

Prompt/non-prompt J/Ψ production in pp collisions at 13.6 TeV at forward rapidity with ALICE experiment

Emilie Barreau

27/02/25

Director : Barbara Erazmus

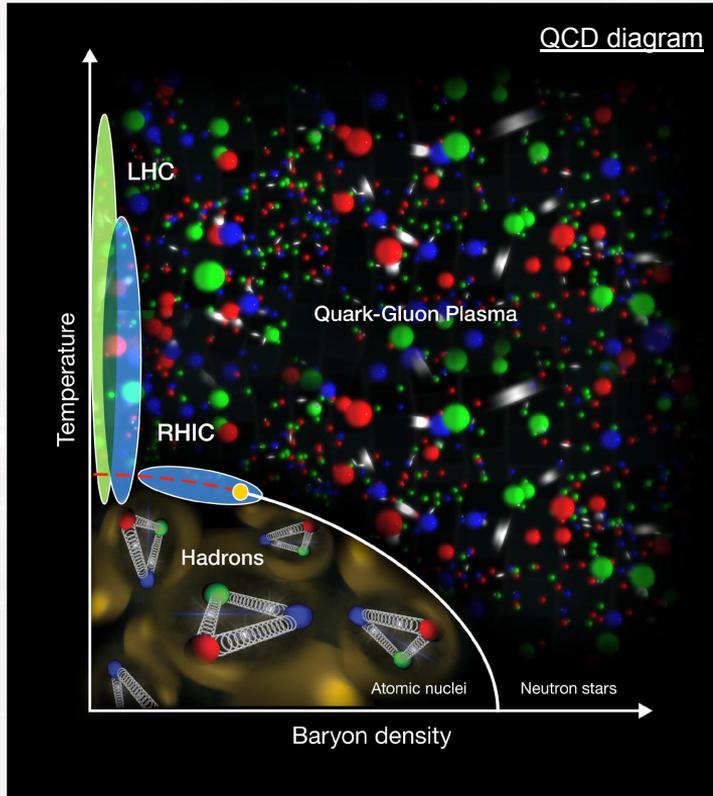
Supervisors : Maurice Coquet, Maxime Guilbaud, Marie Germain

Table of contents

1. **Physics motivation**
2. **The ALICE Experiment**
3. **Prompt/non-prompt J/Ψ separation using the pseudo-proper decay time**
4. **Results**
5. **Conclusion**



1. Context



QGP properties

- Deconfined phase of matter
- Hypothetical state of the early Universe
- Predicted by Lattice QCD
- Quarks et gluons are deconfined
- High temperature and/or high baryonic density

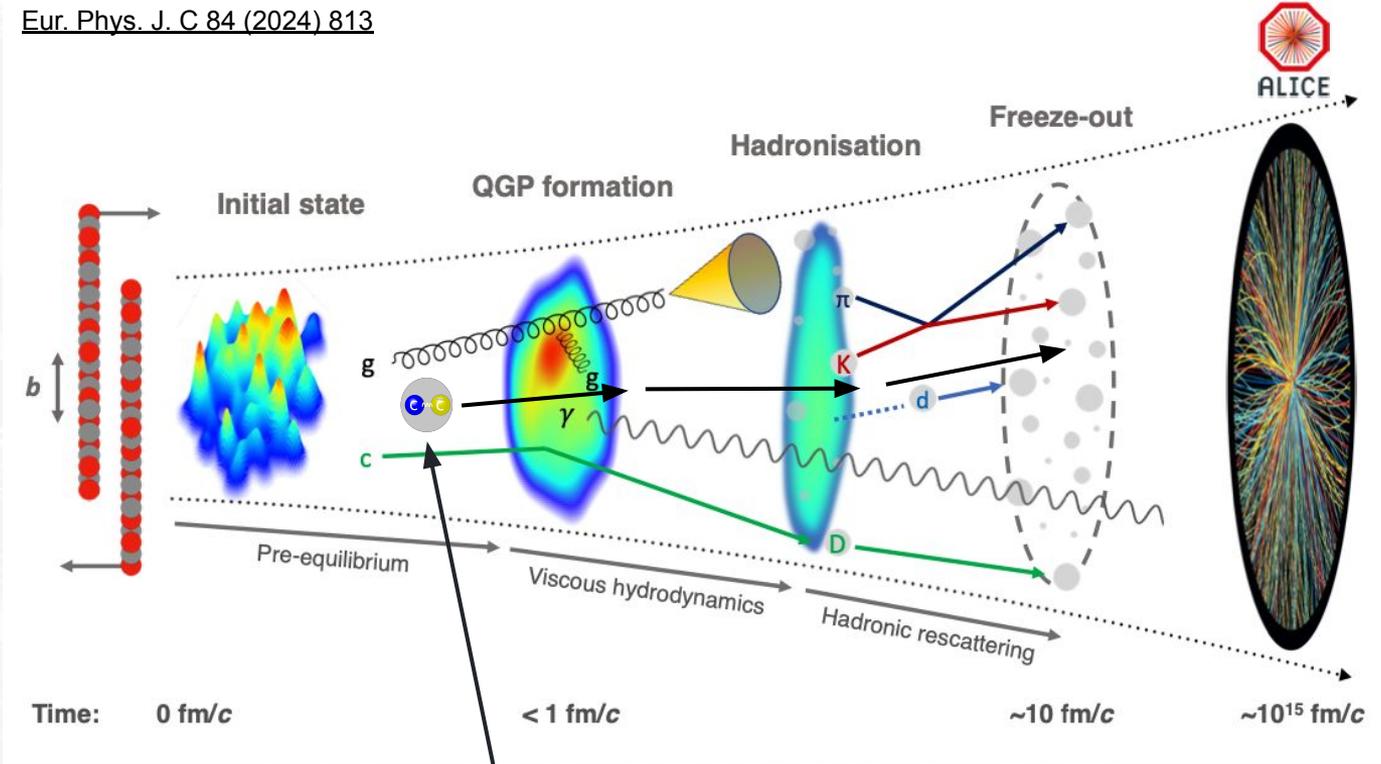
Study of this particular state of matter possible thanks to high energy colliders



Production via heavy ion collisions

Heavy Ion Collision at the LHC

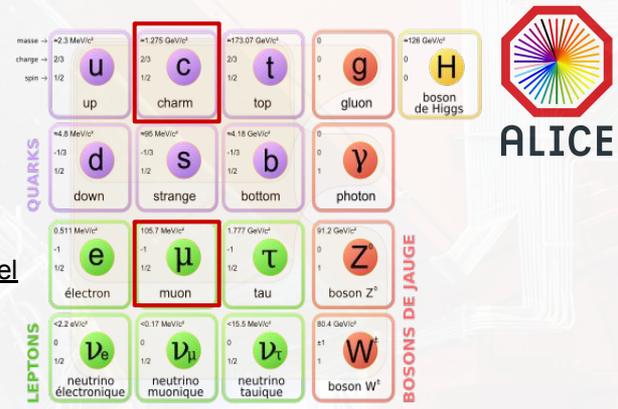
Eur. Phys. J. C 84 (2024) 813



Production of the $c\bar{c}$ pair at the initial state : witnesses the whole evolution of the collision \longrightarrow excellent probe for QGP (among other ones)

QGP Probe : J/ψ

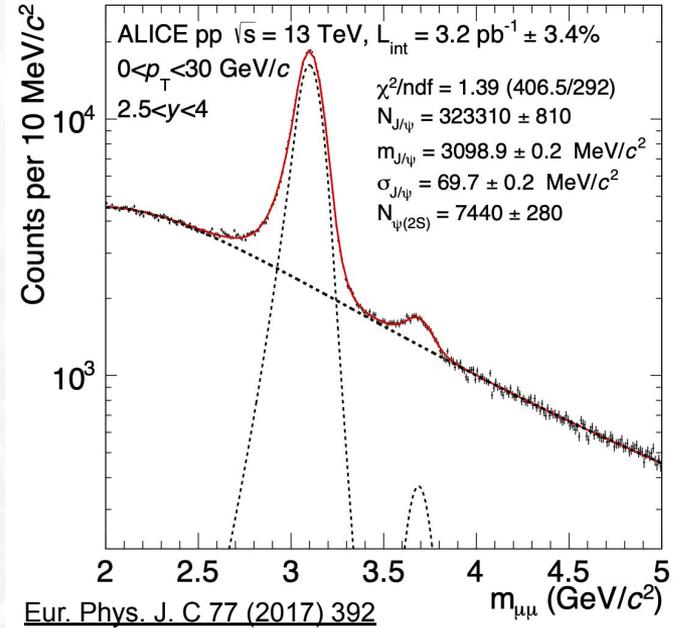
- Charm-anticharm (quarkonia) meson
- Muonic channel decay study
- Sensitive to QGP : weakly bounded state



Particle Data Group

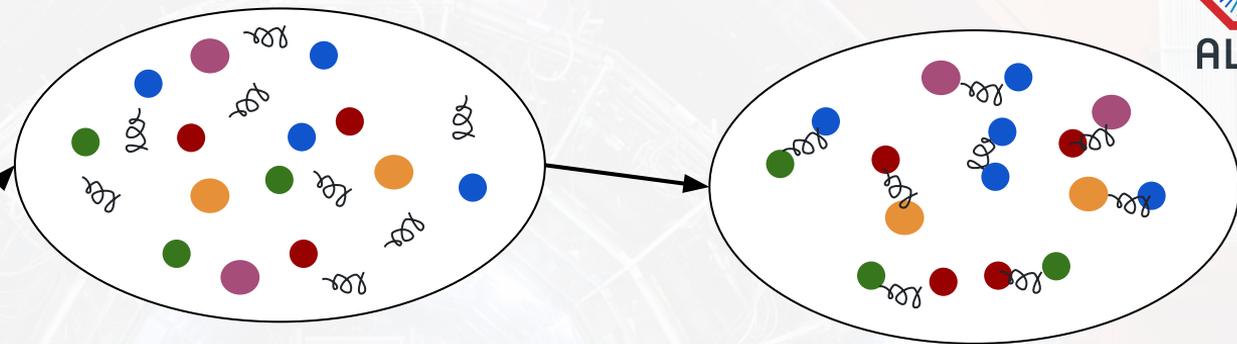
$J/\psi(1S)$ DECAY MODES

Mode	Fraction (Γ_i/Γ)	Scale factor/ Confidence level
Γ_1 hadrons	(87.7 ± 0.5) %	
Γ_2 virtual $\gamma \rightarrow$ hadrons	(13.50 ± 0.30) %	
Γ_3 ggg	(64.1 ± 1.0) %	
Γ_4 γgg	(8.8 ± 1.1) %	
Γ_5 e^+e^-	(5.971 ± 0.032) %	
Γ_6 $e^+e^-\gamma$	[a] (8.8 ± 1.4) × 10 ⁻³	
Γ_7 $\mu^+\mu^-$	(5.961 ± 0.033) %	



