



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of Science

UPC physics in Run 3 and Run 4 with ALICE

Daniel Tapia Takaki

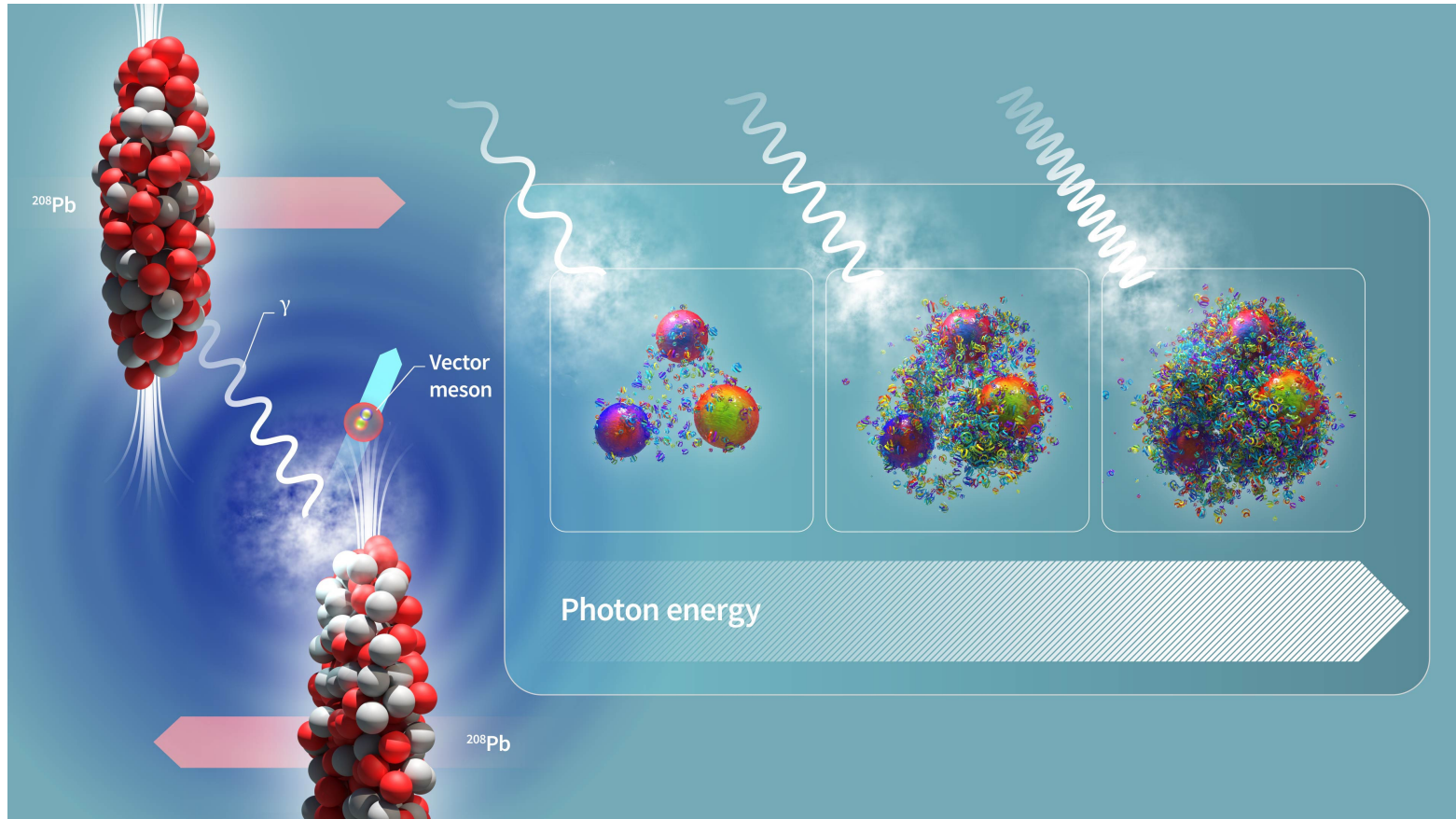
INT Workshop: Heavy-Ion Physics in the EIC era

August 19-23, 2024



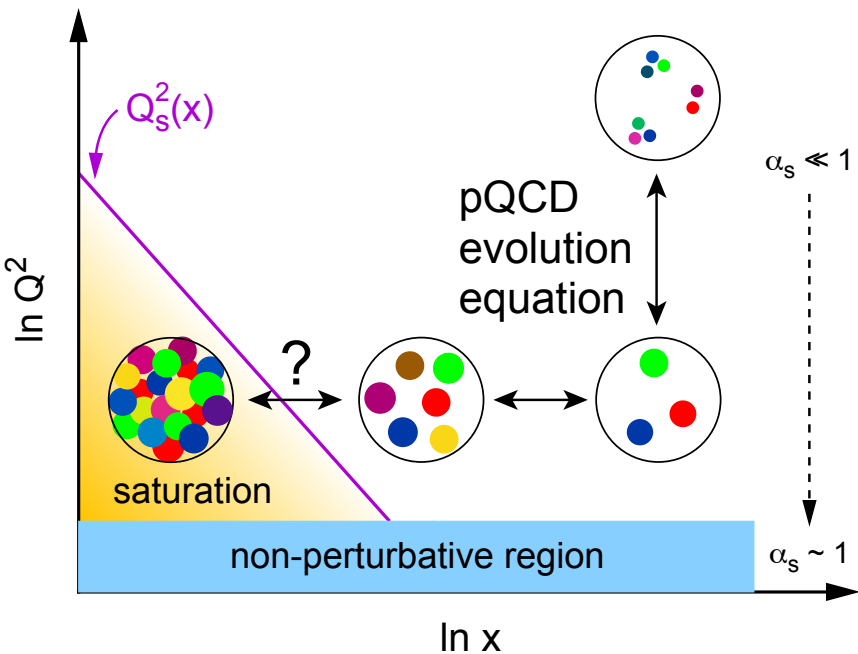
KU THE UNIVERSITY OF
KANSAS

Ultra peripheral collisions (UPC)



Gluon saturation matters

At high energies, or for heavy nuclei at lower energies, gluon saturation is predicted

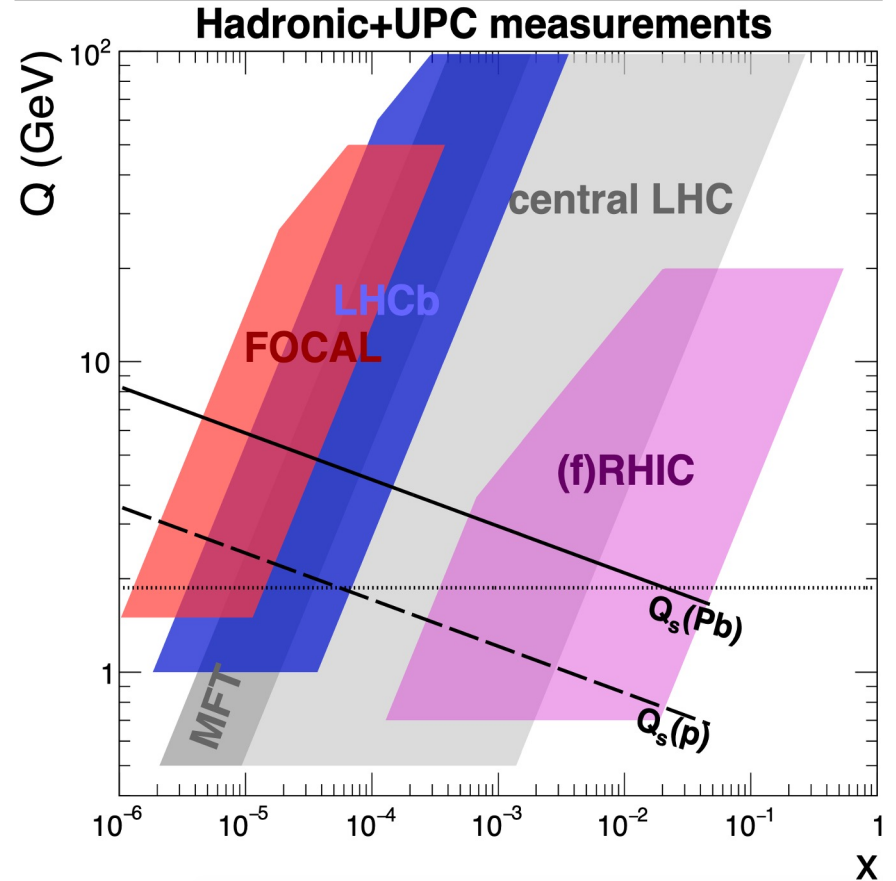


$$(Q_s^A)^2 \approx cQ_0^2 \left[\frac{A}{x} \right]^{1/3}$$

- Non-linear QCD evolution equations introduced, but how is gluon saturation triggered?
- Experimental observables needed to map out the transition between the dilute and saturation regimes. The onset of saturation
- Can we determine experimentally the saturation scale (Q_s)?
- Is there a state of matter formed by gluon saturated matter with universal properties?

Experimental program

- The Electron-Ion Collider will be a dedicated QCD machine with the precision and control capabilities for studying gluon saturation and shadowing in a systematic way like never before.
- The LHC explores the high energy domain for both hadronic and photon-induced reactions
- FoCal at ALICE will explore a unique low-x regime reaching x down to 10^{-6}



The LHC is the Large Photon Collider

- **Ultra Peripheral Collisions (UPC)** can explore a wide range of energies using almost real photons

$$k = \gamma M_V \exp(\pm, y)$$

Up to several TeV in γp

Up to ~ 700 GeV/nucleon in γA

Up to ~ 150 GeV in $\gamma\gamma$ using UPC PbPb,

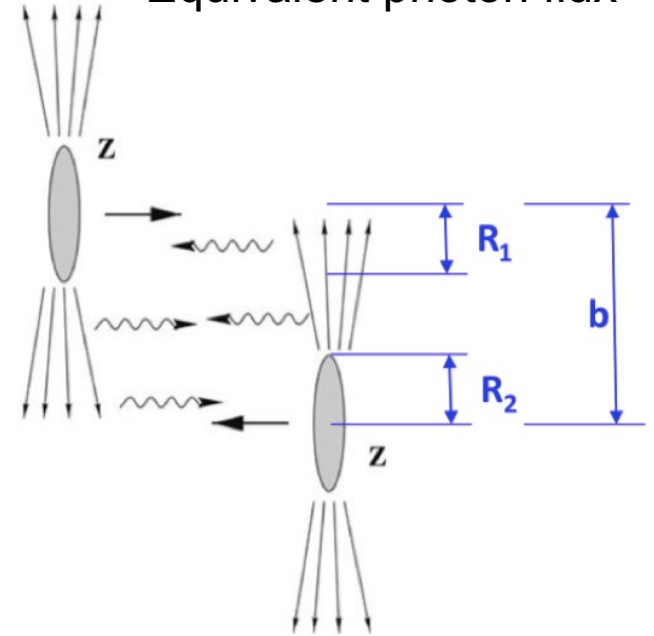
~ 4 TeV in $\gamma\gamma$ using UPC pp

- UPCs at the LHC probe the hadronic structure over broad and unique Bjoren x region, yet the precision not compatible to DIS machines like the EIC

$$x = M_V/\gamma m_p \exp(\pm, y)$$

Interactions mediated by the EM interactions

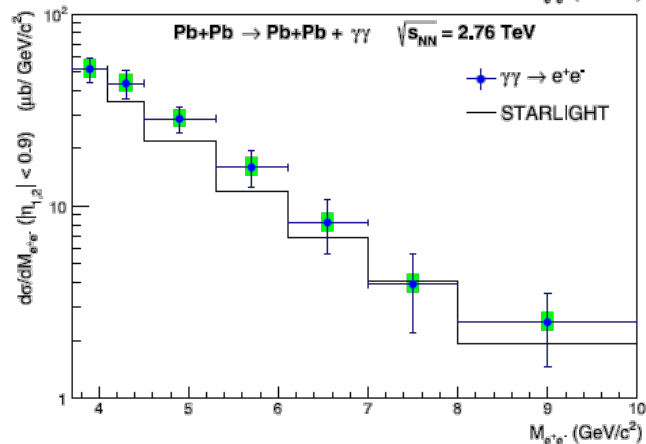
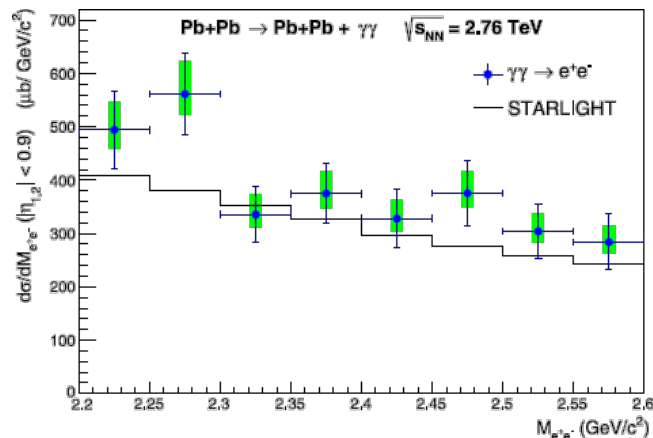
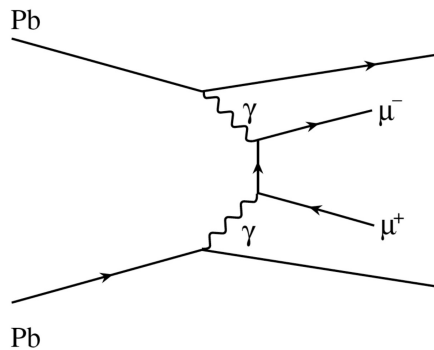
Equivalent photon flux



Two-photon interactions in UPC Pb-Pb

Eur. Phys. J.C 73 (2013) 11, 2617

$$\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$$



The European Physical Journal

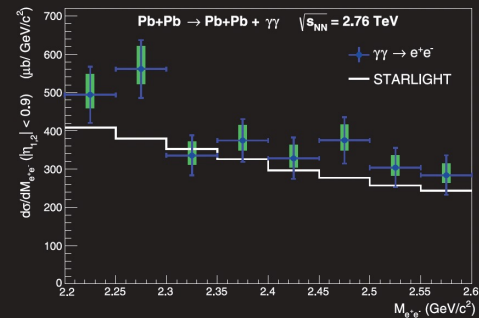
volume 73 · number 11 · november · 2013

EPJ C



Recognized by European Physical Society

Particles and Fields

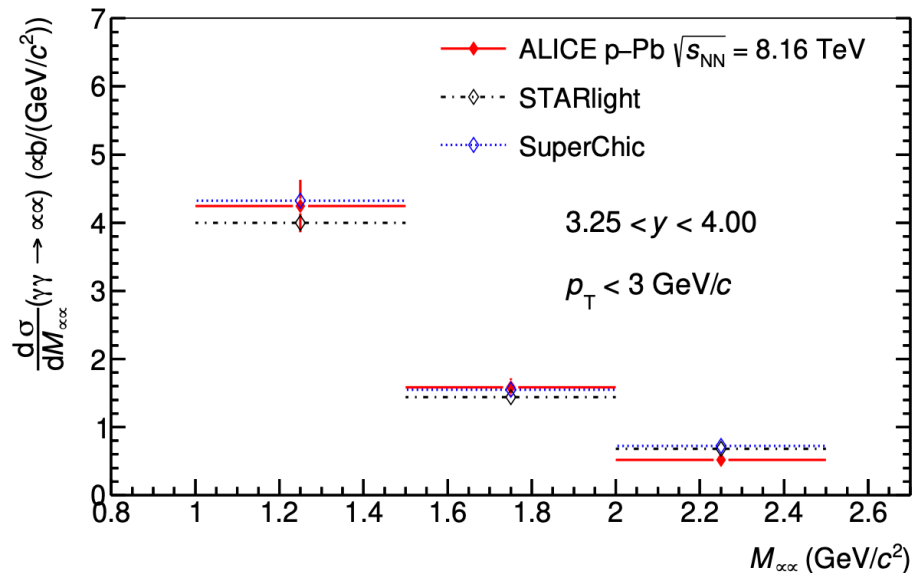
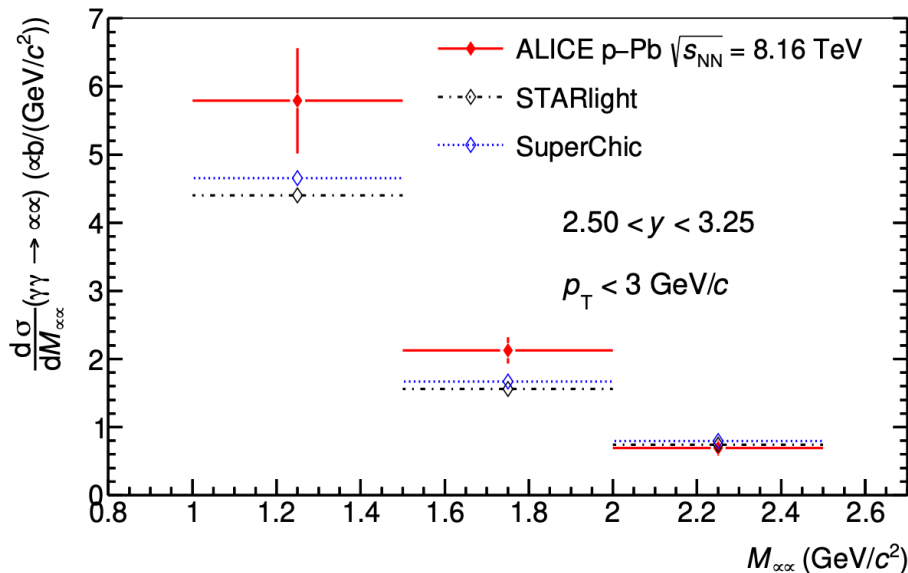


