



# Probing the QGP with heavy quarks in ALICE at the LHC



#### Edith Zinhle Buthelezi, for the ALICE Collaboration

iThemba LABS, Somerset West, South Africa



African Nuclear Physics Conference, Kruger National Park, South Africa, 1-5 July 2019

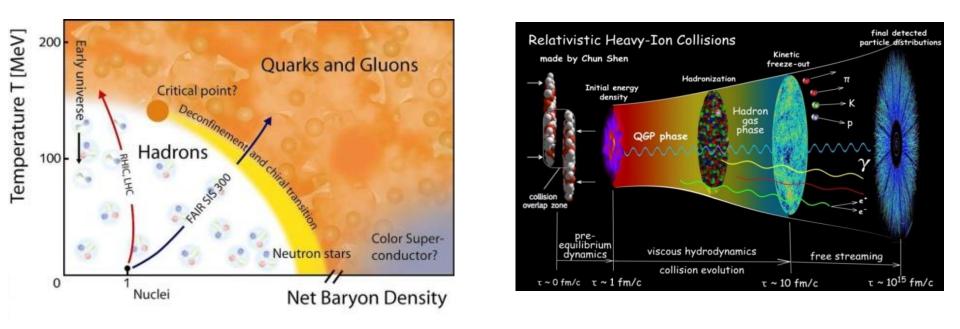


Advancing knowledge. Transforming lives. Inspiring a nation.

# Quark-Gluon Plasma and heavy-ion collisions



- At extreme temperature and energy density, QCD predicts a phase transition from hadronic matter to a deconfined partonic matter, the Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP)
- Ultra-relativistic heavy-ion (A-A) collisions provide perfect conditions for QGP production and characterization



- At LHC energies a hotter QGP is created with respect to RHIC (LHC energy ~ 30 x RHIC)
   Large cross sections for hard probes: heavy quarks and jets have been measured
  - $\rightarrow$  precision measurements





# Heavy quarks as QGP probes

- Charm (c ~ 1.5 GeV/ $c^2$ ) and beauty quarks (b ~ 5 GeV/ $c^2$ ) are produced in hard scatterings with high  $Q^2$  and short formation time  $\tau_{c,b} \sim 0.1$  fm/ $c \ll \tau_{QGP} \sim 5 10$  fm/c
- Their flavour is conserved in strong interactions
- → Transported through the full system evolution
- $\rightarrow$  Heavy quarks provide a benchmark for energy loss models

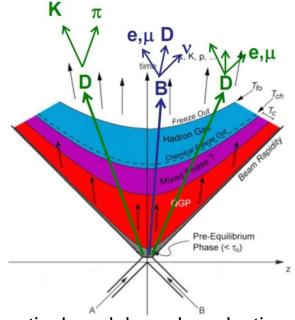
#### What can be tested in A-A collisions?

- Gluon radiation and collisional mechanisms
- ✓ Participate in collective expansion, thermalization of the QGP
- Modification of the hadronization mechanisms in the medium
- pp collisions: provide a reference as well as a test for pQCD theoretical models and production mechanisms
- **p-A collisions** (control experiment): investigate cold nuclear matter effects: nuclear modification of PDFs (shadowing, gluon saturation,...), multiple scattering, energy loss,...

Advancing knowledge, Transforming lives, Inspiring a nation

Nucl. Phys.B484, 265 (1997), Nucl. Phys.B594, 371(2001), Phys. Lett. B519, 199 (2001)



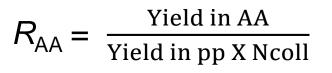




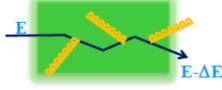


# Parton energy loss in the QGP

- In QGP partons are expected to lose energy via gluon radiation and elastic collisions with plasma constituents
- Energy loss can be quantified by the nuclear modification factor

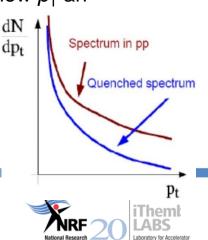


pp reference



ArXiv"0902.2011[nucl-ex], arXiv:1002.2206v3[hep-ph]

- ➢ Reduction in parton energy translates to the reduction in the average *p* of produced hadrons
  → reduction of the yield at high  $p_T$  wrt pp collisions,  $R_{AA} < 1$
- Radiative energy loss expected as main mechanism at high  $p_{T}$ , whereas at low  $p_{T}$  an interplay with collisional energy is expected. The energy loss is sensitive to dN
  - ✓ Medium properties (density)
  - $\checkmark$  Path-length (L) of the parton in the QGP
  - $\checkmark\,$  Properties of the parton probing the medium
- → Hierarchy:  $\Delta E_g > \Delta E_{u,d,s} > \Delta E_c > \Delta E_b \rightarrow R_{AA}$  (b) >  $R_{AA}$  (c) >  $R_{AA}$  (π)



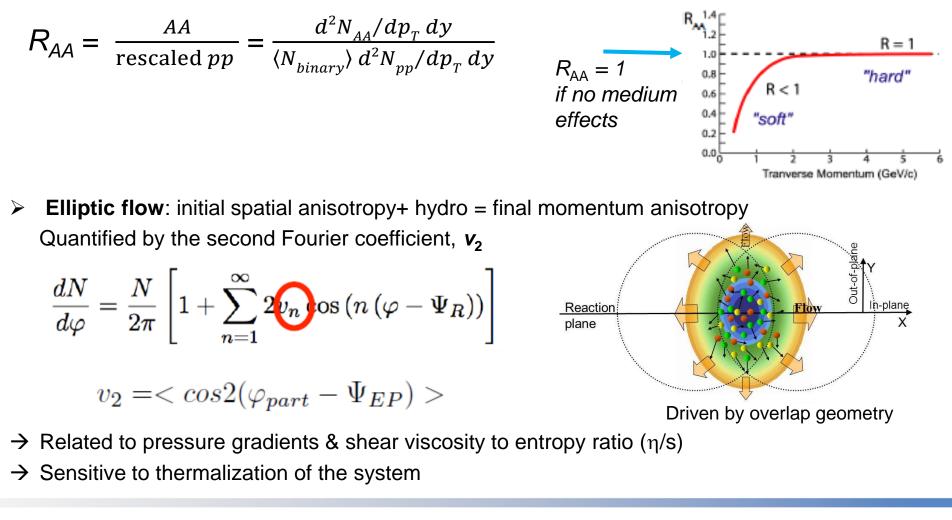




# Observables



#### Nuclear modification factor:







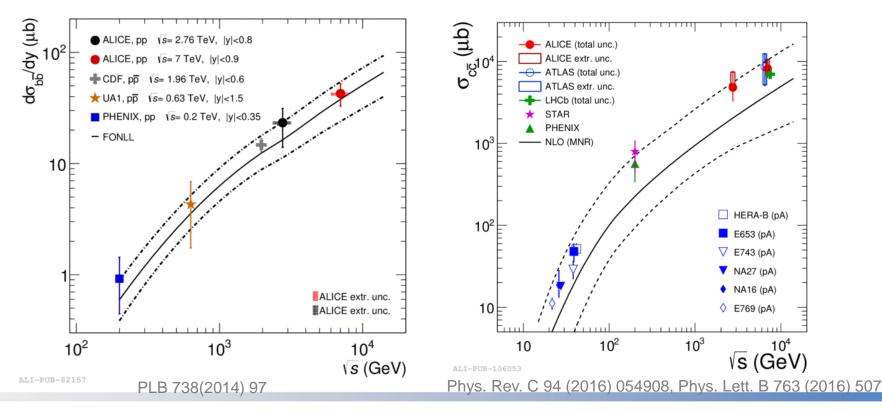


### Heavy-quark production at the LHC



- Production cross sections calculated in pQCD
- Large amounts of charm and beauty hadron production at the LHC
  - ✓  $\sigma_c / \sigma_b \sim 5/50$  increase from RHIC to LHC
  - ✓  $\sigma_{c\bar{c}} / \sigma_{b\bar{b}} \sim 100/10$  increase from RHIC to LHC

Phys. Rev. C 94 (2016) 054908, Phys. Lett. B 763 (2016) 507





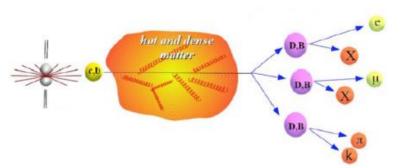


# Two "historical" probes



**Open heavy flavour:** Charm hadrons (D<sup>0</sup>, D<sup> $\pm$ </sup>, ...), bottom hadrons (B<sup>0</sup>, B<sup> $\pm$ </sup>,...)