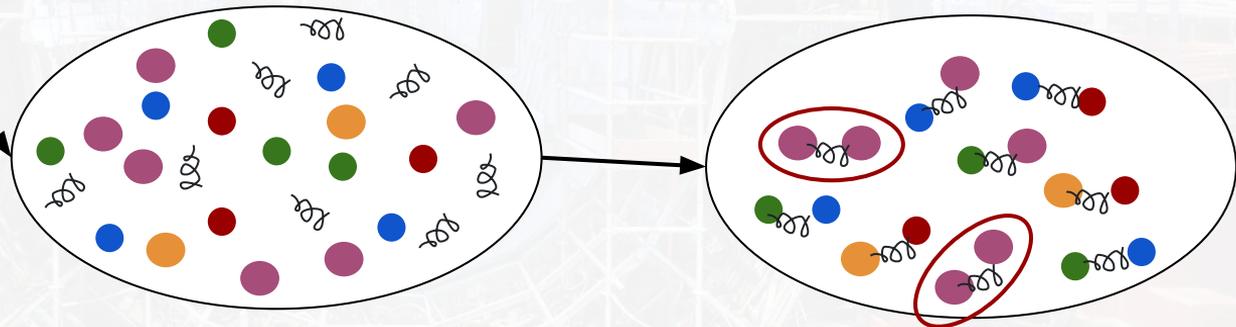
Suppression and recombination inside a QGP

Production of the $c\bar{c}$ pair



QGP at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV

Suppression

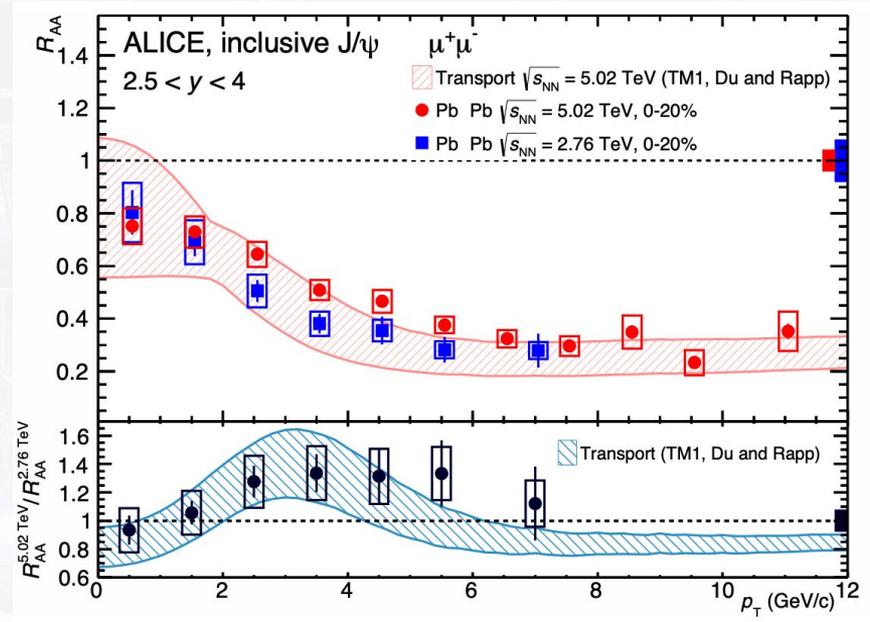
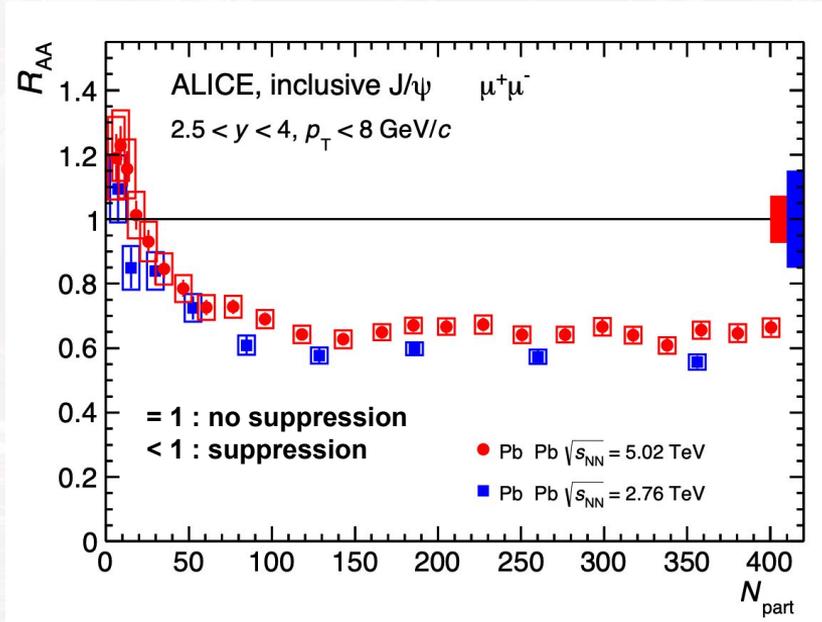


QGP at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5$ TeV

Suppression +
Recombination (impact on
charm but not beauty)

- light quarks (u,d,s) ● ● ●
- charm quarks ●
- beauty quarks ●

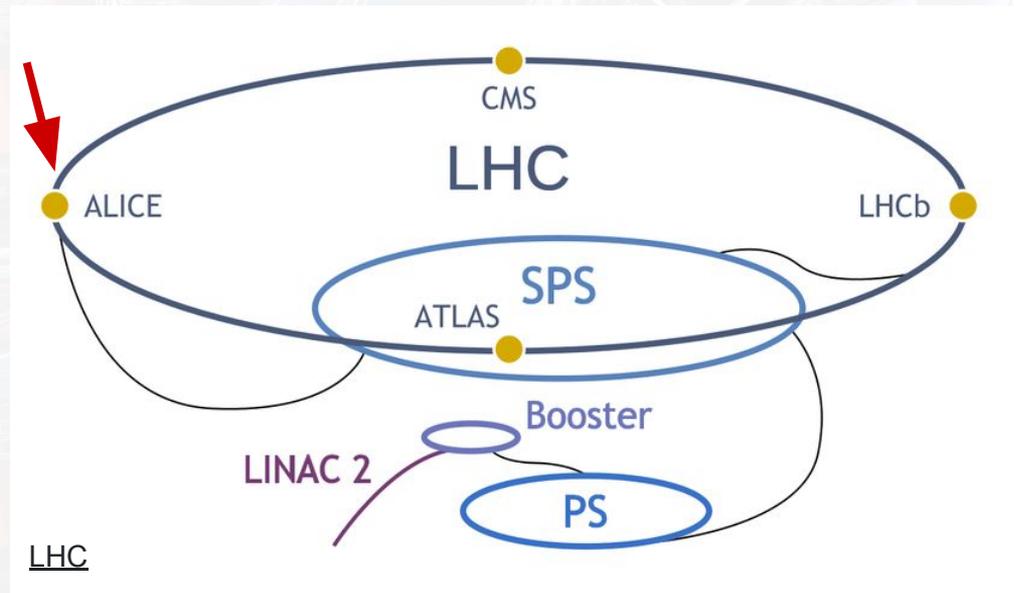
Significant J/ψ results : nuclear modification factor R_{AA}



$$R_{AA}^i(\Delta p_T) = \frac{N_{J/\psi}^i(\Delta p_T)}{\text{BR}_{J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-} N_{MB}^i A \varepsilon^i(\Delta p_T) \langle T_{AA}^i \rangle \sigma_{J/\psi}^{pp}(\Delta p_T)}$$

$$\frac{d^2 \sigma_{J/\psi}^{pp}}{dy dp_T} = \frac{N_{J/\psi}^{pp}(\Delta p_T)}{\text{BR}_{J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-} L_{int}^{pp} A \varepsilon_{pp}(\Delta p_T) \Delta p_T \Delta y}$$

2. The ALICE Experiment

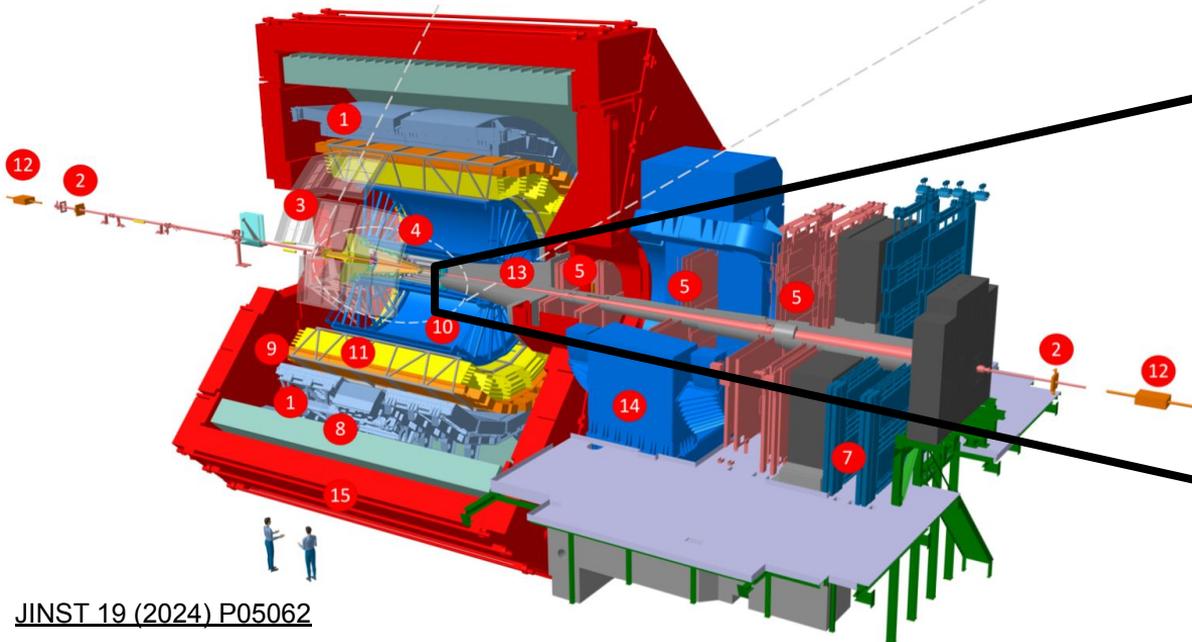
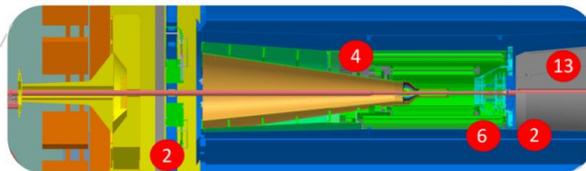