$\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ cross section (blue circles) for ultra-peripheral Pb-Pb collisions measured at ALICE for events in the invariant mass interval $2.2 < M_{e^+e^-} < 2.6$ GeV/c² (top) and $3.7 < M_{e^+e^-} < 10$ GeV/c² (bottom) compared

Exclusive dimuons in UPC pPb

Phys. Rev. D 108 (2023) 11, 112004

Two-photon measurements providing tests to the photon flux calculations

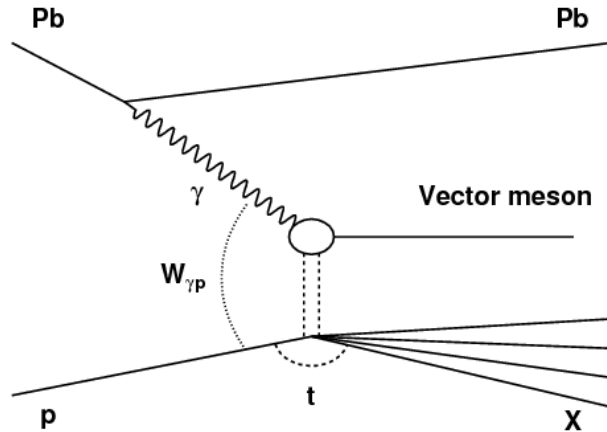


LO QED calculations, but different modeling

- STARLight: point-like charge with radial cutoff
- SuperChic: Charge distributions using form factors

Vector meson (VM) photoproduction in UPCs

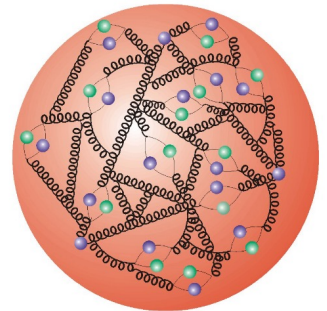
$$W_{\gamma p}^2 = 2E_p M_{J/\psi} e^{\pm y}$$



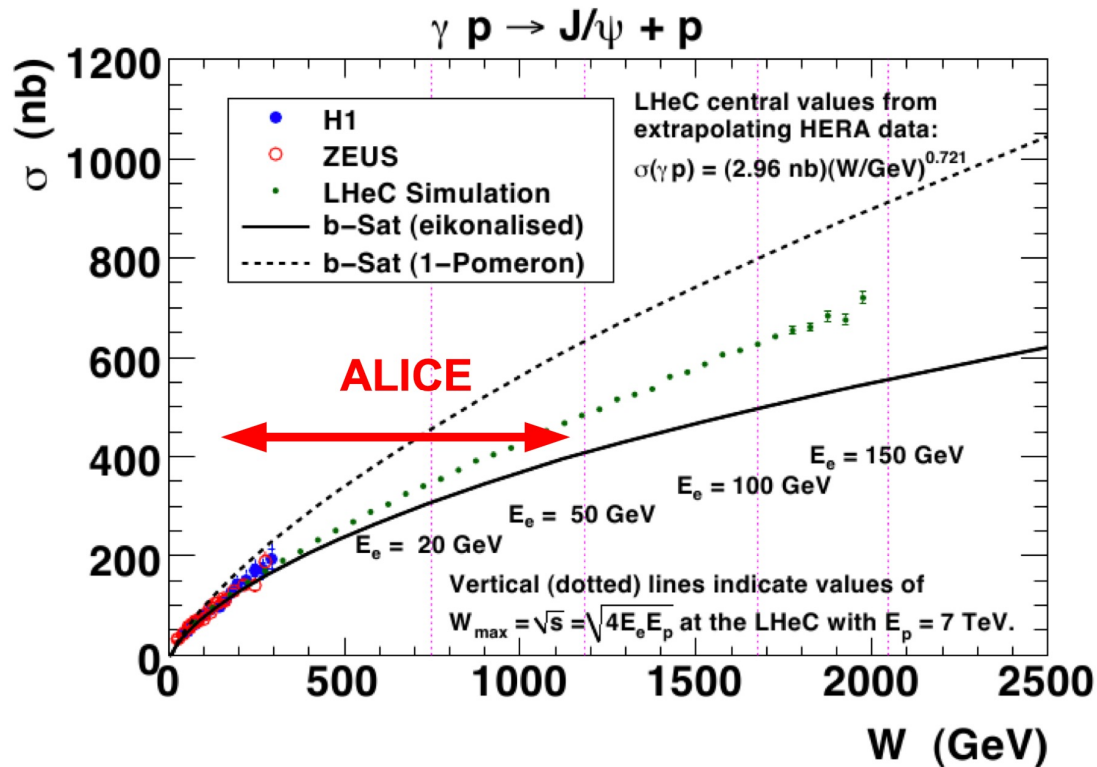
- As in DIS, several reactions are possible in UPCs:

- Exclusive photoproduction
- Semi-exclusive photoproduction
- Inclusive photoproduction

- By studying various VMs, it is possible to study the Q^2 dependence
- In the dipole approach, the light VMs (ϕ , ρ^0) are more sensitive to saturation because of the larger dipole, but pQCD methods not applicable



Predictions pre-LHC data for exclusive J/ψ off protons



- Deviations from the HERA power-law trend predicted as signatures of saturation
- At high energies also possible to distinguish among saturation models

Two-fold ambiguity on the photon direction in symmetric systems

$$W_{\gamma p}^2 = 2E_p M_{J/\psi} e^{\pm y}$$

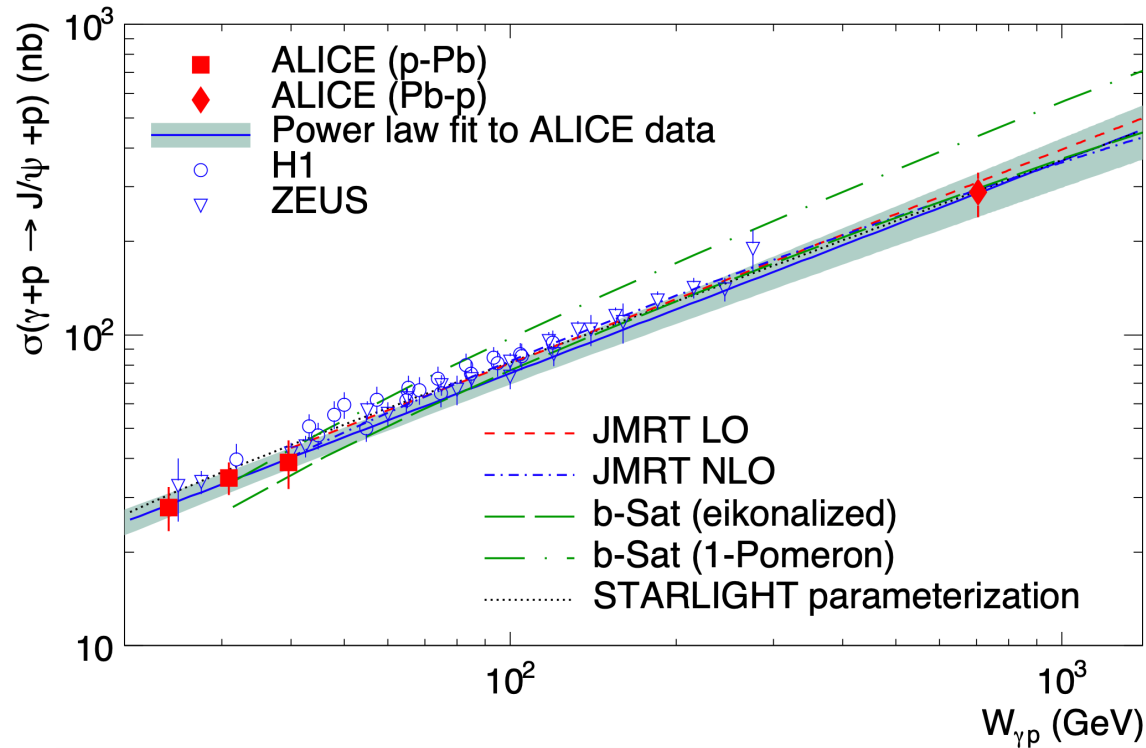
Symmetric systems (pp, A-A) suffer from the two-fold ambiguity on the photon direction

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy} = \overset{\text{Positive rapidity}}{n(+y)\sigma(\gamma p, +y)} + \overset{\text{Negative rapidity}}{n(-y)\sigma(\gamma p, -y)}$$

Only UPC asymmetric systems (p-Pb) analyses provide a model independent way of the energy dependence of $\sigma(\gamma p)$

Exclusive J/ψ measurements by ALICE using Run 1 (2013)

Phys. Rev. Lett. 113 (2014) 23, 232504

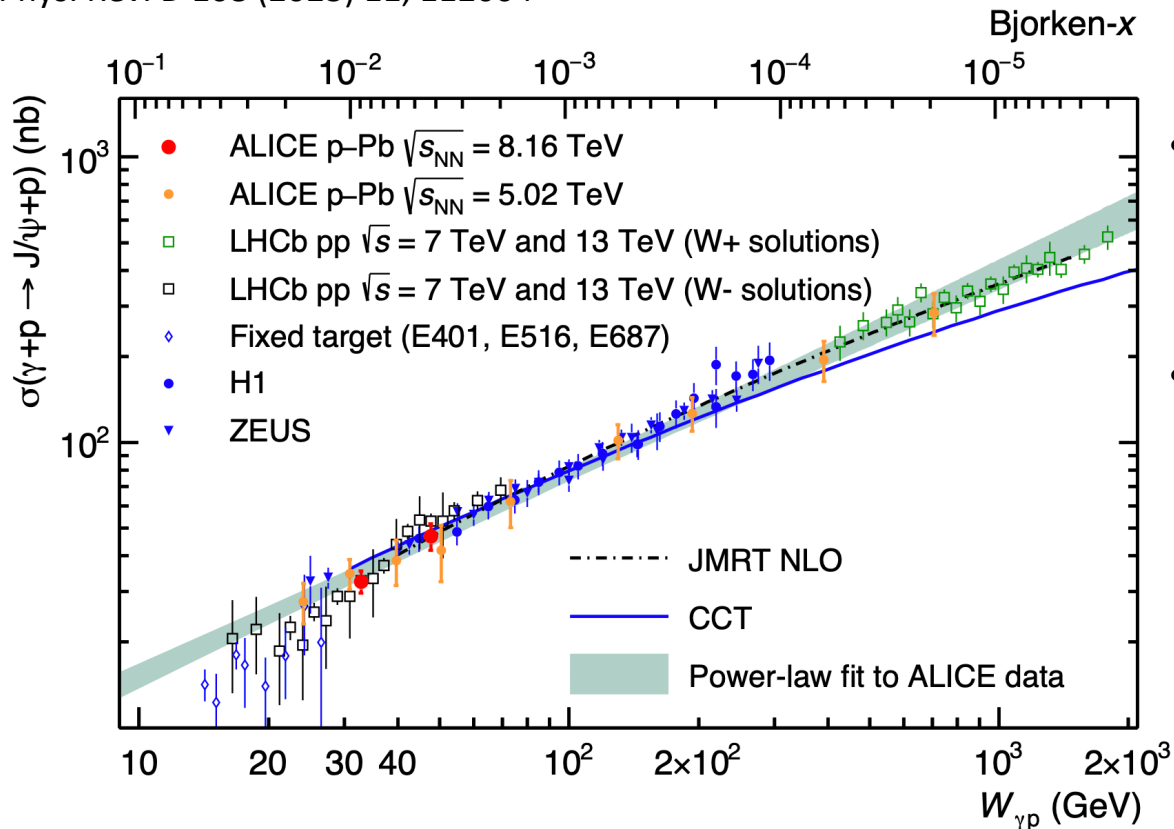


- No change with respect to HERA power-law growth observed at low energies up to 700 GeV
- UPC p-Pb collisions have no ambiguity on the photon energy

$$W_{\gamma p}^2 = 2E_p M_{J/\psi} e^{\pm y}$$

Exclusive J/ψ in UPC p-Pb (2023)

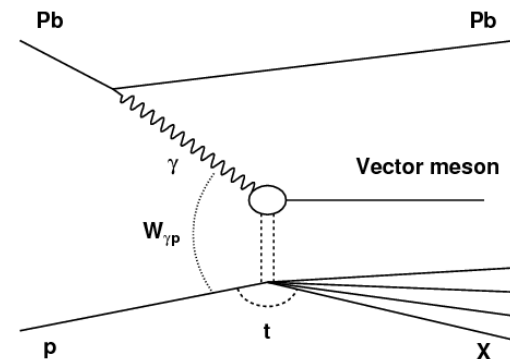
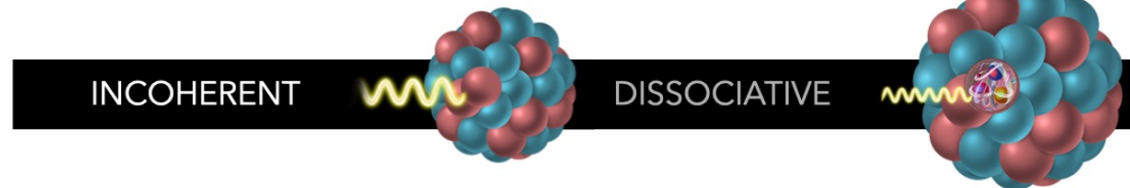
Phys. Rev. D 108 (2023) 11, 112004



- No change in the behavior observed between HERA and LHC energies
- The highest energy point measured in a model-independent way is only up to 700 GeV in UPC p-Pb by ALICE



$$\left. \frac{d\sigma^{\gamma^*H \rightarrow VH}}{d|t|} \right|_{T,L} = \frac{(R_g^{T,L})^2}{16\pi} |\langle \mathcal{A}_{T,L} \rangle|^2$$



J. Cepila, G. Contreras and DTT Phys. Lett. B 766 (2017) 186-191

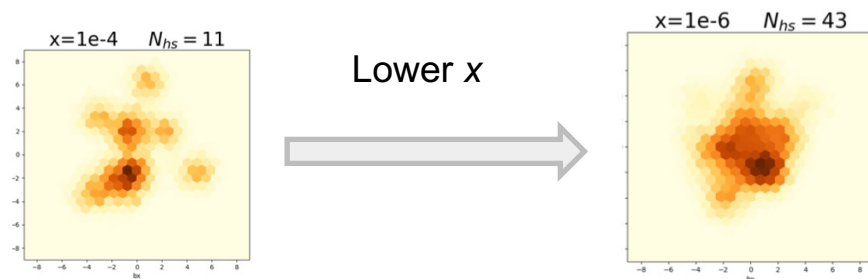
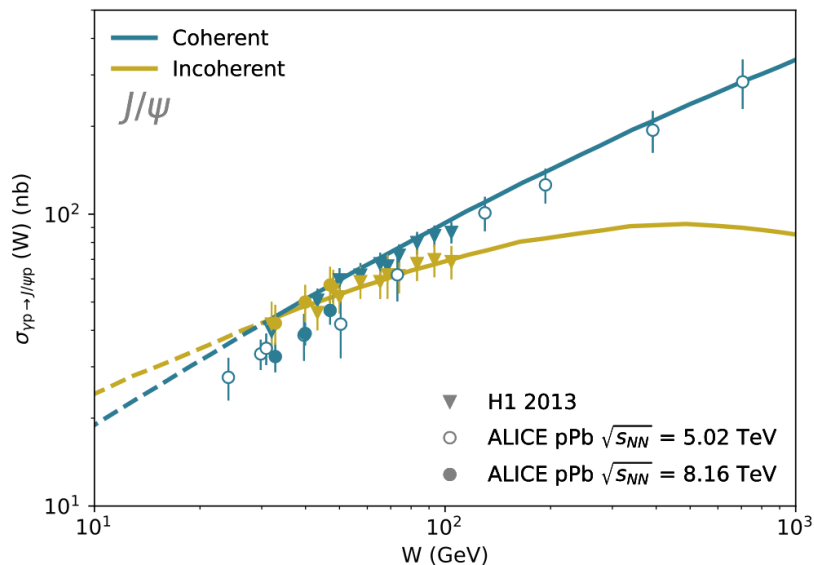
In the hot spot model, the increase in gluon distribution with decreasing Bjorken- x is described by the energy-dependent evolution of the number of hot spots

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma^{\gamma^*p \rightarrow VY}}{d|t|} \right|_{T,L} = \frac{(R_g^{T,L})^2}{16\pi} (\langle |\mathcal{A}_{T,L}|^2 \rangle - |\langle \mathcal{A}_{T,L} \rangle|^2)$$

