# Physics of heavy-ion collisions at the highest energy frontier

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Disclaimer: had to be selective, some areas are not covered



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### Heavy Ion Physics: many-body QCD systems Lattice QCD



### Initial state



Spatial and momentum distributions of incoming partons



 $T_c \approx 150 \text{ MeV}$ 



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Final state: hadron scattering

• **Properties of equilibrium matter:** equation of state, transport coefficients • **Dynamics**: hadronisation, interactions of partons with the medium



### MC event: location of nucleons





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Initial state spatial anisotropies  $\varepsilon_n$  are transferred into final state momentum anisotropies  $v_n$ by pressure gradients, flow of the Quark Gluon Plasma



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## Anisotropic flow: initial state and QGP expansion



Mass-dependence of v<sub>2</sub> measures flow velocity

Tests hydrodynamical description, freeze-out models

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## Challenge: constrain both initial geometry and QGP properties

#### Input data compared to model curves





Need multiple inputs to constrain system: Multiplicity, mean  $p_T$ ,  $v_2$ ,  $v_3$ 

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Total 14 model parameters constrained by data

QGP has very small shear viscosity: short mean free path, strong interactions







## Azimuthal anisotropy in pp collisions



CMS, PLB 718, 795









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CMS, PLB 718, 795









## Building up azimuthal anisotropy with few scatterings

Can you have flow with a few scatterings? 'anisotropic escape' mechanism





equal to full hydro

Initially isotropic momentum distribution

Scattering randomises directions; more scatterings to 'out-of-plane'

Anisotropic density converted into anisotropic momentum distribution by few scatterings



## Small system flow: recent results

Light in heavy flavor v<sub>2</sub> in p-Pb



Significant asymmetry for charm. Beauty v<sub>2</sub> compatible with 0

Mass effect? Formation time?

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#### Heavy flavour decay muons: charm and beauty







High  $p_T > 5$  GeV or so: hard scattering, short formation time Heavy flavor: large mass  $m > \Lambda_{QCD}$ , produced in early stage hard scattering **Production understood**; sample the **full time evolution** of the collision





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## Nuclear modification: Pb—Pb

### Charged particle p<sub>T</sub> spectra



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ALICE, PLB720, 52 CMS, EPJC, 72, 1945 ATLAS, arXiv:1504.04337

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## Nuclear modification: Pb—Pb

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Pb+Pb: clear suppression ( $R_{AA} < 1$ ): parton energy loss Physics of heavy-ion collisions at the highest energy frontier, ICPPA 2020

#### ALICE, PLB720, 52 CMS, EPJC, 72, 1945 ATLAS, arXiv:1504.04337

$$dN/dp_T|_{A+A}$$

### Nuclear modification: charged particles











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$$dN/dp_T|_{A+A}$$

### Nuclear modification: charged particles



N<sub>part</sub> scaling









## Azimuthal anisotropy: two mechanisms

### Hydrodynamical expansion

Conversion of pressure gradients into momentum space anisotropy



### Dominant effect for late formation times: light flavour at low p<sub>T</sub>

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### **Parton energy loss**

Anisotropy due to energy loss and path length differences



More energy loss along long axis than short axis

 $\Delta E_{med} \sim \alpha_S \hat{q} L^2$ 

Dominant effect for early formation times: heavy flavour, high p<sub>T</sub> probes



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## Heavy flavor energy loss: open charm

### Nuclear modification factor:

$$R_{AA} = \frac{dN^{AA}/dp_{\rm T}}{T_{AA} \, d\sigma^{pp}/dp_{\rm T}}$$

ratio of p<sub>T</sub> spectra

 $R_{AA} < 1$ , charm quarks lose energy in the QGP





ALI-PREL-320238

### Different mechanisms

Low  $p_T$ : mostly elastic collisions, diffusion High p<sub>T</sub>: mostly radiative loss

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Elliptic flow v<sub>2</sub>

Large v<sub>2</sub> due to diffusion, energy loss





## Heavy flavour transport coefficients



Data provide significant constraints on *T*, *p* dependence of  $\hat{q}$  and  $D_s$ 



## Heavy flavour transport coefficients



Data provide significant constraints on T, p dependence of  $\hat{q}$  and  $D_s$ 

A consistent understanding of light and heavy flavour transport, medium expansion is emerging







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## Jets in heavy ion collisions



### Very clear signals at high p<sub>T</sub>: jets stand out above uncorrelated soft background

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Motivation: understand energy loss dynamics





