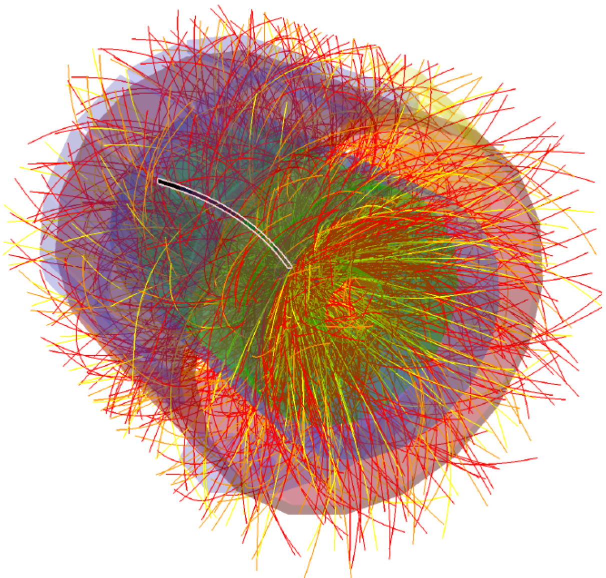
Production of (anti-)nuclei in small systems measured with ALICE at the LHC



13.09.2017
EXA2017, Vienna

Benjamin Dönigus
for the ALICE Collaboration
Institut für Kernphysik
Goethe Universität Frankfurt

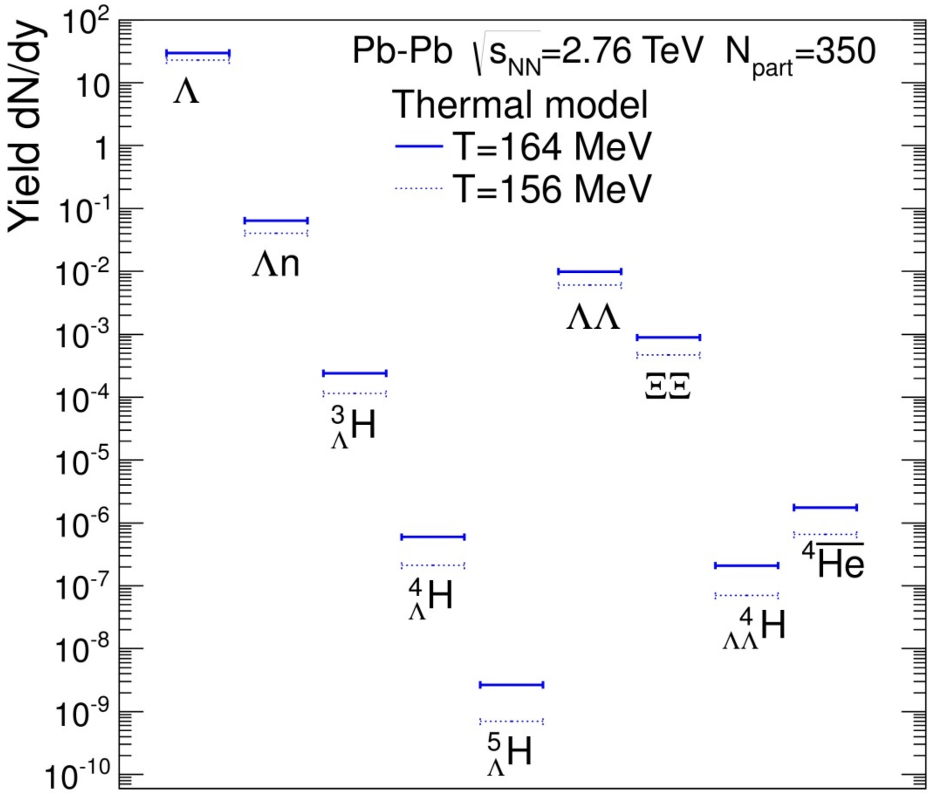
GOETHE UNIVERSITÄT FRANKFURT AM MAIN

IKF Institut für Kernphysik Frankfurt

Content

- Introduction
- ALICE
- (Anti-)nuclei
- Summary/Conclusion

Motivation

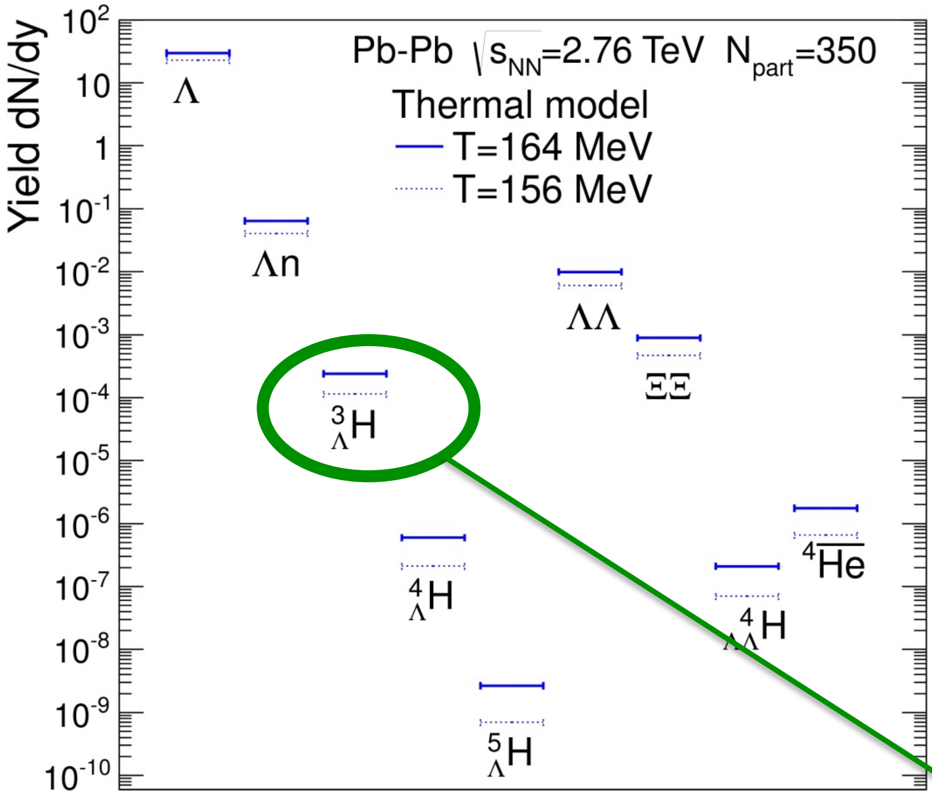


A. Andronic et al., PLB 697, 203 (2011) and references therein for the model, figure from A. Andronic, private communication

- Explore QCD and QCD inspired model predictions for (unusual) multi-baryon states
- Search for rarely produced anti- and hyper-matter
- Test model predictions, e.g. thermal and coalescence

→ Understand production mechanisms

Motivation



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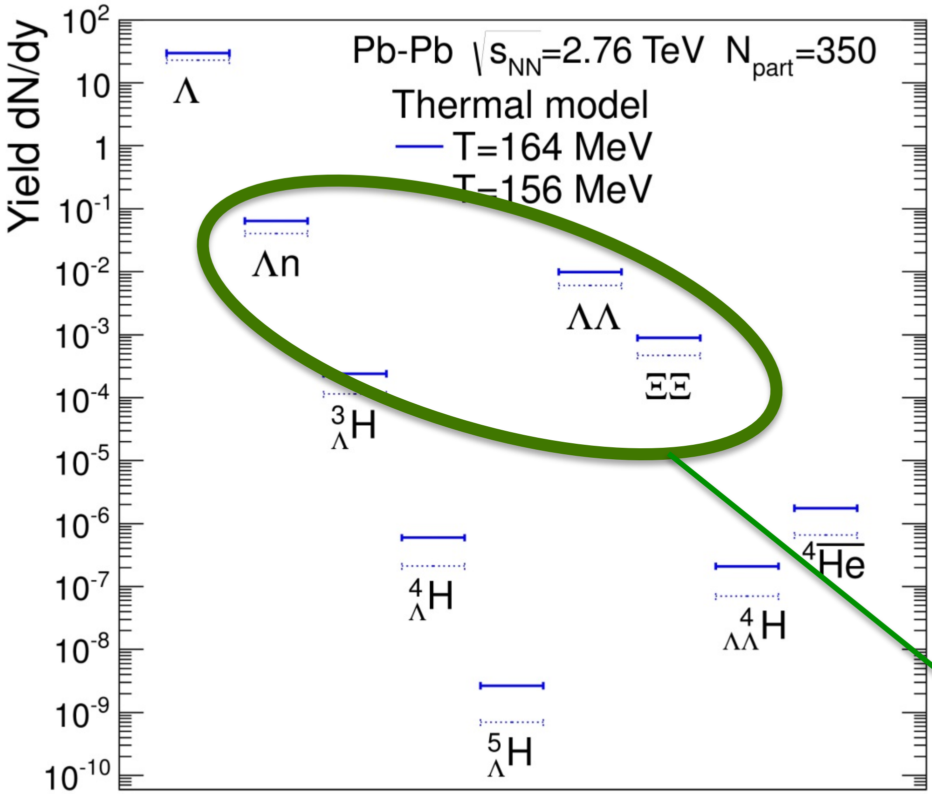
Talk by Stefano Piano

Motivation



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Talk by Annalisa Mastroserio

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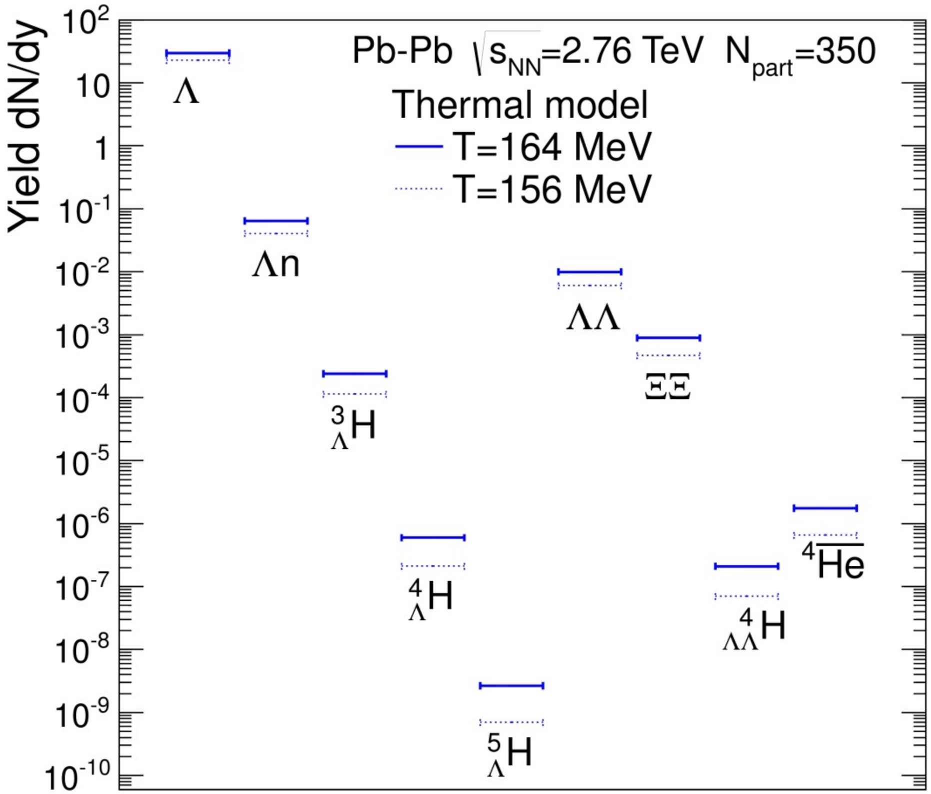

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- Explore QCD and QCD inspired model predictions for (unusual) multi-baryon states
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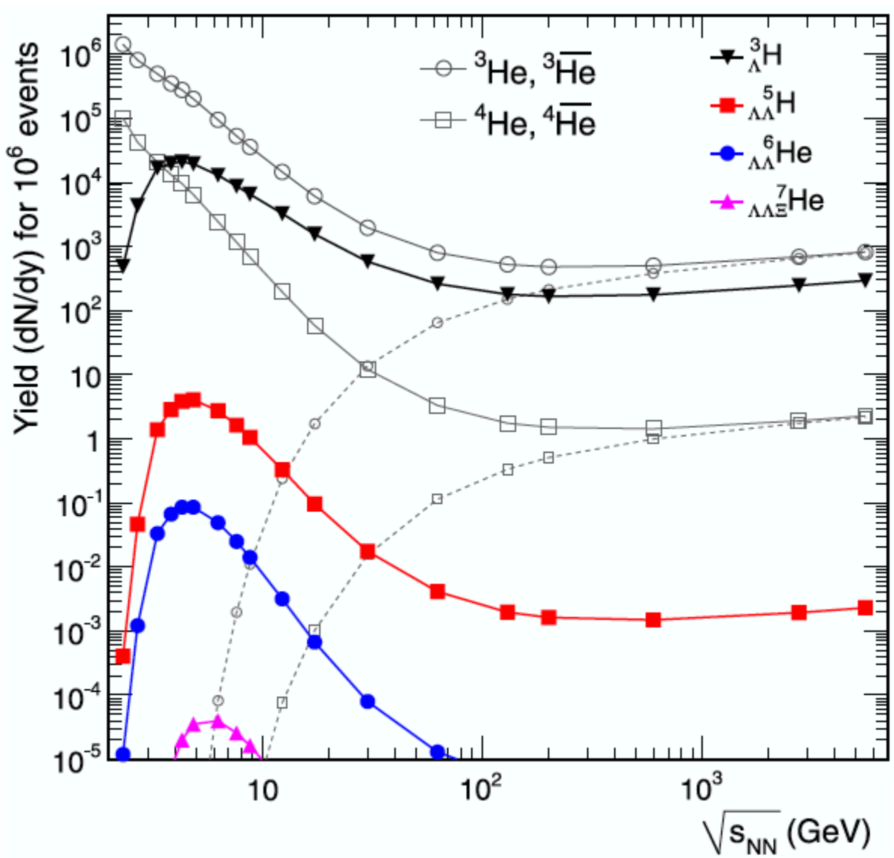
→ Understand production mechanisms

→ Basis are light (anti-)nuclei

Thermal model

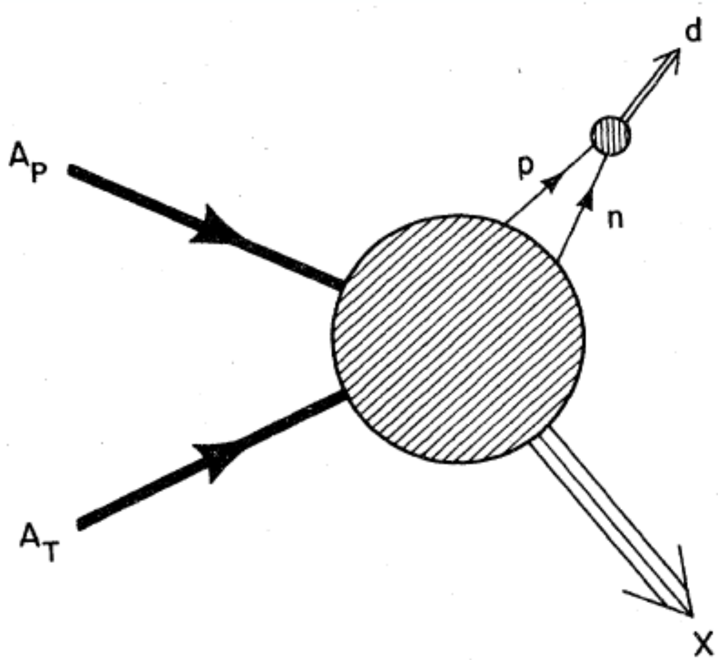


A. Andronic et al., PLB 697, 203 (2011)

- Key parameter at LHC energies:
  - chemical freeze-out temperature T_{ch}
- Strong sensitivity of abundance of nuclei to choice of T_{ch} due to:
  1. large mass *m*
  2. exponential dependence of the yield ~ exp($-m/T_{ch}$)

→ Binding energies small compared to T_{ch}

Coalescence (I)



J. I. Kapusta, PRC 21, 1301 (1980)

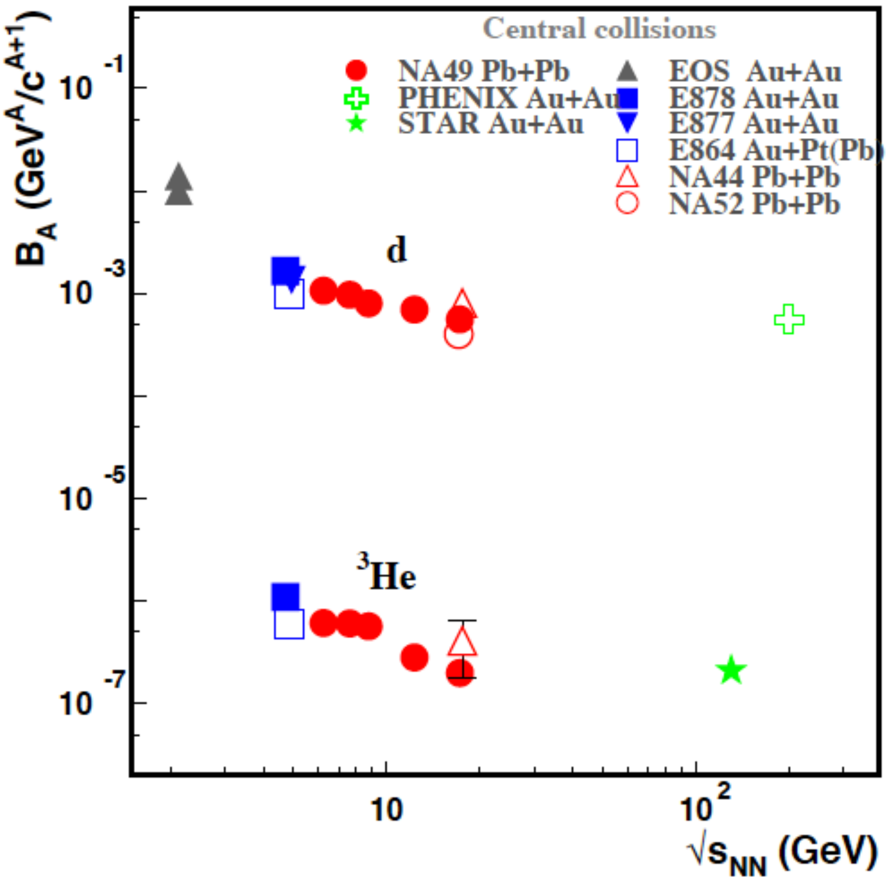
- Nuclei are formed by protons and neutrons which are nearby in space and have similar velocities (after kinetic freeze-out)

- Produced nuclei

➜ can break apart

➜ created again by final-state coalescence

Coalescence (II)



T. Anticic et al. (NA49 Collaboration)
PRC 94, 044906 (2016)

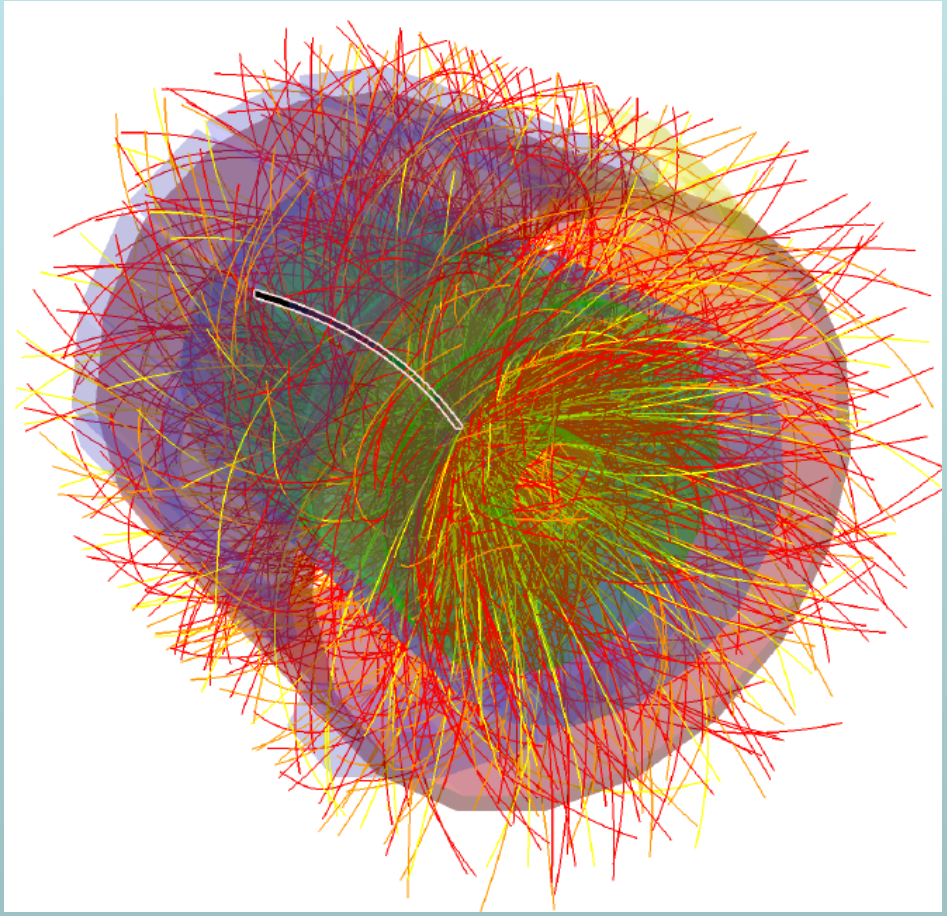
- Production probability of nuclei is usually quantified through a coalescence parameter B_A using

$$E_i \frac{d^3 N_i}{dp_i^3} = B_A \left(E_p \frac{d^3 N_p}{dp_p^3} \right)^A$$

- B_A often connected to the coalescence volume (in momentum space p_0)

$$B_A = \left(\frac{4\pi}{3} p_0^3 \right)^{A-1} \frac{M}{m^A}$$

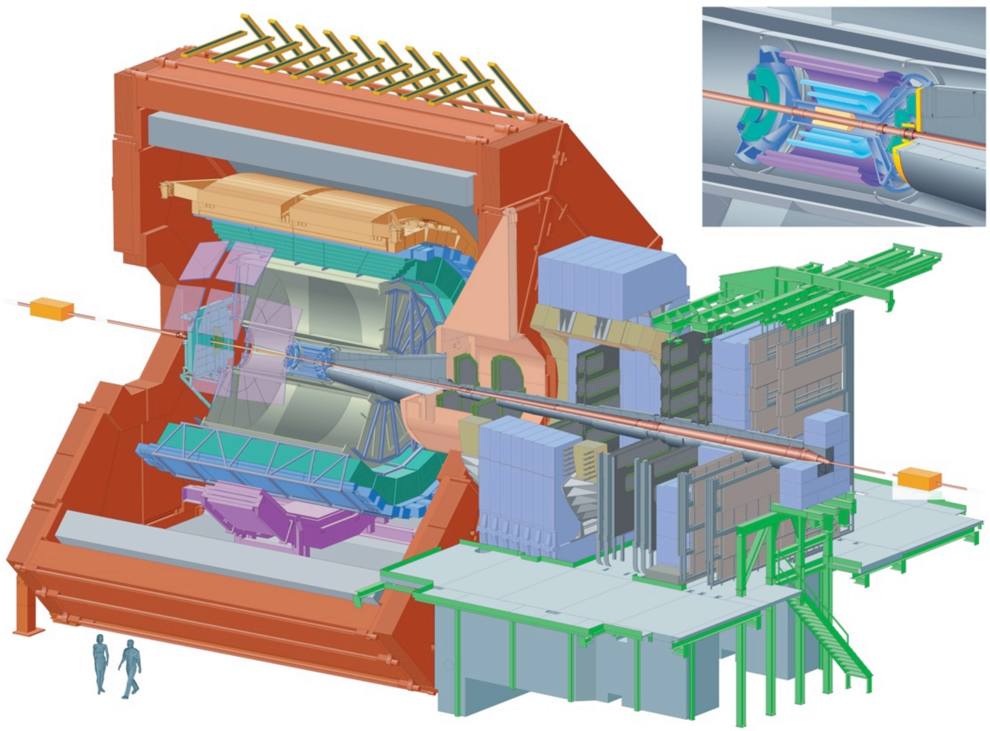
ALICE



Large Hadron Collider at CERN

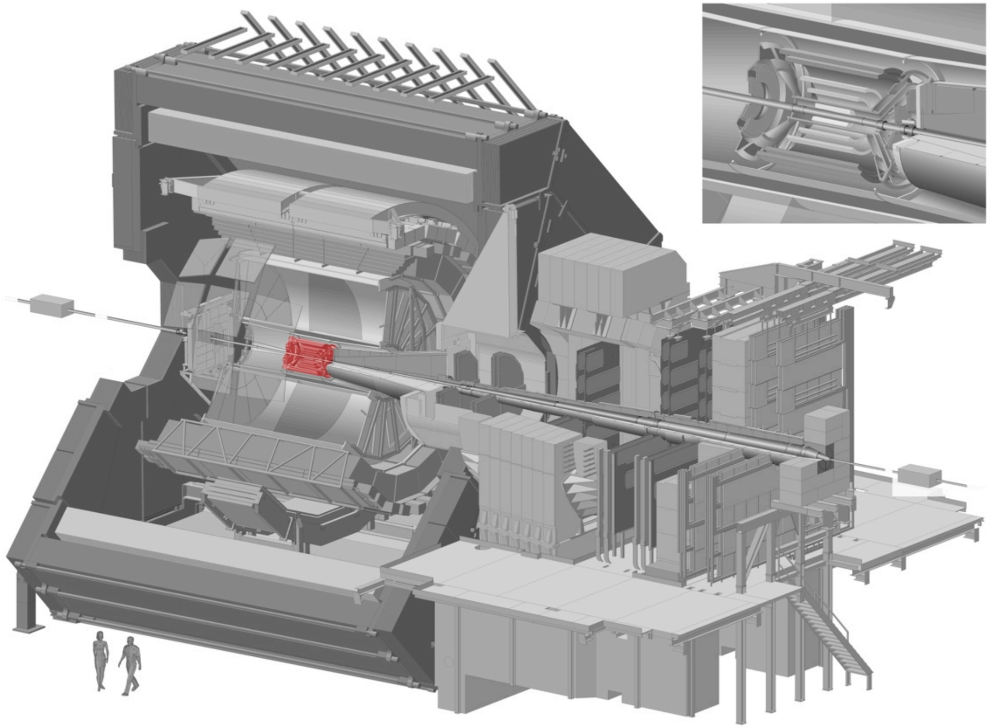
Large Hadron Collider at CERN

ALICE experiment



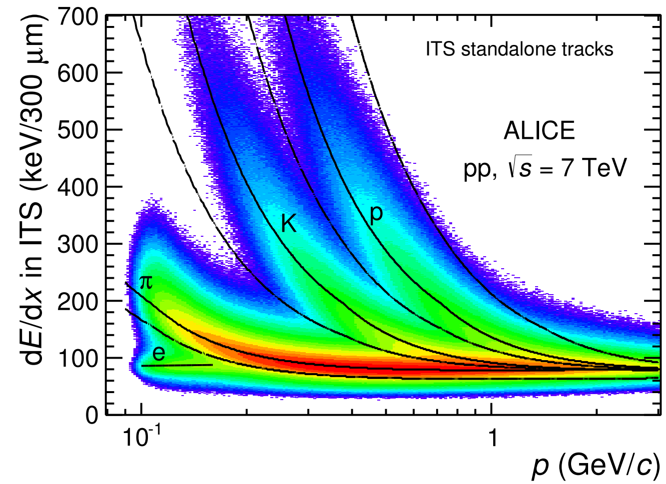
Specificity: low-momentum tracking and particle identification in a high-multiplicity environment