Top Energy (Run 2 : 2015 - 2018)	Top Energy (Run 3 : 2022 - now)
pp : 13 TeV	pp : 13.6 TeV
p-Pb : 8.16 TeV	p-Pb : not done yet
Pb-Pb : 5 TeV	Pb-Pb : 5.36 TeV

Luminosity (Run 1 + Run 2)	Luminosity (Run 3)
pp : 41.40 pb ⁻¹	pp : 82.1 pb ⁻¹
Pb-Pb : 0.875 nb ⁻¹	Pb-Pb : 2.11 nb ⁻¹

The ALICE Experiment

Continuous readout for Run 3

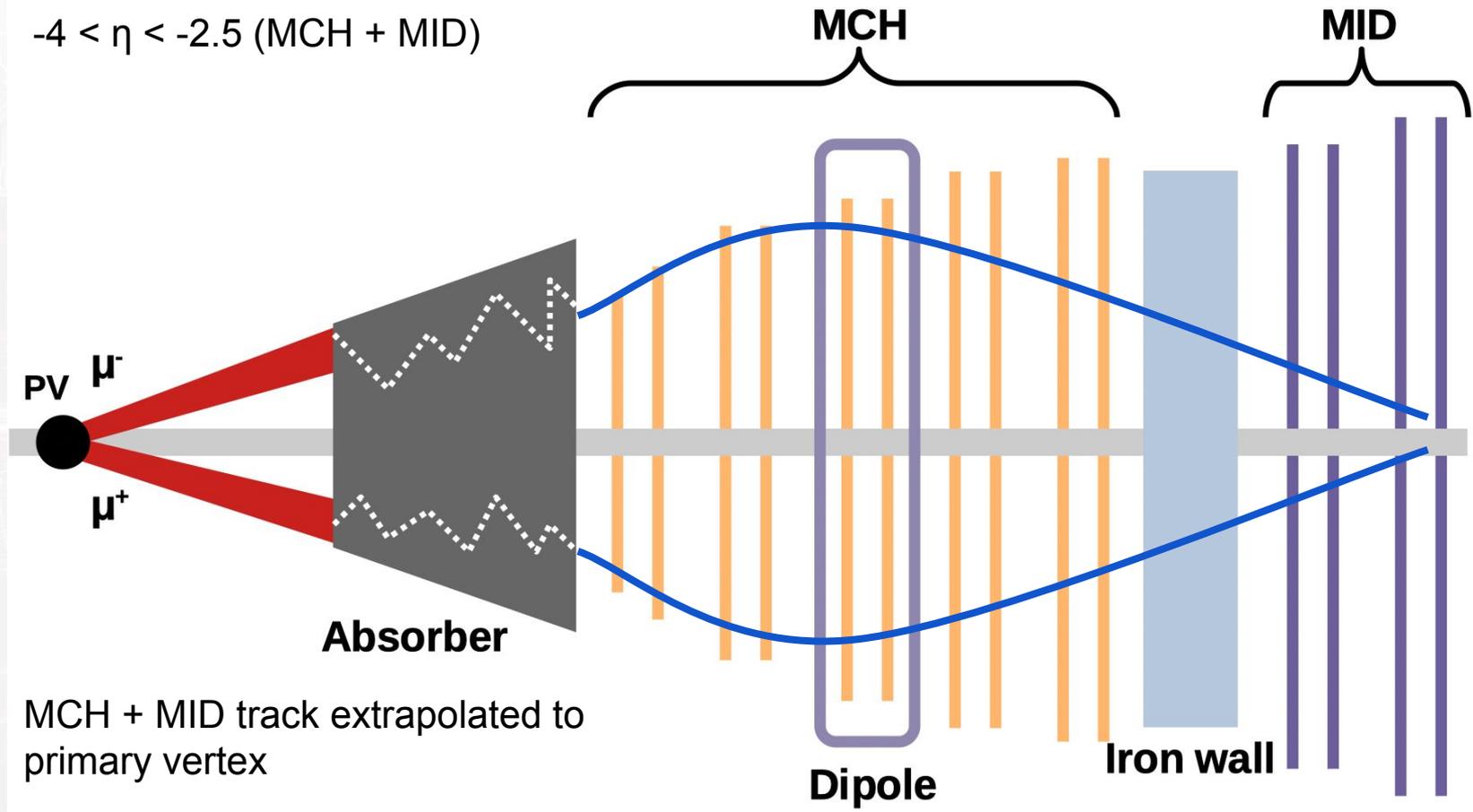


- 1 EMCAL | Electromagnetic Calorimeter
- 2 FIT | Fast Interaction Trigger
- 3 HMPID | High Momentum Particle Identification Detector
- 4 ITS | Inner Tracking System
- 5 MCH | Muon Tracking Chambers
- 6 MFT | Muon Forward Tracker
- 7 MID | Muon Identifier
- 8 PHOS/CPV | Photon Spectrometer
- 9 TOF | Time Of Flight
- 10 TPC | Time Projection Chamber
- 11 TRD | Transition Radiation Detector
- 12 ZDC | Zero Degree Calorimeter
- 13 Absorber
- 14 Dipole Magnet
- 15 L3 Magnet

JINST 19 (2024) P05062

Muon tracking during Run 2

$-4 < \eta < -2.5$ (MCH + MID)

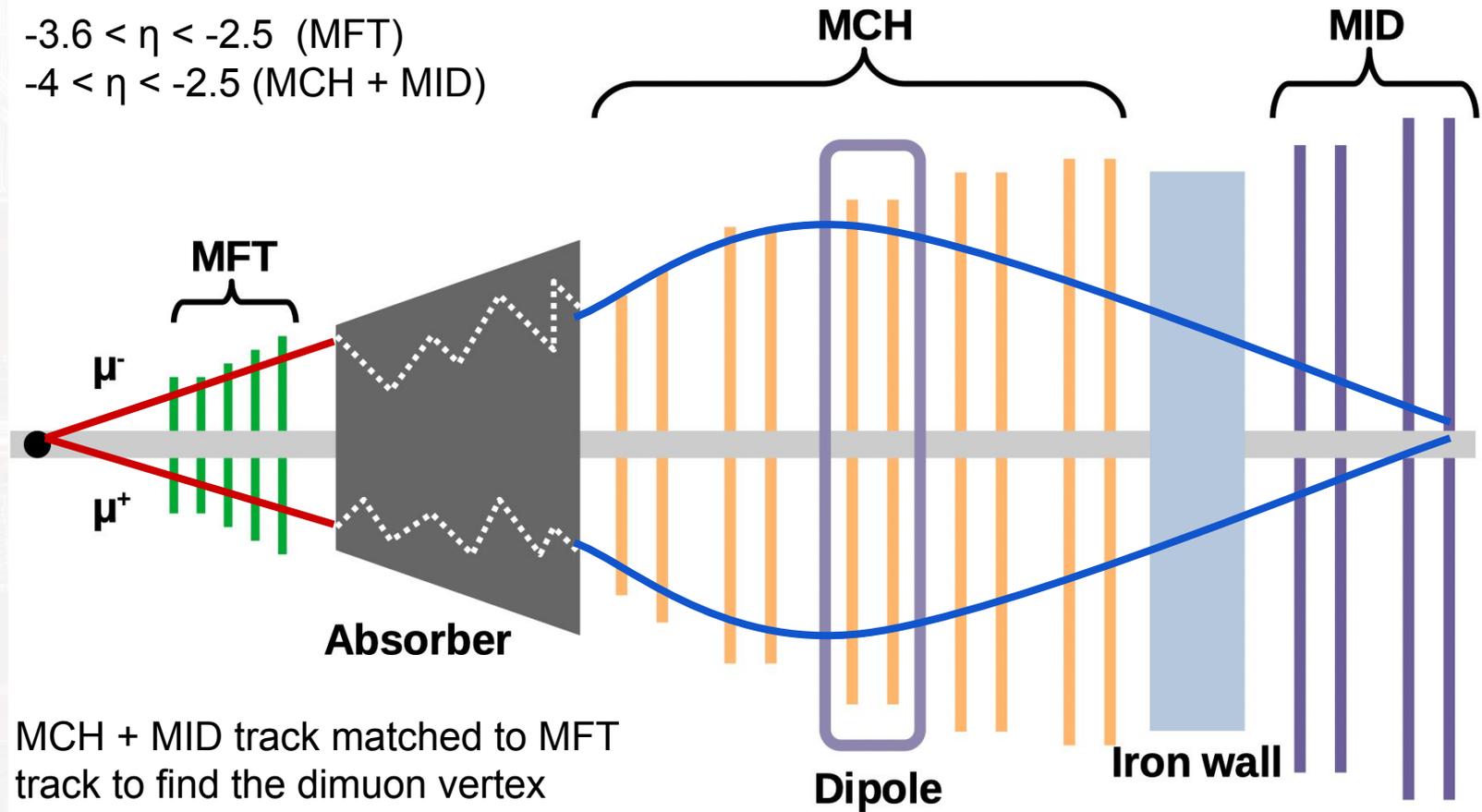


MCH + MID track extrapolated to primary vertex

Muon tracking during Run 3

$-3.6 < \eta < -2.5$ (MFT)

$-4 < \eta < -2.5$ (MCH + MID)

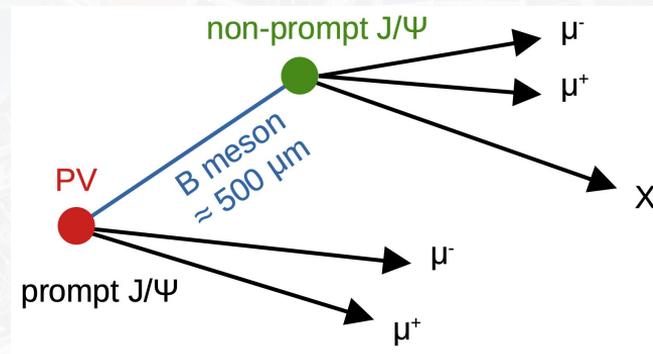


MCH + MID track matched to MFT track to find the dimuon vertex

3. Prompt/non-prompt J/Ψ separation using the pseudo-proper decay time

- Two main contributions for J/Ψ
 - Prompt
 - produced at **primary vertex** or coming from charm excited state
 - made it through QGP, probe charm sector
 - **Non-prompt**
 - decay from **hadron b**
 - probe beauty sector
- Prompt/non-prompt separation : specific infos about charm and beauty productions
- Improvement of the theoretical models

