

# Recent results and upgrade of the ALICE muon spectrometer

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*Luca Quaglia<sup>1</sup> on behalf of the ALICE collaboration*

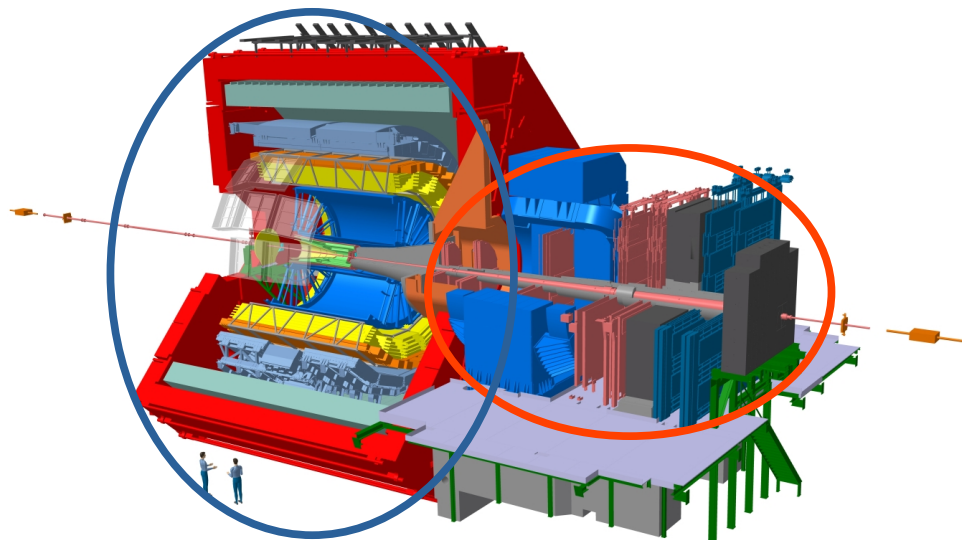
<sup>1</sup>INFN Torino, Italy

# Overview

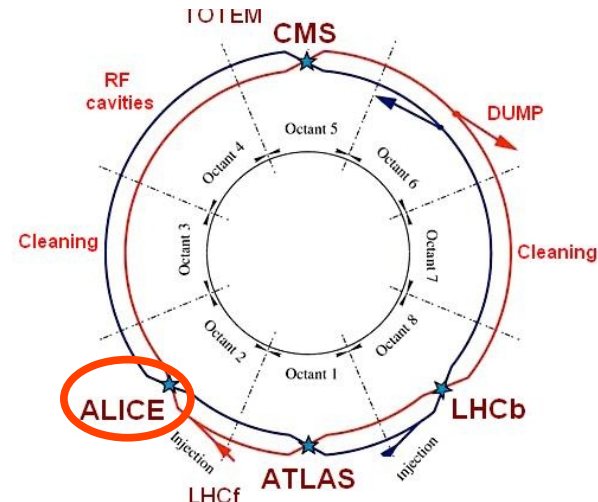
- ALICE and its Muon Spectrometer (MS) in LHC Run 1 and 2
- Some results from the MS in Run 2
- The upgraded MS for Run 3 onward
- Physics performance in Run 3
- Conclusions

# The ALICE detector at CERN

- **A** **L**arge **I**on **C**ollider **E**xperiment (ALICE) is one of the four experiments located at the CERN Large Hadron Collider (LHC)
- Multi-purpose detector, taking data in all colliding systems: **pp**, **Pb-Pb** and **p-Pb**
- Mainly focused on the study of Quark-Gluon plasma (QGP) in heavy-ion collisions