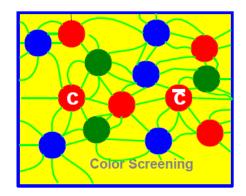
Mass dependence of radiative parton energy loss ("dead cone" effect) Dokshitzer and Kharzeev, Phys. Lett. B519(2001) 199[arXiv:hep-ph/0106202]



Probe of QCD interaction dynamics in extended systems

**Quarkonia:** charmonium  $(c\overline{c})$ : J/ $\psi$ ,  $\psi$ ',..., bottomonium  $(b\overline{b})$ : Y...

Dissociation ("melting") of  $Q\overline{Q}$  via colourscreening Matsui and Satz, PLB178 (1986) 416



Probe of deconfinement & QGP medium temperature

Both probe medium transport properties via, e.g. the collective expansion of the QGP Both pillars evolved and extended significantly over the years





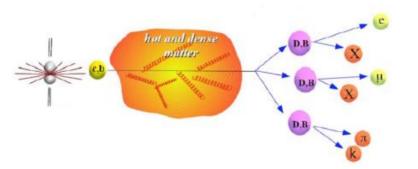


### Two "historical" pillars



**Open heavy flavour:** Charm hadrons (D<sup>0</sup>, D<sup> $\pm$ </sup>, ...), bottom hadrons (B<sup>0</sup>, B<sup> $\pm$ </sup>,...)

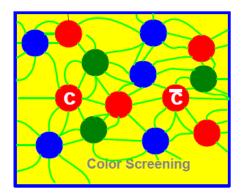
Mass dependence of radiative parton energy loss ("dead cone" effect) Dokshitzer and Kharzeev, Phys. Lett. B519(2001) 199[arXiv:hep-ph/0106202]



Probe of QCD interaction dynamics in extended systems

**Quarkonia:** charmonium  $(c\overline{c})$ : J/ $\psi$ ,  $\psi$ ',..., bottomonium  $(b\overline{b})$ : Y...

Dissociation ("melting") of  $Q\overline{Q}$  via colourscreening Matsui and Satz, PLB178 (1986) 416



Probe of deconfinement & QGP medium temperature

Both probe medium transport properties via, e.g. the collective expansion of the medium Both pillars evolved and extended significantly over the years





# Open heavy-flavour hadrons



- Open heavy flavour hadrons are hadrons containing a charm (anticharm) or beauty (antibeauty) quark + a light antiquark (quark).
- > Lower mass heavy-flavour hadrons decay weakly, have a lifetimes of ~ 0.5 -2 ps and decay length  $c\tau$  ~ 100 500 µm
- > Decay vertices are displaced by hundreds of  $\mu$ m from primary vertex

Hadron	Mass (MeV)	cτ (μm,	) Hadron	Mass (MeV)	cτ (μm)
$D^+(c\overline{d})$	1869	312	$B^+(u\overline{b})$	5279	501
$D^0(c\overline{u})$	1865	123	$B^0(d\overline{b})$	5279	460
$D_s^+(c\overline{s})$	1968	147	$B_s^0(s\overline{b})$	5370	438
$\Lambda_{c}^{+}(udc)$	2285	60	$B_c^0(c\overline{b})$	≈ 6400	100-200
$\Xi_c^+(usc)$	2466	132	$\Lambda^0_b(udb)$	5624	368
$\Xi_c^0(dsc)$	2472	34			
$\Omega_c^0(ssc)$	2698	21			

- Decay modes branching ratios (B.R.):
  - ✓ Semi-leptonic B.R. ~10% → 10% of heavy-flavour hadrons decays to  $e^{\pm}(\mu^{\pm})$
  - ✓ Charm hadrons B.R. ~55% to kaons → golden channel for exclusive reconstruction



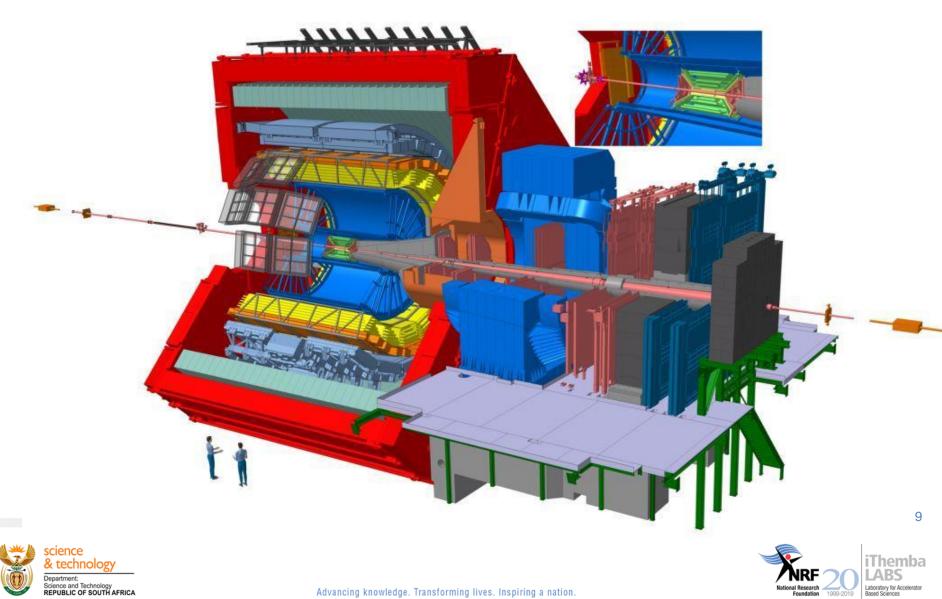


8





1999-2019



Advancing knowledge. Transforming lives. Inspiring a nation.



Laboratory for Accelerator

Based Sciences

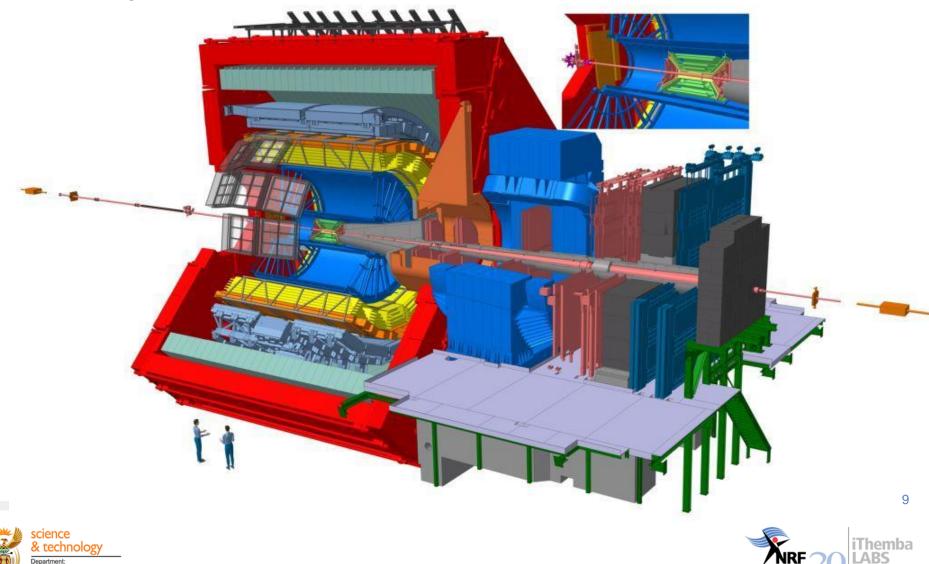
nal Research

Foundation

#### Central barrel $|\eta| < 0.9$

Science and Technology REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Solenoid magnetic field, B = 0.5 T



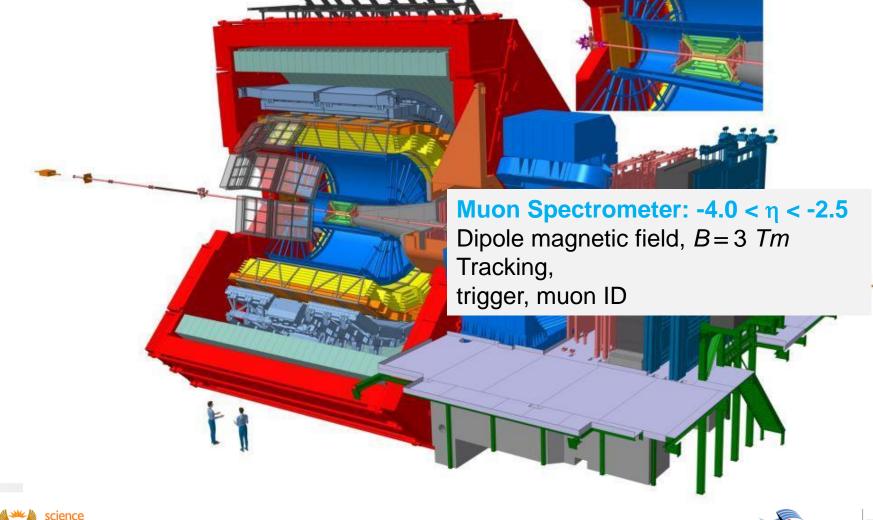




#### Central barrel $|\eta| < 0.9$

Science and Technology REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Solenoid magnetic field, B = 0.5 T





