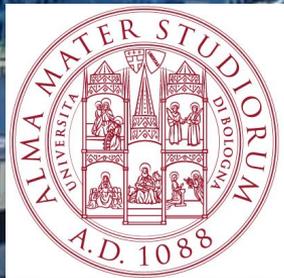


# HADRON2023

## Light flavour resonance production with the ALICE at the LHC

Neelima Agrawal, on behalf of the ALICE collaboration  
University & INFN Bologna, Italy

20<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Hadron Spectroscopy and structure, Hadron 2023  
Genova, Italy, 5-9 June, 2023



# Light-Flavour Hadronic Resonances in ALICE

Resonance	$\rho(770)$	$K(892)^\pm$	$K(892)^0$	$f_0(980)^0$	$\Sigma(1385)^\pm$	$\Xi(1820)^\pm$	$\Lambda(1520)$	$\Xi(1530)^0$	$\Phi(1020)^0$
Decay	$\pi\pi$	$K_s^0 \pi$	$K\pi$	$\pi\pi$	$\Lambda\pi$	$\Lambda K$	$pK$	$\Xi\pi$	$KK$
B.R. (%)	100	33.3	66.6	46	87	<i>unknown</i>	22.5	66.7	48.9
Quark constituents	$\frac{u\bar{u}+d\bar{d}}{\sqrt{2}}$	$u\bar{s}, \bar{u}s$	$d\bar{s}, \bar{d}s$	<i>unknown</i>	$uus, dds$	$uss$	$uds$	$uss$	$s\bar{s}$
$\tau(fm/c)$	1.3	3.6	4.2	<i>large unc.</i>	5 – 5.5	8.1	12.6	21.7	46.4

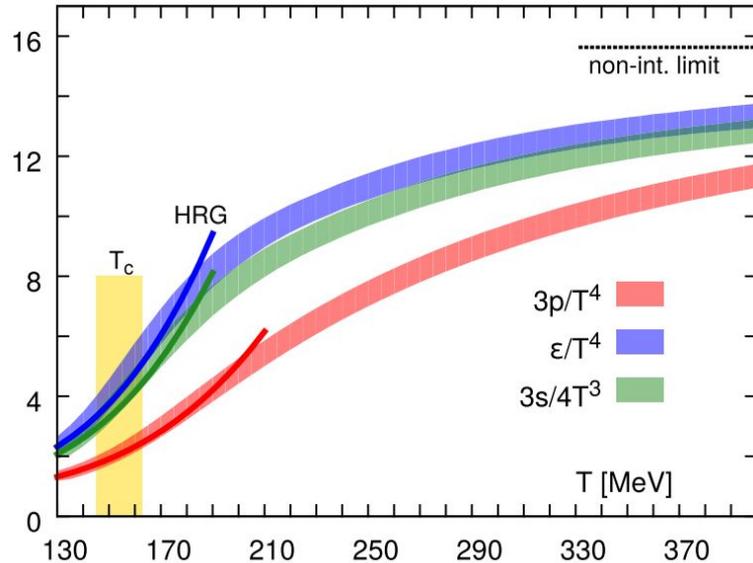
Table: Resonances studied in ALICE in Run1 and Run2

- **Short lifetimes**, comparable to the one of the **hadronic gas phase** ( $\tau \sim$  few fm/c)  
→ suitable probe to study the properties of the hadronic phase in heavy-ion collisions.
- **ALICE** is the perfect detector to study these resonance  
→ A rich set of data collected in pp, p-Pb, Xe-Xe and Pb-Pb collisions at high energy ( $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim$  TeV) over the years  
→ Extensive PID capabilities from low momentum region ( $\sim 150$  MeV) to high momentum region

# Heavy-ion Physics

Study **QCD matter** under extreme conditions  
→ **high temperature and energy density**

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **90**, 094503 (2014)



*HotQCD Coll. Phys.Lett.B 795 (2019) 15,*

Neelima Agrawal for the ALICE collaboration

Prediction of phase transition from **Lattice QCD**

Calculations of  $\epsilon/T^4$  vs temperature  
→  $\epsilon/T^4 \sim \# \text{degrees of freedom}$

For  $T \sim 150$  MeV, sharp increase in  $\epsilon/T^4$  (degrees of freedom)  
hadrons → quarks and gluons

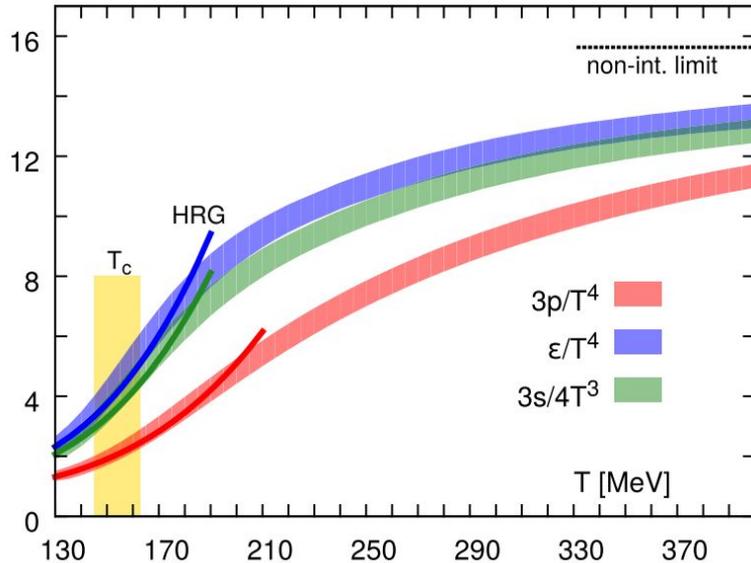
Lattice QCD indicate **phase transition of ordinary nuclear matter to QGP** at a critical temperature ( $T_c$ ) of  
→  **$T_c = 155 - 158$  MeV**

*Borsaniy et al. PRL 125 (2020) 5, 052001* <sup>3</sup>

# Heavy-ion Physics

Study **QCD matter** under extreme conditions  
→ **high temperature and energy density**

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **90**, 094503 (2014)



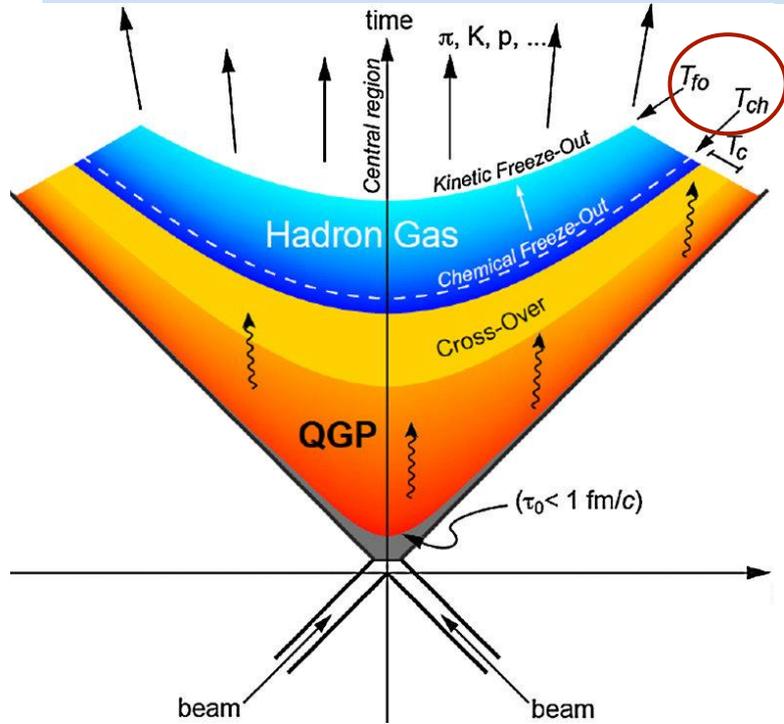
These conditions can be achieved by **colliding heavy ions at high energy** (at LHC, Pb-Pb at 2.76 and 5.02 TeV)

At very **high energy density** ( $> 1 \text{ GeV}/\text{fm}^3$ )

Nuclear matter expected to undergo a **phase-transition** from hadronic matter to deconfined state of quarks and gluons, known as **quark-gluon plasma (QGP)**

*Physical Review D 90, 094503 (2014)*

# High energy collision and Evolution

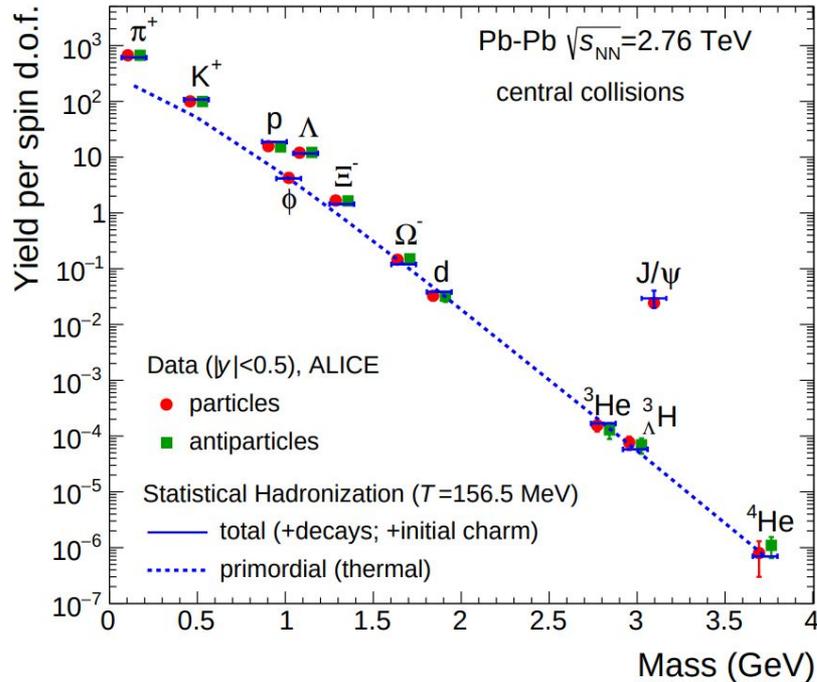


*Schematic diagram of the space time evolution of a heavy-ion collision in case of with QGP*

- At the LHC, **quark-gluon plasma** (QGP) state is created in high energy heavy-ion collisions. As the system expands, it cools down and transitions back to hadronic matter.
- **After hadronization**, the system reaches a stage at which **all inelastic collisions stops** and **chemical composition** of the system is **fixed** (chemical freeze-out; at  $T_{ch}$ ).
- The hadron gas **continues to expand** until **all interactions cease** (kinetic freeze-out; at  $T_{fo}$ ) and particle momentum distributions get fixed
- **The duration of the hadron-gas phase** between chemical freeze-out and kinetic freeze-out is of the same order of magnitude as of the resonance lifetimes ( $\tau \sim \text{few fm}/c$ )
- Afterwards, **particles fly towards detectors as free hadrons** and can be measured.

