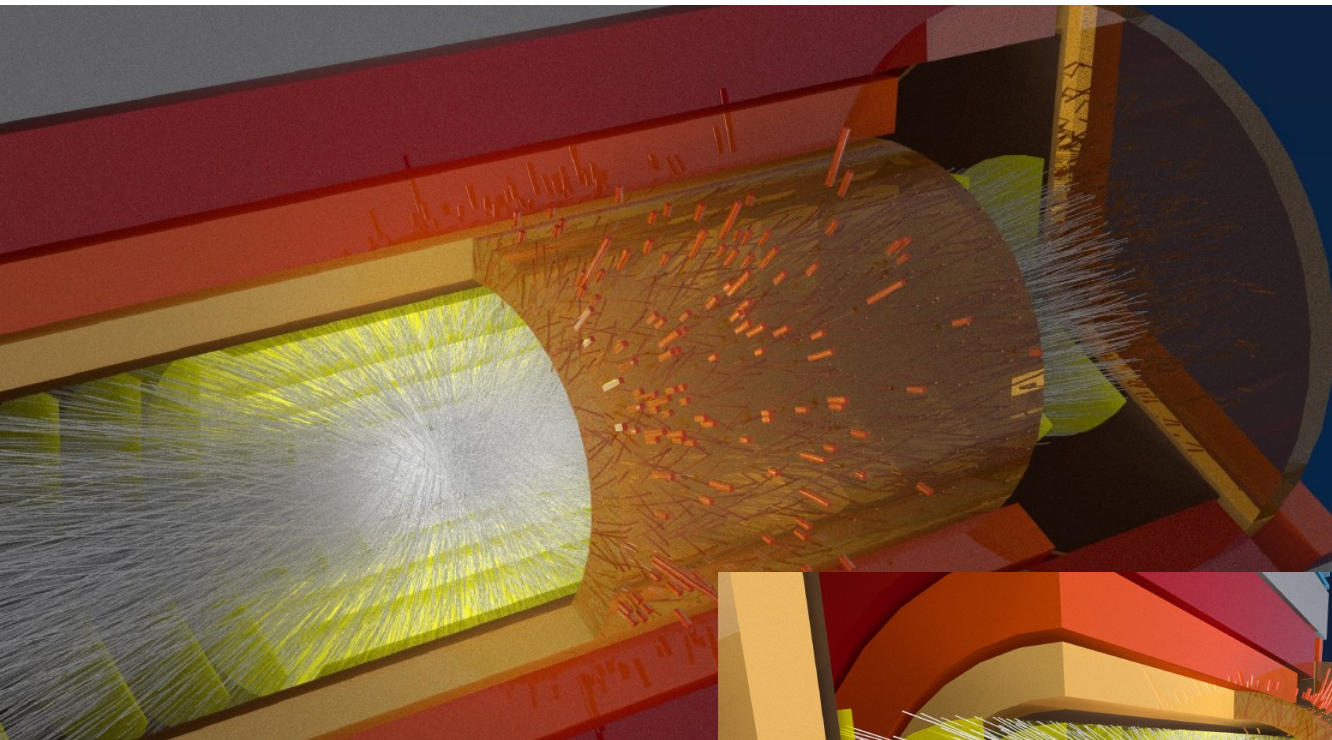
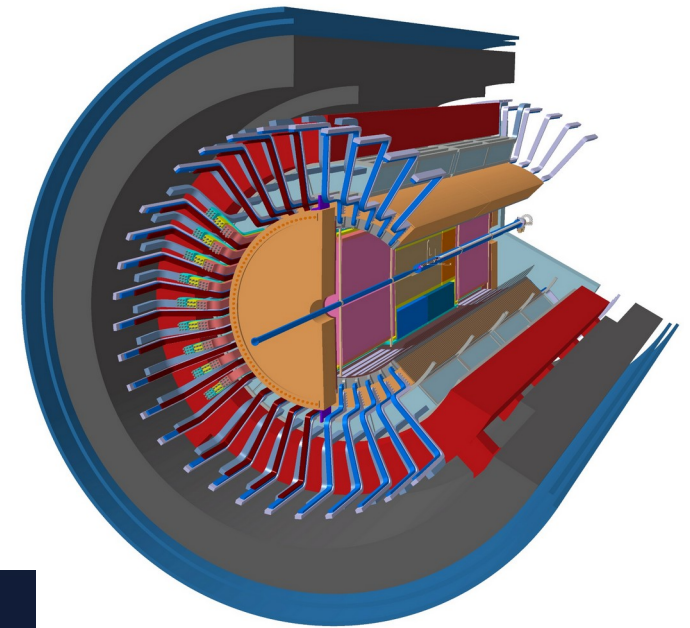
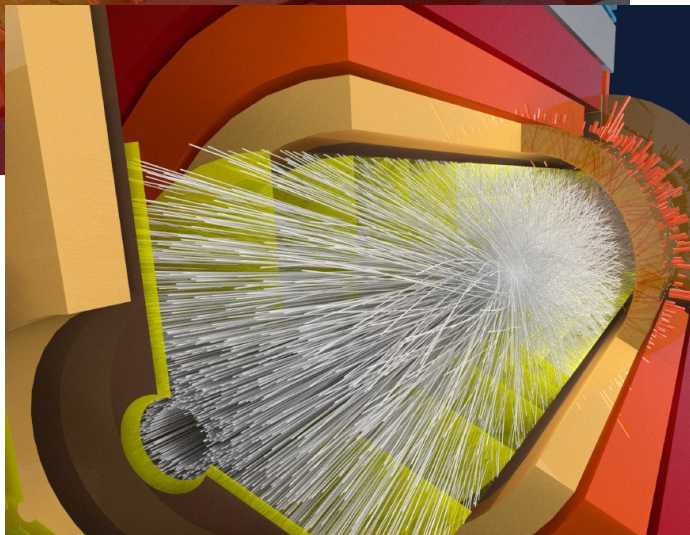


ALICE 3 : a next generation heavy-ion detector for LHC run 5



ALICE 3, layout v1
PYTHIA8 Angantyr Pb-Pb 5.02 TeV

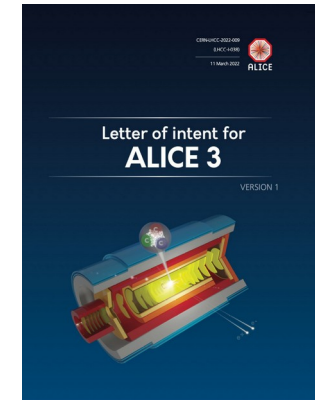




Some references

Milestone documents :

- **ALICE3 *Letter of Intent***, [arXiv:2211.02491](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.02491)
→ LHCC minutes report [LHCC-149](#), 2022-03
- **ALICE3 *Scoping Document*** [CERN-LHCC-2025-002](#)
→ LHCC minutes report [LHCC-161](#), 2025-03

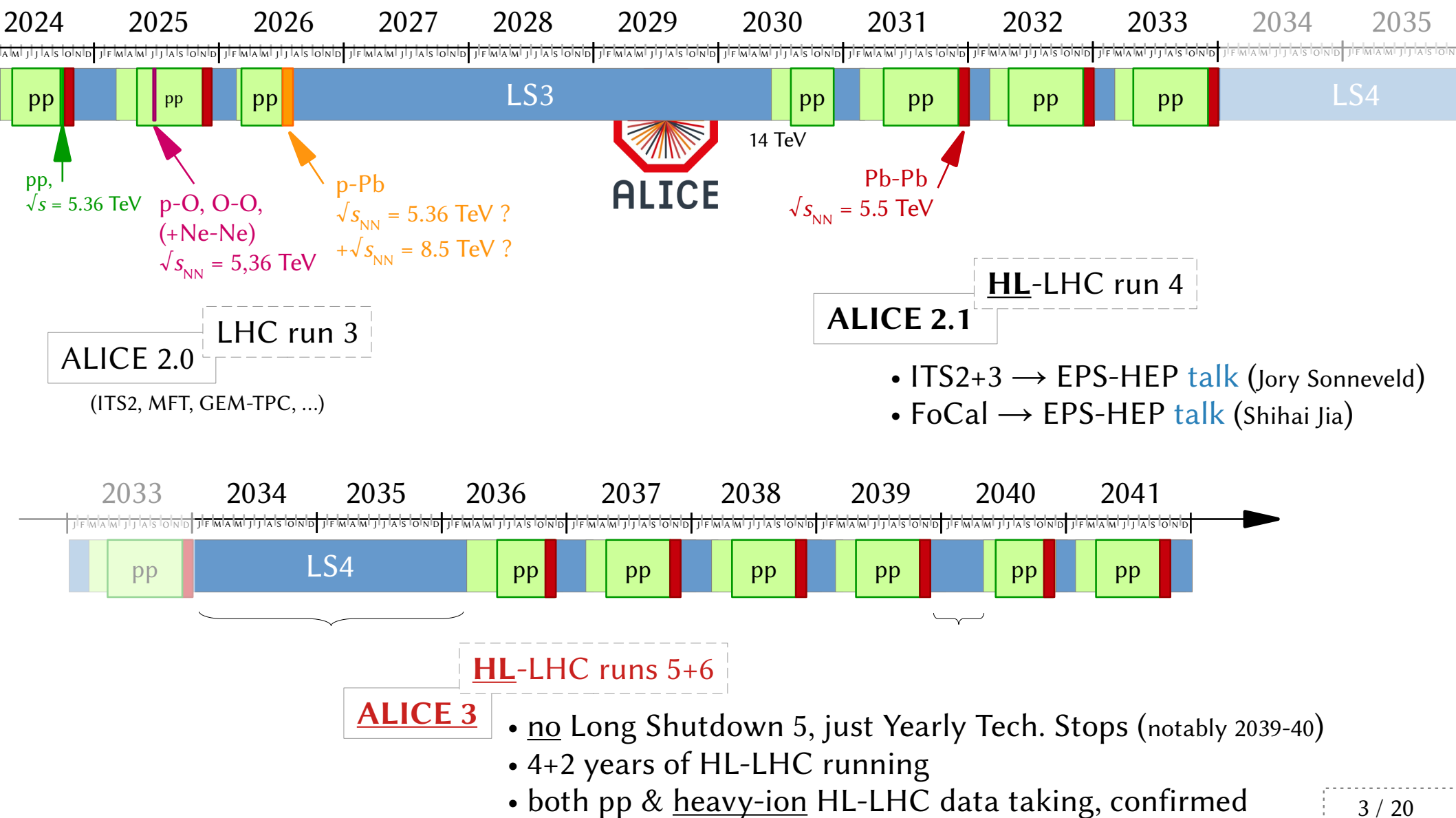


≈ Summary documents :

- **Frontier sensor R&D for ALICE 3**,
[ESPPU contribution](#) (14 pages, 2025-03)
= [ALICE-PUBLIC-2025-006](#)
- **Input from ALICE collaboration** (physics with ITS3, FoCal, ALICE 3)
[ESPPU contribution](#) (13 pages, 2025-03)
= [ALICE-PUBLIC-2025-005](#)



I.1 – ALICE in HL-LHC : projected timeline and calendar



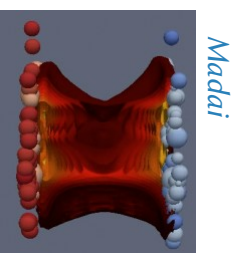


II.1 – Motivations : partonic response as $f(\text{quark flavour, mass})$

Quark-Gluon Plasma

or collective *partonic medium*

$g + u, d, s, c, b (t) \Leftrightarrow$



Why mass is relevant ?

e.g. 1. hydrodynamic push by QGP = $f(m_q)$

2. deadcone effect in jet = $f(m_q)$

...

→ Explore the scope to its individual extent:

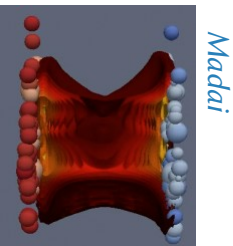
$g, u, d \dots + s \dots + c \dots + b \dots$



II.1 – Physics motivations : response as $f(\text{quark flavour, mass})$

Quark-Gluon Plasma
or collective partonic medium

$g + u, d, s, c, b (t) \rightleftharpoons$



Madai

u, d, s

c

b

Final states

• $\pi^\pm \pi^0 K^\pm K_s^0 \dots$ $p \Lambda \Sigma^\pm(uus) \Xi^\mp(dss) \Omega^\mp(sss) \dots$

$\eta(547) \omega(782) \dots K^0(892) \phi(1020) \Sigma^\pm(1385) \Lambda(1520) \Xi^0(1530)$

+ $d t \ ^3\text{He}^{2+} \ ^4\text{He}^{2+} \dots$

+ $\ ^3_\Lambda\text{H}, \ ^4_\Lambda\overline{\text{He}}^{2+} \rightarrow \ ^3\text{He}^{2+} p \pi^-$

• $D^0 D^+ D^{*+} D_s^+ \dots \eta_c J/\psi \chi_{ci} \psi(2S) \dots$

$\Lambda_c^+(udc) \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+ \text{ or } p K_s^0 \quad (c\tau \approx 60 \mu\text{m})$

$\Xi_c^+(usc) \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+ \text{ or } \Xi^- 2\pi^+ \quad (c\tau \approx 136 \mu\text{m})$

$\Xi_c^0(dsc) \rightarrow \Xi^- \pi^+ \quad (c\tau \approx 45 \mu\text{m})$

$\Omega_c^0(ssc) \rightarrow \Omega^- \pi^+ \quad (c\tau \approx 80 \mu\text{m})$

$\Xi_{cc}^{2+}(ucc) \dots \Omega_{ccc}^{2+}(ccc)$

+ c -deuteron $(\Lambda_c n)^+ \rightarrow d K^- \pi^+ ?$ c -triton $(n \Lambda_c n)^+ ?$

tetraquark $[X(3872) \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+ \pi^-] T_{cc}^+$

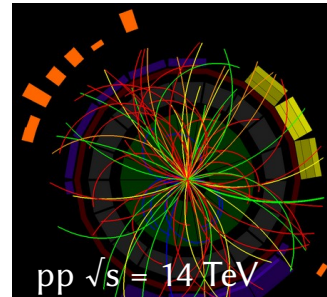
• heavy-flavour $(\mu^\pm, e^\pm)$

• $B^0 B^\pm B_s^0 \dots Y(1S, 2S, 3S) \dots$

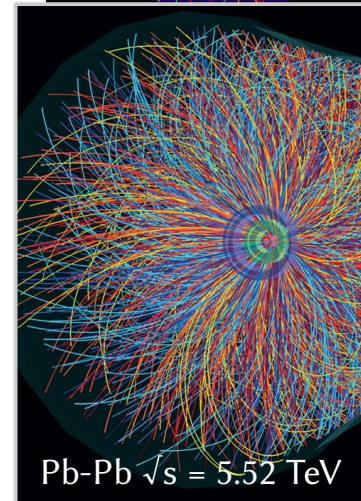
$\Lambda_b^0(udb) \rightarrow \Lambda_c^+ \pi^- \dots \Xi_B^-(dsb) \Omega_B^-(ssb)$

(• $e^\pm \mu^\pm \gamma$)

(• $W^\pm \gamma/Z^0$)



pp $\sqrt{s} = 14 \text{ TeV}$



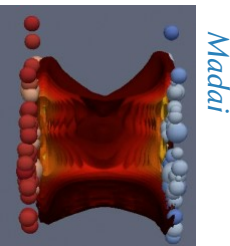
Pb-Pb $\sqrt{s} = 5.52 \text{ TeV}$



II.1 – Physics motivations : response as $f(\text{quark flavour, mass})$

Quark-Gluon Plasma
or collective partonic medium

$g + u, d, s, c, b (t) \rightleftharpoons$



u, d, s

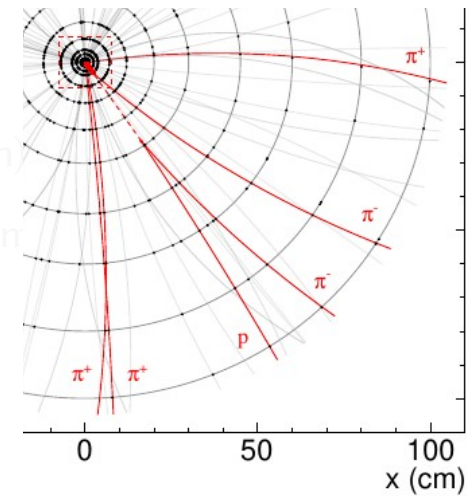
c

b

Final states

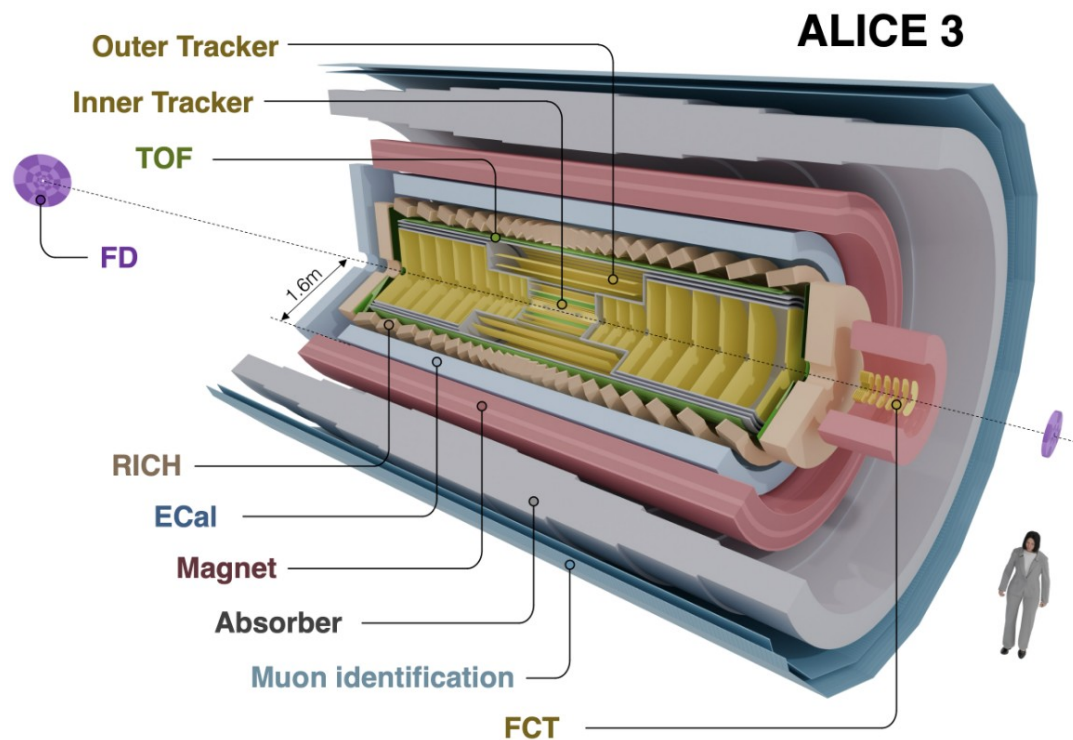
- **Identified** physics,
at particle level
→ PID & tracking
- 1- to **6-final-state** particles
→ acceptance and efficiency
- **Topological** reconstruction,
with invariant mass
→ pointing resolution
- Correlation to **bulk** production
→ access to low p_T
- Abundant to scarce probes :
“**Zero-Bias**” data collection
with high **luminosity**
→ continuous readout

e.g. $\Xi_{cc}^{2+}(ucc)$
→ 6 ch. part.





II.2 – ALICE 3 layout : key features in 1 slide



Layout (2024-10)

[10.5281/zenodo.13894032](https://zenodo.org/record/13894032)

1. $B_{\text{solenoid}} = 2.0 \text{ T}$

Vertexer+Tracker,

2. **compact** ($R_{\text{outer TOF}} \approx 85 \text{ cm}$)
ultra-light (layer 0 $\sim 0.1 \% x/X_0$)
 Silicon MAPS-based ($\approx 60 \text{ m}^2$)
 with high-performance tracking
 ($Ax\varepsilon$, granularity, ...)