Gluon saturation and dissociative J/ψ in UPC

See talk by A. Ridzikova at DIS'24
Figures from her

Phys. Lett. B 852 (2024) 138613



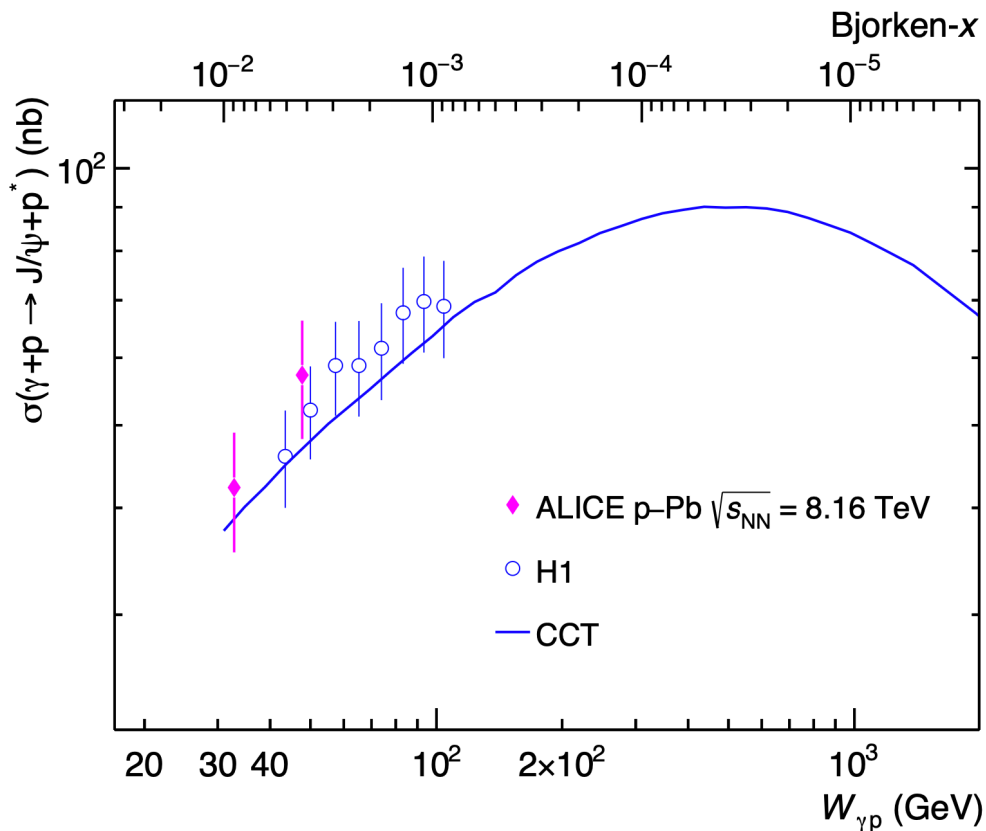
$$\left. \frac{d\sigma^{\gamma^* p \rightarrow VY}}{d|t|} \right|_{T,L} = \frac{(R_g^{T,L})^2}{16\pi} (\langle |\mathcal{A}_{T,L}|^2 \rangle - |\langle \mathcal{A}_{T,L} \rangle|^2)$$

In the hot spot model, the increase of large hot spots within the proton reaches a point of significant overlap, and the resulting uniformity reduces both the variance and the dissociative cross section

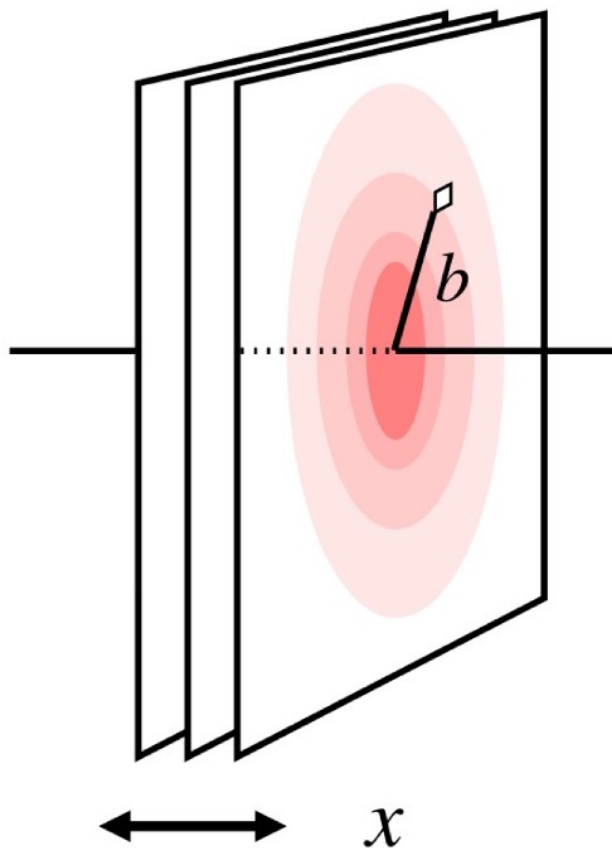
Phys. Lett. B 766 (2017) 186-191

Dissociative J/ψ in UPC pPb

Phys. Rev. D 108 (2023) 11, 112004



Transverse profile of the target



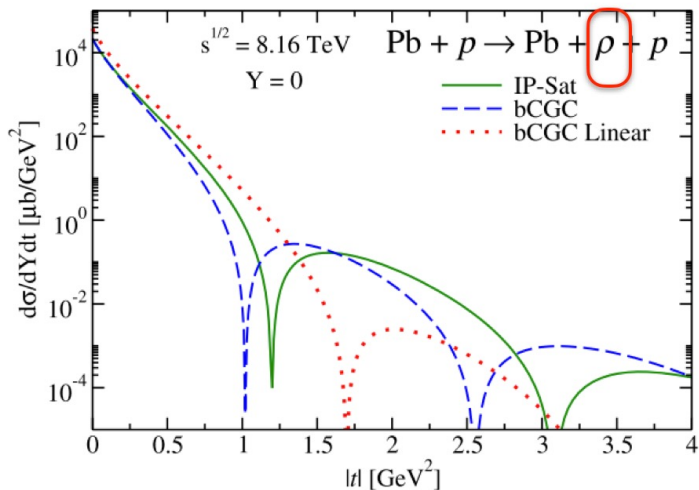
UPCs can probe the transverse profile of the target!

Appearance and location of diffractive dips can be signatures of gluon saturation

Transverse profile of the target

V. Goncalves, et al.

Phys. Lett. B791 (2019) 299-304

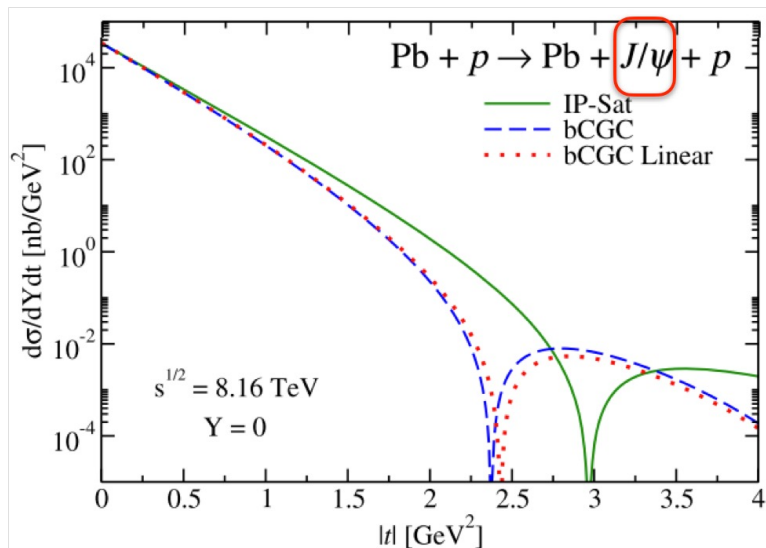


Location of the Diffractive dips:
Different for IP-Sat and bCGC

Energy dependence of the
 t -distribution: onset of gluon saturation

Signature of gluon saturation

*Study of ρ^0 is very promising
since diffractive dips
expected at lower t values*

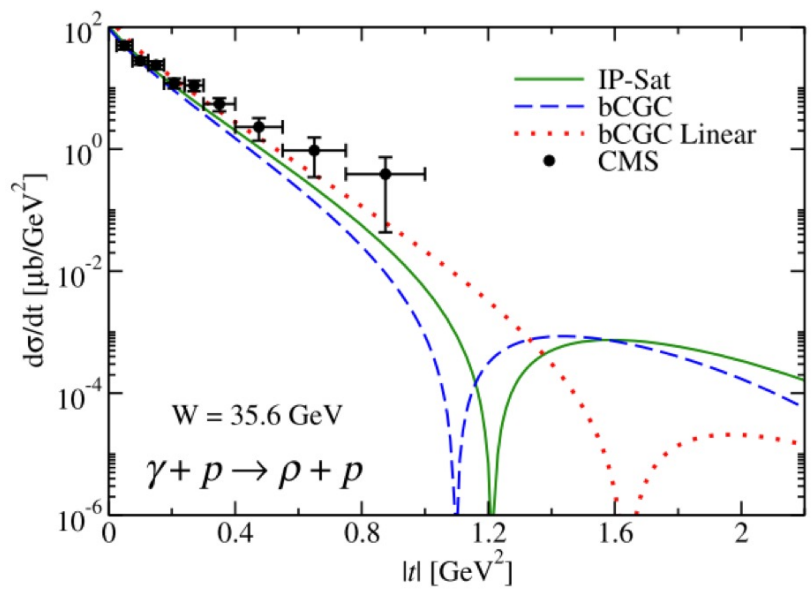


t-dependence measurement of UPC ρ^0

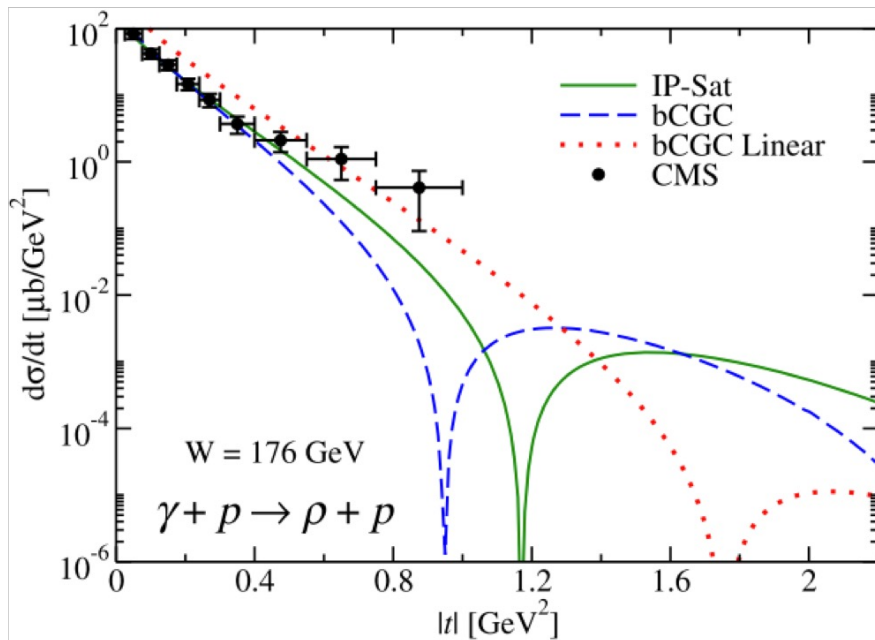
V. Goncalves, et al.

Phys. Lett. B791 (2019) 299-304

36 GeV

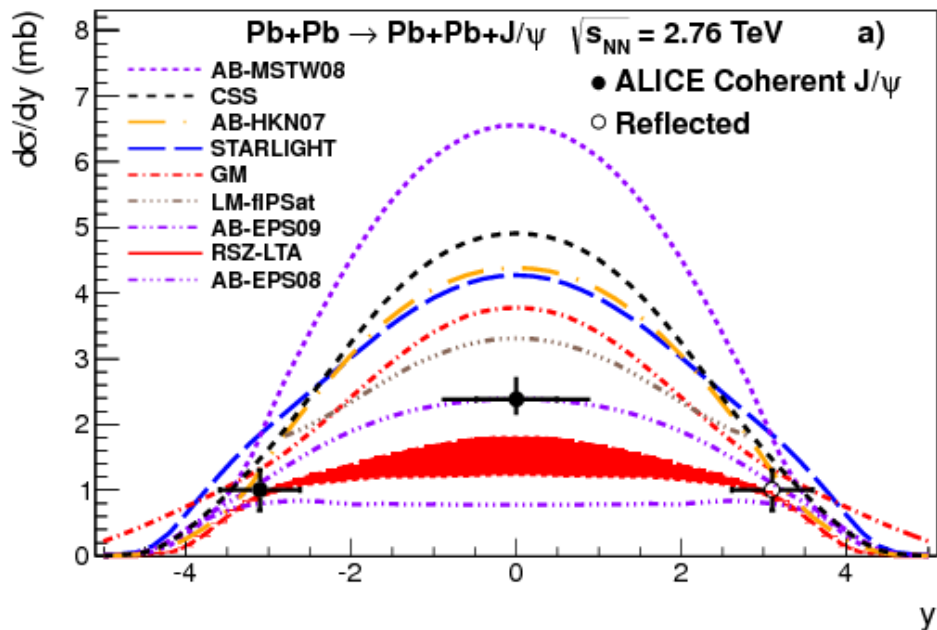


176 GeV

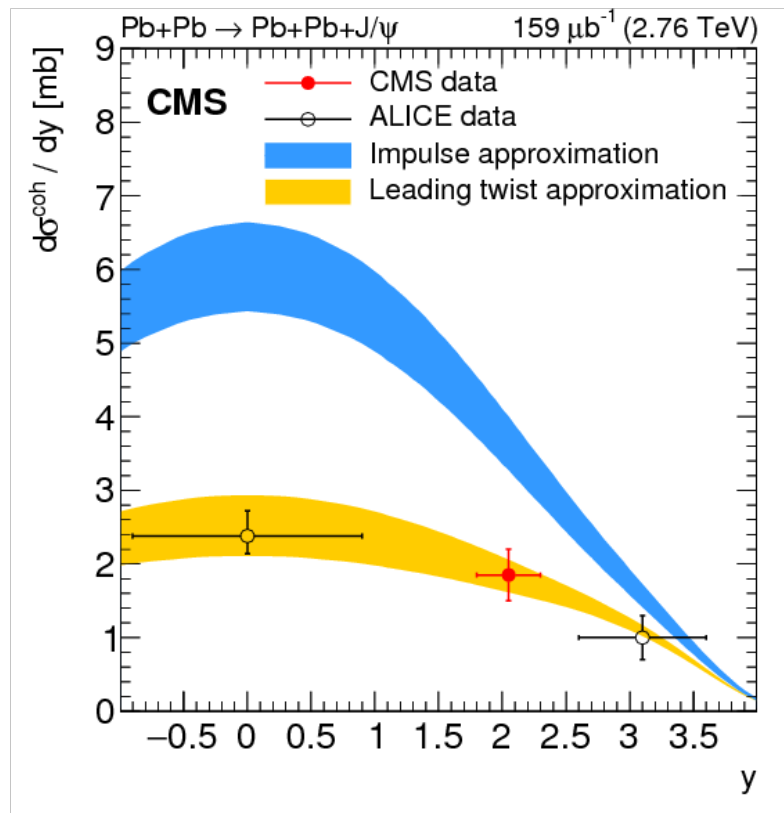


Coherent J/ψ in UPC Pb-Pb

Eur. Phys. J. C 73 (2013) 11, 2617



Phys. Lett. B 772 (2017) 489-511

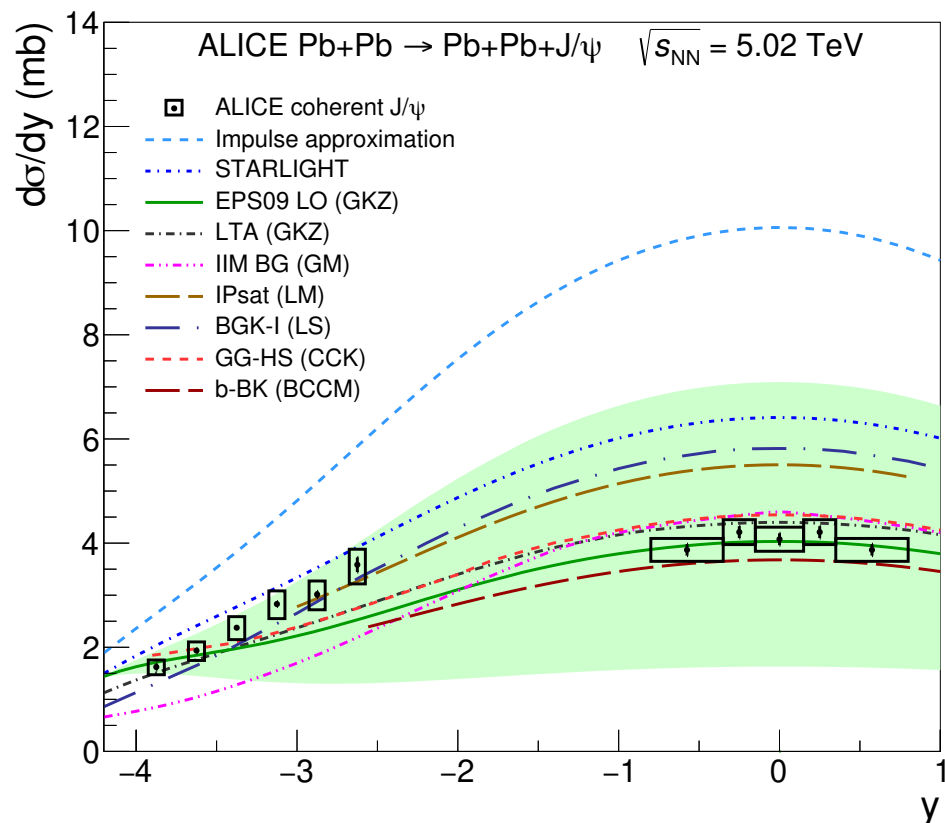


- Confirmation of nuclear shadowing with Run 2 data
- No model can describe the rapidity dependence

$$W_{\gamma p}^2 = 2E_p M_{J/\psi} e^{\pm y}$$

Mid-rapidity $x \sim 10^{-3}$

Forward rapidity 95% at $x \sim 10^{-2}$
5% at $x \sim 10^{-5}$



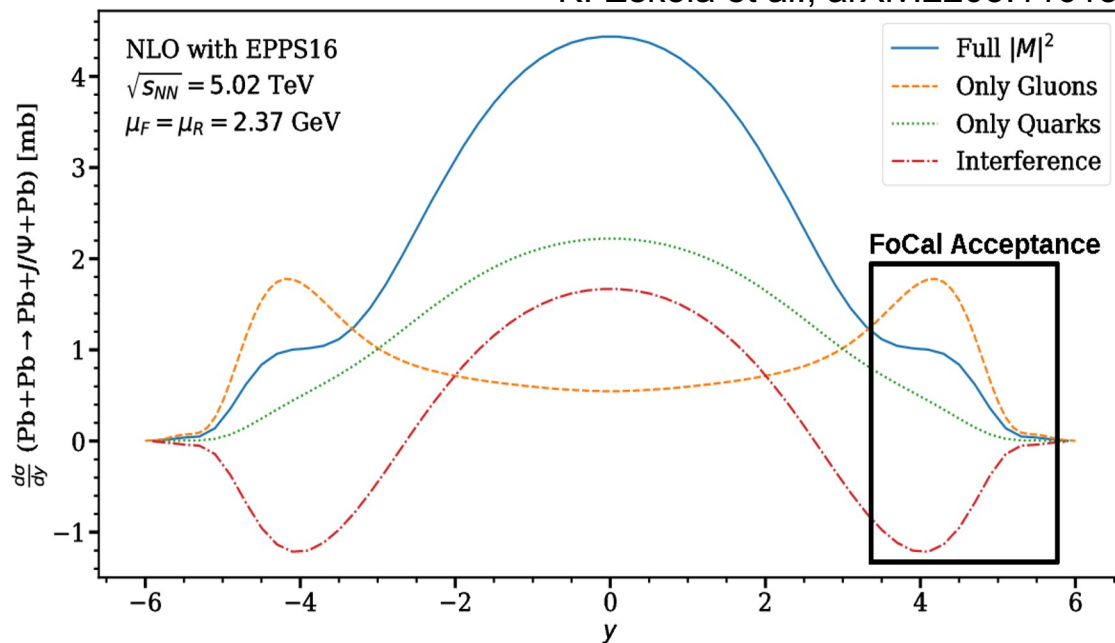
ALI-PUB-499958

Projections for VMs in γ Pb

Recent NLO calculations indicate importance of quark contribution and large scale uncertainties