# Temperature at chemical freeze-out

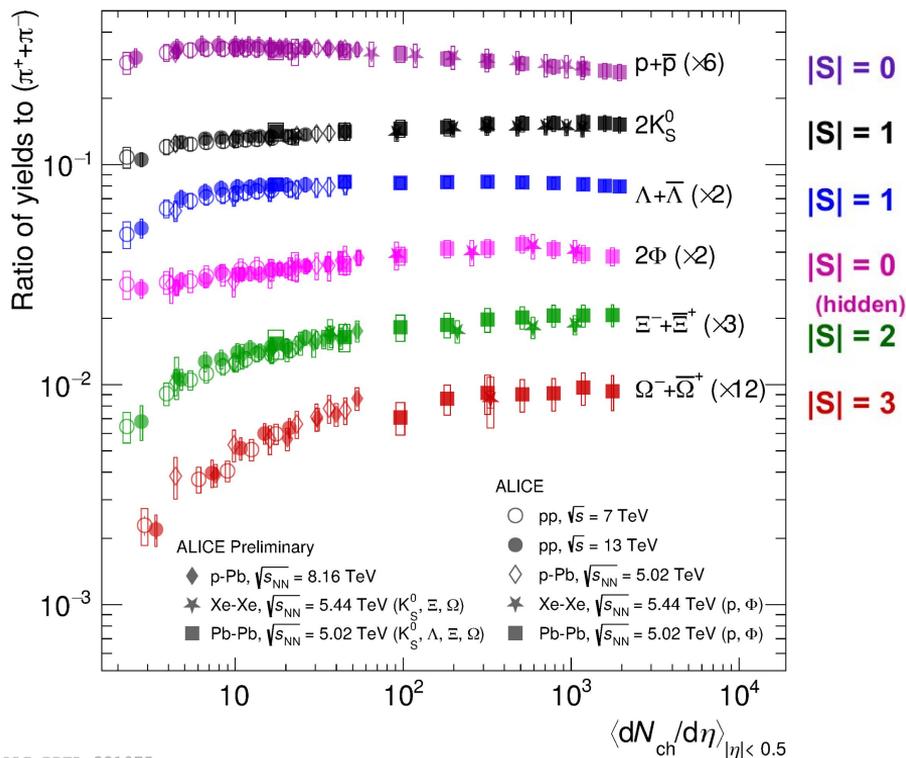
## Statistical Hadronization Model (SHM)



A. Andronic et al., Phys.Lett.B 797 (2019) 134836

- At the hadronization stage, the system is close to thermal equilibrium
- A rapid hadrochemical freeze-out takes place at the phase boundary (at  $T_{ch}$ )
- The **relative abundances** of stable particles are successfully **described by statistical hadronisation models (SHMs) over 9 orders of magnitude!**
- Resonances are expected to be produced with abundances consistent with the chemical equilibrium parameters ( $T_{ch}$ ,  $\mu_B$ ).
- Note that also loosely bound objects (light nuclei and hyper nuclei) and heavy-flavour hadron ( $J/\psi$ ) are described by the SHMs
- **Total yield include contributions from resonance decays**

# Hadrochemistry

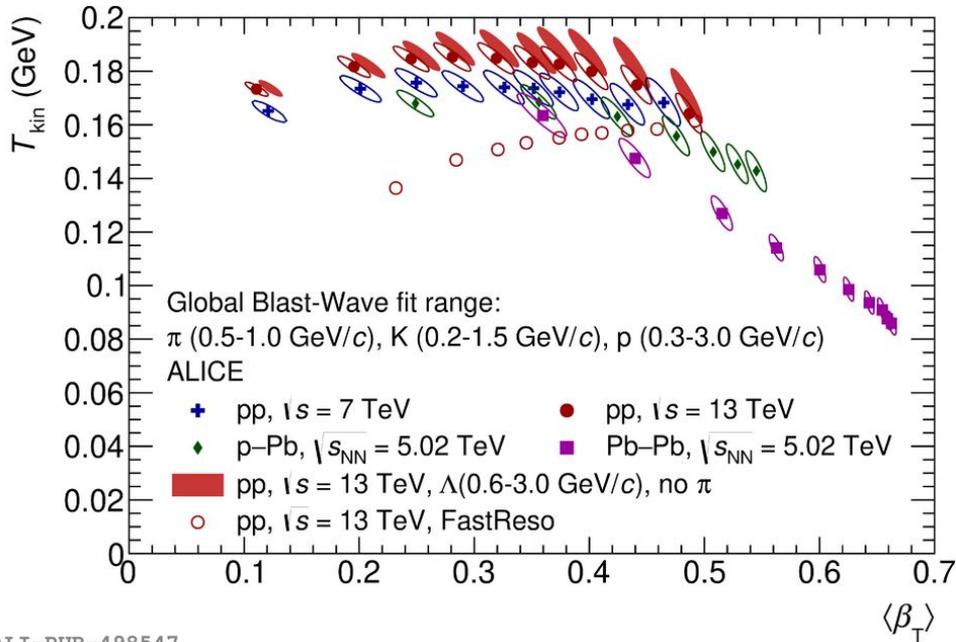


- **Smooth evolution of particle production from small to large systems vs charged-particle multiplicity**
- Strangeness production increases with multiplicity until saturation (grand-canonical plateau) is reached
- **Steeper increase for particle with more strangeness content**
- High-multiplicity pp shows same hadrochemistry as p-Pb and peripheral Pb-Pb system at similar multiplicity
- Common particle production mechanism for all systems?

ALI-PREL-321075

ALICE, *Nature Physics* 13, 535-539 (2017)

# Temperature at kinetic freeze-out



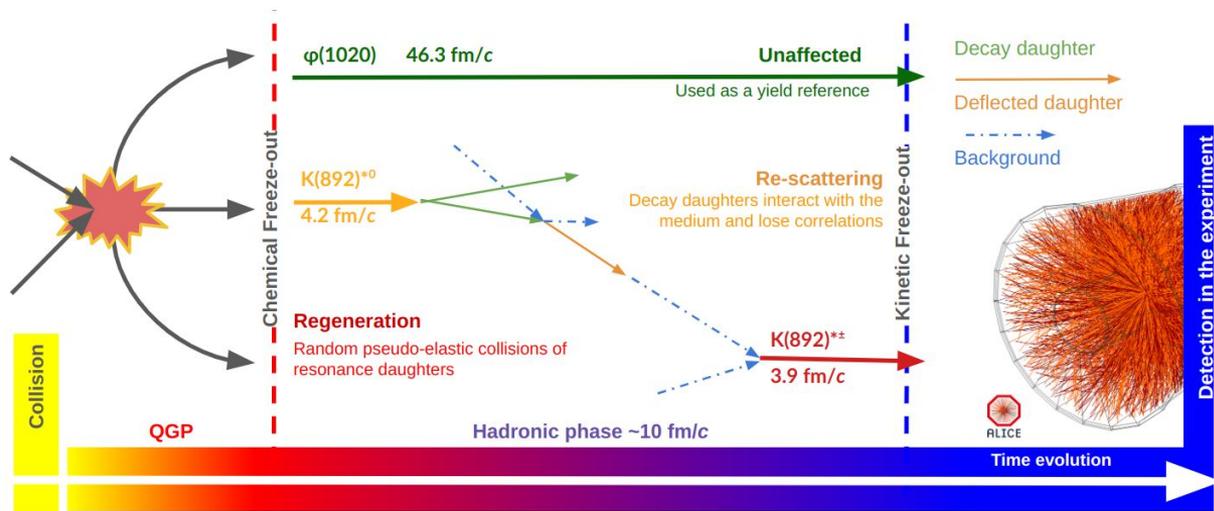
- **Boltzmann-Gibbs Blast-Wave fits** are used to **characterise the kinetic freeze-out stage** by
- **$T_{\text{kin}}$  - kinetic freeze-out temperature**  
→ decreases with increasing collision centrality/multiplicity
- **$\langle\beta_T\rangle$  - transverse flow velocity**  
→ increases with increasing collision centrality /multiplicity
- Fit parameters are extracted from **simultaneous fits to  $\pi$ , K, p spectra**

ALI-PUB-498547

*ALICE, Eur. Phys. J. C 80 (2020) 693*  
*ALICE: Phys. Rev. C 101, 044907 (2020)*

# Resonance as probe of the hadronic phase

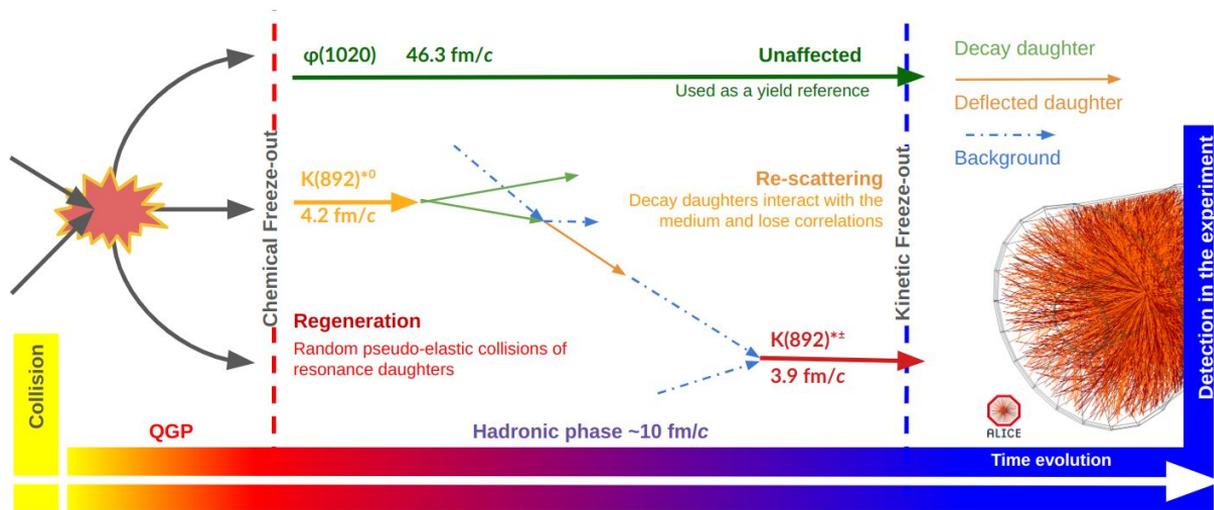
**Hadronic phase** ( $\sim 10$  fm/c) can be **probed with hadronic resonances** ( $\tau \sim$  few fm/c)



- **Due to their short lifetimes** ( $\tau \sim$  few fm/c), resonances **can decay within the hadronic medium**. In turn, this can alter their final measured yields.
- **Reconstructible yield affected by following two hadronic processes**  
Regeneration: Pseudo-elastic scattering of decay daughters, gain resonance (e.g.  $K_p \rightarrow \Lambda(1520) - K_p$ )  
Rescattering: elastic or pseudo-elastic scattering smears out mass peak, loses resonance