ALICE experiment



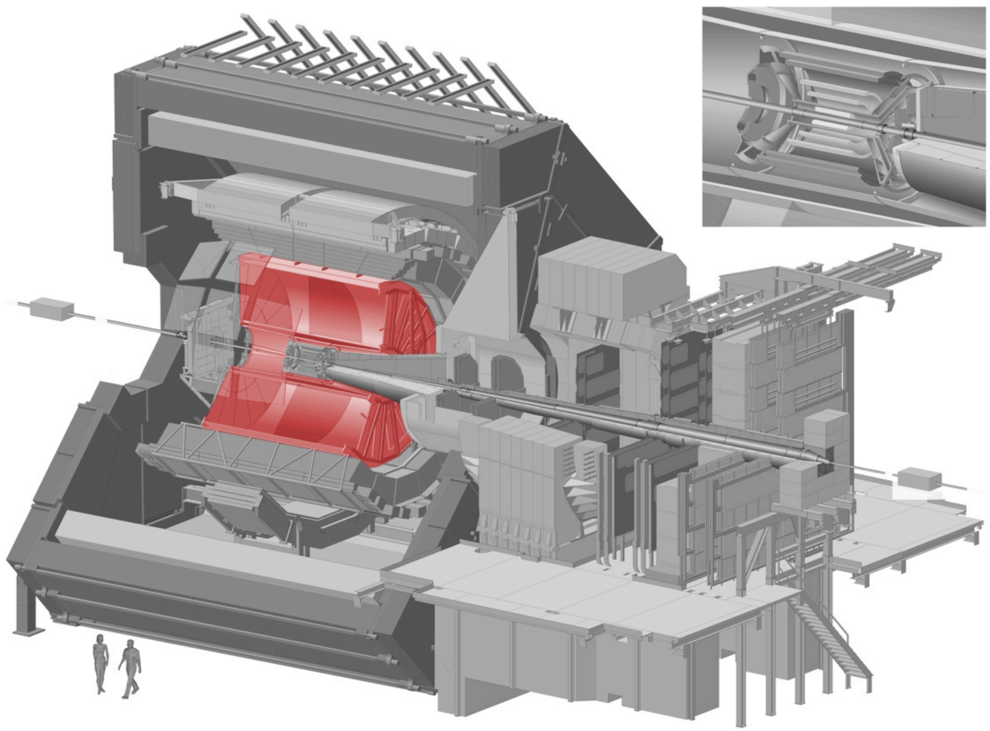
ITS (|η|<0.9)

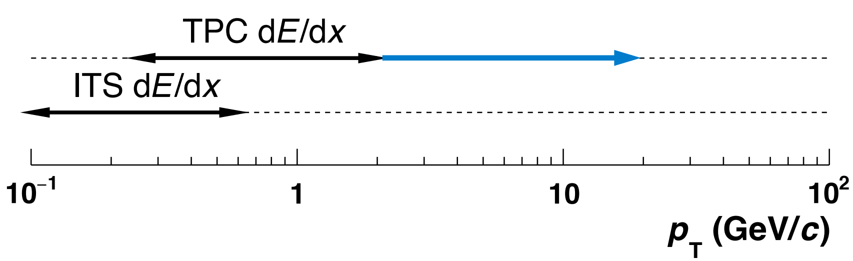
- 6 Layers of silicon detectors
- Trigger, tracking, vertex, PID (dE/dx)



ITS dE/dx

ALICE experiment





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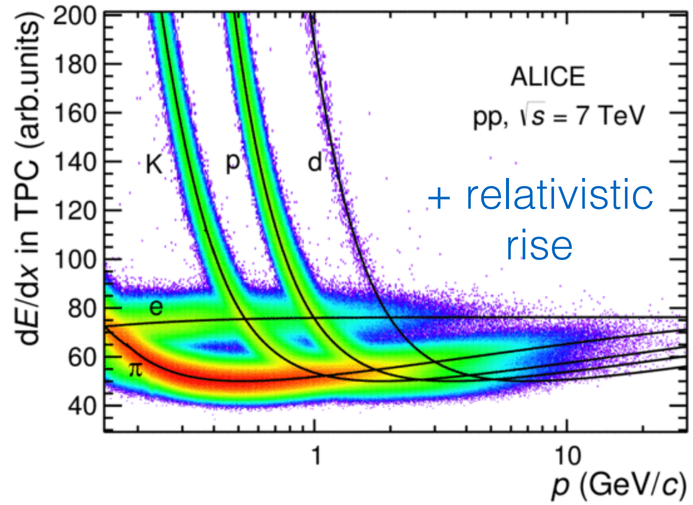
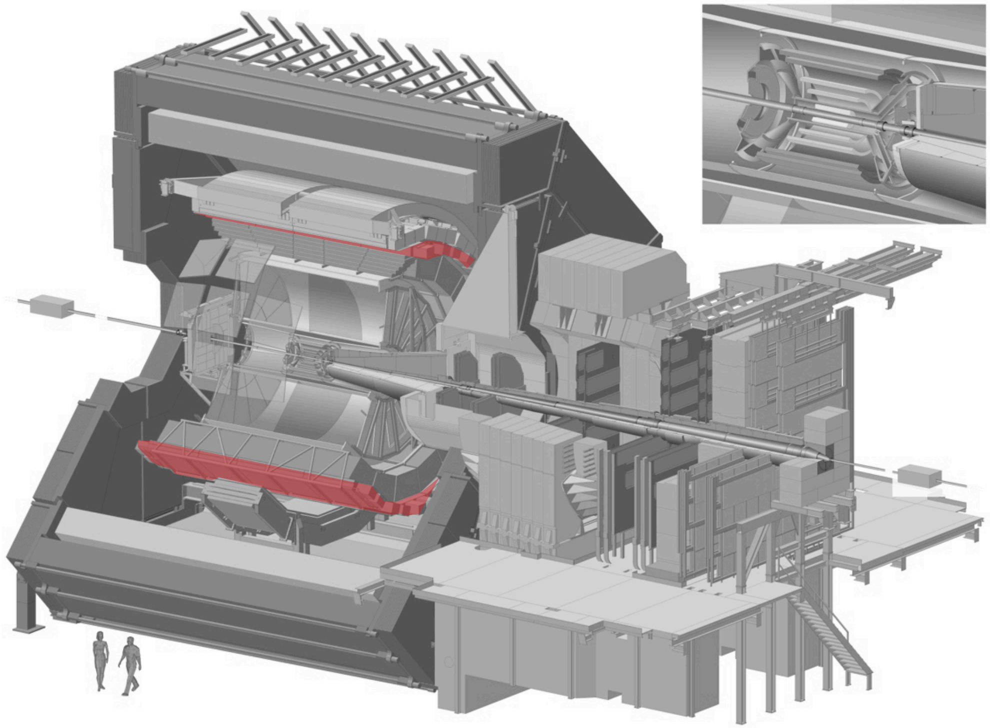
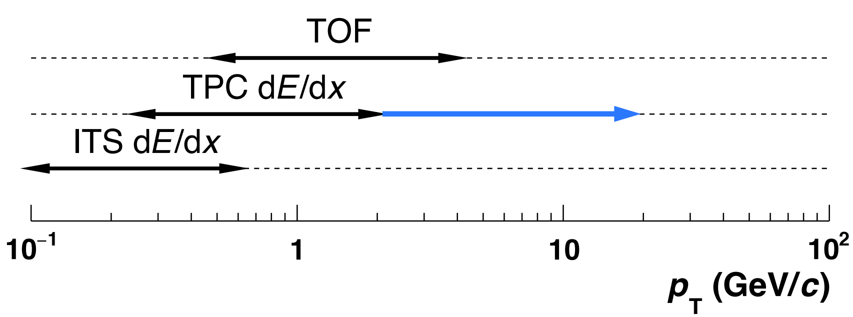
TPC (|η|<0.9)

- Gas-filled ionization detection volume
- Tracking, vertex, PID (dE/dx)



ALICE experiment





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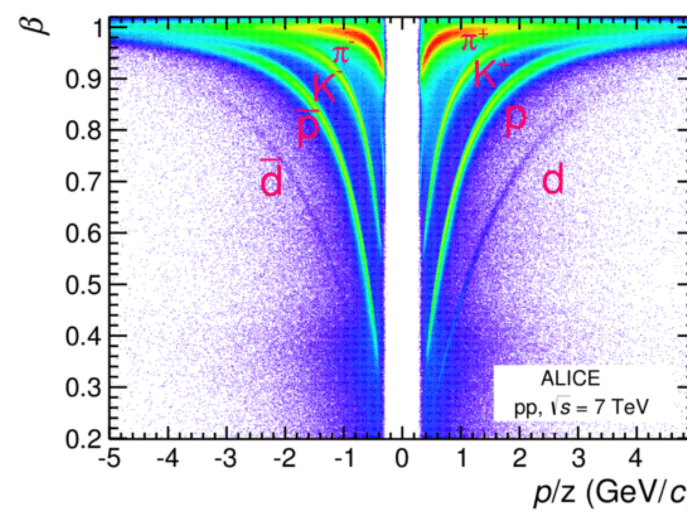
TPC ($|\eta|<0.9$)

- Gas-filled ionization detection volume
- Tracking, vertex, PID (dE/dx)
- Weak decay reconstruction (topological)

TOF ($|\eta|<0.9$)

- Multi-gap resistive plate chambers
- PID via velocity determination



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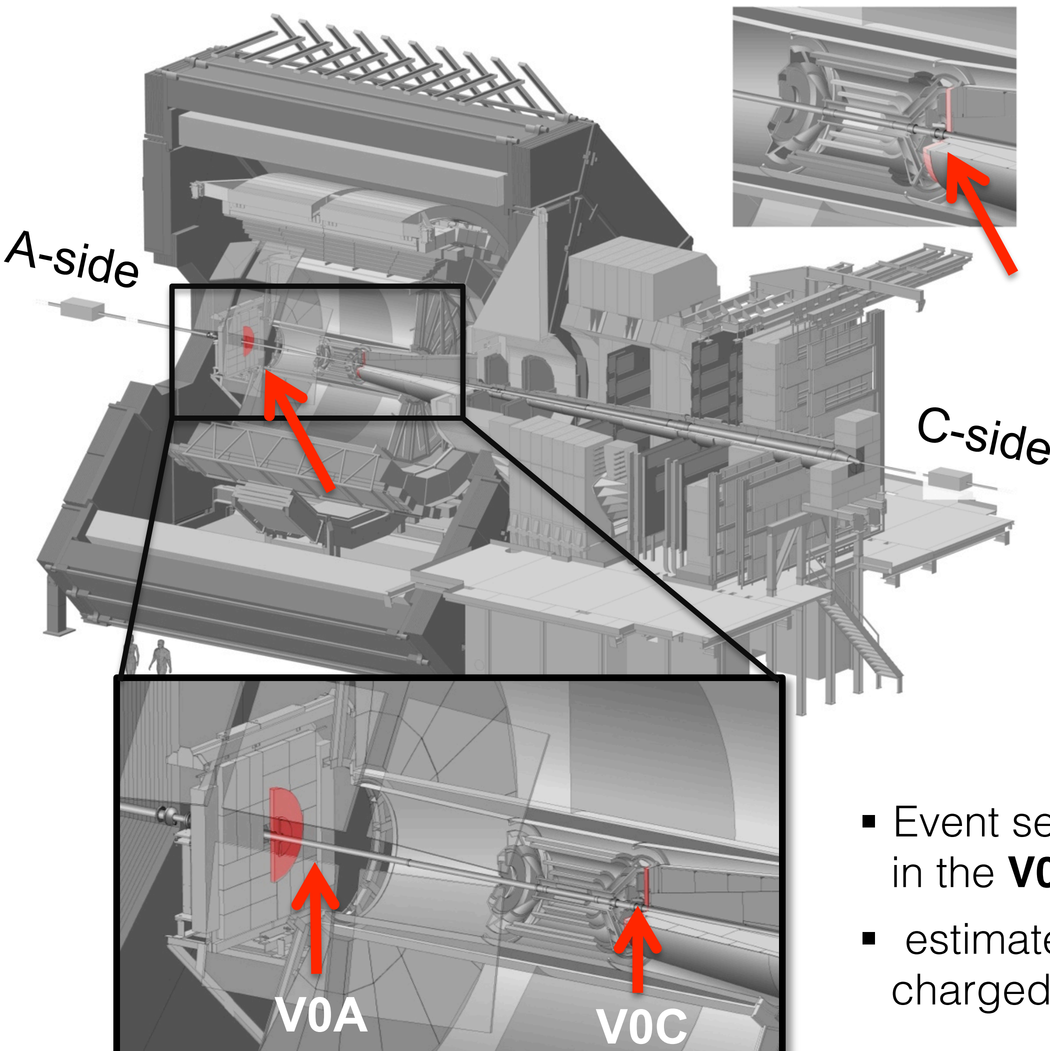

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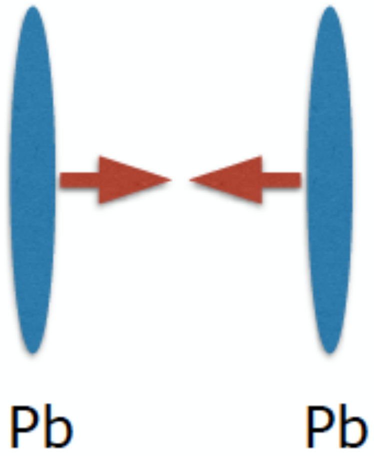
V0 [V0A ($2.8<\eta<5.1$) & V0C ($-3.7<\eta<-1.7$)]
- Forward arrays of scintillators
- Trigger, beam gas rejection
- Multiplicity estimator:

- Event selection based on total charge deposited in the **V0A** and **V0C** detectors ("V0M")
- estimated as the average number of primary charged tracks in $|\eta|<0.5$

Interlude: Centrality

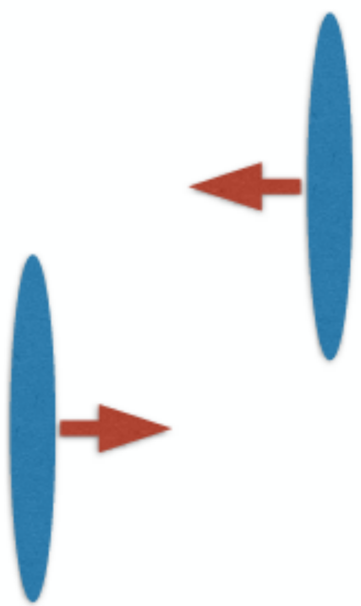


Central Pb-Pb collision:

High multiplicity = large <dN/dη>

High number of tracks

(more than 2000 tracks in the detector)



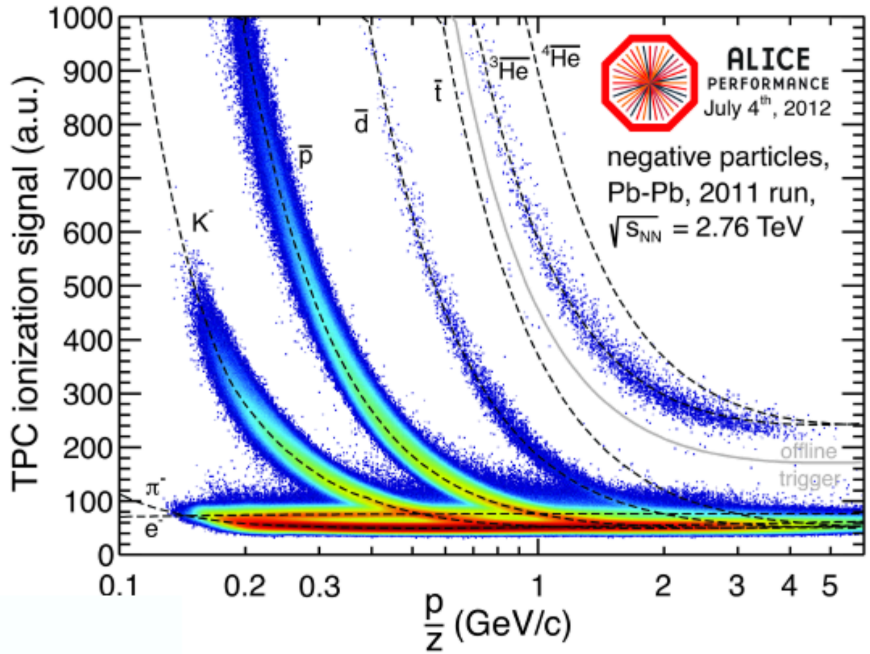
Peripheral Pb-Pb collision:

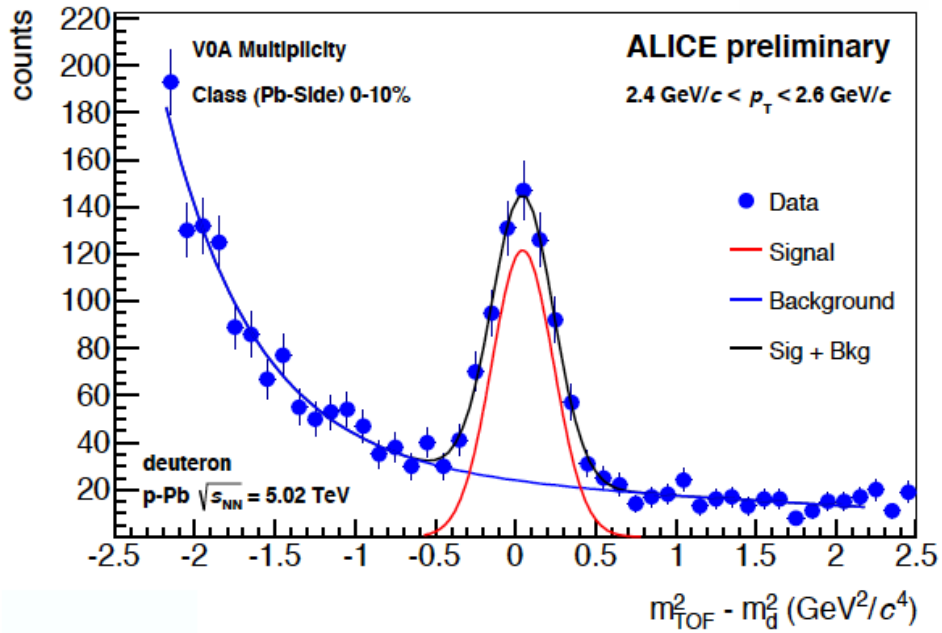
Low multiplicity = small <dN/dη>

Low number of tracks

(less than 100 tracks in the detector)

Particle Identification





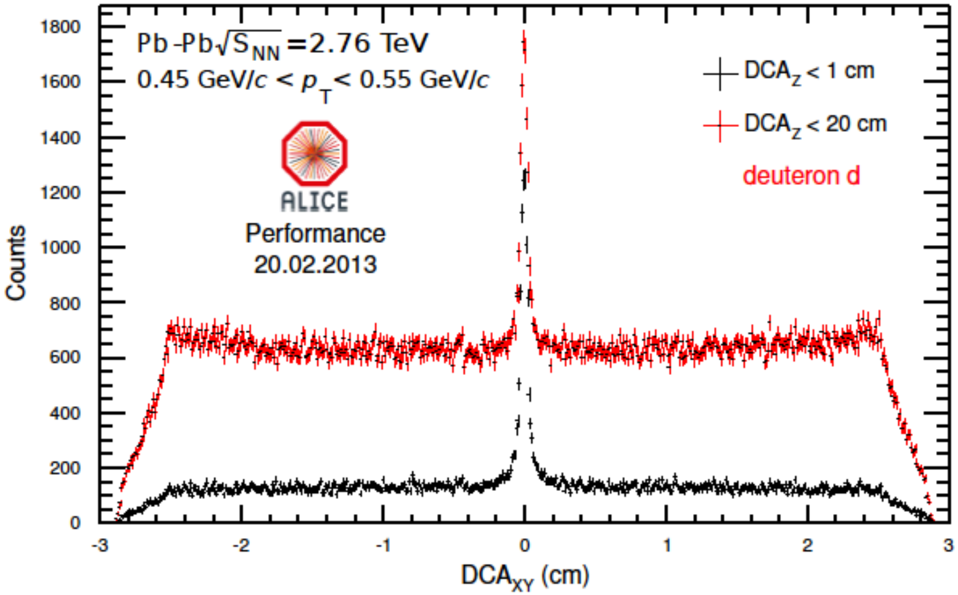
Low momenta:

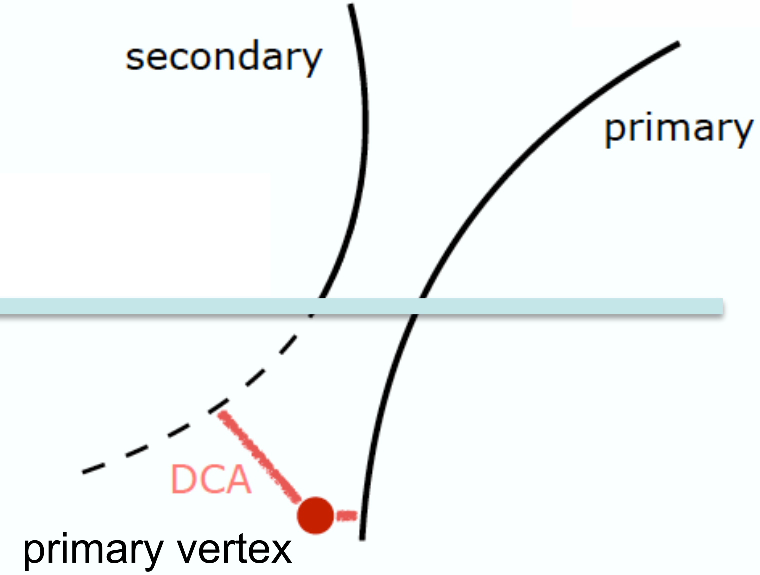
Nuclei are identified using the d*E*/d*x* measurement in the Time Projection Chamber (TPC)

Higher momenta:

Velocity measurement with the Time-of-Flight (TOF) detector is used to calculate the m^2 distribution

Secondary contamination





➜ Distance-of-Closest-Approach (DCA) distributions can be used to separate primary particles (produced in the collision) from secondary particles (from knock-out of the material, e.g. beam pipe)

➜ Knock-out is a significant problem at low p_T, but only for nuclei not for anti-nuclei

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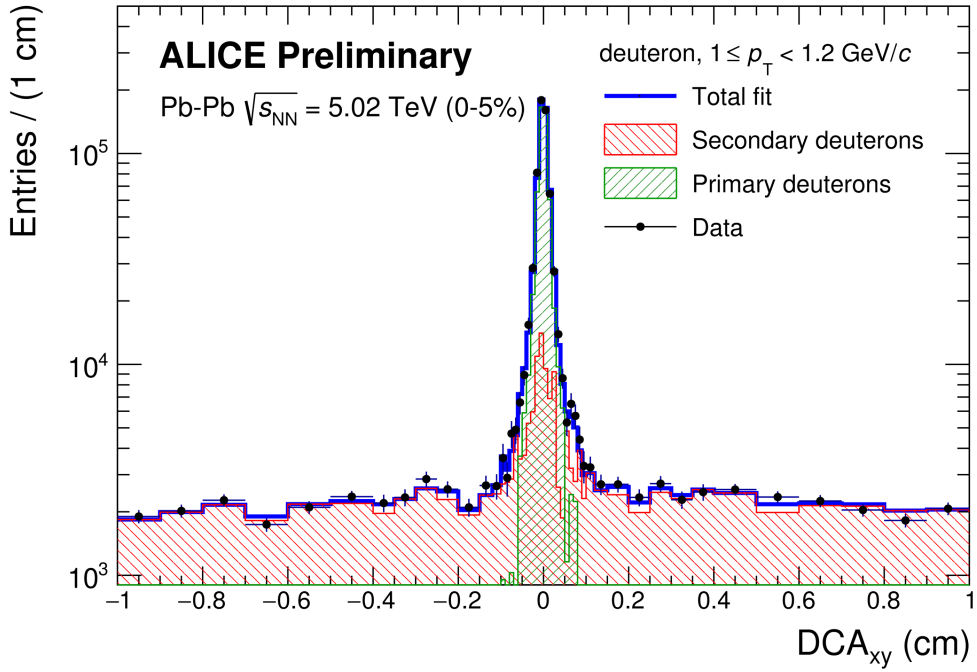

