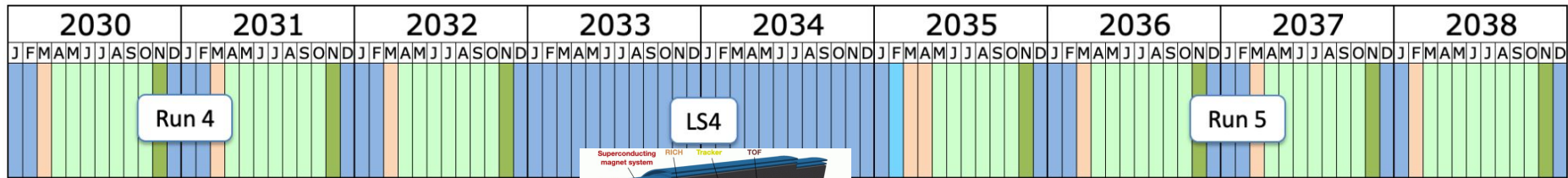
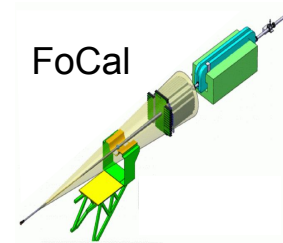
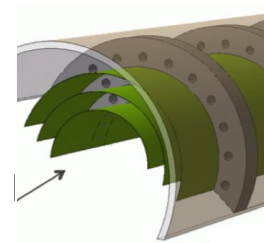
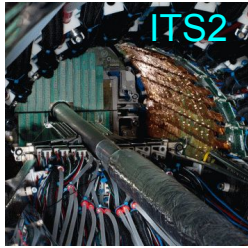
- confirms GEANT 4 parametrization
- quantifies absorption uncertainties

Absorption of anti- ${}^3\text{He}$ by matter

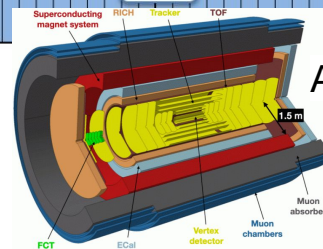


THE END

LHC and ALICE schedule



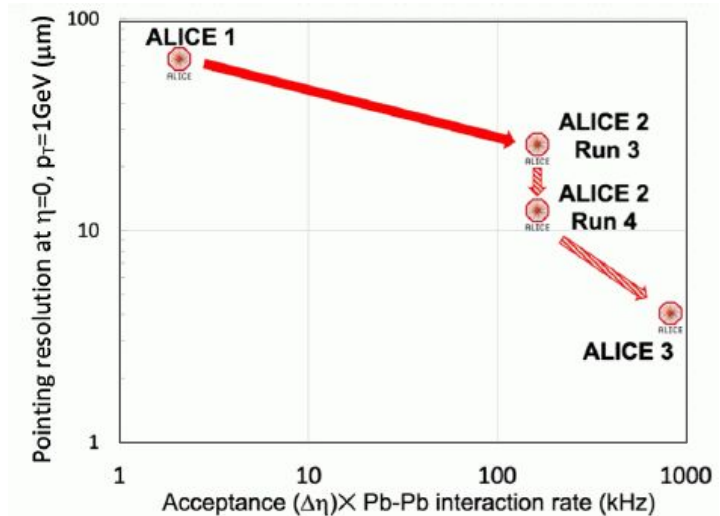
- Shutdown/Technical stop
- Protons physics
- Ions
- Commissioning with beam
- Hardware commissioning/magnet training