# Resonance as probe of the hadronic phase

**Hadronic phase** ( $\sim 10$  fm/c) can be **probed with hadronic resonances** ( $\tau \sim$  few fm/c)



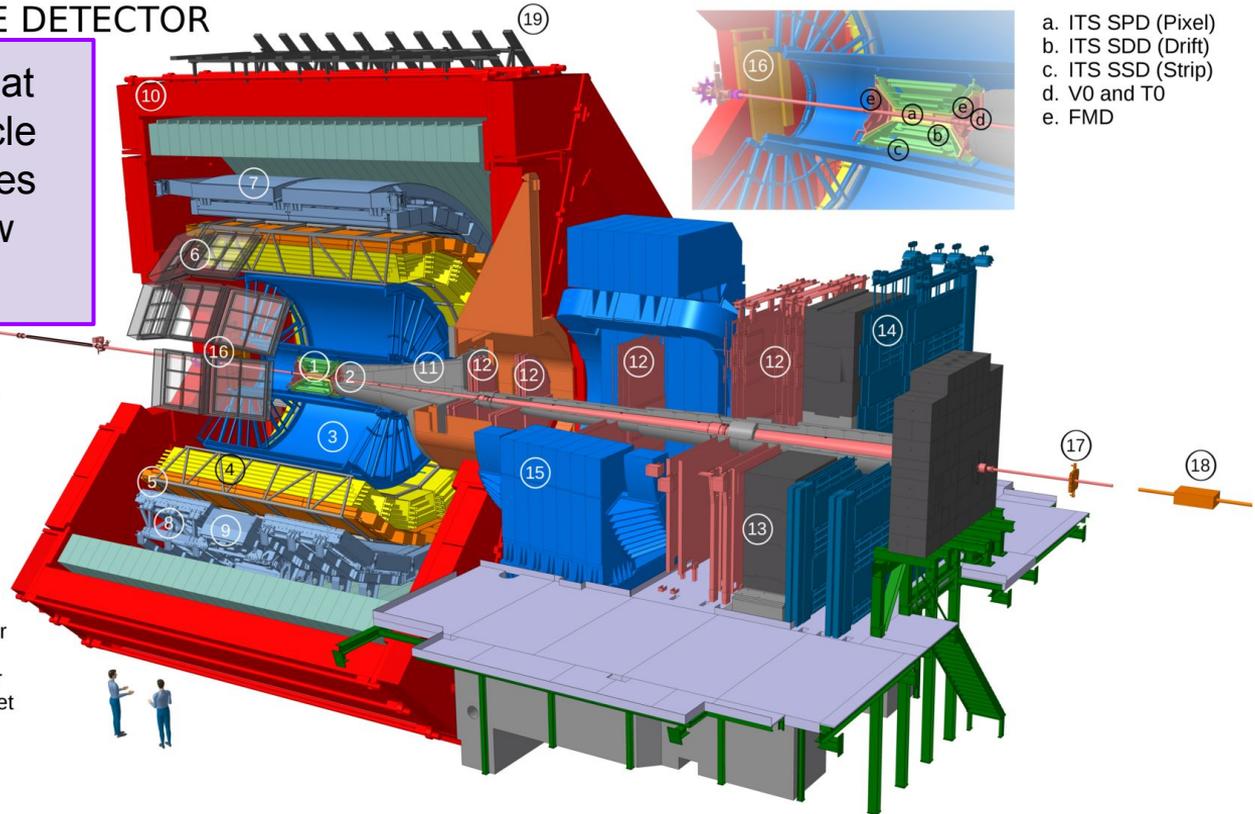
- **Final yield** at kinetic freeze-out **depends on the chemical freeze-out temperature** ( $T_{\text{ch}}$ ), **duration of hadronic phase**, **lifetime of resonance** and **scattering cross section** of decay products
- **Resonance yield to stable particle with similar quark content** encodes the effects of such interaction in the extended hadronic phase created in heavy-ion collisions

# A Large Ion Collider Experiment: schematic overview

## THE ALICE DETECTOR

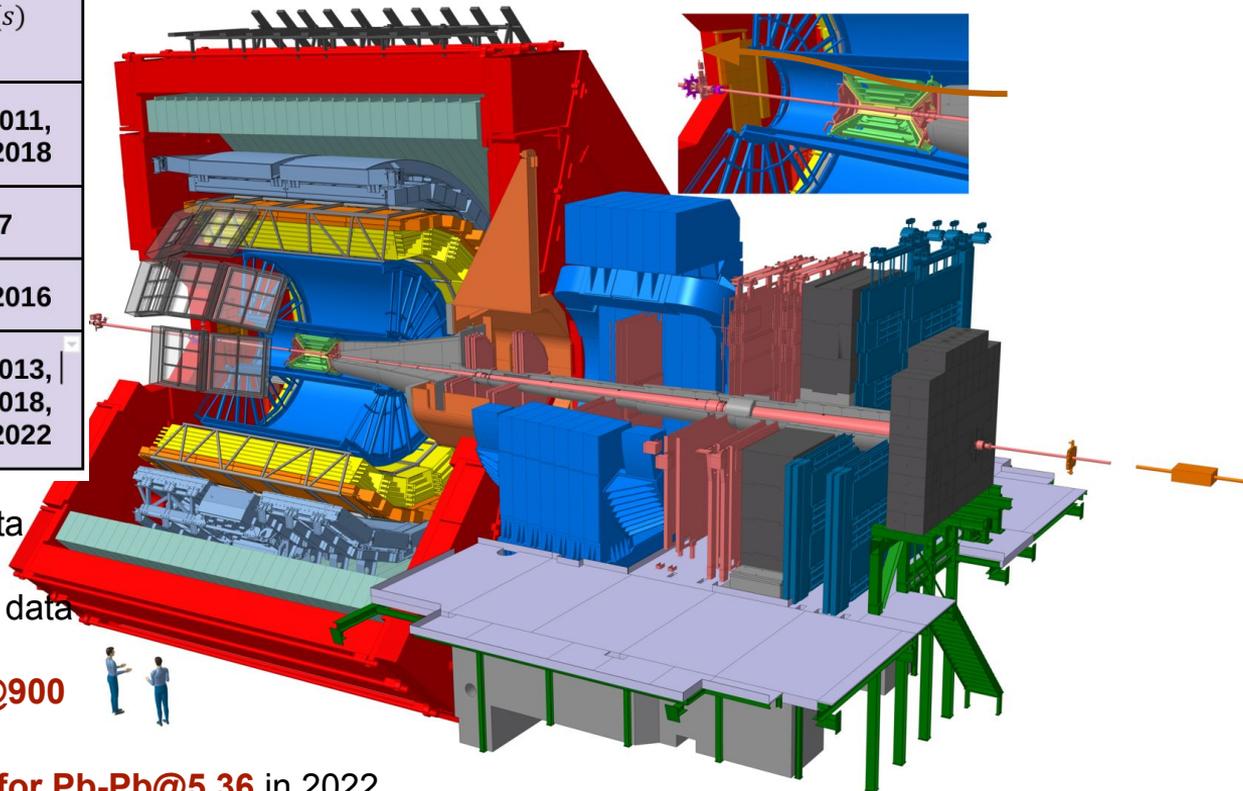
A **general purpose** detector at the LHC with a **unique** Particle Identification (**PID**) capabilities and tracking down to very low momentum

1. ITS
2. FMD, T0, V0
3. TPC
4. TRD
5. TOF
6. HMPID
7. EMCal
8. DCal
9. PHOS, CPV
10. L3 Magnet
11. Absorber
12. Muon Tracker
13. Muon Wall
14. Muon Trigger
15. Dipole Magnet
16. PMD
17. AD
18. ZDC
19. ACORDE



# ALICE detector: collection of rich datasets

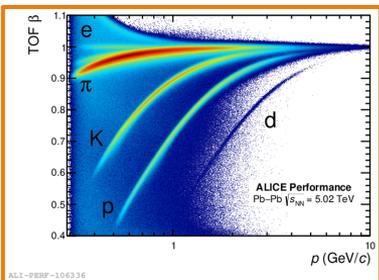
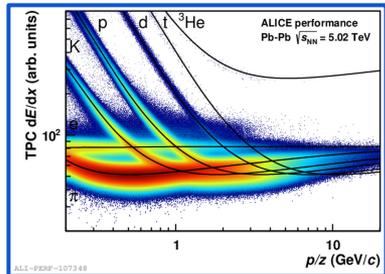
Collision system	$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV)	Year(s)
Pb-Pb	2.76, 5.02	2010-2011, 2015, 2018
Xe-Xe	5.44	2017
p-Pb	5.02, 8.16	2013, 2016
pp	0.9, 2.76, 8.8, 5.02, 13, 13.6	2009-2013, 2015-2018, 2021, 2022



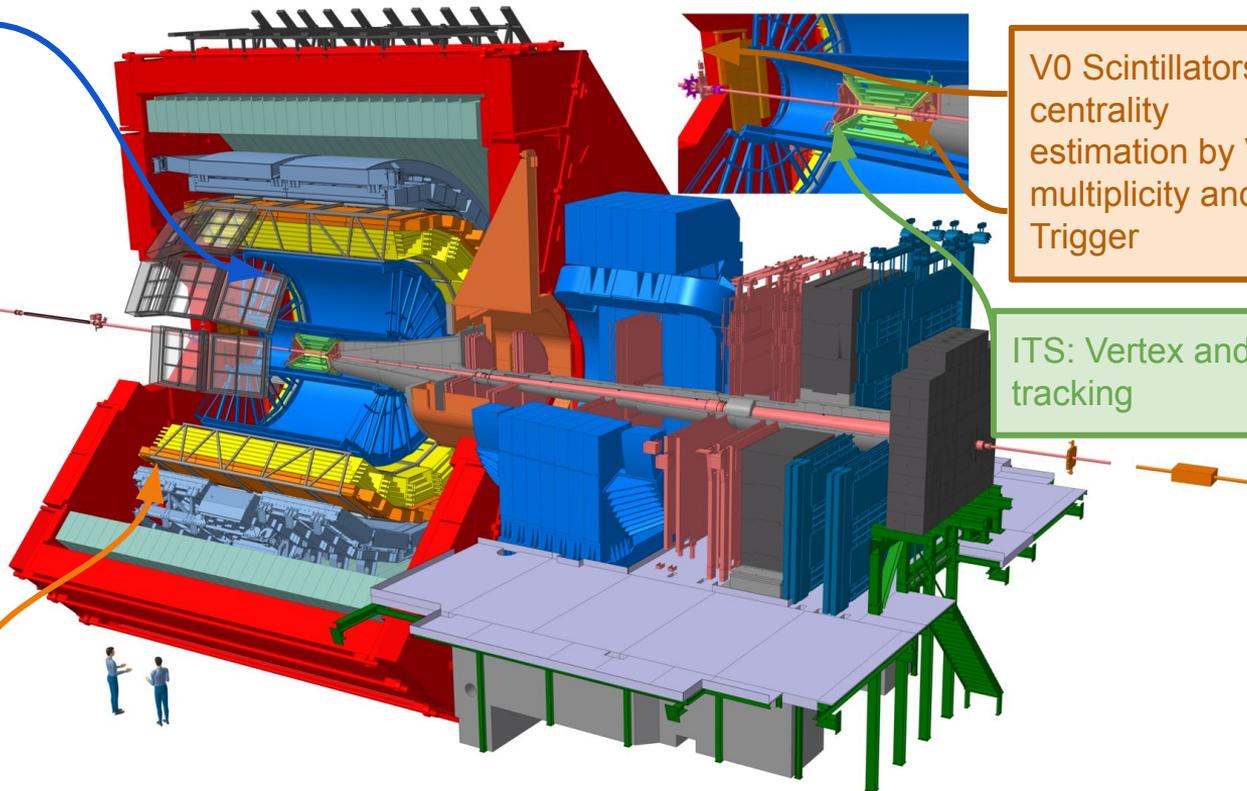
- Upgraded detectors** to collect Data from Run3
- already collected **pp@13.6 TeV** data in 2022
  - collected **pilot beam data, pp@900 GeV** in 2021 and 2022
  - also collected **pilot beam data for Pb-Pb@5.36** in 2022