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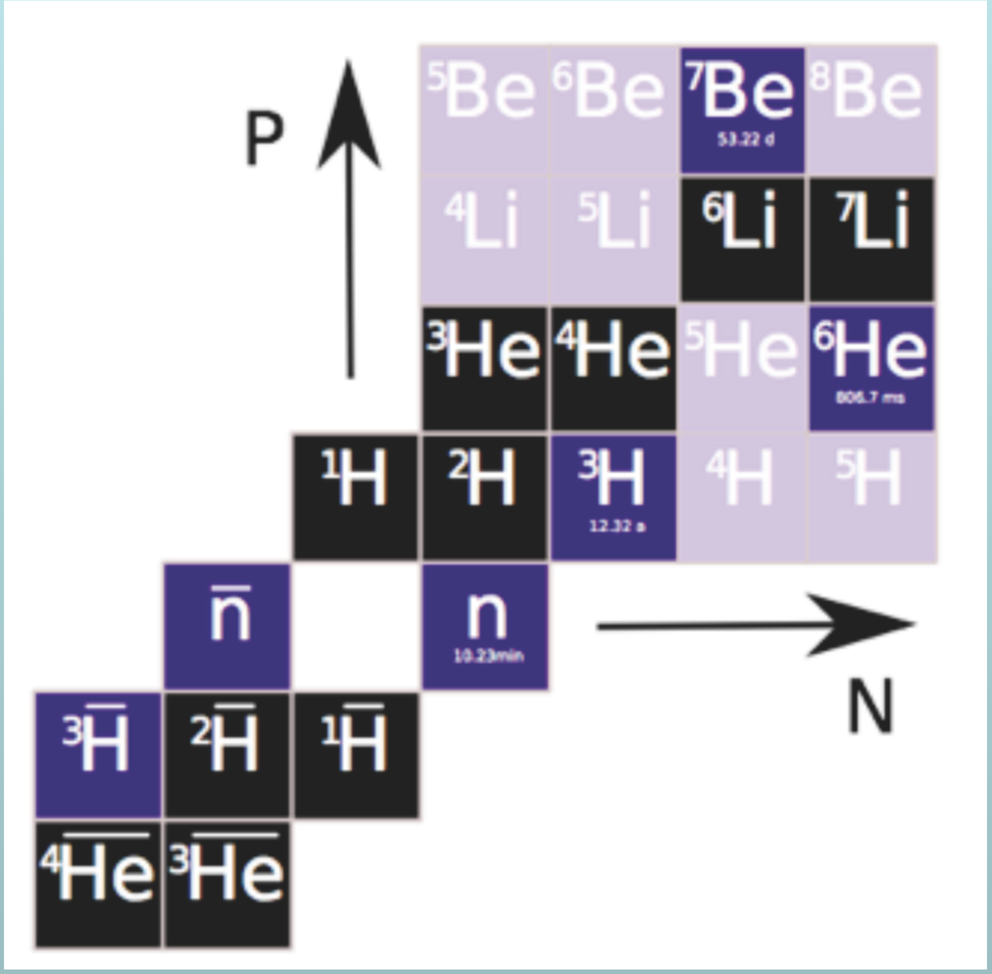
(Anti-)Nuclei

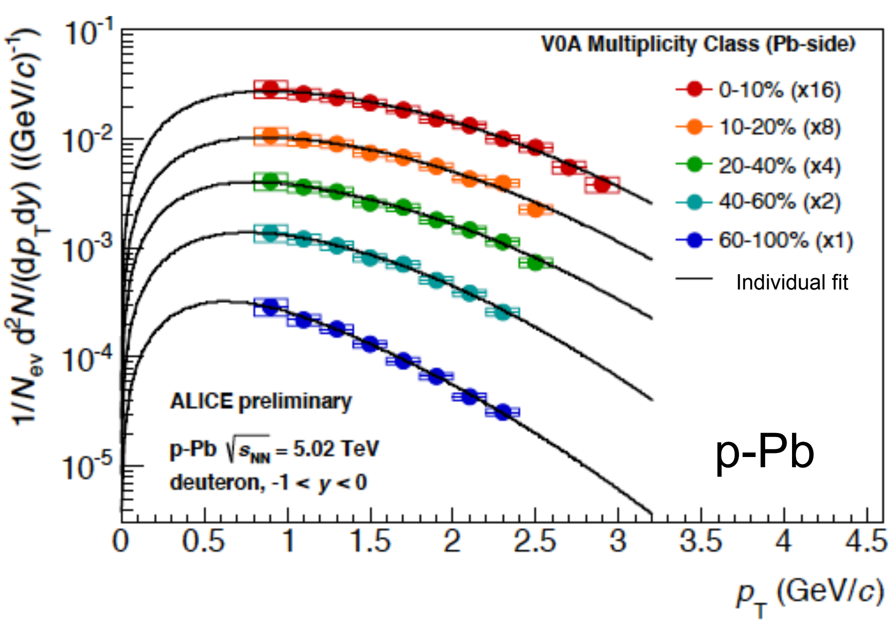
ALICE

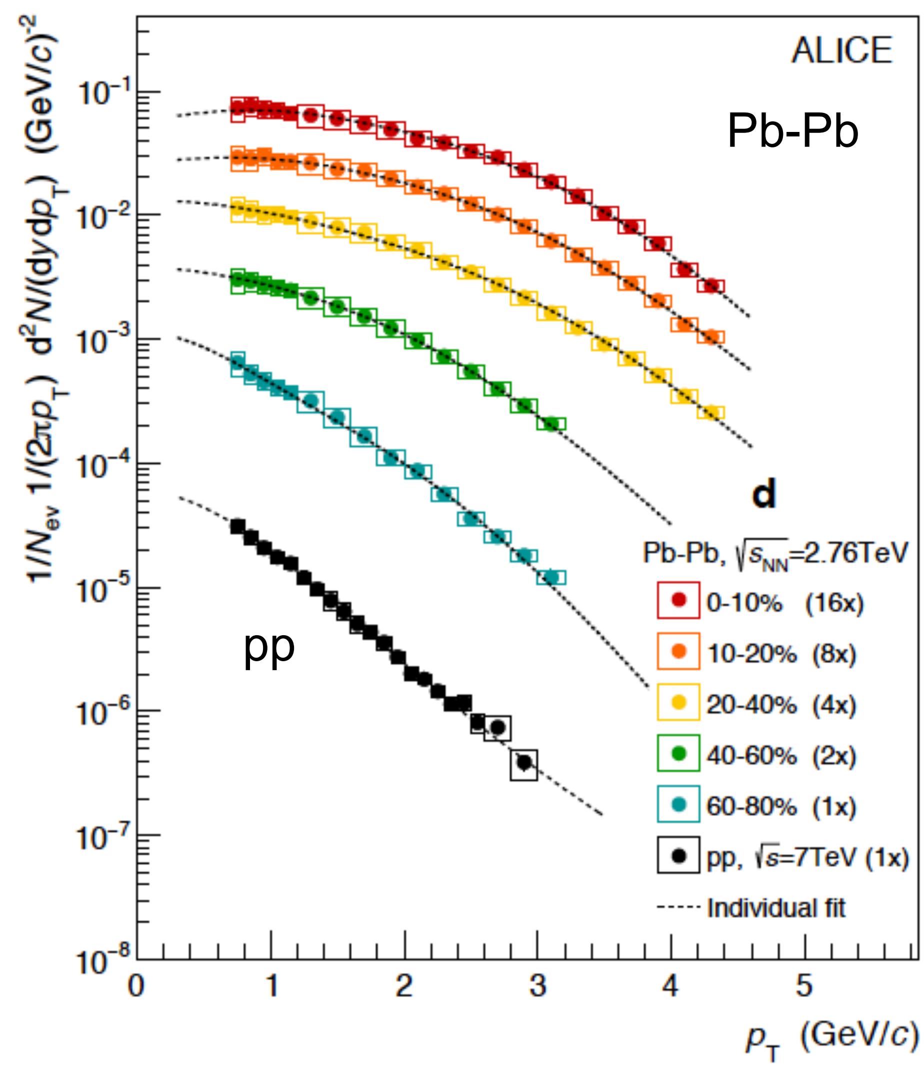


Deuterons

ALICE Collaboration: PRC 93, 024917 (2016)

- Spectra become harder with increasing multiplicity in p-Pb and Pb-Pb and show clear radial flow
- The Blast-Wave fits describe the data well in p-Pb and Pb-Pb
- pp spectrum shows no sign of radial flow





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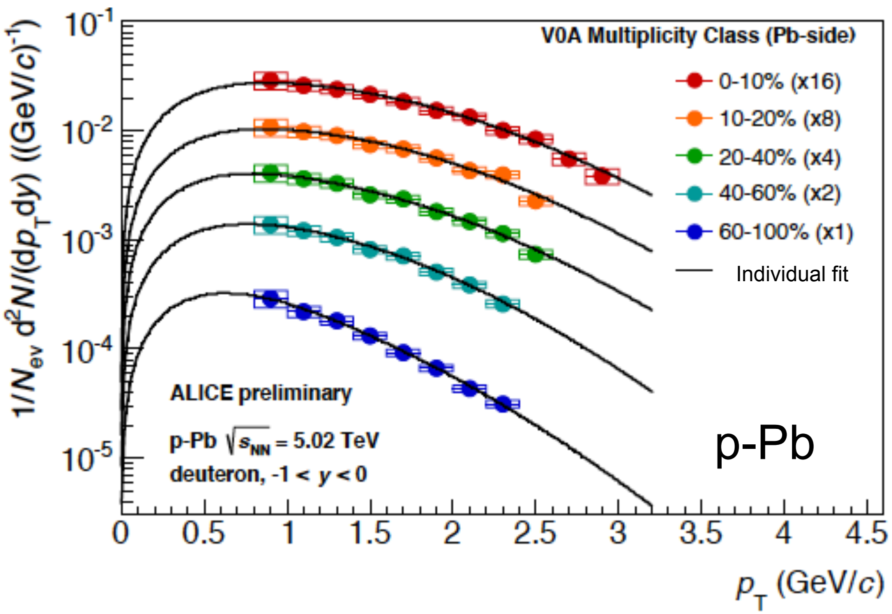

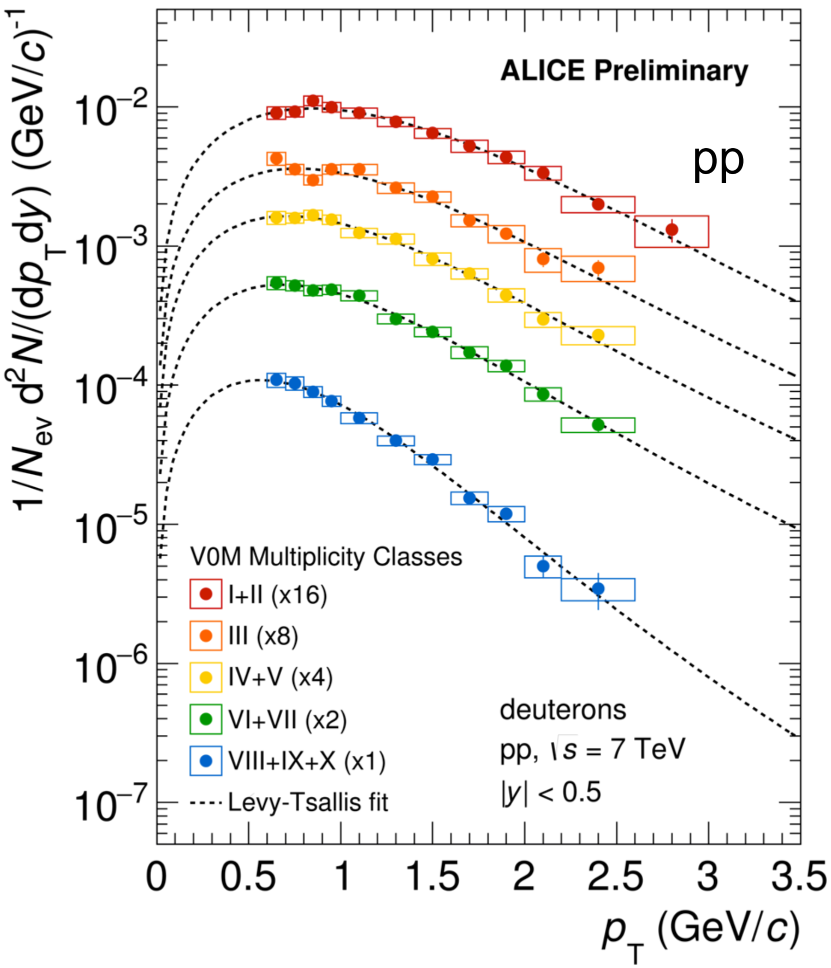

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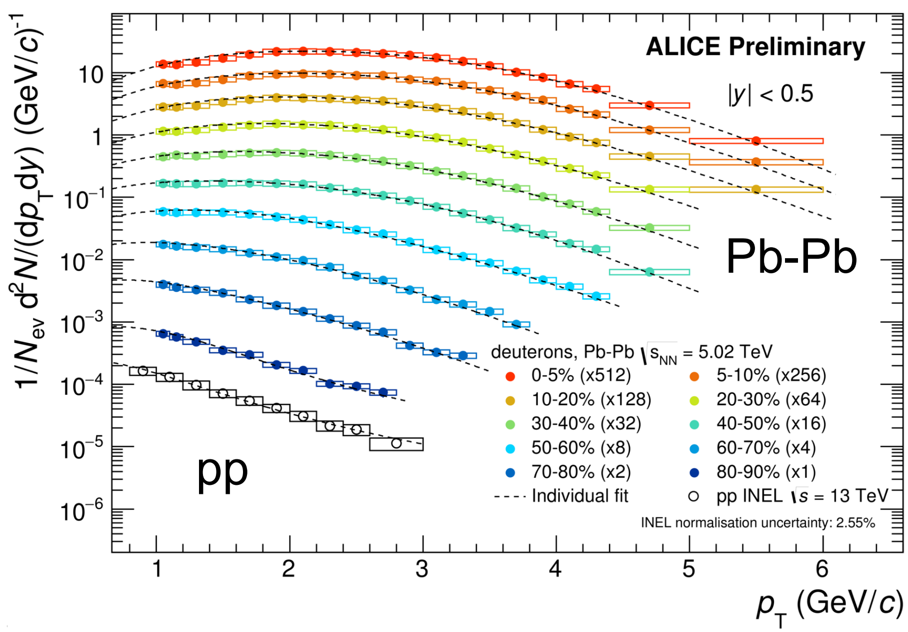
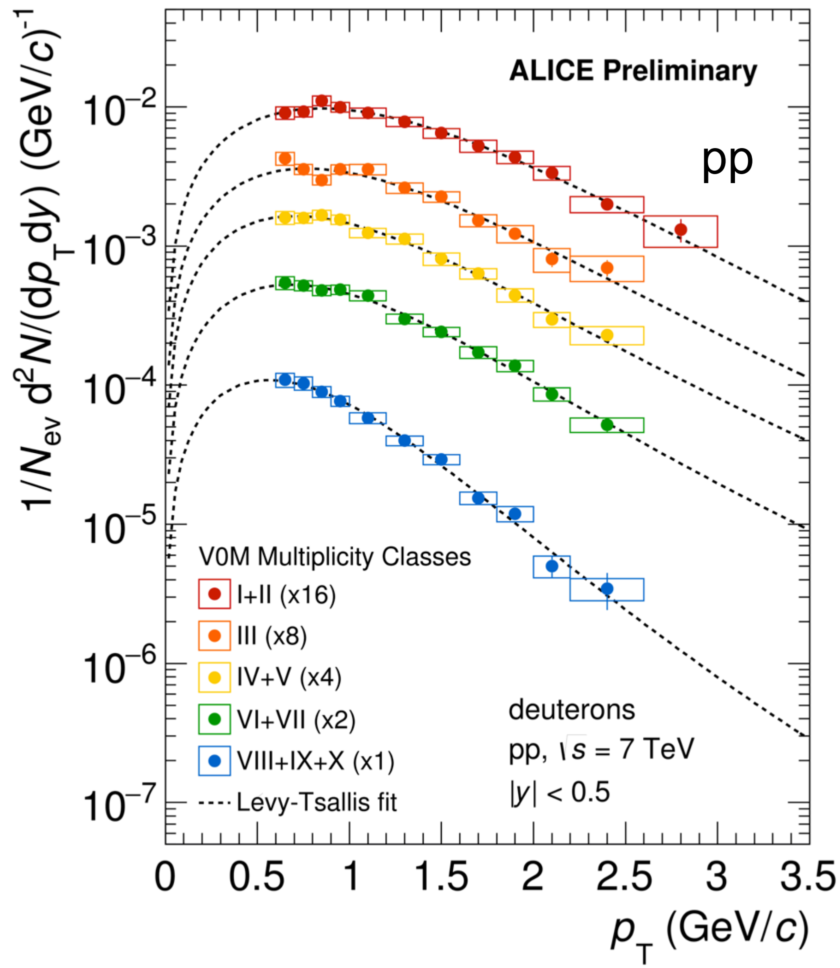
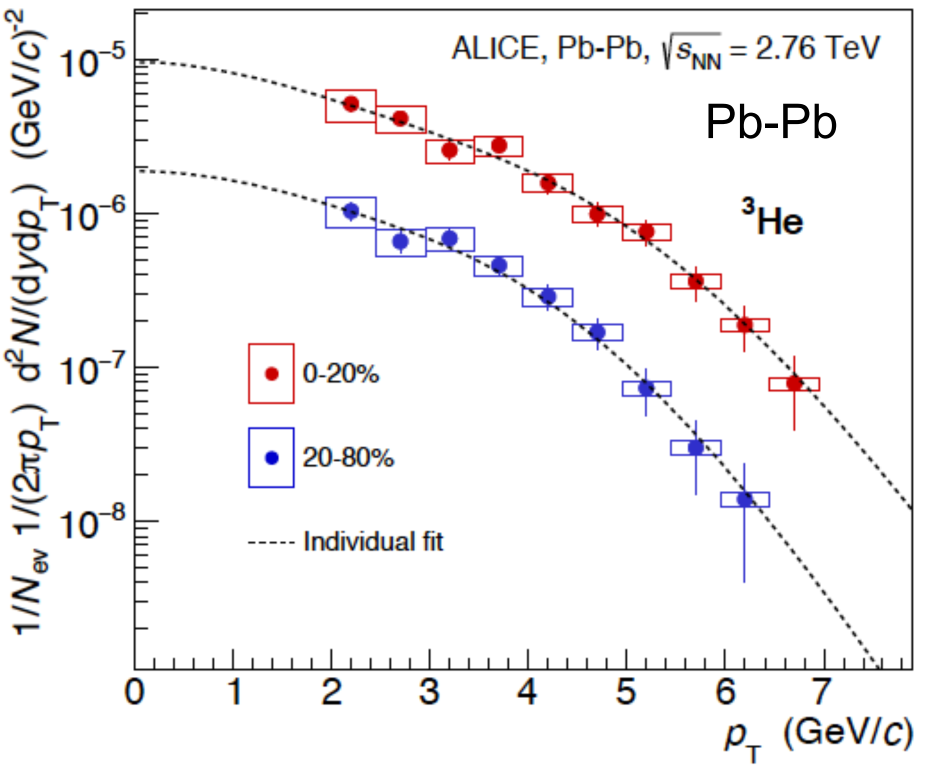
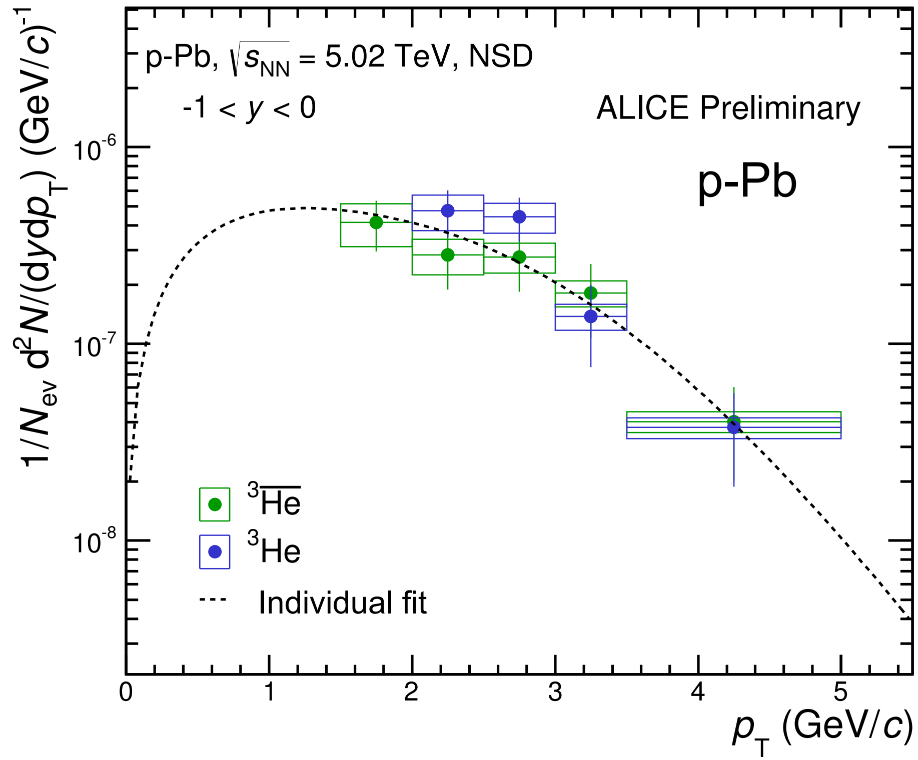




^{3}He

ALICE Collaboration: PRC 93, 024917 (2016)





- Dashed curves represent individual Blast-Wave fits
- Spectrum obtained in 2 centrality classes in Pb-Pb and for NSD collisions in p-Pb

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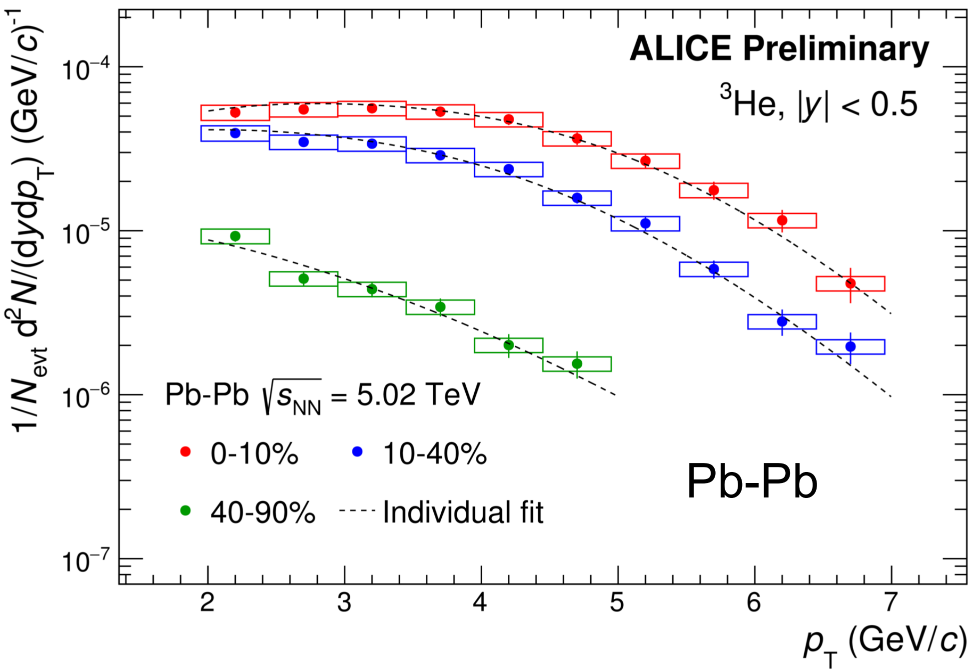
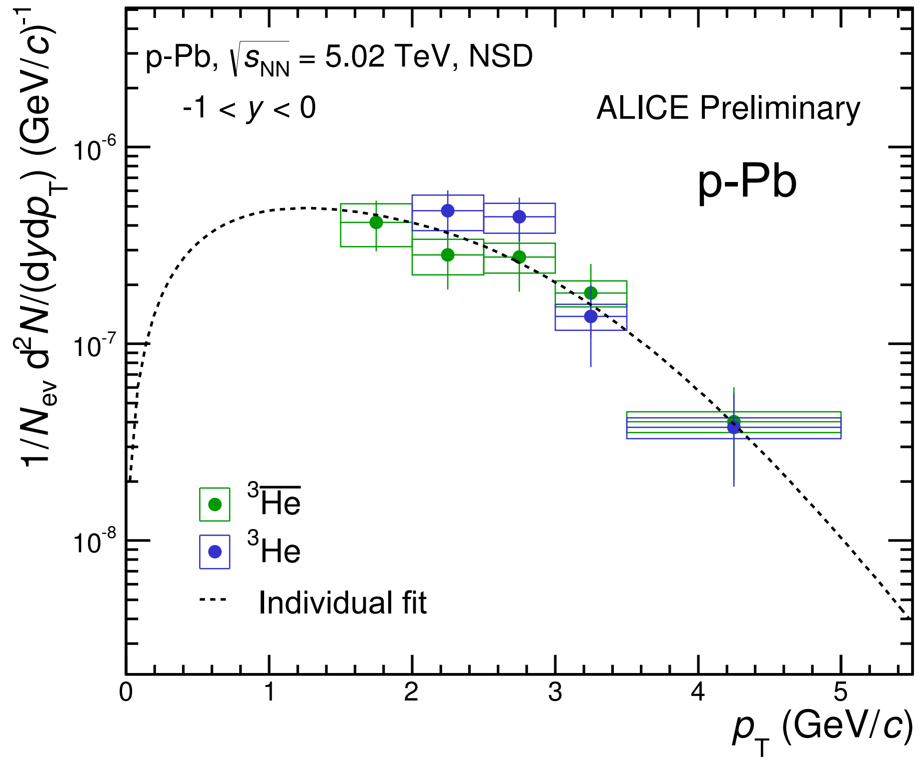
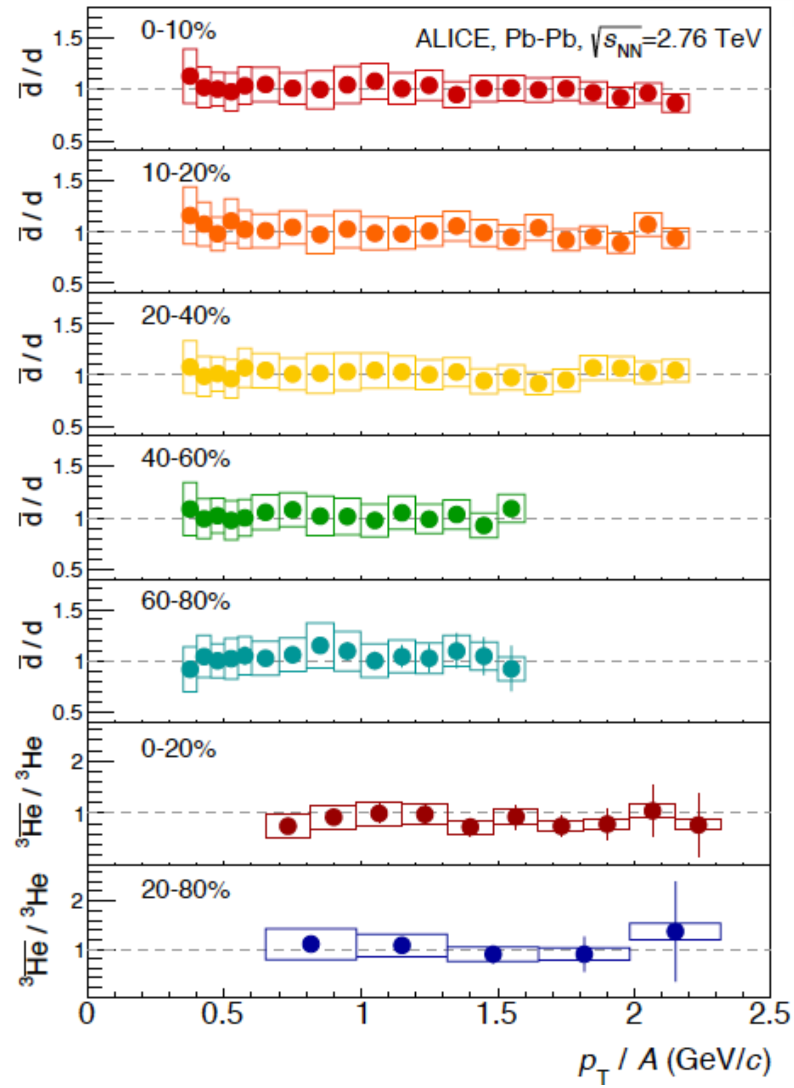




