



LHCb Heavy-ion results in collider and fixed-target mode

L. L. Pappalardo (on behalf of the LHCb Collaboration)



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Outline

- Physics motivations
- The LHCb detector and its fixed-target system
- Prompt charm production in pPb collisions in collider mode
- Prompt charm production in pHe and pAr fixed-target collisions
- Conclusions



Heavy quarks are effective probes to study the properties of the deconfined medium created in ultra-relativistic heavy-ion collisions:

- Their masses are significantly higher than the QGP critical temperature ($T_c \sim 156 \text{ MeV}$)
- They are **produced in the early stages of the collision** in a time scale that is shorter than that of the QGP formation
- Their overall yields are not modified by the medium





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Quarks loose energy via **radiative gluonic emissions** and **collisions** with the medium constituents.

Studying these **re-scatterings and energy loss processes** is of outmost importance for understanding the properties of the formed QGP and its space-time evolution!



A correct interpretation of these processes in terms of QGP formation, requires a full understanding of the **cold-nuclear-matter effects**:

- Initial-state radiation or energy-loss
- Final-state hadronic rescattering and absorption
- Modification of the nucleon PDFs in nuclear matter

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 $R_i^A(x,Q^2) = \frac{f_i^{p/A}(x,Q^2)}{f_i^p(x,Q^2)}$

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Initial-state radiation or energy-loss •

valence guarks

- Final-state hadronic rescattering and absorption ٠
- Modification of the nucleon PDFs in nuclear matter ٠



sea guarks

- Measurements of prompt heavy-quark production in pPb collisions at LHC allow to constrain nPDFs at Bjorken-x $\sim 10^{-5} - 10^{-6}$ (under the assumption that it is the dominant effect)
- Thanks to its high performances in heavy-flavour measurement and the possibility to measure \geq prompt heavy flavours at low p_T and forward rapidity, LHCb can play a crucial role in these studies!

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$$R_i^A(x,Q^2) = \frac{f_i^{{\rm p}/A}(x,Q^2)}{f_i^{\rm p}(x,Q^2)}$$

gluons

$$R_i^A(x,Q^2) = \frac{f_i^1}{f_i^2}$$

The LHCb detector



A single-arm forward spectrometer designed for the study of particles containing c or b quarks

- Acceptance: $2 < \eta < 5$
- Vertex detector
 - IP resolution $\sim 20 \ \mu m$
- Tracking system
 - $\frac{\Delta p}{p} = 0.5\% 1\%$ (5-200 GeV/c)
- RICH
 - K/ π /p separation
- Electromagnetic
 - + hadronic
 - Calorimeters
- Muon systems



SMOG: System for Measuring Overlap with Gas:

- Low density noble gas injected in the VELO ($\sim 10^{-7}mbar$)
- Gas pressure 2 orders of magnitude larger than LHC vacuum
- Beam-gas collision rate increased by 2 orders of magnitude
- Conceived for precise luminosity determination (beam-gas imaging)



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Taken from A. Bursche presentation @ ECT Trento, 02/2017

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pPb collisions in collider mode



The LHCb pPb beam configurations





Center-of-mass rapidity coverage:

- y^* : rapidity in nucleon-nucleon cms
- **Forward** (beam): $1.5 < y^* < 4.0$

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Center-of-mass energy and int. lumi

- $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV} (2013)$
 - *p*Pb (1.06 nb⁻¹) + Pb*p* (0.52 nb⁻¹)

•
$$\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16 \text{ TeV} (2016)$$

• *p*Pb (13.6 nb⁻¹) + Pb*p* (21.8 nb⁻¹)



Prompt charm production in pPb collisions

Prompt D^0 measurement in pPb at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \simeq 5 TeV$





- Reconstruction via $D^0 o K^- \pi^+$
- Inclusive yield of D^0 candidates extracted through fit of inv. mass:
- Prompt D^0 selected from D^0 -from-b through fit of IP distance distribution



Prompt D^0 measurement in pPb at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \simeq 5 TeV$









- > Data consistent with HELAC-Onia calculation including different nPDFs parametrizations
- Models constrained by existing LHC pp cross section measurements
- > Experimental uncertainties smaller than theoretical uncertainties!