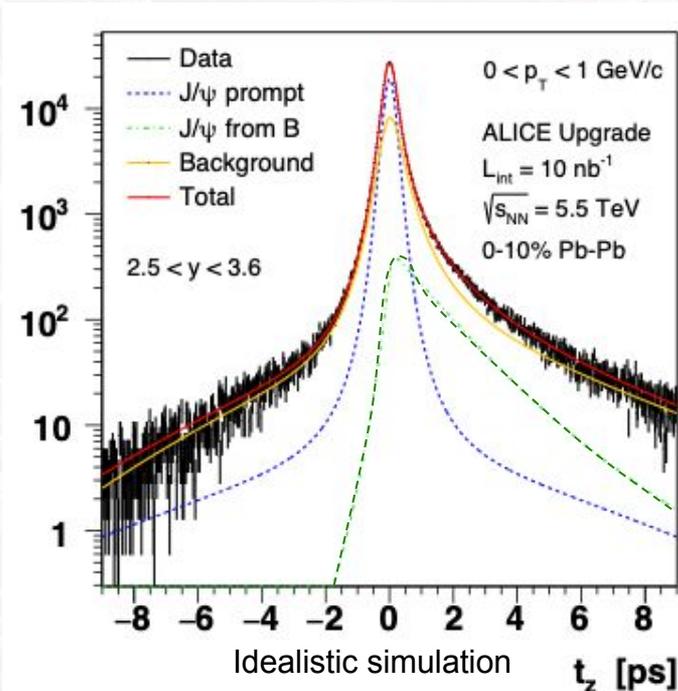
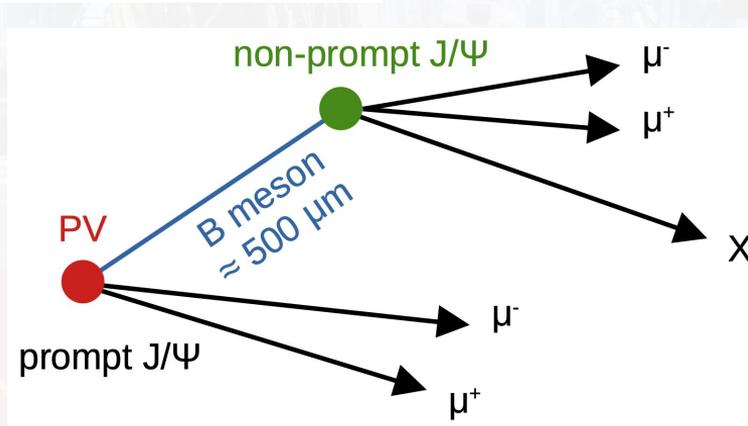
Prompt and non-prompt J/Ψ separation done using secondary vertexing provided by MFT



Study of the pseudo-proper decay time τ_z

- Pseudo proper decay time
 - $\tau_z = 0$ if prompt
 - $\tau_z > 0$ if non-prompt
- 2 algorithms for vertexing
 - one made by Rita Sadek

$$l_{J/\Psi} = c \cdot \tau_z = c \cdot \frac{(z_{J/\psi} - z_{vtx}) \cdot M_{J/\Psi}}{p_z}$$

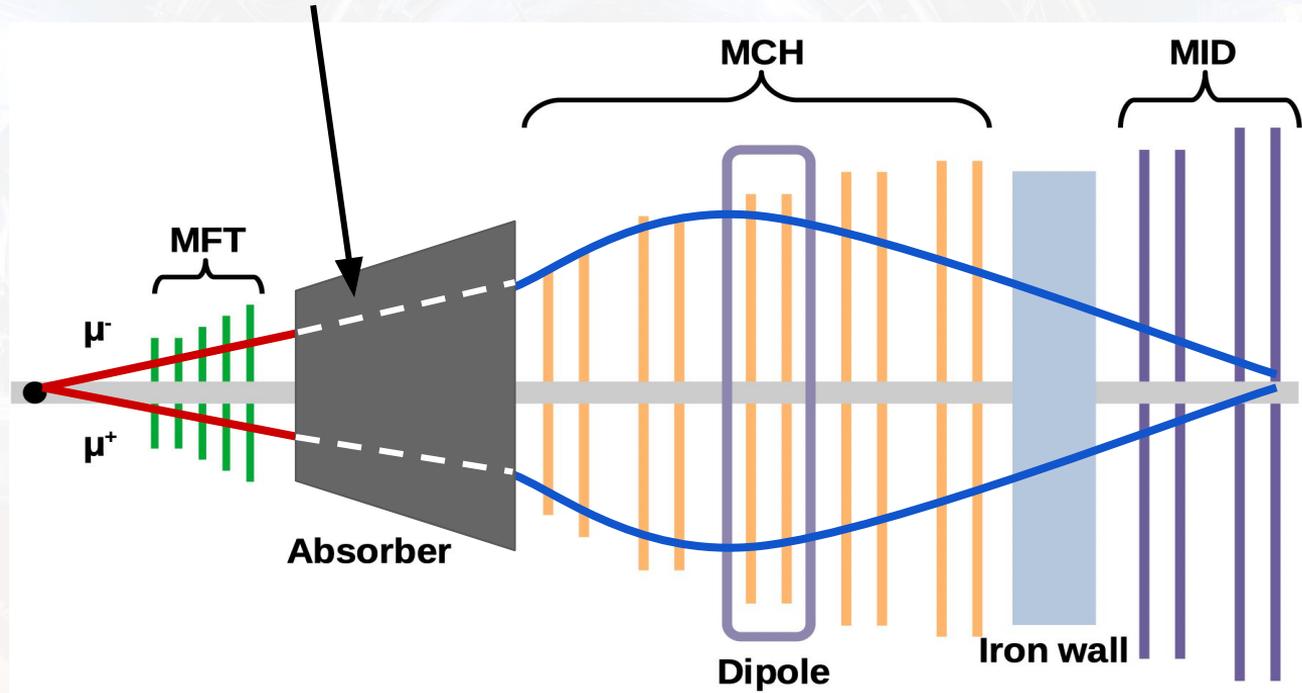


CERN-LHCC-2015-001 ; ALICE-TDR-018

4. Results

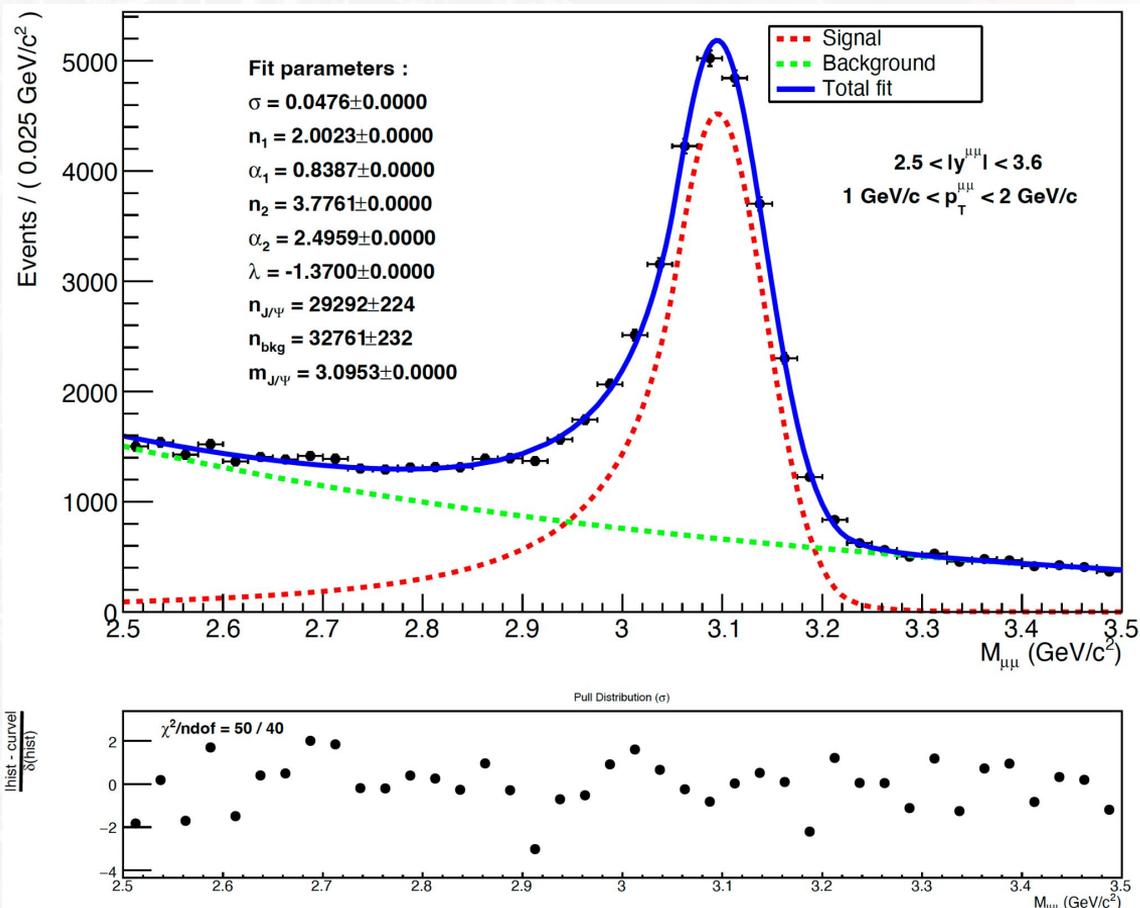
Step 0 : Study of the MFT-MCH matching

- Crucial step for the analysis
- Optimization of the MFT-MCH matching using the X^2
- Work done following the procedure made by Nicolas Bizé