3. with **PID** capabilities
 (iTOF, oTOF, fTOF, bRICH, fRICH
 ECal, μ ID)
 over an **acceptance** as wide as possible :

- $|\eta| < \underline{4}$ ($\times 5\text{-}9$ acceptance of ALICE 2 barrel)
- $p_T \in [\underline{0.05} ; (>10)] \text{ GeV}/c$

4. to collect integrated **MB luminosities** :

- recorded readout
 $\approx 24 \text{ MHz (pp)}$ ($\times 25\text{-}50$ ALICE 2 run 3)
 $100 \text{ kHz (Pb-Pb projection by LHC, } \times 2 \text{ /Run 3)}$
- $\mathcal{O}(0.5 \text{ fb}^{-1}) / \text{ month pp}$
- $\mathcal{O}(5.6 \text{ nb}^{-1}) / \text{ month Pb-Pb}$



III.1 – Vertexing : Vertex Detector *within* the beam pipe

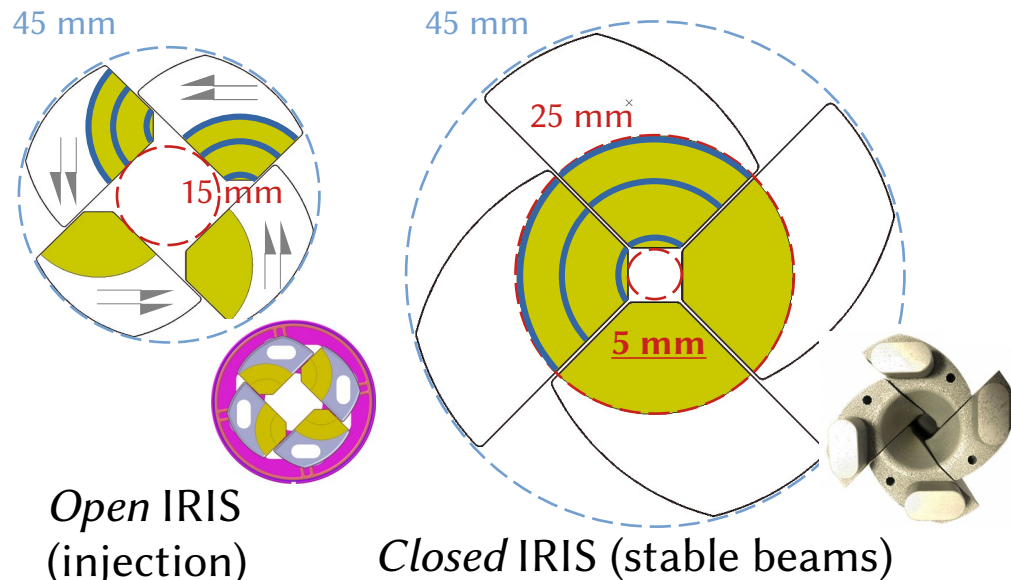
Features

- pointing resolution $\approx \mathcal{O}(10 \mu\text{m})$ at low p_T
- $0.1 \% X^0$ / layer
- $\sigma_{\text{pos}} \approx 2.5 \mu\text{m}$
- $\sigma_{\text{time}} \approx 100 \text{ ns}, \approx 100 \text{ MHz/cm}^2$
- as close as possible to beam

Hyp. : $z_{PV} = 0.0 \text{ cm}$
 $\eta = 3.0$

Implementation

- bent Monolithic Active Pixels,
on a retractable mechanics,
in a 2^{dry} vacuum (10^{-9} mbar)
within the beam pipe
- leveraging from ALICE ITS3 R&D (65-nm)



Challenges

- small pitch $10 \mu\text{m}$
- radiation tolerance (e.g. $10^{16} \text{ 1-MeV } n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$)
- vacuum mechanics, with active cooling
- optimisation of VD impedance to beam



III.2 – Vertexing : strangeness tracking, example in ALICE 3

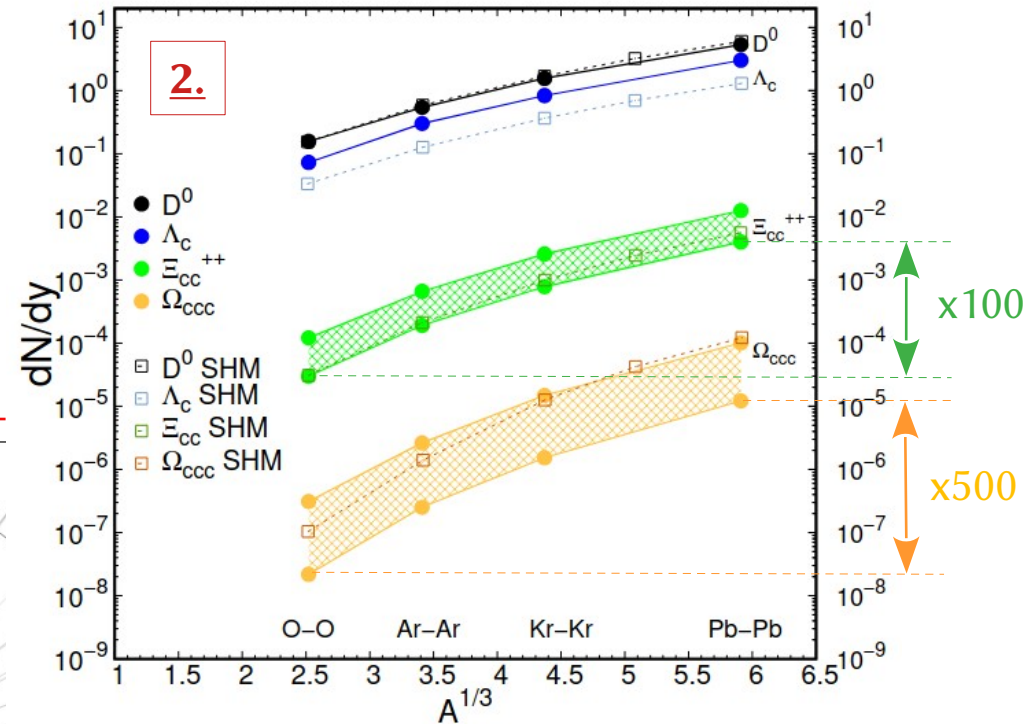
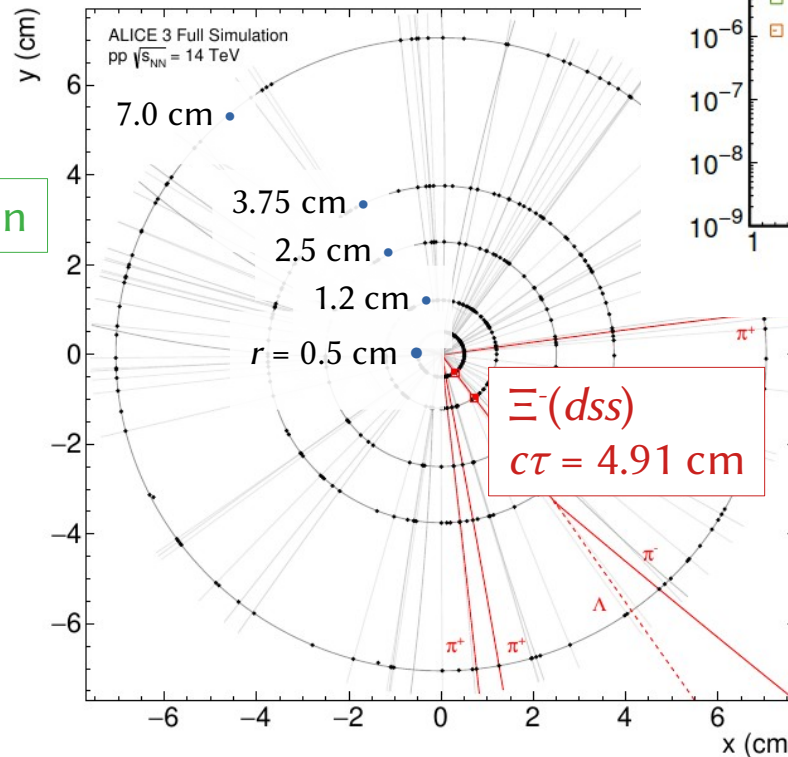
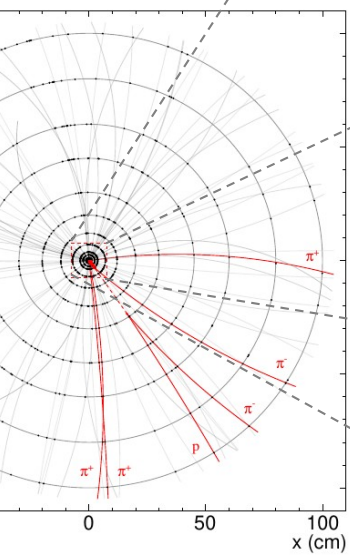
V. Greco, EPJC [arXiv:2305.03687](https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.03687)

1.

- $\Xi_{cc}^{2+}(ucc) \rightarrow \Xi_c^+(usc) \pi^+ \rightarrow [\Xi^-(dss) 2\pi^+] \pi^+$
- $\Omega_{cc}^+(scc) \dots$
- $\Omega_{ccc}^{2+}(ccc) \rightarrow \Omega_{cc}^+(scc) \pi^+ \rightarrow [\Omega_c^0(ssc) \pi^+] \pi^+ \dots$
- $\Xi_B^-(dsb) \rightarrow \Xi_c^0(dsc) \pi^- \rightarrow [\Xi^-(dss) \pi^+] \pi^- \dots$
- $\Omega_B^-(ssb) \rightarrow \Omega_c^0(ssc) \pi^- \rightarrow [\Omega^-(dss) \pi^+] \pi^- \dots$

3.

$\Xi_{cc}^{2+}(ucc)$ decay chain



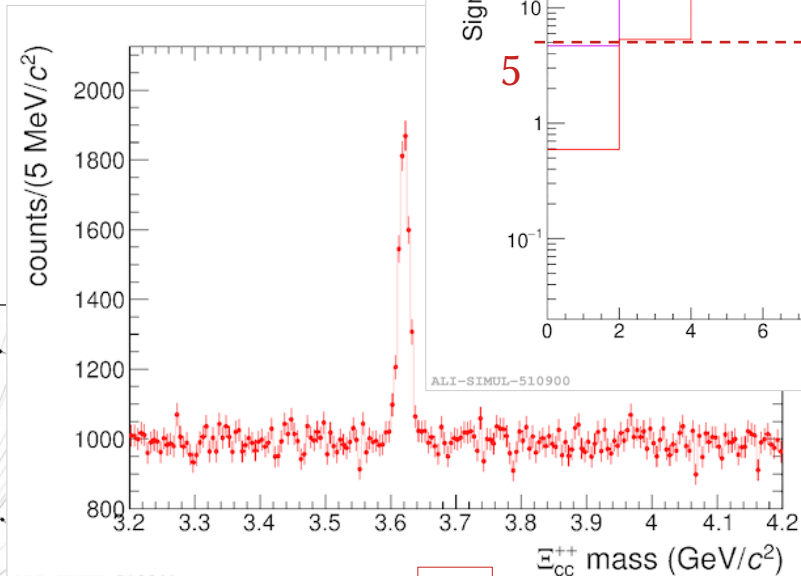
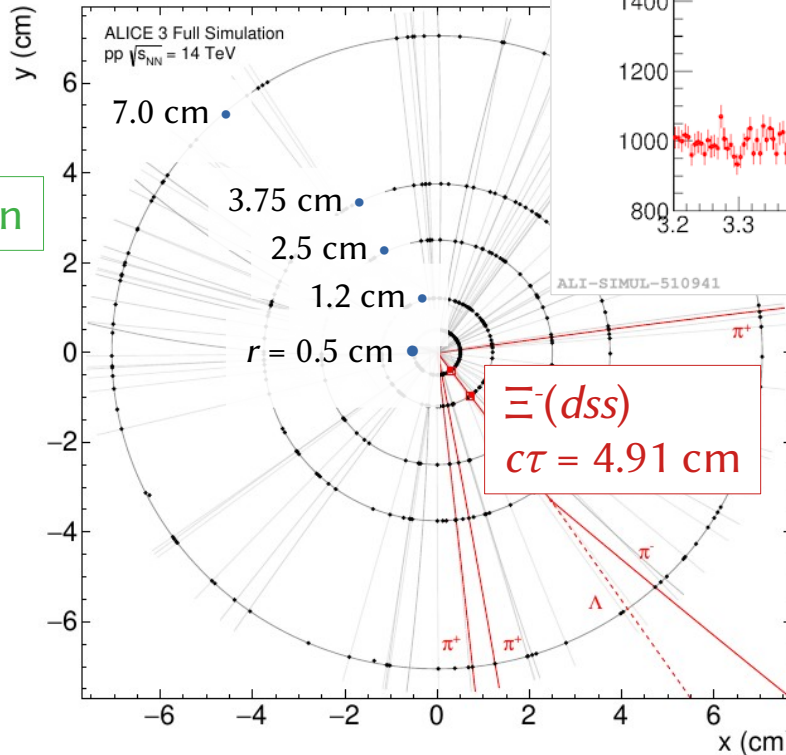
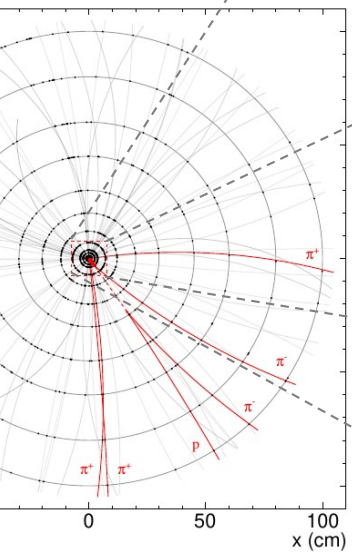
Prediction by Stat.-Hadronisation Model
or Coalescence model



III.2 – Vertexing : strangeness tracking, example in ALICE 3

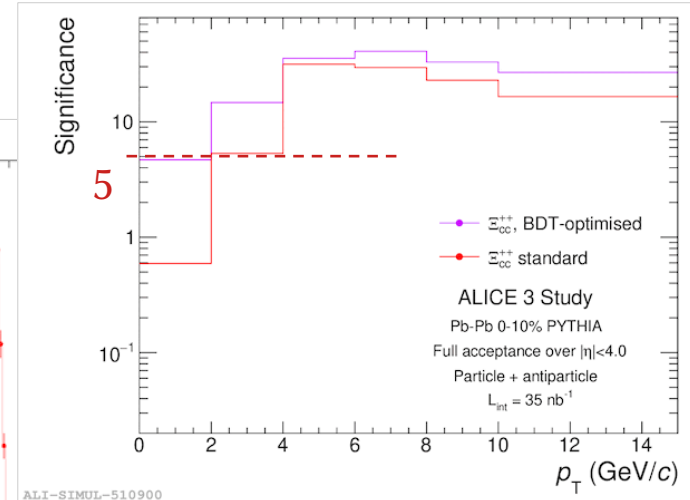
- $\Xi_{CC}^{2+}(ucc) \rightarrow \Xi_C^+(usc) \pi^+ \rightarrow [\Xi^-(dss) 2\pi^+] \pi^+$
- $\Omega_{CC}^+(scc) \dots$
- $\Omega_{CCC}^{2+}(ccc) \rightarrow \Omega_{CC}^+(scc) \pi^+ \rightarrow [\Omega_C^0(ssc) \pi^+] \pi^+ \dots$
- $\Xi_B^-(dsb) \rightarrow \Xi_C^0(dsc) \pi^- \rightarrow [\Xi^-(dss) \pi^+] \pi^- \dots$
- $\Omega_B^-(ssb) \rightarrow \Omega_C^0(ssc) \pi^- \rightarrow [\Omega^-(dss) \pi^+] \pi^- \dots$

$\Xi_{CC}^{2+}(ucc)$ decay chain



4.

ALICE 3 significance for Ξ_{CC}^{2+}
in Pb-Pb (for 35 nb⁻¹) :
 $S/\sqrt{(S+B)} \geq 5$,
for any $p_T > 1$ GeV/c





III.3 – Tracking : Middle Layers + Outer Tracker

Requirements

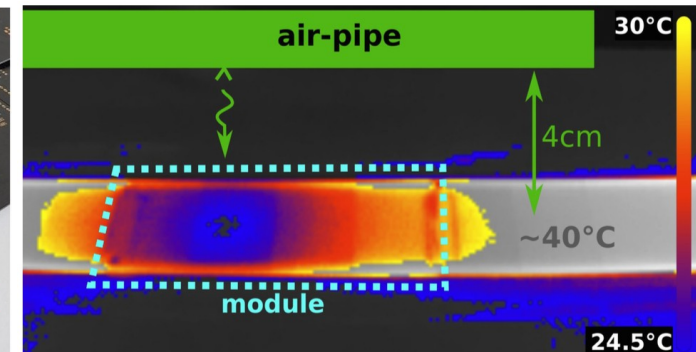
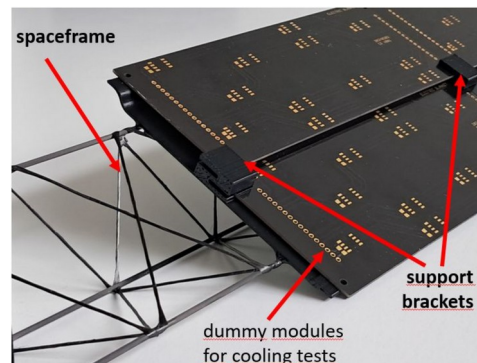
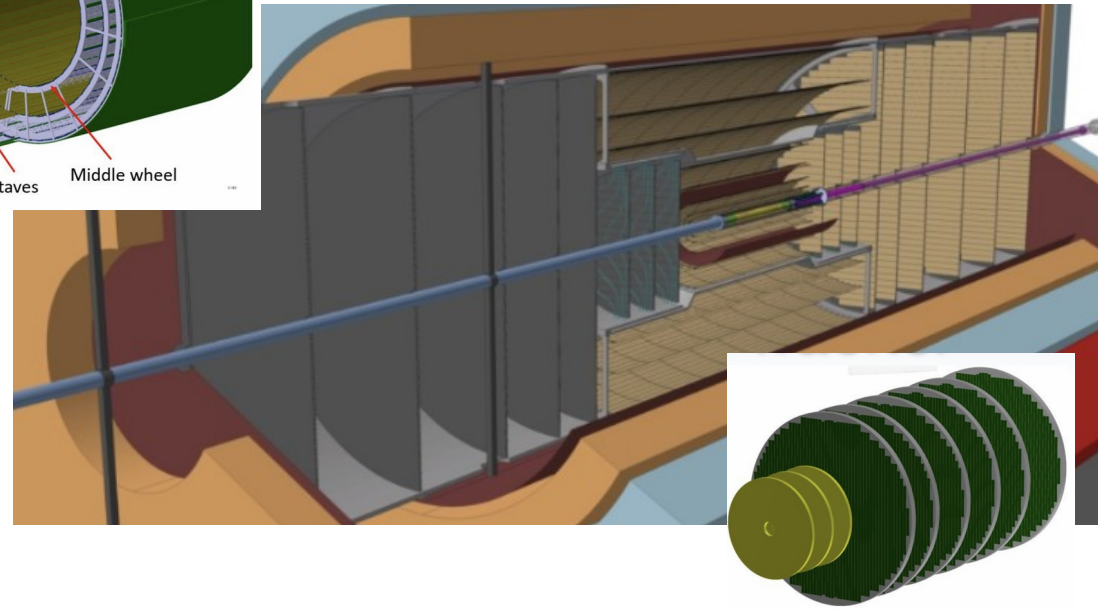
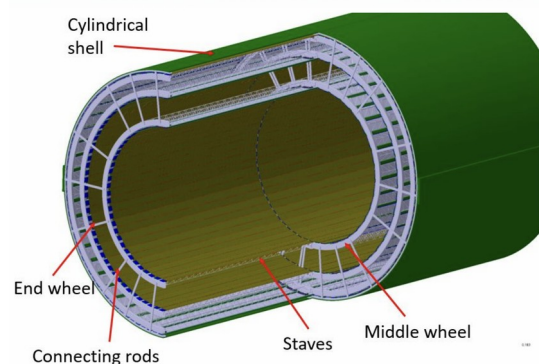
- “ $\sigma(p_T)/p_T \leq 1\%$ ”, $\forall |\eta|$
- $\approx 1\% X^0$ per layer / per disc
(multiple-scattering dominated)
- $\sigma_{\text{pos}} \approx 10 \mu\text{m}$
- $\sigma_{\text{time}} \approx 100 \text{ ns}$

Implementation

- CMOS Monolithic Active Pixels (65 nm ...)
- $\approx 60 \text{ m}^2$, $R_{\text{out}} \approx 0.8 \text{ m}$, $|z_{\text{disc}}| < 3.5 \text{ m}$
2/3 barrel (8 layers)
+ 1/3 fwd+bckwd (2x9 discs)