ALICE 3

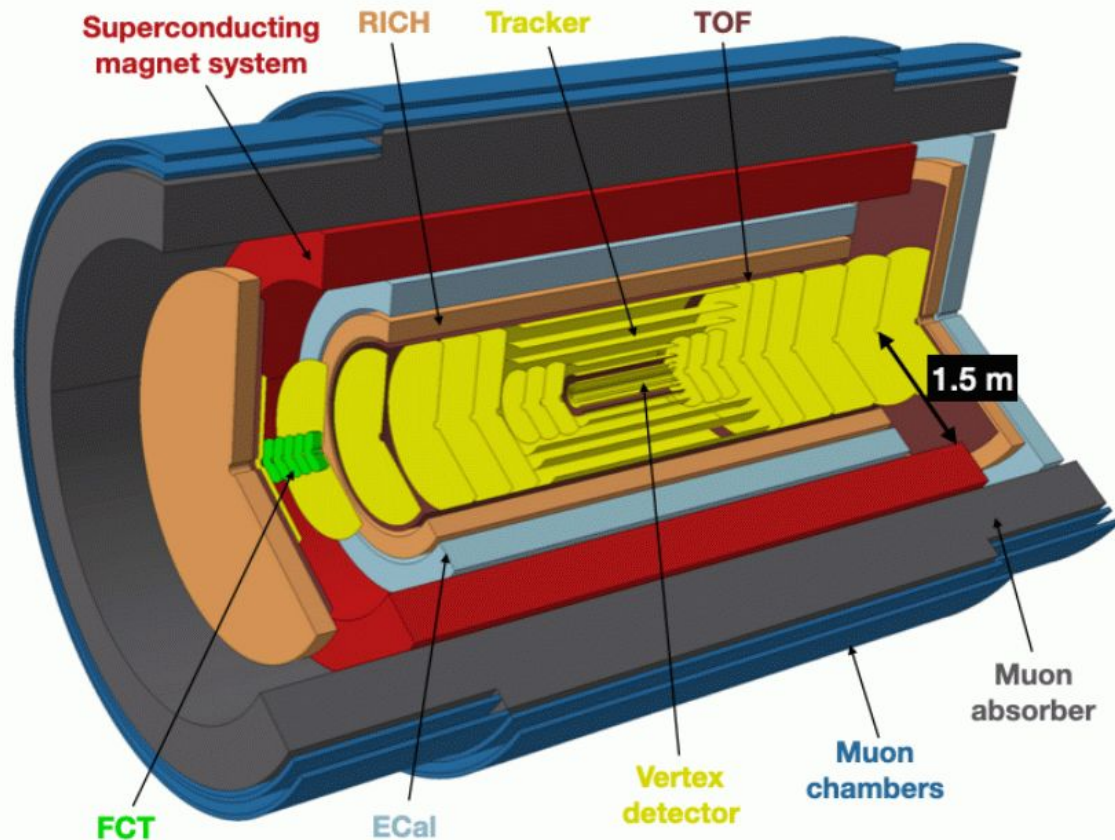
Last updated: January 2022

ALICE 3



ALICE 3: compact low-mass all-silicon tracker with excellent PID capabilities over wide acceptance