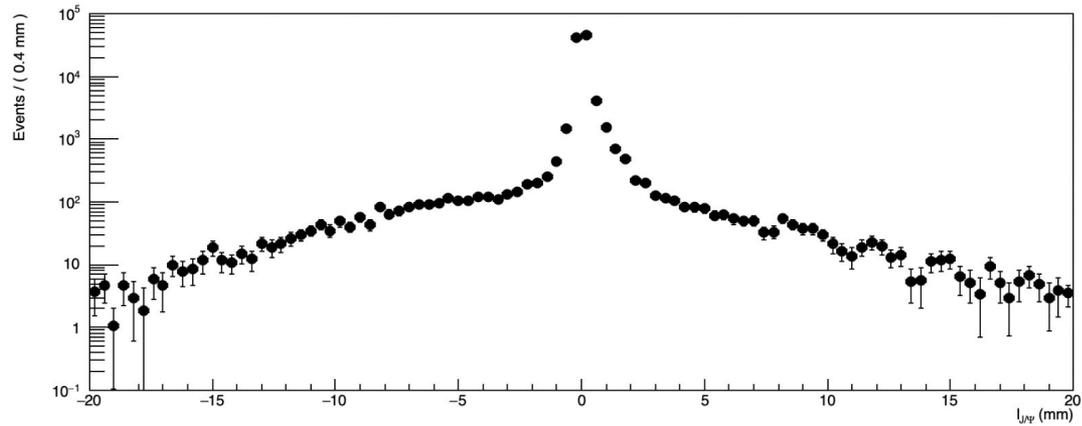
Step 1 : signal/background separation

- Using the invariant mass fit
- Double Crystal Ball + exponential functions
- parameters are fixed after a free iteration (except $N_{J/\psi}$, N_{bkg})

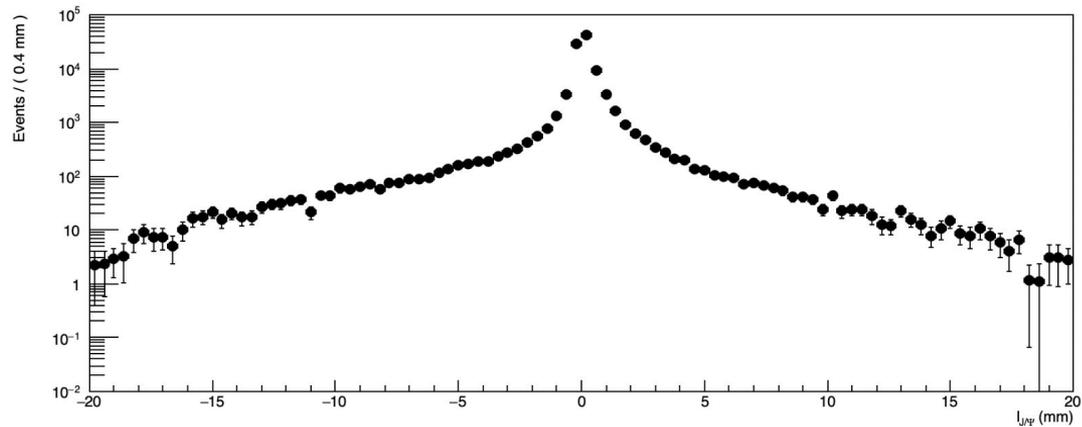


Step 1: results

Lz distribution with s weights to project out signal

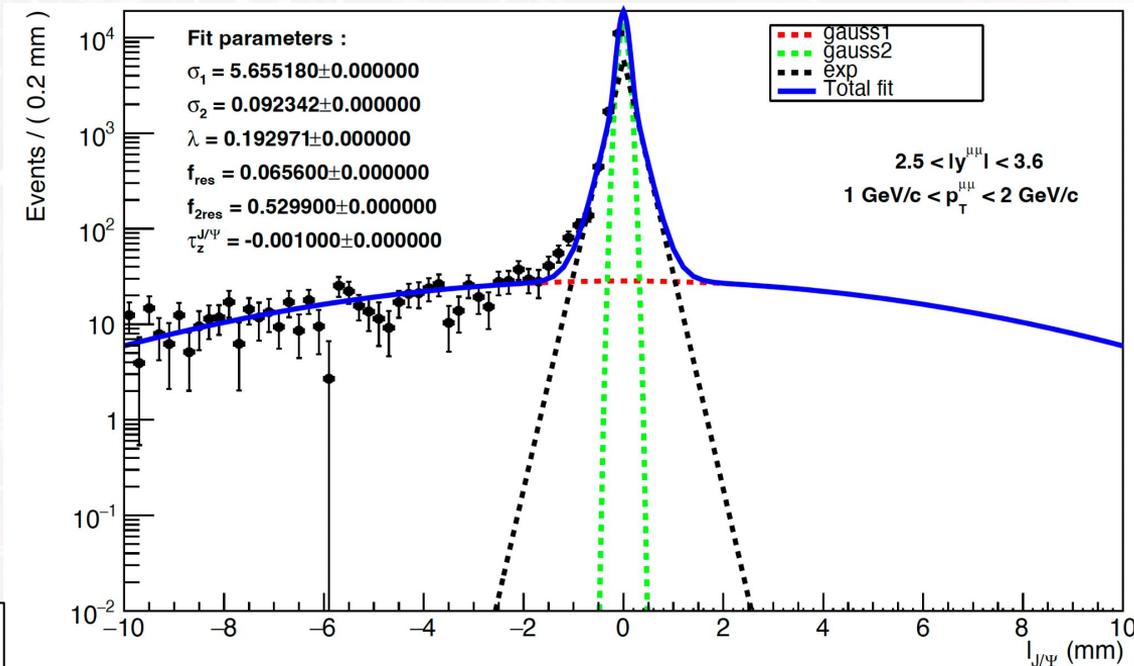


Lz distribution with s weights to project out bkg

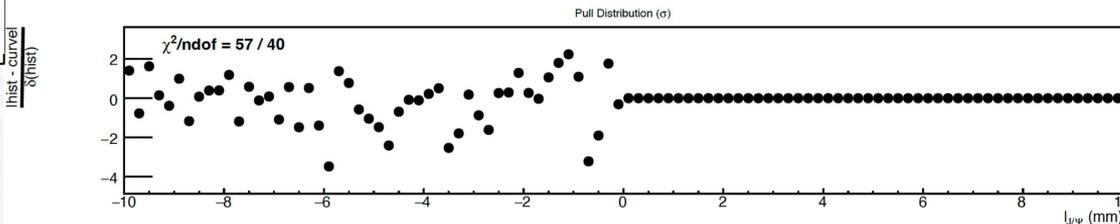


Step 2 : prompt J/Ψ signal fit

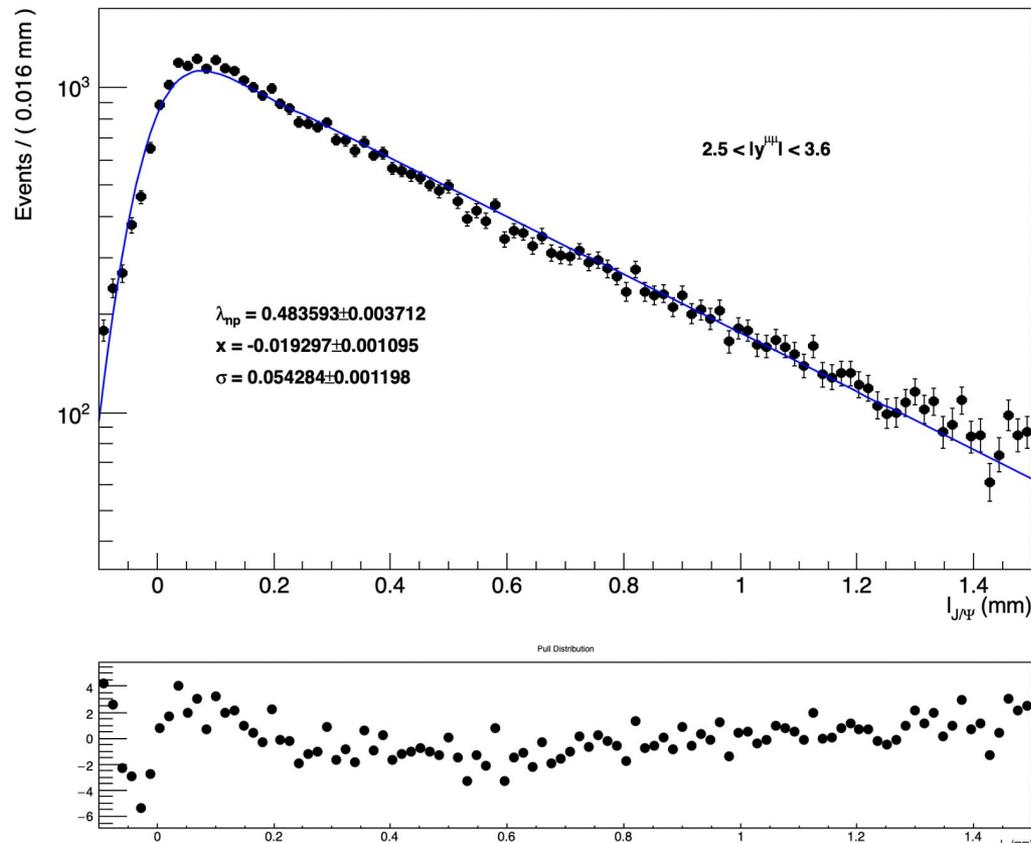
- Fitting only left side to get rid of the non-prompt contribution
- Access to the resolution
- Parameters are fixed just as the previous fit
- Done for every p_T ranges



$$F_{prompt}(l_z) = [f_{res} \cdot \text{Gauss}(l_z, \sigma_1, l_0) + (1 - f_{res}) \cdot [f_{2res} \cdot \text{Gauss}(l_z, \sigma_2, l_0) + (1 - f_{2res}) \cdot \exp(-\lambda |l_z - l_0|)]]$$