- Dashed curves represent individual Blast-Wave fits
- Spectrum obtained in 3 centrality classes in Pb-Pb and for NSD collisions in p-Pb

LHC: factory for anti-matter and matter

- Anti-nuclei / nuclei ratios are consistent with unity (similar to other light particle species)
- Ratios exhibit constant behavior as a function of p_T and centrality
- Ratios are in agreement with the coalescence and thermal model expectations



ALICE Collaboration: PRC 93, 024917 (2016)

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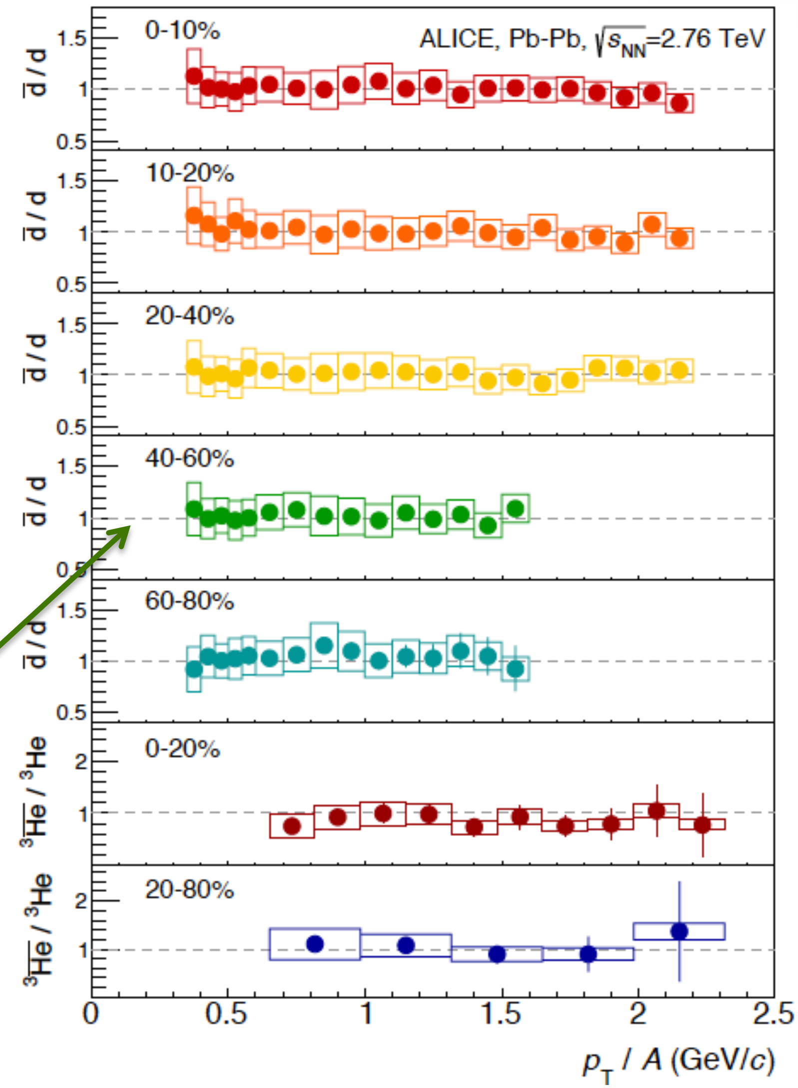
Talk by Manuel Colocci



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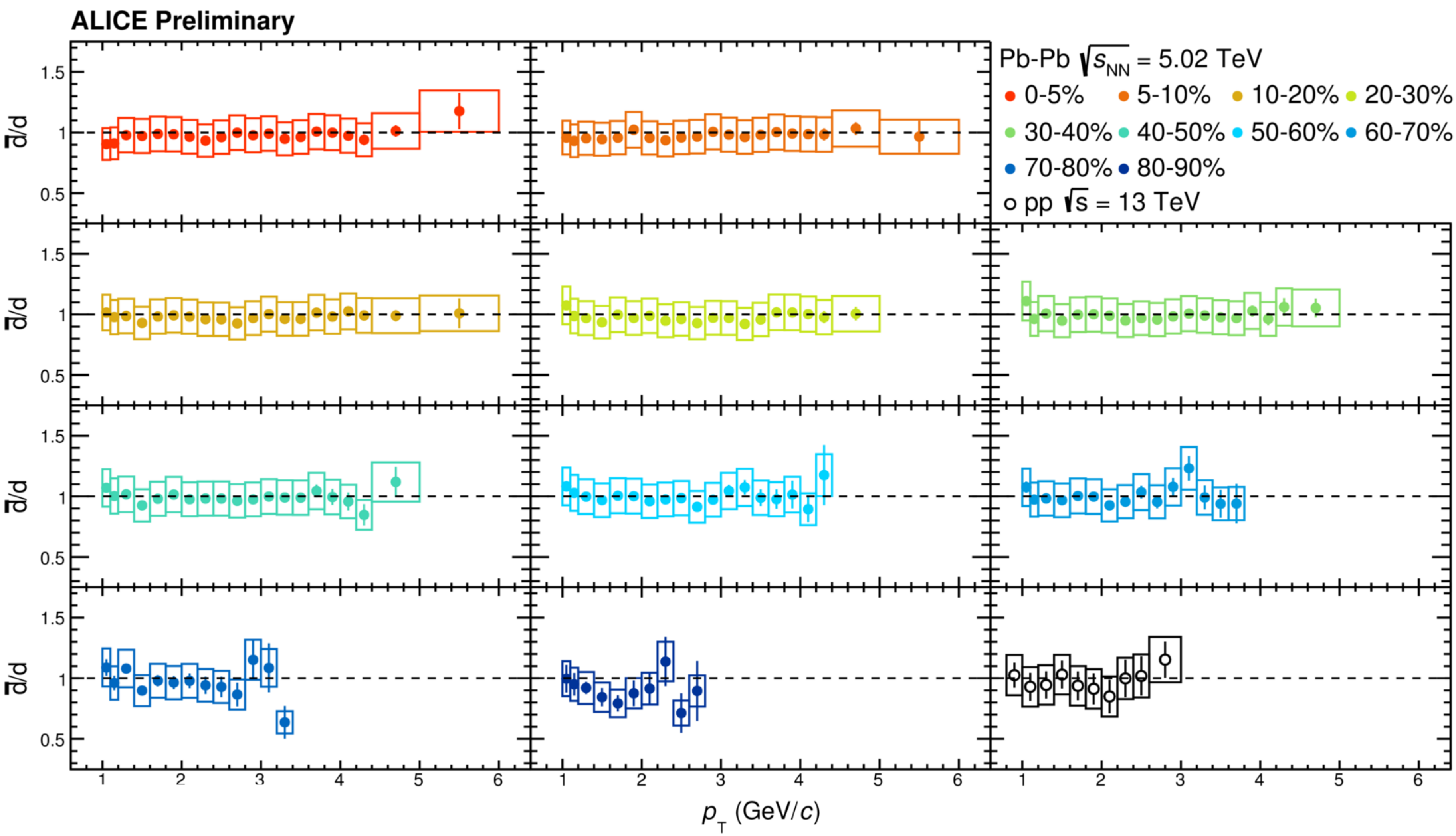

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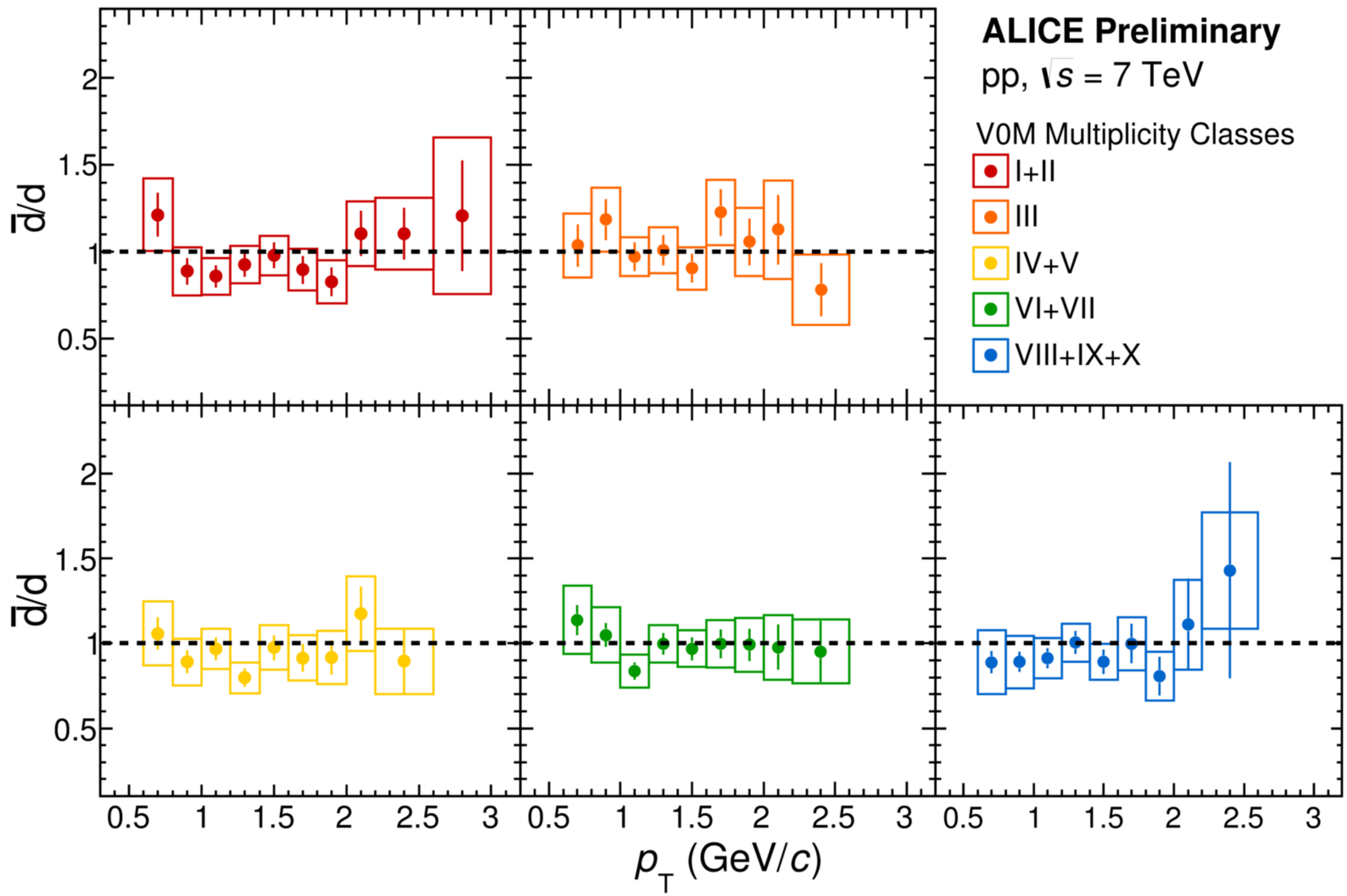
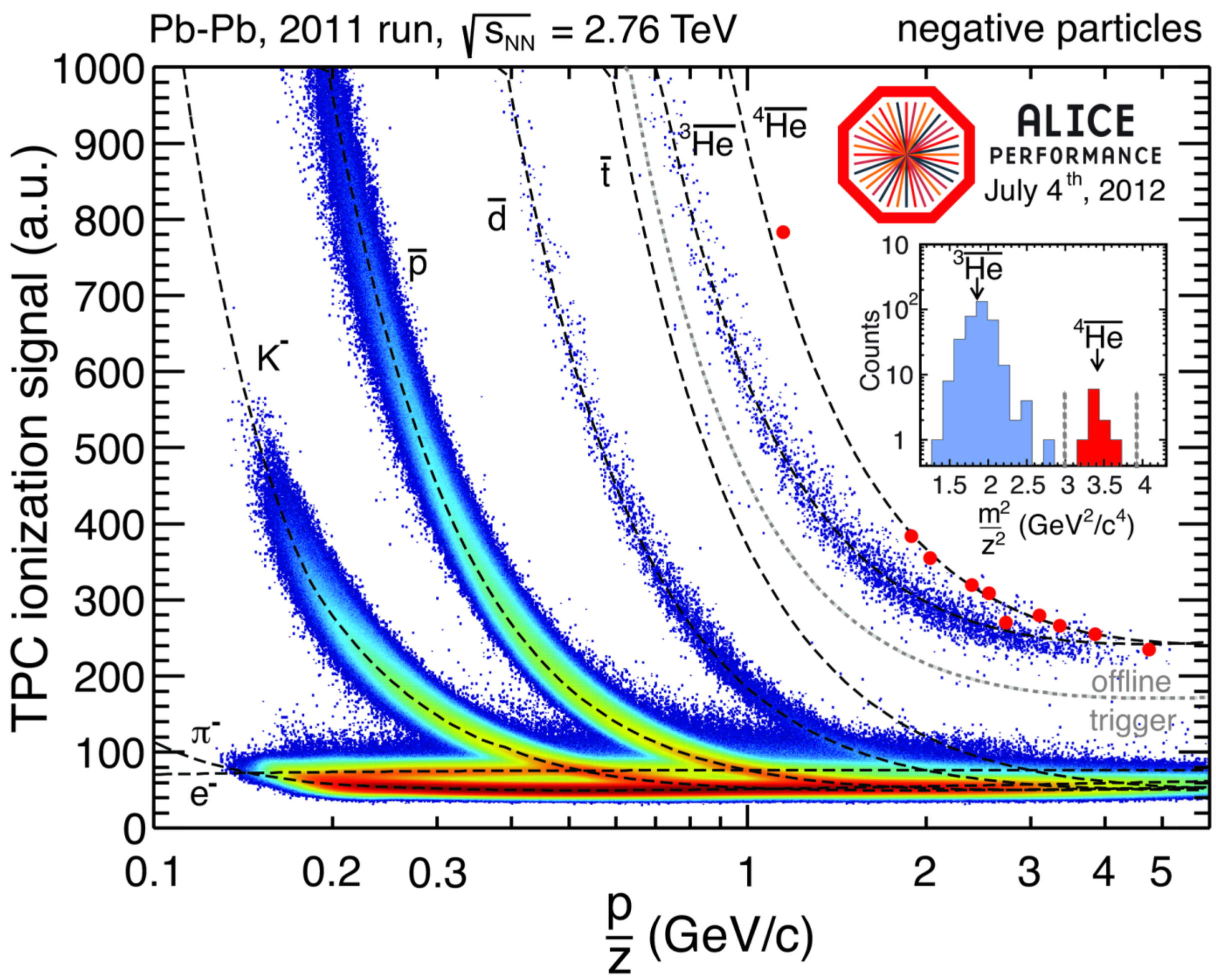


Also in pp multiplicity intervals, anti-deuterons and deuterons are produced equally

Anti-Alpha

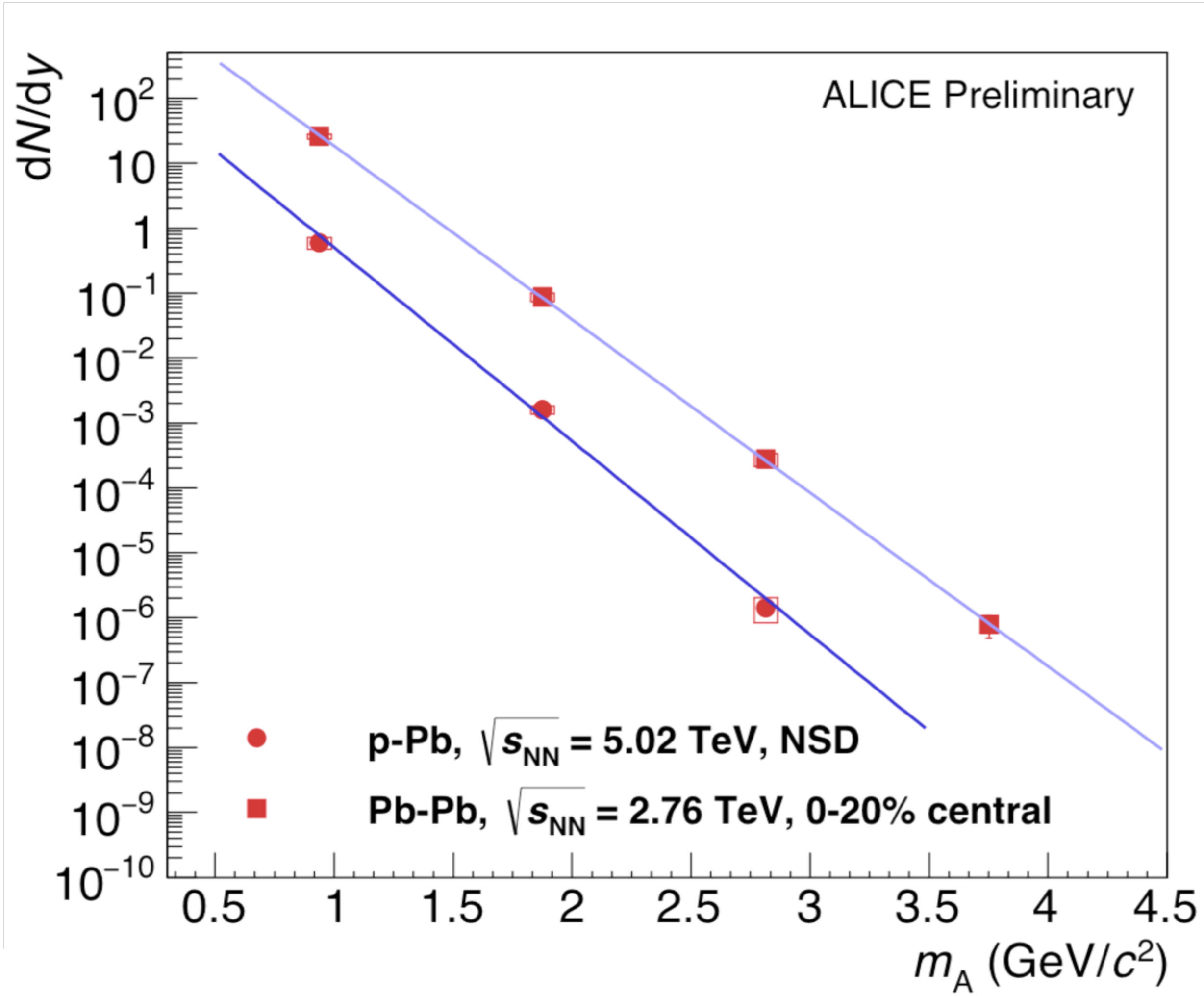
For the full statistics of 2011 ALICE identified 10 Anti-Alphas using TPC and TOF



STAR observed the Anti-Alpha in 2010:

Nature 473, 353 (2011)

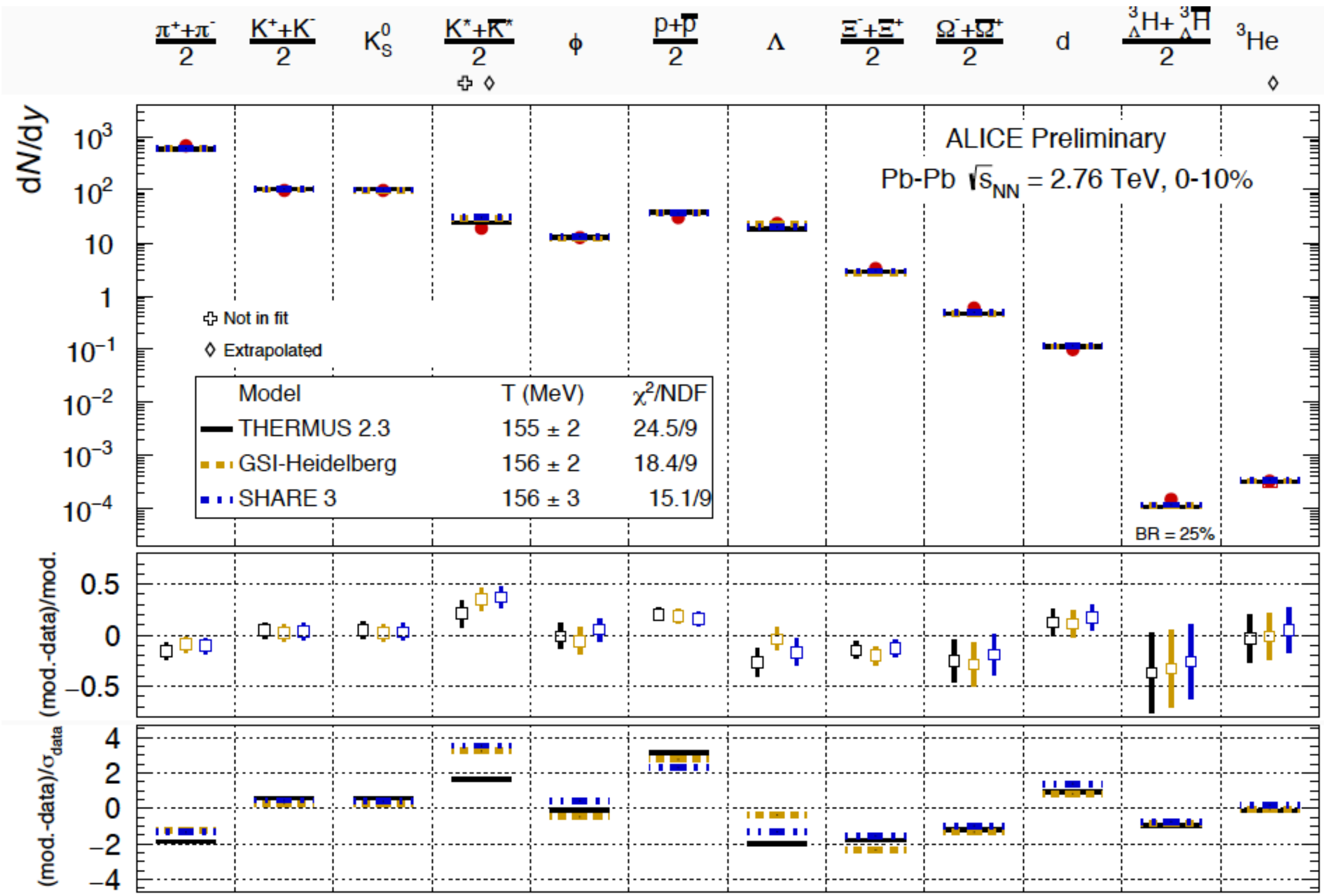
Mass dependence



- Nuclei production yields follow an exponential decrease with mass as predicted by the thermal model
- In Pb-Pb the penalty factor for adding one baryon is ~300 and in p-Pb is ~600