# ALICE detector: excellent PID at low- $p_T$

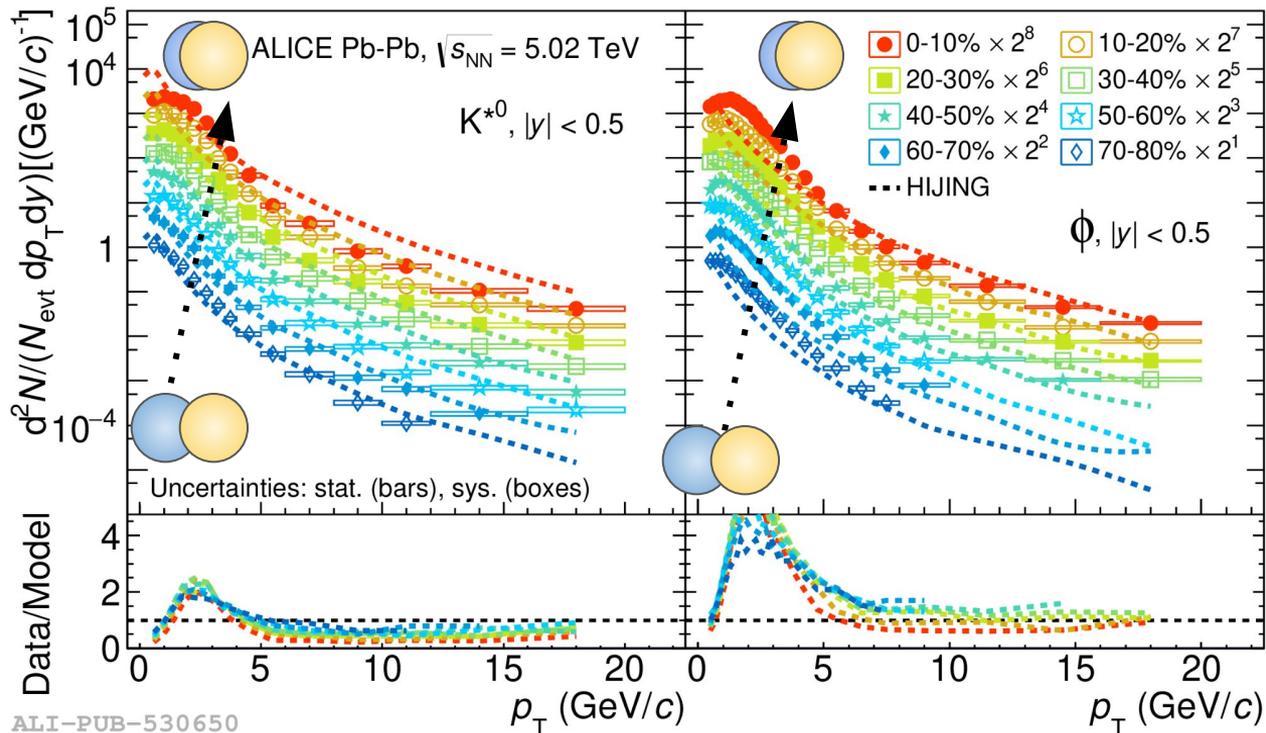
TPC: Tracking and PID by ionisation energy loss ( $dE/dx$ )



TOF: PID by particle time of flight ( $\beta$ ) and Event timing



# $K^*(892)$ and $\phi(1020)$ , $p_T$ -spectra in heavy-ion collisions



→ The  $p_T$ -spectra of  $K^*(892)$  and  $\phi(1020)$  measured in **Pb-Pb collisions** at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV

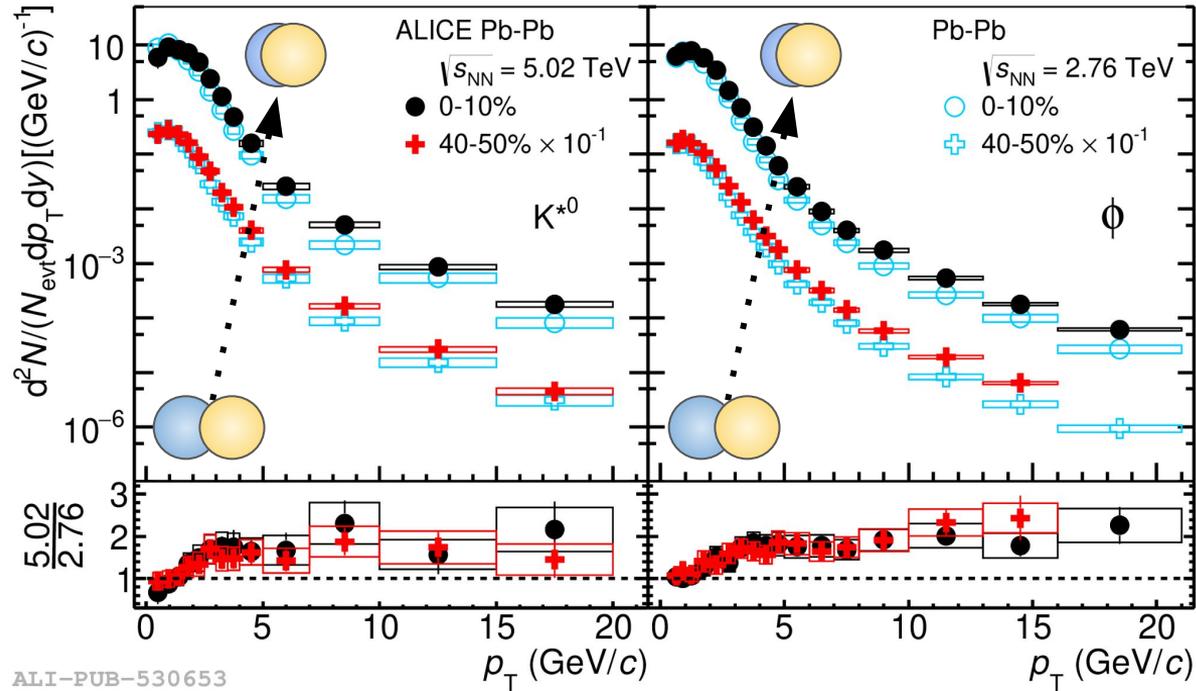
→ measurements in fine centrality intervals, ranging from 0-10% to 70-80%

→ **observed hardening of the  $p_T$ -spectrum** going from peripheral to central collisions for both particles

ALI-PUB-530650

ALICE, Phys. Rev. C 106 (2022) 034907

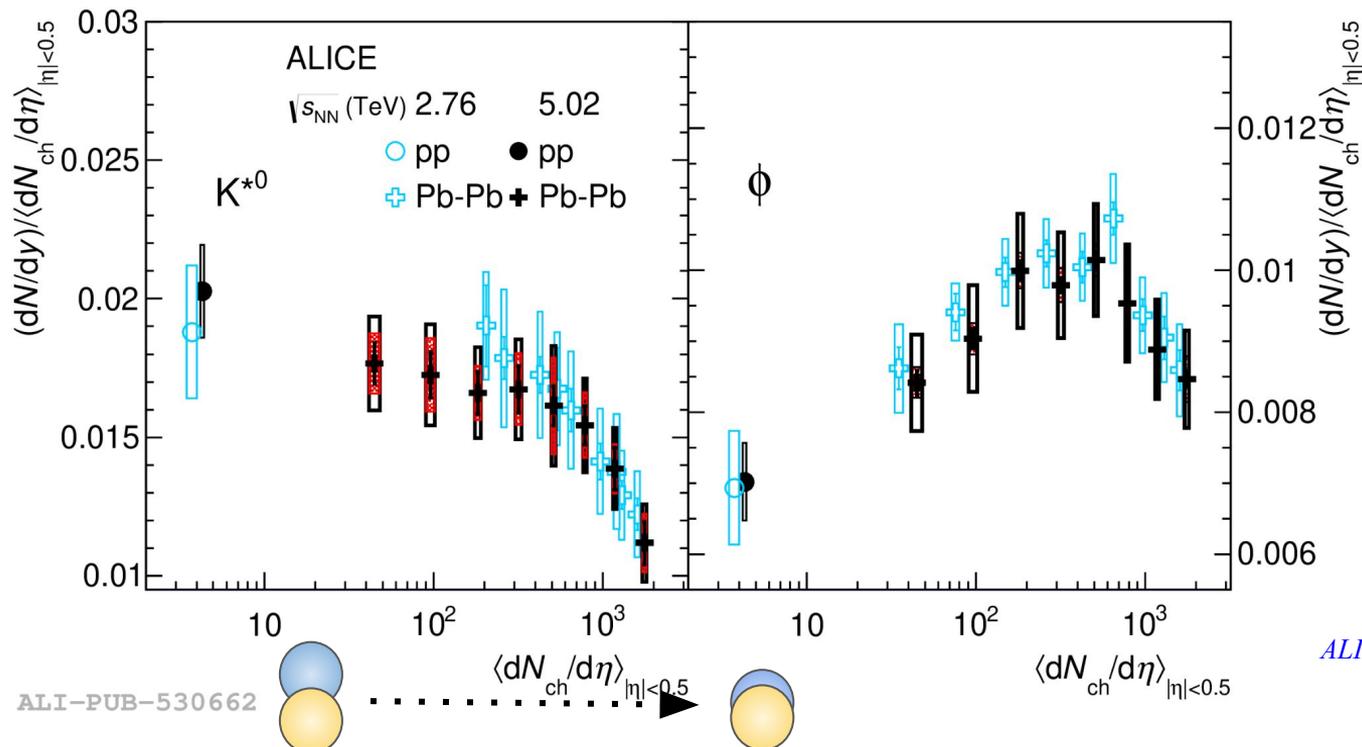
# K\* and $\phi$ , energy dependence in heavy-ion collisions



→ comparison of the  $p_T$ -spectra of  $K^*(892)$  and  $\phi(1020)$  in **Pb-Pb collisions** at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV to **2.76 TeV**

→ ratio of  $p_T$ -spectra from two energy increases with  $p_T$  and tend to saturate at high  $p_T$  for both mesons