Rendering of the ALICE detector

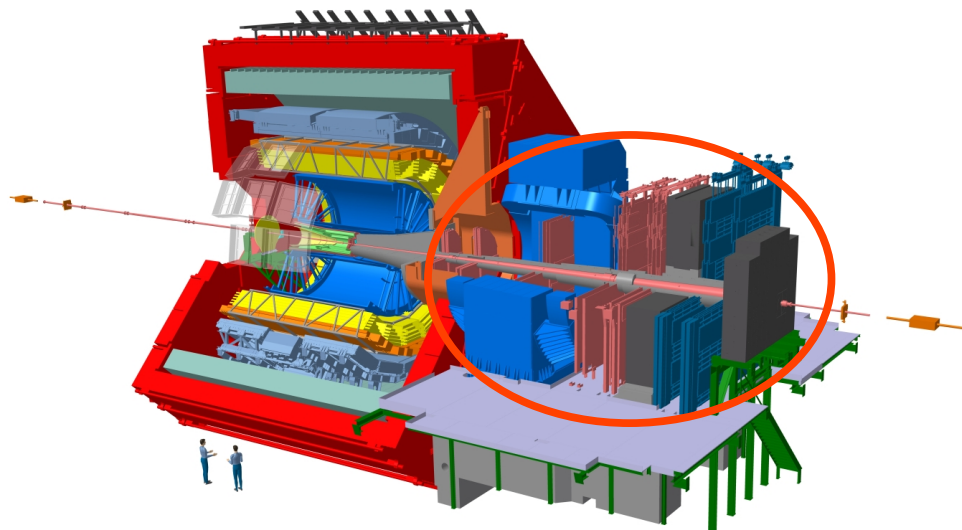


Scheme of the LHC ring, taken from Evans, L. and Bryant, P. (2008)

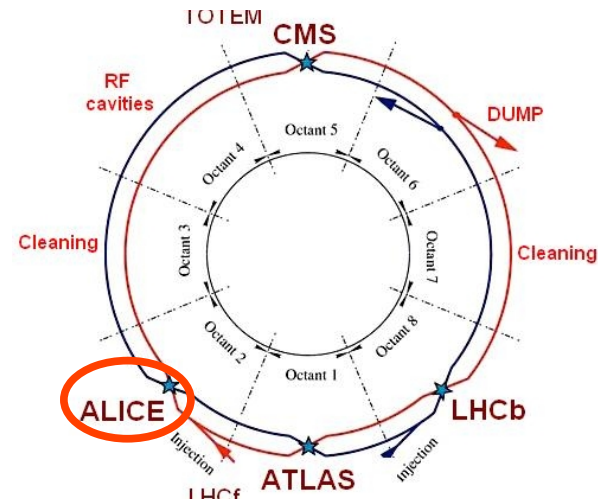
- Two spatially distinct detection regions
- **Central barrel  $|y| < 0.9$** 
  - Particle tracking & identification
- **Muon spectrometer (MS)  $-4 < y < 2.5$** 
  - Located at forward rapidity
  - Muon identification and tracking down to  $p_T = 0$