Challenges

- time resolution while $20\text{--}40 \text{ mW/cm}^2$
- operation at room temperature,
ideally with *air cooling*
- industrialisation of the production
of *modules* (2x4 sensors)



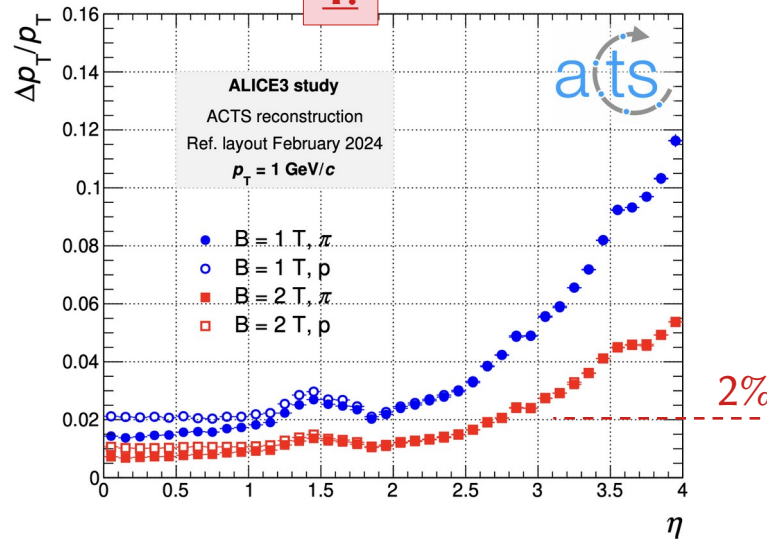


III.4 – Tracking & vertexing : tracking key performances

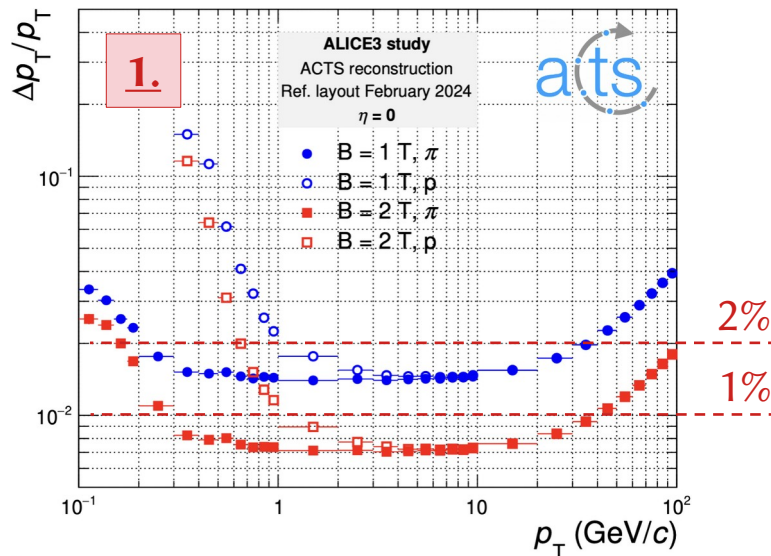
Thanks to ML+OT

1.

- $B = 2 \text{ T}$, for $\pi^\pm$
 $\sigma(p_T)/p_T \leq 1\%$,
 up to $|\eta| < 2$
 $\sigma(p_T)/p_T < 4\%$,
 for $2 < |\eta| < 3.5$

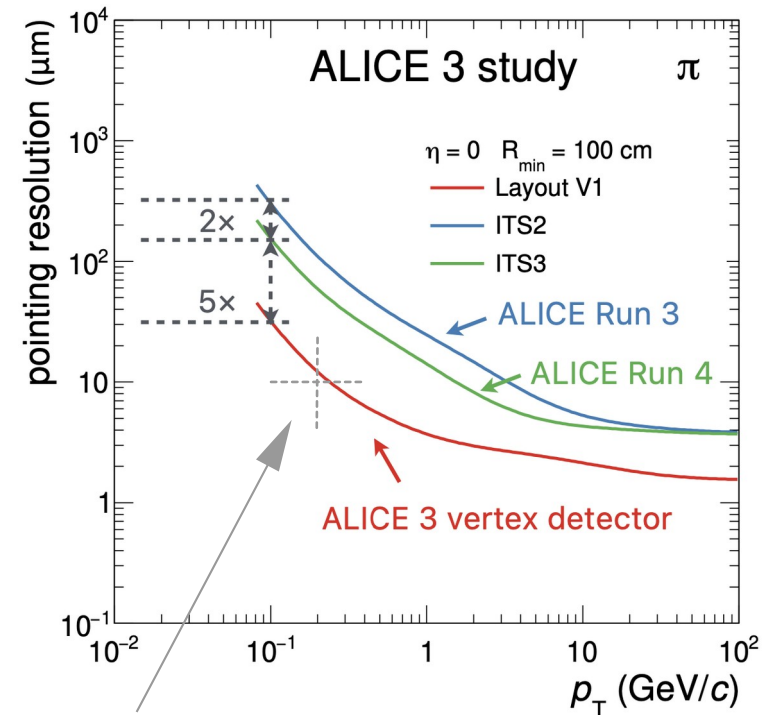


p_T resolution < 2% for mid-rapidity $p_T(\pi^\pm) \in [0.2 ; 30] \text{ GeV/c}$



2.

Thanks to VD



— pointing resolution,
 e.g. $\approx 10 \mu\text{m}$ at $p_T \approx 0.2 \text{ GeV/c}$



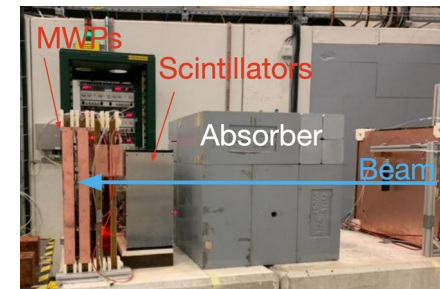
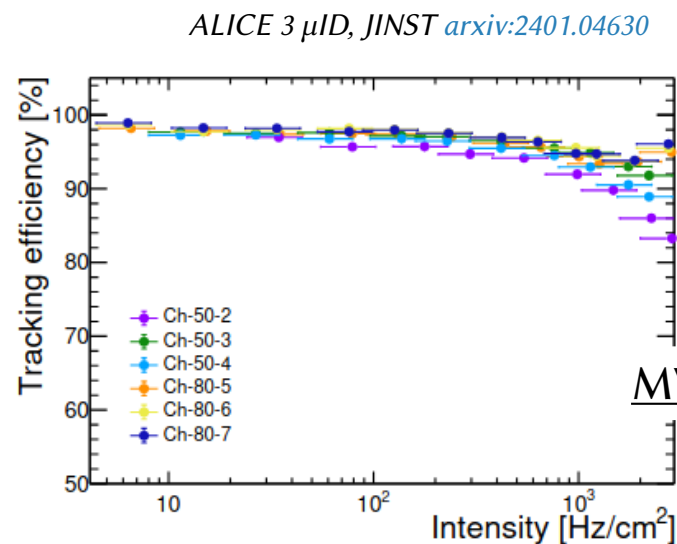
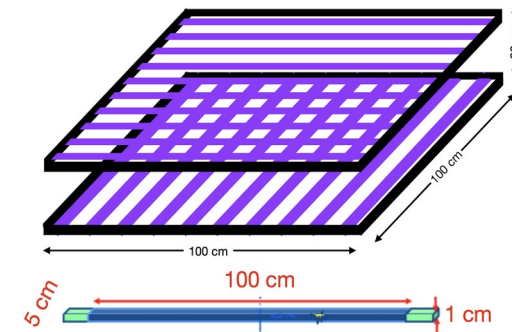
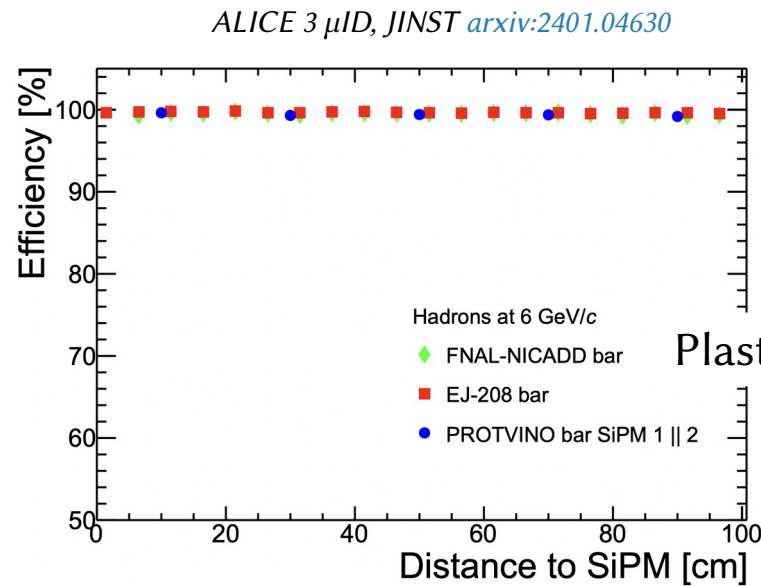
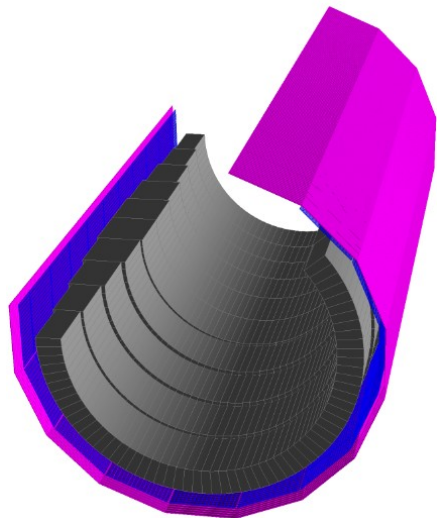
IV.1 – Particle Identification : μ ID with MID

Requirements

- μ ID $p_T > \frac{1}{2} \cdot m[J/\psi] = 1.5 \text{ GeV}/c$
- pion rejection $> 96\%$ for $|\eta| < 1.25$

Implementation

- non-magnetic hadronic absorber
- 2 layers of muon chambers
Default : plastic scintillator + SiPM
Alternatives : MWPC, RPC
- $\Delta\eta \times \Delta\phi$ granularity $\approx 5 \times 5 \text{ cm}^2$ cells





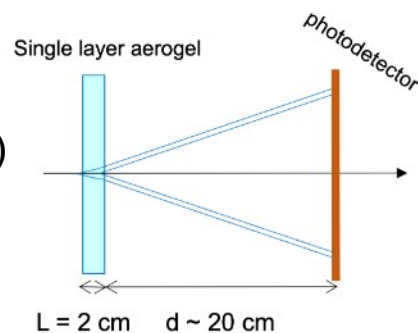
IV.2 – Particle Identification : PID with RICH

Requirements

- PID beyond TOF limits
- 3σ separation e/π , π/K and K/p up to ≈ 2 , 10 and 16 GeV/c, respectively
 - $n = 1.03$ (barrel)
 - $n = 1.015$ (forward)
 - $\sigma_{\text{RICH}} \approx 1.5$ mrad at saturation

Implementation

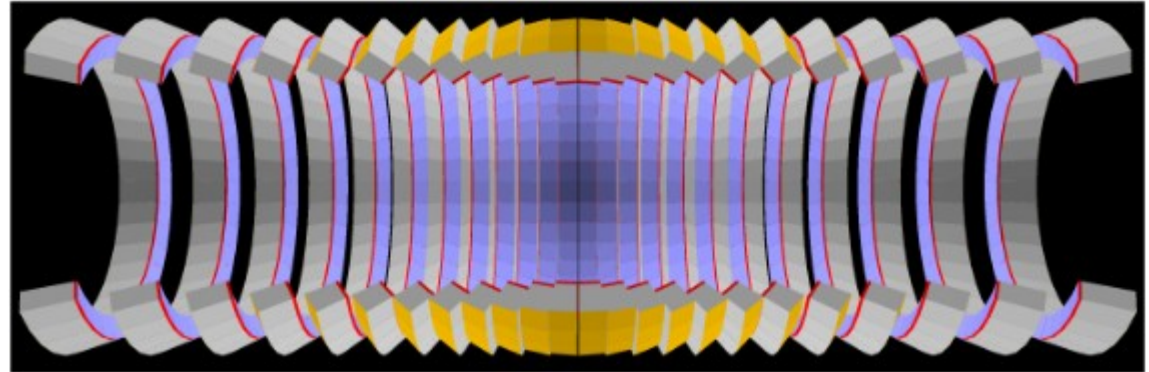
- bRICH: Aerogel + SiPMs ($\approx 30 \text{ m}^2$)
 - fRICH: Aerogel + HRPPDs ($\approx 8 \text{ m}^2$)
- (+include “heavy” gas in the expanding volume?
For eID up to 4 GeV/c...)



Challenges

- SiPM radiation tolerance
- Dark Count Rate mitigation,
(with cooling + annealing
+ light concentrators + higher Phot. Det. Eff.)

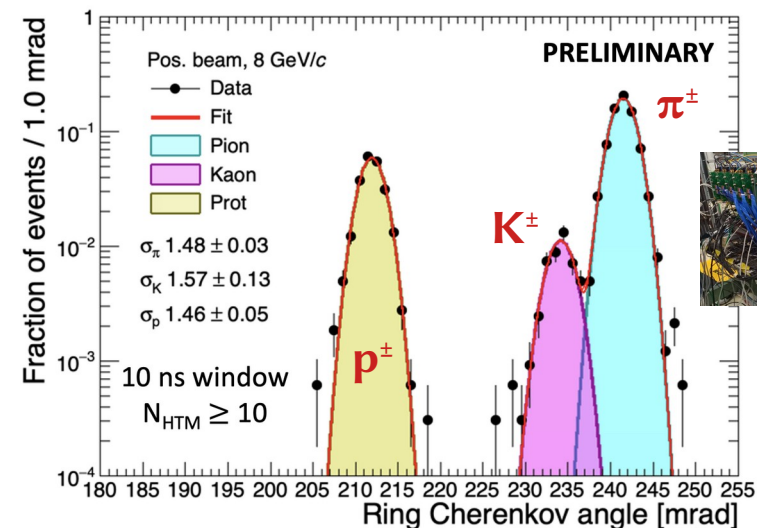
Projective cylindrical bRICH



Aerogel

Photodetector

2024 beam test results (using Radioroc + *PicoTDC*)



VCI 2025



IV.3 – Particle Identification : PID with TOF

Requirements

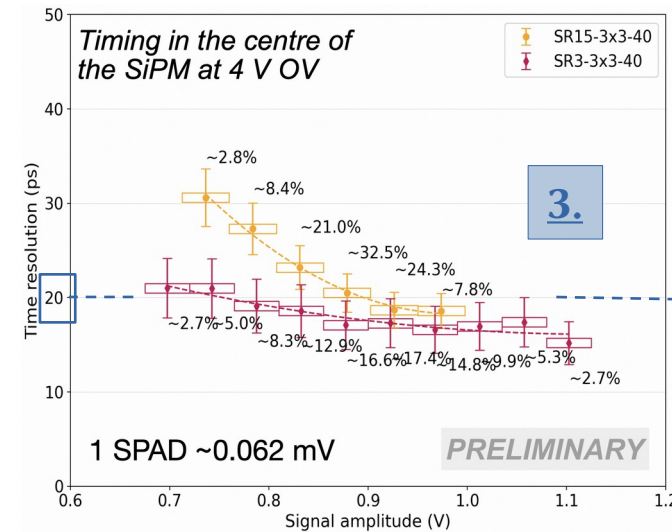
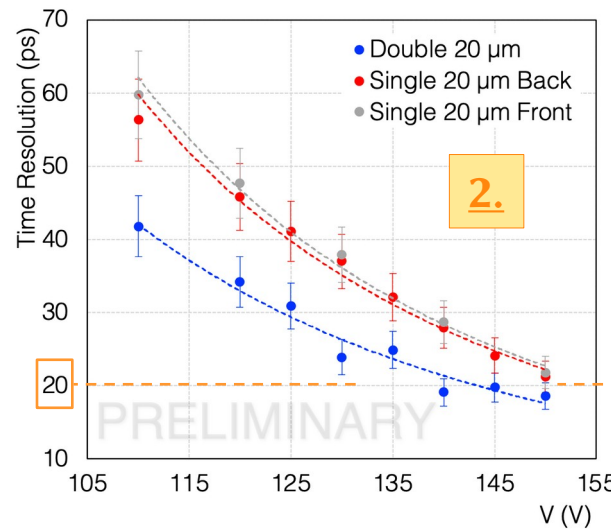
- e/π , π/K , K/p 3σ separation
up to $\approx 0.2, 2, 4$ GeV/c
 $\rightarrow f(L/\sigma_{TOF})$, calling for $\sigma_{TOF} \approx 20$ ps

Implementation

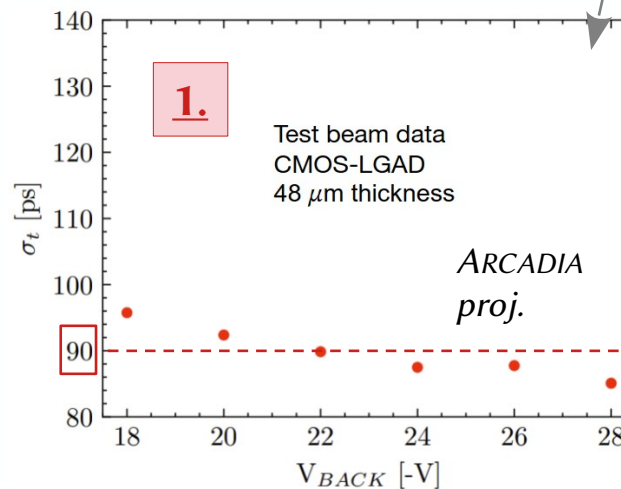
- barrel :
 - Inner TOF (1.5 m^2)
 - Outer TOF (37 m^2)
- forward + backward :
 - disks ($2 \times 3.1 \text{ m}^2$)
- three technological options :
 1. - monolithic LGAD “with gain layer”
 2. - single/double hybrid LGAD
 3. - SiPM (combination with RICH)

Challenges

- 20-ps target
at the “system-integrated” level



Test beams



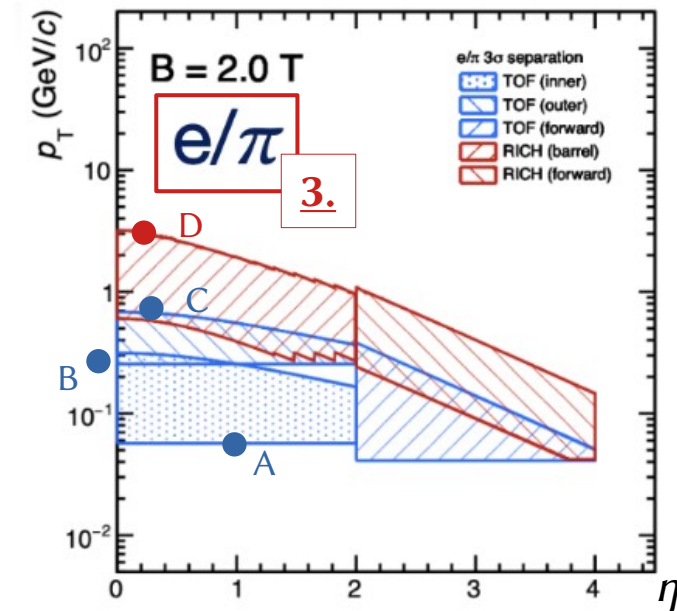
Timing demonstration
“with gain” :
promising 20-ps prospects
with:

- new sensor layout
- thinning to 15 μm

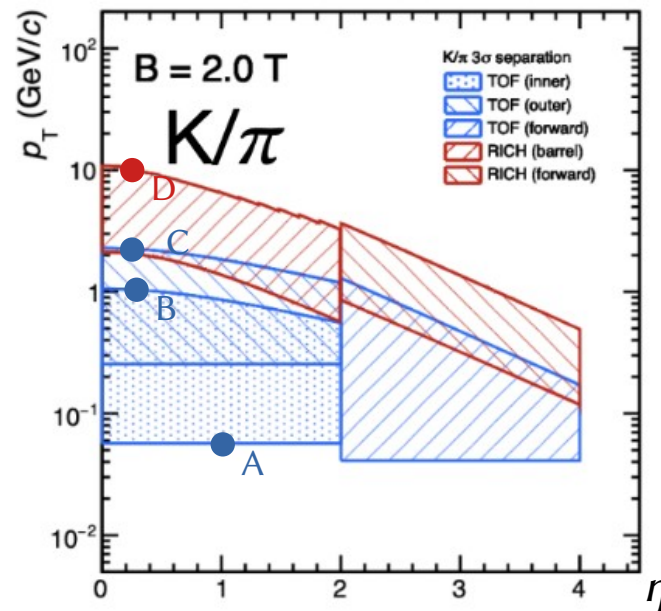
(*demonstrated* in simulation)



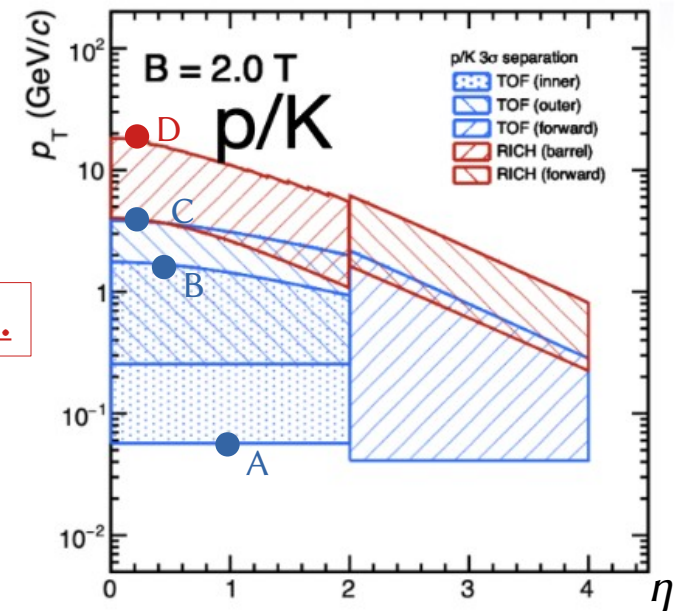
IV.4 – Particle Identification : PID with TOF + RICH



A/ $p_T \approx 0.055$ GeV/c
 B/ $p_T \approx 0.2$ GeV/c
 C/ $p_T \approx 0.7$ GeV/c
 D/ $p_T \approx 3$ GeV/c



A/ $p_T \approx 0.055$ GeV/c
 B/ $p_T \approx 1.0$ GeV/c
 C/ $p_T \approx 2.0$ GeV/c
 D/ $p_T \approx 10$ GeV/c



A/ $p_T \approx 0.055$ GeV/c
 B/ $p_T \approx 1.7$ GeV/c
 C/ $p_T \approx 4.0$ GeV/c
 D/ $p_T \approx 16$ GeV/c

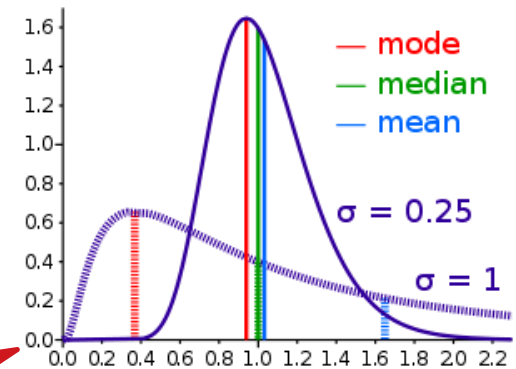
2. [Note the lowest p_T boundaries, at reach due to iTOF and fTOF p_T acceptance ...]



IV.5 – Part. Identification : ex. of net quantum fluctuations

Net quantum number fluctuations at ($\mu_B = 0$)

1. **Q**: net charge ($h^+ - h^-$),
- B**: net baryon ($p - \bar{p}, \Lambda - \bar{\Lambda}, \dots$)
- S**: net strangeness ($K^+ - K^-, \Lambda - \bar{\Lambda}, \dots$)

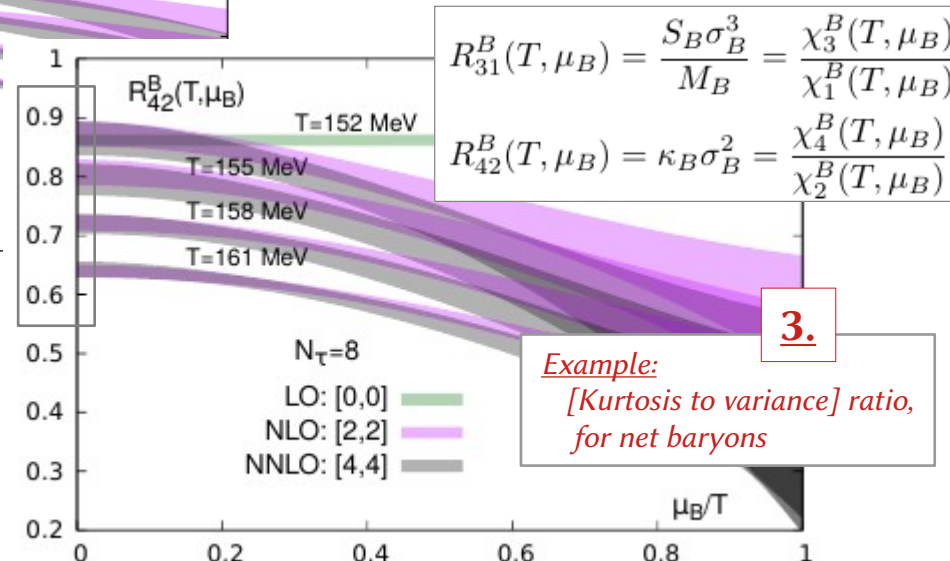
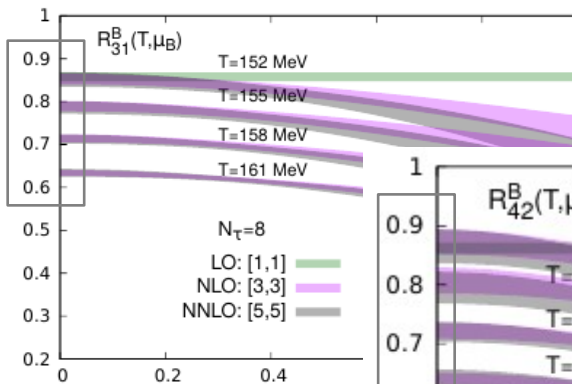


Wikipedia:Skewness

Measure event-by-event fluctuations into **distributions** with $p_T > 0$ GeV/c + over large y

2. (i.e. p_T -integrated quantities)
 - 1st moment, m_1 : mean M
 - 2nd moment, m_2 : variance σ^2
 - 3rd moment, m_3 : $\propto$ skewness S
 - 4th moment, m_4 : $\propto$ kurtosis κ
 - 5th moment, m_5 : *no name*
 - 6th moment, m_6 : ...
 - 7th moment, m_7 : ...

→ key: ratios m_j/m_i (e.g. m_4^B/m_2^B)
to access direct comparison to LQCD for
(deconfinement d.o.f.
+ chiral restoration
+ nature of transitions)



HotQCD, [arXiv:2001.08530](https://arxiv.org/abs/2001.08530)



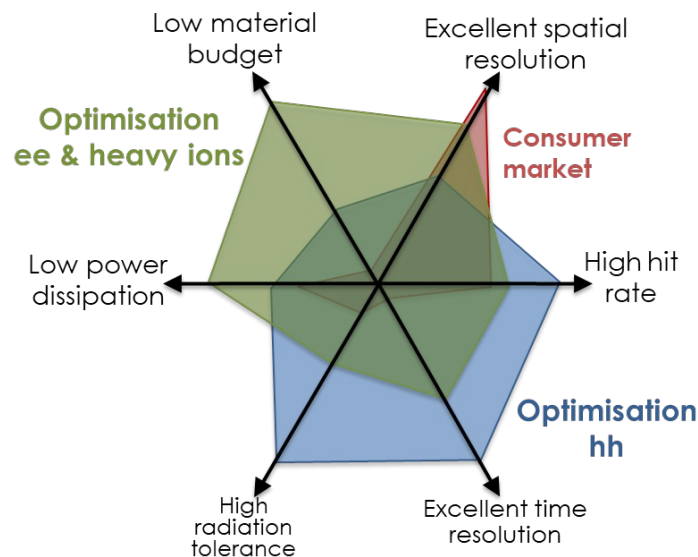
V.1 – ALICE 3 as stepping stone : (e^+e^-) Higgs factories

A. Conclusion 1, out of 4 ([2021 ECFA roadmap](#)) :

”Develop cost-effective detectors matching the precision physics potential of a next-decade Higgs factory with beyond state-of-the-art performance, optimised granularity, resolution and timing, and with ultimate compactness and minimised material budgets”

B. $\exists$ **colinearity** of specifications : [eA, pA, AA // e^+e^-] !

→ calling for **overlap** of R&D on vertexing, tracking, timing, ...



	ITS3	ALICE 3 VTX	ALICE 3 TRK	ePIC	FCC-ee
Single-point res. (μm)	5	2.5	10	5	3
Time res. (ns RMS)	2000	100	100	2000	20
In-pixel hit rate (Hz)	54	96	42		few 100
Fake-hit rate (/pixel/event)	10^{-7}	10^{-7}	10^{-7}		
Power cons. (mW / cm^2)	35	70	20	<40	50
Hit density (MHz/ cm^2)	8.5	96	0.6		200
NIEL (1 MeV $n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$)	$4 \cdot 10^{12}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^{16}$	$4.6 \cdot 10^{13}$	few 10^{12}	10^{14} (/year)
TID (Mrad)	0.3	300	1.7	few 0.1	10 (/year)
Material budget (X_0/layer)	0.09%	0.1%	1%	0.05%	~0.3%
Pixel size (μm)	20	10	50	20	15-20

- Daniela Bortoletto, Si Vertex, Tracking & Timing Sl. 2, [ESPPU Venice](#)
- ALICE, Frontier sensor R&D for ALICE 3, Tab.4 [ESPPU contrib](#)

Courtesy J. Baudot

Conclusions



Conclusions : ALICE 3 features ...

ALICE 3 : a cornerstone experiment to exploit fully the QGP+QCD physics programme at HL-LHC, up to its end,
be it in pp, pA and AA collisions

ALICE 3 equation

- **ultralight** detector (0.1 – 1 % X_0 per layer)
- **hypergranular** tracking (spatial resolution 3-10 μm , = $f(\text{layer})$)
→ prevailing role of CMOS MAPS
- extension towards (ultra) low p_T ($p_T \in [\textcolor{red}{0.05} ; (>10)] \text{ GeV}/c$)
- extension towards (much) more units in η / in y ($|\eta| < \textcolor{red}{4}$)
→ bridge and overlap wrt LHCb η coverage, with a single experiment
- **PID** = a cornerstone (from iTOF to RICH)
- fast reading / very fine time resolution (**25-ns** bunch tagging for $\mu_{\text{pileup}} = 1$)

App. A – HL-LHC, which ion choices ?



A.1 – HL-LHC : large- to small-ion candidates, for which $\mathcal{L}$

ALICE 3 Lol, [arXiv:2211.02491](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.02491) Tab. 1 p.18

Quantity	pp	O–O	Ar–Ar	Ca–Ca	Kr–Kr	In–In	Xe–Xe	Pb–Pb
$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV)	14.00	7.00	6.30	7.00	6.46	5.97	5.86	5.52
L_{AA} (cm ⁻² s ⁻¹)	3.0×10^{32}	1.5×10^{30}	3.2×10^{29}	2.8×10^{29}	8.5×10^{28}	5.0×10^{28}	3.3×10^{28}	1.2×10^{28}
$\langle L_{AA} \rangle$ (cm ⁻² s ⁻¹)	3.0×10^{32}	9.5×10^{29}	2.0×10^{29}	1.9×10^{29}	5.0×10^{28}	2.3×10^{28}	1.6×10^{28}	3.3×10^{27}
$\mathcal{L}_{AA}^{month}$ (nb ⁻¹)	5.1×10^5	1.6×10^3	3.4×10^2	3.1×10^2	8.4×10^1	3.9×10^1	2.6×10^1	5.6
$\mathcal{L}_{NN}^{month}$ (pb ⁻¹)	505	409	550	500	510	512	434	242
R_{max} (kHz)	24 000	2169	821	734	344	260	187	93
μ	1.2	0.21	0.08	0.07	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.01
$dN_{ch}/d\eta$ (MB)	7	70	151	152	275	400	434	682

	pp (2024)	pp (2018)		Pb-Pb (2023)
	ALICE 2	ALICE 1		ALICE 2
$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV)	13,6	13		5,36
L_{AA} (cm ⁻² s ⁻¹)	1×10^{31}	3×10^{30}		$3,5 \times 10^{27}$
$\mathcal{L}_{AA}^{month}$ (MB nb ⁻¹)	$\approx 5 \times 10^3$ nb ⁻¹	≈ 2 nb ⁻¹		≈ 2.0 nb ⁻¹
$\langle R_{max} \rangle$ (kHz)	500			45
Colliding bunches	≈ 2200	≈ 2200		≈ 875
μ	≤ 0.02	≤ 0.02		≤ 0.01

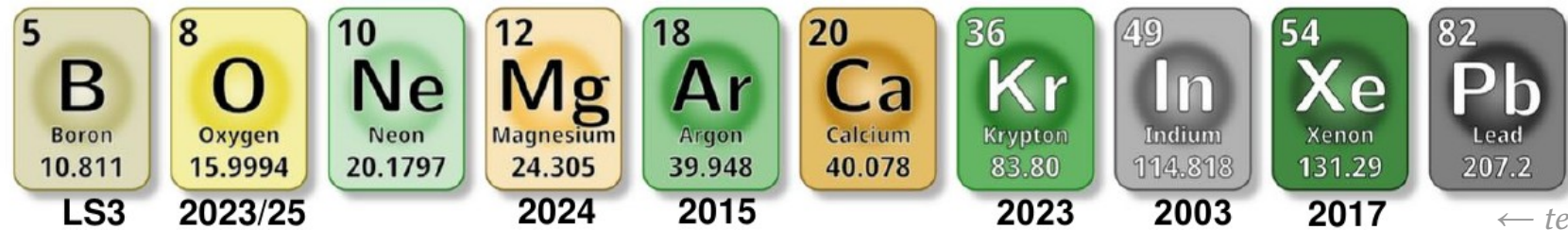
(Beware :
delivered Vs
inspected Vs
actually “recorded” luminosity (skip or trigger) ...
→ for ALICE 3, delivered $\approx$ recorded)



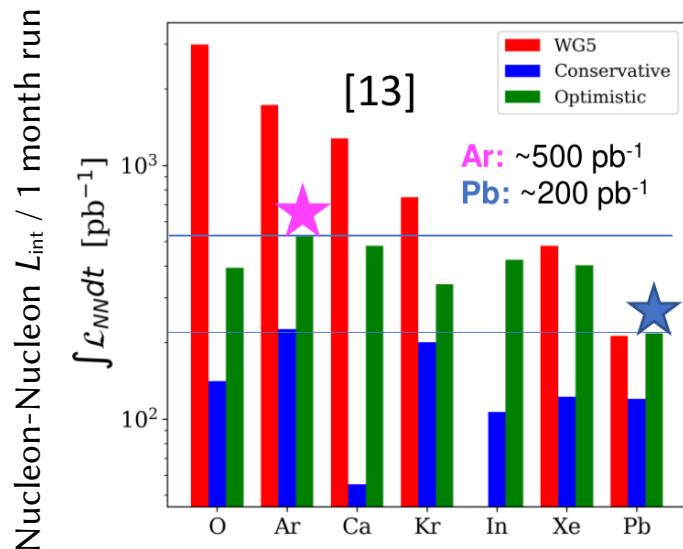
A.2 – HL-LHC : large- to small-ions, uncertainties on $\mathcal{L}$

R. Alemany Fernandez, [LHCP2024](#)

(Elias Waagaard, [ALICE Upgrade Week 2024-10](#) + [IPAC 24](#). See also workshop *Light Ions at LHC* [indico.cern:1436085](#) 2024-11)



← tested already at ~SPS



WG5 (2018):
too optimistic no
Beam Dynamics Limits
(BDL) in the injectors

Conservative:
today's Ion Complex

Optimistic:

- LEIR-PS stripping
- PS no-splitting
- Isotope optimization

NB : Both Conservative and Optimistic includes BDL

= WG5 AA in HL-LHC, [arXiv:1812.06772](#)

= *publication to appear*

New LHC “injector model” under developm^t
→ more accurate estimates
for possible $\int \mathcal{L}_{inst}$ to come

Question :

different species, to achieve better LHC and/or physics performance ?

App. B – General layout

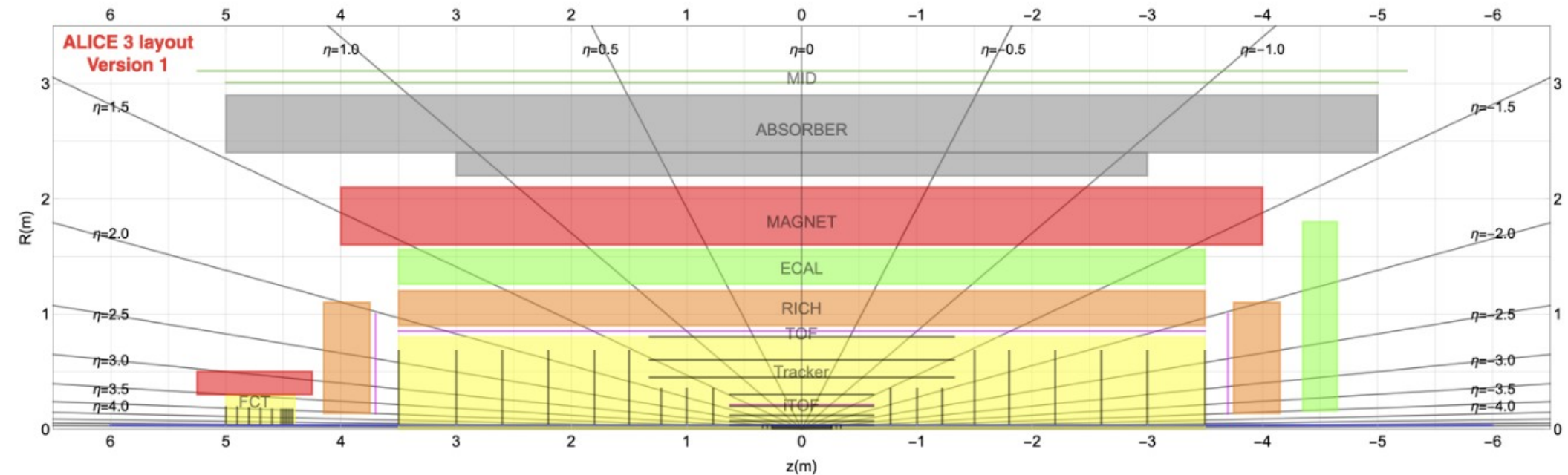
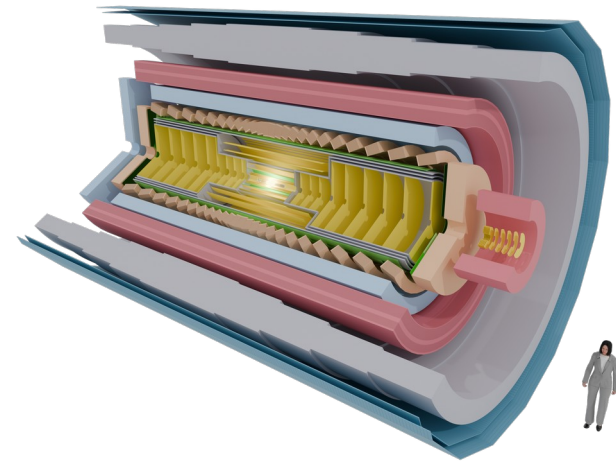


B.1 – ALICE 3 : layout overview, *version 1* Scop. Doc.