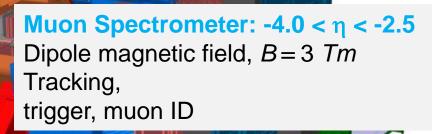
9



Central barrel |η| < 0.9

Solenoid magnetic field, B = 0.5 T

#### **Inner Tracking System (ITS)** Vertexing, tracking & PID, |η| < 0.9







9



9

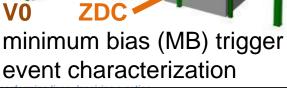
iThemba

**Central barrel**  $|\eta| < 0.9$ Solenoid magnetic field, B = 0.5 T

# Inner Tracking System (ITS)Vertexing, tracking & PID, |η| < 0.9</td>



Muon Spectrometer:  $-4.0 < \eta < -2.5$ Dipole magnetic field, B=3 Tm Tracking, trigger, muon ID





**Central barrel**  $|\eta| < 0.9$ Solenoid magnetic field, B = 0.5 T

#### **Inner Tracking System (ITS)** Vertexing, tracking & PID, |η| < 0.9

Muon Spectrometer:  $-4.0 < \eta < -2.5$ 

Dipole magnetic field, B = 3 Tm

**TPC**: Tracking, PID |η| < 0.9



9

iThemba

minimum bias (MB) trigger event characterization

Tracking,

ZD

VO

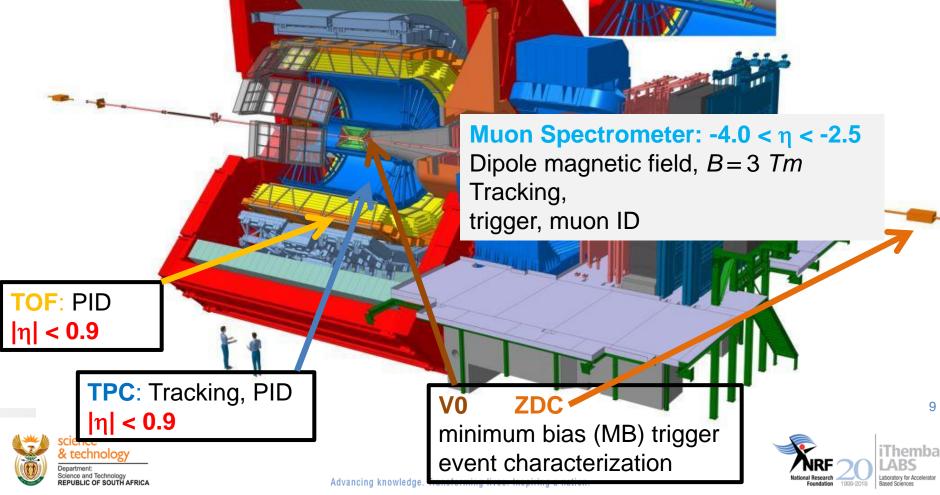
Advancing knowledge.

trigger, muon ID

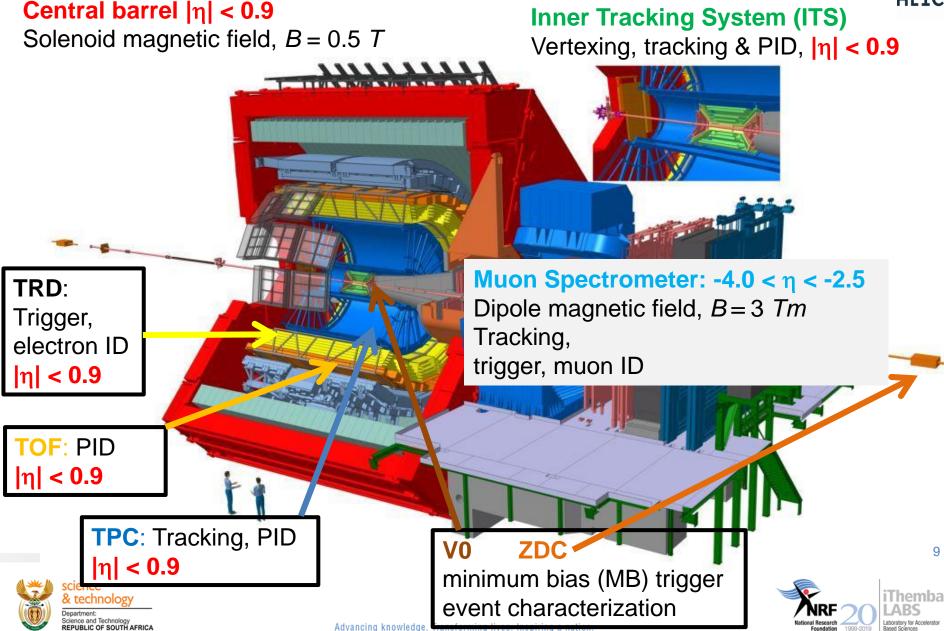


**Central barrel**  $|\eta| < 0.9$ Solenoid magnetic field, B = 0.5 T

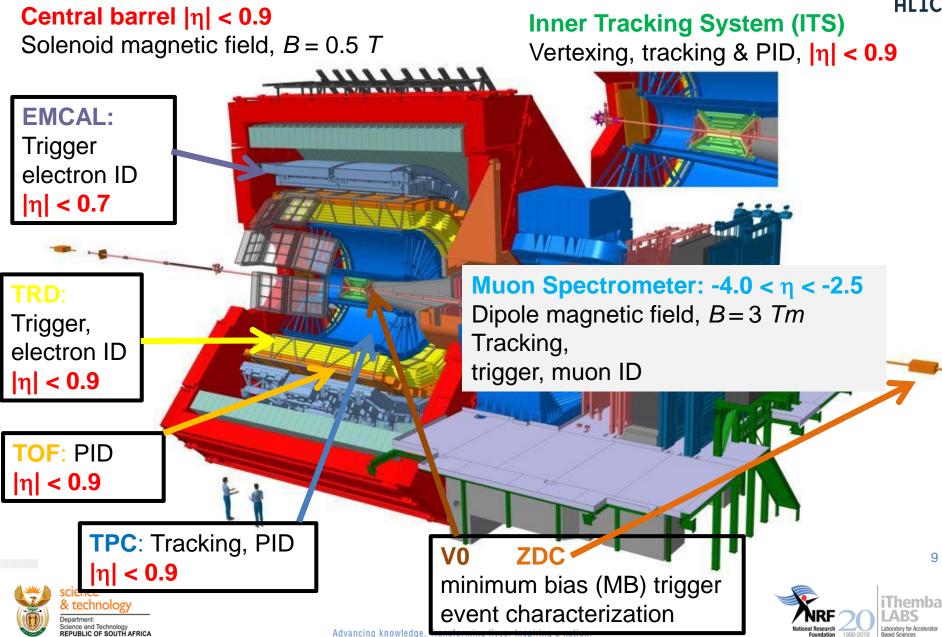
#### **Inner Tracking System (ITS)** Vertexing, tracking & PID, |η| < 0.9