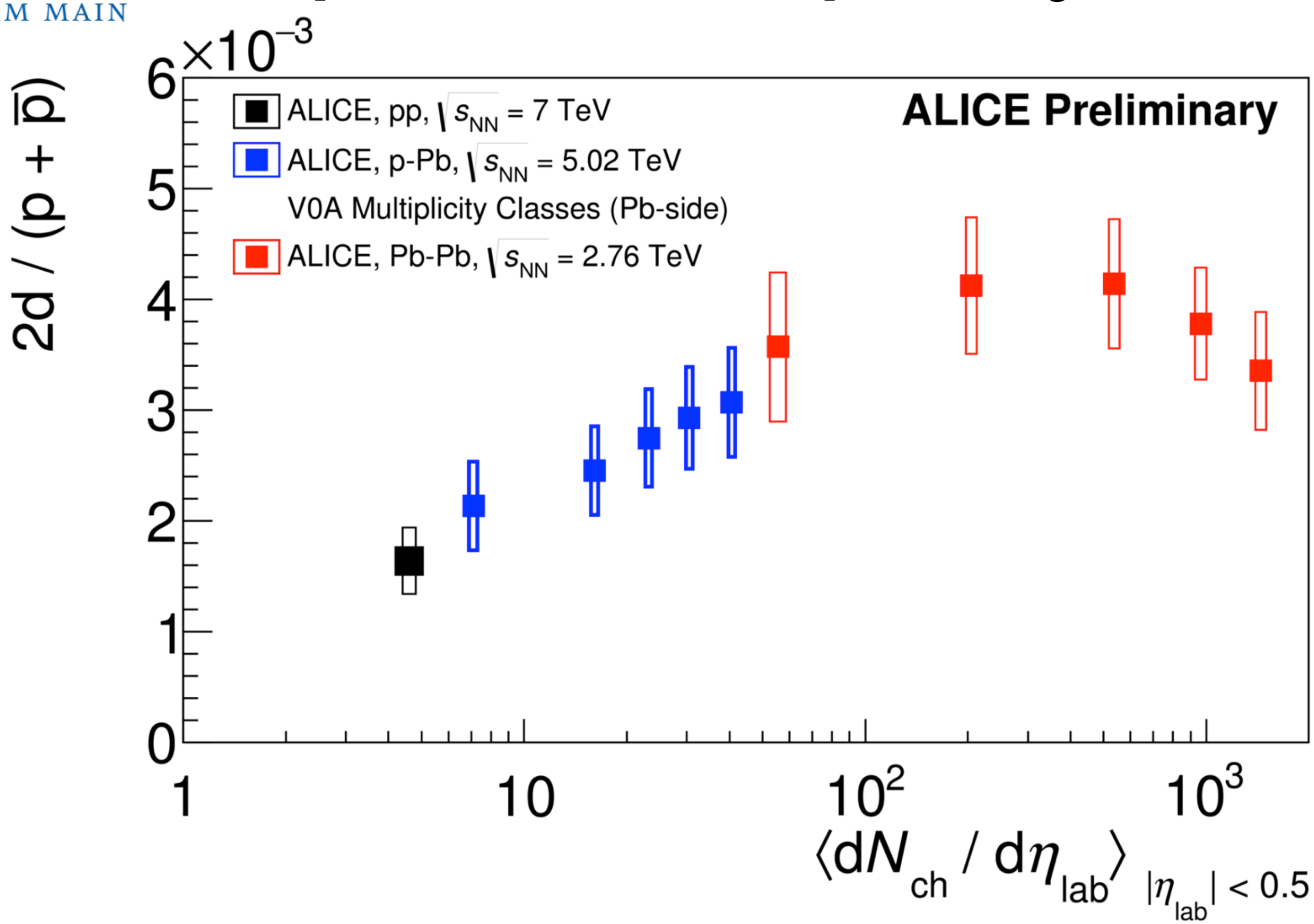
Thermal model fits

THERMUS: S. Wheaton, et al., CPC 180, 84 (2009)
GSI-Heidelberg: A. Andronic, et al., PLB 697, 203 (2011); PLB 673, 142 (2009) 142
SHARE3: G. Torrieri, et al., CPC 167, 229 (2005); CPC 175, 635 (2006); CPC 185, 2056 (2014)



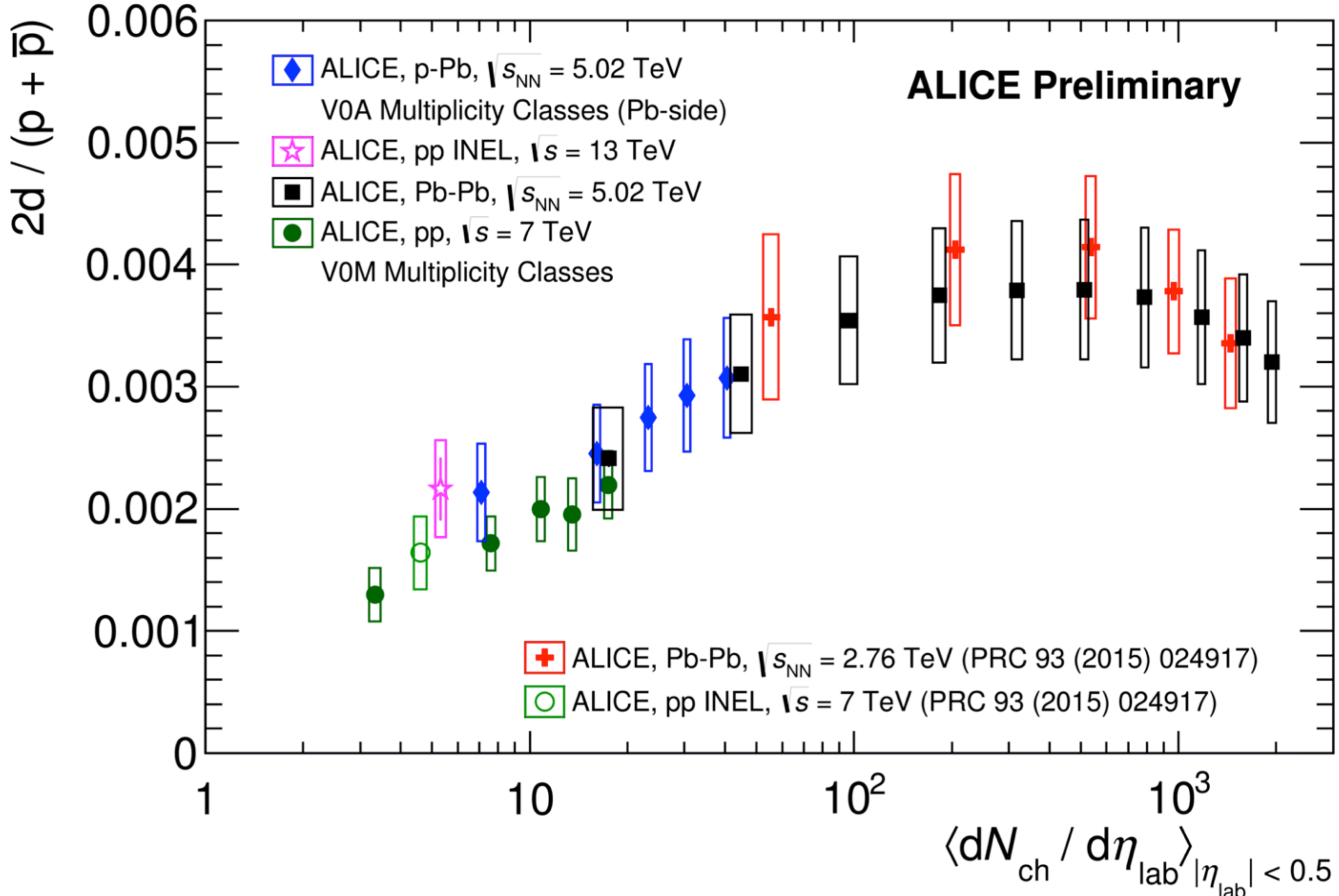
- Different models describe particle yields including light (hyper-)nuclei well with T_{ch} of about 156 MeV
- Including nuclei in the fit causes no significant change in T_{ch}

d/p vs. multiplicity



d/p ratio increases when going from pp to p-Pb, until it reaches the grand canonical thermal model value (d/p=3x10^{-3} at 156 MeV)

d/p vs. multiplicity



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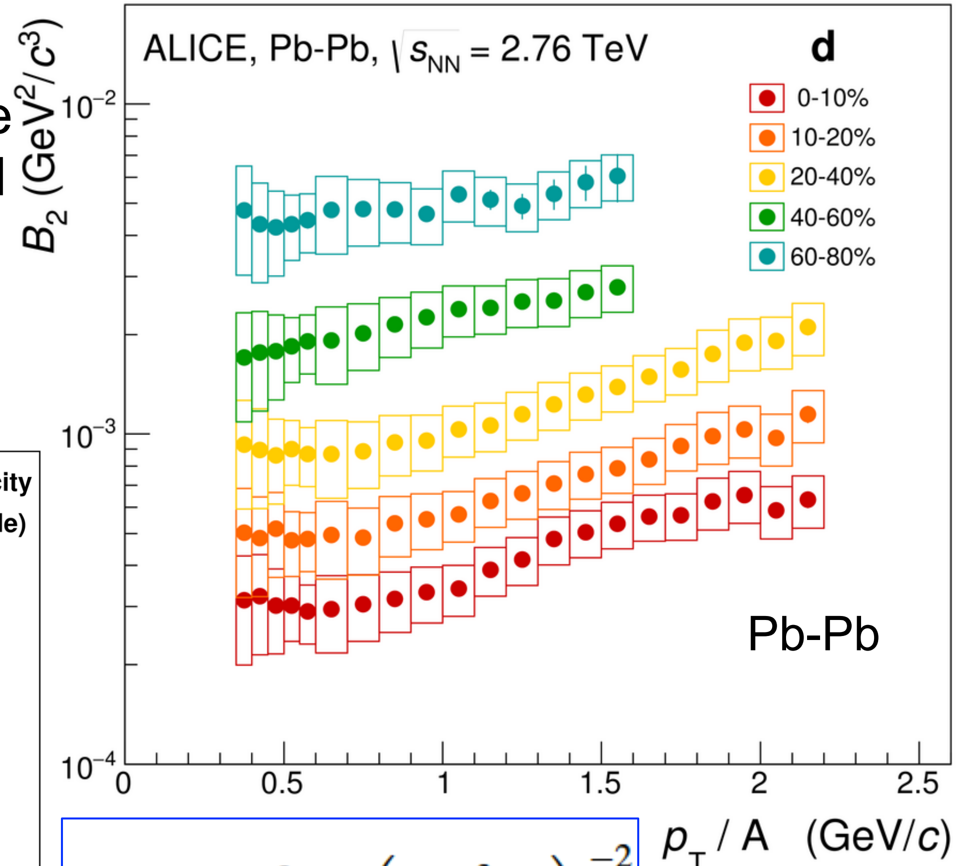
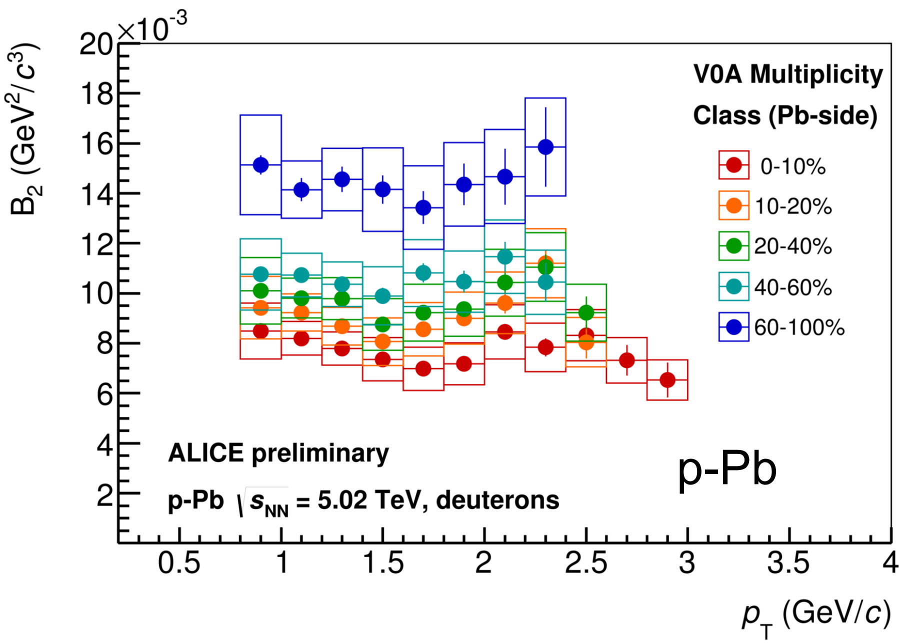
Coalescence parameter B_2

ALICE Collaboration: PRC 93, 024917 (2016)

- Coalescence parameter B_2 decreases with centrality in Pb-Pb
- Similar effect seen in p-Pb: decrease with multiplicity, but less pronounced
- Simple coalescence expects B_2 to be constant





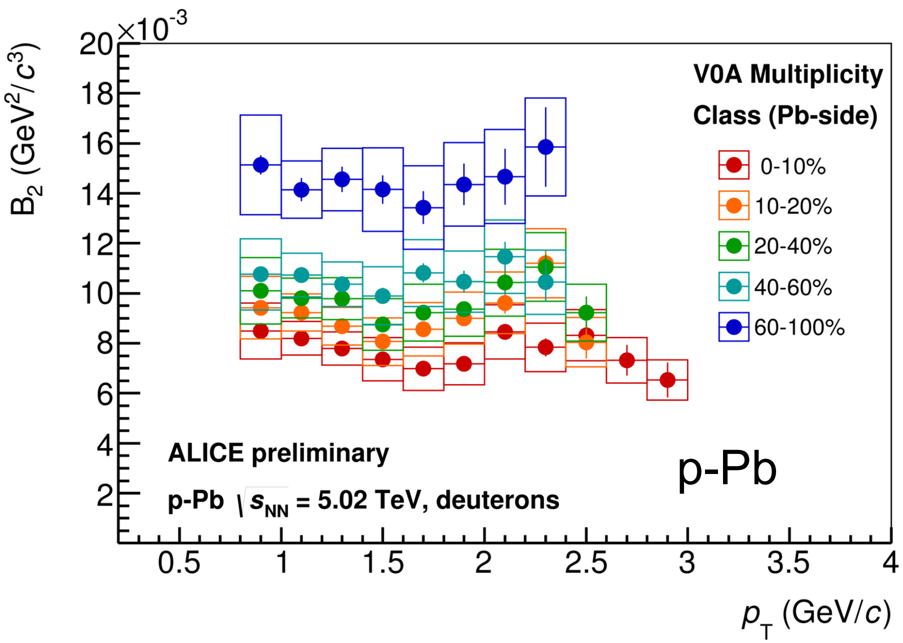
$$B_2 = E_d \frac{d^3N_d}{dp_d^3} \left(E_p \frac{d^3N_p}{dp_p^3} \right)^{-2}$$

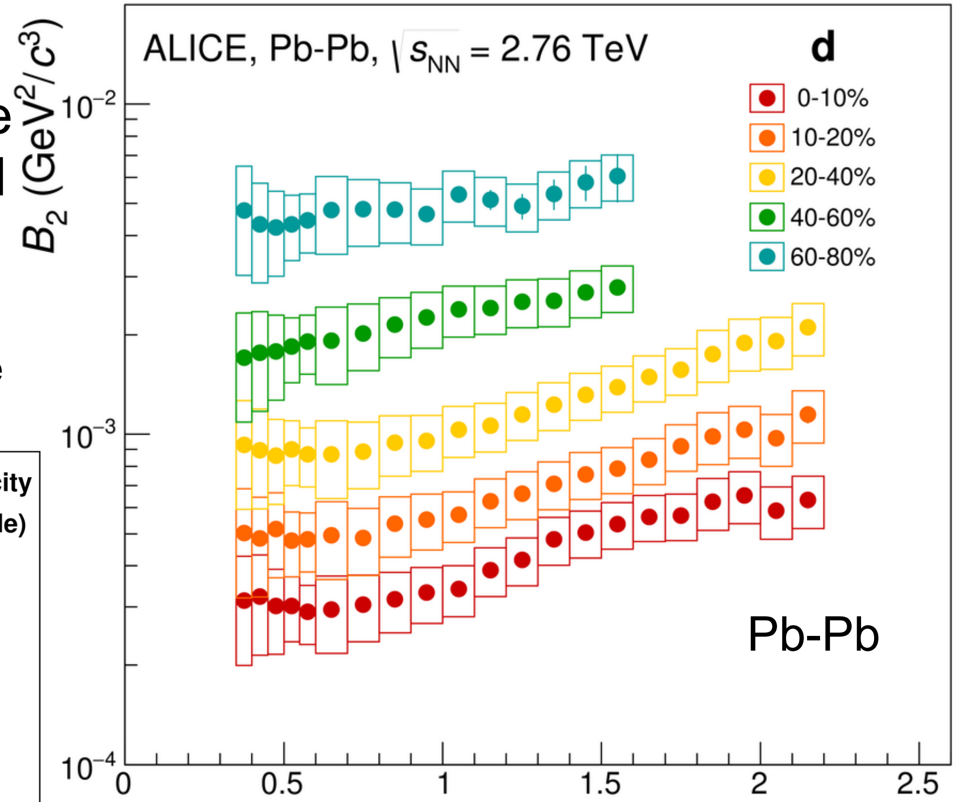
Coalescence parameter B_2

ALICE Collaboration: PRC 93, 024917 (2016)

- Coalescence parameter B_2 decreases with centrality in Pb-Pb
- Similar effect seen in p-Pb: decrease with multiplicity, but less pronounced
- B2 scales like the HBT radii

➜ Decrease with centrality in Pb-Pb is understood as an increase in the source volume





$$B_2 = \frac{3\pi^{3/2}\langle C_d \rangle}{2m_T R_\perp^2(m_T) R_\parallel(m_T)}$$

Coalescence parameter B_2

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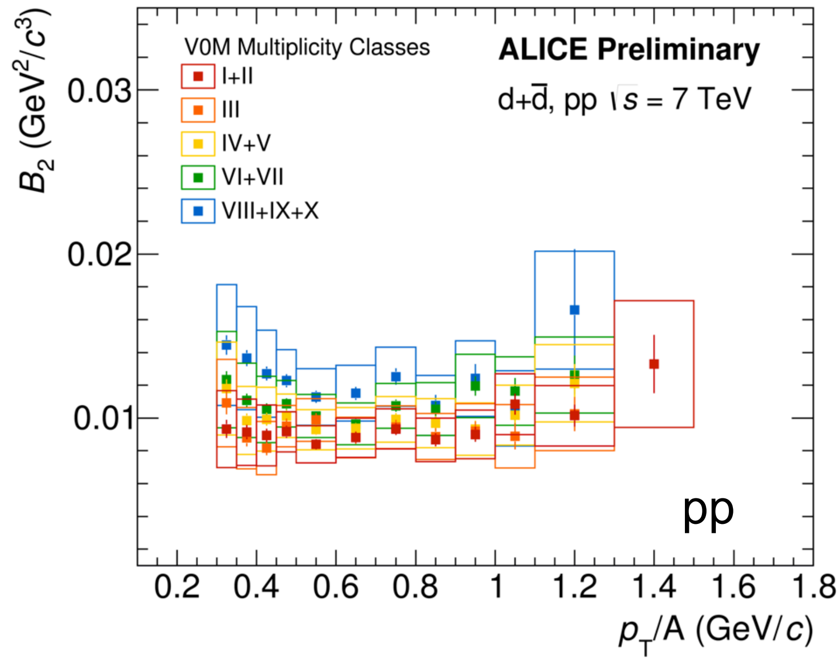
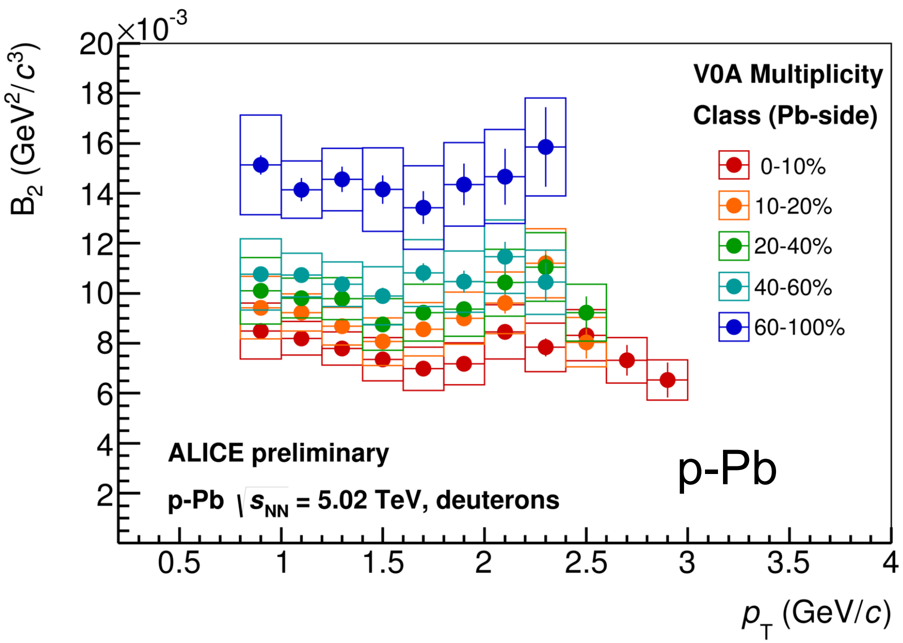
- B2 scales like the HBT radii

➜ Decrease with centrality in Pb-Pb is understood as an increase in the source volume



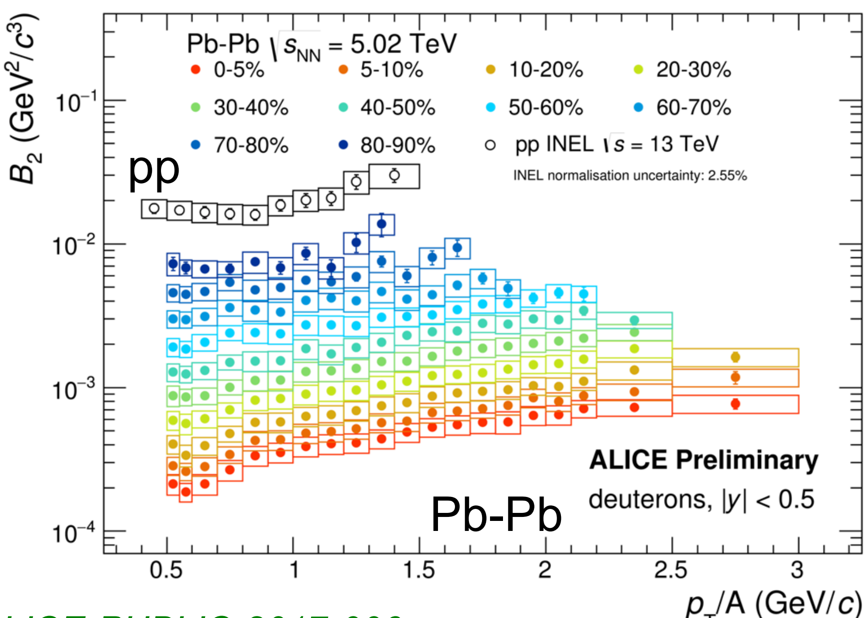


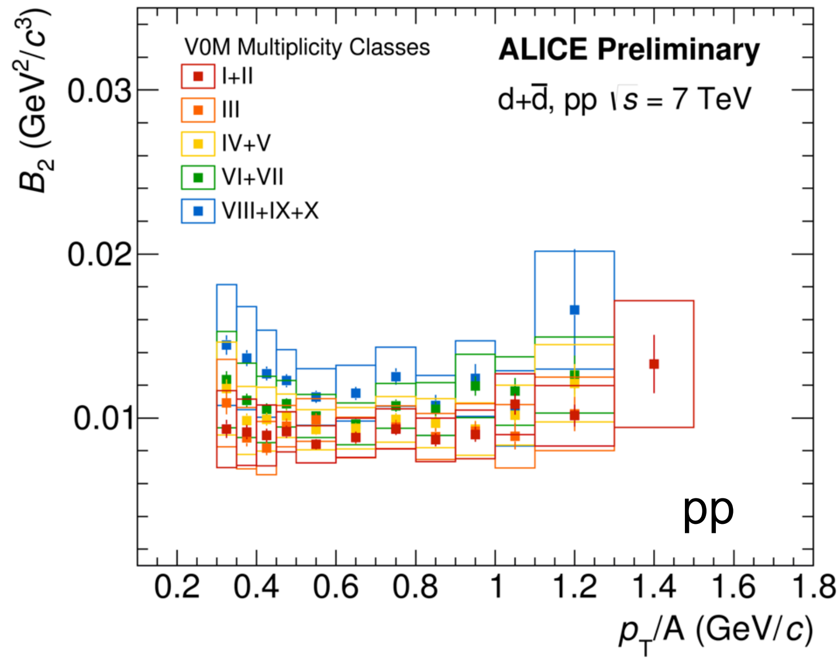
$$B_2 = \frac{3\pi^{3/2}\langle C_d \rangle}{2m_T R_\perp^2(m_T) R_\parallel(m_T)}$$

Coalescence parameter B_2

- Coalescence parameter B_2 decreases with centrality in Pb-Pb
- Similar effect seen in p-Pb: decrease with multiplicity, but less pronounced
- B2 scales like the HBT radii

➜ Decrease with centrality in Pb-Pb is understood as an increase in the source volume

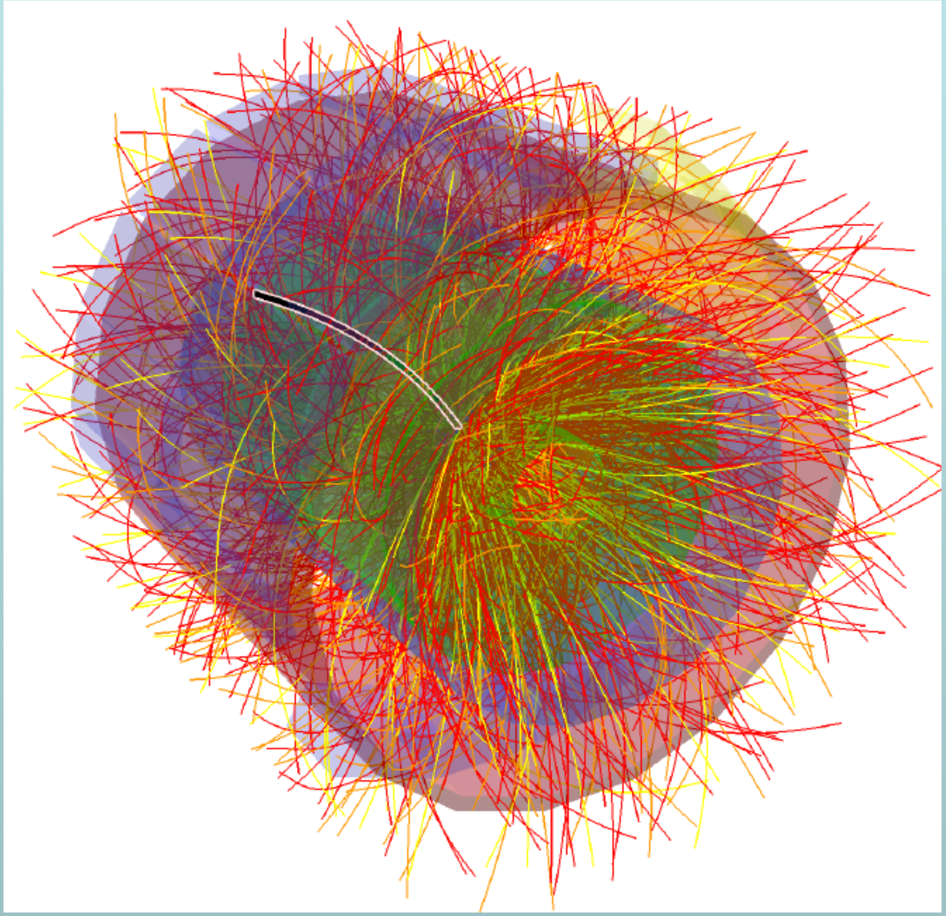




$$B_2 = \frac{3\pi^{3/2}\langle C_d \rangle}{2 m_T R_\perp^2(m_T) R_\parallel(m_T)}$$