# $K^*$ and $\phi$ , $p_T$ -integrated yields ( $dN/dy$ )

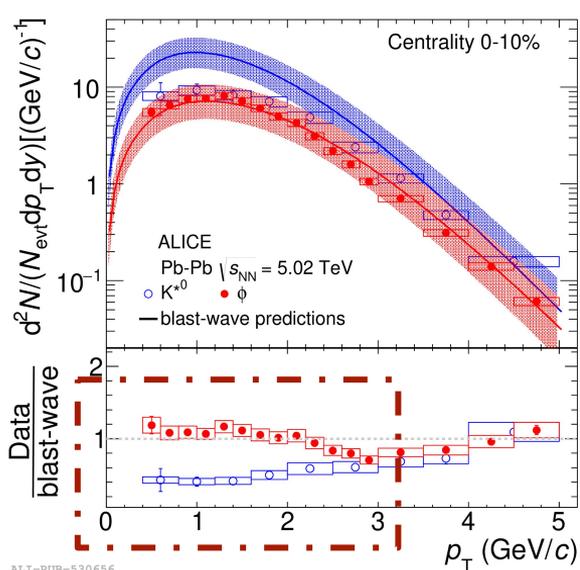


→ The  $p_T$  integrated yields of  $K^*(892)$  and  $\phi(1020)$  are scaled by the charged particle multiplicity measured at midrapidity as a function of multiplicity for pp and Pb-Pb collisions

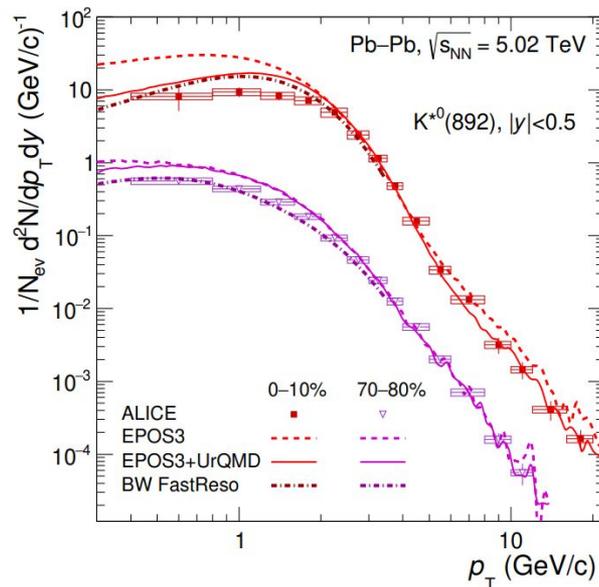
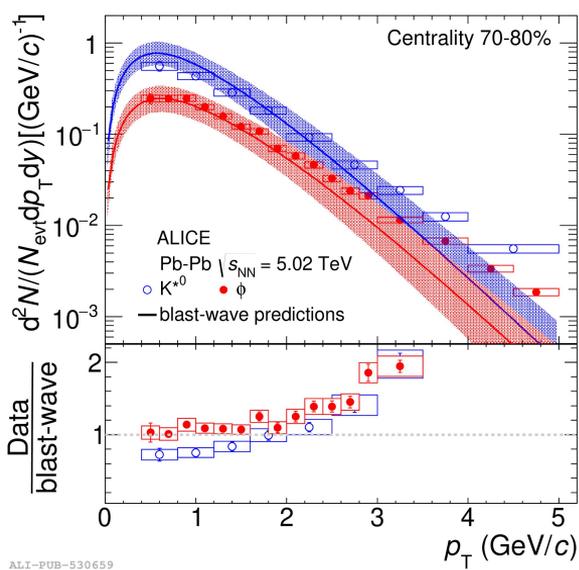
ALICE, *Phys. Rev. C* 106 (2022) 034907

→ Normalised yield ( $dN/dy$ ) shows similar trend for 5.02 TeV and 2.76 TeV, regardless of different collision beam energy

# K\* and $\phi$ , data to model comparison



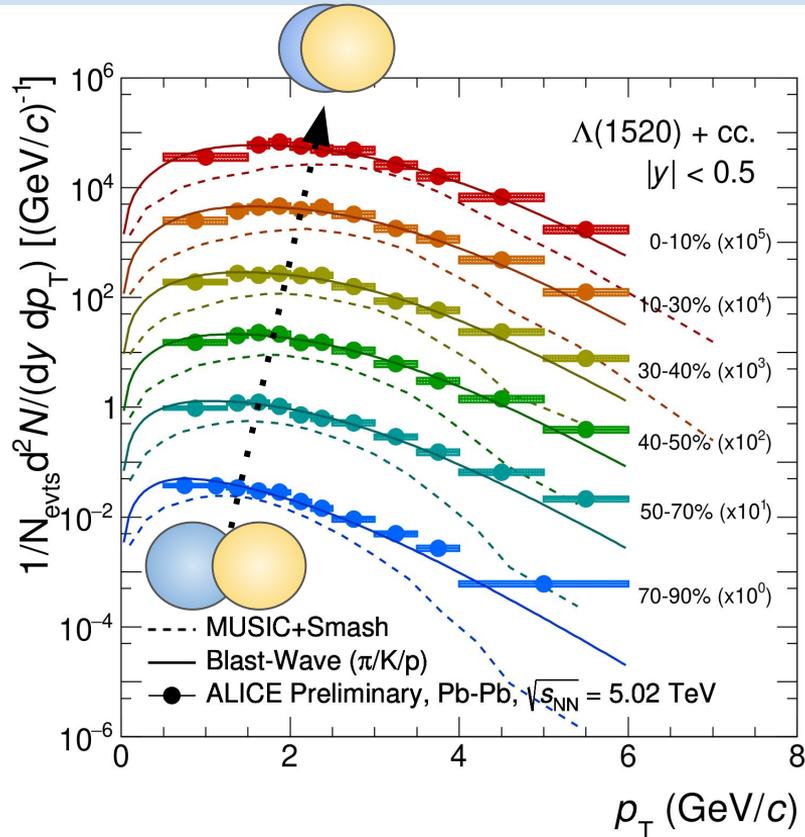
*ALICE, Phys. Rev. C 106 (2022) 034907*



*ALICE, arXiv:2211.04384*

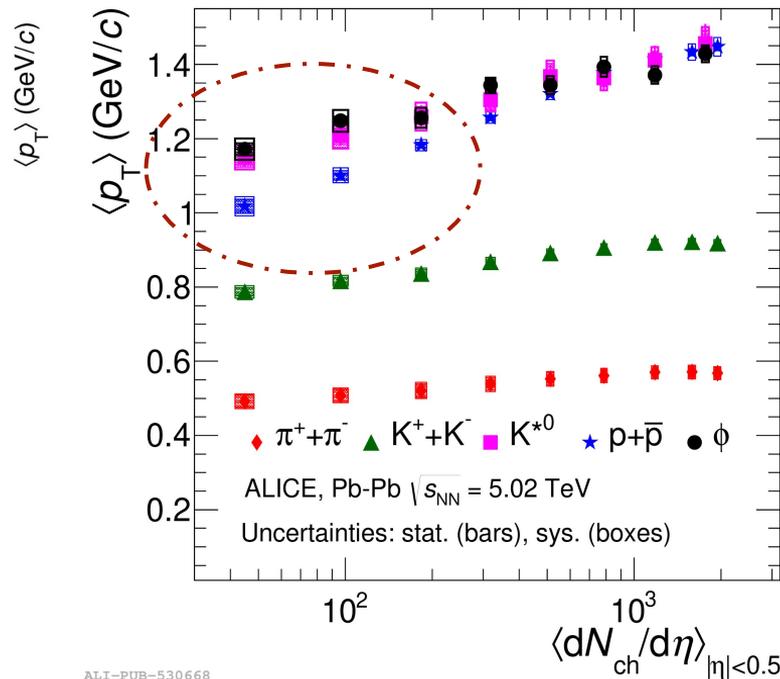
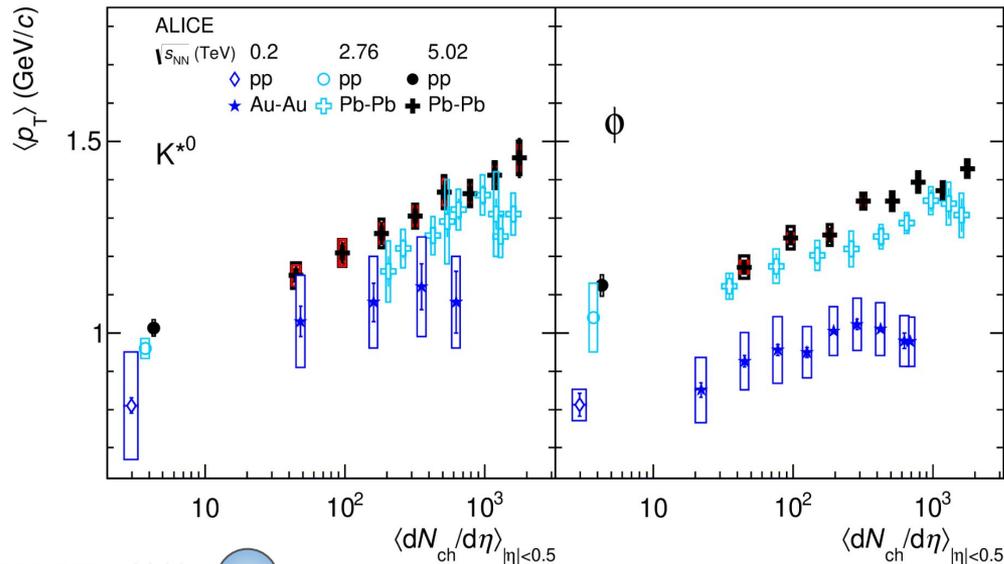
- The **low- $p_T$  spectrum part of  $K^{*}(892)$  is observed to be lower than** Blast-Wave model prediction as compared to high- $p_T$  in central collisions (0-10%), suppressed as expected from the rescattering
- better matching in the peripheral collisions
- $\phi$  meson is consistent in both the central and peripheral collisions, as expected no scattering

# $\Lambda(1520)$ , $p_T$ -spectra in heavy-ion collisions

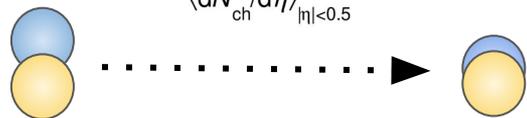


- The spectral shapes shows good agreement with **Blast-Wave** (parameters obtained from  $\pi/K/p$  fits)
- The **spectral shapes** are close to **MUSIC hydrodynamic models** [2] with **SMASH afterburner** (used for model hadronic rescattering in the hadronic phase) from Pb-Pb@5.02 TeV predictions at low  $p_T$  while diverge at high  $p_T$ .
- **MUSIC slightly underestimates the data** with possible explanation that this model underestimates overall strangeness production at midrapidity.