Prompt Λ_c^+ measurement in *pPb* at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \simeq 5 TeV$





- P Reconstr. via $arLambda_c^+ o p K^- \pi^+$
- Inclusive yield of Λ_c^+ candidates through fit of inv. mass:
- Prompt Λ_c^+ selected from Λ_c^+ -fromb through fit to IP distance distrib.



Prompt Λ_c^+ measurement in *pPb* at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \simeq 5 TeV$





Prompt J/ψ production in *pPb* at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16 TeV$







- Reconstruction via $J/\psi o \mu^- \mu^+$
- Inclusive yield of J/ψ candidates extracted through fit of inv. mass:
- Prompt J/ψ selected from J/ψ -from-b through fit of **pseudo-proper time** distrib.:

$$t_Z = (Z_{J/\psi} - Z_{PV}) \times M_{J/\psi}/p_Z$$

Prompt J/ψ production in *pPb* at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16 TeV$









Nuclear Modification Factor (NMF)

$$R_{pPb}(p_{\rm T}, y^*) \equiv \frac{1}{A} \frac{{\rm d}^2 \sigma_{pPb}(p_{\rm T}, y^*)/{\rm d}p_{\rm T} {\rm d}y^*}{{\rm d}^2 \sigma_{pp}(p_{\rm T}, y^*)/{\rm d}p_{\rm T} {\rm d}y^*} \qquad (A = 208)$$

NMF for D^0 (5 TeV) and J/ψ (8 TeV) production in pPb





- Fwd: R_{pPb} significantly suppressed at small p_T
- ▶ **Bwd**: $R_{pPb} \approx 1$
- consistent with models (nPDFs, CGC)

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Forward-Backward ratios

$$R_{\rm FB}(p_{\rm T}, y^*) \equiv \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 \sigma_{p \rm Pb}(p_{\rm T}, +|y^*|)/\mathrm{d}p_{\rm T}\mathrm{d}y^*}{\mathrm{d}^2 \sigma_{\rm Pb}(p_{\rm T}, -|y^*|)/\mathrm{d}p_{\rm T}\mathrm{d}y^*}$$

Constitutes another excellent probe to constrain the nPDF uncertainties!

FB ratios for prompt D^0 , Λ_c^+ and J/ψ production in pPb





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- Compared to HELAC-Onia calculations (including different nPDFs parametrizations)
- > Data are consistent with theory predictions within uncertainties



Charmed baryon/meson ratios

$$R_{\Lambda_c^+/D^0} = \frac{\sigma_{\Lambda_c^+}(y^*, p_{\mathrm{T}})}{\sigma_{D^0}(y^*, p_{\mathrm{T}})}$$

- Provides information on hadronization mechanisms in charm sector
- Sensitive to the FF of a *c*-quark into Λ_c^+ and D^0 hadrons
- Uncertainties in nPDFs mostly cancel out in the ratio

Charmed baryon/meson production ratio in pPb at 5 TeV



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LHCb-PAPER-2018-021 in preparation

- > Models constrained by existing LHC pp cross section measurements
- \succ All predictions slightly increase with p_T
- \succ Data consistent with calculations within uncertainty except for high- p_T in forward region



pA collisions in fixed-target mode

protons

gas (He, Ne, Ar)





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- *Lнср*
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→ The yields of prompt J/ψ and D^0 are obtained in an unbinned ML fit of the invariant mass distributions using $J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ and $D^0 \rightarrow K\pi$



LHCb-PAPER-2018-023 (in preparation)

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J/ψ and D^0 production cross section on He target at 87 GeV LHC



J/ψ and D^0 production cross section on He target at 87 GeV L_{π}





- HELAC-Onia calculations underestimate data (need scale factors) \geq
- y^* dependence pretty well described by models, but p_T dependence not so well described
- Data are also compared with some phenomenological models

J/ψ and D^0 differential yields on Ar target at 110 GeV





(models from JHEP 1303 (2013) 122)

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 - The nuclear modification factor shows a significant suppression at forward rapidity, similar for D^0 and J/ψ (a significantly stronger suppression is observed for $\psi(2S)$)
 - Measurements of **Fwd-Bwd asymmetries** for D^0 , Λ_c^+ and J/ψ are consistent with predictions
 - Both observables (R_{pPb} and R_{FB}) allow to constrain the nPDF uncertainties!
 - **Charmed baryon/meson ratio** $R_{\Lambda_c^+/D^0}$ (sensitive of *c*-quark FF) consistent with models