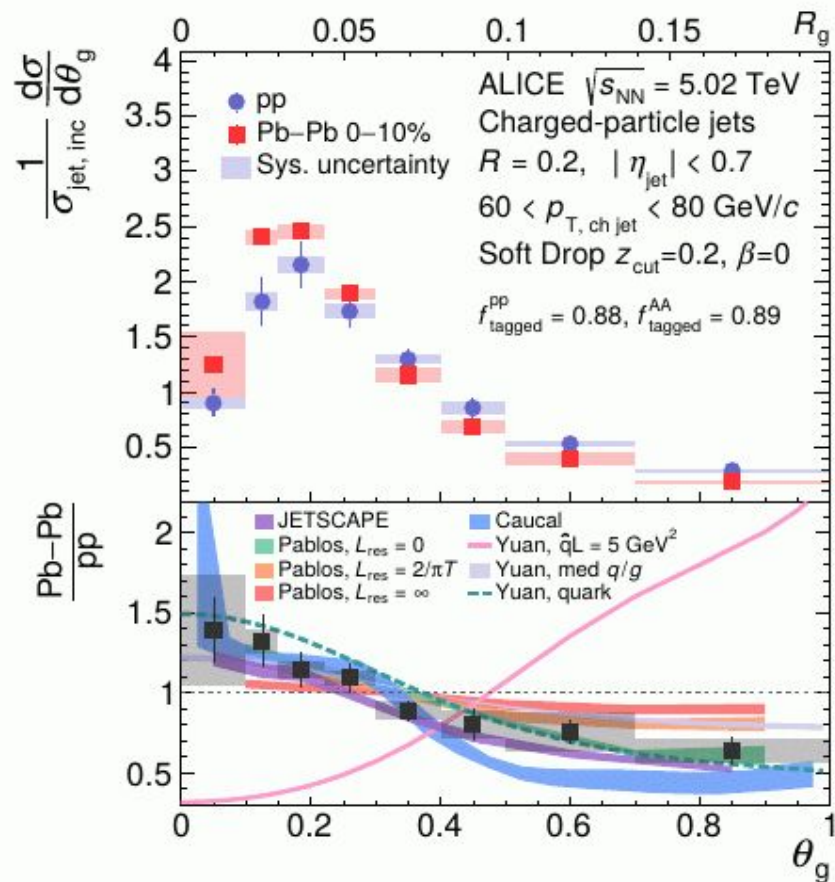
Lol to be published by end of March





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parton energy loss

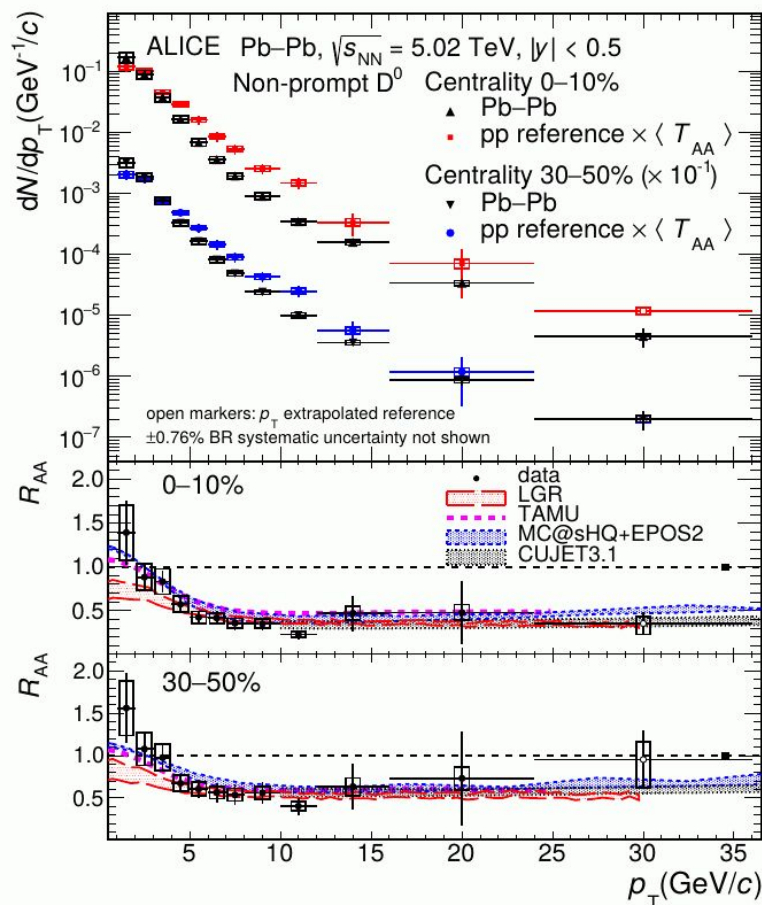


$$\theta_g \equiv \frac{\sqrt{\Delta y^2 + \Delta \varphi^2}}{R}$$

θ_g - relative opening angle of a hard splitting in jet

hard \rightarrow calculable by pQCD

- first measurement of θ_g in nuclear collisions
- θ_g in central Pb-Pb collisions is smaller than in pp collisions



central Pb-Pb

semicentral Pb-Pb

} energy loss of b quarks

$$R_{AA}(p_T) = \frac{1}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle} \frac{dN_{AA}/dp_T}{dN_{pp}/dp_T}$$