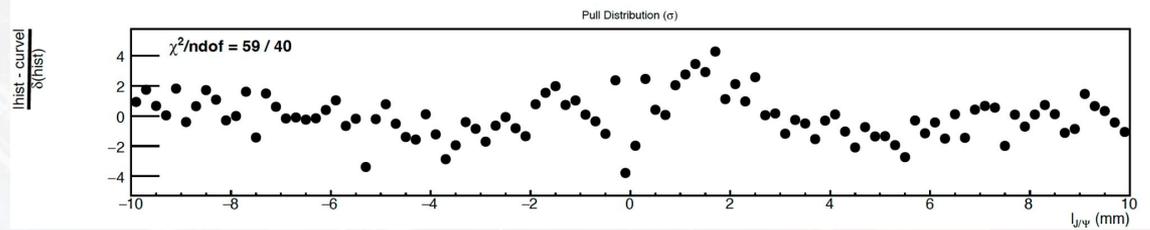
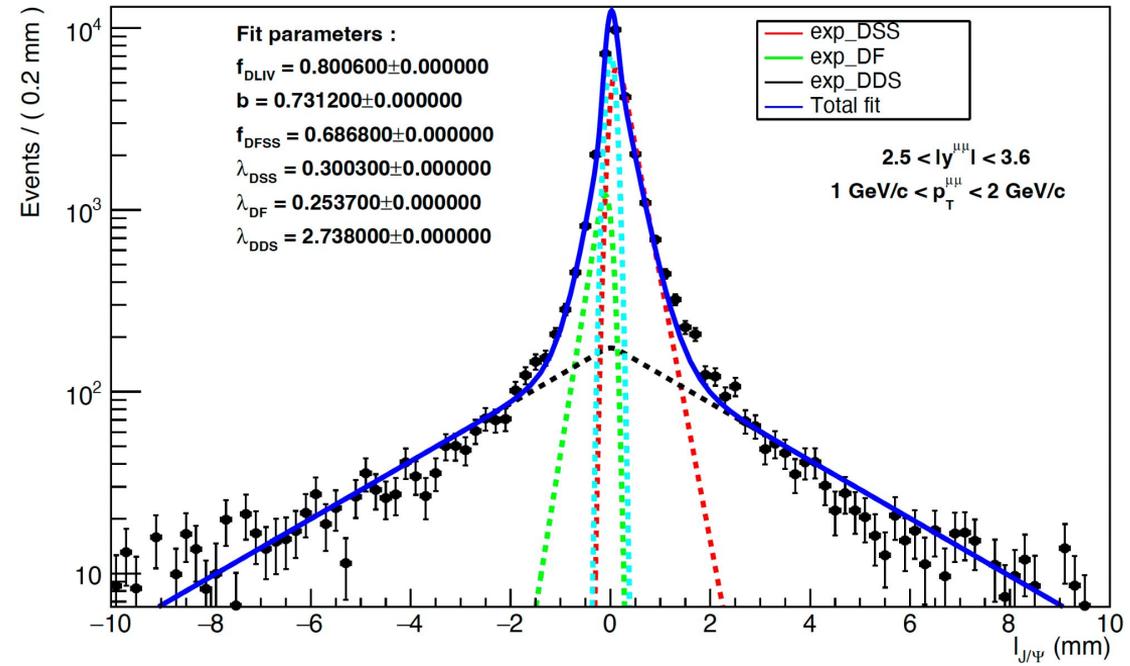
- Using a full non-prompt Monte Carlo dataset
- To initialize the slope of the exponential function
- $\exp(-l_{J/\psi}/\lambda_{np})$ with $\lambda_{np} \approx 500 \mu\text{m}$
- λ_{np} parameter constrained but not fixed



Step 4 : J/Ψ background fit

$$F_{bkg}(l_z) = b \cdot [f_{DLIV} \cdot (e^{-|\lambda_{DSS}|l_z} + (1 - f_{DFSS}) \cdot e^{|\lambda_{DF}|l_z}) + (1 - f_{DLIV}) \cdot e^{-|\lambda_{DDS} \cdot l_z|}] + (1 - b) \cdot \delta(l_z)$$

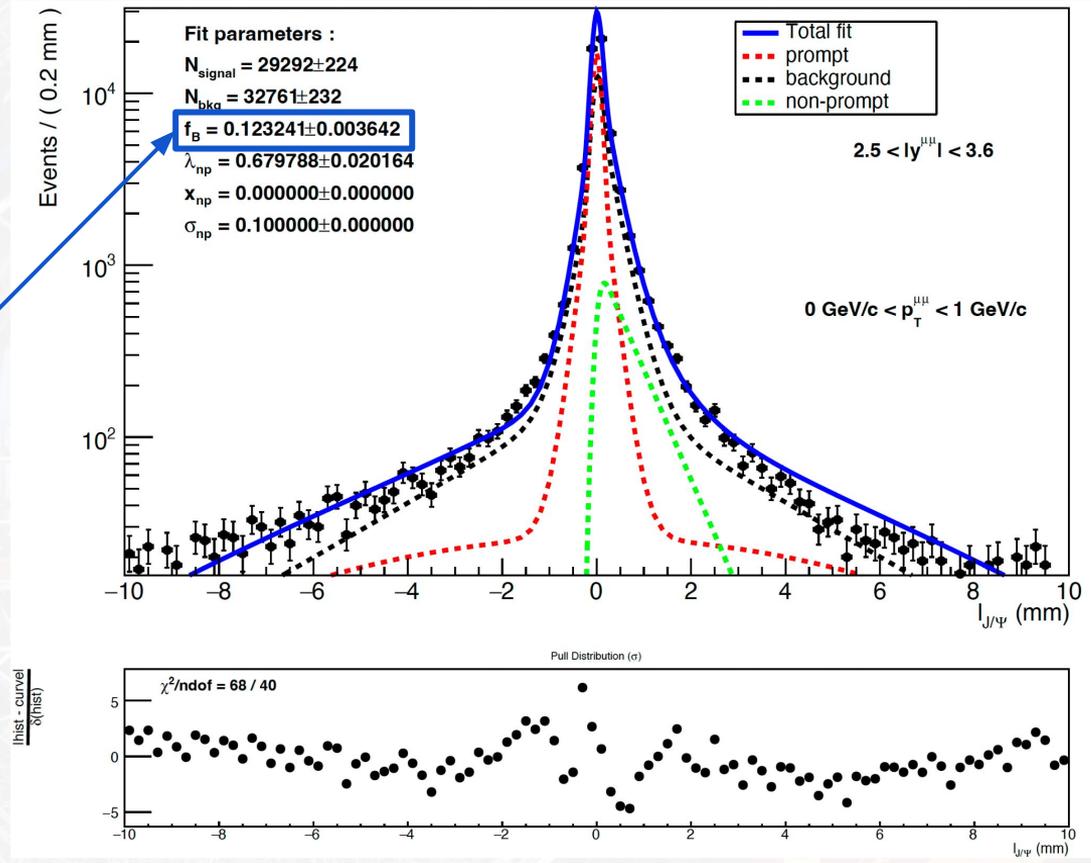
- DSS : Single Sided exp
- DF : Flipped exp
- DDS : Double Sided exp
- Parameters are fixed
- Complicated fit
 - difficulties to converge
 - more stat would help for the tail part



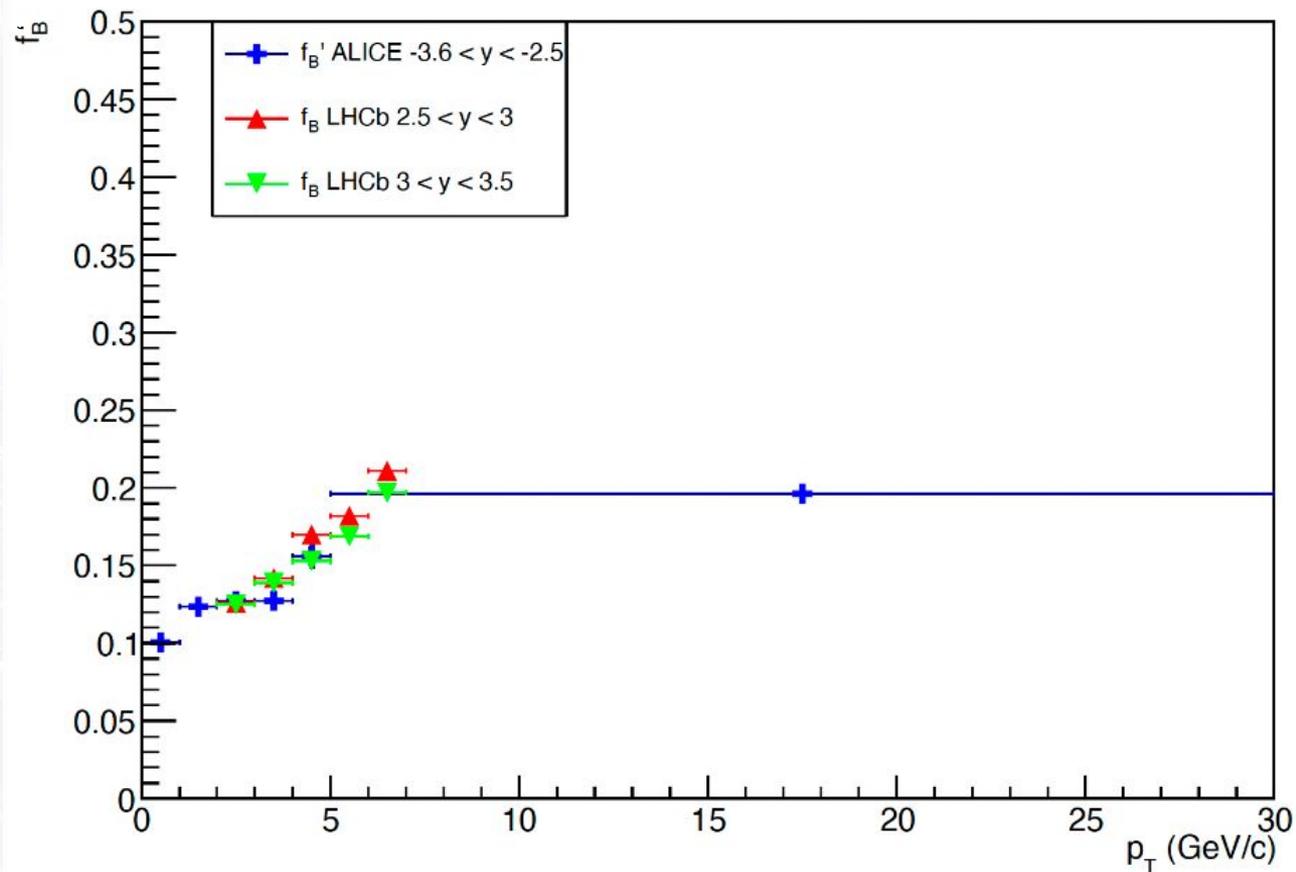
Step 5 : 2D fit projection

$$f'_B = \frac{N_{J/\Psi \leftarrow h_B}}{N_{J/\Psi \leftarrow h_B} + N_{J/\Psi}}$$

- Non-prompt prompt fraction f'_B
- Study done for each p_T bin
- Promising results but background fit could be improved



Non-prompt fraction



- Acceptance
 - geometric correction
 - linked to the detector
- Efficiency
 - technical correction
 - linked to material, trigger, analysis etc.
- Waiting for the associated MC dataset anchored on 2023 data
- In progress

$$\langle A \cdot \epsilon \rangle = \frac{N_{rec}}{N_{gen}}$$

$$f_B = \left(1 + \frac{1 - f'_B}{f'_B} \frac{\langle A \cdot \epsilon \rangle_{non-prompt}}{\langle A \cdot \epsilon \rangle_{prompt}} \right)^{-1}$$