ALICE-PUBLIC-2017-006

Summary

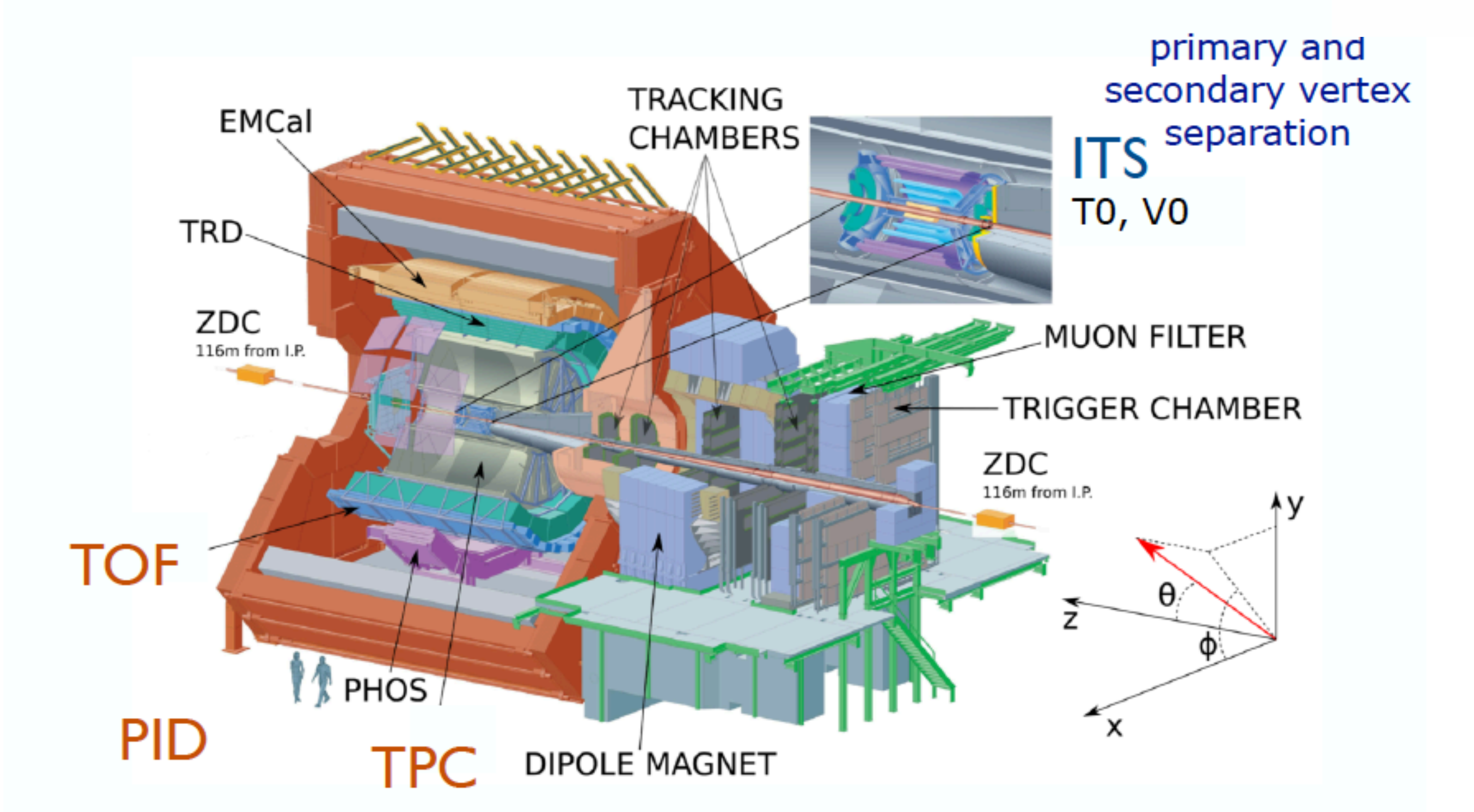


Conclusion

- ALICE@LHC is well suited to study light (anti-)(hyper-)nuclei and perform searches for exotic bound states (A<5)
- Copious production of loosely bound objects measured by ALICE as predicted by the thermal model
- Thermal and coalescence models describe the (anti-)(hyper-)nuclei data rather well
- d/p ratio shows increasing trend for pp and p-Pb collisions and seems to saturate for Pb-Pb multiplicities
- Trend follows expectations from coalescence models
- New and more precise data can be expected from the LHC on the presented topics in the next years

Backup

Experiment: ALICE



Multiplicity classes: pp

- **V0M Multiplicity Classes:** $\left[\langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle^{INEL>0} \approx 6.0 \right]$

$$\begin{cases} I \rightarrow \langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle \approx 3.5 \times \langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle^{INEL>0} \\ \vdots \\ X \rightarrow \langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle \approx 0.4 \times \langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle^{INEL>0} \end{cases}$$

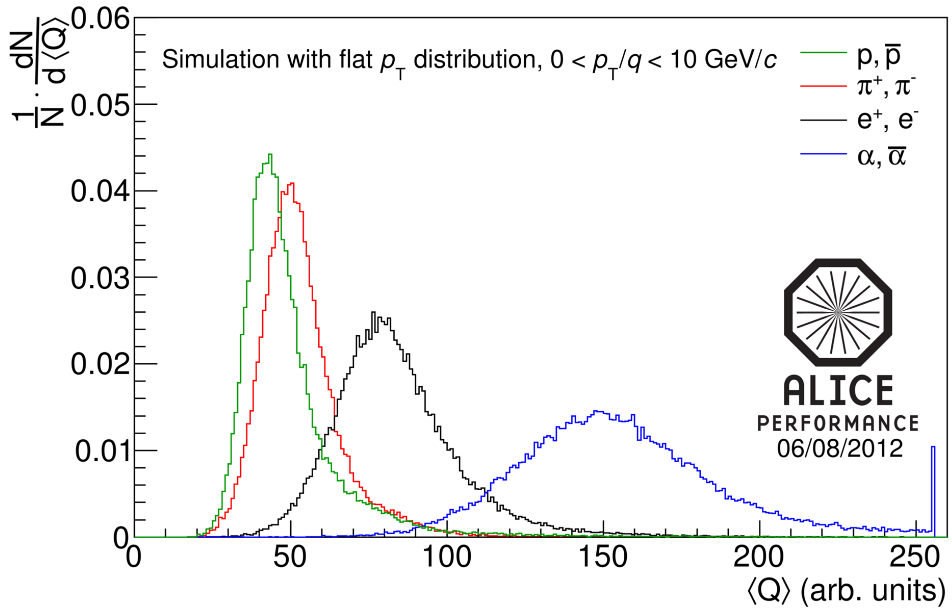
Table A.1: Event multiplicity classes, their corresponding fraction of the INEL>0 cross-section ($\sigma/\sigma_{INEL>0}$) and their corresponding $\langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle$ at midrapidity ($|\eta| < 0.5$). The value of $\langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle$ in the inclusive (INEL>0) class is 5.96 ± 0.23. The uncertainties are the quadratic sum of statistical and systematic contributions and represent standard deviations.

Class name	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X
$\sigma/\sigma_{INEL>0}$	0–0.95%	0.95–4.7%	4.7–9.5%	9.5–14%	14–19%	19–28%	28–38%	38–48%	48–68%	68–100%
$\langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle$	21.3±0.6	16.5±0.5	13.5±0.4	11.5±0.3	10.1±0.3	8.45±0.25	6.72±0.21	5.40±0.17	3.90±0.14	2.26±0.12

ALICE Collaboration: J. Adam et al., Nature Physics 13 (2017) 535

TRD nuclei trigger

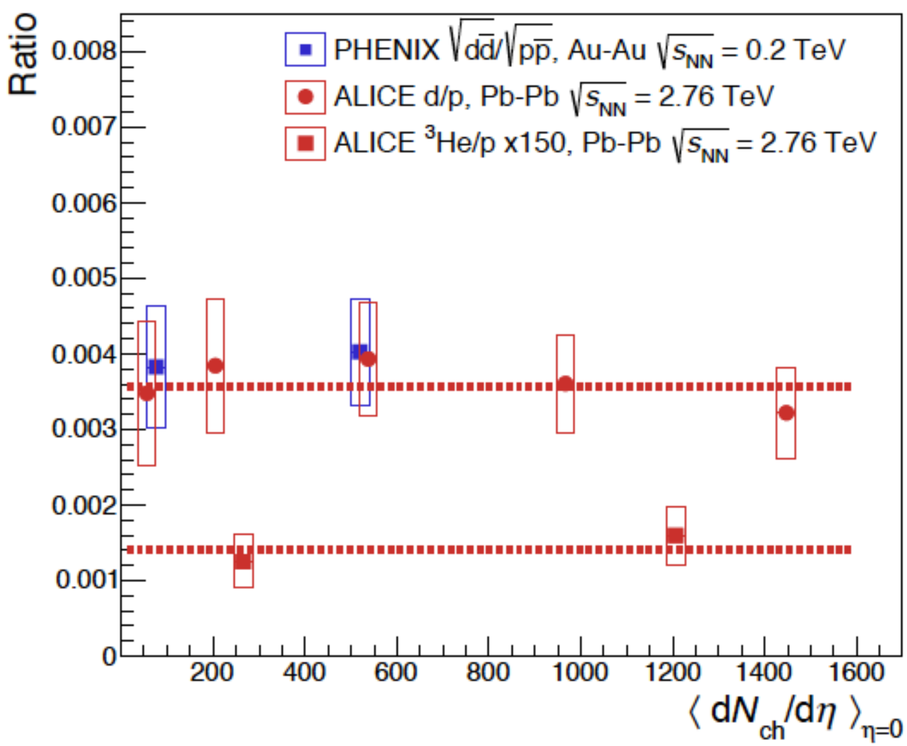
- A trigger on light (anti-)nuclei using the dependence of the ionisation on the charge number of the particle crossing the gas was studied intensively
- A first run in the p-Pb taking 2016
- Currently running in the standart trigger mix of ALICE in the pp data taking
- Expected enhancement mainly on Z=2 (anti-)nuclei, but possible reach up to (anti-)alpha even in pp is anticipated in 2017/2018 data taking campaign

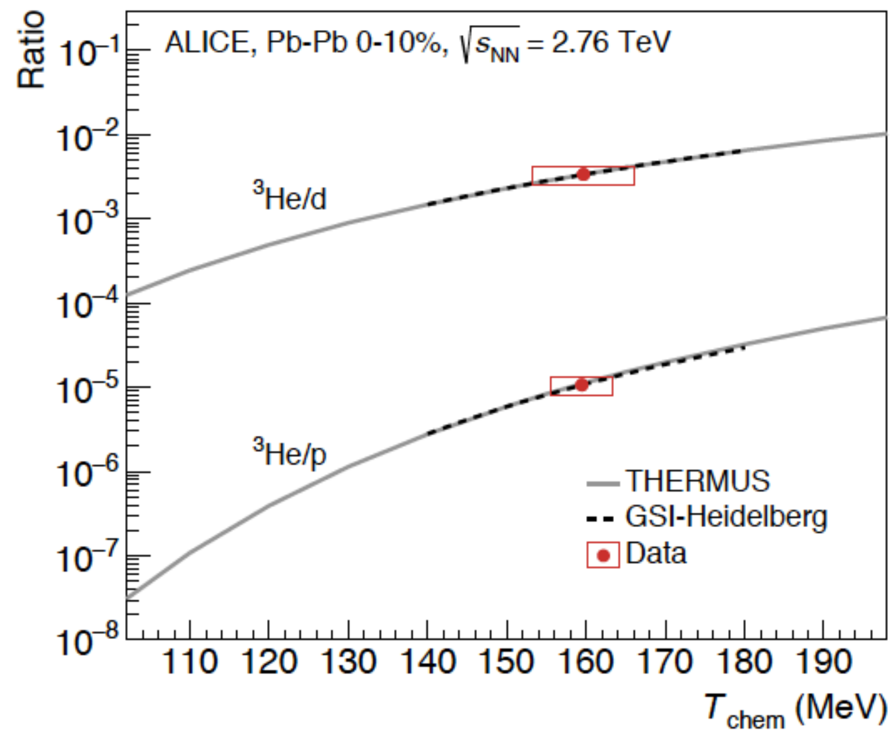


Ratios between species

ALICE Collaboration: J. Adam et al., PRC 93, 024917 (2016)

Extracted ratios agree with the thermal model values

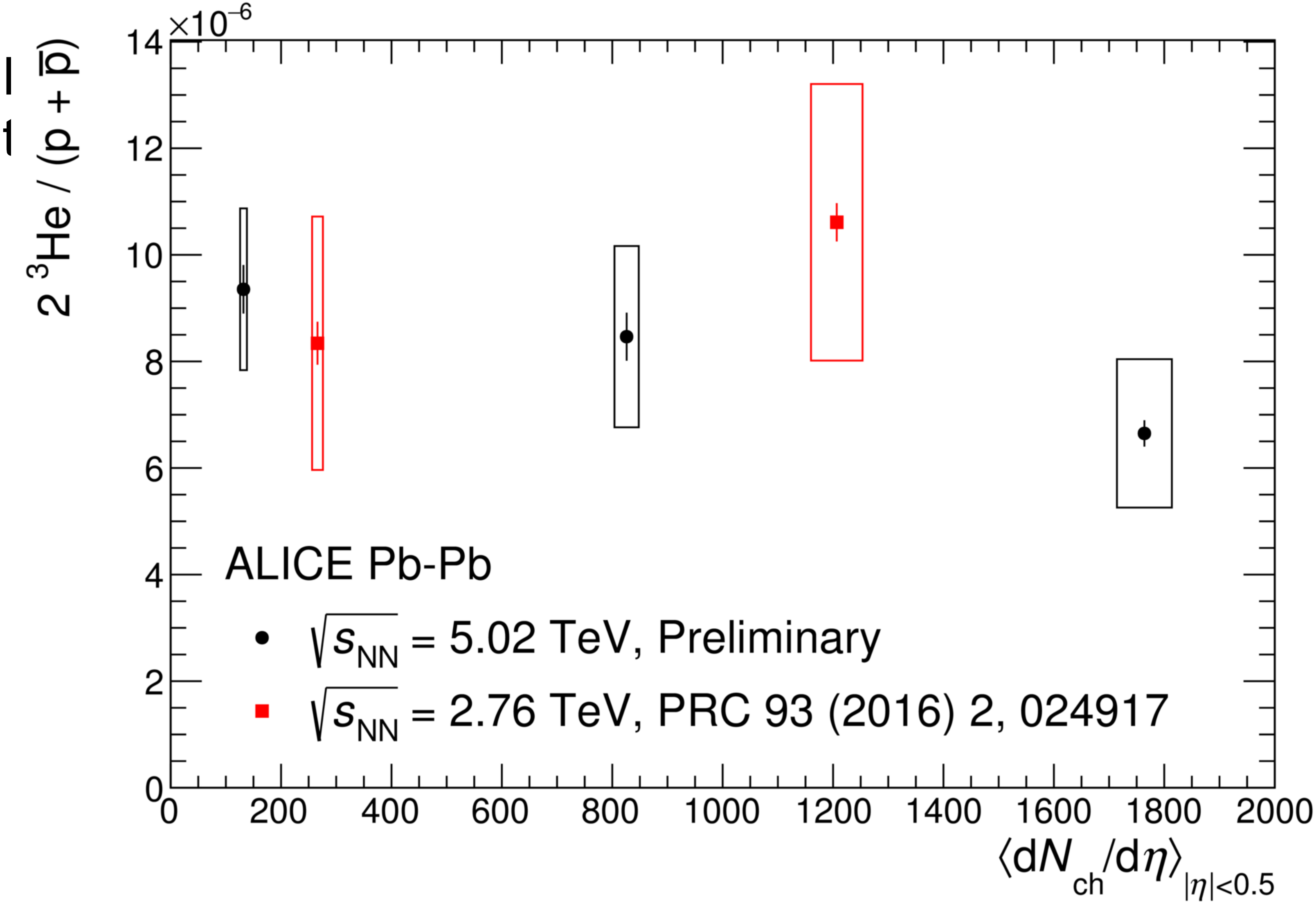


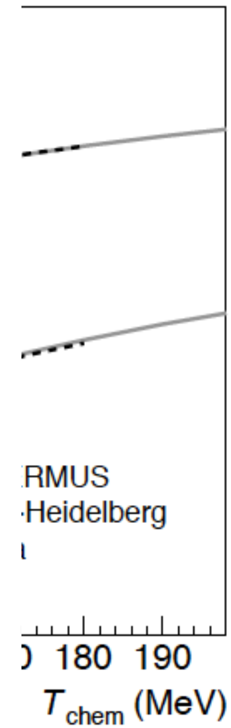


d/p ratio agrees well with the „averaged“ measurement at RHIC

Ratios between species

917 (2016)





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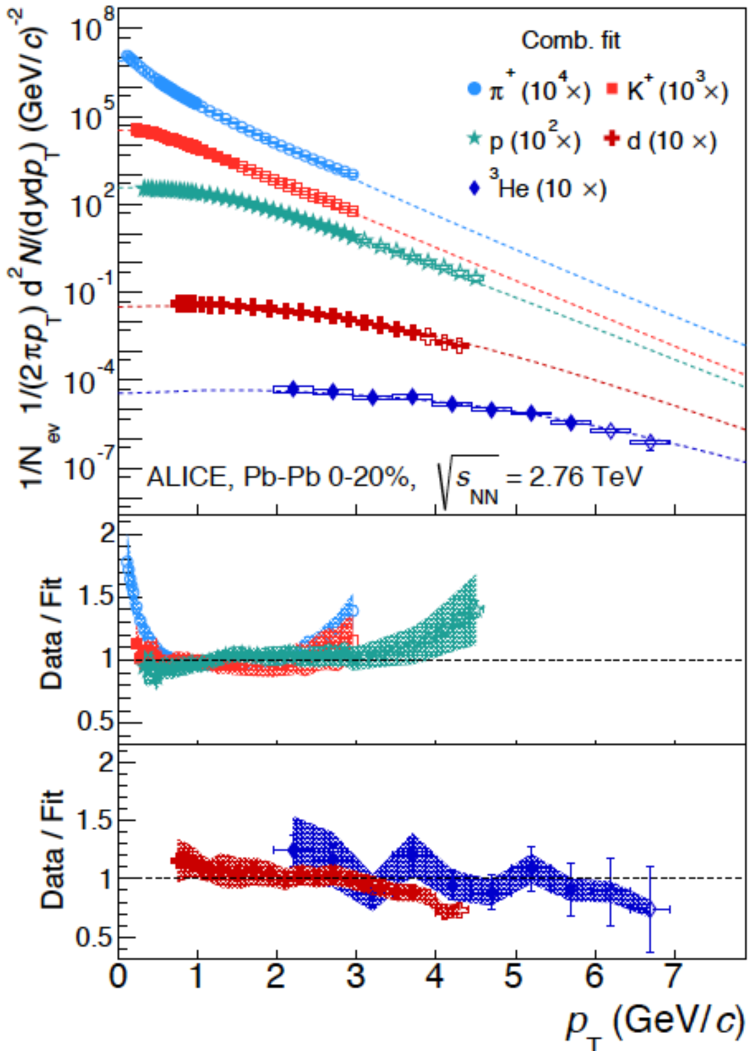
Combined Blast-Wave fit

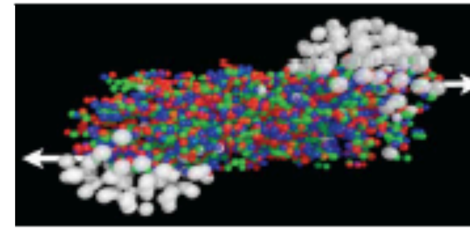
ALICE Collaboration: J. Adam et al., PRC 93, 024917 (2016)

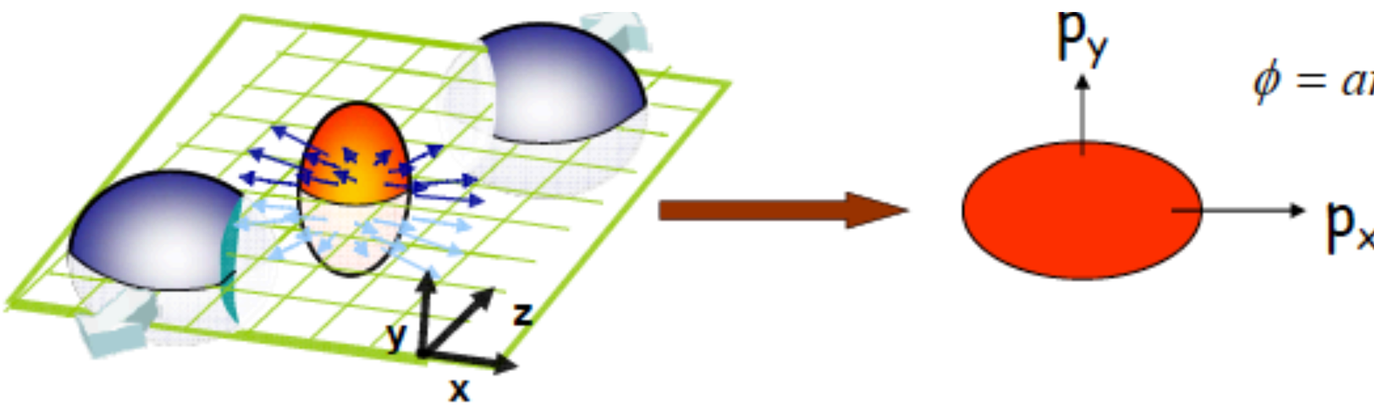
Simultaneous Blast-Wave fit of π^+, K^+, p, d and ^{3}He spectra for central Pb-Pb collisions leads to values for $<\beta>$ and T_{kin} close to those obtained when only π,K,p are used

All particles are described rather well with this simultaneous fit



Elliptic flow





$$\phi = arc \tan \frac{p_y}{p_x}$$

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\langle y^2 \rangle - \langle x^2 \rangle}{\langle y^2 \rangle + \langle x^2 \rangle}$$

Initial coordinate-space anisotropy

$$v_2 = \left\langle \frac{p_x^{\,2} - p_y^{\,2}}{p_x^{\,2} + p_y^{\,2}} \right\rangle$$

Final momentum-space anisotropy

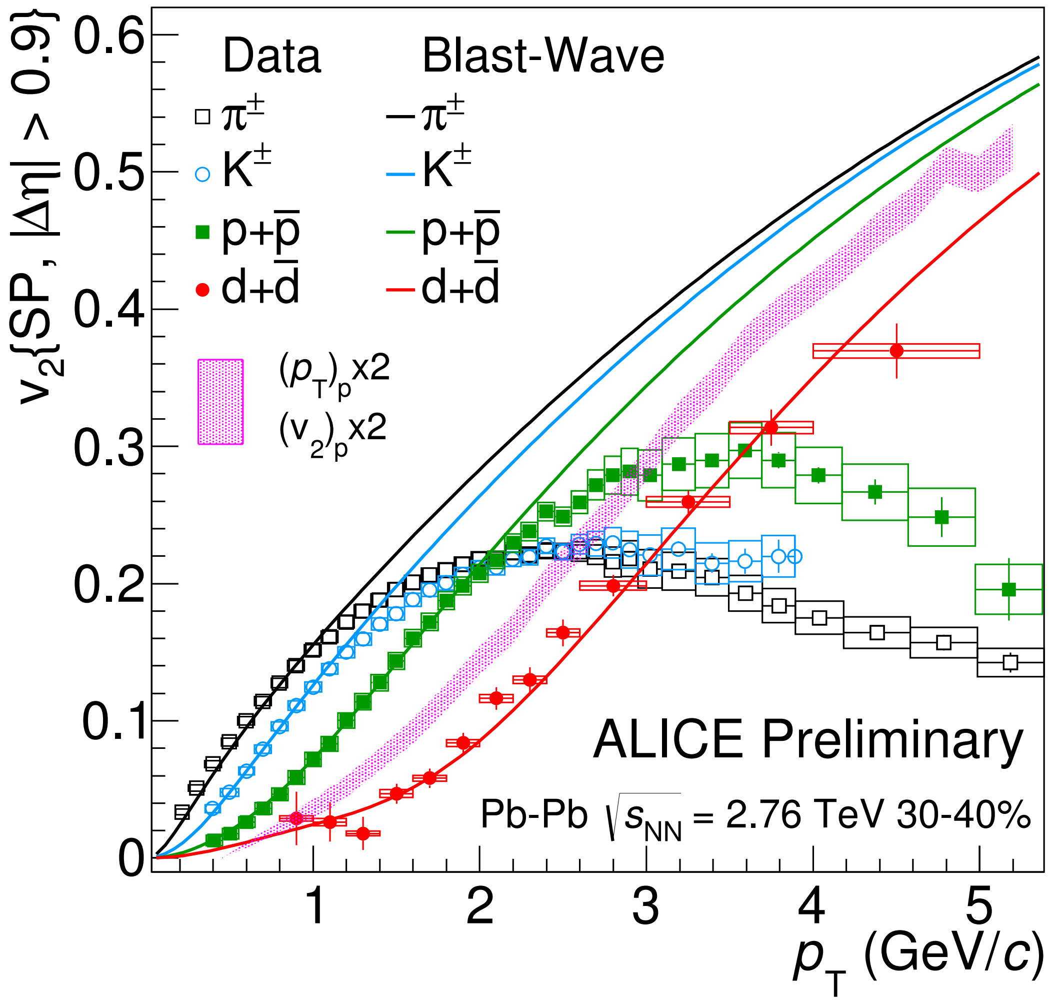
$$\frac{dN}{d\phi} \propto 1 + 2v_2 \cos[2(\phi - \Psi_R)] + 2v_4 \cos[4(\phi - \Psi_R)] + \ldots$$