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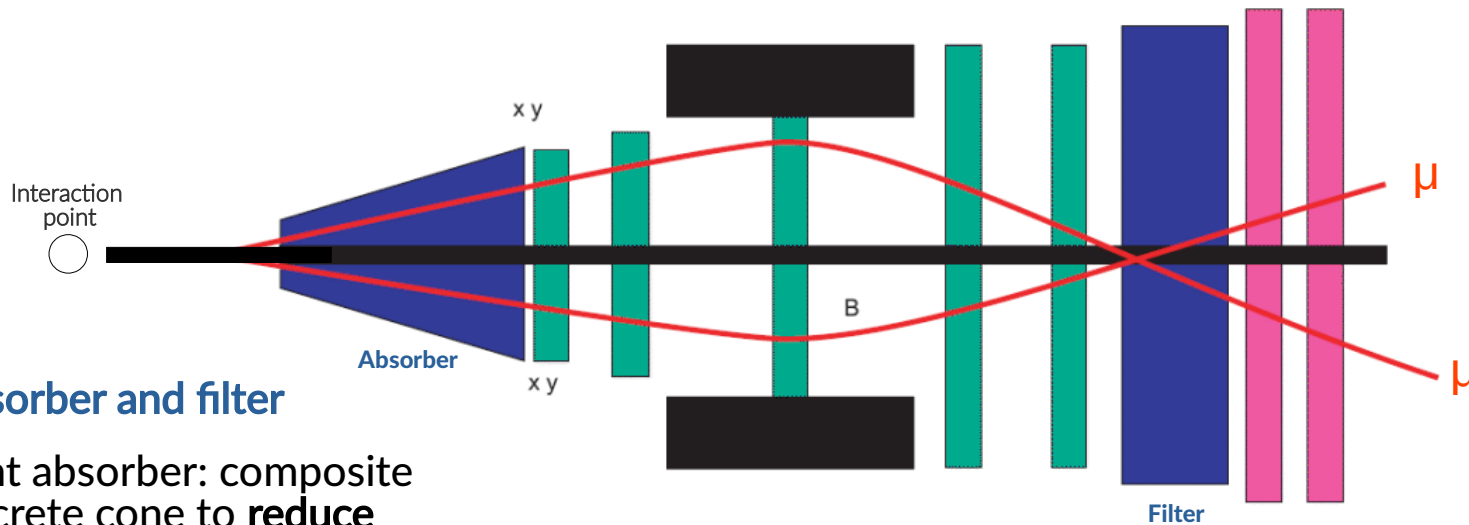
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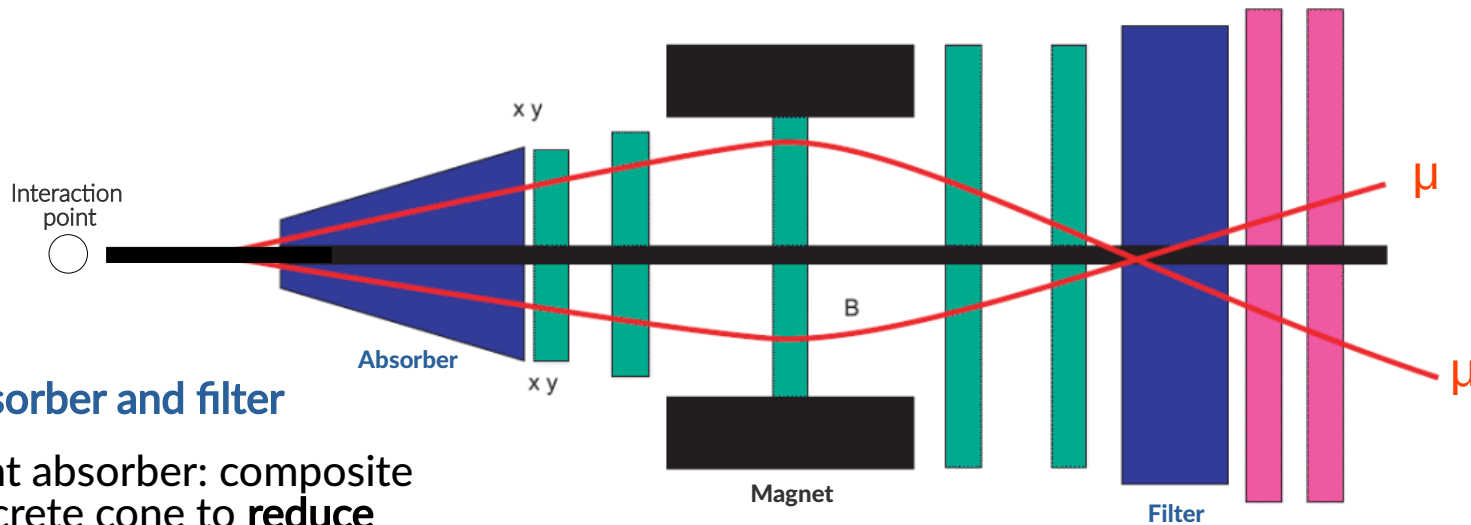
# The ALICE Muon Spectrometer in Run 1/2



## Front absorber and filter

- Front absorber: composite concrete cone to **reduce hadron contamination**
- Filter: iron wall to **stop residual hadrons**