# $K^*$ and $\phi$ , mean transverse momentum, $\langle p_T \rangle$



ALI-PUB-530665



- increases towards higher centrality/multiplicity
- energy dependence between RHIC and LHC energies

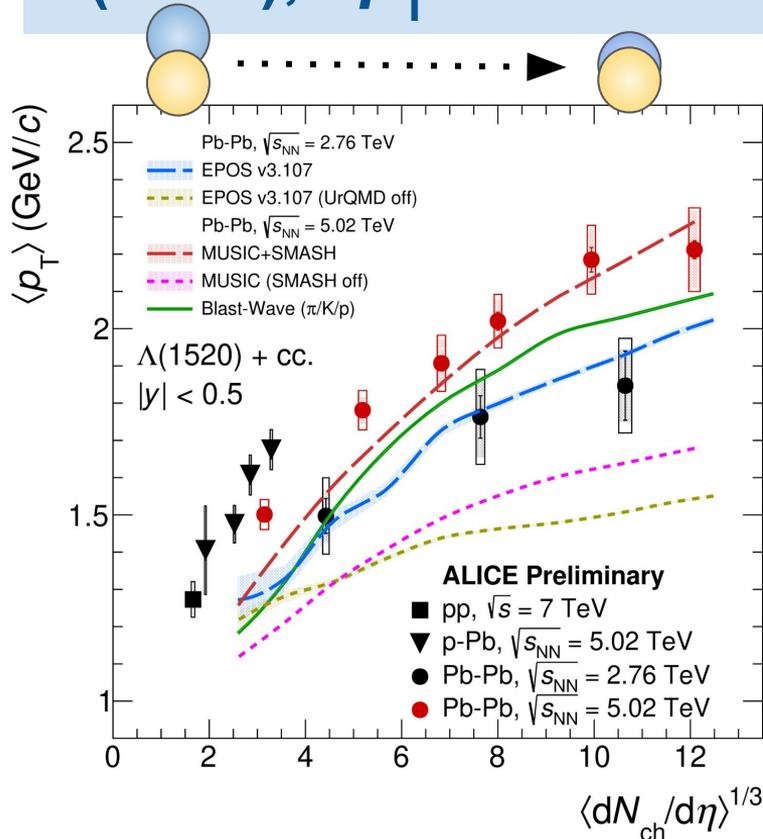
ALICE, Phys. Rev. C 106 (2022) 034907

Neelima Agrawal for the ALICE collaboration

ALI-PUB-530668

- **follows mass ordering**
  - Indicative of radial flow in central collisions
  - **Violated in peripheral collisions ( $\phi > p$ )**

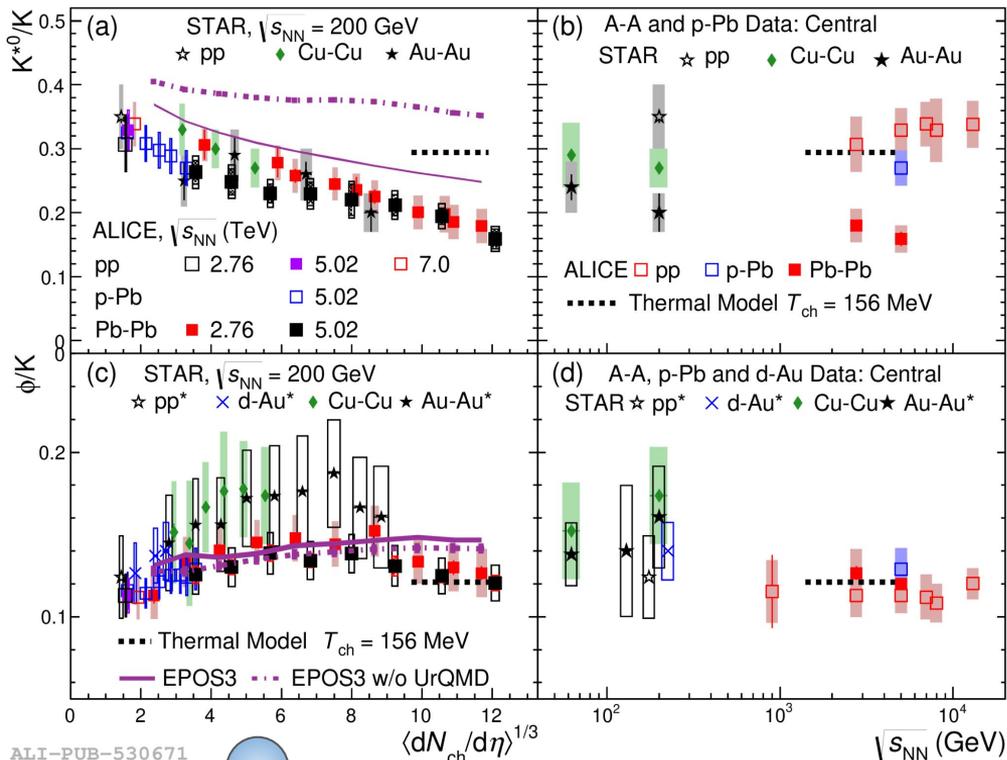
# $\Lambda(1520)$ , $\langle p_T \rangle$ and comparison to the models



- **increases from peripheral to central collisions** (~47% higher in 0-10% than 70-90% class)
- The  $\langle p_T \rangle$  values are **higher than Pb-Pb 2.76 TeV values and Blast-wave model ( $\pi/K/p$ )** [2]
- MUSIC and EPOS3 [3] models gives **better predictions with hadronic phase modelling (SMASH [4] and UrQMD)** in general to reproduce the  $\langle p_T \rangle$  values
- When **SMASH is turned off**, the  $\langle p_T \rangle$  is **underestimated**.

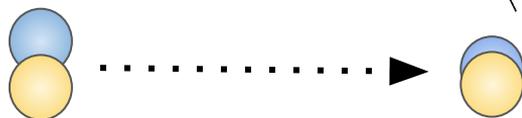
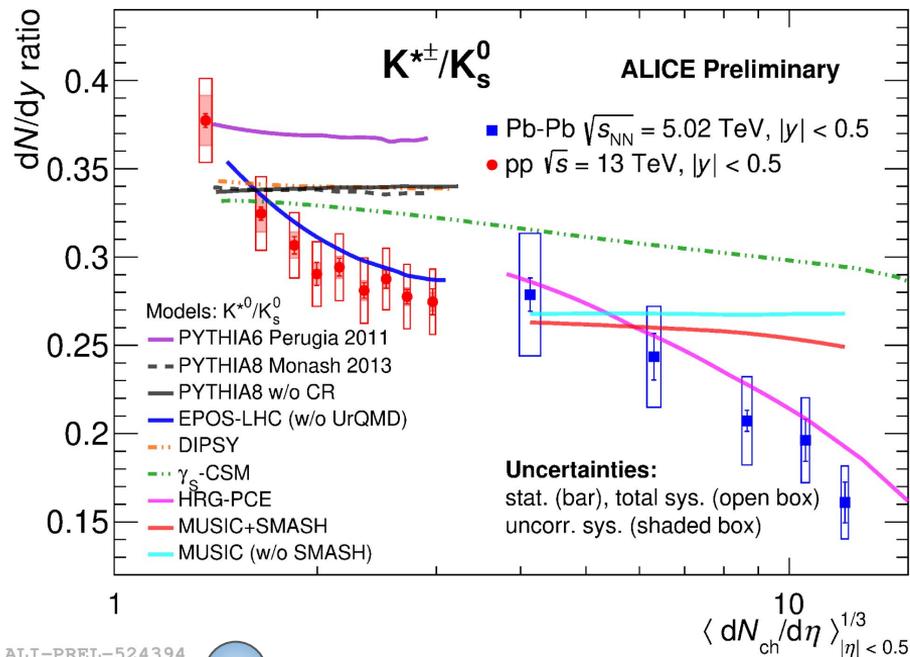
[1] ALICE, *Phys. Rev. C* 99, 024905 (2019)  
 [2] ALICE: *Phys. Rev. C* 101, 044907 (2020)  
 [3] EPOS3: *10.1103/PhysRevC.93.014911*  
 [4] MUSIC: *arXiv:2105.07539*

# K\*/K and $\phi$ /K ratio; multiple collision systems & energies



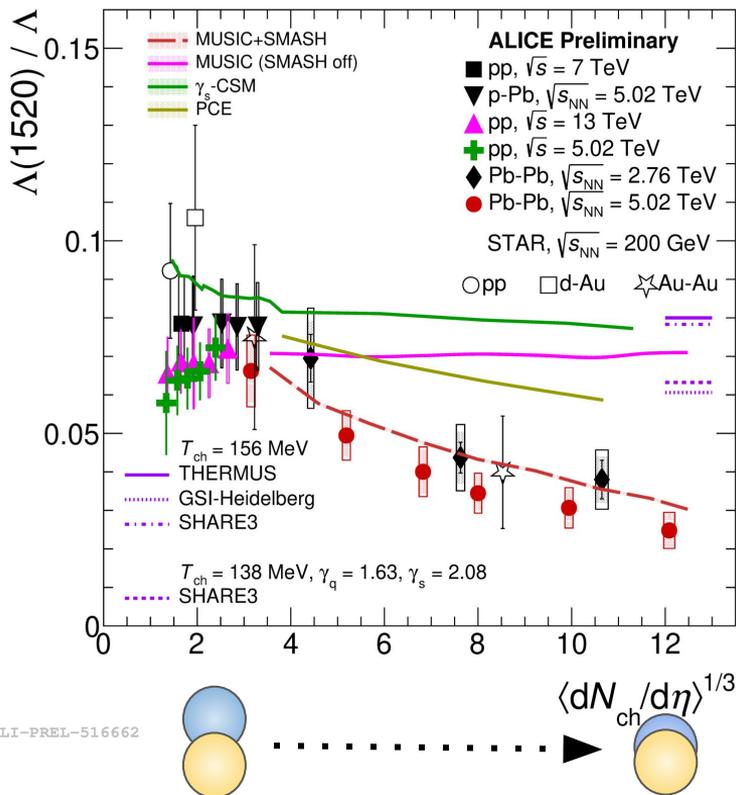
- **Ratio of  $p_T$  integrated yield**
- **K\*/K shows clear suppression**  
 → going from pp, p-Pb and peripheral Pb-Pb collisions to central Pb-Pb  
 → Pb-Pb at 5 TeV results confirmed the trend observed in Pb-Pb at 2.76 TeV  
 → EPOS3 with UrQMD overestimated the data but reproduces the suppression trend
- **$\phi$ /K shows no suppression**  
 → almost constant behaviour  
 → EPOS3 reproduces the data
- most favoured explanation of K\* suppression is dominance of rescattering over regeneration
- re-scattering is not significant for  $\phi$   
 →  $\tau(\phi) \gg \tau(K^*)$

# $K^{*\pm}/K$ ratio; multiple collision systems & energies



- **Consistent with previous  $K^*$  results**
- **$K^{*\pm}/K$  shows clear suppression**
  - going from pp, p-Pb and peripheral Pb-Pb collisions to central Pb-Pb
  - EPOS-LHC without UrQMD reproduces qualitatively the data for pp collisions
  - HRG-PCE reproduces the suppression trend for heavy-ion data
- most favoured explanation of  $K^{*\pm}$  suppression is also **dominance of rescattering** over regeneration
- $K^{*\pm}/K$  also shows **suppression trend in high multiplicity pp collisions**

# $\Lambda(1520)/\Lambda$ ratio; multiple collision systems & energies



- The  $p_T$ -integrated  $\Lambda(1520)/\Lambda$  yield ratio is shown
  - the ratio is **suppressed in central collisions (0-10%)** compared to the peripheral collisions, p–Pb, pp collisions and predictions from statistical hadronization models
  - **62.55% lower than 70-90% peripheral Pb–Pb at 7.1 $\sigma$  level.**
  - 60% lower than thermal model predictions .
  - **follows published Pb–Pb@2.76 TeV suppression trend.**
  - Higher precision and wider multiplicity coverage.
- **MUSIC with SMASH afterburner**
  - **reproduce the multiplicity suppression trend**, better agreement.
- **MUSIC without SMASH**
  - first ever prediction without an afterburner, gives a flat curve
  - matching to peripheral 70-90% Pb–Pb collisions & near to pp values.