Elliptic term

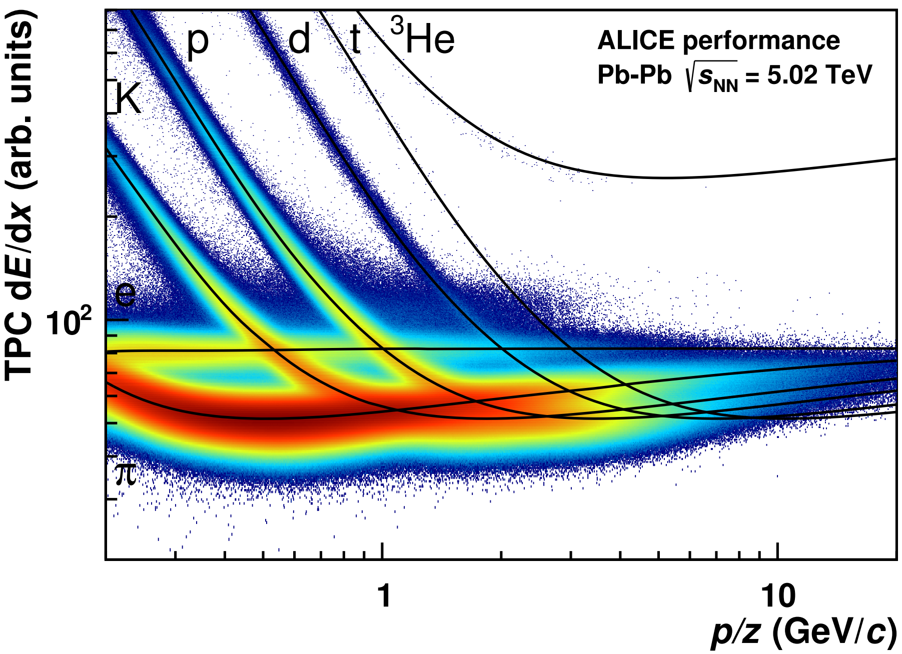
Anisotropy self-quenches, so v_2 is sensitive to early times

Deuteron flow

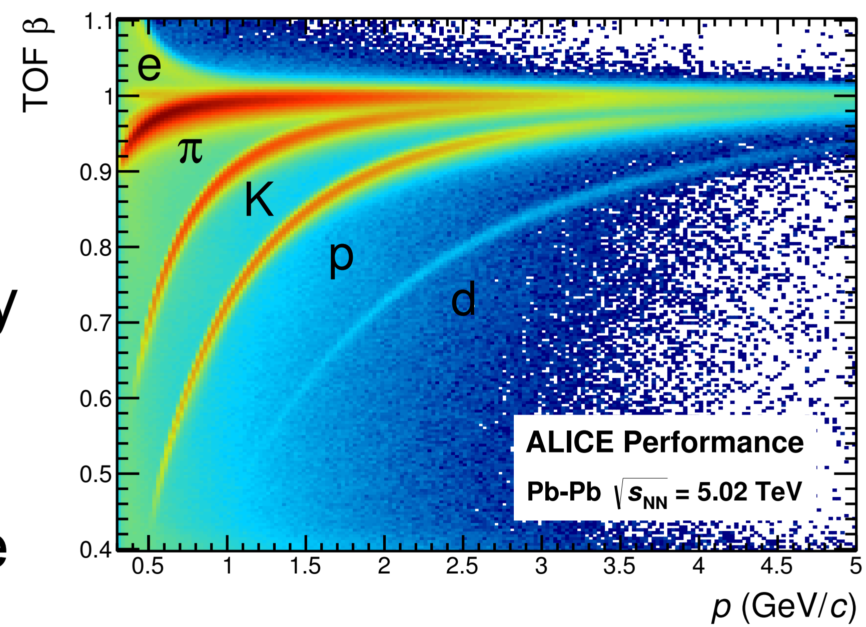
- Deuterons show a significant v_2
- Also the v_2 of deuterons follows the mass ordering expected from hydrodynamics
- A naive coalescence prediction is not able to reproduce the deuteron v_2
- A Blast-Wave prediction is able to describe the v_2 reasonably well



Outlook: Run 2



- Run 2 of the LHC has started in 2015 and for Pb-Pb collisions ~ factor 10 increase expected in statistics



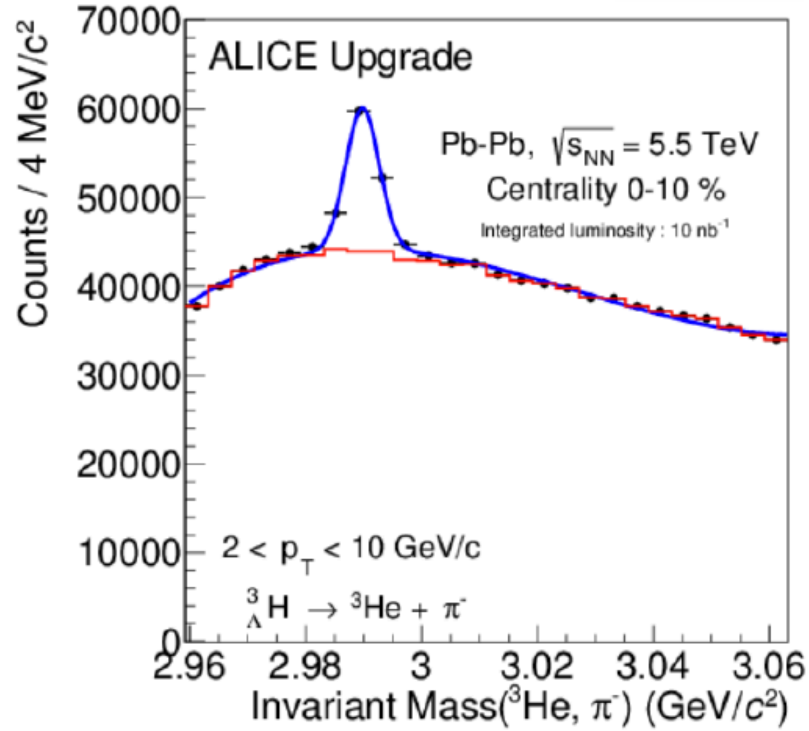
- Performance shown here only for a small fraction (~3M MB events)

→ Light nuclei are clearly visible

→ Interesting results ahead

Expectations

- Run 3 & Run 4 of LHC will deliver much more statistics (50 kHz Pb-Pb collision rate)
- Upgraded ALICE detector will be able to cope with the high luminosity
- TPC Upgrade: GEMs for continous readout
- ITS Upgrade: less material budget and more precise tracking for the identification of hyper-nuclei
- Physics which is now done for A = 2 and A = 3 (hyper-)nuclei will be done for A = 4



ITS Upgrade TDR: J. Phys. G 41, 087002 (2014)

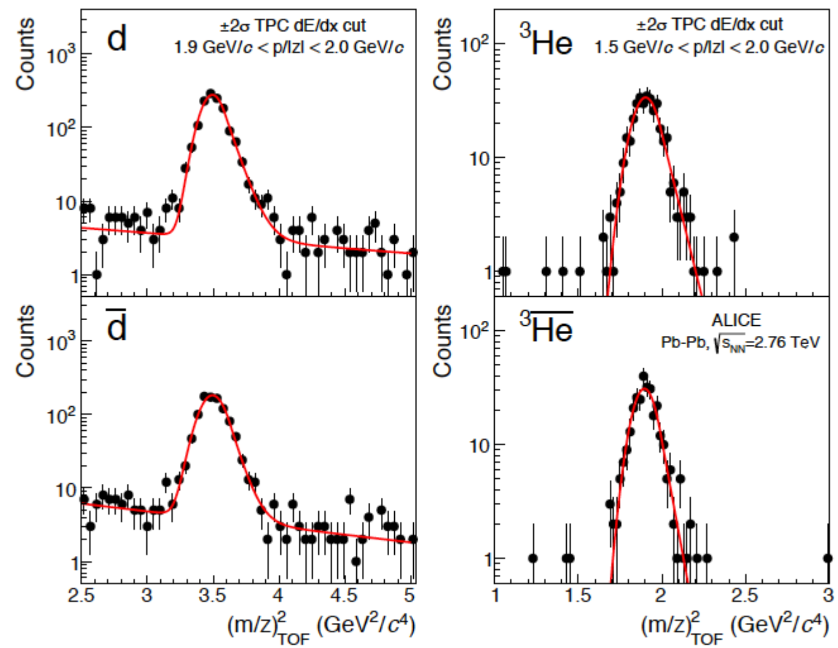
State	dN/dy	B.R.	$\langle Acc \times \epsilon \rangle$	Yield
$^3_\Lambda H$	1×10^{-4}	25%	11 %	44000
$^4_\Lambda H$	2×10^{-7}	50%	7 %	110
$^4_\Lambda He$	2×10^{-7}	32%	8 %	130

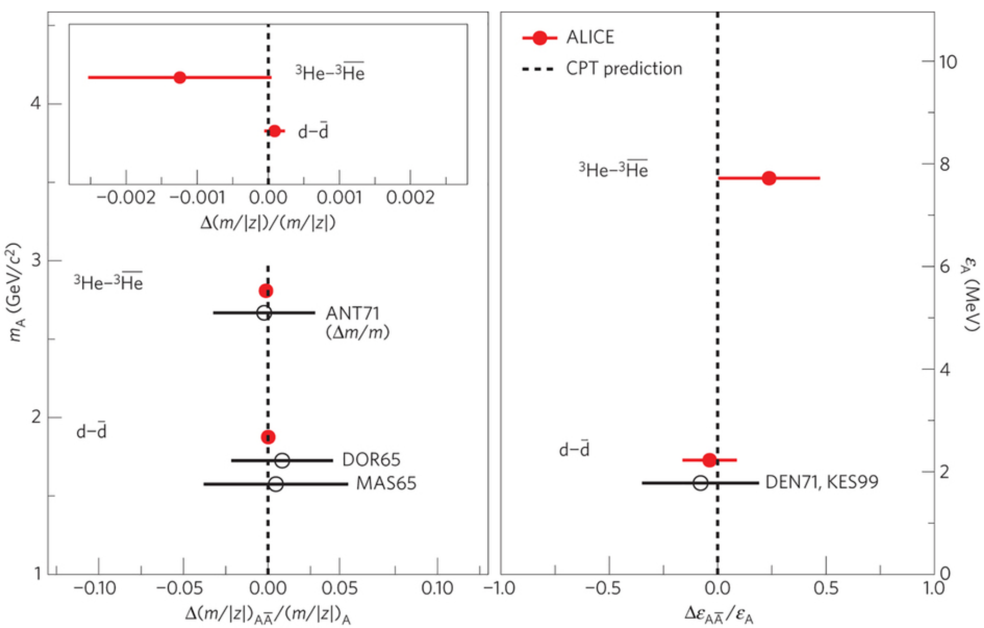
Precision mass measurement

- The precise measurement of (anti-)nuclei mass difference allows probing any difference in the interaction between nucleons and anti-nucleons

Performed test of the CPT invariance of residual QCD “nuclear force” by looking at the mass difference between nuclei and anti-nuclei

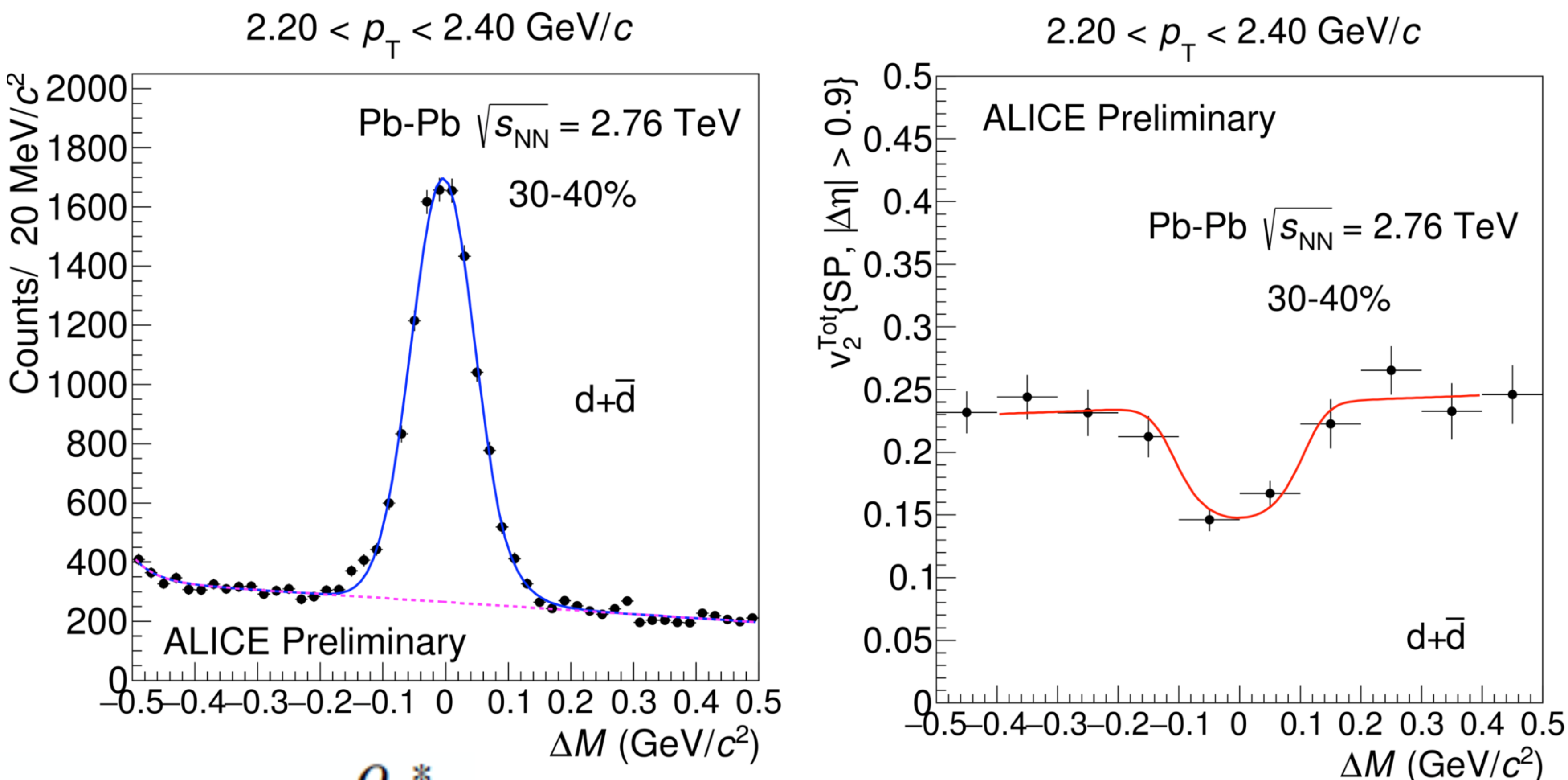
ALICE Collaboration: Nature Phys. 11, 811 (2015)





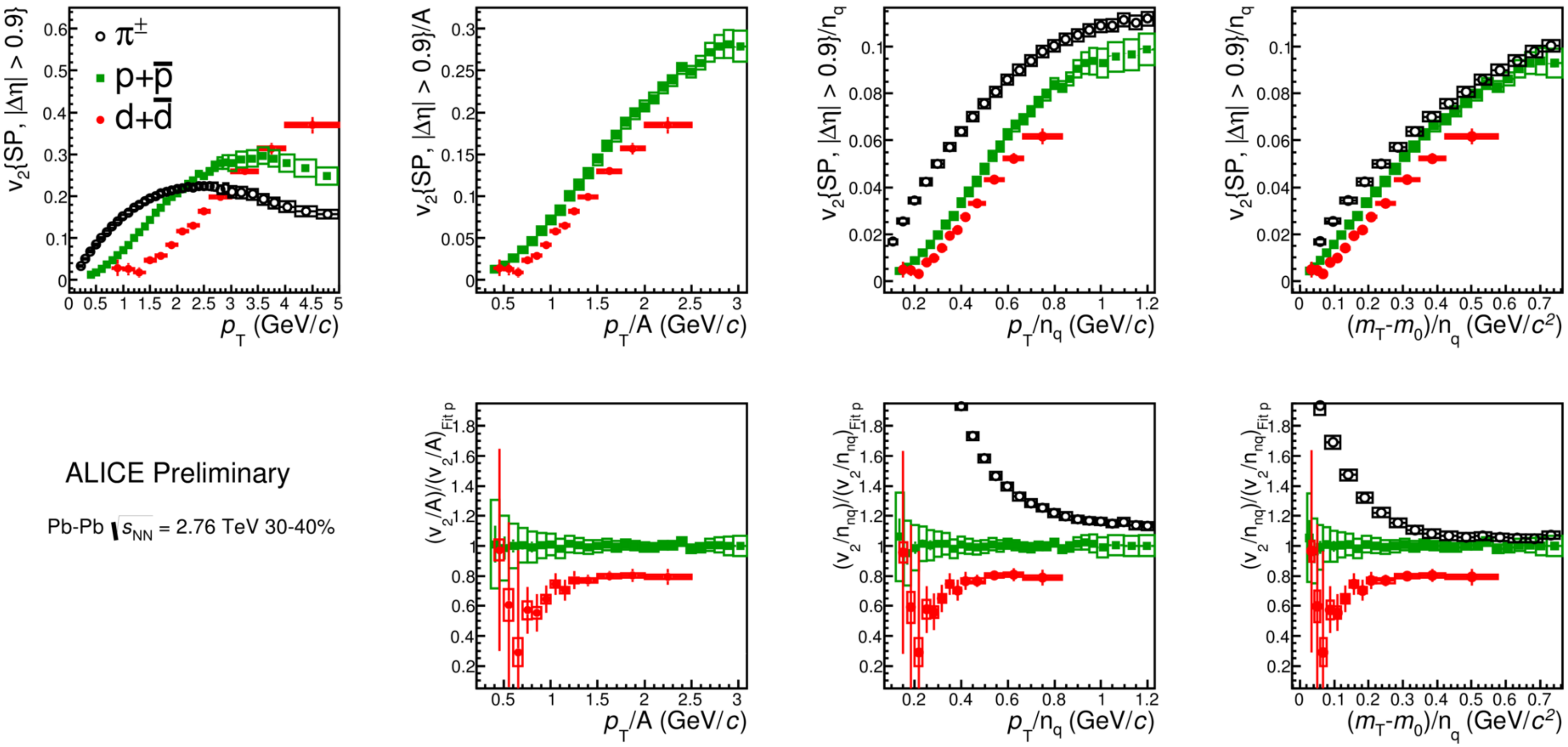
➜ Mass and binding energies of nuclei and anti-nuclei are compatible within uncertainties
➜ Measurement confirms the CPT invariance for light nuclei.

Elliptic flow

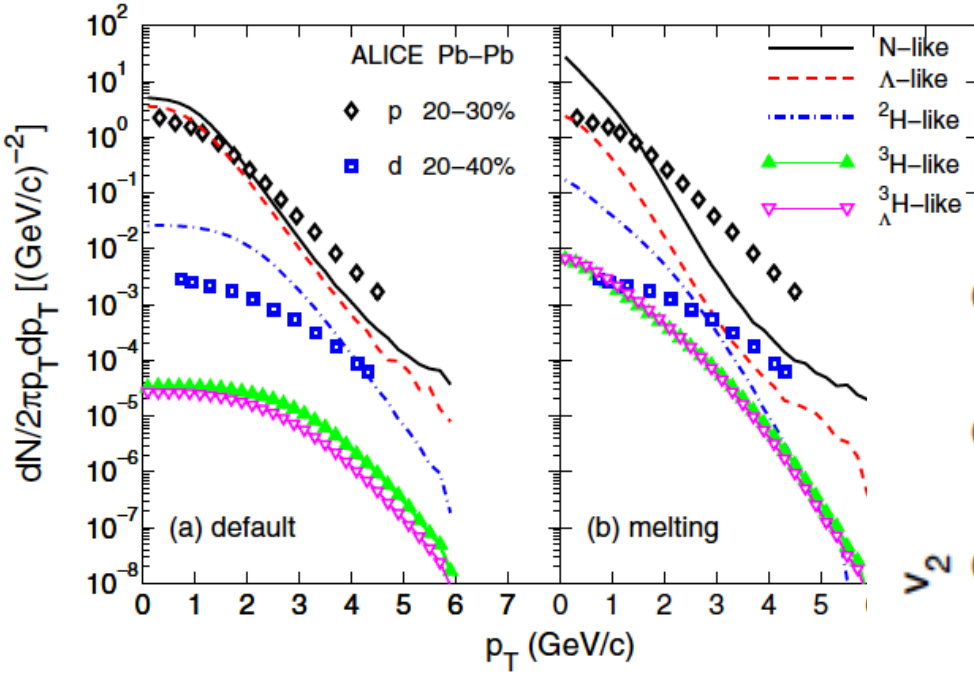


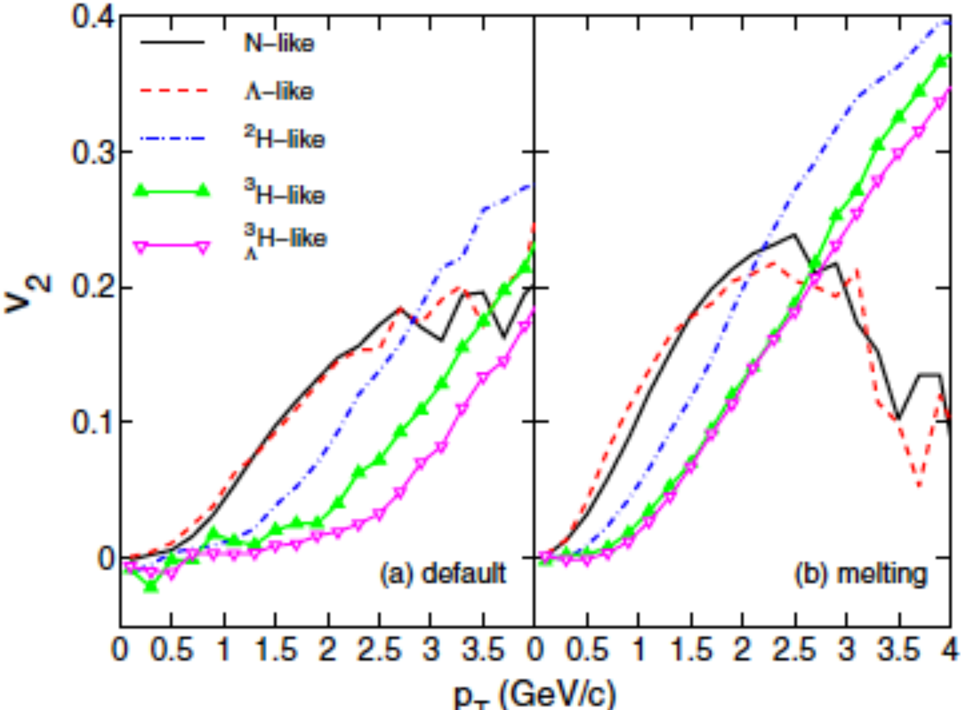
$$v_n\{SP\} = \frac{\langle u_{n,i}(p_T,\eta)\cdot\frac{Q_n^{\,*}}{M}\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\frac{Q^*_{n,A}}{M_A}\cdot\frac{Q^*_{n,B}}{M_B}\rangle}}$$