# The ALICE Muon Spectrometer in Run 1/2



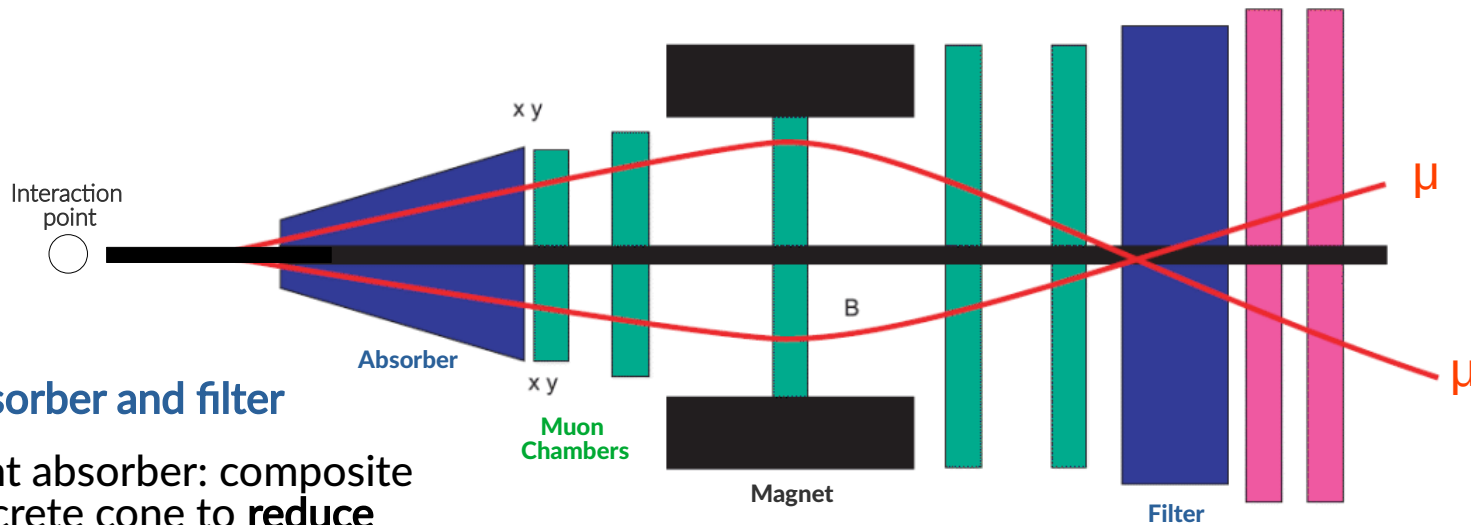
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- Dipole magnet to **bend muon tracks**
- Measure **momentum and charge**

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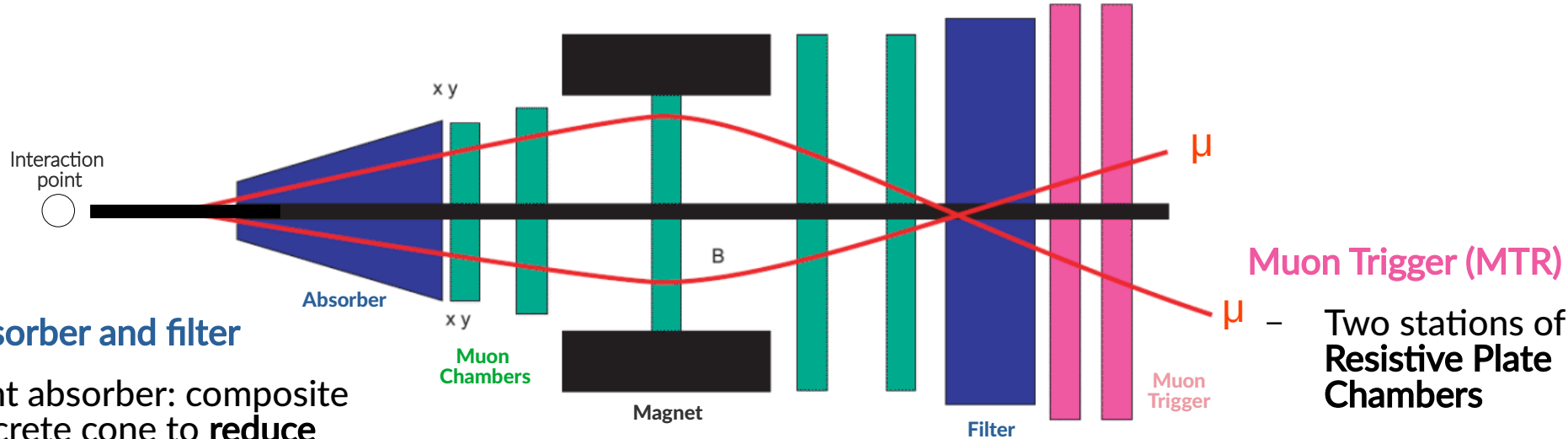
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## Muon chambers (MCH)