The FoCal region is gluon dominated

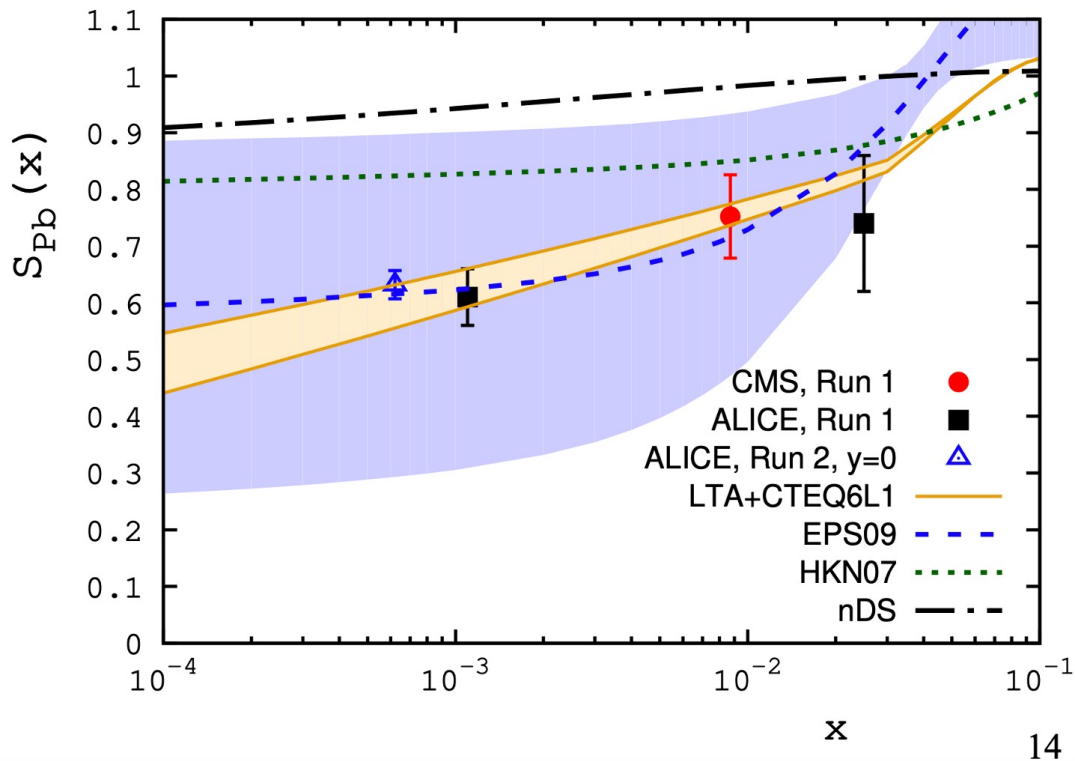
K. Eskola et al., arXiv:2203.11613



- At LO predicted to be proportional to the square of the gluon density (Z. Ryskin Phys. C 57, 89 (1993), but several caveats
- UPC J/ψ also described by Generalized Parton Distributions (GPDs), with some theory considerations

Nuclear suppression factor for UPC J/ψ : Comparing γPb to γp

V. Guzey et al. PLB 726 (2013)



An experimental definition, which can be linked to PDFs at LO

$$S_{Pb}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A}(W_{\gamma p})}{\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow J/\psi A}^{\text{IA}}(W_{\gamma p})}} = \kappa_{A/N} \frac{xg_A(x, \mu^2)}{Axg_N(x, \mu^2)}$$

Run 1 data from ALICE was the first at indicating nuclear gluon shadowing at $x \sim 10^{-3}$

Large scale NLO uncertainties should cancel in the $S_{Pb}(x)$ ratio

ALICE results at $y=0$ have no ambiguity on the photon energy

Two-fold ambiguity on the photon direction in symmetric systems

$$W_{\gamma p}^2 = 2E_p M_{J/\psi} e^{\pm y}$$

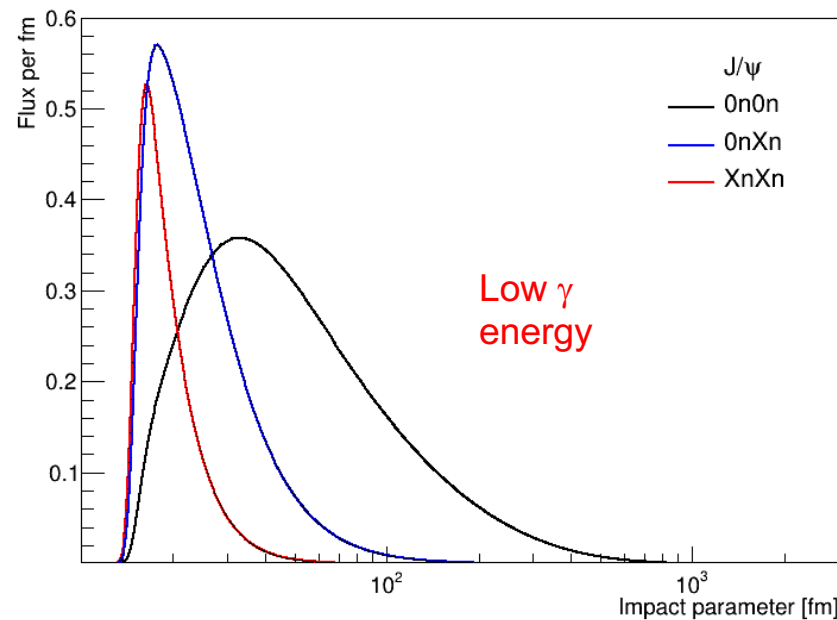
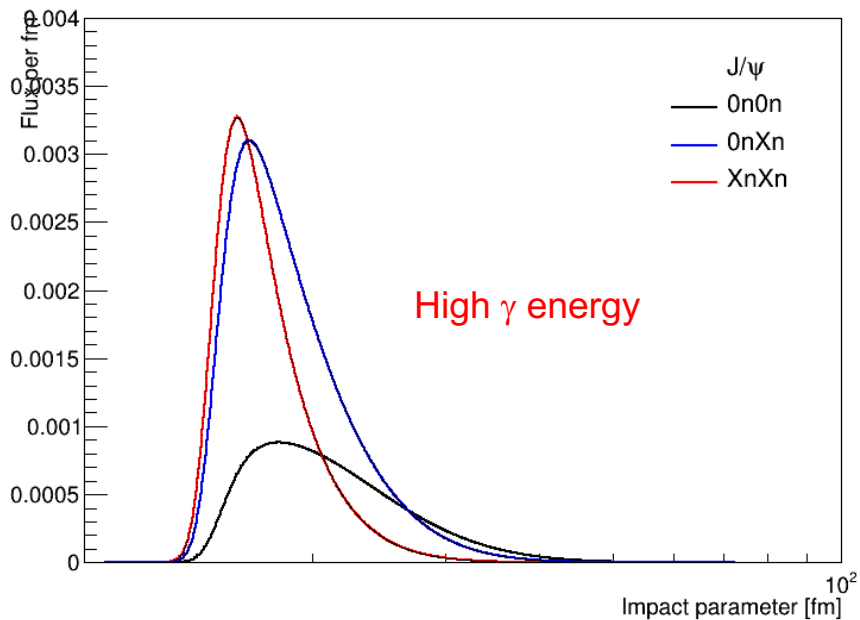
Symmetric systems (pp, A-A) suffer from the two-fold ambiguity on the photon direction

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy} = \overset{\text{Positive rapidity}}{n(+y)\sigma(\gamma p, +y)} + \overset{\text{Negative rapidity}}{n(-y)\sigma(\gamma p, -y)}$$

Analyses of UPC asymmetric systems (p-Pb) provide a model independent way to study the energy dependence of $\sigma(\gamma p)$

Impact parameter flux profile

Broz, Contreras and DTT, CPC 235 (2020) 107181



Neutron-dependence of coherent J/ψ in UPC Pb-Pb

The photon flux (n) depends on the impact parameter

Decomposed in terms of neutron configurations emitted in the forward region

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy} = \frac{d\sigma(0n0n)}{dy} + 2\frac{d\sigma(0nXn)}{dy} + \frac{d\sigma(XnXn)}{dy}$$

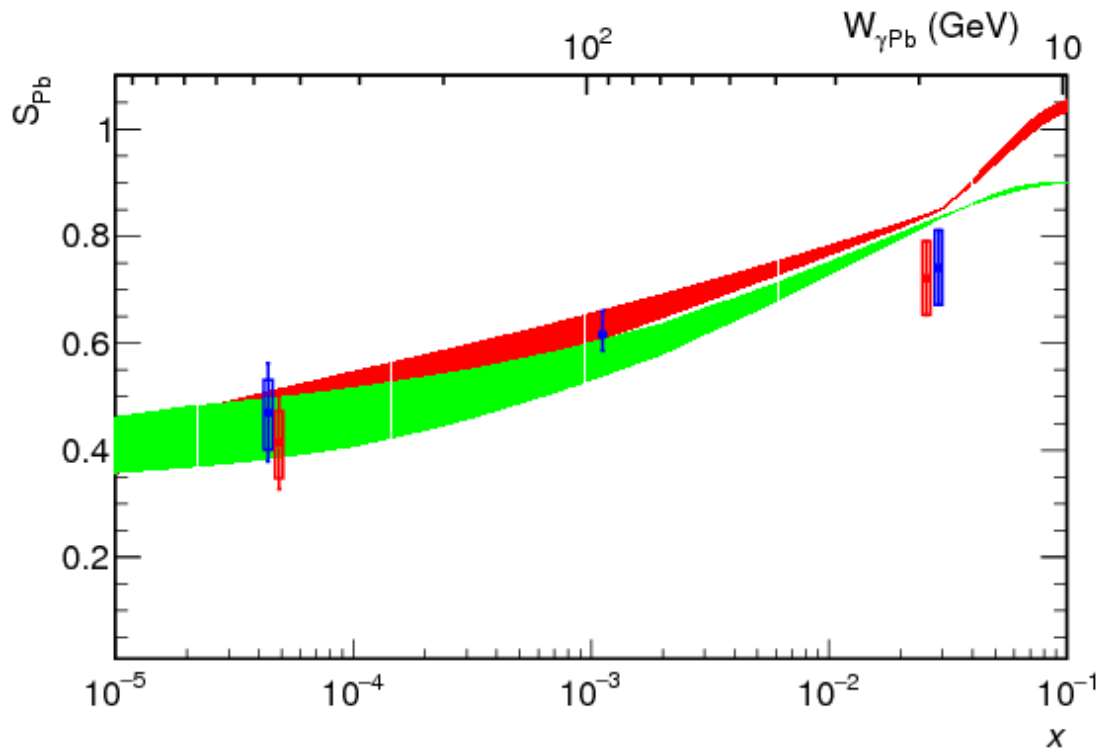
Solving the linear equations resolves the two-fold ambiguity for VMs at $y \neq 0$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy} = \overset{\text{Positive rapidity}}{n(+y)\sigma(\gamma p, +y)} + \overset{\text{Negative rapidity}}{n(-y)\sigma(\gamma p, -y)}$$

Guzey, Strikman, Zhalov, EPJC 74 (2014) 7, 2942

Nuclear suppression factor for peripheral (not UPC) J/ψ

J.G. Contreras, *Phys. Rev. C* 96 (2017) 1, 015203



Run 1 data from ALICE observed Coherent-like J/ψ from peripheral hadronic PbPb events. Process later confirmed by STAR

The photon flux depends on the impact parameter, these peripheral J/ψ explore γ P energies beyond coherent J/ψ at the same y interval at the same cms energy

Sensitivity to $x \sim 10^{-5}$

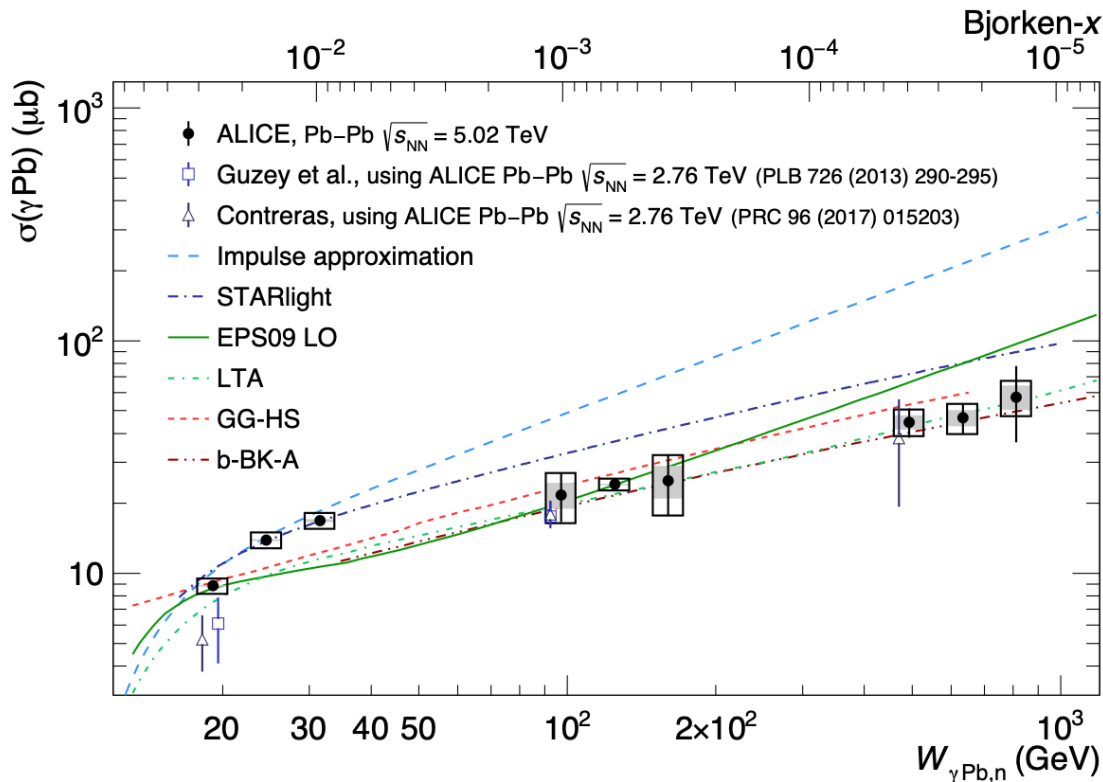
Energy dependence of coherent J/ψ in γ Pb – ALICE Run 1 and Run 2 data

[JHEP10\(2023\)119](#)

Confirmed Run 1 results.
At low x , both shadowing
and saturation models
describe the data