Scoping document (2024-08)

[CERN-LHCC-2025-002](#)

+ ALICE 3 Scoping document *Fig.1 version 1 layout* [~LoI]



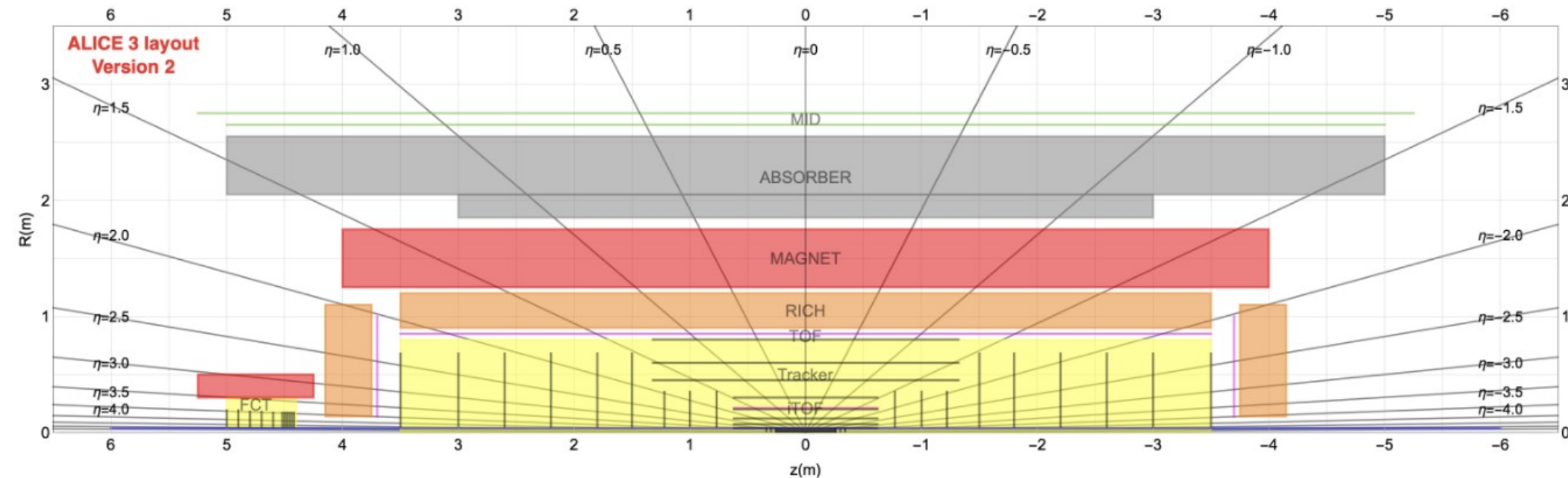


B.2 – ALICE 3 : layout overview, *version 2* Scop. Doc.

Scoping document (2024-08)

[CERN-LHCC-2025-002](#)

+ ALICE 3 Scoping document *Fig.12 [v2] = a scoping option = No ECal = new default in practice*





B.3 – ALICE 3 : superconducting magnet, *version 2* Scop. Doc.

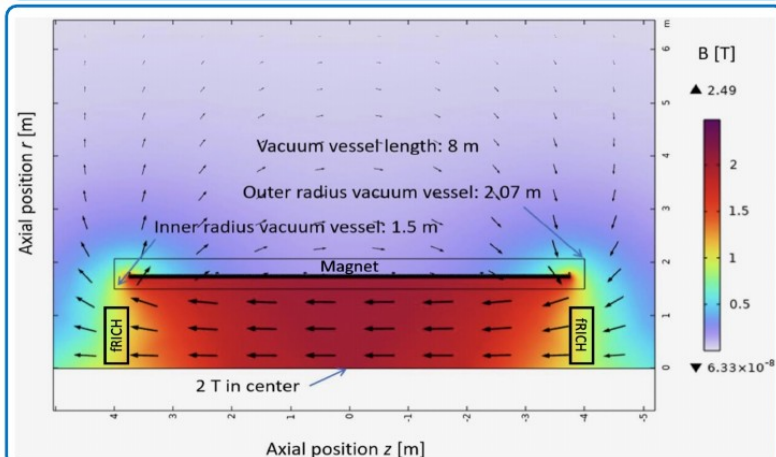
Scoping document (2024-08), Fig.34
CERN-LHCC-2025-002

ALICE 3 talk, QM 2025

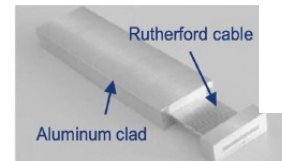
Superconducting 2T solenoid

Superconducting cable: options under investigation

- **Al-cladded Nb-Ti "standard cable"**: baseline technology
- **Cu-cladded Nb-Ti cable**: much heavier, requires specific design
- **Al-cladded MgB₂ cable**: allows larger operation temperature, but requires validation and specific design for a large magnet system



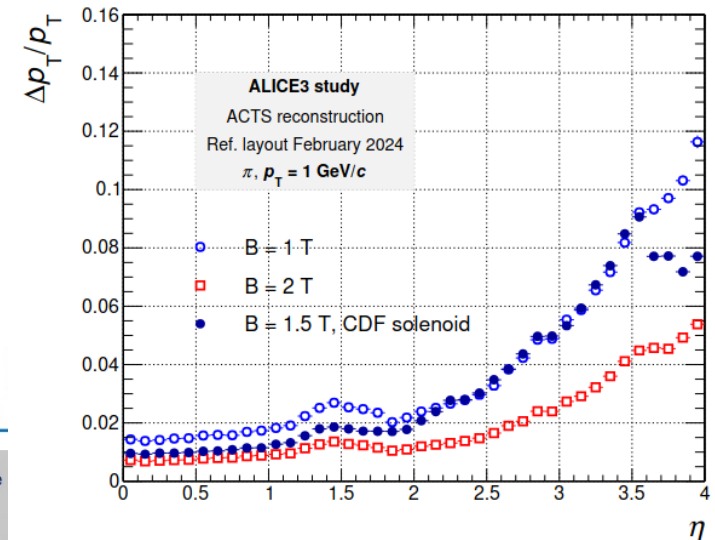
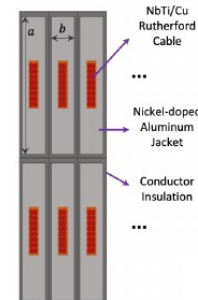
EMuS conductor sample



Aluminum co-extruded cable



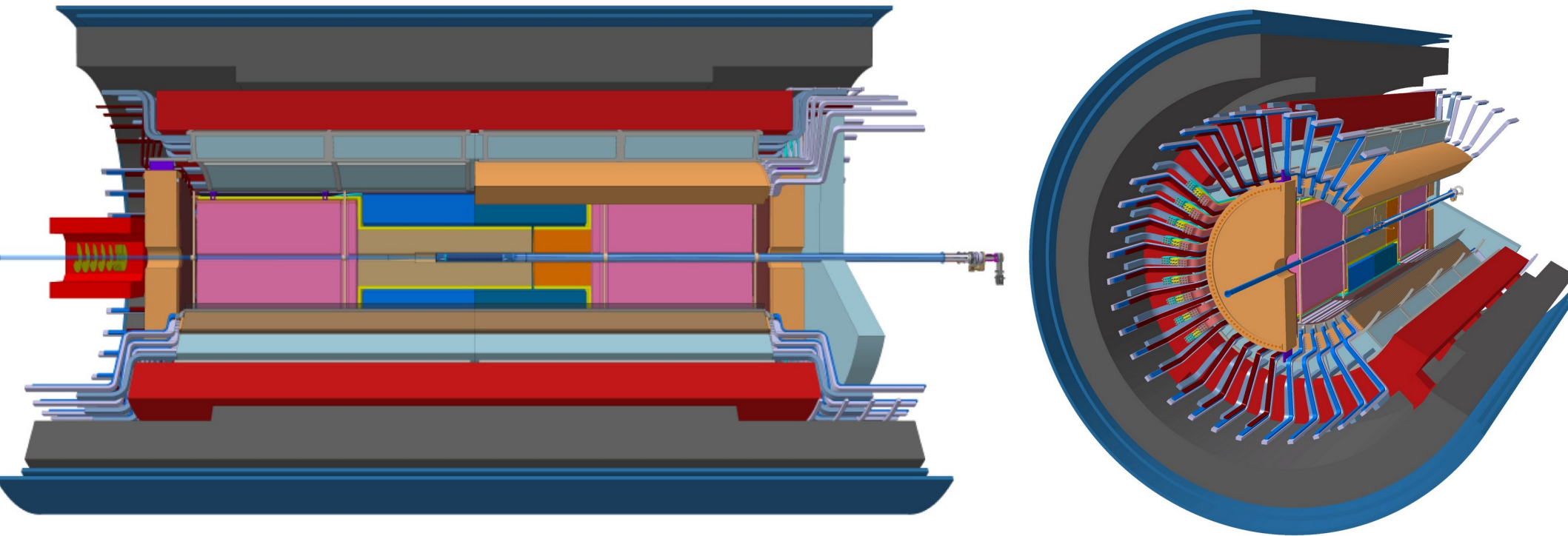
Furukawa





B.4 – ALICE 3 : “peacock” installation layout

[ALICE-PHO-GEN-2025-005](#)





B.4 – ALICE 3 : “peacock” installation layout

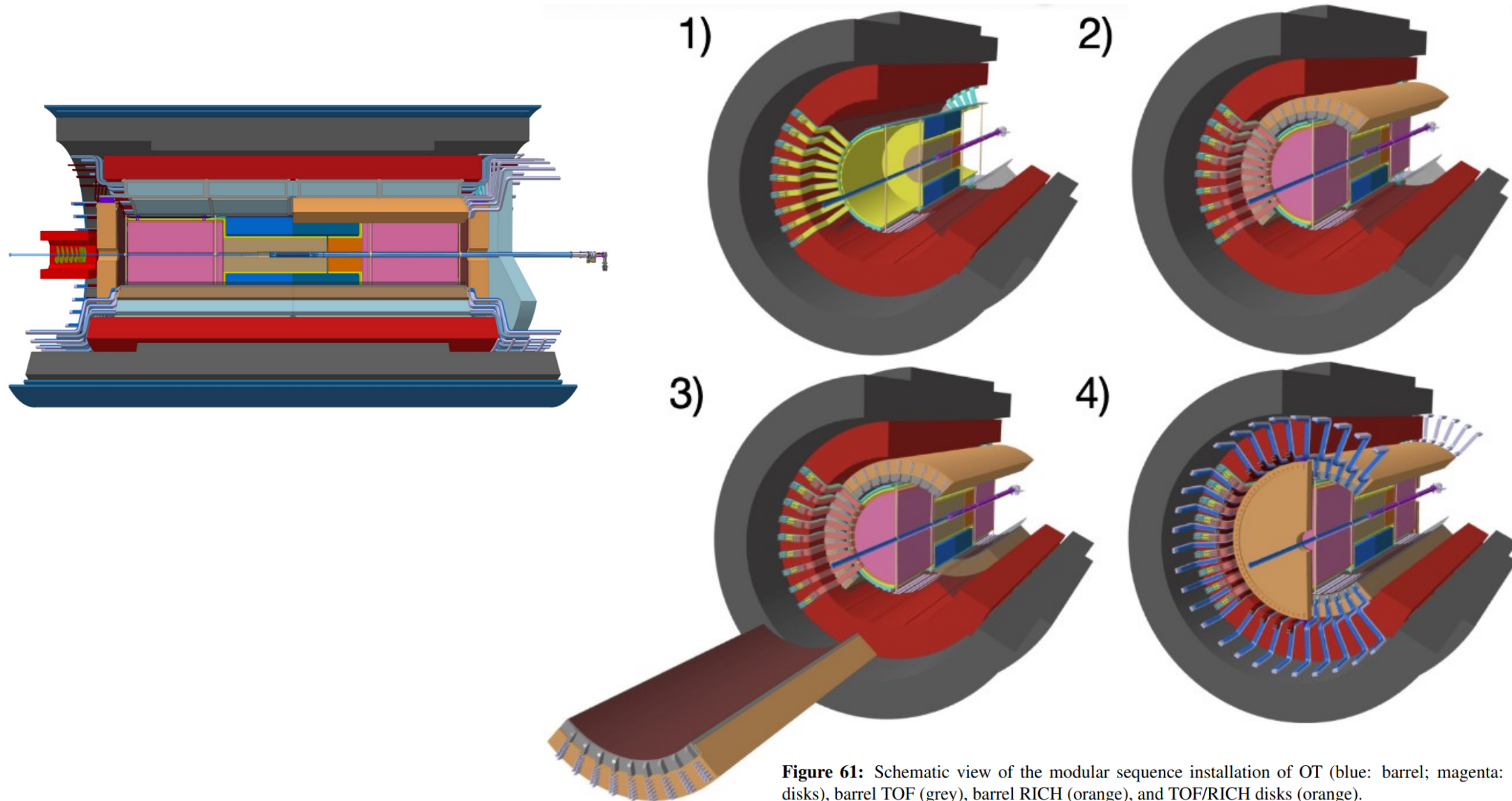
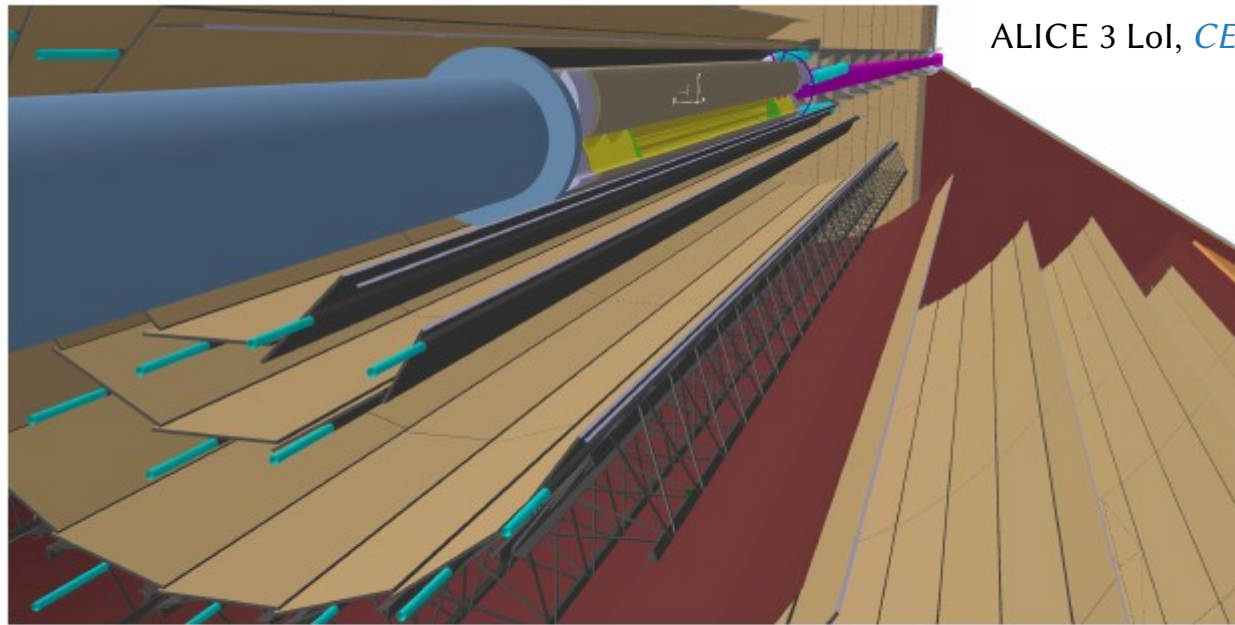


Figure 61: Schematic view of the modular sequence installation of OT (blue: barrel; magenta: disks), barrel TOF (grey), barrel RICH (orange), and TOF/RICH disks (orange).

App. C – ALICE 3 sub-systems



ALICE 3 LoI, [CERN-LHCC-2022-009](#)

Figure 83: Sketch of the outer tracker mechanics. Modules assembled in staves structures are visible as well as services and power lines. Furthermore, the overlap of the staves can be seen.

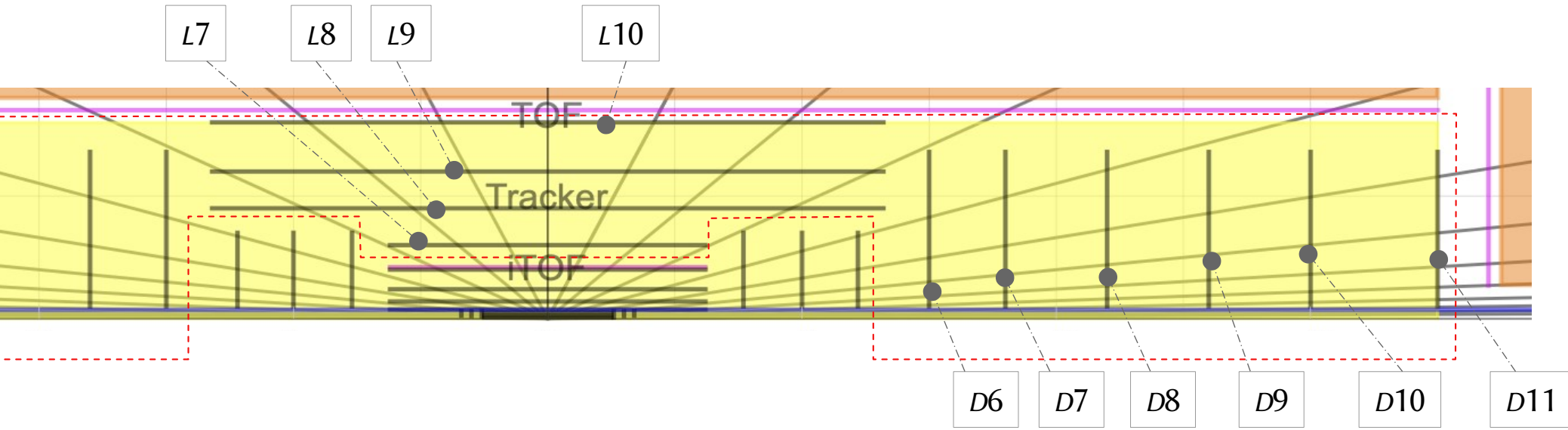
- Barrel basis = carbon spaceframes (ITS2-like)
- Endcap basis = double-side sandwich with alternate column of modules



C.1 – OT staves & discs : layout and surfaces

Zoom on [*Outer Tracker*] + [*Inner tracker- Middle Tracker*]

Scoping document (2024-08)
CERN-LHCC-2025-002



ALICE 2 preamble :

- ° ITS2 sensitive area (*i.e.* active silicon without periphery on ALPIDE) $\approx 9.99 \text{ m}^2$
- ° MFT sensitive area $\approx 0.37 \text{ m}^2$

→ ALICE 3 OT $\approx \underline{50 \text{ m}^2}$ of plain acceptance geometry in total (*i.e.* naïve discs and cylinder models)

- OT Barrel $\approx 33 \text{ m}^2$ → $O[3 \times \text{ITS2}]$
- OT forward discs $\approx 6 \times (2 \text{ m}^2 / \text{disc plane}) = \underline{12 \text{ m}^2} \text{ } 8.7 \text{ m}^2$ → $O[1 \times \text{ITS2 or } 23 \times \text{MFT}]$
- OT backward discs = same $\approx \underline{12 \text{ m}^2} \text{ } 8.7 \text{ m}^2$ (*may depend on FCT requirements*)
- IT-Middle Tracker $\approx 5.95 \text{ m}^2$ → $O[\frac{1}{2} \times \text{ITS2}]$

4-layer barrel $\approx 3,73 \text{ m}^2$

2x3-disc endcaps $\approx 2,22 \text{ m}^2$



C.2 – TOF : specifications and layout

Table 10: TOF specifications. The Outer TOF barrel length, the Forward TOF radius and the hit rates have been updated with respect to the LoI values.

