

## **Perspectives and upgrade of ALICE at the LHC**

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ALICE, collecting data from Pb-Pb, p-Pb and pp collisions at the LHC, is devoted to the characterization of strongly interacting matter at unprecedented energy densities. The first running period, which will extend until 2017, has already brought outstanding results. It can provide a description of the global bulk phenomena and a first set of exciting insights into rare probes but will leave many important questions unanswered. Only the exploitation of the high luminosity in Pb-Pb collisions foreseen after 2018, together with the recent technological advances, will allow one to adress new scientific challenges and enable detailed studies of hot QCD matter properties thanks to rare processes otherwise unreachable. ALICE is therefore setting up a program of detector upgrades targeting physics topics related to open heavy flavors, quarkonia, low-mass dileptons, jets and the search for exotica. An overview of the physics motivations as well as a description of the technological challenges and choices for the detector upgrades will be presented.