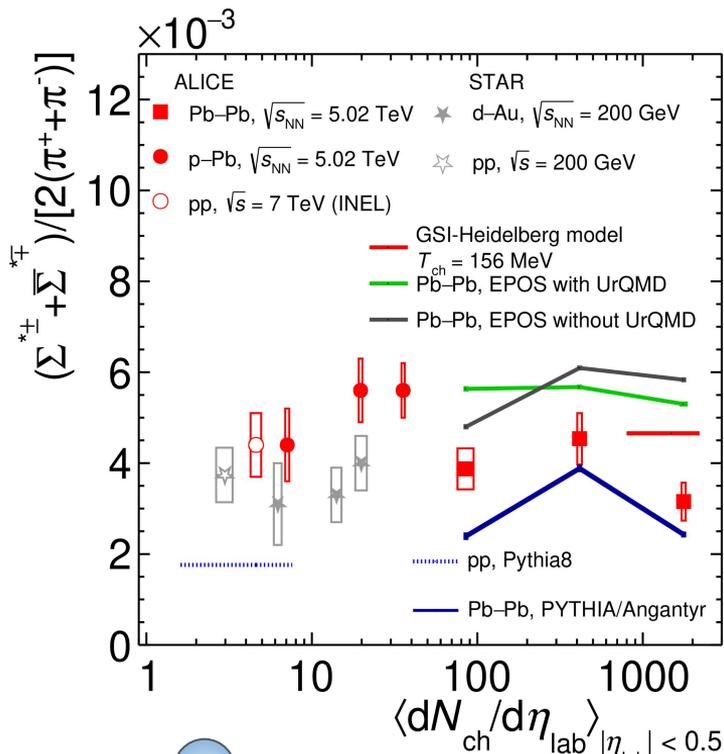
ALI-PREL-516662

ALICE, *Phys. Rev. C* 99, 024905 (2019)  
ALICE, *Phys. Rev. C* 101, 044907 (2020)

Neelima Agrawal for the ALICE collaboration

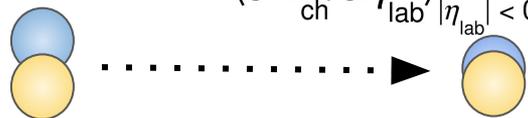
PCE: *Phys.Rev.C* 102 (2020) 2, 024909  
CSM: *Phys.Rev.C* 100 (2019) 5, 054906  
EPOS3: 10.1103/PhysRevC.93.014911  
MUSIC: *arXiv*:2105.07539

# $\Sigma^{*\pm}/\pi^\pm$ ratio; multiple collision systems & energies

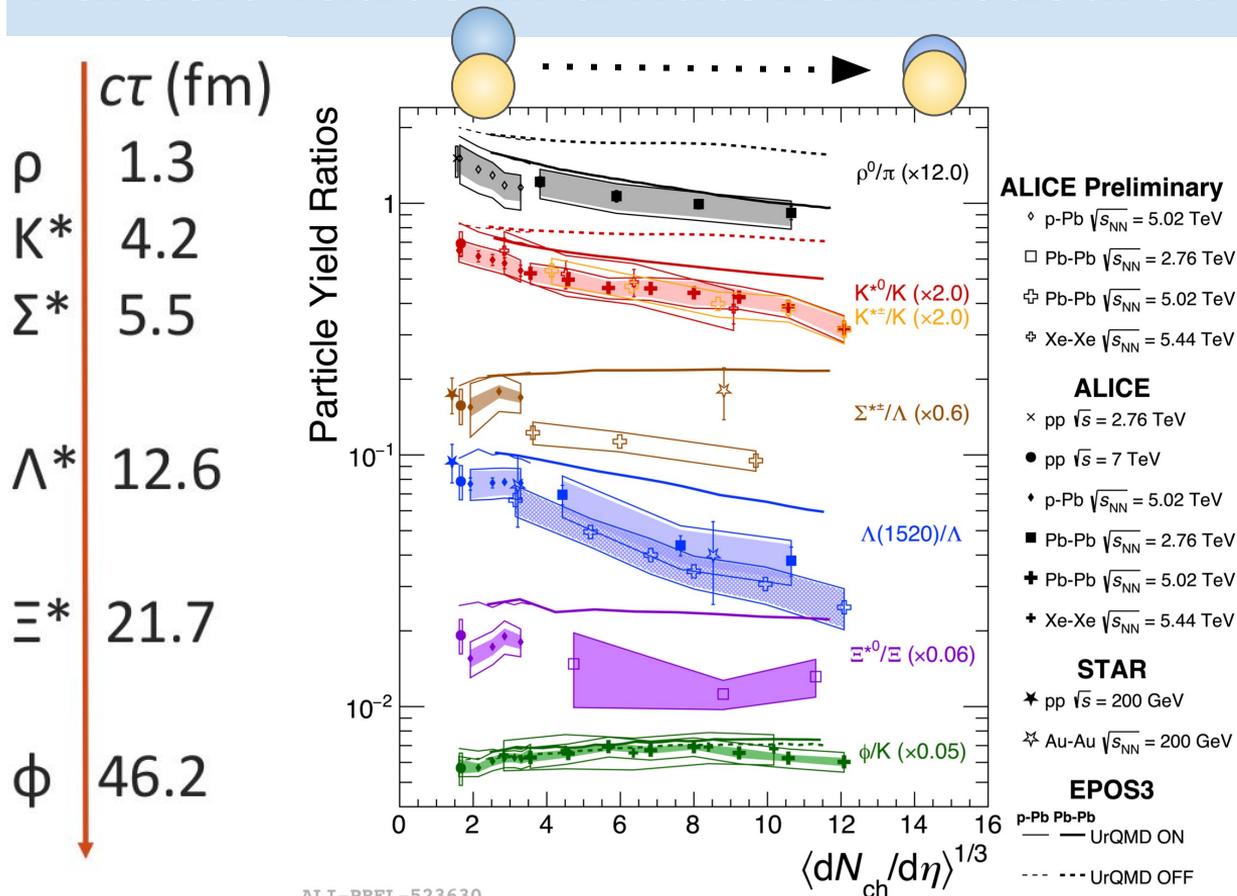


- Yield  $\Sigma(1385)^\pm$  is measured in three centrality (0-10%, 30-50%, 50-80%) in Pb-Pb collisions at 5.02 TeV
- The  $p_T$ -integrated  $\Sigma^{*\pm}/\pi^\pm$  yield ratio is shown  
 → the ratio is **suppressed in central collisions (0-10%)** if compared to the values observed in peripheral collisions, p-Pb, pp collisions and predictions from statistical hadronisation models
- **EPOS3 with UrQMD afterburner** overestimate the data
- **Suppression at a level of  $3.6\sigma$  in central Pb-Pb collisions (0-10%) with respect to thermal model calculation**

*ALICE, Eur. Phys. J. C 83 (2023) 351*

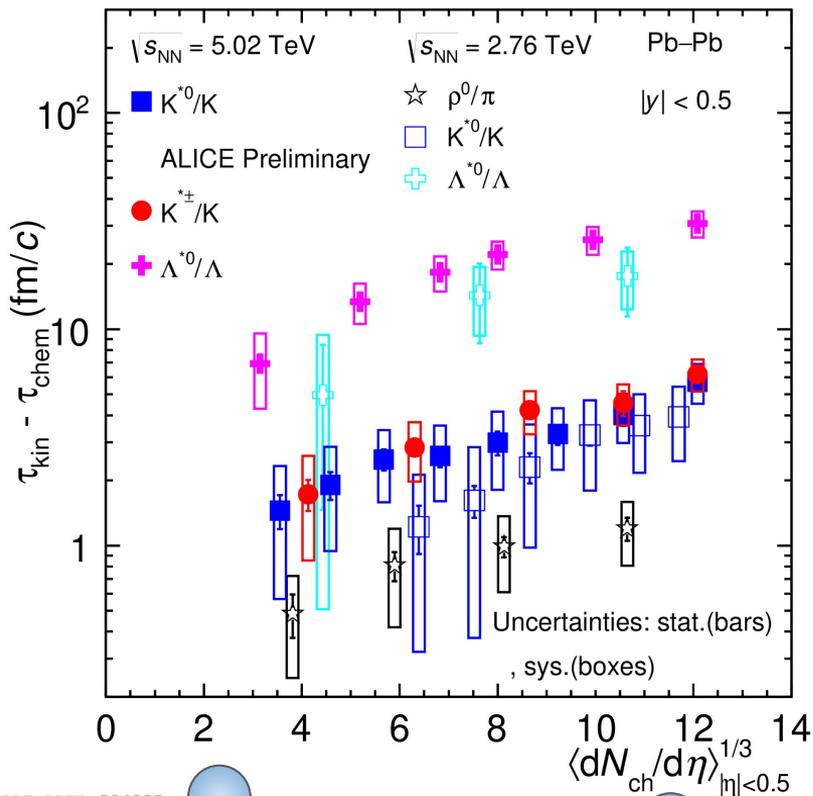


# Particle ratios in a nutshell measured by ALICE



These measurements with **highest multiplicity and improved accuracy** further confirm the existence of a **hadronic phase lasting enough** to cause a significant reduction of the reconstructible yield of short-lived resonances

# Findings on hadronic phase lifetime



**Lower limit of the timespan** between chemical and kinetic freeze-out is estimated by the exponential law:

$$r_{kin} = r_{chem} \times \exp(-(\tau_{kin} - \tau_{chem})/\tau_{res})$$

→  $r_{kin}$  = measured yield ratios in heavy-ion (Pb-Pb) collisions

→  $r_{chem}$  = measured yield ratios in pp collisions

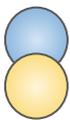
→  $\tau_{res}$  = lifetime of the resonance particle