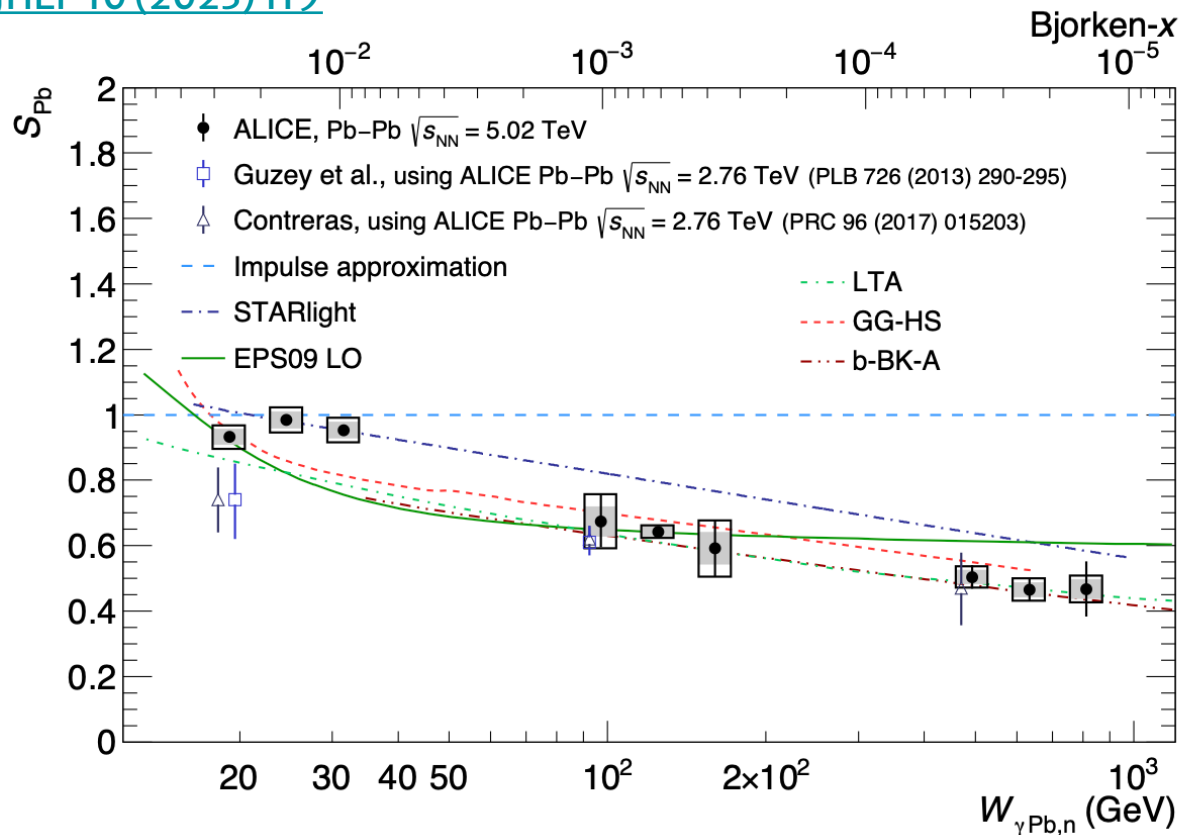
Energy dependence
across the whole range
not described by models

In a single experiment
exploring (20,800) GeV
in $W_{\gamma\text{Pb}}$ and x from 10^{-2}
to 10^{-5}



Nuclear suppression factor – ALICE Run 1 and Run 2 data

[JHEP 10 \(2023\) 119](#)



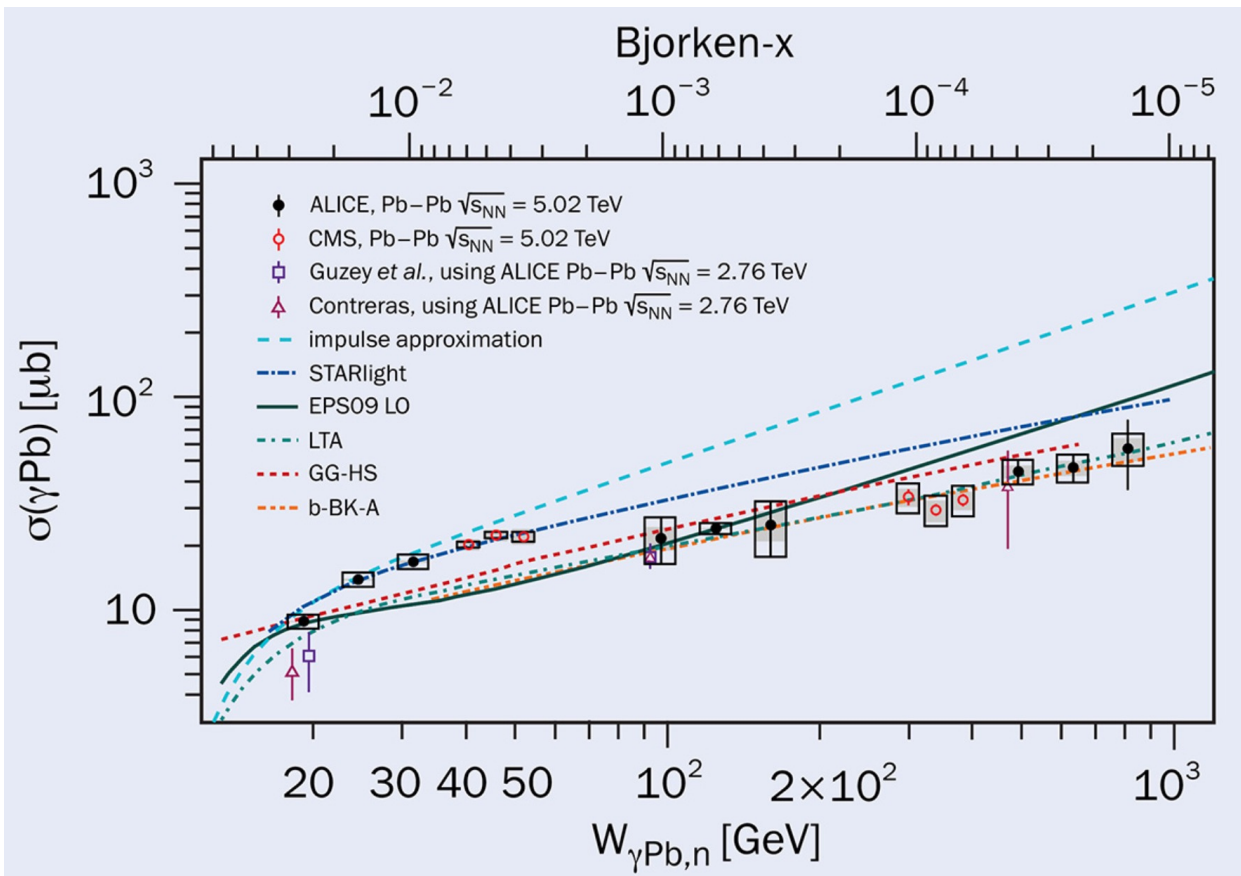
At low x , both shadowing and saturation models describe the data

[Confirmation that peripheral hadronic events can be used to extract the energy dependence.](#) Already explored down to $x = 4.4 \times 10^{-5}$ using Run 1 data

With the neutron-dependent analysis using Run 2 data, down to $x = 1.1 \times 10^{-5}$, Run 2

Energy dependence of coherent J/ψ in γ Pb

[JHEP10\(2023\)119](#)



Both gluon saturation and shadowing describe the data at high energies

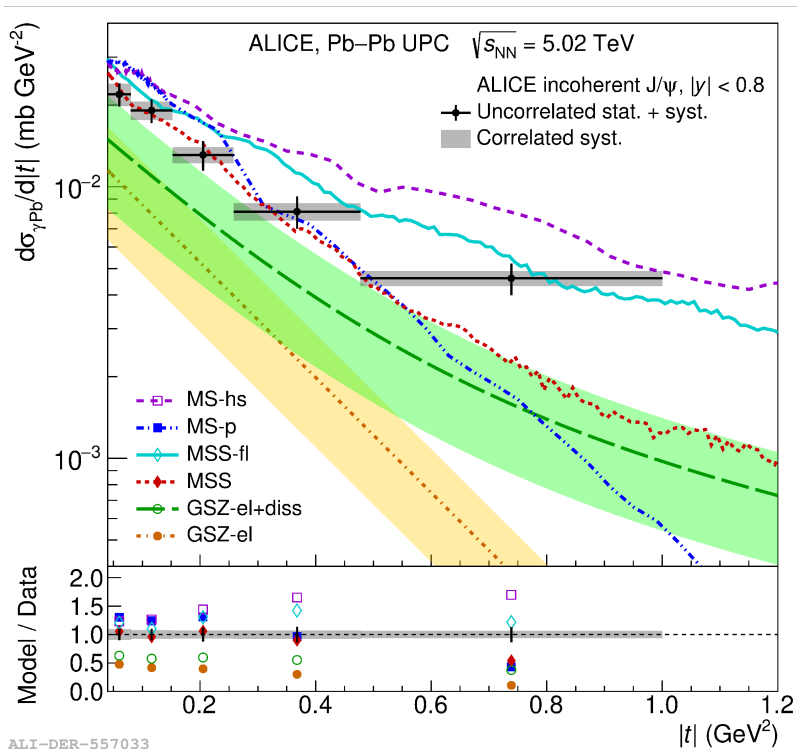
At low energies the data cannot be described by these models

t-dependence of coherent and incoherent J/ψ in UPC Pb-Pb

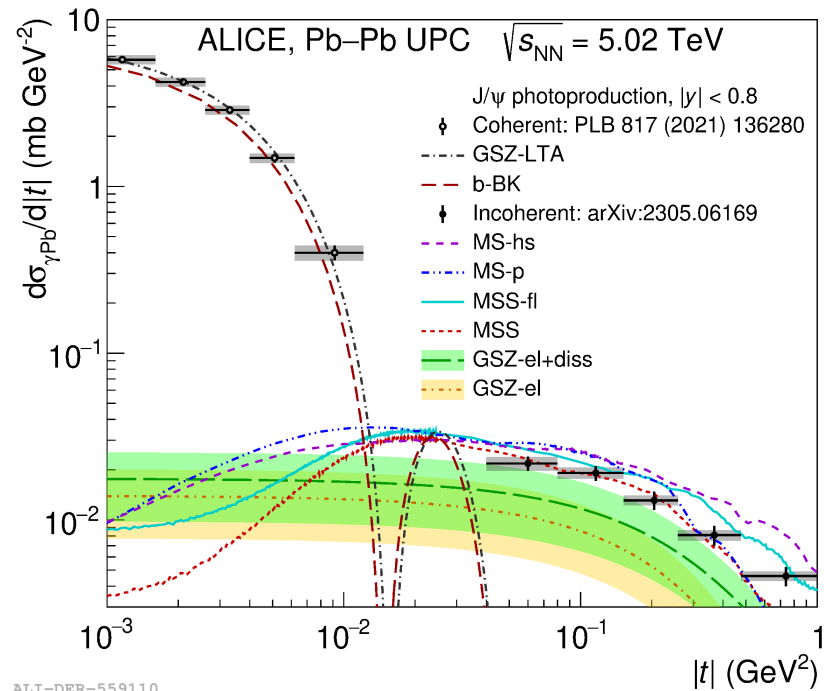
First measurement of the $|t|$ -dependence of incoherent J/ψ photonuclear production

Phys.Rev.Lett. 132 (2024) 16, 162302

Probing for gluonic "hot spots" in Pb using UPCs for the first time!

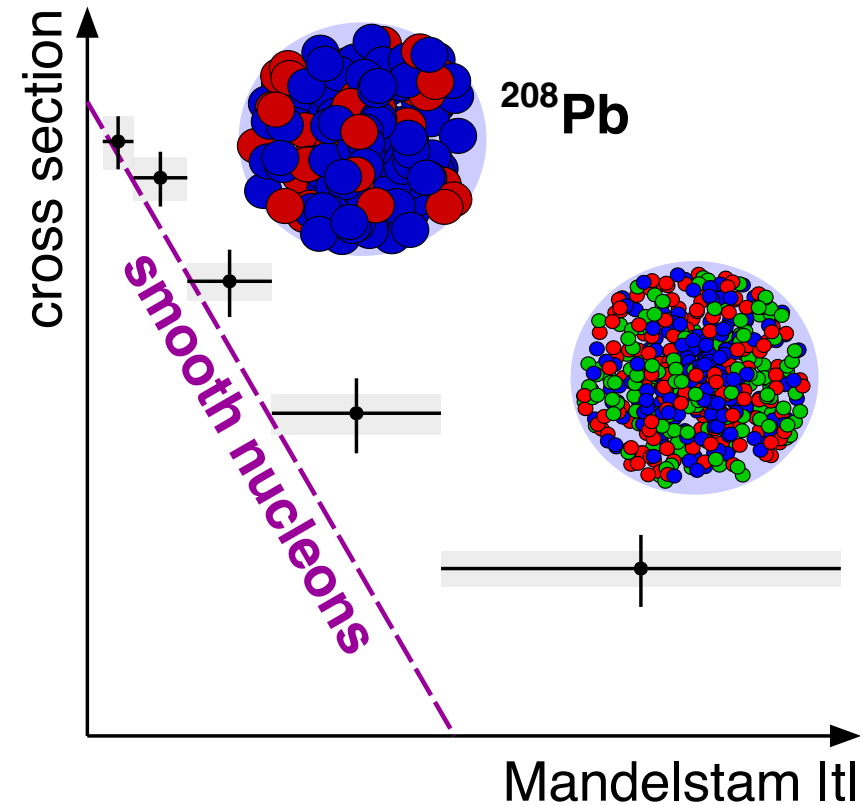


ALI-DER-557033



ALI-DER-559110

t-dependence of incoherent J/ψ in UPC Pb-Pb

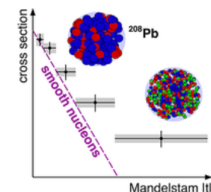


Editors' Suggestion

First Measurement of the $|t|$ Dependence of Incoherent J/ψ Photonuclear Production

S. Acharya *et al.* (ALICE Collaboration)

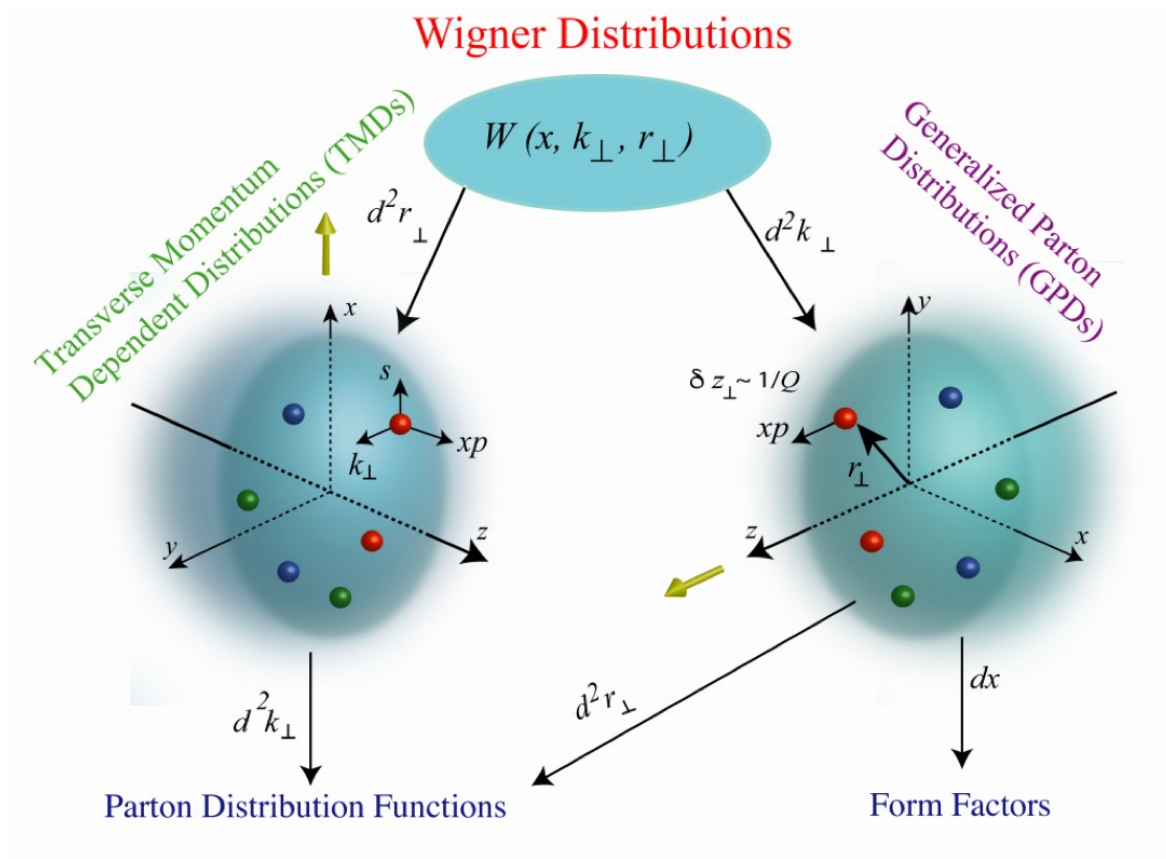
Phys. Rev. Lett. **132**, 162302 (2024) – Published 19 April 2024



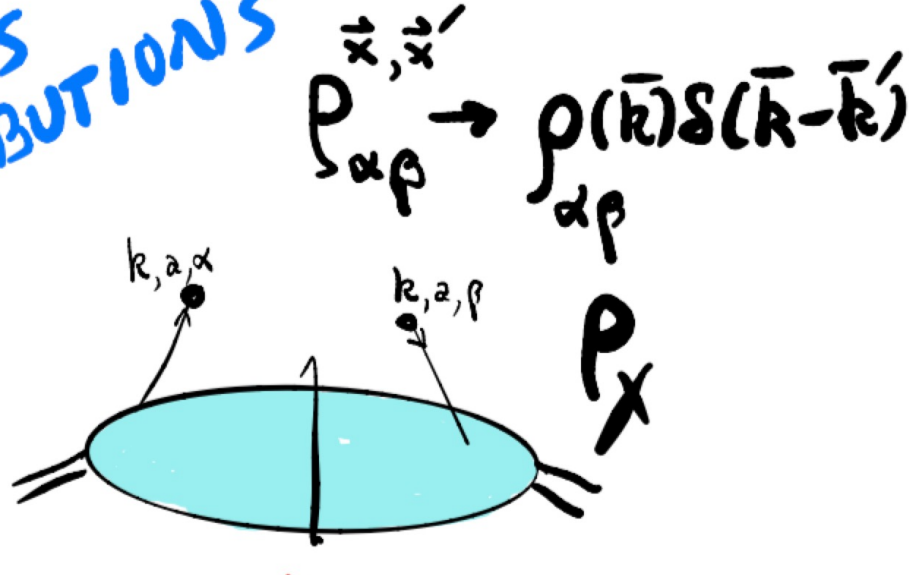
The first experimental measurement of the incoherent photonuclear production of J/ψ in ultraperipheral heavy-ion collisions is better explained by the presence of subnuclear quantum fluctuations of the gluon field.