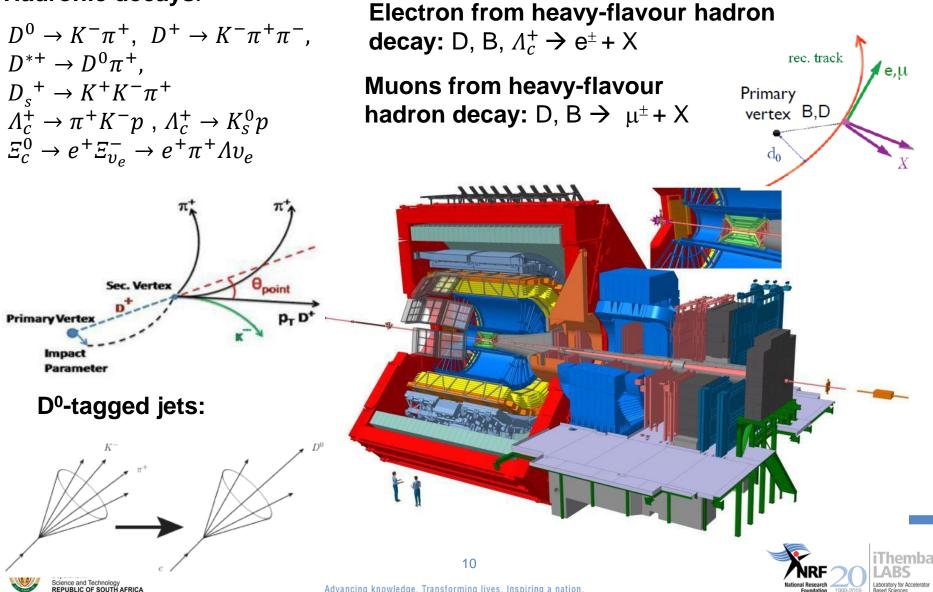




Open heavy-flavour hadron measurements in ALICE







Advancing knowledge, Transforming lives, Inspiring a nation

### Collision systems in ALICE

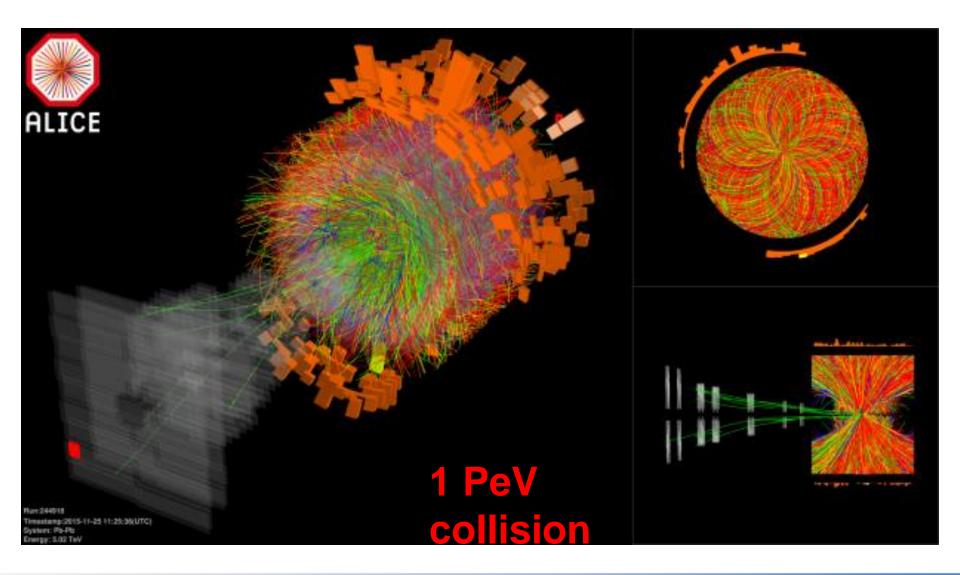


	Run 1 (2009-	2013)
System	Energy(TeV)	L <sub>int</sub> (minimum bias)
рр	0.9, 2.76	200µb⁻¹ 100nb⁻¹
	7,8	1.5pb⁻¹ 2.5µb⁻¹
p-Pb	5.02	15nb <sup>-1</sup>
Run 2 (2015-2018)		
рр	5.02	1.3pb <sup>-1</sup>
	13	35pb <sup>-1</sup>
p-Pb	5.02	3nb <sup>-1</sup>
	8.16	25nb <sup>-1</sup>
Xe-Xe	5.44	0.3µb <sup>-1</sup>
Pb-Pb: 2015, 2018	5.02	250μb <sup>-1</sup> 536μb <sup>-1</sup>





### ALICE Pb-Pb data taking in 2015

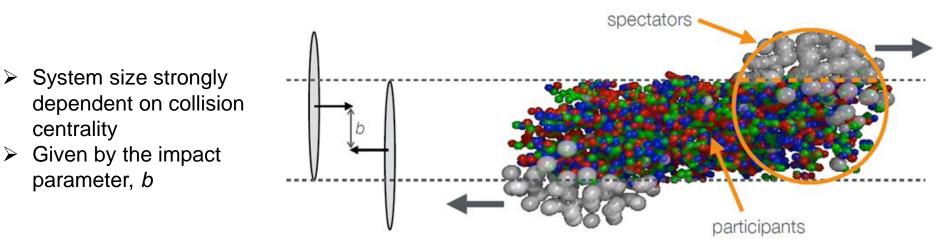






# Collision geometry - centrality





- N<sub>coll</sub>: number of inelastic nucleon-nucleon collisions
- Npart: number of nucleons which underwent at least one inelastic nucleonnucleon collision:
- **Central collisions (small b):** large  $N_{part} \rightarrow$  less spectators, High multiplicity
- **Peripheral collisions (large b):** small  $N_{part} \rightarrow$  more spectators, low multiplicity
- Events classified in "centrality classes"  $\rightarrow$  percentiles of total hadronic AA cross section

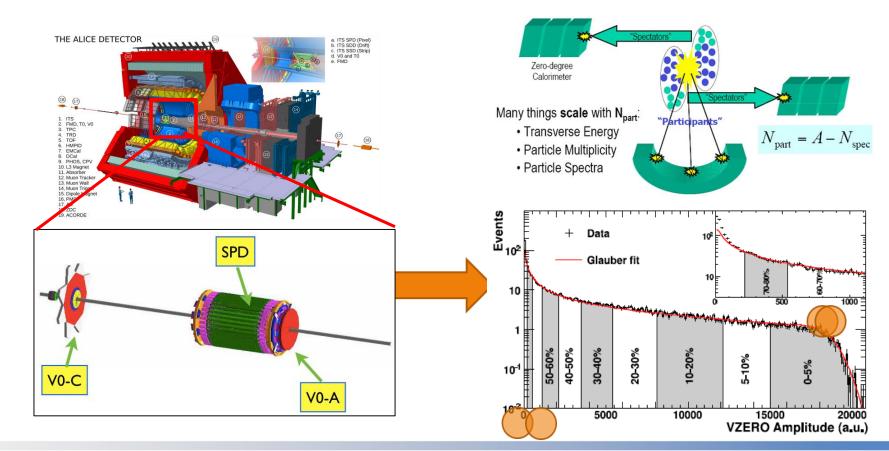


centrality

parameter, b

### How do we measure the centrality?

- > Energy deposited is proportional to  $N_{part}$
- Use multiplicity of produced particles in the acceptance of a given detector (V0, SPD) or measure the energy of the spectator nucleons in the ZDC
- > Determine  $\langle N_{part} \rangle$  and  $\langle N_{coll} \rangle$  with a model of the collision geometry (Glauber model)









# RESULTS



### Only a selection of available results for the measurements of the

- Nuclear modification factor,  $R_{AA} = \frac{d^2 N_{AA}/dp_T dy}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle d^2 N_{pp}/dp_T dy}$
- Anisotropic/elliptic flow  $v_2 = < cos2(arphi_{part} \Psi_{EP}) >$

as a function of transverse momentum ( $p_T$ ) in central, semi-central and peripheral Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  (2.76) TeV and where applicable, Xe-Xe at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.44$  TeV

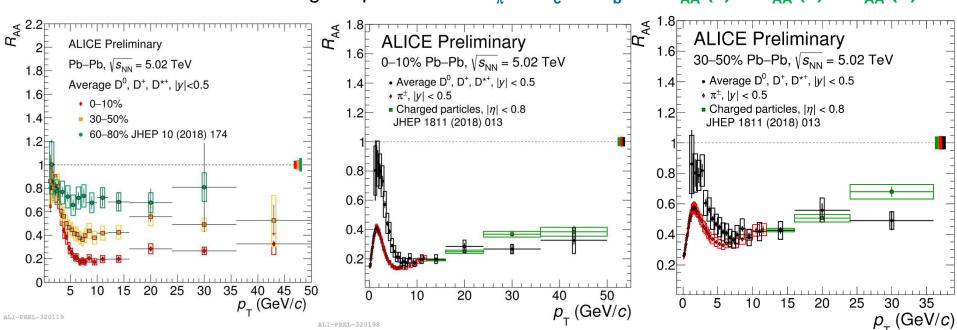




# D-meson $R_{AA}$

(D) compared with R<sub>AA</sub>( $\pi^{\pm}$ ) and charged-particles in central (0-10%), semi-central (30–50%) and peripheral (60-80%) Pb-Pb collisions at √s<sub>NN</sub> = 5.02 TeV → Increasing suppression from peripheral (60-80%) to central (0-10%) Pb-Pb collisions