Systematics uncertainties

There is a lot and it is complicated so have a cupcake first



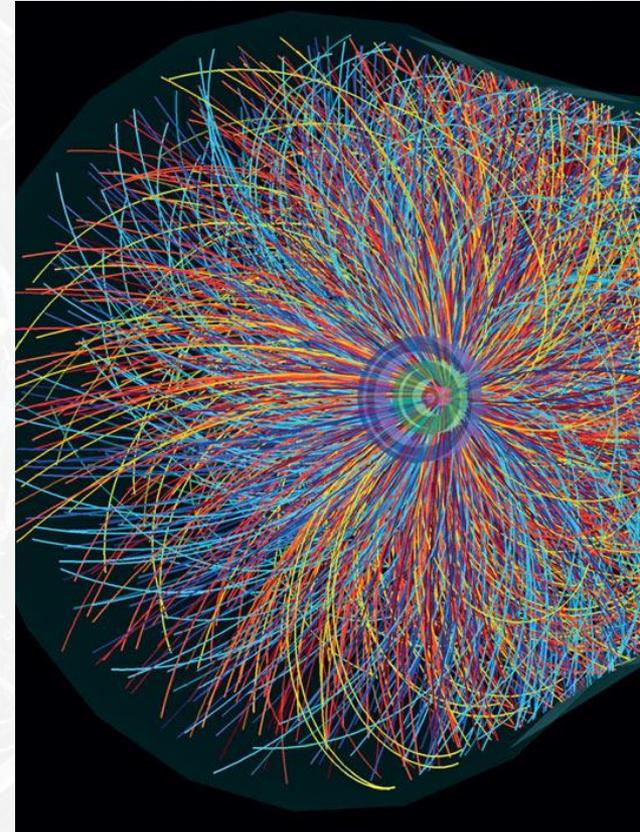
- Range and function of fits:
 - invariant mass fit functions
 - I_z background model, template, side bands
 - MC template for non-prompt
 - PDF resolution
 - mass pole (mean fit value and PDG value) for I_z calculation
- Signal/background separation method
- Acceptance-efficiency
- Vertexing and matching:
 - variation of matching χ^2 selection
 - MFT-Muon matching purity and efficiency from MC
 - MFT-MCH tracking
 - vertexing algorithm (DCAFitter or KFVertexing)
- Impact of ambiguous tracks



5. Conclusion

- J/Ψ is a QGP probe for charm (prompt) and beauty (non-prompt) quarks
- MFT and muon spectrometer allows us to track the dimuon starting from the J/Ψ vertex
- Both J/Ψ contribution can be separated using the pseudo-proper decay time/length
- Some corrections need to be applied (A. ϵ , systematics...)

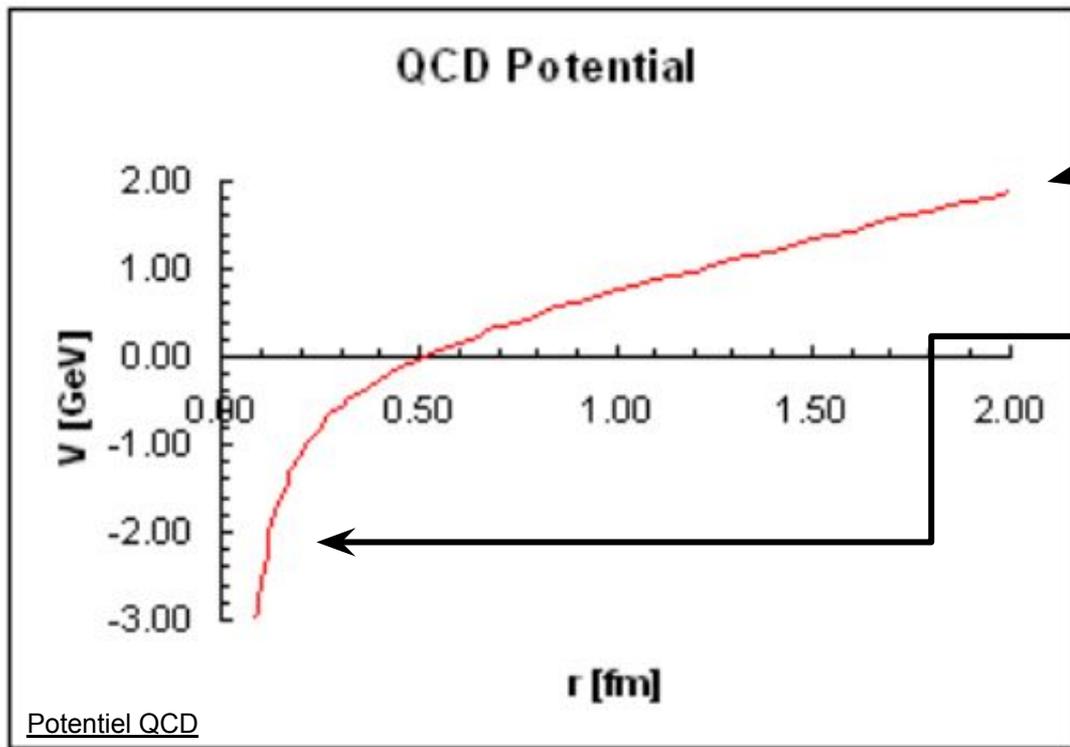
- Talks at QGP France and ALICE meetings
- Poster at Strangeness in Quark Matter 2024
- *Poster for Quark Matter 2025 (ongoing)*



Thank you for your attention !

(just clap and pretend you were not sleeping the whole time)

Backup

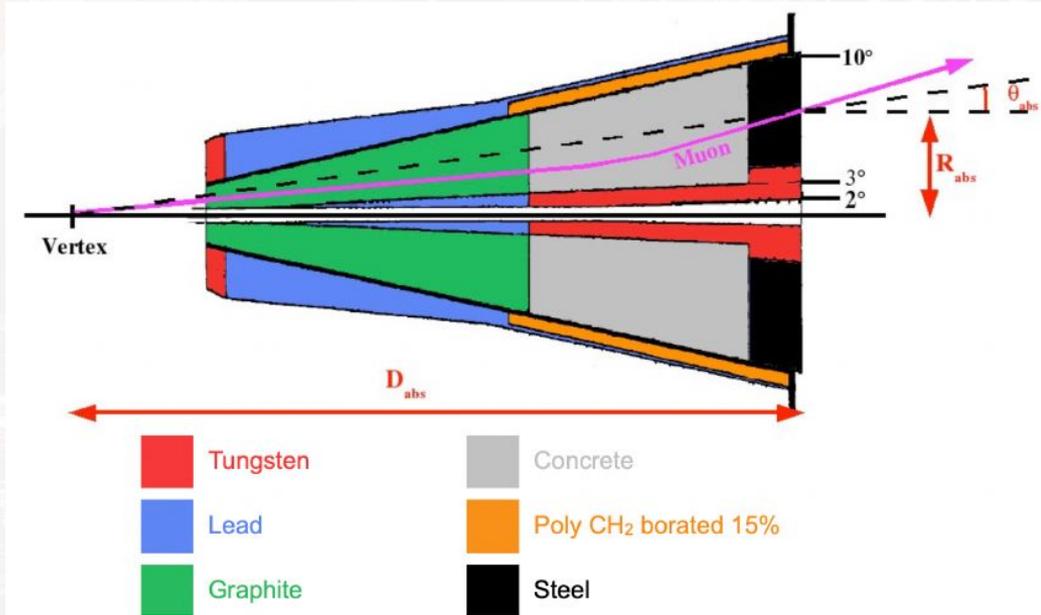


- ❑ **Positive potential** : $r \gg 1$
 - ❑ tight spring
 - ❑ strong bond energy
 - ❑ confinement des quarks
- ❑ **Negative potential** : $r \ll 1$
 - ❑ slack spring
 - ❑ weak bond energy
- ❑ If T or $p \nearrow$, potential reaches a constant value
- ❑ Possible deconfinement

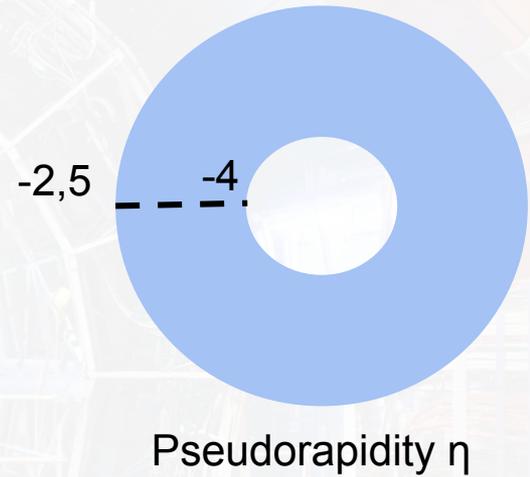
Cold Nuclear Matter effects

- ❑ Nuclear absorption = dissociation of the c-/c pair with a nucleus
- ❑ Inelastic interactions
- ❑ Coherent energy lost = quarkonium suppression in p-A interaction
- ❑ Cronin effect = interaction g-N donne impulsion transverse aux particules
 - ❑ enlargement of the pT distribution
 - ❑ increase with centrality
- ❑ Shadowing = screening of central nuclei by peripheral ones
 - ❑ A-A collision \neq sum of p-p collisions