[Show Abstract +](#)

Beyond the 1-Dimensional picture



PARTON
DISTRIBUTIONS
AIN'T DISTRIBUTIONS



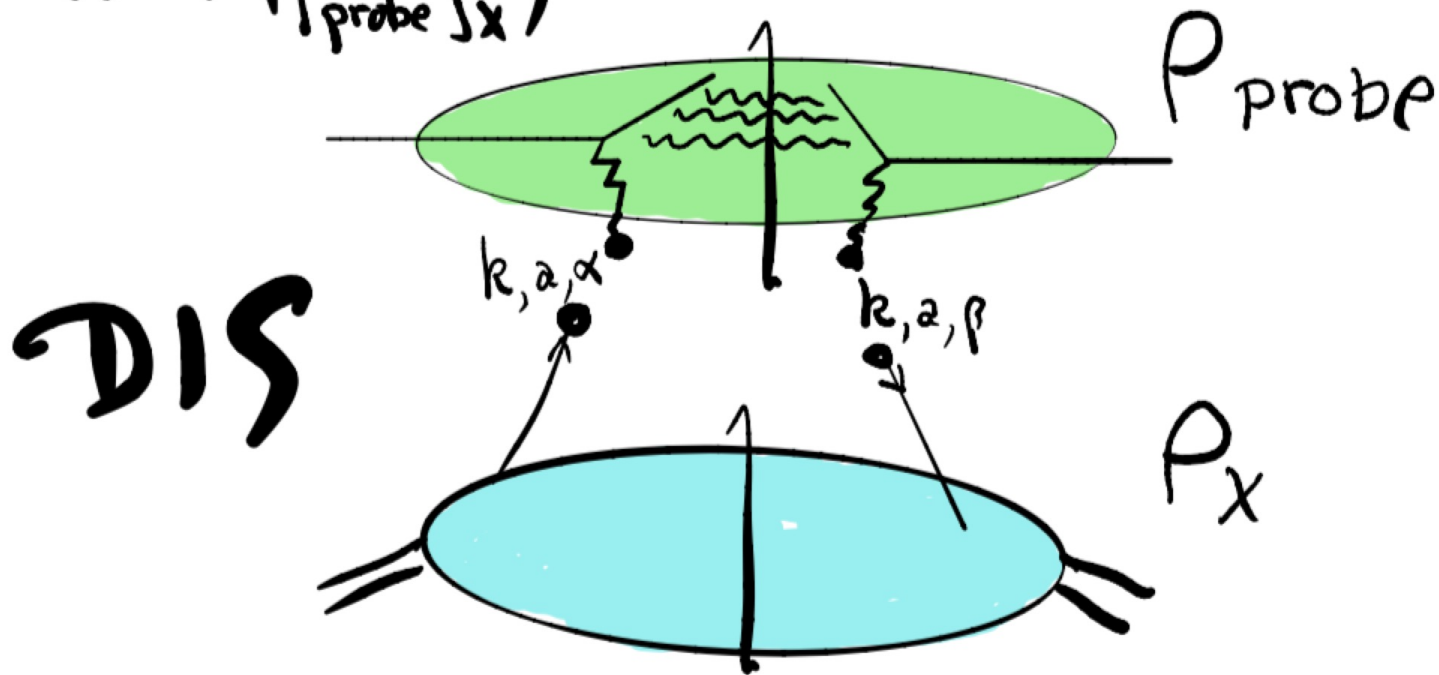
PARTON "DISTRIBUTIONS" ARE DENSITY MATRICES

DIAGONAL IN MOMENTUM, NOT POLARIZATION

A new point of view

EVERY CROSS SECTION

$$d\sigma = \text{tr}(\rho_{\text{probe}} \rho_X)$$

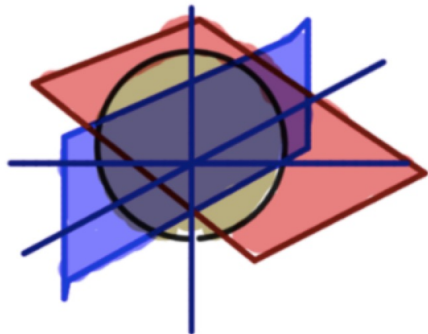


A new point of view

Martens, Ralston, Tapia Takaki Eur. Phys. J. C78, 5, 2018

TOMOGRAPHY

reconstructs higher dimensional objects from lower dimensional projections



QUANTUM TOMOGRAPHY

reconstructs density matrix or wave function from quantum observables

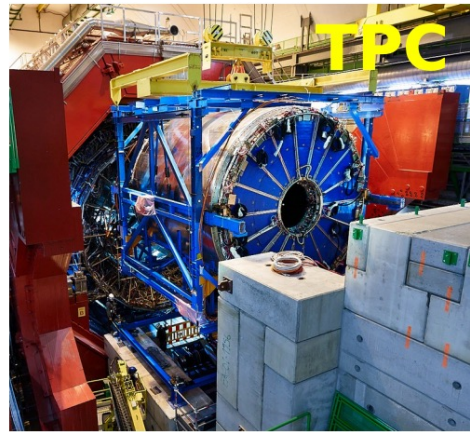
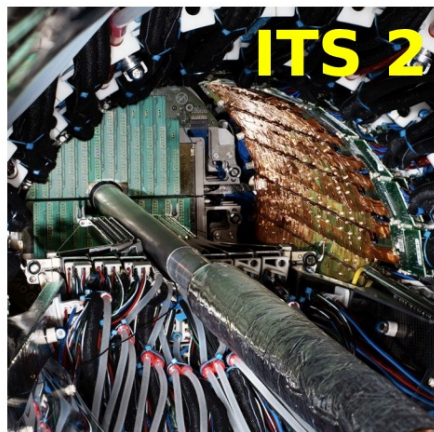
$$\langle \hat{A} \rangle = \langle \psi | \hat{A} | \psi \rangle$$
$$\rightarrow \text{tr}(\rho \hat{A})$$

$$\rho > 0$$

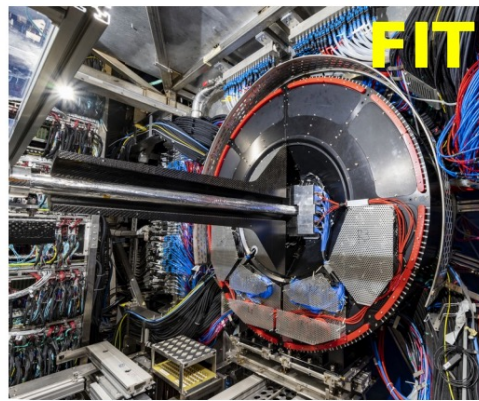
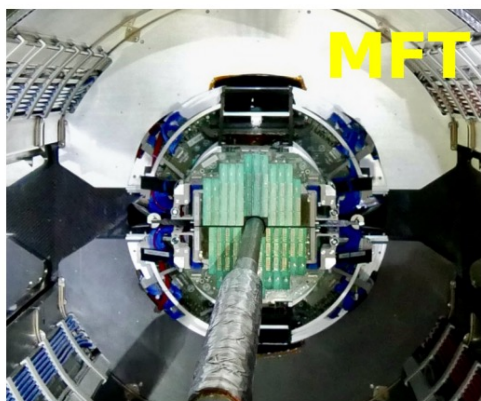
positive evals

$$\rightarrow \rho = \rho^\dagger$$

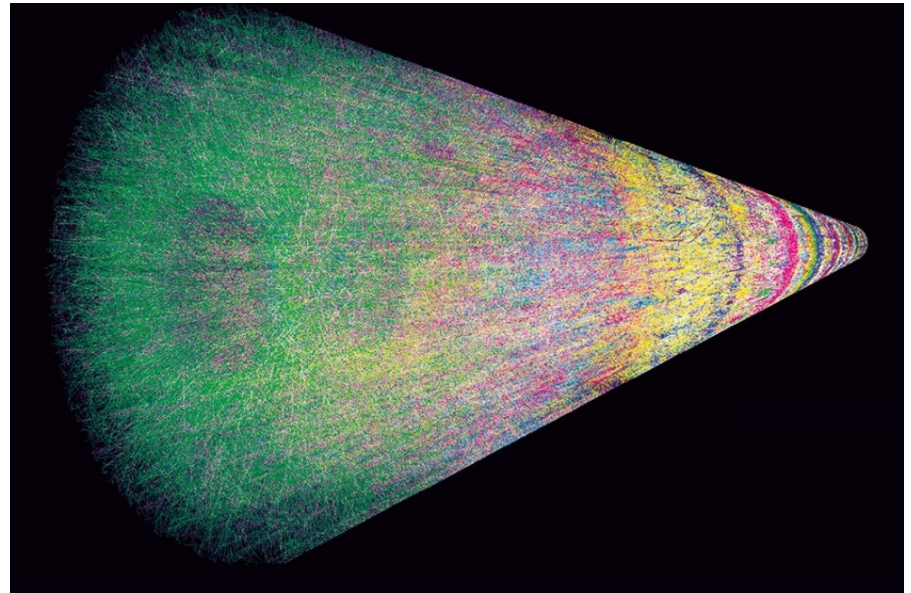
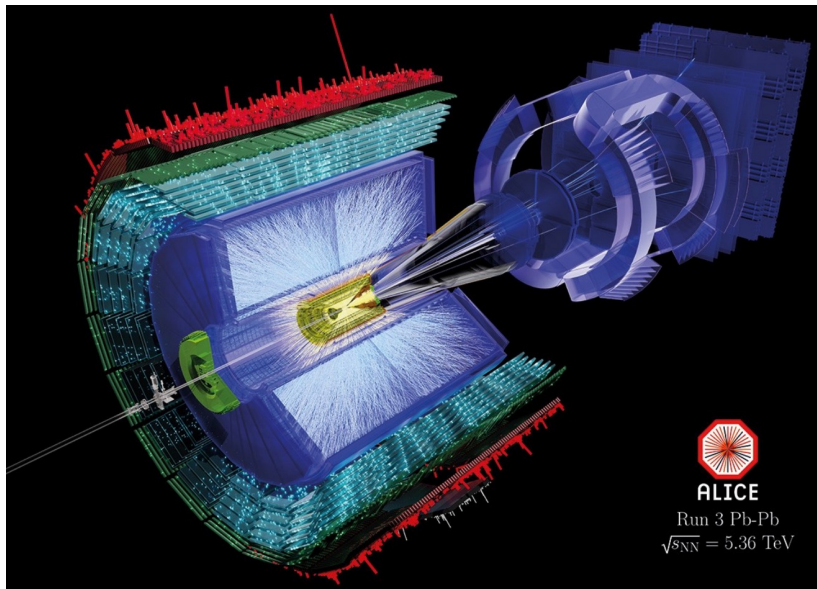
ALICE in Run 3: A major upgrade



- 50 times increase in the readout rate
- 3 to 6x improvement in pointing resolution
- Secondary vertexing for forward muons

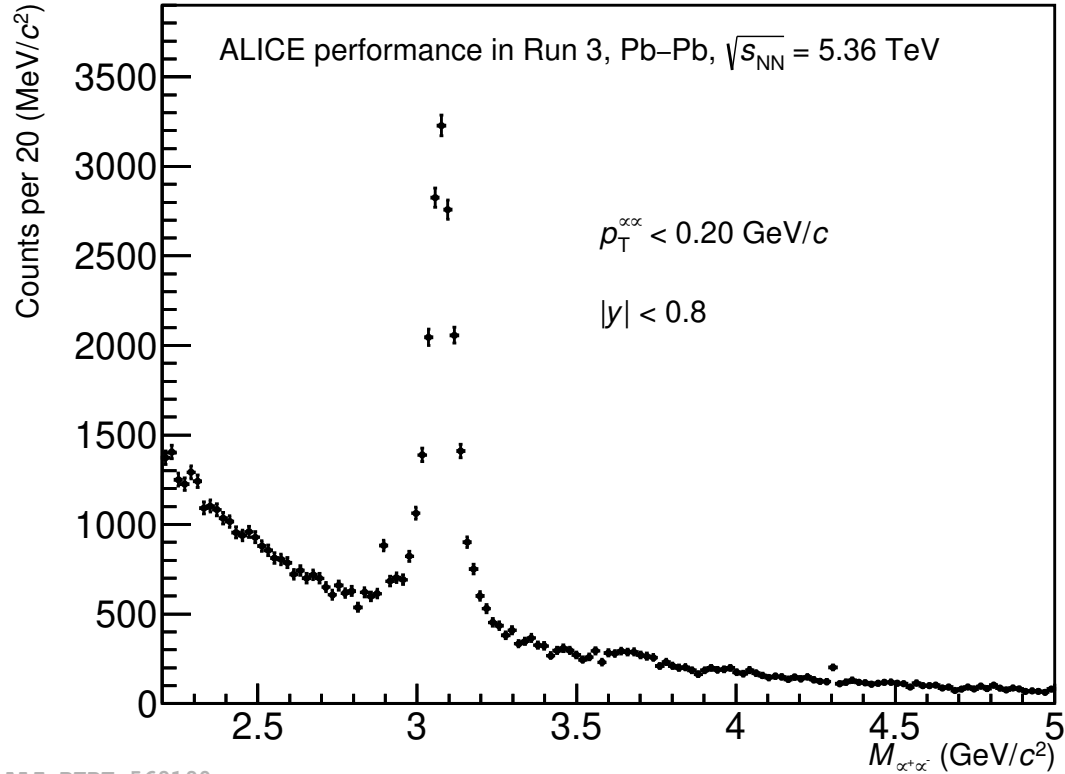


ALICE in Run 3: Trigger-less mode



2 μs time frame of Pb-Pb collisions at a 50 kHz interaction rate in the TPC

Great performance for reconstructing UPC vector mesons



ALI-PERF-569190

- The trigger-less mode will enable to develop further the UPC physics program in ALICE from Run 3
- New processes, including inelastic UPC events will be possible

Run 3 data analysis: Inelastic γ +Pb \rightarrow X events

Experimental signatures for inelastic photonuclear interactions:

1) There is a rapidity gap on the side of the photon-emitting nucleus \rightarrow main experimental signature

2) The photon energy \ll beam energy \rightarrow particle production is shifted in rapidity to the side of the target nucleus

Phys. Rev C 66 (2002) 044906

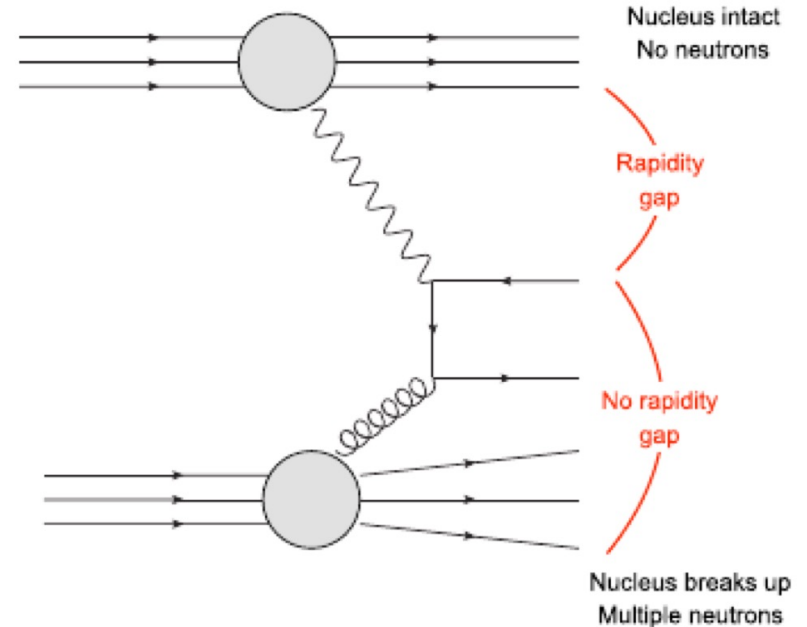
Total cross sections in Pb+Pb @ $\sqrt{s} = 5.5$ TeV

$$\sigma(\text{Pb+Pb} \rightarrow \text{Pb+ccbar+X}) = 2b$$

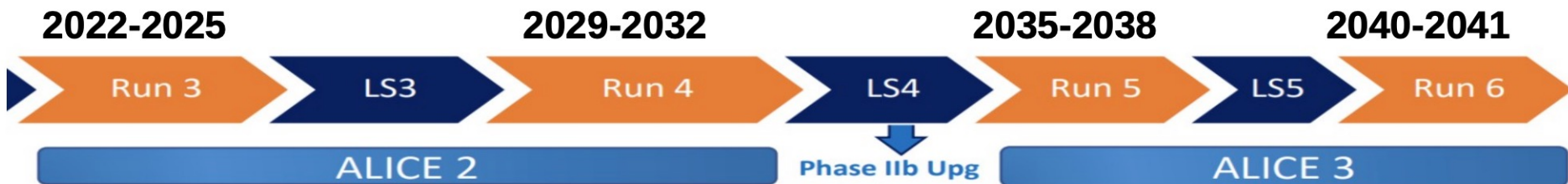
$$\sigma(\text{Pb+Pb} \rightarrow \text{Pb} + \text{bbbar} + \text{X}) = 830 \mu\text{b}$$