## Jet physics with pp collisions: dead cone effect



Comparing charm to light flavour splittings: suppression at small angle — dead cone effect Part of a broader program — productive exchange of ideas between pp and heavy-ion community





Transverse energy map of 1 event



Use  $p_T$  balance to measure energy loss i.e. transport of energy outside jet cone

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# **Energy loss: di-jet asymmetry**

 $p_{T,1}$ Subleading jet energy fraction  $x_J$  $p_{T,2}$ 

proton-proton collisions

#### Pb-Pb collisions

Pb—Pb distribution shifted to lower energies: energy loss due to interactions

(relative) strength of effect depends on jet energy: fraction of energy loss decreases with p<sub>T,jet</sub> dEQualitatively in line with bremmsstrahlung expectation dEStro

ng coupling: 
$$\frac{dx}{dx} \propto E$$

Chesler and Rajagopal, PRD 90, 025033







## Where does the radiation go: R<sub>AA</sub> vs R<sub>jet</sub>



#### Large jets lose more energy (more sources) decrease of $R_{AA}$

Caselderrey-Solana et al, JHEP 01 (2020) 044

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Net result: only modest increase of R<sub>AA</sub> with larger R<sub>iet</sub>



## Final state: hadronisation and rescattering



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Fragmentation



Coalescence





## Heavy flavor baryon production





ALI-PREL-336442

Charmed baryon/meson ratios much larger in pp than  $e^+e^-$  (at  $p_T < 10$  GeV) Not expected: universal fragmentation Other mechanisms: color reconnection, coalescence, others? ~1/3 of c quarks end up in baryons in pp at LHC vs ~6% in  $e^+e^-$ 



## Λ<sub>c</sub> production in Pb-Pb collision



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Baryon enhancement in Pb-Pb collisions similar to pp In line with expectations from coalescence models?



## Taking it one step further: $\chi_{c1}(3872)$

### Prompt and non-prompt $\chi_{c1}(3872)$ in pp





Production rates could also shed light on structure: coalescence cross section, rate different for molecular state?

Coalescence rates determined by system size and hadron size

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#### pp and Pb-Pb

Hint of larger increase in Pb-Pb?





## Probing final state interactions with correlations



Final state momentum correlations 'femtoscopy' sensitive to:

- Space-time distribution of production points
- Interactions and quantum statistics

Connections to hadron physics, neutron star Equation of State





## Probing final state interactions with correlations



Final state momentum correlations 'femtoscopy' sensitive to:

- Space-time distribution of production points
- Interactions and quantum statistics

Tool to measure interaction potentials of unstable particles Connections to hadron physics, neutron star Equation of State





# Future plans: ongoing upgrades in LS2

#### **New ITS**





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Improved pointing resolution for muons

Run 3 and 4: higher luminosity; collect 13 nb<sup>-1</sup> Pb—Pb: ~ 10x improvement over run 2; factor 50-100x for minimum bias in ALICE

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### **ALICE upgrades**



### **TPC: GEM readout**



## **Upgraded readout**











### **ALICE ITS3: Ultra-thin tracker**

- Lower background for di-electrons
- Improved pointing resolution for heavy flavor

### **ALICE Forward Calorimeter**

- Very high granularity  $\gamma/\pi^0$  separation
- Access to small-x gluon density; **Color Glass Condensate effects**

### ATLAS+CMS: various upgrades for HL-LHC

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Cylindrical Structural Shell

BEAMPIPE

Half Barrels

## Future upgrades: Long Shutdown 3 (2025)





## Summary/conclusions

- Heavy-ion collisions explore and measure properties of QGP matter
  - Viscosity
  - Transport coefficients for high- $p_{T}$  partons and heavy quarks
  - Theoretical multi-observable analyses becoming available: test theoretical understanding while determining key parameters
  - Azimuthal anisotropy in small systems: explore 'few-collision' limit
- Jets in heavy ion collisions: dynamics of parton energy loss mass, energy dependence, opening angle/resolution scales
- Hadronisation: charm baryon formation not fully understood
- Laboratory for hadron interaction measurements



## Thank you for your attention!



## $J/\psi$ and Upsilon $v_2$

#### $J/\psi V_2$



#### Mechanism:

• Low p<sub>T</sub>: charm quark energy loss and recombination

- High p<sub>T</sub>: radiative energy loss of diquark?