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- > LHCb also provided first measurements of prompt D^0 and J/ψ production in pHe and pAr fixed-target collisions
- Upcoming results from high-statistics pPb data at 8 TeV:
 - Precision measurement of prompt open-charm observables
 - Open-beauty production
 - Bottomonium production —



Backup

Prompt D^0 measurement in pPb at $\sqrt{S_{NN}} \simeq 5 TeV$





> Both fits are performed independently in each bin of (p_T, y^*)

• Reconstr. via $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$

*D*⁰ candidates selected through fit of inv. mass:

- Signal: CrystalBall + Gaussian
- Background: linear
- Obtain D^0 inclusive yield and number of background candidates

Prompt D^0 selected from D^0 -from-b through fit of IP distance distribution:



- **Prompt D⁰ and D⁰-from-b** shapes estimated from simulation
- **Prompt D**⁰: modified gaussian
- **D⁰-from-b**: gaussian
 - Bkg. shape from sideband in data

Prompt Λ_c^+ measurement in *pPb* at $\sqrt{S_{NN}} \simeq 5 TeV$





Prompt J/ψ production in *pPb* at $\sqrt{S_{NN}} \simeq 8.16 TeV$







Mass distribution: Signal: Crystal Ball Background: exponential

Pseudo-proper time:

 $t_Z = (Z_{J/\psi} - Z_{PV}) \times M_{J/\psi}/p_Z$

Signal: δ (t_Z) for prompt J/ψ ; Exponential for J/ψ -from-b. Background: empirical function from sideband

Total yields:

 $\begin{array}{ll} & \text{prompt} & \text{from-}b\\ \text{Forward:} & \sim 3.8 \times 10^5; \sim 6.7 \times 10^4\\ \text{Backward:} & \sim 5.6 \times 10^5; \sim 7.1 \times 10^4 \end{array}$

J/ψ production in *pPb* at 8.16 *TeV*





- N: number of reconstructed prompt J/ψ or J/ψ-from-b;
- \mathcal{B} : branching fraction of $J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ decay (~ 6%) [PDG];

[PLB 774(2017) 159-178]



J/ψ production in *pPb* at 8.16 *TeV*





 \blacktriangleright Sizeable Fwd-Bwd asymmetry observed for both pp and pPb collisions!

NMF for prompt D^0 and J/ψ production in pPb





Fwd: R_{pPb} significantly suppressed (suppression decreases with p_T)

- ▶ **Bwd**: $R_{pPb} \approx 1$
- Measurements consistent with models (nPDFs and Color Glass Condensate)
- Experimental uncertainties smaller than theoretical uncertainties





- In Fwd: suppression at low p_T up to 30%, converging to unity at high p_T
- In Bwd: *R*_{pPb} slightly above unity
- Overall agreement with theoretical model. Compatible with pPb 5 TeV results.

FB ratios for prompt D^0 and Λ_c^+ production in pPb at 5 TeV





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- Compared to HELAC-Onia calculations (including different nPDFs parametrizations)
- Data are consistent with theory predictions within uncertainties
- Experimental uncertainties are smaller than nPDFs calculation!

FB asymmetry for J/ψ production in *pPb* at 8.16 *TeV*





- Clear forward-backward asymmetry for prompt J/ψ, in particular at low p_T
- For J/ψ -from-b: R_{FB} is closer to unity
- Agreement with *p*Pb 5 TeV data within uncertainties

[PLB 774(2017) 159-178]

Prompt J/ψ production in *pPb* at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16 TeV$





 R_{FB} of the same size for D^0 and J/ψ

Charmed baryon/meson production ratio in pPb at 5 TeV



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- Models constrained by existing LHC pp cross section measurements
- EPS09LO and EPS09NLO very similar, nCTEQ15 slightly lower
- \succ All predictions basically flat across y^*
- > Data consistent with calculations within uncertainty except for high- p_T in forward region

Bottomonium production in pPb at 5 TeV





JHEP 07 (2014) 094

Bottomonium production in pPb at 5 TeV





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