- Assumptions

- **simultaneous freeze-out of all the particles**

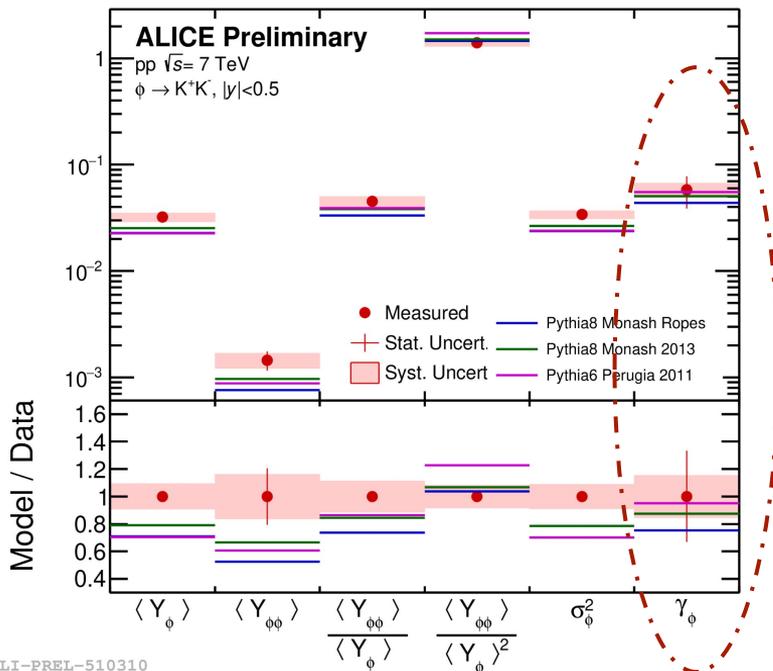
- **Negligible regeneration of resonances**

- **Lifetime** of the hadronic phase smoothly **increases with the centrality/multiplicity**



## **Selected new pp results**

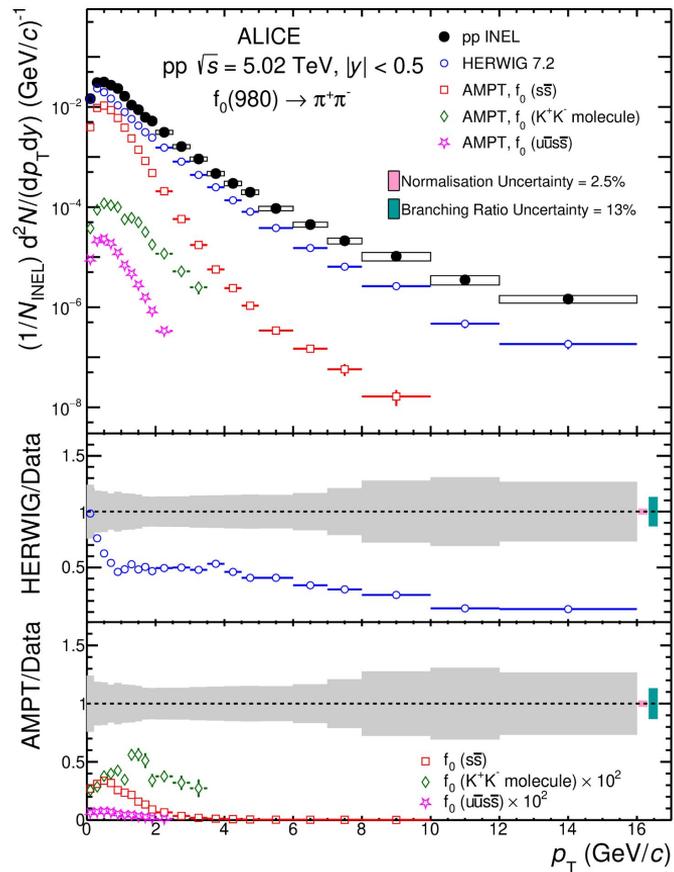
# Measurement of $\phi$ meson pair



ALI-PREL-510310

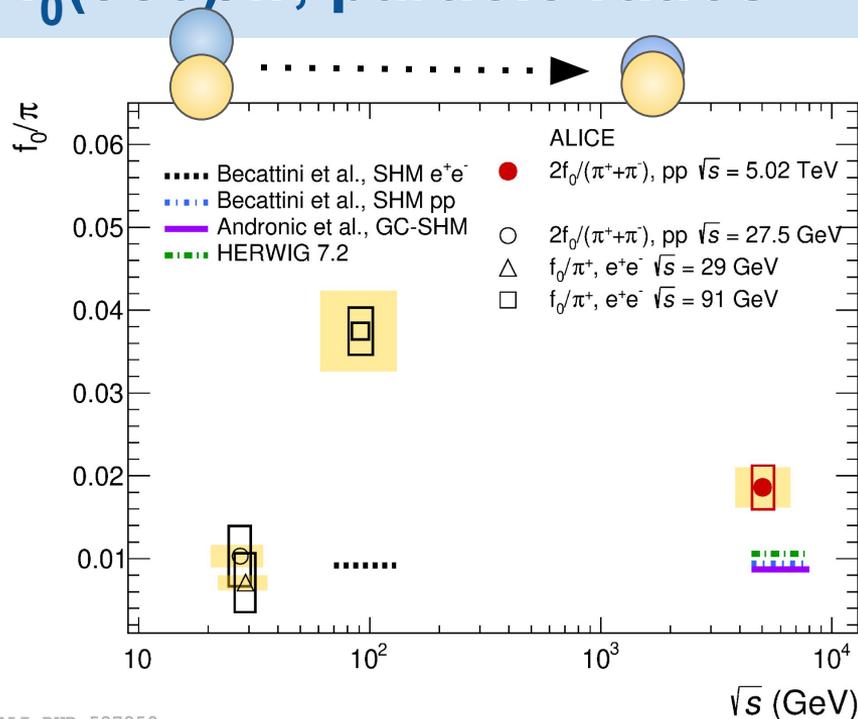
- Study of **double- $\phi$  production** in pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  TeV  
→ strangeness enhancement in small system
- $\Phi$  meson pair production,  $\langle Y_{\phi\phi} \rangle$ 
  - $\sigma_\phi^2 = 2\langle Y_{\phi\phi} \rangle + \langle Y_\phi \rangle - \langle Y_\phi \rangle^2$
  - $Y_\phi = \sigma_\phi^2 / \langle Y_\phi \rangle - 1 = \langle Y_{\phi\phi} \rangle / \langle Y_\phi \rangle - \langle Y_\phi \rangle$ 
    - **for  $Y_\phi = 0$** , the double- $\phi$  production is purely statistical following a poissonian distribution
    - **For  $Y_\phi \neq 0$** , the double- $\Phi$  production the production either **enhanced or suppressed**
- **Analysis result:**
  - $Y_\phi > 0 \rightarrow$  not purely statistical but enhanced
- **None of the Pythia models can describe the measurement for  $\langle Y_{\phi\phi} \rangle$ ,  $\langle Y_\phi \rangle$  and  $Y_\phi$  at once**

# $f_0(980)$ resonance measurement in pp collisions



- The  $p_T$ -spectra of  $f_0(980)$  is measured in wide momentum range upto 16 GeV/c
- Comparison with a coalescence calculation that uses the AMPT model coupled with a coalescence afterburner with Gaussian wigner function in three configurations
  - 1) as a  $s\bar{s}$  meson (differ by a factor of 3)
  - 2) as a  $u\bar{u}s\bar{s}$  meson (differ by a factor of  $\sim 10^3$ )
  - 3) as a  $K^+K^-$  molecule (differ by a factor of  $\sim 10^2$ )
- The shape of  $p_T$ -spectra from case 1) to 2) configuration is significantly steeper than the data
- Ratio of  $K^+K^-$  molecule configuration to data show a milder  $p_T$  dependence
- Herwig underpredicts the data by a factor of 2 but reproduces the spectral shape in the  $1 < p_T < 5$  GeV/c

# $f_0(980)/\pi$ , particle ratios



ALI-PUB-527259

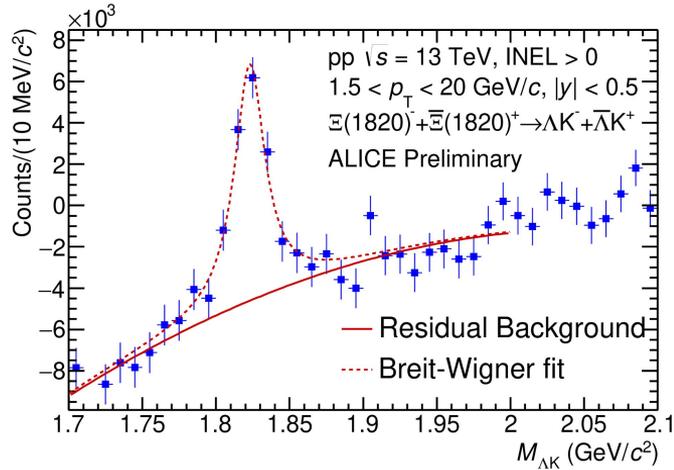
ALICE, ArXiv:2206.06216 [nucl-ex], accepted by PLB

- Particle ratio value from the fixed-target **NA27** experiment at the CERN SPS\*, measured in pp collisions at **27.5 GeV[1]** is lower by **44.5%**
- Particle ratios from  **$e^+ e^-$  collisions\*** at **29[2]** and **91[3] GeV** are lower by **61%** and higher by **a factor of two**, respectively
- The **statistical hadronization models [4-6]** and **HERWIG predictions underestimate** the measurement in pp collisions by about a factor two

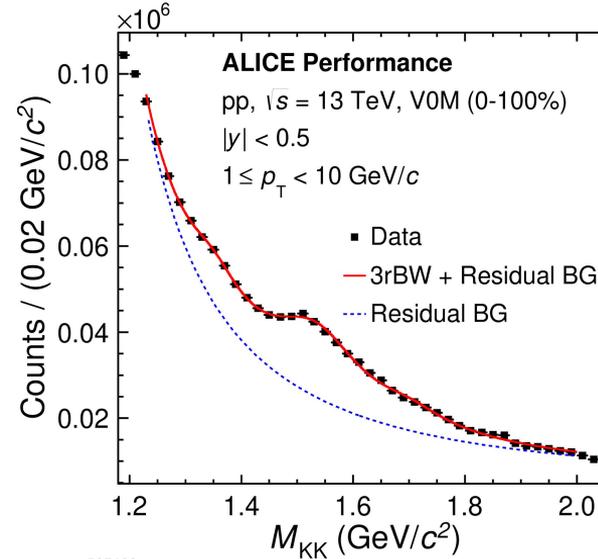
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2. W. Hofmann, *Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci.* 38 (1988) 279.
3. P. V. Chliapnikov, *Phys. Lett. B*462 (1999) 341.
4. F. Becattini et. al., *Eur. Phys. J. C* 56 (2008) 493.
5. F. Becattini et. al., *Z. Phys. C* 76 (1997) 269.
6. A. Andronic et. al., *Nature* 561 no. 7723, (2018) 321.

\*In order to compare the new measurement of the  $p_T$ -integrated  $f_0(980)$  to pion ratio with low energy data, the low energy points were updated with the latest branching ratio

# Search for higher mass resonance in ALICE



ALI-PREL-326700



ALI-PERF-507408

- First attempt for the signal extraction of higher mass resonance such as  $\Xi(1820)$  in its  $\Lambda K$  decay daughter channel
- The invariant mass distribution of  $KK$  pair shows the prominent signal peak for  $f_2(1525)$

**Thank you for your time :-)**