> Quark-mass and colour-charge dependence:  $\Delta E_{\pi} > \Delta E_{c} > \Delta E_{b} \rightarrow R_{AA}(\pi) < R_{AA}(c) < R_{AA}(b)$ 



 $R_{AA}(D) > R_{AA}(\pi) \text{ for } p_T < 8 \text{ GeV/}c \text{ but comparable } R_{AA} \text{ for } p_T > 8 \text{ GeV/}c \text{ within uncertainties}$ 

- Possible mass and Cassimir effects, shadowing, interplay between different p<sub>T</sub> spectra of charm, light quarks and gluons and different fragmentation fractions
- $\rightarrow R_{AA}(D) \simeq R_{AA}(\pi^{\pm}) \simeq R_{AA}(charged particles)$  for  $p_T > 8 \text{ GeV}/c$  JHEP 1811 (2018) 013, PLB 782 (2018) 474-496



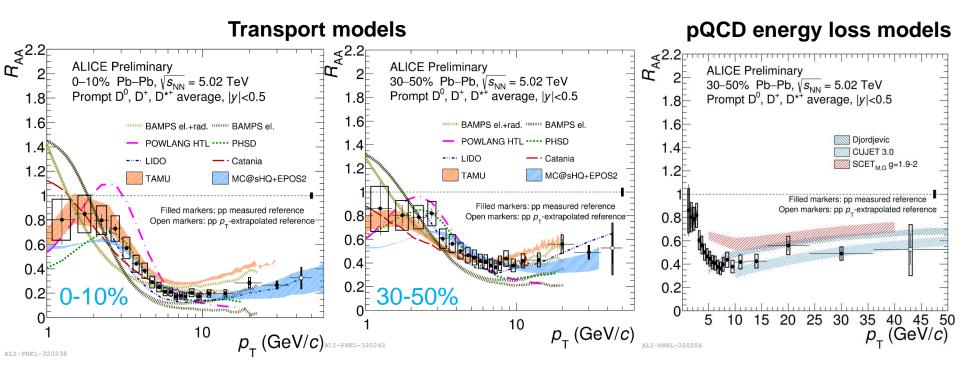


ALICE

# D-meson $R_{AA}$ : comparison with various models



> D meson  $R_{AA}$  in in Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV compared with transport and pQCD predictions



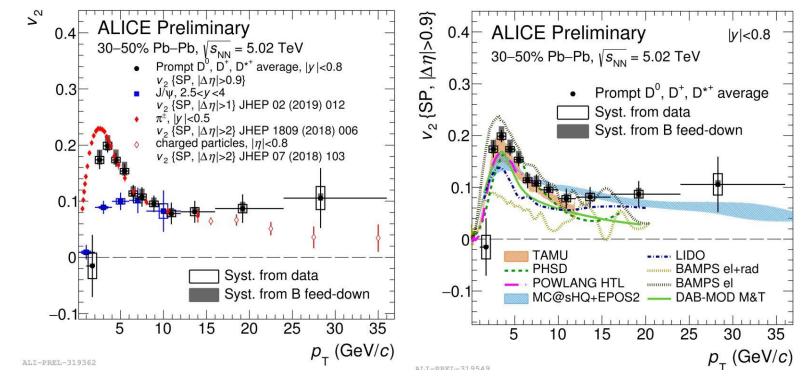
Low p<sub>T</sub> D-meson R<sub>AA</sub> described by transport models
 High p<sub>T</sub> D-meson R<sub>AA</sub> described by pQD-based energy loss models





# Elliptic flow, $v_2$ of D mesons





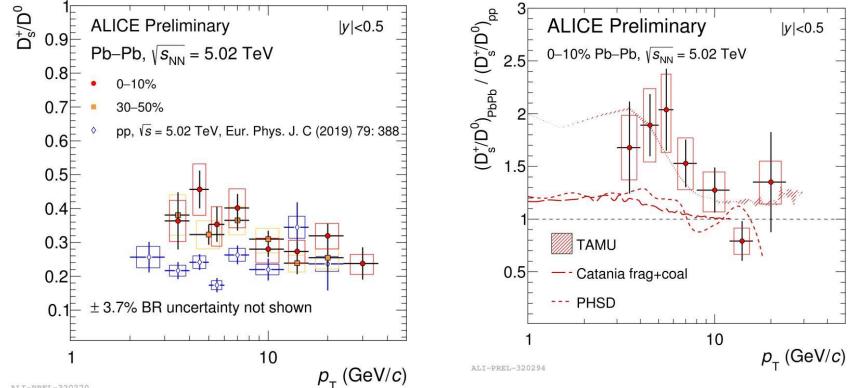
- > Positive D-meson  $v_2$  indicates participation of charm quark in the collective motion
- ►  $v_2$  (D)  $\simeq v_2$  ( $\pi^{\pm}$ ) for  $p_T$  > 3-4 GeV/c while at  $p_T$  < 3-4 GeV/c there is hint of  $v_2$  (D) <  $v_2$  ( $\pi^{\pm}$ )
- Models implementing energy loss (only elastic or elastic + radiative) and hadronization (fragmentation with/without recombination) reproduce the data



## Strange to non-strange D meson ratio



 $D_s^+/D^0$  in central (0-10%) and semi-central (30-50%) Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV and pp collisions at 5.02 TeV

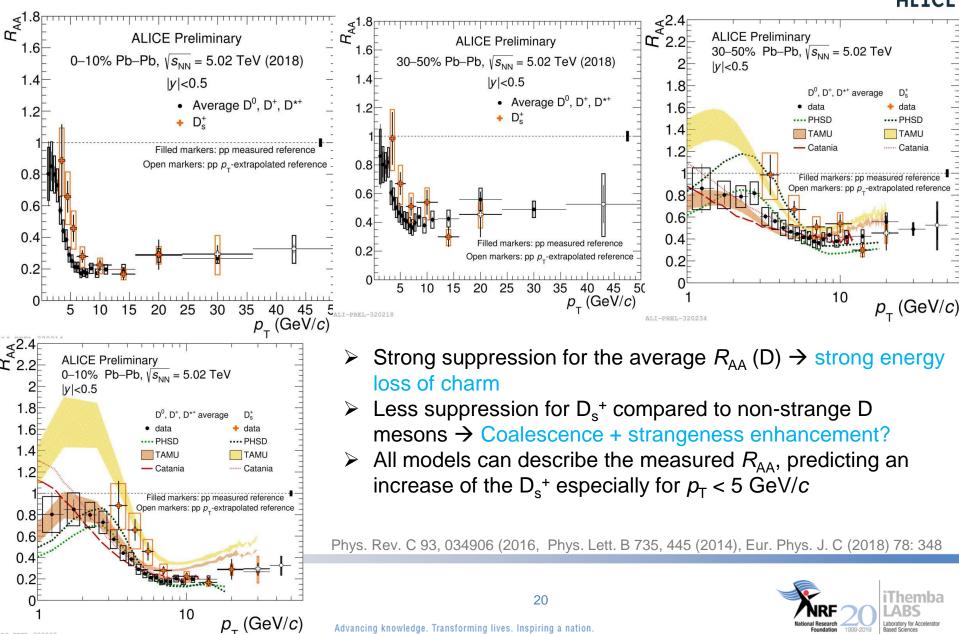


- > Data hints to a higher  $D_s^+$  /  $D^0$  ratio in Pb-Pb than in pp collisions up to  $p_T = 6 \text{ GeV}/c$
- A similar p<sub>T</sub> trend as predicted by theoretical models of charm-quark transport in a hydrodynamically expanding medium