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### Electrons from charm, beauty decays



#### Open charm and beauty: similar $v_2$

Upsilon v<sub>2</sub> smaller than  $J/\psi$ No recombination





## $J/\psi$ and Upsilon $v_2$



• Low p<sub>T</sub>: charm quark energy loss and recombination

- No recombination
- High p<sub>T</sub>: radiative energy loss of diquark?

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Upsilon v<sub>2</sub> smaller than  $J/\psi$ 

Suggests different mechanism (contributions) for open and hidden charm interactions



## **Higher harmonics and viscosity**





## Flow without a liquid





# ALICE upgrade goals and performance

### $J/\psi$ and $\Upsilon v_2$

#### Charge dependent v<sub>1</sub> ppo<sup>1</sup>√ ALICE Upgrade projection $\Delta v_1^{\text{odd}} = 5e-05 \text{ (arXiv:1401.3805)}$ Pb-Pb $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ =5.02 TeV, 0-60% 10 nb<sup>-1</sup> fit function: $\mathbf{k} \times \eta$ $- \bullet v_1^{\text{odd}}[h^+] - v_1^{\text{odd}}[h^-]$ ----- k = 4.8e-05 ± 1.1e-06 (stat) 0.4 Stat. uncert. only ALICE Preliminary fit function: $\mathbf{k} \times \eta$ Pb-Pb $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ =5.02 TeV, 5-40% 8 0.3 $k = 1.7e-04 \pm 0.5e-04$ (stat) $- \bullet v_1^{\text{odd}}[h^+] - v_1^{\text{odd}}[h^-]$ ± 0.4e-04 (syst) 0.2 0.1 -0.1 -0.2 0.6 0.4 -0.8 -0.6 -0.4 -0.2 0.2 0.8

ALI-SIMUL-140076

### Initial state magnetic fields



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#### ALICE-PUBLIC-2019-001 HL-LHC WG5 report







...and much more...





## $\Lambda_c$ production in pp and Pb-Pb



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Does hadronisation by recombination play a role? Or 'just' fragmentation?



## **Connection to cosmic rays: nuclear PDFs**

Impact of nuclear PDF uncertainty on (atmospheric) neutrino production



![](_page_45_Picture_4.jpeg)

## **Uncertainties in Nuclear PDFs**

### Kinematic range of measurements

![](_page_46_Figure_2.jpeg)

Large uncertainties on the gluon content of the nucleus at low x Hints of suppression 'shadowing' seen in old DIS data (NMC) No/very few measurements available at low x

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### Ratio of gluon density in nuclei to protons

![](_page_46_Picture_7.jpeg)

## Reminder: how to get x and Q<sup>2</sup> in hadronic collisions

Leading order:  $2 \rightarrow 2$  kinematics:

![](_page_47_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_4.jpeg)

 $Q \sim m_T$ 

![](_page_47_Figure_7.jpeg)

LHC probes lower x than RHIC Mid-rapidity at LHC  $\approx$  forward rapidity at RHIC

![](_page_47_Picture_9.jpeg)

## **Open charm production vs rapidity at LHC**

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

 $R_{\rm pPb} \sim 1$  at backward and mid-rapidity; below 1 at forward rapidity Suppression mainly at small-x compatible with nuclear PDFs (shadowing) and CGC calculations CGC: Decloue et al, PRD 91, 114005

#### **Mid-rapidity** Forward rapidity: small x p–Pb, $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ =5.02 TeV $R_{pPb}$ LHCb Prompt D mesons, $-0.96 < y_{cms} < 0.04$ + LHCb $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5 \text{ TeV}$ Average D<sup>0</sup>, D<sup>+</sup>, D<sup>++</sup> EPS09LO $\square$ D<sup>0</sup> - EPS09NLO 1.5 --- nCTEQ15 CGC 0.5 ---- Vitev et al.: power corr. + $k_{T}$ broad + CNM Eloss Forward Kang et al.: incoherent multiple scattering 35 0 6 $p_{_{ m T}}$ (GeV/c) $p_{_{\rm T}}$ [GeV/c] ALICE, JHEP 12 (2019) 92

![](_page_48_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_5.jpeg)

## Jets in pp collisions

![](_page_49_Figure_1.jpeg)

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Important reference for Pb-Pb measurements: probe pQCD/parton showers and fragmentation in pp

![](_page_49_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_9.jpeg)

# Keeping track of the initial energy: gamma-jet

![](_page_50_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_4.jpeg)