	Inner TOF	Outer TOF	Forward TOF disks
Radius (m)	0.19	0.85	0.15 to 1.0
z range (m)	−0.62 to 0.62	−3.50 to 3.50	± 3.70
Area (m ²)	1.5	37	6
Acceptance	$ \eta < 1.9$	$ \eta < 2$	$2 < \eta < 4$
Granularity (mm ²)	1×1	5×5	1×1 to 5×5
Hit rate (kHz/cm ²)	200	15	280
Material thickness (% X_0)	1 to 3	1 to 3	1 to 3
Power density (mW/cm ²)	50	50	50
Time resolution (ps)	20	20	20



C.3 – RICH : specifications and layout

Table 12: RICH specifications. The RICH barrel length and the Forward RICH radius have been updated with respect to the LoI values.

	barrel RICH	forward RICH disks
Radius (m)	0.9 to 1.2	0.15 to 1.15
z range (m)	-3.50 to 3.50	$3.75 < z < 4.15$
Surface (m ²)	28	9
Acceptance	$ \eta < 2$	$2 < \eta < 4$
Granularity (mm ²)	2×2	2×2

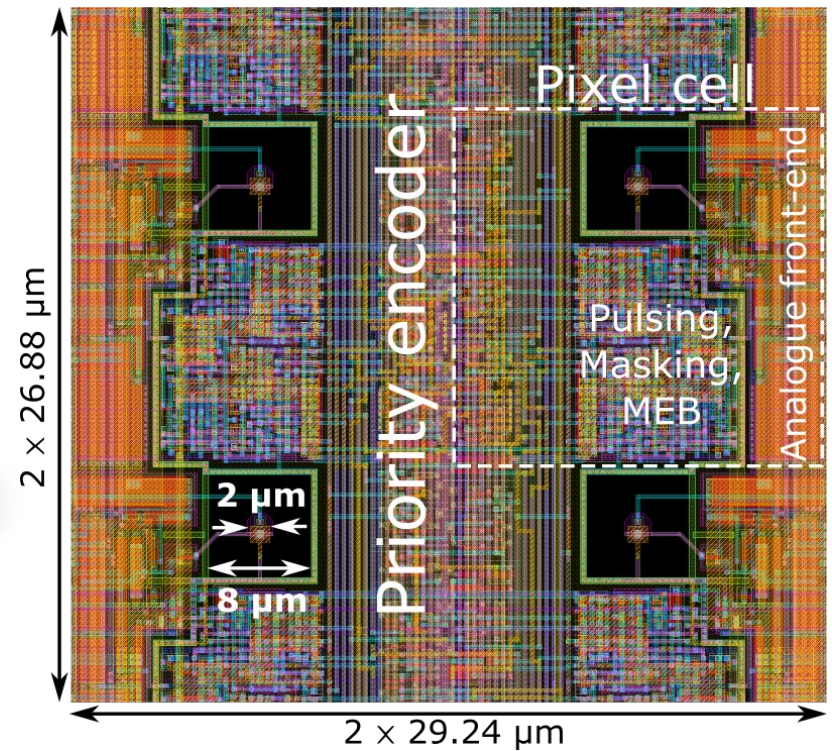
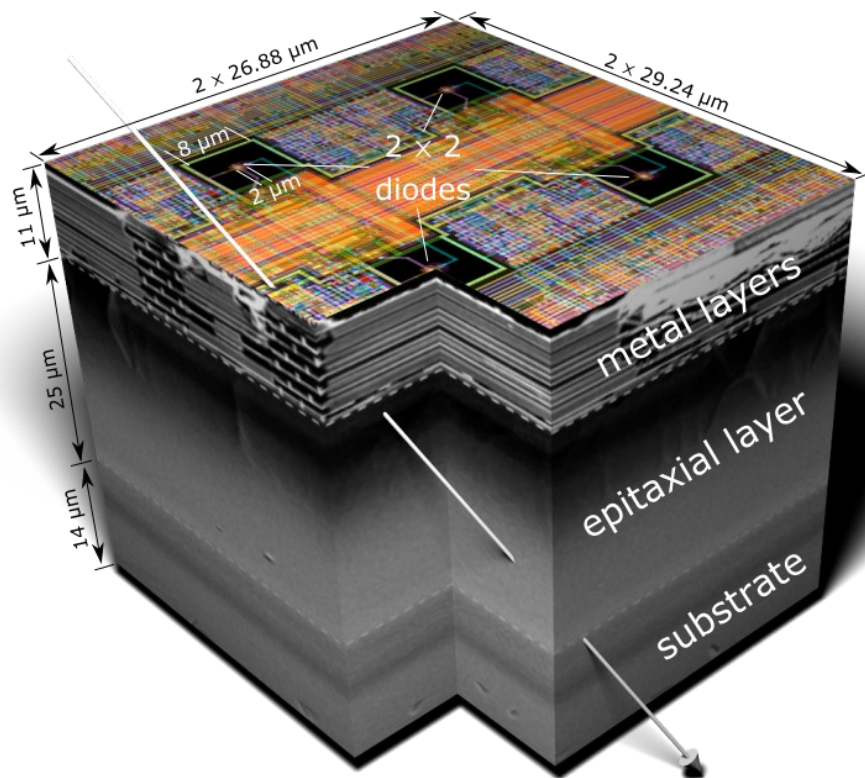
App. D – CMOS sensor



D.1 – Background : MAPS, Monolithic Active Pixel Sensors



Ex: sensor using
TowerSemiconductor 180-nm CMOS Imaging Process



ITS2 ALPIDE – 3D and 2D views of 2x2 pixels
(Here, in the 50-μm-thick version...)



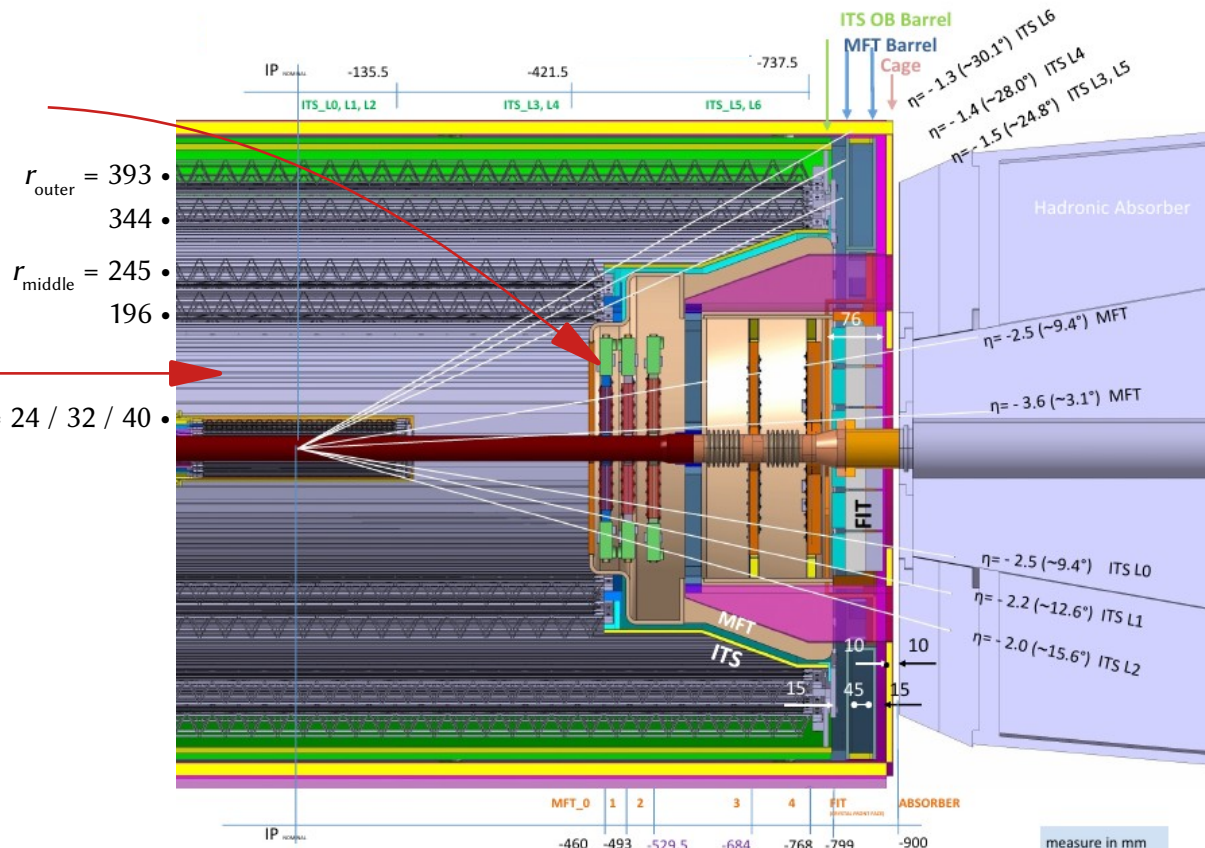
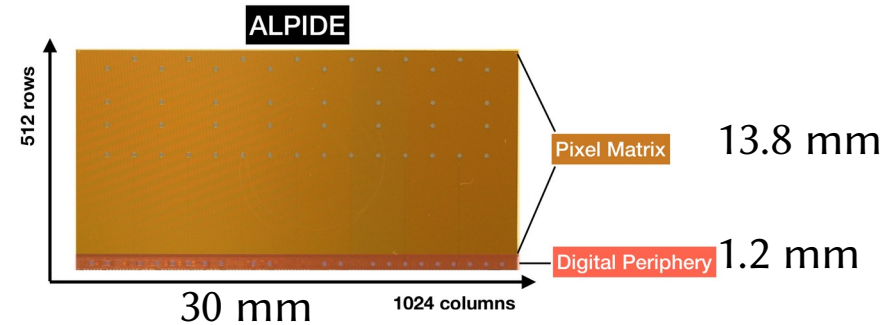
D.2 – Background : ITS2+MFT, MAPS-based detectors for Run 3

MFT

5 double-sided vertical discs
 896 ALPIDE chips
 0.47×10^9 pixels
 = 0.37 m^2 of *sensitive area*
 (3.7% of ITS2 area) •

ITS2

7 layers as barrel structure
 24120 ALPIDE chips,
 12.6×10^9 pixels
 = 9.99 m^2 of *sensitive area*
 (10.85 m^2 of active *silicon*, incl. *periphery*) •



	L0,L1,L2	L3+L4	L5+L6
Layers	Inner	Middle	Outer
Chips	432	6048	17640
Active surface	0.18 m^2	2.50 m^2	7.30 m^2
Fraction	1.8%	25%	73%



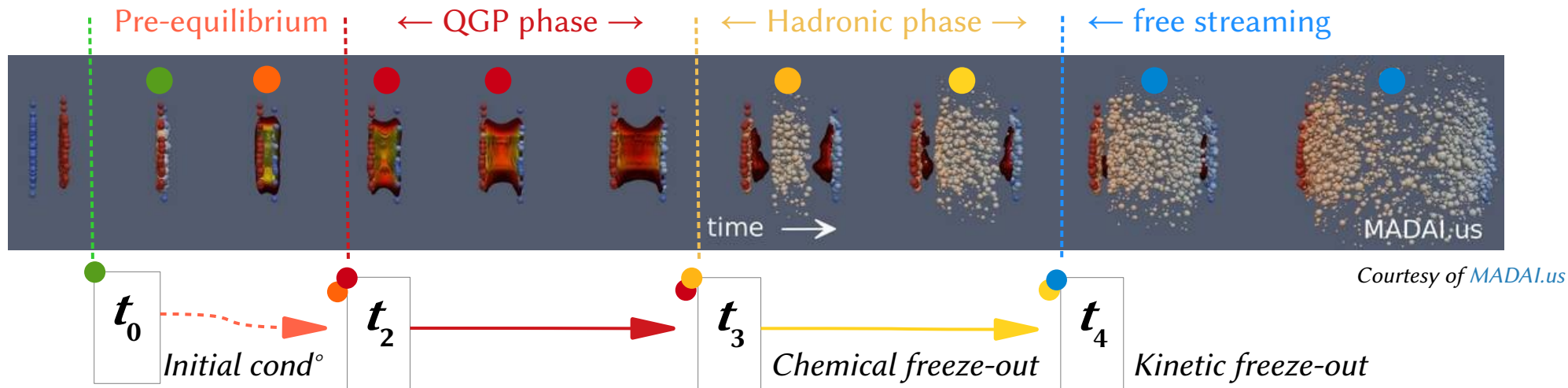
D.3 – CMOS : vertexer and tracker specifications

	ALICE ITS3	ALICE 3		FCC-ee
		Vertex Detector	Tracker (ML/OT)	
Position resolution (μm)	5	2.5	10	3
Pixel size (μm^2)	O(20 x 20)	O(10 x 10)	O(50 x 50)	O(25 x 25) ?
Time resolution (ns RMS)	O(1000)	100	100	20 ?
In-pixel hit rate (Hz)	54	94	42 (barrel)	2350
Fake-hit rate (/ pixel / event)	<10 ⁻⁷			?
Power consumption (mW / cm ²)	35	70	20	50
Particle hit density (MHz / cm ²)	8.5	94	0.6	400
Non-Ionising Energy Loss (1 MeV n _{eq} / cm ²)	3 x 10 ¹²	1 x 10 ¹⁶	6 x 10 ¹³	~ 6 x 10 ¹² / year
Total Ionising Dose (Mrad)	0.3	300	3 (barrel)	~ 4 / year
X/X ₀ / layer	0.09% (average) 0.07% (most of active region)	0.1%	1.0%	0.15%

App. E – Template for QCD+QGP phys. cases



E.1 – Observables : Layer 1 / as a func. of the collision time



0.

- Coherent E_{loss}
- nPDF
- shadowing
- CGC
- + fluctuations
- ...



1.

- Level of :
 - . (non)Hydrodynamisation
 - . chemical (non)equilibration
 - . (non)Thermalisation
- via
- Multi-Parton Interactions*
- + *Colour Reconnections*
- + *Multiple parton scatterings*
- + *Rope shoving*
- + *Glasma ...*

Vs parton showering



2.

- Degrees of freedom
- Phase transitions :
 - . Chiral symm. restoration
 - . Deconfinement
- Eq° of State
- Transport coefficients
- Radiative/Collisional E_{loss}
- ...



3+4.

- . Sudden freeze-out
- . HBT/Femtoscopy
- . Recombination/coalescence
- . Hadronic re-interactions
- ...



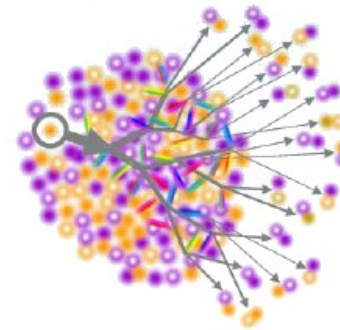
E.2 – Observables : Layer 2 / as a function of *momentum*

A. low- p_T “collectivity” ($p_T \leq 2-3 \text{ GeV}/c$)



$\approx$ relativistic hydrodynamics,
barely viscous

B. high- p_T “collectivity” ($p_T \geq 6-8 \text{ GeV}/c$)



$\approx$ in-medium energy losses for energetic particles



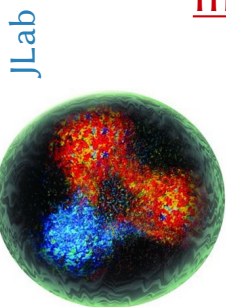
E.3 – Observables : Layer 3 / as a function of y (twice)

Initial state

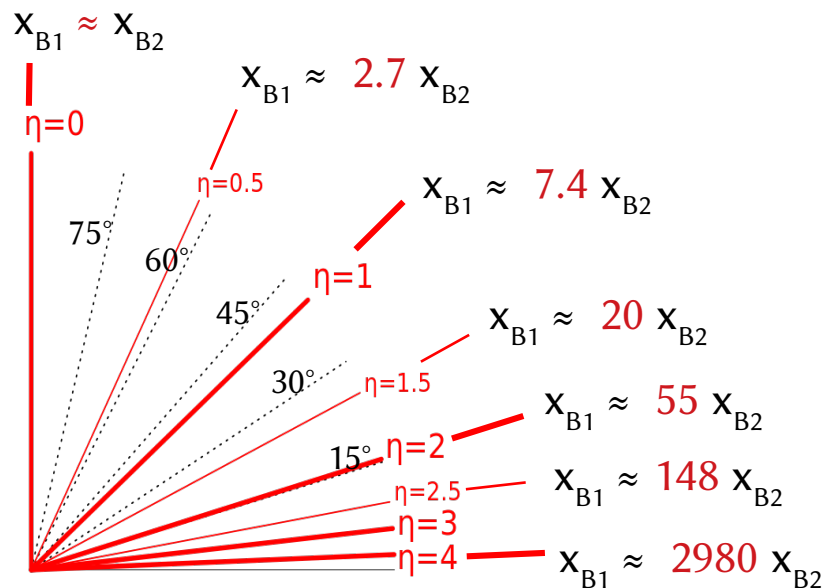
- I. ultra-low x_B ($x_B \leq 10^{-5}$)
- II. low x_B ($x_B \in [10^{-5} ; 10^{-3}]$)
- III. moderate x_B ($x_B \in [10^{-3} ; 10^{-1}]$)

Longitudinal dynamics

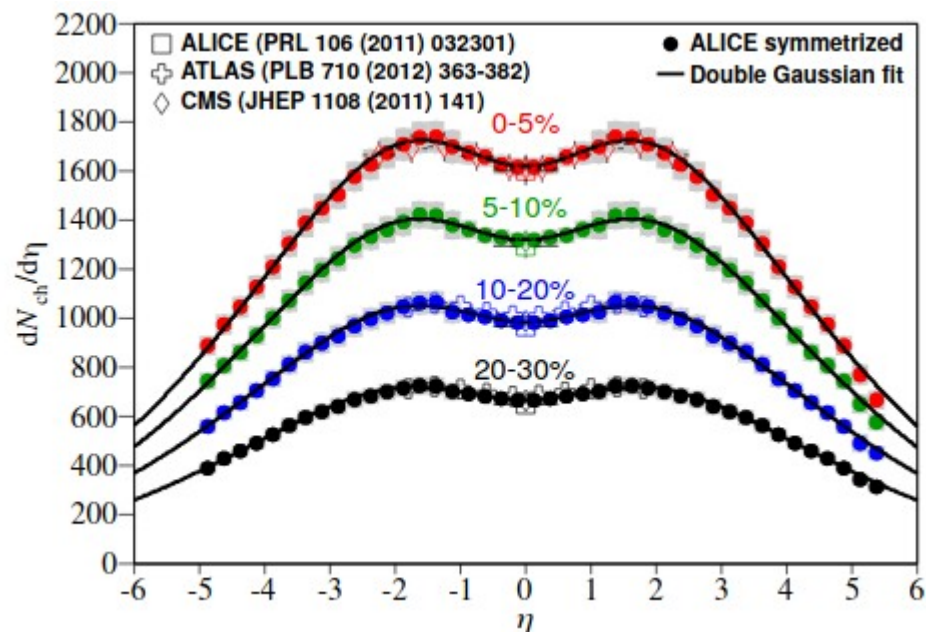
- I'. $|y| < 2$: max = rapidity plateau in $dN_{ch}/d\eta$
- II'. $|y| \approx 3.5$: 75% $(dN_{ch}/d\eta)_{max}$
- III'. $|y| \approx 5.0$: 45% $(dN_{ch}/d\eta)_{max}$



$$Q^2 = s x_{B1} x_{B2}$$



* if $y \approx \eta$ ($m \ll p$)
+ same type of beams (A/Z)



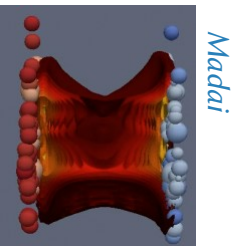
ALICE, [arXiv:1304.0347](https://arxiv.org/abs/1304.0347)



E.4 – Observables : Layer 4 / as a function of flavours

« hadron-quark duality »