# $D_{s}^{+}$ meson $R_{AA}$

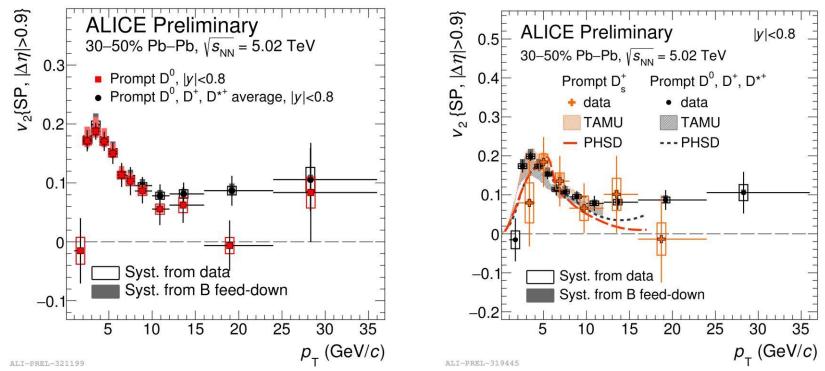




# $D_s^+$ meson $v_2$



Prompt D<sub>s</sub><sup>+</sup> v<sub>2</sub> as a function of p<sub>T</sub> compared the average non-strange D mesons semi-central 30--50% Pb-Pb collisions at √s<sub>NN</sub> = 5.02 TeV. Data also compared with models implementing heavyquark transport in an hydrodynamically expanding medium



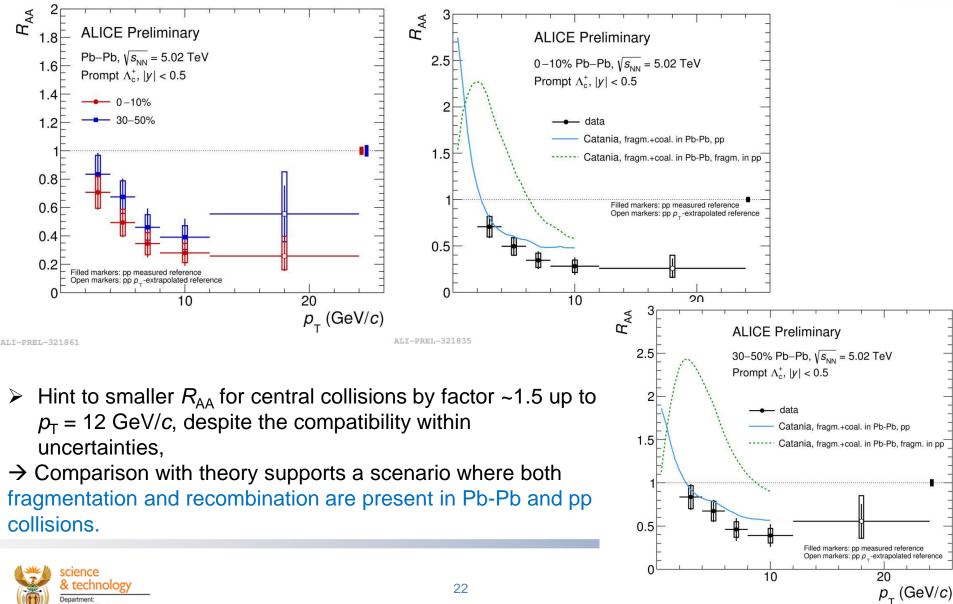
- Similar  $v_2$  for strange and non-strange D mesons down to  $p_T = 3 \text{ GeV}/c$  within the uncertainties
- ➢ Both models predict a similar v₂ for strange and non-strange D mesons → hadronization via quark recombination included
  Phys. Lett. B 735, 445 (2014), Phys. Rev. C 93, 034906 (2016)





# $R_{\rm AA}$ of charmed lambda baryon ( $\Lambda_{\rm c}^+$ )



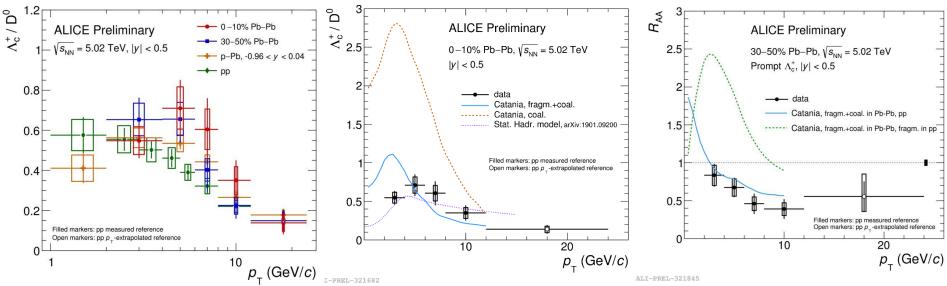


Science and Technology REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# $\Lambda_{c}^{+}$ to D<sup>0</sup> ratio



Ratio  $\Lambda_c^+/D^0$  in Pb-Pb larger (2 $\sigma$ ) wrt pp and p-Pb collisions and described by a models including charm hadronization via quark coalescence



ALI-PREL-321712

- Hint of higher  $\Lambda_c^+$  / D<sup>0</sup> ratio in Pb-Pb collisions w.r.t. pp collisions.  $\geq$
- Understanding pp data is essential. Ratio is underestimated by models with fragmentation parameters derived from e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> collision data.
- $\succ$   $\Lambda_c^+/D^0$  ratio described by statistical hadronization model and Catania model including fragmentation and recombination

Eur. Phys. J. C (2018) 78: 348

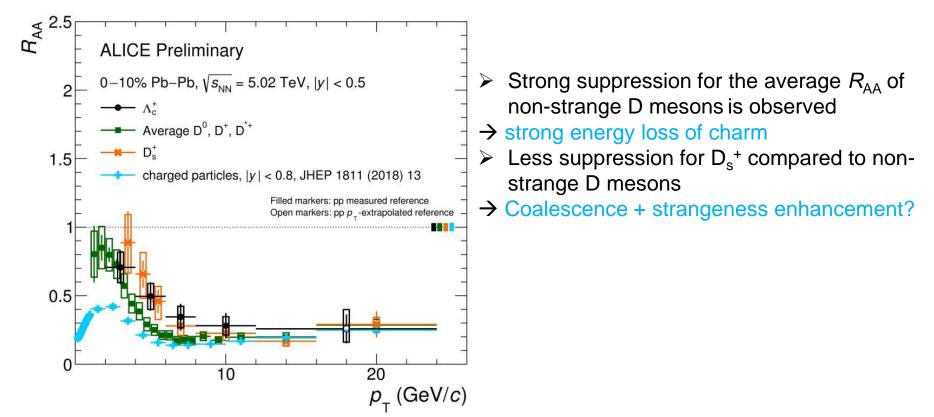




# Comparison of charm meson $R_{AA}$



►  $R_{AA}$  of non-strange, strange D mesons and  $\Lambda_c^+$  at mid-rapidity, |y|<0.5 in central (0-10%) Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV



ALI-PREL-321872

JHEP 1810 (2018) 174, PLB 782 (2018) 474-496

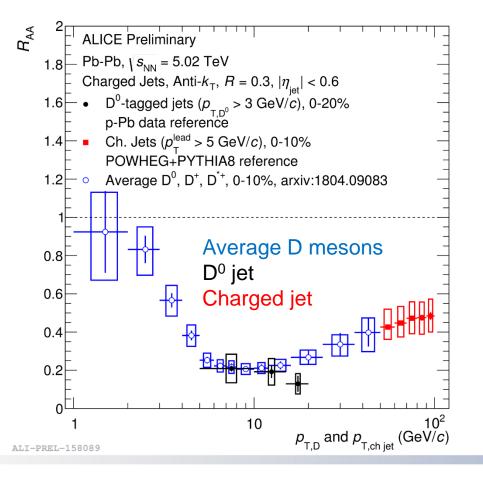




# $R_{AA}$ of heavy-flavour jets



> Jet containing a D meson with  $p_T > 3 \text{ GeV}/c$  in 0-20% compared with  $R_{AA}$  of D mesons and charged jets in 0-10% Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$ 



- D, HFe
- > Strong suppression of D<sup>0</sup> jets for  $p_T > 5 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Similar suppression for D<sup>0</sup> jets and D<sup>0</sup> mesons



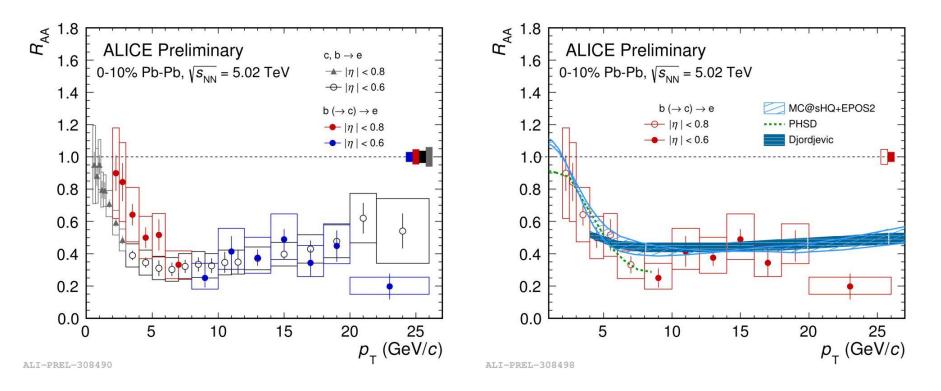
Advancing knowledge. Transforming lives. Inspiring a nation