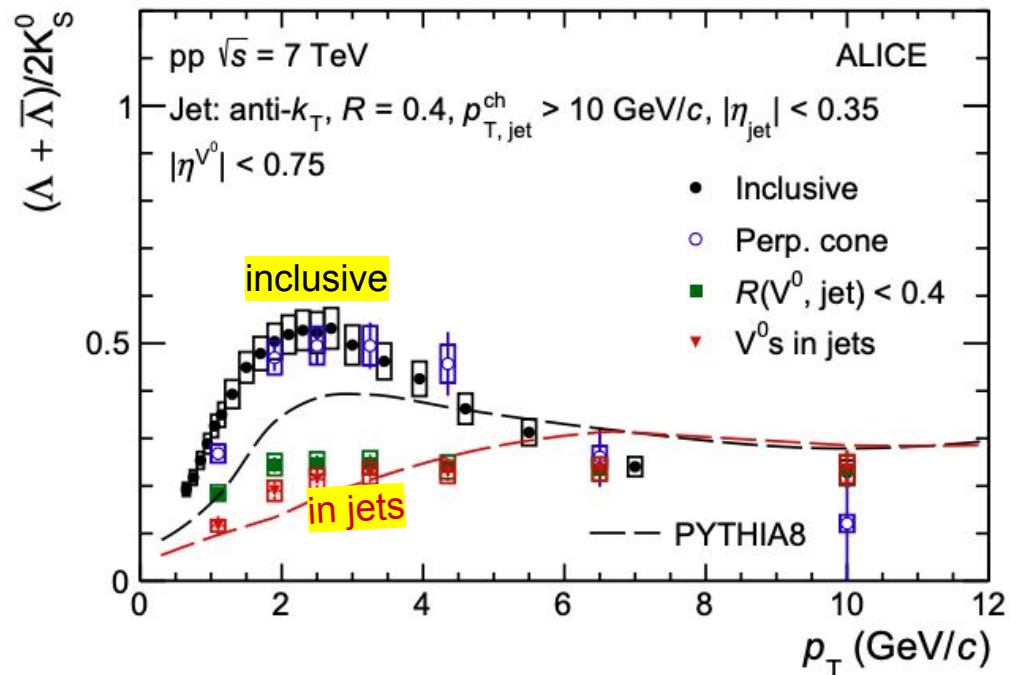
non-prompt D^0 = proxy for beauty hadrons

integrating the yields over $p_T \rightarrow$
overall nuclear modification factor
consistent with unity

| | | | | | |
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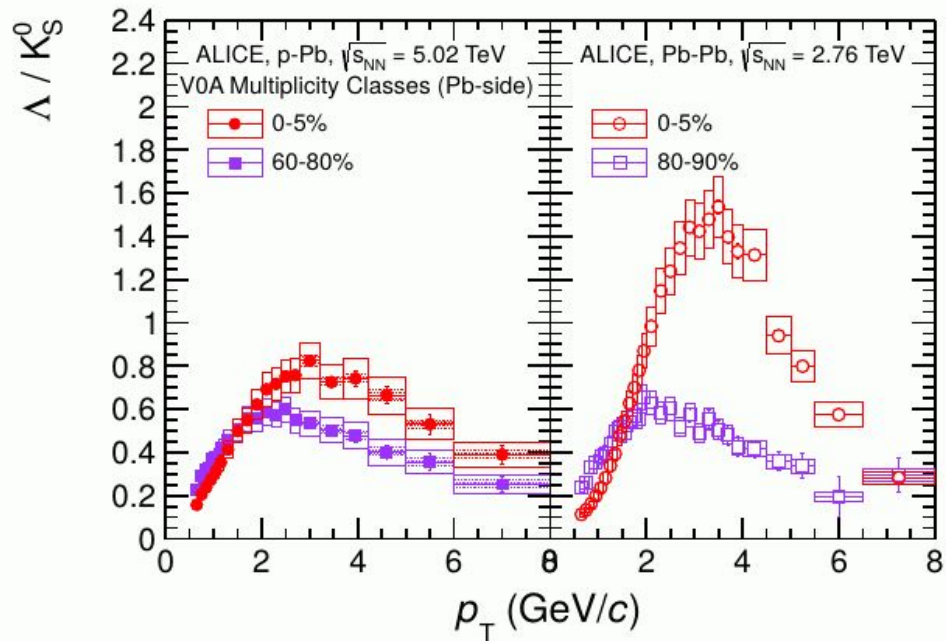


transverse expansion



- peak in baryon/meson ratio
- in central Pb-Pb, attributed to radial flow
- origin in light collision systems?

the peak does not originate from jets



déjà vu back in 2012-2014

transverse flow:
outward push by Δv
 $\Delta v(\Lambda) = \Delta v(K)$
 $\Delta p_T(\Lambda) > \Delta p_T(K)$

signatures of collectivity in small collision systems

- spectra: transverse flow
- long-range two particles correlations: ridge (elliptic flow)
- HBT analysis: p dependence of HBT radii
- ...

big surprise!