$g + u, d, s, c, b (t) \Leftrightarrow$



Madai

u, d, s

- $\pi^\pm \pi^0 K^\pm K_s^0 \dots p \Lambda \Sigma^\pm(uus) \Xi^\mp(dss), \Omega^\mp(sss) \dots$
 $\eta(547) \omega(782) \dots K^0(892) \phi(1020) \Sigma^\pm(1385) \Lambda(1520) \Xi^0(1530)$
 $+ d t \ ^3\text{He}^{2+} \ ^4\text{He}^{2+} \dots$
 $+ \ ^3_\Lambda\text{H}, \ ^4_\Lambda\overline{\text{He}}^{2+} \rightarrow \ ^3\text{He}^{2+} p \pi^- .$

c

- $D^0 D^+ D^{*+} D_s^+ \dots \eta_c J/\psi \chi_{c1} \psi(2S) \dots$
 $\Lambda_c^+(udc) \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+ \text{ or } p K_s^0 \quad (c\tau \approx 60 \mu\text{m})$
 $\Xi_c^+(usc) \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+ \text{ or } \Xi^- 2\pi^+ \quad (c\tau \approx 136 \mu\text{m})$
 $\Xi_c^0(dsc) \rightarrow \Xi^- \pi^+ \quad (c\tau \approx 45 \mu\text{m})$
 $\Omega_c^0(ssc) \rightarrow \Omega^- \pi^+ \quad (c\tau \approx 80 \mu\text{m})$
 $\Xi_{cc}^{2+}(ucc), \dots, \Omega_{ccc}^{2+}(ccc)$
 $+ c\text{-deuteron } (\Lambda_c n)^+ \rightarrow d K^- \pi^+ ? \ c\text{-triton } (n \Lambda_c n)^+ ?$
 $\text{tetraquark } [X(3872) \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+ \pi^-], T_{cc}^+$

b

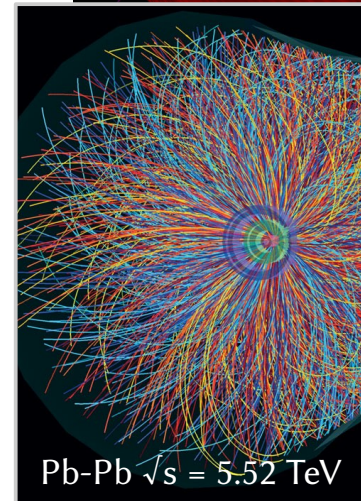
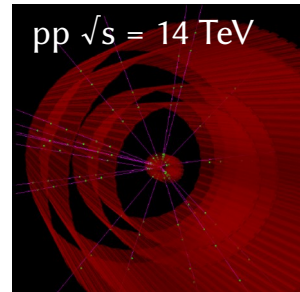
- heavy-flavour ($\mu^\pm, e^\pm$)
- $B^0 B^\pm B_s^0 \dots Y(1S, 2S, 3S) \dots$
 $\Lambda_b^0(udb) \rightarrow \Lambda_c^+ \pi^- \dots \Xi_B^-(dsb), \Omega_B^-(ssb)$

NB :

baryons Vs mesons

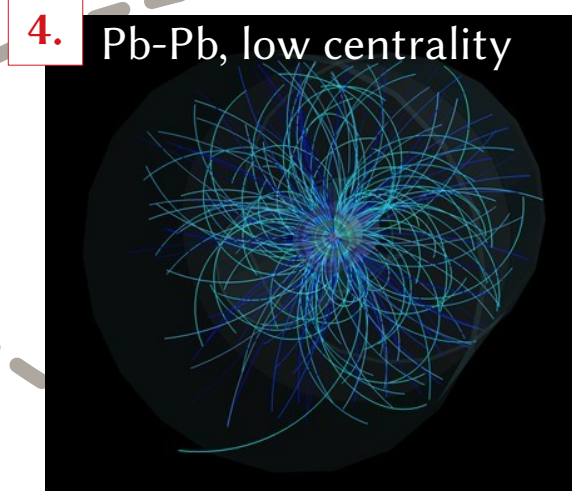
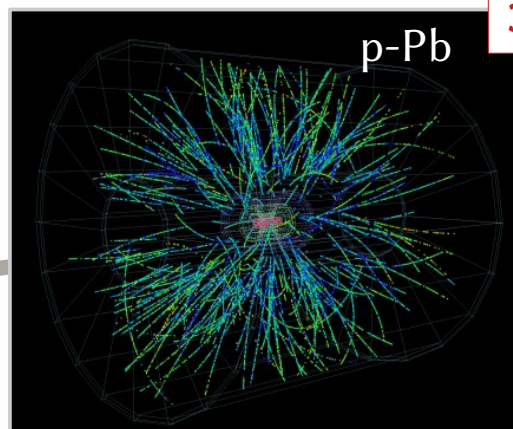
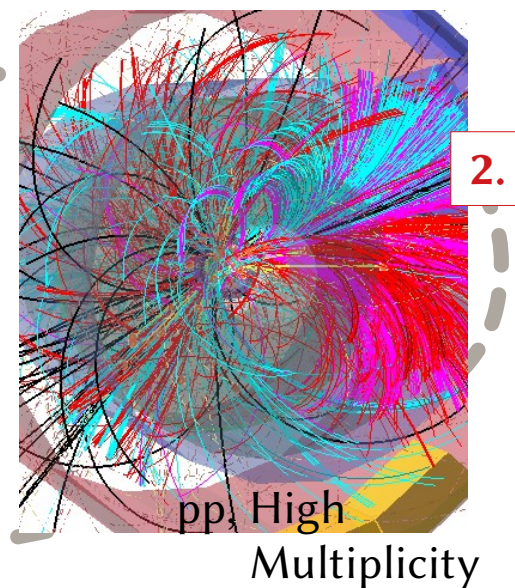
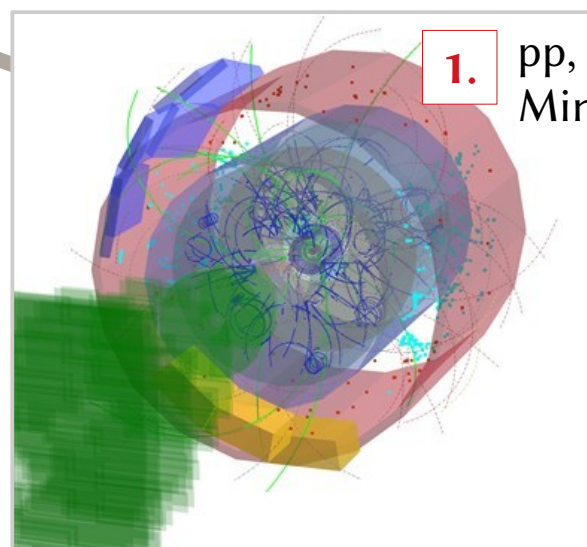
mixed flavours ($s+c, s+b, \dots c+b \dots$)

- (• $e^\pm \mu^\pm \gamma$)
- (• $W^\pm \gamma/Z^0$)

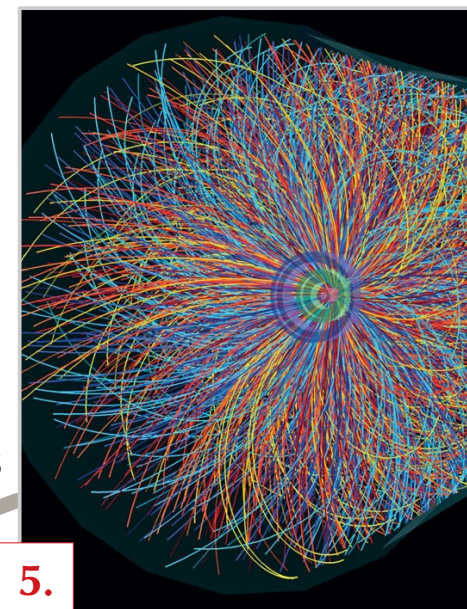




E.5 – Observables : Layer 5 / as a funct° of the coll° system



Pb-Pb,
most central events

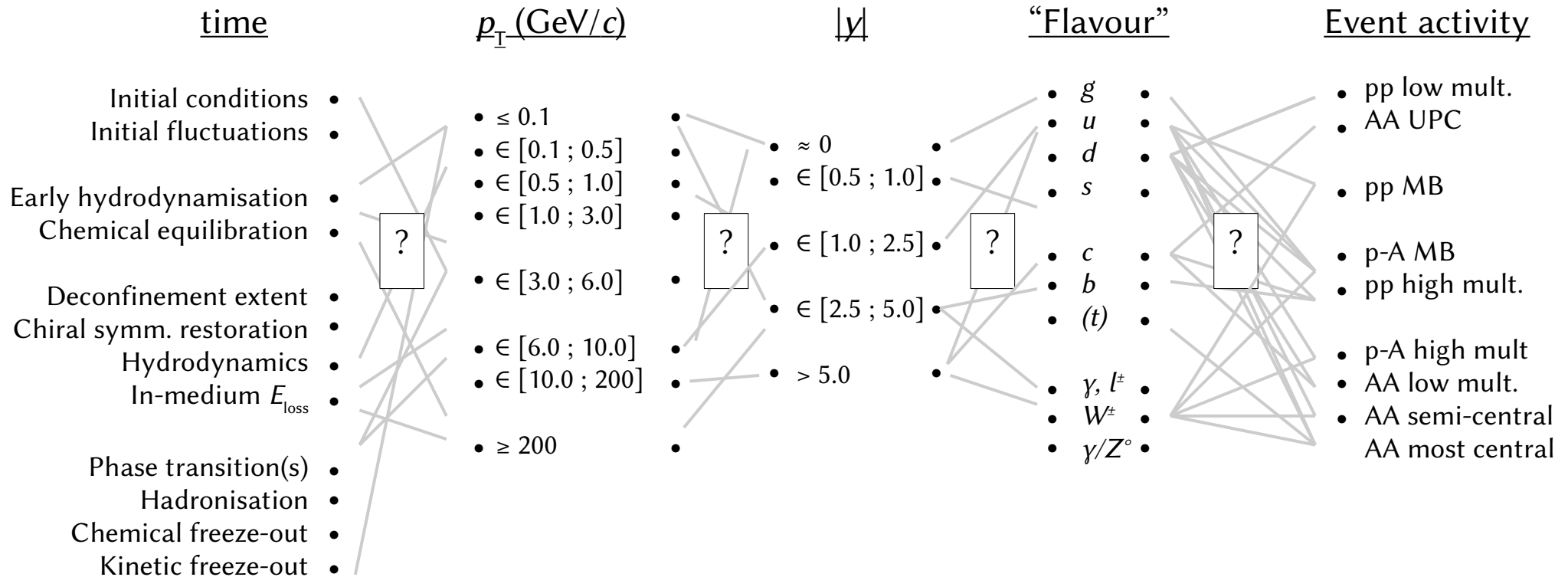


CDS/record-1305398



E.6 – Observables : paths through the multi-layer mesh

The multi-variate and interleaved families of QCD+QGP observables :



(HL-)LHC watchword for ($\geq$ Run III) : “precision era” pushed on many fronts

i.e. fight for ($\sigma_{\text{stat}} \approx \text{negligible}$) $\otimes$ ($\sigma_{\text{syst}} \leq 1\text{-}5\%$) as much as possible

Note : QCD+QGP physics is both i) a bulk physics + ii) a rare-probe physics

→ Nowadays, precision then implies extreme cases on both fronts ... (*i.e.* also for abundant observables)

(*e.g.* multi-differential, multi-correlated probes, ≤ 1 High-Mult. evt every $[10^6\text{-}10^9]$ MB pp evts ...)

App F . – Physics cases



F.1 – Questions in ≈ 2036 : 10 benchmark questions

01. What are the thermodynamic properties of the QGP at the LHC?
02. What are the hydrodynamic and transport properties of the QGP?
03. How does the QGP affect the formation of hadrons?
04. How does the QGP affect the propagation of energetic partons ?
05. How does deconfinement in the QGP affect the QCD force ?
06. Can the QGP lead to discovery of novel QCD effects?
07. What are the limits/minimal conditions of QGP formation?
08. What is the nature of the initial state of heavy-ion collisions ?
09. What is the nature of hadron-hadron interactions?
10. Can ALICE tackle some BSM physics ?

Benchmarking our
Research
through the years

e.g.
ALICE white paper
= Runs 1+2 outcome

Questions present in:

- Introduction
(where we were before
/outside LHC)
- Conclusion
(where we are after
ALICE Runs1+2)



F.2 – Questions in ≈ 2036 : answers by ALICE 3

Questions	ALICE 3 answers
01 Thermodynamics	T_{e+e-} , net quantum fluctuations
02 Hydrodynamics+ transport	Diffusion coefficient for c,b, v_n (HF baryons and mesons)
03 Hadronisation	Family of multi-HF hadrons (Ξ_{cc} et al), beauty hadrons beyond $B^{0,\pm}$
04 Energetic-parton propagation	D- $\bar{D}$ correlations (e.g. $D^0-\bar{D}^0$) in AA, fully-tag HF jets, recoil jet techniques
05 In-medium impact on QCD force	$\eta_c \rightarrow$ baryons, $J/\psi \rightarrow \mu\mu$, χ_{cJ}
06 Novel QCD effects	Chiral Magnetic Effect (CME), Disoriented Chiral Condensate (DCC)
07 Roots of collectivity	High multiplicity (pp, pA) with low bias, light-ion “scan”
08 Initial stage	UPC γ -Pb vector mesons (J/ψ , ...), D- $\bar{D}$ correlations in pA (e.g. $D^0-\bar{D}^0$), CGC with FoCal
09 Hadron-hadron interaction	D^x-D^y pairs ($x \neq y$), $\chi_{c1}(3872)$, T_{cc} , nuclei $A \leq 6$, hypernucl $A=4$, charm nuclei c-deuteron (Λ_c^+n)
10 BSM search	$\gamma\gamma$ scattering with $m < 5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$, axion-like particle search



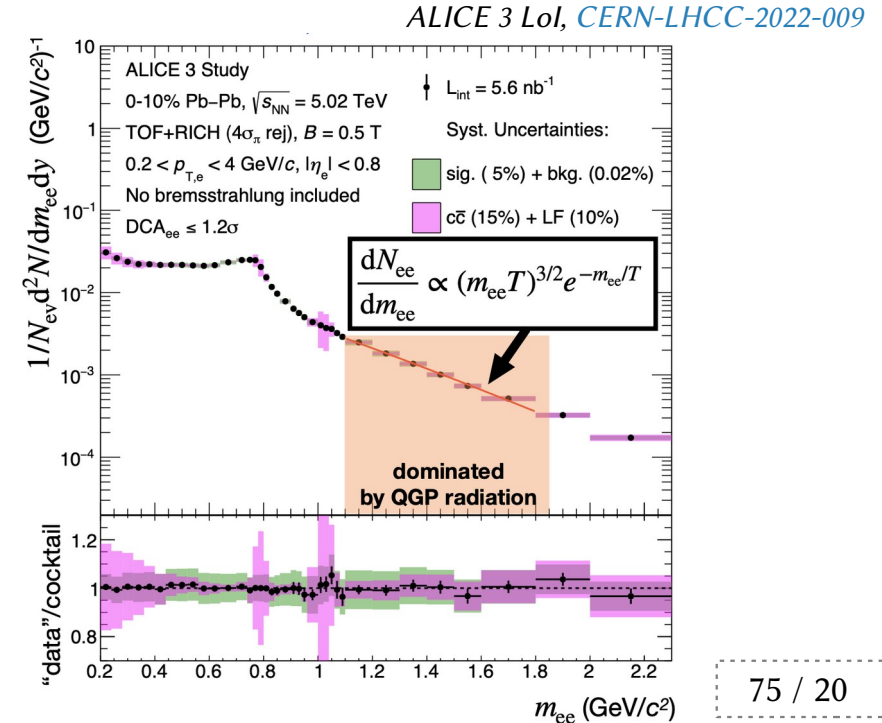
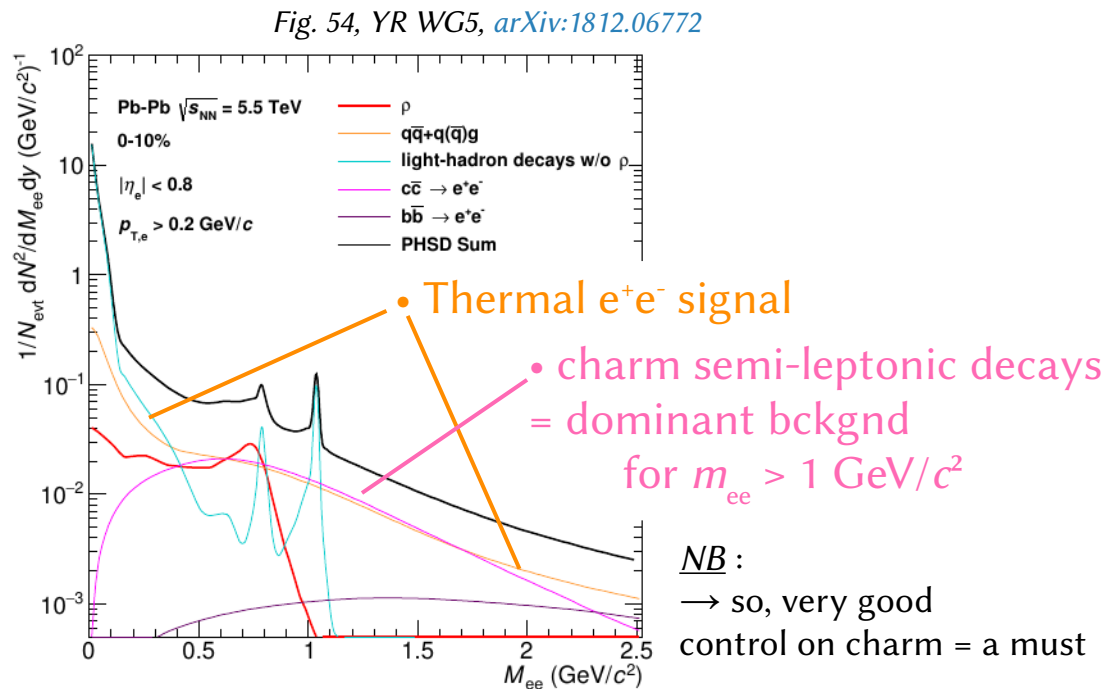
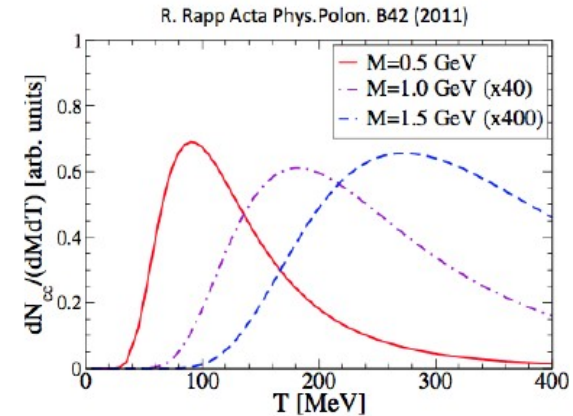
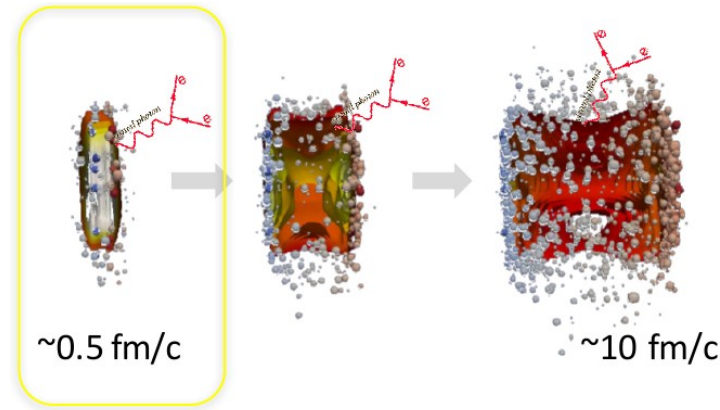
F.3 – HL-LHC QCD+QGP : for which physics cases ?

1. Measuring QGP temperature = $f(\text{time})$ [low mass e^+e^-]
2. Nature of phase transitions (deconfinement + chirality) :
Connecting to LQCD + asserting Hydrodynamics [ultra low p_T]
3. Understanding in-medium energy loss [Jets shapes and structures]
4. Challenging the flavour dependence of collectivity [s, c, b]
5. Searching for “SM/BSM” [...]



F.4 – HL-LHC QCD+QGP : low mass (e^+e^-) as virtual γ

1. QGP temperature = $f(\text{time})$
via thermal virtual photons
($m_{e^+e^-} \in [0; 2.5] \text{ GeV}/c^2$)
 $\rightarrow$ high $m_{e^+e^-}$ = high T ,
i.e. early times





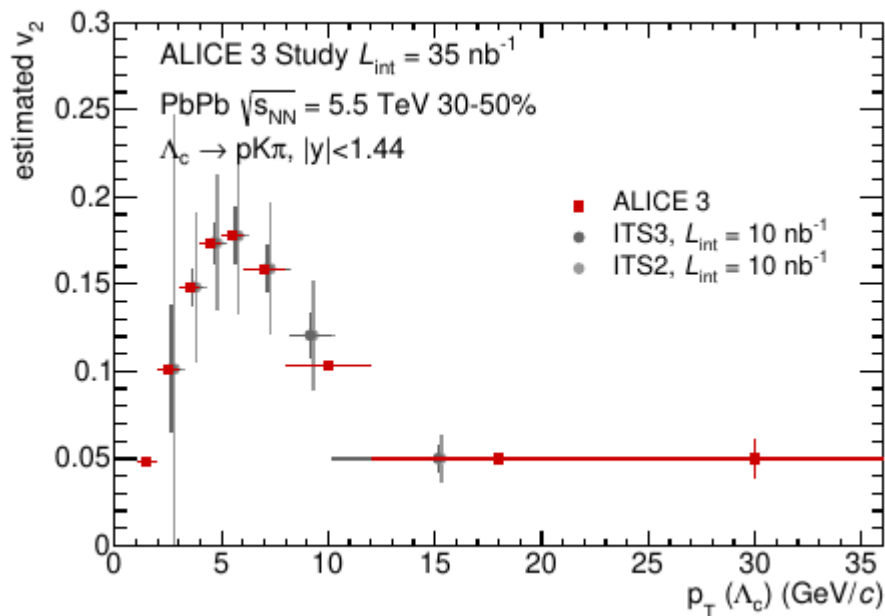
F.5 – Pb-Pb : why take still Pb-Pb data ?