# $R_{AA}$ of electrons from beauty-hadron decays



- Indication of a small suppression for p<sub>T</sub> < 6 GeV/c while a significant suppression observed for p<sub>T</sub> > 6 GeV/c
- Models implementing mass-dependent energy loss reproduce the experimental data well

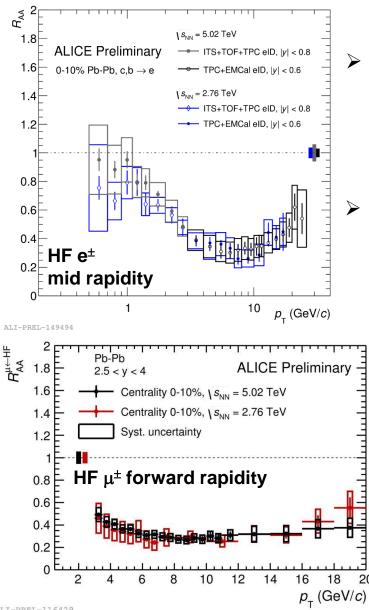






# $R_{AA}$ of leptons from heavy-flavour hadron decays





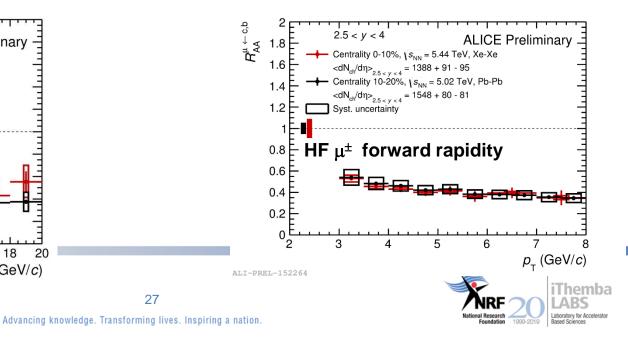
cience and Technology

>  $R_{AA}$  of HF e<sup>±</sup> at mid-rapidity and  $\mu^{\pm}$  at forward rapidity in 0-10% Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76 \& 5.02 \text{ TeV}$ 

- Comparable suppression at mid and forward rapidity within systematic uncertainty
- ✓ No dependence on system collisional energy

Comparison of  $HF\mu^{\pm}R_{AA}$  in Pb-Pb (5.02 TeV) and Xe-Xe (5.44 TeV) shows a similar suppression for both systems at same multiplicity

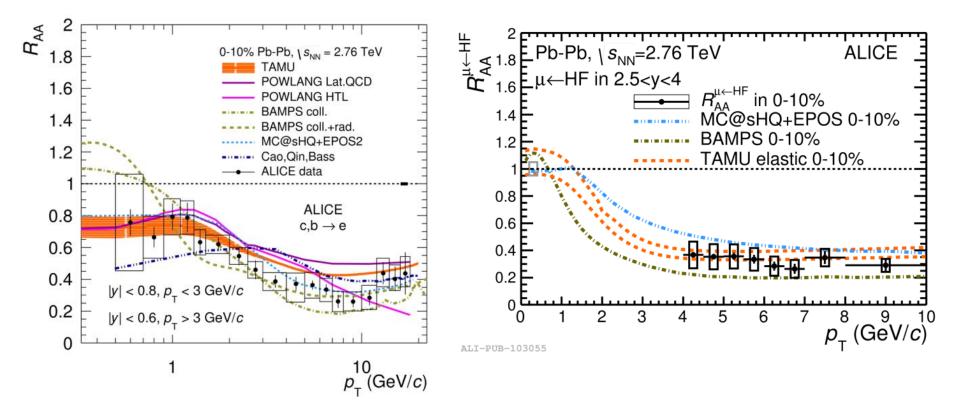
→ possible interplay of geometry and path-length dependence M. Djordjevic, et al., arXiv:1805.04030



# R<sub>AA</sub> of leptons from heavy-flavour hadron decays: comparison with models



Models implementing mass-dependent energy loss reproduce the data







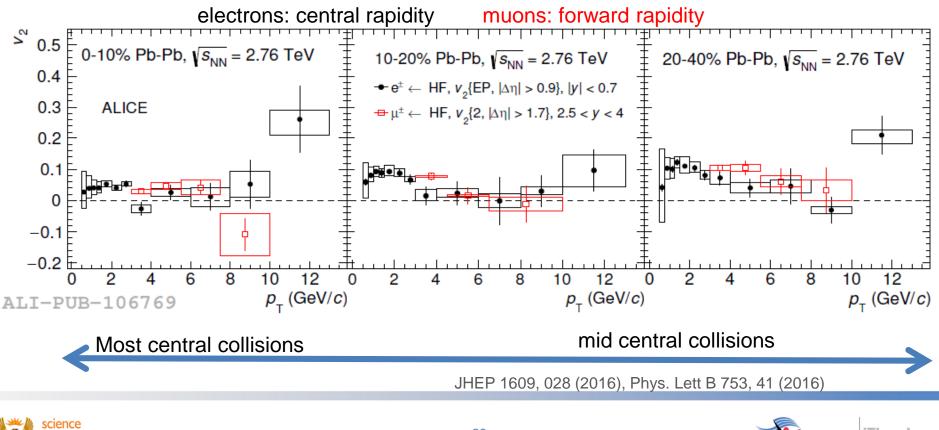
# $v_2$ of leptons from heavy-flavour hadron decays



- Positive elliptic flow measured for leptons from heavy-flavor hadron decays
- Compatible results at mid and forward rapidity

cience and Technology EPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

→ suggests that heavy quarks could participate in the collective expansion of the system





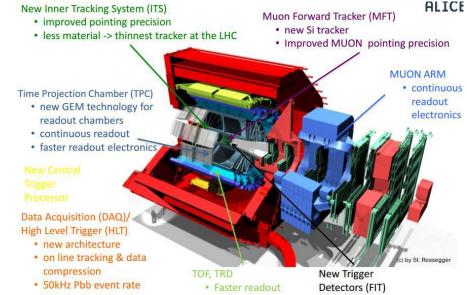
## Summary



- ➤ Charmed-baryon,  $\Lambda_c^+$  less suppressed than D mesons → coalescence production mechanisms at play
- > Non-zero elliptic flow of charmed mesons, and for leptons from heavy-flavour hadron decays
- $\rightarrow$  heavy quark participation in the collective expansion of the QGP
- Ongoing analysis of Pb-Pb (Xe-Xe) data collected in 2018 (2017) will provide precise and could help constrain the differences seen in model predictions

#### What is next?

ALICE upgrade ongoing to prepare for the next LHC phase 3 (2021). Higher data rates are expected for precision measurements Lot of interesting physics to come Stay tuned!!









# Thanks for your attention







31



# **EXTRA slides**





32

#### Radiative energy loss

- Gluon radiation expected t be the main mechanism of energy loss, where the amount of energy lost is sensitive to
  - ✓ The medium properties (density)
  - $\checkmark$  The path length (L) of the parton in deconned matter
  - $\checkmark$  The properties of the parton probing the medium
- Several models available, e.g. BDMPS approach

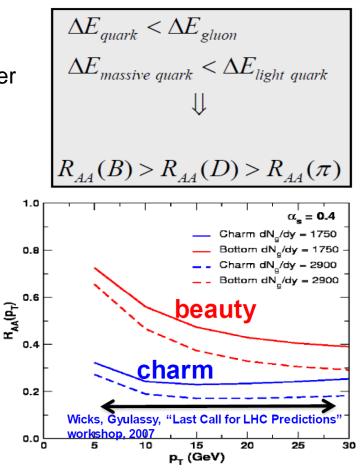
 $\langle \Delta E \rangle \alpha_s C_R \hat{q} L^2$ 

cience

PUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

- $\alpha_s$  strong coupling constant,  $C_R$  Casmir factor: 3 for gg fus and 4/3 for quark-gluon fusion,  $\hat{q}$  transport coefficient related the medium properties & gluon density
- Radiative energy loss of charm + beauty quarks expected to be smaller (higher R<sub>AA</sub>) wrt light hadrons due to
- > **Dead cone effect:** gluon radiation is suppressed for angles  $\theta < M_Q / E_Q$
- Casmir factor (colour charge dependence): heavy hadrons are mainly produced from heavy quark jets (while light hadrons are produced from gluon jets)