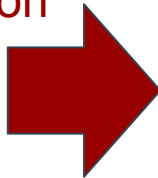
signatures of collectivity in small collision systems

- spectra: transverse flow
- long-range two particles correlations: ridge (elliptic flow)
- HBT analysis: p dependence of HBT radii
- ...

big surprise!

...Really?

QM2008, panel discussion
Jurgen Schukraft said:



- even protons get obese these days

⇒ $p@LHC \sim$ small (but very dense) nucleus@SPS

| | SPS | RHIC | LHC |
|---|-----|------|-----|
| # of partons in proton $3 + \int g(x > 2\text{GeV})$ | 4 | 10 | 30 |

- 'QGP' physics with protons

⇒ at least: onset of hadronic FS interactions

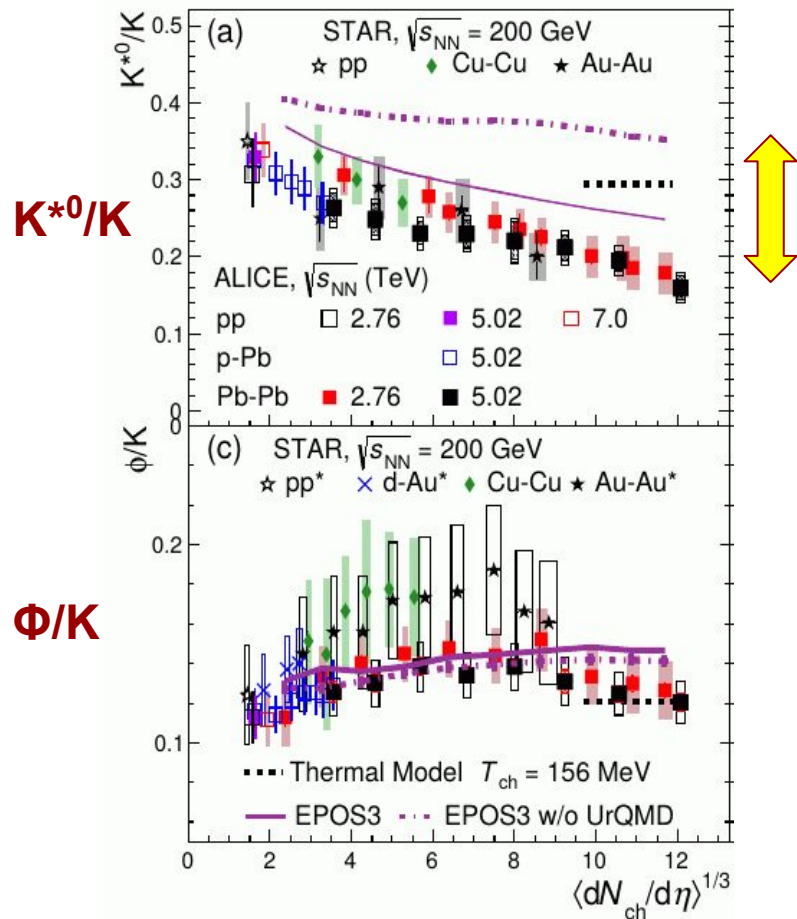
⇒ maybe: collective hadronic/partonic dynamics