How much smaller than $v_2(\text{charm})$ is $v_2(\text{beauty})$? Is $v_2(\text{beauty}) \neq 0$?

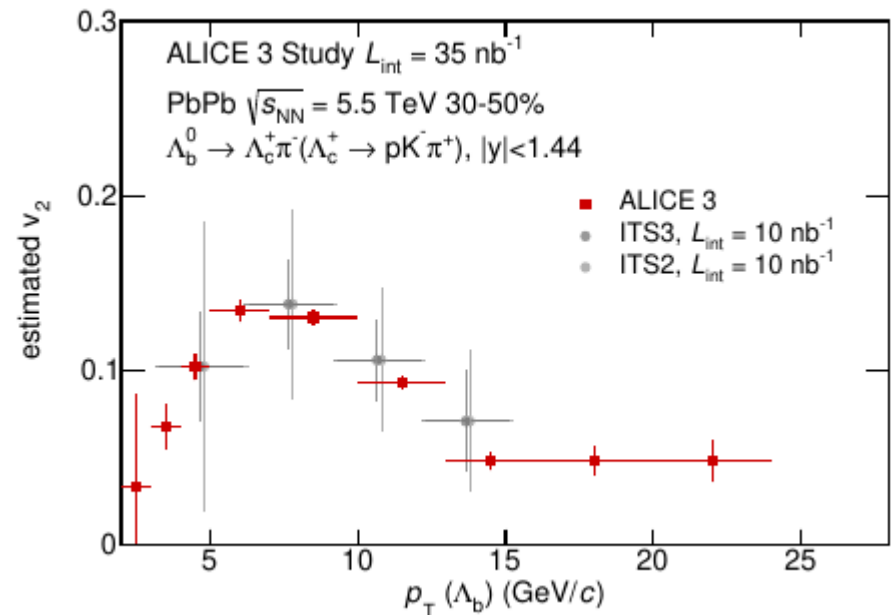
→ Examples of accuracy for single-HF baryons

(Note: some hypotheses for scale of v_2 for charm, for beauty below... but important = size of σ_{tot})

$\Lambda_c^+(udc)$ ($m = 2.286 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ / $c\tau = 60 \mu\text{m}$)



$\Lambda_b^0(udb)$ ($m = 5.619 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ / $c\tau = 441 \mu\text{m}$)



Key of improvement between ALICE 2.0 (run 3), ALICE 2.1 (run 4) and **ALICE 3** ?

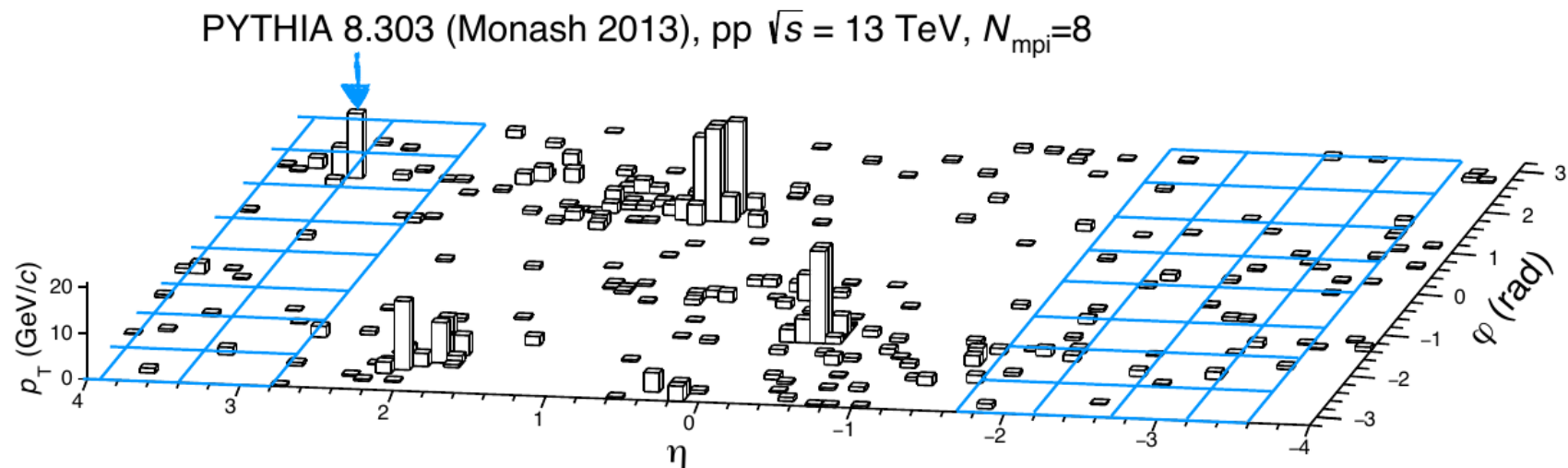
$\neq L_{\text{int}}$, but rather the instrument: ALICE 3 pointing resolution and AxEff



F.6 – ~~Pb-Pb~~ but sthg else : smaller systems for *themselves*

“Root of collectivity”

1. Collect higher luminosities of small systems ...
2. with a more suitable camera :
Investigate lighter ions (Xe, Kr, Ar, O, ...) down to pp
with a large acceptance in $[\eta, (\text{ultra}) \text{ low } p_T]$
i.e. with less bias in the event activity estimator
(multiplicity, R_T , jet veto, flattenicity, ...)

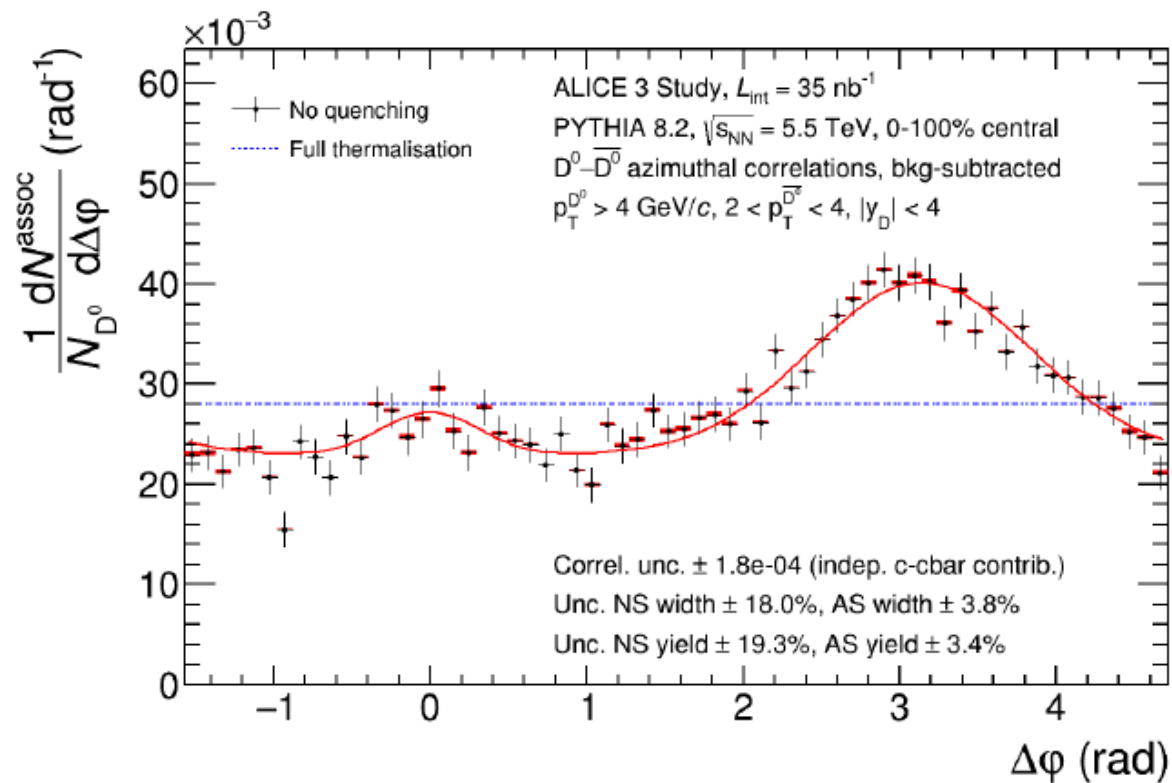


If you look only in the blue windows (*VZERO acceptance ALICE1*)...
You may miss fluctuations in MPI that lead to jets...

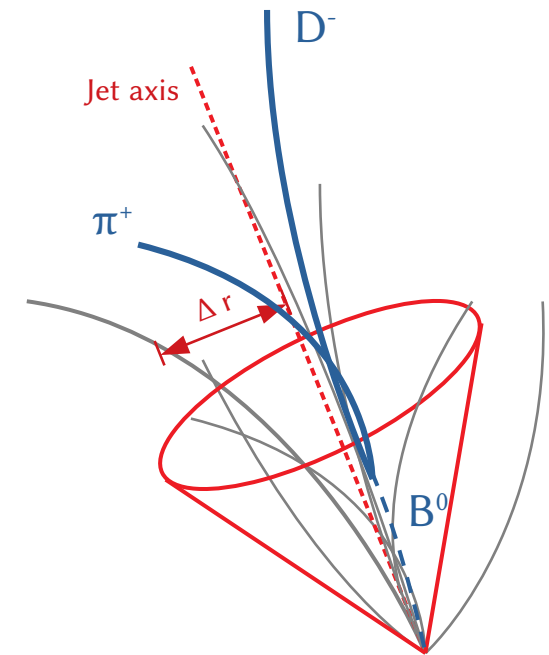


F.7 – ~~Pb-Pb~~ but sthg else : smaller systems as *opportunities*

Higher raw signal (higher luminosities wrt Pb-Pb/ less background) vs. still $\exists$ sensitivity to collective medium ?



1. D- $\bar{D}$ (de)correlations in AA



2. Fully-tagged HF jets (full topological reconstruction of HF hadrons, within/near jets)



F.8 – Particle Identification : PID with TOF + RICH

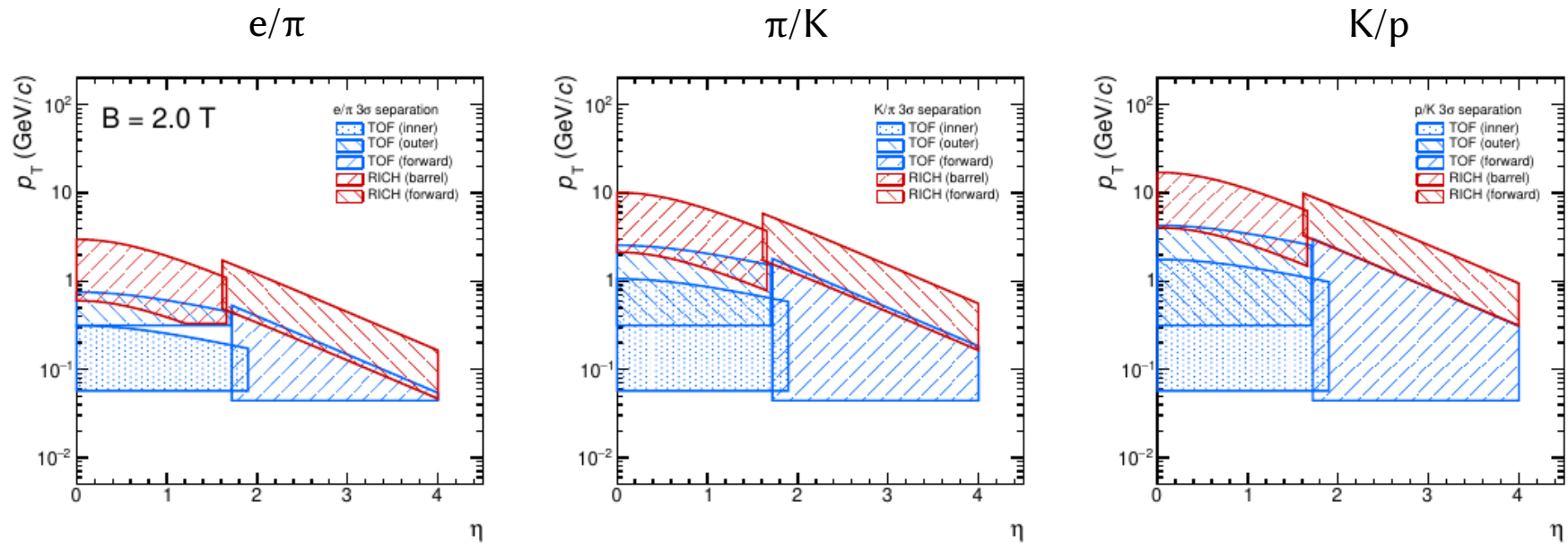


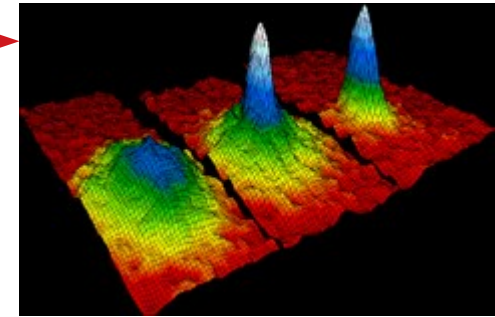
Figure 20: Analytical calculations of the $\eta - p_T$ regions in which particles can be separated by at least 3σ for the ALICE 3 particle-identification systems embedded in a 2.0 T magnetic field. Electron/pion, pion/kaon and kaon/proton separation plots are shown from left to right.

[Note the lowest p_T boundaries ...]

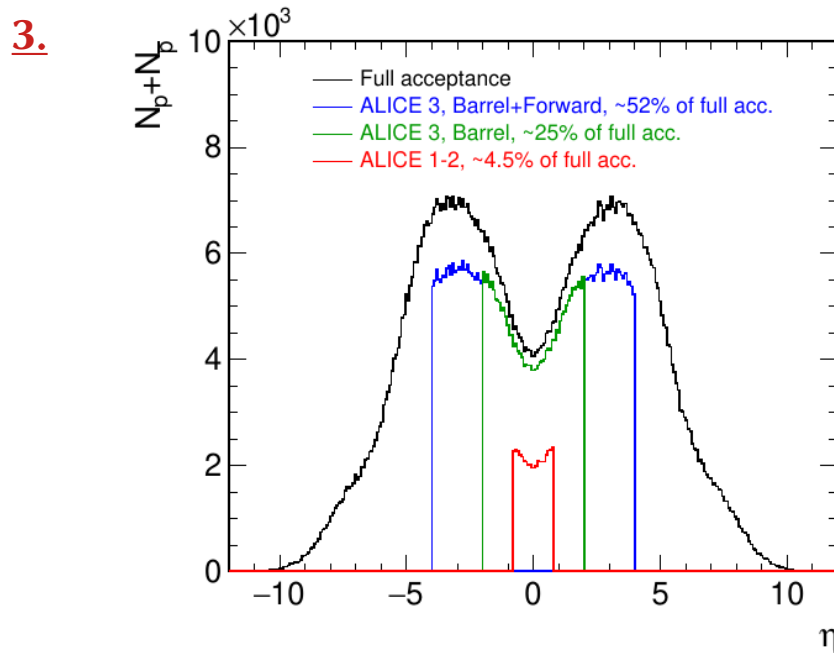


F.9 – Particle Identif^o : why care about the low- p_T (π, K, p)

1. Getting $dN/dp_T dy + v_n(h^\pm)$ down to non-relativistic p_T (e.g. $p_T < 0,05$ GeV/c $\rightarrow \beta_\pi^\pm \approx 0,34$)
 $\rightarrow$ change from non-relativistic (linear) to relativistic hydro. (quadratic behaviour)
2. Disoriented Chiral Condensate or π condensate $\rightarrow$ if present at all, will be at $p_T < 1/2 m_\pi$



Wikipedia: [Bose-Einstein condensate](#)



Increase of acceptance when moving from
 $0.6 < p_T < 1.5$ GeV/c, in $|\eta| < 0.8$ (ALICE2)
to
 $0.3 < p_T < 10.0$ GeV/c, in $|\eta| < 4.0$ (ALICE3)
(0.3 ?! why not lower ?
 $\rightarrow$ to get AxEff. $\sim$ flat with p_T for identity method)



IV.5 – Part. Identification : ex. of net quantum fluctuations

Net quantum number fluctuations at ($\mu_B = 0$)

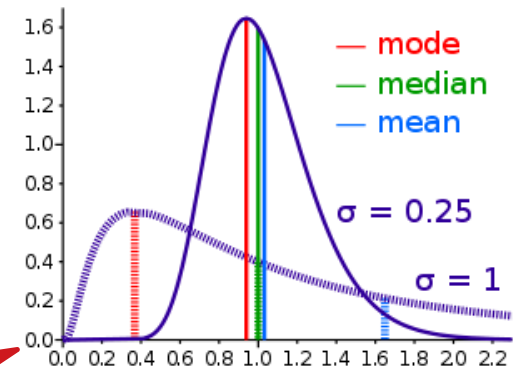
1. **Q** : net charge ($h^+ - h^-$),
- B** : net baryon ($p - \bar{p}, \Lambda - \bar{\Lambda}, \dots$)
- S** : net strangeness ($K^+ - K^-, \Lambda - \bar{\Lambda}, \dots$)

Measure event-by-event fluctuations into **distributions** with $p_T > 0 \text{ GeV}/c$ + over large y

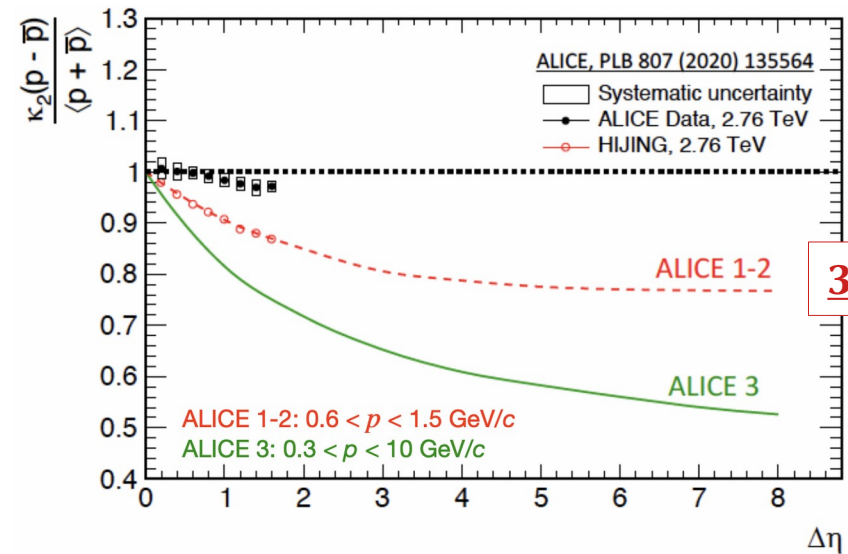
(i.e. p_T -integrated quantities)

2. 1st moment, m_1 : mean M
- 2nd moment, m_2 : variance σ^2
- 3rd moment, m_3 : $\propto$ skewness S
- 4th moment, m_4 : $\propto$ kurtosis κ
- 5th moment, m_5 : *no name*
- 6th moment, m_6 : ...
- 7th moment, m_7 : ...

→ *key* : ratios m_j/m_i (e.g. m_4^B/m_2^B)
to access direct comparison to LQCD for
(deconfinement d.o.f.
+ chiral restoration
+ nature of transitions)



Wikipedia:Skewness



+ 4σ observation at reach for $\kappa_6(p-p)/\kappa_2(p-p)$...