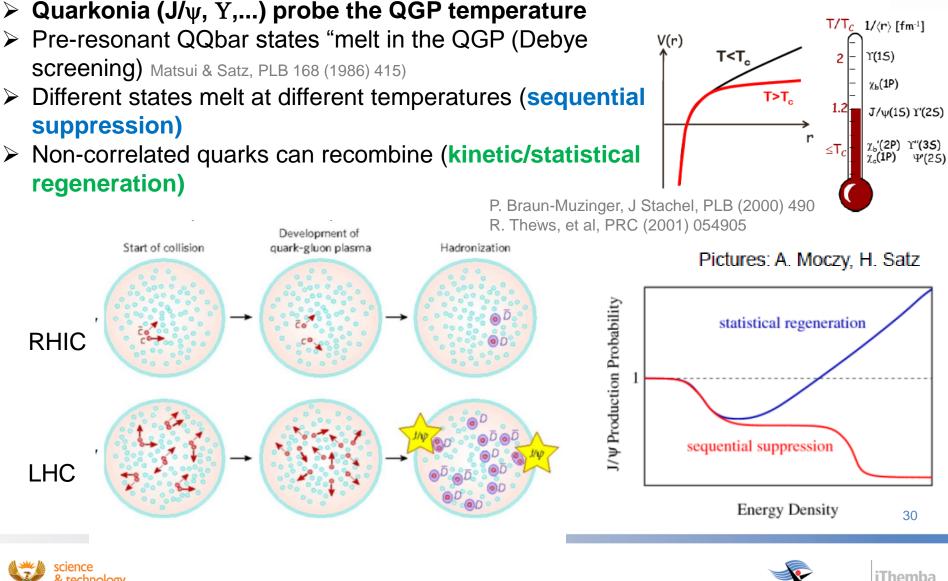






### Quarkonia as QCD thermometer?

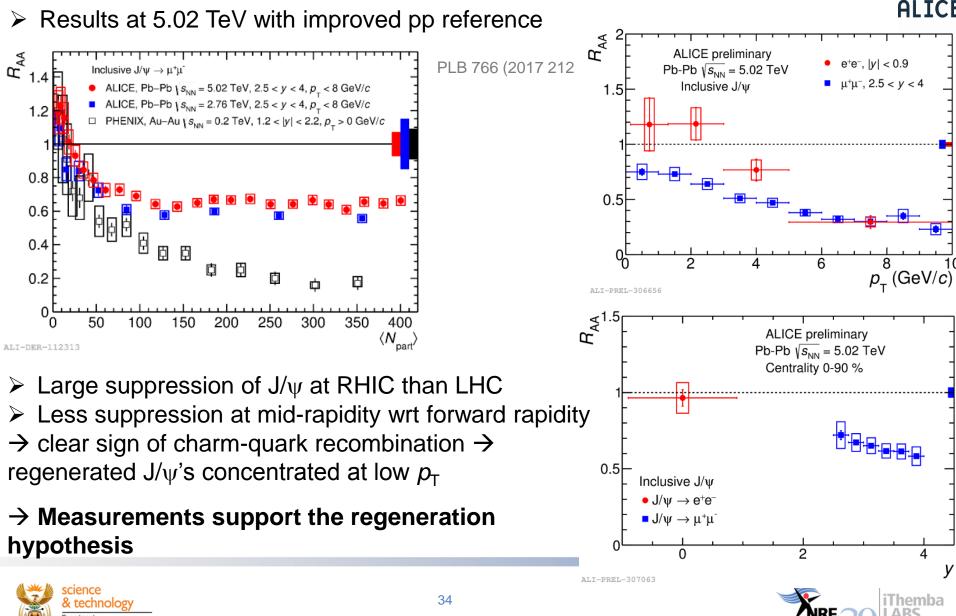




cience and Technology EPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

#### $J/\psi$ suppression and regeneration



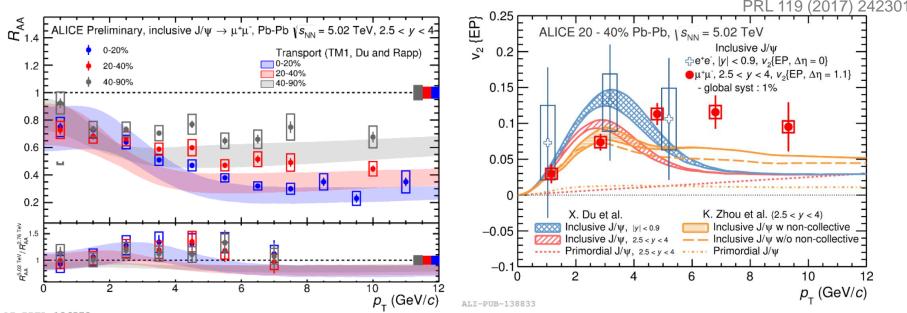


cience and Technology EPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

#### $J/\psi$ regeneration



- > The regeneration component is expected to contribute mainly at low  $p_{T}$
- ▶  $R_{AA}$  increase at 2 <  $p_T$  < 6 GeV/*c* from  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  = 2.76 to 5.02 TeV
- > Transport models fairly reproduce the trend as a function of  $p_{T}$  and centrality



- ➤ Elliptic flow, v2, is non-zero in semicentral collisions→ regenerated J/ψ inherit charm-quark flow in the QGP
- Described by models including a strong regeneration component from recombination of thermalized quarks in the QGP
- **Caveat:** precise description of the data is a challenge for models especially at high  $p_{T}$





### Heavy flavour-tagged jets

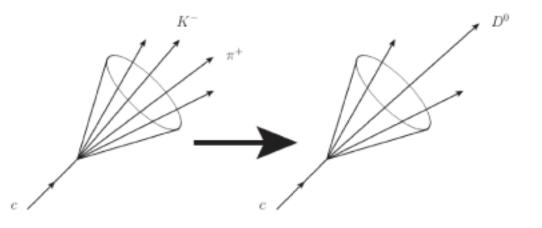


#### D0 meson selection:

- Decay channel:  $Do \rightarrow K-\pi+(BR = 3.89\%)$  [PDG PRD 98 (2018) 030001]
- K/ $\pi$  PID via d*E*/d*x* of TPC and TOF
- Topological selection (secondary vertex)
- *p*T, D > 2 GeV/c
- $\bullet$  Do meson candidates replace their decay products (K and  $\pi$ ) in the jet reconstruction

#### Jet finding:

- Track-based jet reconstruction
- Anti-*k*T , *R*= 0.3, 0.4
- *p*T, ch jet > 5 GeV/c







#### **Kinematic variables**



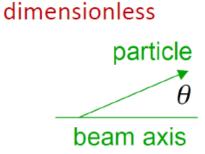
**Rapidity:** 

**Pseudo-Rapidity:** 

$$y = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{E + P_Z}{E - P_Z} \right)$$

/ \_\_\_\_

$$\eta = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{|P| + P_Z}{|P| - P_Z} \right) = -\ln \left( \tan \frac{\theta}{2} \right)$$



 $\eta \rightarrow y$  large momentum i.e.  $P \rightarrow E$ 

**Transverse Momentum:** 

$$p_T = \sqrt{p_X^2 + p_Y^2}$$

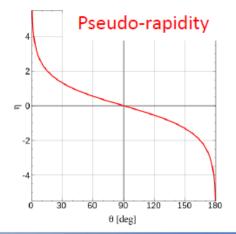
Transverse Mass:

science

technolog

Science and Technology REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

$$m_T = \sqrt{p_T^2 + m_0^2}$$







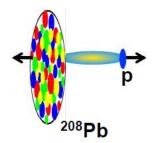


### Heavy quark production in proton-nucleus (p-A) collisions



#### Role of p-A collisions – control experiment

- Disentangle the cold nuclear matter effects (CNM) in initial and final states of the collision
- CNM effects:
  - Nuclear modification of parton distribution functions (shadowing, gluon saturation)
  - k<sub>T</sub> broadening (due to multiple parton collisions befc hard scattering)
  - Energy loss in CNM
  - Multiple binary collisions
- Other final state effects?
  - Collective effects in high-multiplicity p-Pb events similar to those observed in A-A
  - Small-size QGP in p-Pb collisions?
- > CNM effects may give  $R_{AA} \neq 1$
- Reference for AA collisions



Eskola et al., JHEP 0904, 065 (2009)