Direct production: a bare photon interacts with a parton in the target

Resolved production: the photon fluctuates to vector meson which interacts inelastically with the target



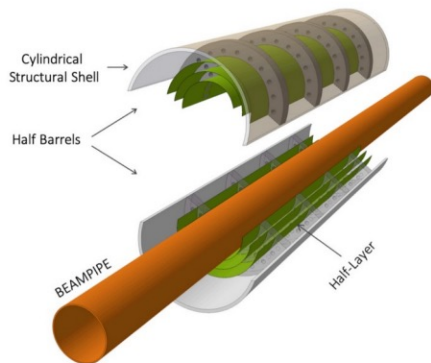
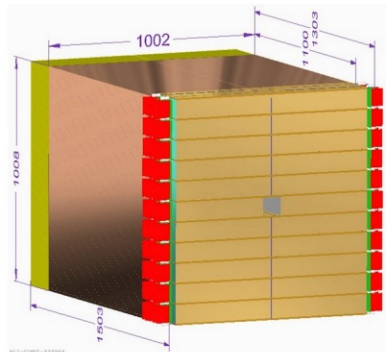
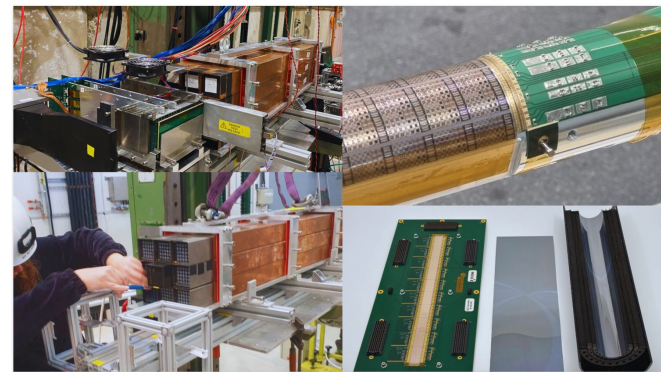
ALICE timeline



ALICE gets the green light for new subdetectors

CERN's dedicated heavy-ion physics experiment, ALICE, is upgrading its Inner Tracking System and adding a forward calorimeter for the next phase of the LHC upgrade

25 APRIL, 2024 | By ALICE collaboration



FoCal and ITS3

The ALICE FoCal project for Run 4



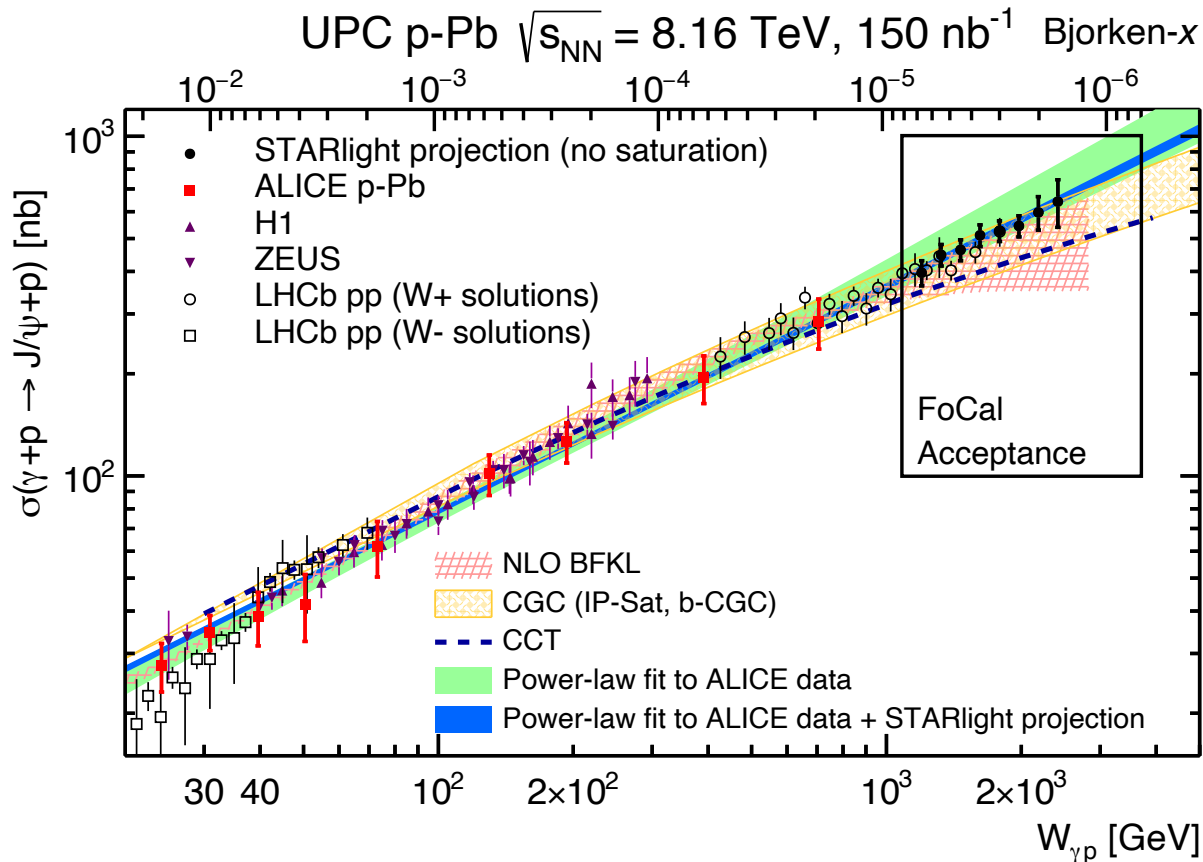
UPC VM projections for FoCal

A. Bylinkin, J. Nystrand and DTT

J. Phys. G 50 (2023) 055105, 5

VM	$\sigma(p + Pb \rightarrow p + Pb + VM)$	$\sigma(3.4 \leq \eta_{1,2} \leq 5.8)$ p \rightarrow FoCal	Yield p \rightarrow FoCal
ρ^0	35 mb	140 nb	21,000
ϕ	1.7 mb	51 nb	7,700
J/ ψ	98 μ b	400 nb	<u>60,000</u>
$\psi(2S)$	16 μ b	8.9 nb	1,300
$\Upsilon(1S)$	220 nb	0.38 nb	60
		Pb \rightarrow FoCal	Pb \rightarrow FoCal
ρ^0	35 mb	17 nb	2,600
ϕ	1.7 mb	5.3 nb	800
J/ ψ	98 μ b	36 nb	<u>5,400</u>
$\psi(2S)$	16 μ b	0.53 nb	80
$\Upsilon(1S)$	220 nb	0.67 pb	~ 0

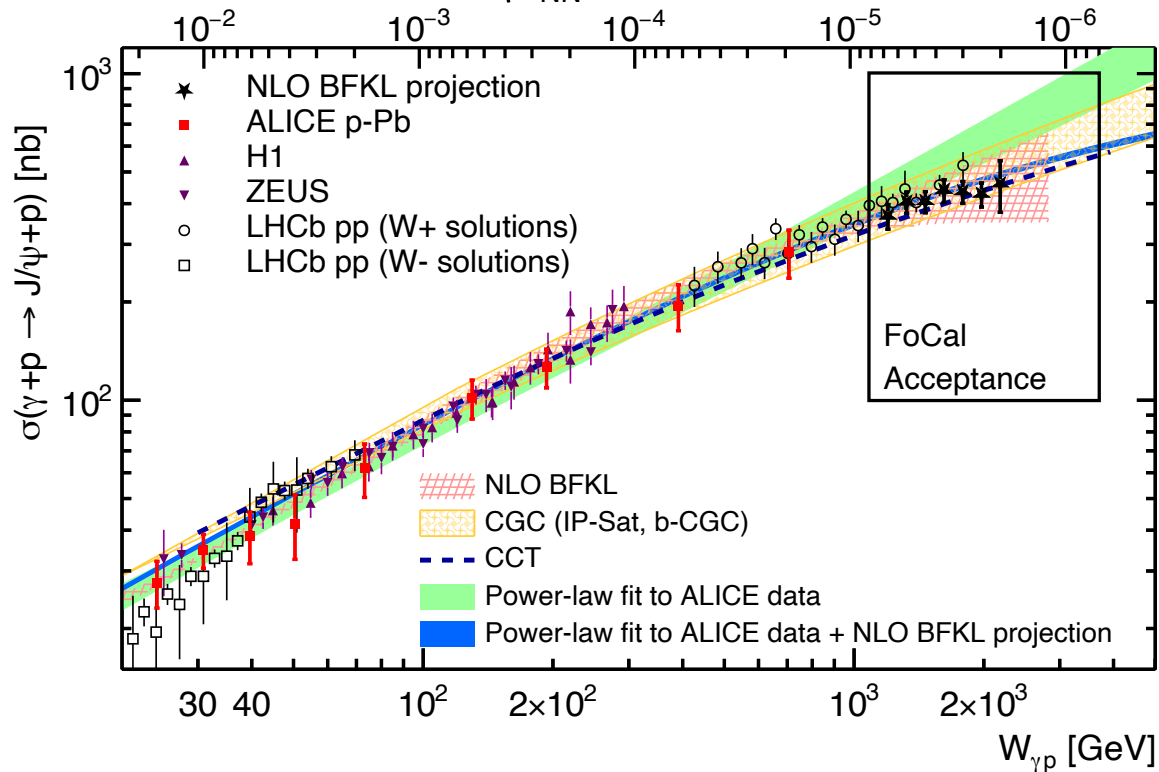
Projections for exclusive J/ψ off protons



- Deviations from a power-law trend should signal non-linear QCD dynamics
- Here, projections based on STARlight which uses a parametrization based on HERA data $\sigma_0 (W_{\gamma p}/W_0)^\delta$
- For all figures, 60% efficiency. Conservative assumption after acceptance selection

Projections for exclusive J/ψ off protons

UPC p-Pb $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16 \text{ TeV}$, 150 nb^{-1} Bjorken- x



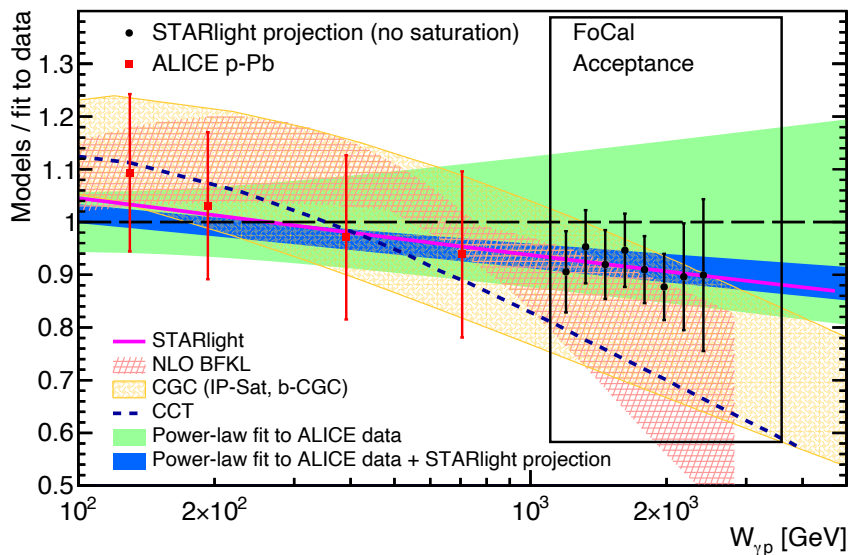
- Projections assuming a broken power-law
- Projected points based on NLO BFKL calculation

$$\sigma(\gamma p) \approx \frac{\sigma_0}{\frac{1}{W_{\gamma p}^\delta} + A}$$

Projections for exclusive J/ψ off protons

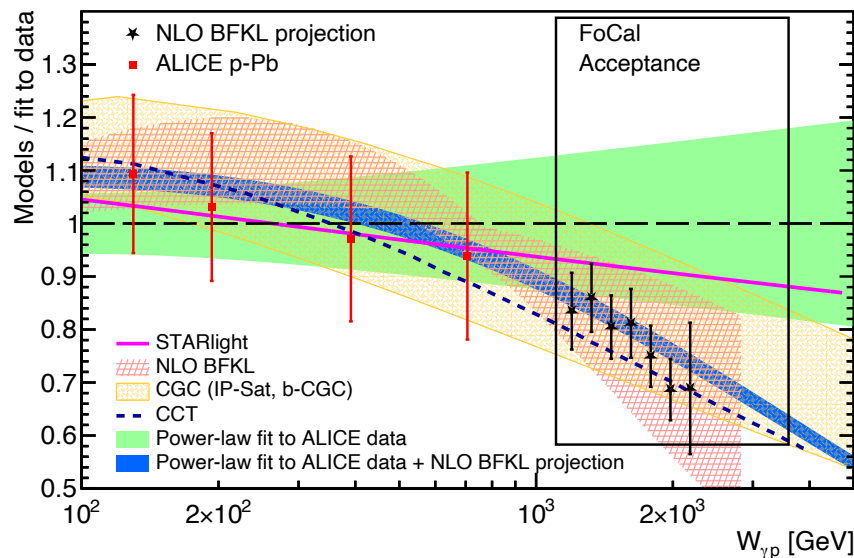
Power-law behavior (STARlight)

UPC p-Pb $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16$ TeV, 150 nb^{-1}



Broken power-law behavior (NLO BFKL)

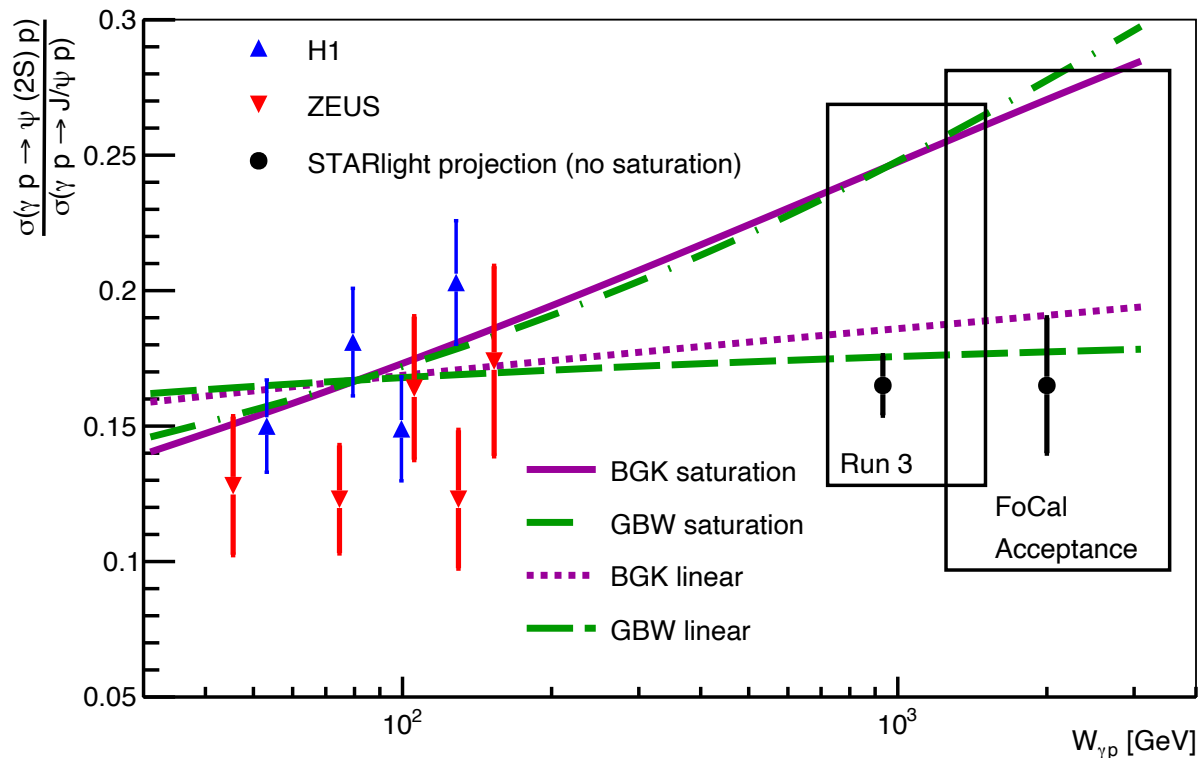
UPC p-Pb $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16$ TeV, 150 nb^{-1}



FoCal measurement would be sufficient to observe a deviation from a power law behavior, if exists

Projections for exclusive $\psi(2S)$ and J/ψ cross section ratio in γp

UPC p-Pb $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16$ TeV, 150 nb^{-1}