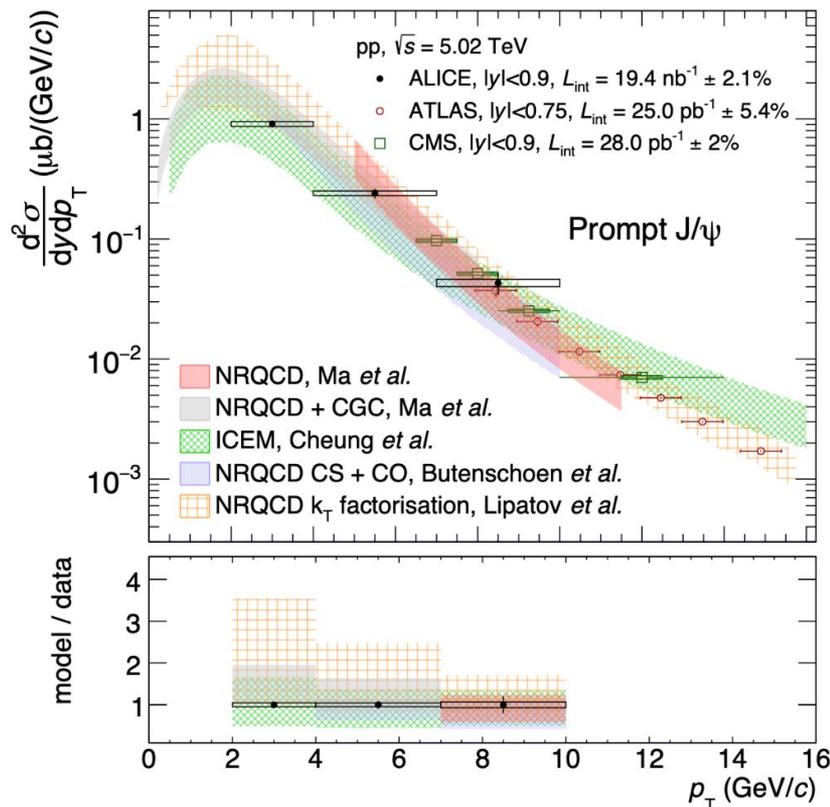
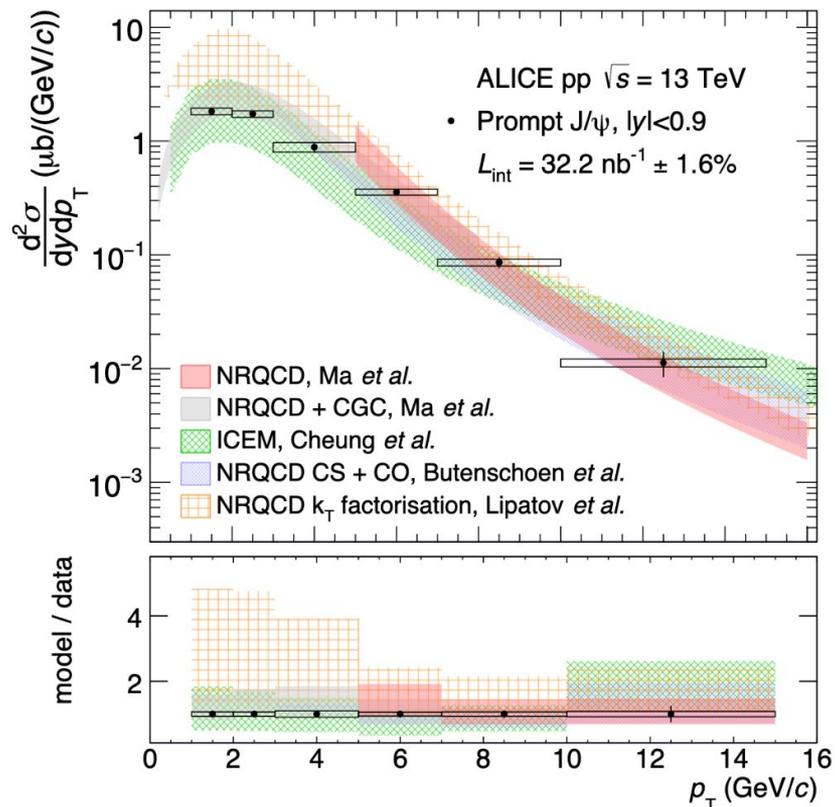
Specific parameters



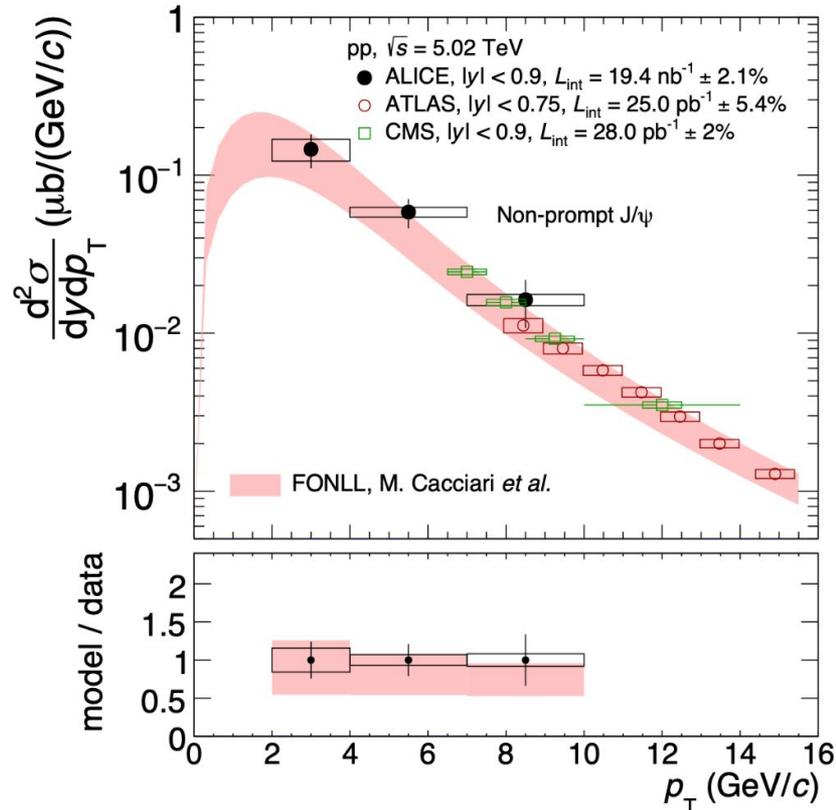
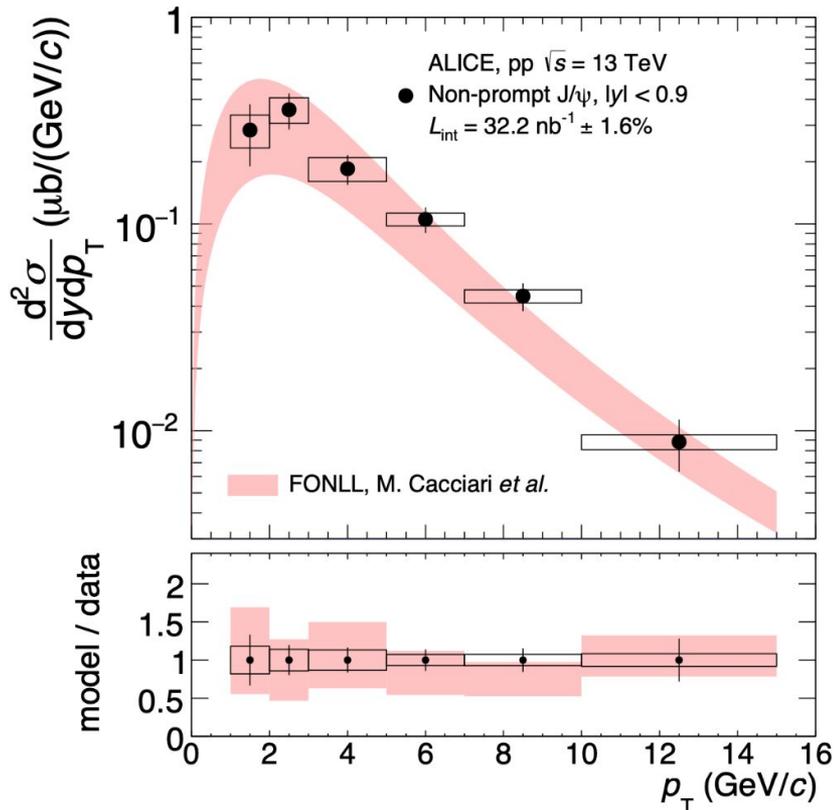
Transverse radius R_{abs}



Charm and beauty production models



Charm and beauty production models



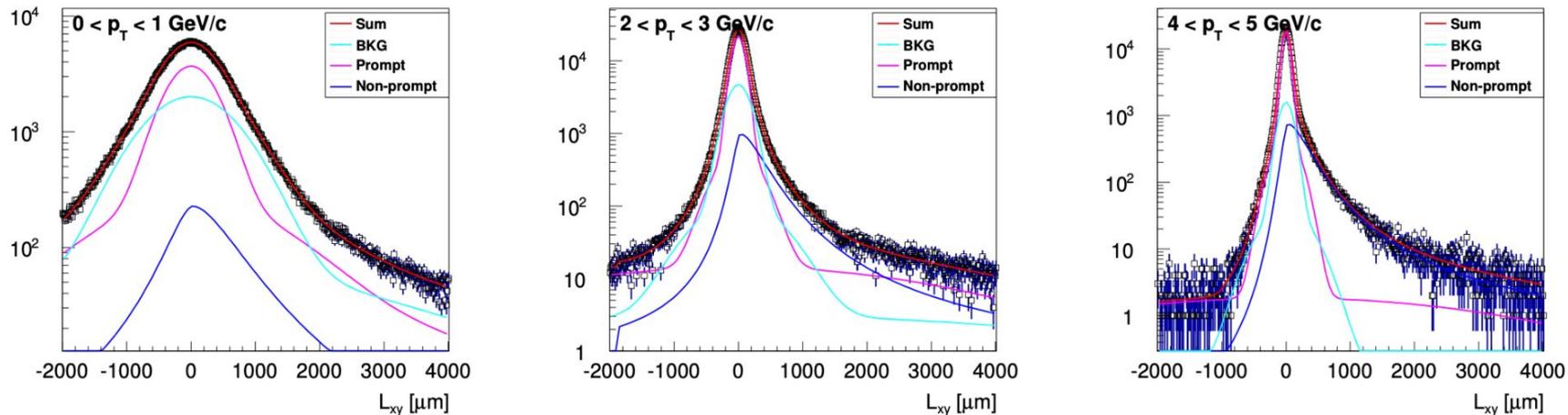


Figure 2.17: Fit of the global pseudo-proper decay-length distributions, for 0-10 % Pb-Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 5.5$ TeV, with the superposition of the three expected contributions for three different p_T bins.

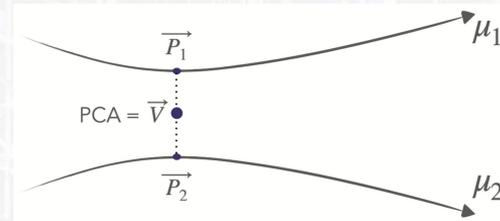
2 ways to get the **secondary vertex**

KFVertexing

- using Kalman filter method
- try to find the optimum estimation of an unknown vector (vertex) according to known measurements (tracks parameters)
 - first approximation of the vector, then filtering by using known parameters
 - repeat the process until reach the optimum estimation

DCAFitter

- described in R.Sadek [thesis](#)
- secondary vertex determined by finding the crossing point between the 2 muons :
 - Point of Closest Approach (PCA)
- PCA determined using χ^2 minimization



Goal : to compare both methods in τ_z determination

- Study performed on integrated and differential p_T
- Method similar to the one performed on 2022 data by Nicolas Bizé
- Cut around 40 for integrated p_T
- See [PAG meeting](#) for more