⇒ why not: the QGP, mini serving

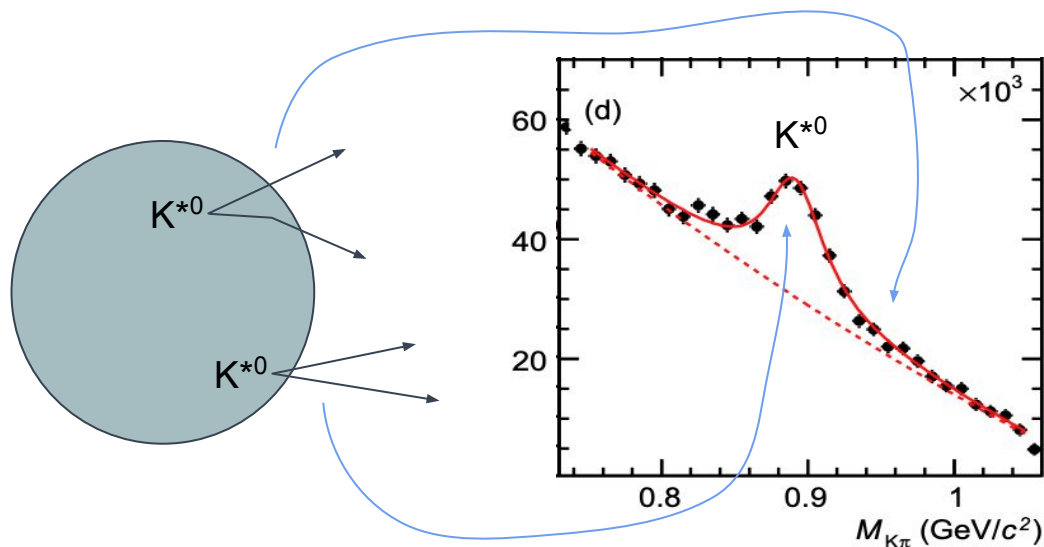
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rescattering



| | $c\tau$ | decay |
|--------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| $K^*(892)^0$ | 4.2 fm | $\rightarrow K^\pm \pi^\mp$ |
| $\Phi(1020)$ | 46 fm | $\rightarrow K^+ K^-$ |



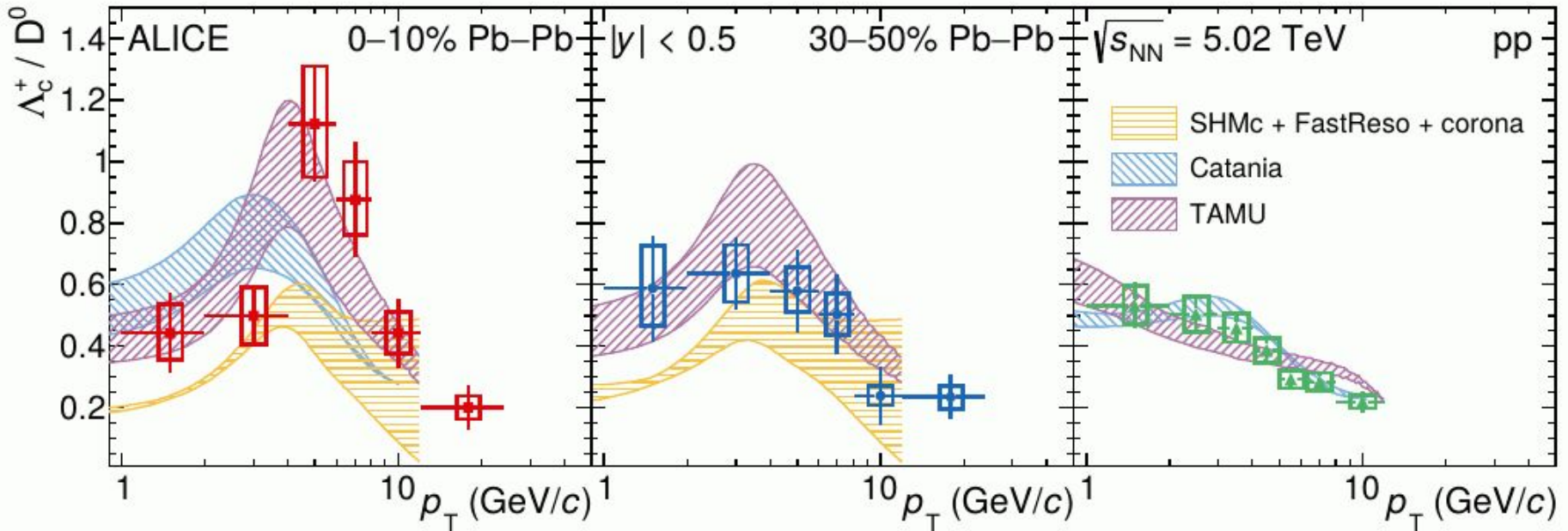
rescattering in hadronic phase

| | | | | | |
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in-medium hadronization

see also arxiv:2105.05187, arxiv:2105.05616, arxiv:2106.08278, arxiv:2111.11948



hadronization by coalescence! (and fragmentation)