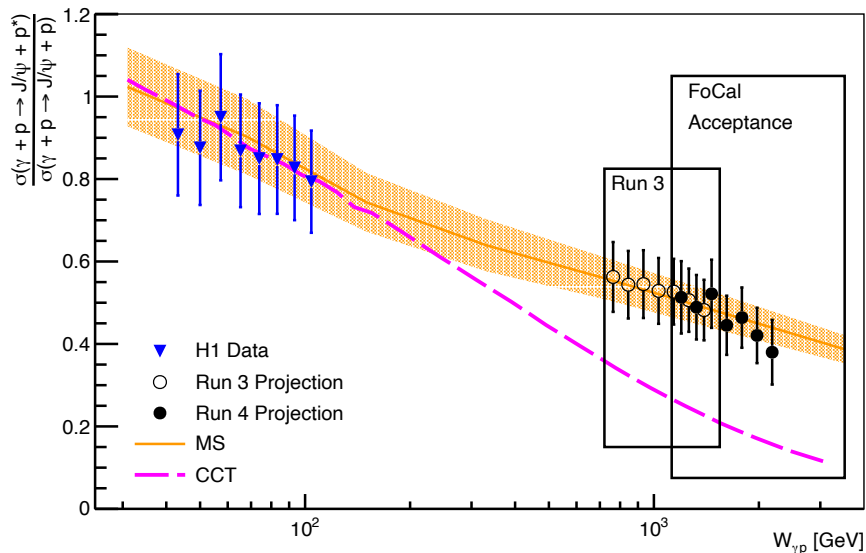


- Different wave functions and dipole sizes evolution result in great sensitivity to non-linear QCD effects
- No sensitivity at HERA, but expected at the LHC
- Projections here based on STARlight

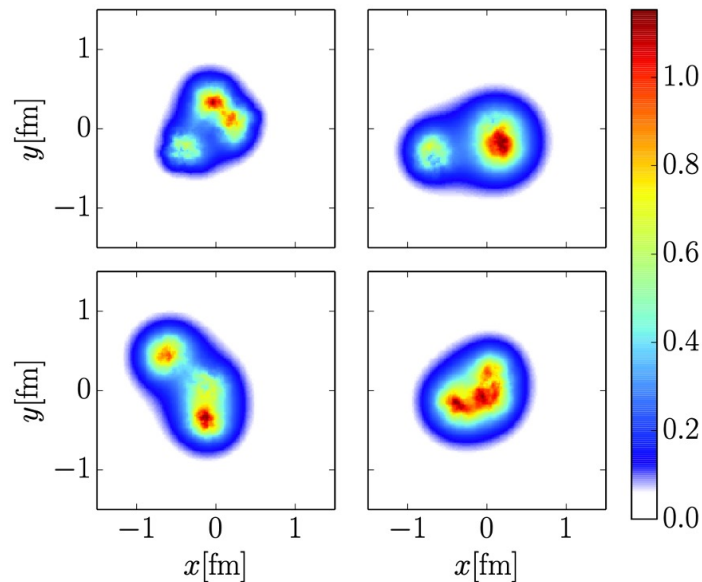
Projections for dissociative J/ψ cross section ratio in γp

J. Cepilia, J.G. Contreras and DTT
 Phys. Lett.B 766 (2017) 186-191

UPC p-Pb $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16$ TeV, 150 nb^{-1}



Projections here based on the MS model
 Event-by-event fluctuations



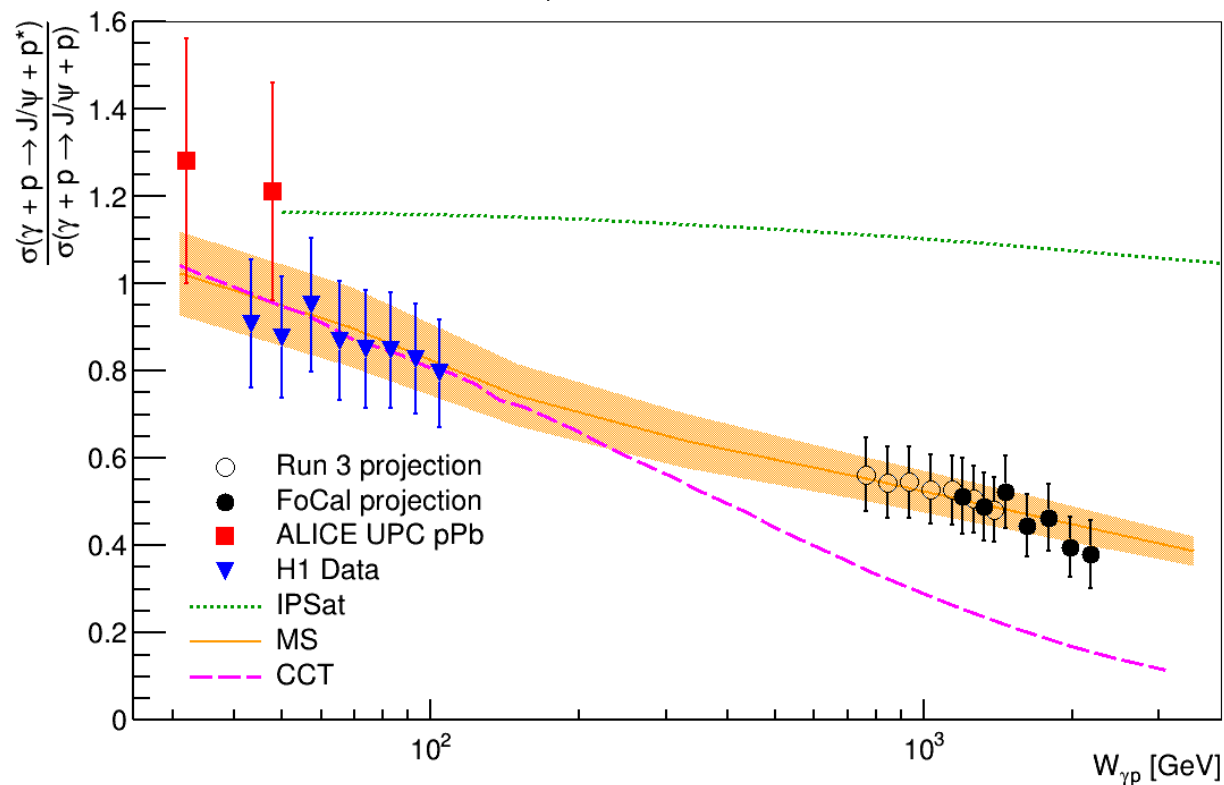
In the Good-Walker approach,
 sensitive to subnucleonic
fluctuations of the gluon density

$$\frac{d\sigma(\gamma p \rightarrow J/\psi Y)}{dt} = \frac{R_g^2}{16\pi} \left(\left\langle \left| A(x, Q^2, \vec{\Delta}) \right|^2 \right\rangle - \left| \langle A(x, Q^2, \vec{\Delta}) \rangle \right|^2 \right)$$

Mantysaari and Schenk, PRD 94, 034042 (2016)
 S. Klein arXiv:2301.014018

Projections for dissociative J/ψ cross section ratio in γp

UPC p-Pb $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16 \text{ TeV}, 150 \text{ nb}^{-1}$



Projections for VMs in γ Pb

$$\mathcal{L} = 7.0 \text{ nb}^{-1}$$

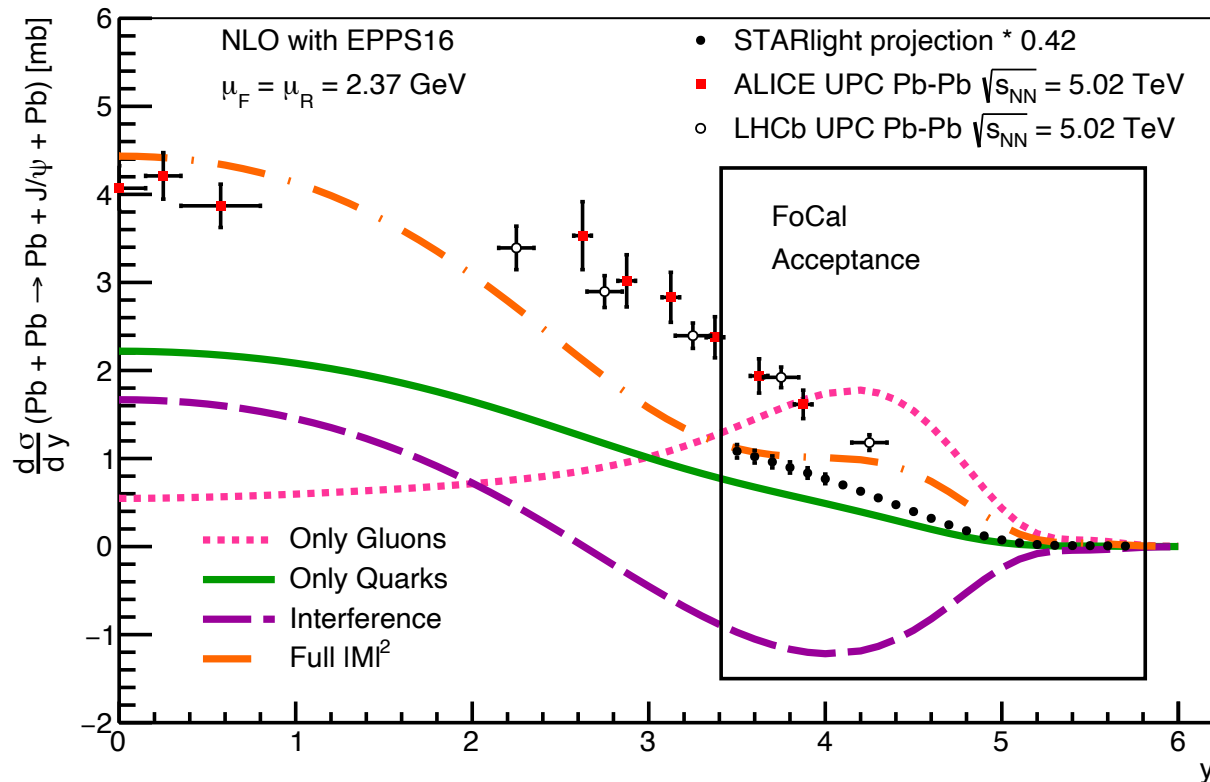
A. Bylinkin, J. Nystrand and DTT

J.Phys.G 50 (2023) 055105, 5

VM	$\sigma(\text{Pb} + \text{Pb} \rightarrow \text{Pb} + \text{Pb} + \text{VM})$	$\sigma(3.4 \leq \eta_{1,2} \leq 5.8)$	Yield
ρ^0	5.0 b	20 μb	140,000
ϕ	440 mb	10 μb	70,000
J/ψ	39 mb	53 μb	<u>370,000</u>
$\psi(2S)$	7.5 mb	1.1 μb	7,500
$\Upsilon(1S)$	94 μb	5.0 nb	35

Projections for coherent J/ψ cross section ratio in γ Pb

UPC Pb-Pb $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.36$ TeV, 7 nb^{-1}



- FoCal acceptance dominated by gluons and sensitivity to the form factor
- Projections here based on STARlight

Neutron-dependence of coherent J/ψ in γPb

Decomposed in terms of neutron configurations emitted in the forward region

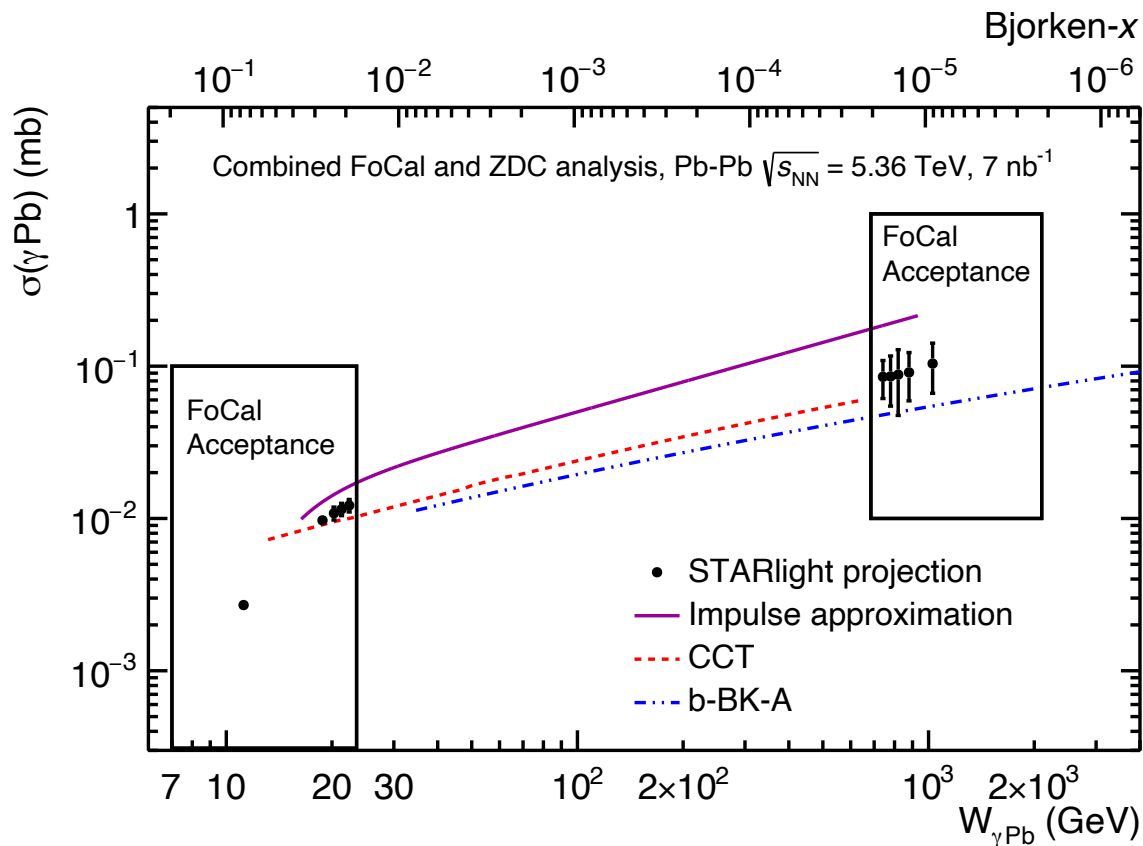
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy} = \frac{d\sigma(0n0n)}{dy} + 2\frac{d\sigma(0nXn)}{dy} + \frac{d\sigma(XnXn)}{dy}$$

Neutron configuration	$\sigma(\text{Pb} + \text{Pb} \rightarrow J/\psi + \text{Pb} + \text{Pb})$	$\sigma(3.4 \leq \eta_{1,2} \leq 5.8)$	Yield
0n0n	28.8 mb	47 μb	329,000
0nXn + Xn0n	7.3 mb	5.0 μb	35,000
XnXn	3.0 mb	2.0 μb	14,000

Solving the linear equations resolves the two-photon ambiguity for VMs at $y \neq 0$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dy} = n(+y)\sigma(\gamma\text{p}, +y) + n(-y)\sigma(\gamma\text{p}, -y)$$

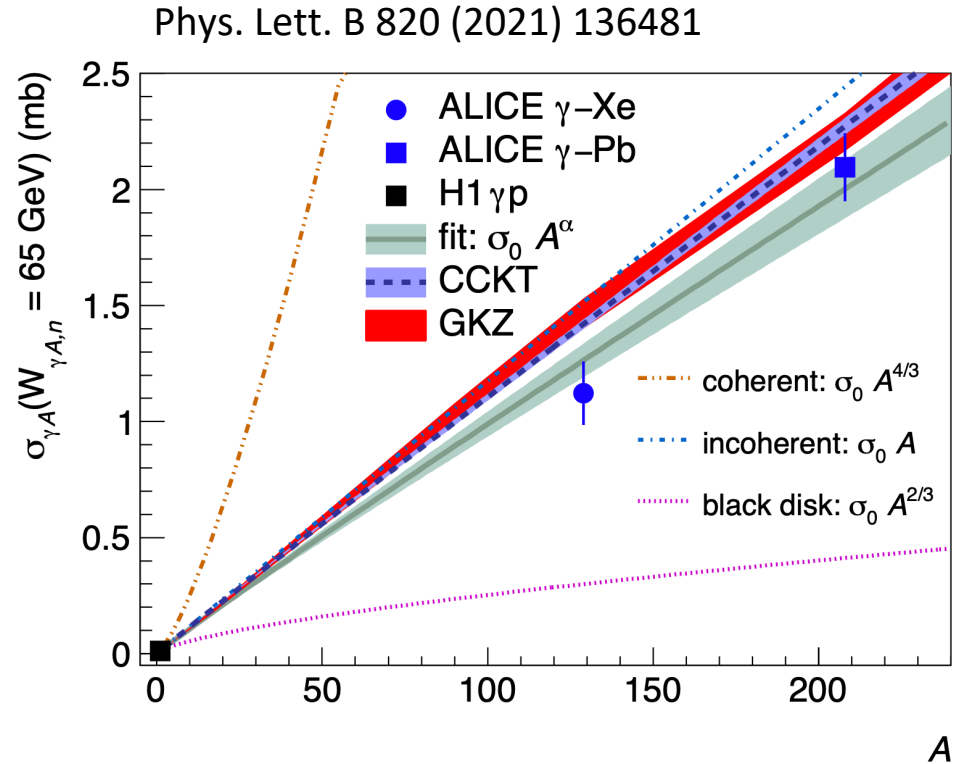
Projections for Neutron-dependence of coherent J/ψ in γ Pb



- Neutrons measured with Zero Degree Calorimeters
- Projections based on STARlight
- ALICE will be the only detector capable of explore $x \sim 10^{-6}$ in Pb thanks to FoCal

Ideas for the UPC O-O program

- With sufficient luminosity, it would be possible to study the A -dependence of UPC J/ψ for p , O and Pb
- Possible to do the A -dependence for UPC ρ^0 for p , O , Xe and Pb
- The probability for Coulomb excitation in coincidence with vector meson production in O - O is small. So, unlikely to be able to extract r_0 photonuclear cross section using $0nXn$ and $XnXn$ fragmentation



Thanks!