Elliptic flow



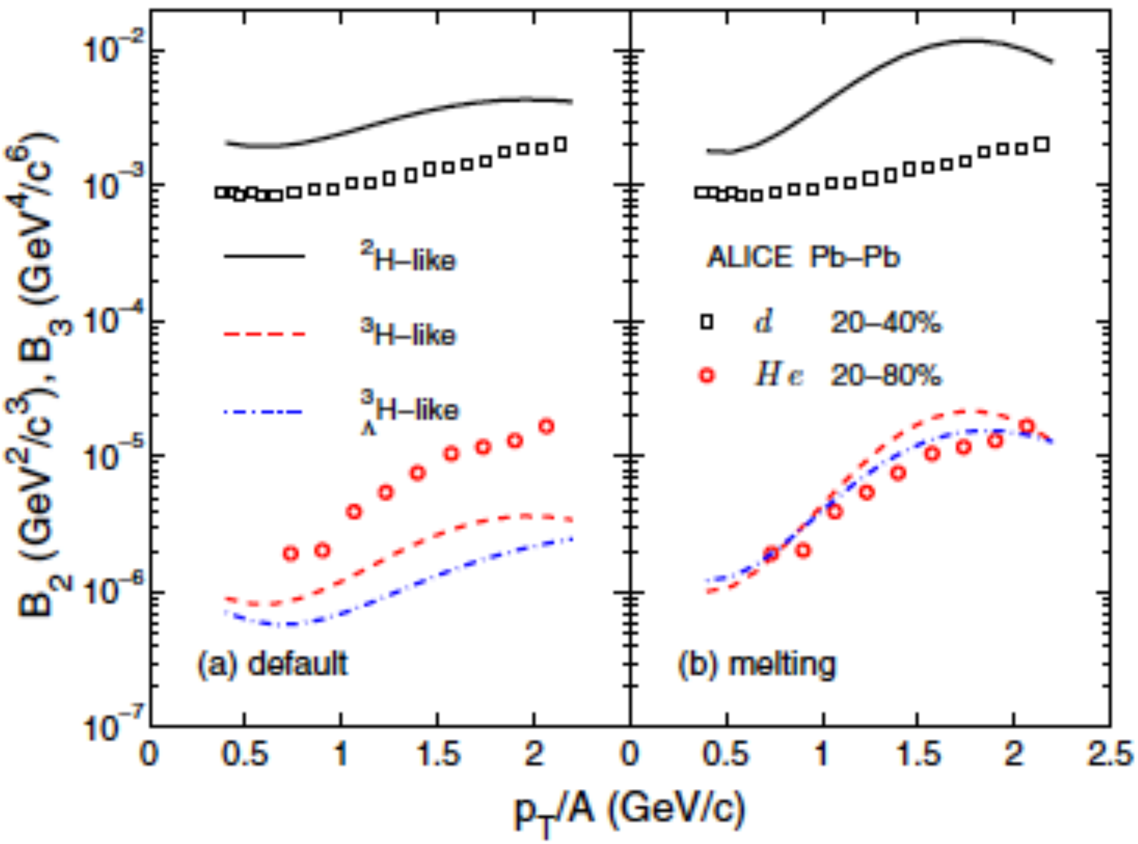
Elliptic flow





L. Zhu, C.M. Ko, X. Yin: PRC 92, 064911 (2015)

Elliptic flow

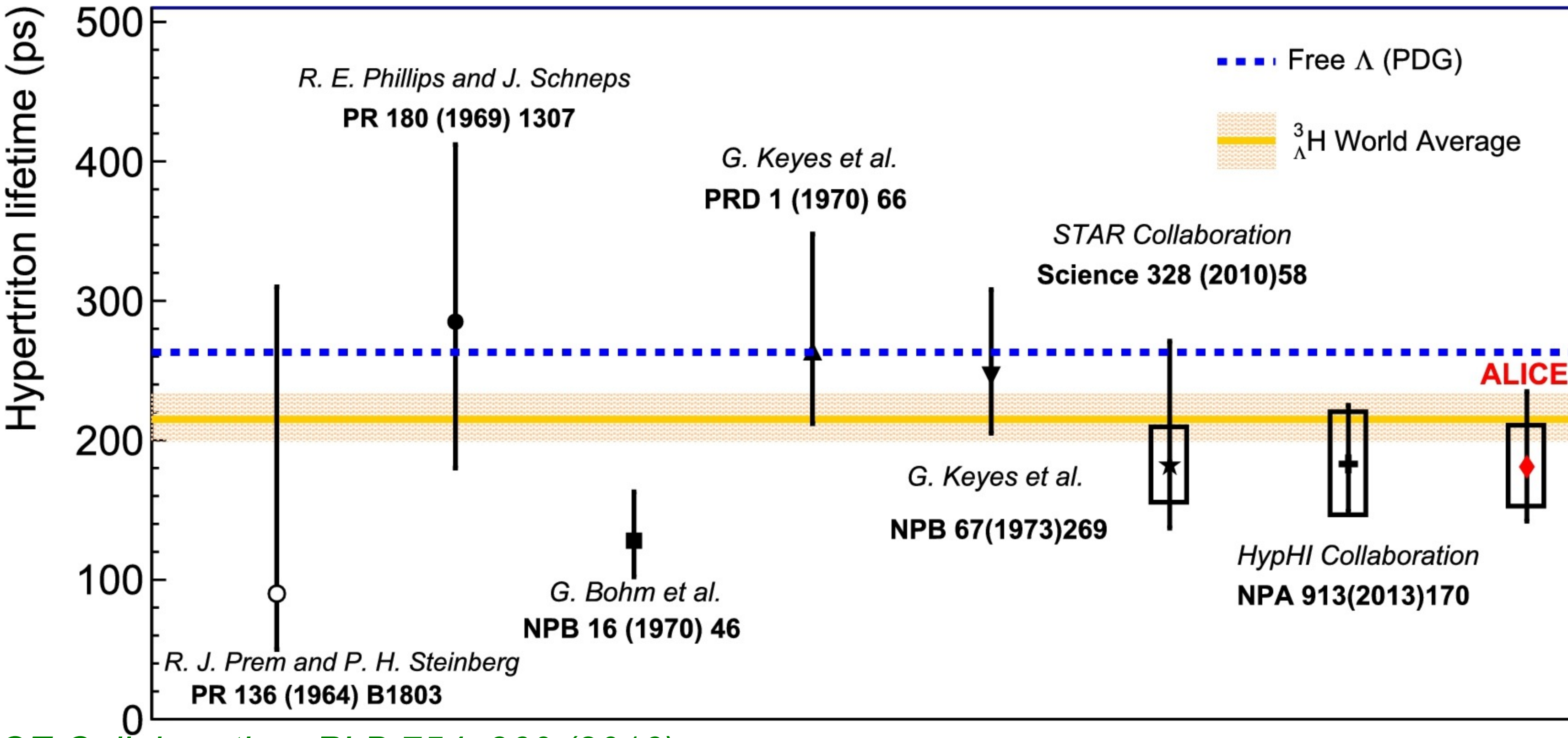


L. Zhu, C.M. Ko, X. Yin: PRC 92, 064911 (2015)

Hypertriton lifetime

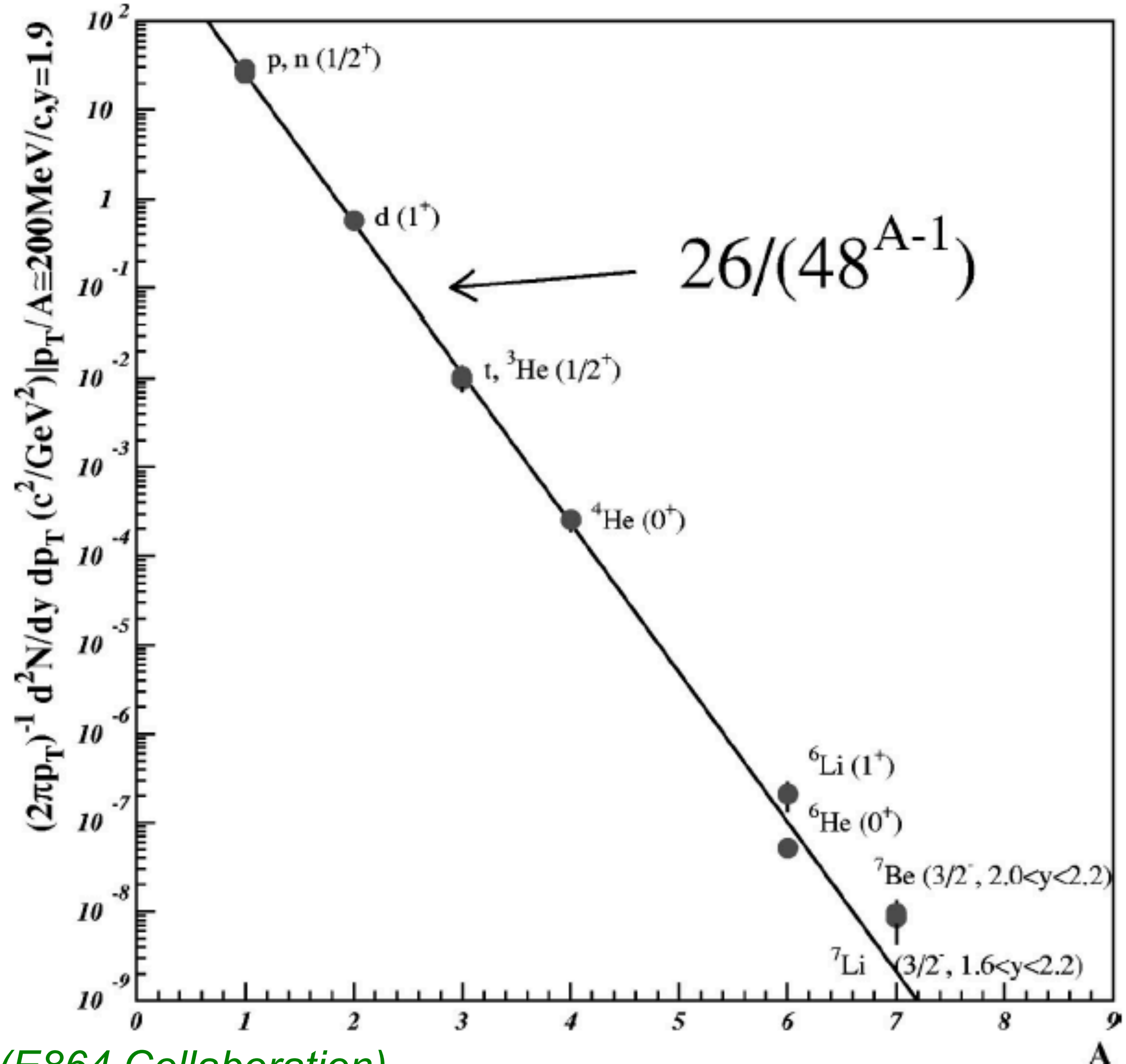
Extracted lifetime below the free Λ lifetime

– Not expected by theory



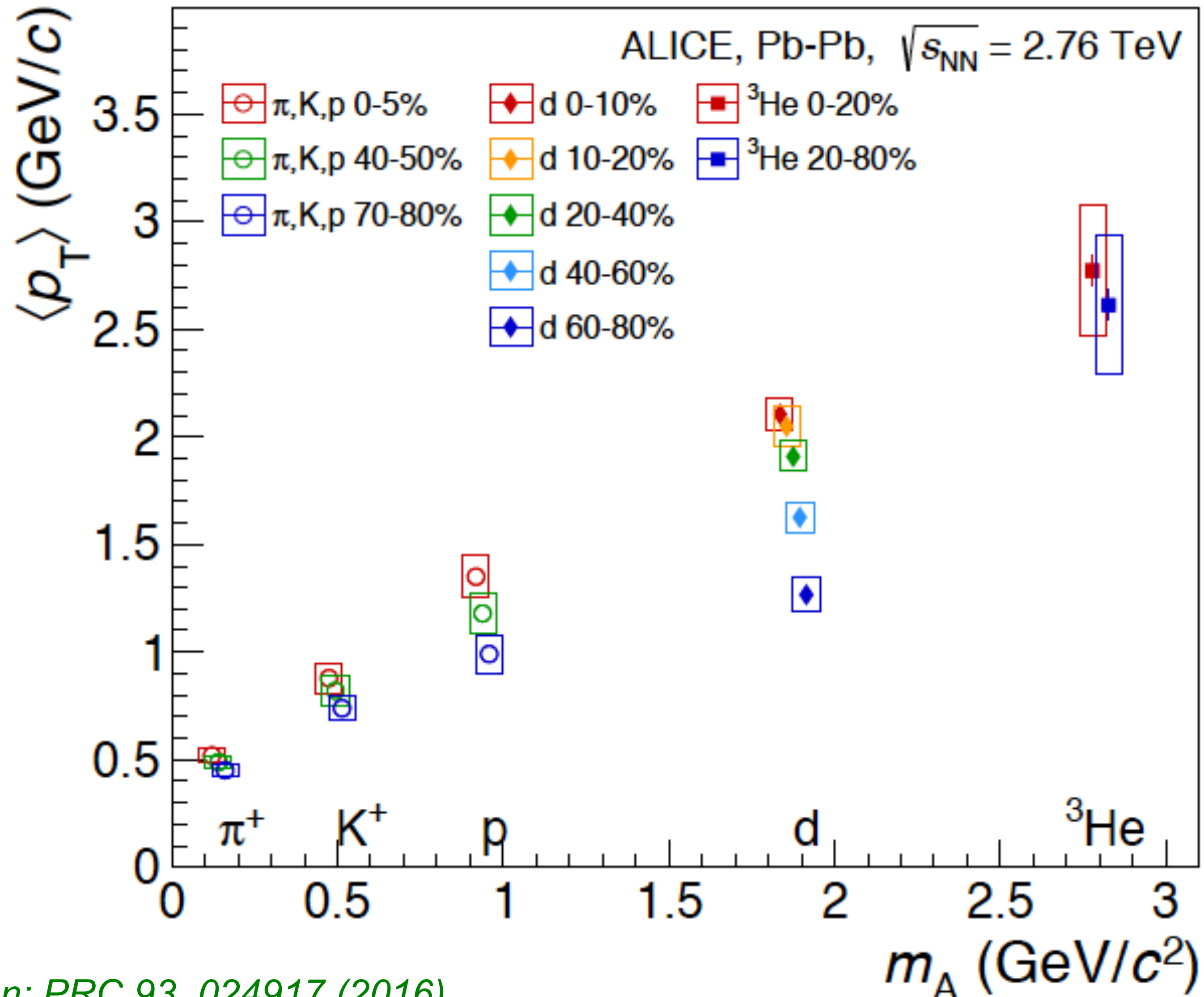
ALICE Collaboration: PLB 754, 360 (2016)

E864 nuclei result



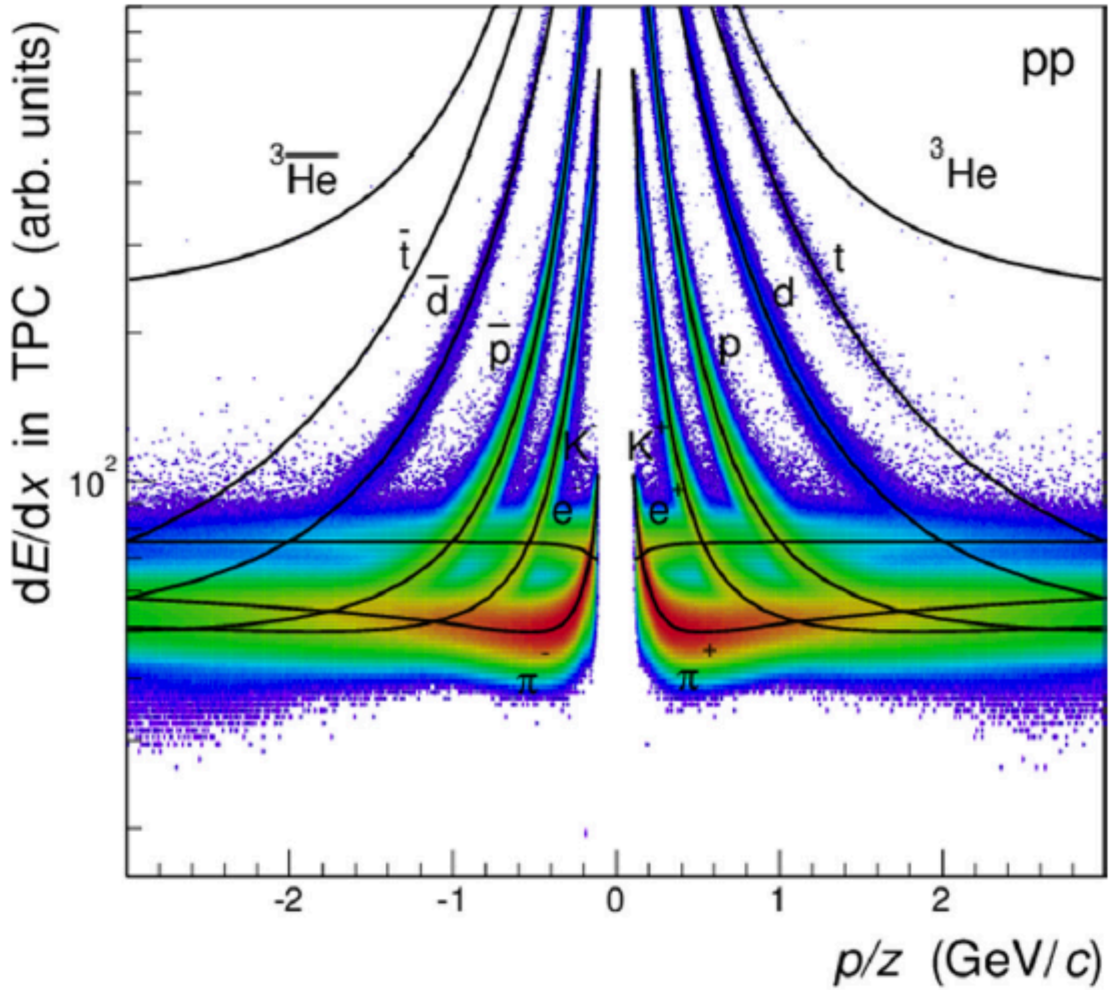
T.A. Armstrong et al. (E864 Collaboration), Phys. Rev. C 61 (2000) 064908

Mean p_T



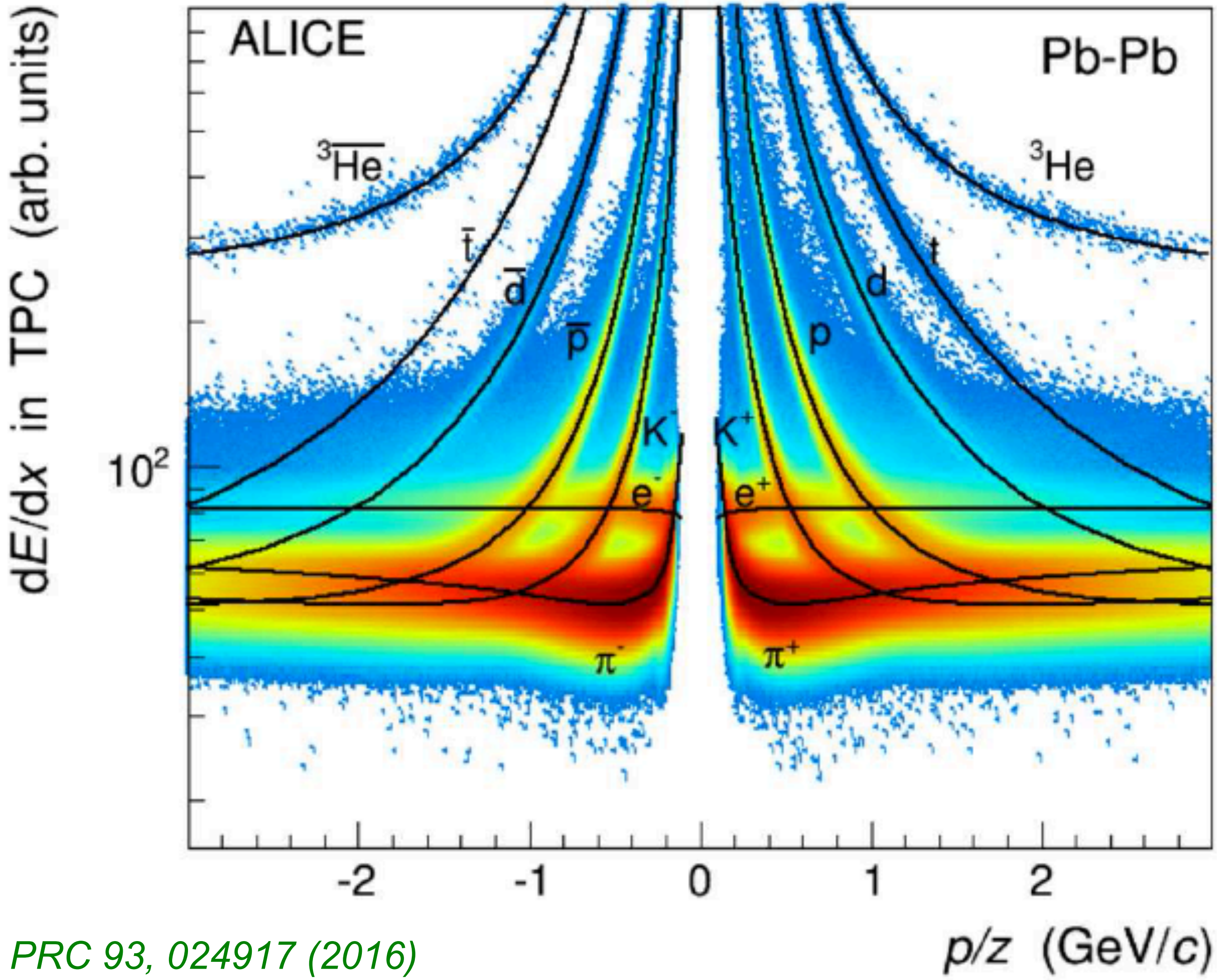
ALICE Collaboration: PRC 93, 024917 (2016)

TPC PID in pp



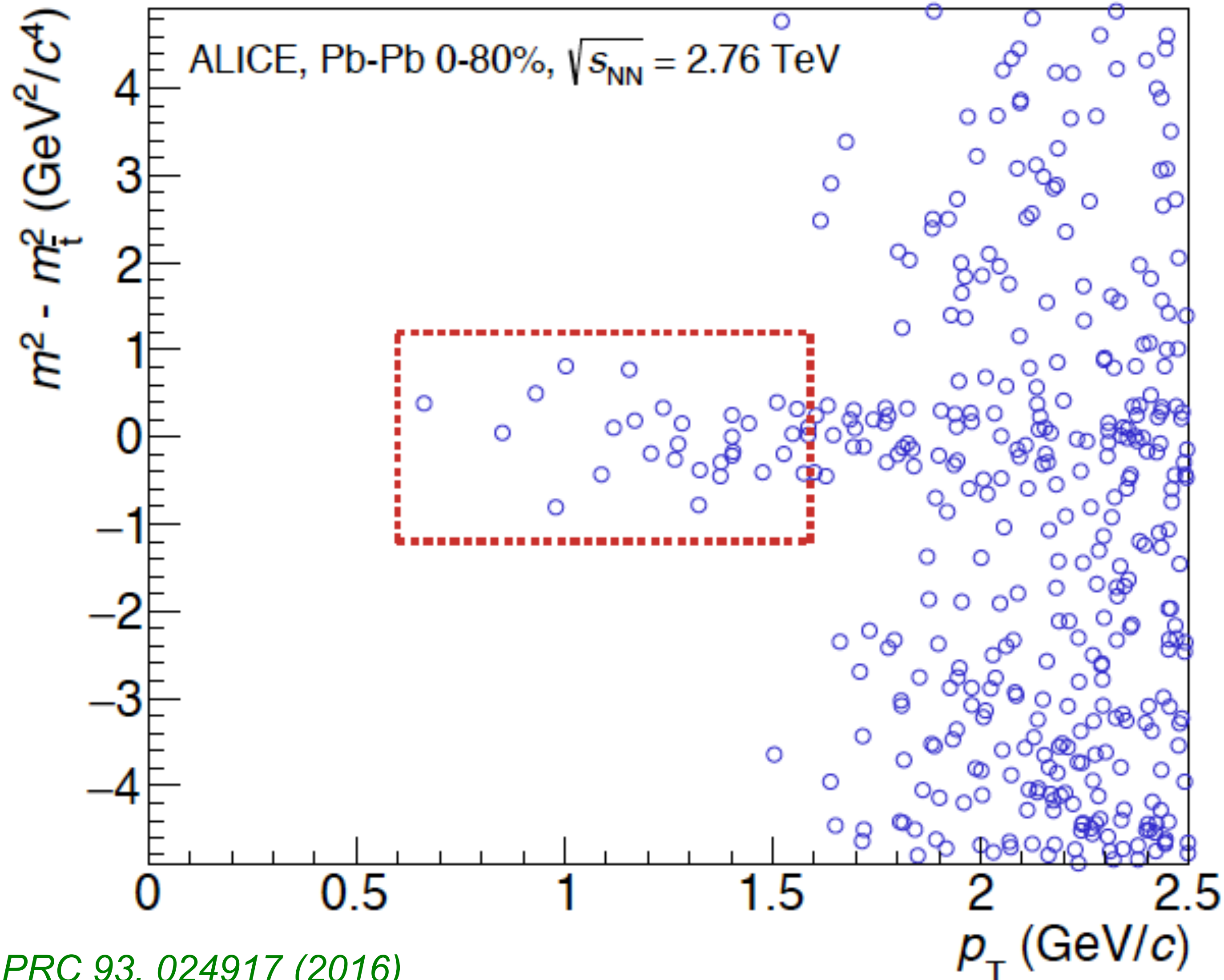
ALICE Collaboration: PRC 93, 024917 (2016)

TPC PID in Pb-Pb



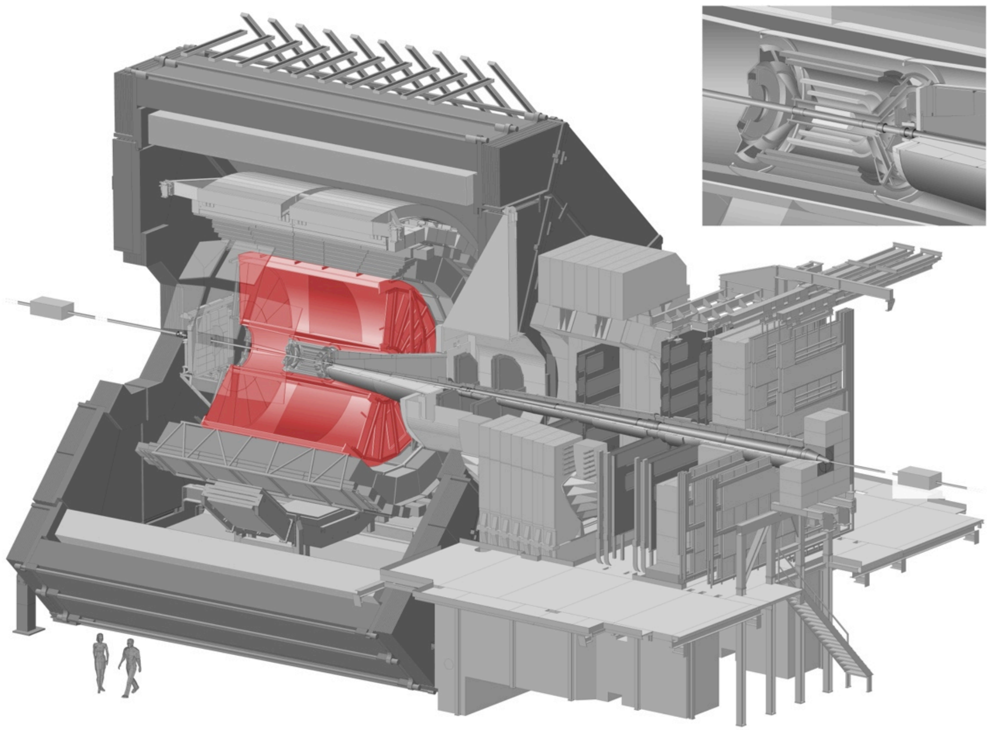
ALICE Collaboration: PRC 93, 024917 (2016)

Anti-tritons



ALICE Collaboration: PRC 93, 024917 (2016)

ALICE experiment



ITS (|η|<0.9)

- 6 Layers of silicon detectors
- Trigger, tracking, vertex, PID (dE/dx)

TPC (|η|<0.9)

- Gas-filled ionization detection volume
- Tracking, vertex, PID (dE/dx)
- Weak decay reconstruction (topological)

$$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda + \pi^-$$