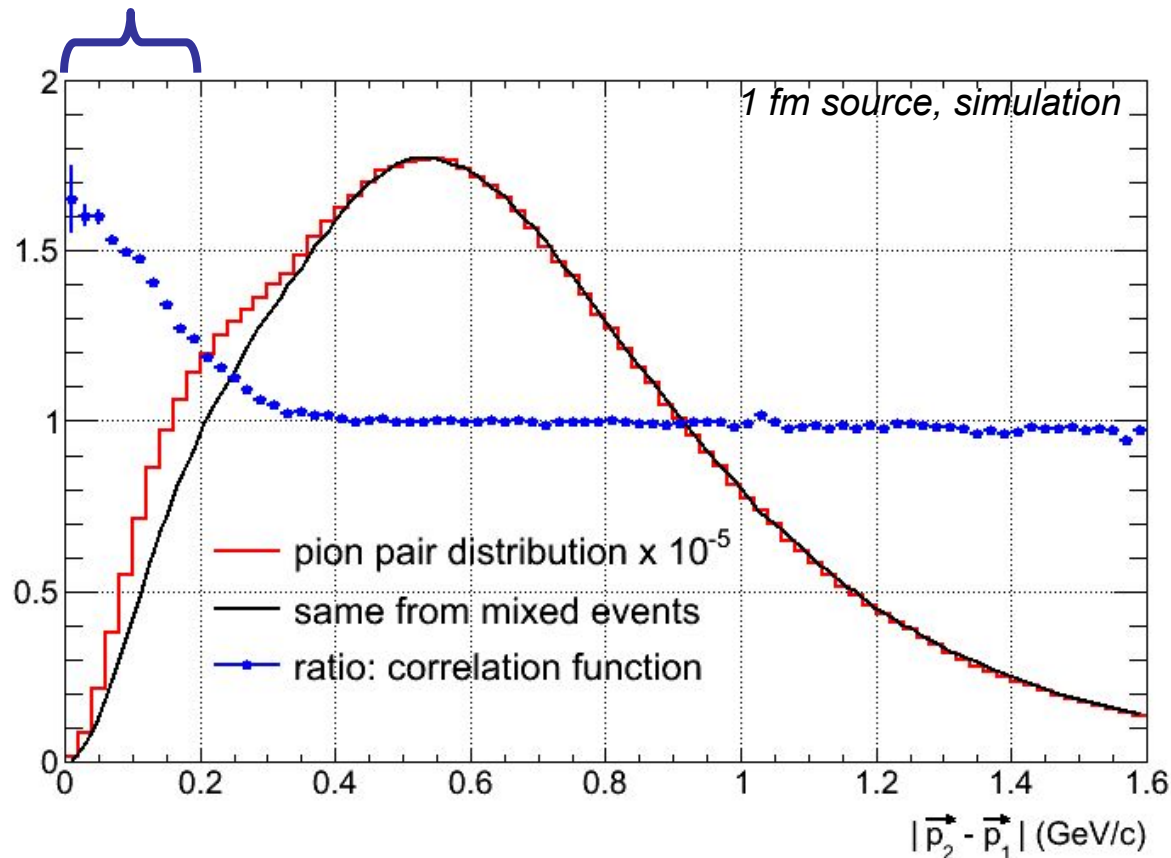
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correlation measurement of the strong interaction

two-pion Hanbury Brown and Twiss correlation analysis

peak width $\sim 1 / \text{source size}$



correlation measurement of two-particle interaction

$$C(\vec{k}^*) = \int S(\vec{r}^*) \left| \Psi(\vec{k}^*, \vec{r}^*) \right|^2 d^3 r^*$$



measured
two-particle
correlation
function



particle
source
distribution



mutual interaction
(BE or FD, Coulomb,
strong)

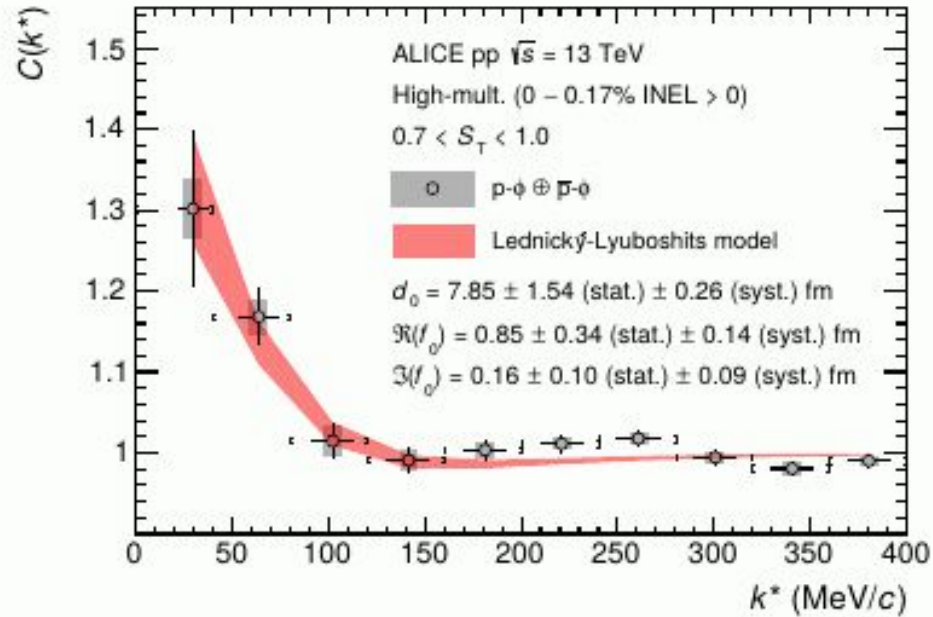
strategy:

- 1) measure source with (abundant) species with known interaction
- 2) invert formula to learn about mutual interactions between rare species

correlation measurement of two-particle interaction

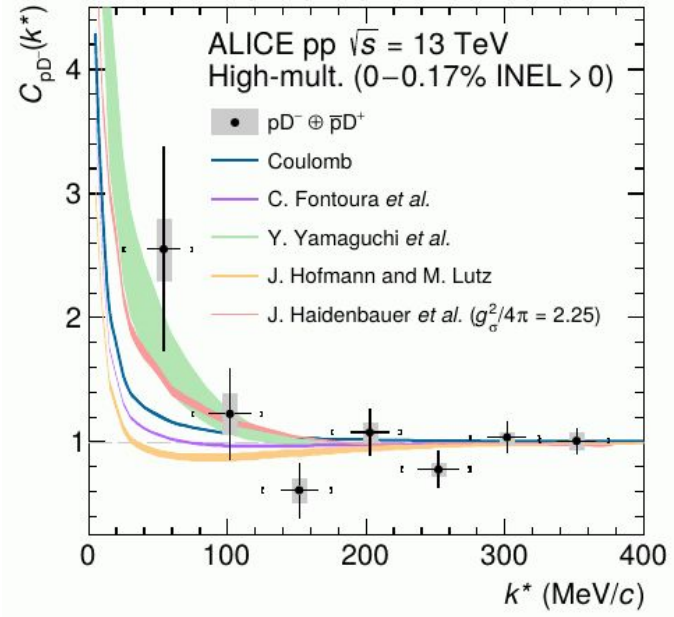
p-φ

arxiv:2105.05578



p-D-

arxiv:2201.05352



other recent combinations of species:

- arxiv:2105.05190 p-p̄, p-Λ̄, Λ-Λ̄
- arxiv:2104.04427 p-Λ
- arxiv:2105.05683 p-K⁻
- arxiv:2111.06611 K⁰_S-K⁰_S, K⁰_S-K[±]

...as well as 10 earlier ALICE papers further covering p-p, p-K, p-Λ, Λ-Λ, p-Σ⁰, p-Ξ⁻, Λ-K[±], Λ-K⁰_S, and p-Ω⁻ (Nature 588(2020)232)