- Five stations of **cathode pad/strip chambers**
- Provide **muon tracking**

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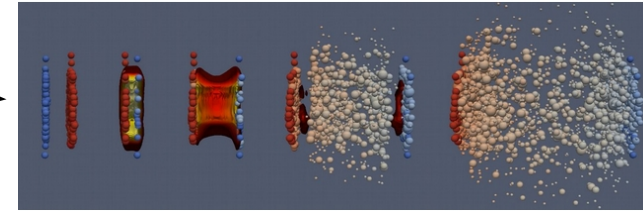
- Five stations of **cathode pad/strip chambers**
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## Muon Trigger (MTR)

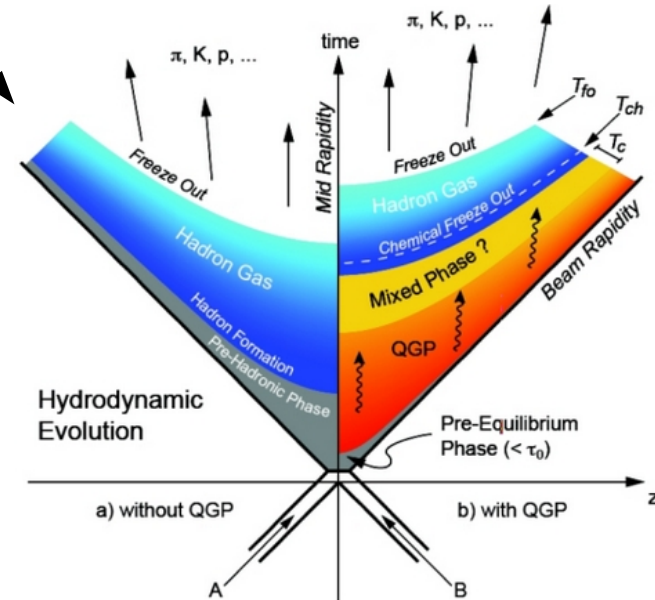
- Two stations of **Resistive Plate Chambers**
- Provides **muon triggering** for the MS

# Physics goals of the MS

- Space-time evolution of ultra-relativistic heavy-ion collision
- If **critical temperature** and **energy density** is reached
  - Formation of **QGP**
  - State of nuclear matter where quarks and gluons are not confined and can move freely over distances larger than hadron size
- QGP is short-living ( $\sim 10$  fm/c)
  - Cannot be studied directly
  - Long-lived probes are needed
- Few examples of interest in the MS discussed later
  - **Heavy-flavor production**
  - **$J/\Psi$  elliptic flow**
  - **Quarkonium suppression**
  - .....



Simulation of heavy-ion collision evolution, taken from this [website](#)



Schematic space-time evolution of a heavy-ion collision, taken from this [website](#)

# MS capabilities

- Exploit muonic decays of quarkonia and heavy flavors to study QGP
- Measure charmonium production down to  $p_T = 0$ 
  - Charmonium production is sensitive to QGP effects
- Cover a pseudorapidity range that completes the central barrel ( $|\eta| < 0.9$ ) and the ATLAS/CMS coverage
- Disentangle the 3  $\Upsilon$  resonances ( $\Upsilon(1S)$ ,  $\Upsilon(2S)$ ,  $\Upsilon(3S)$ )
  - $\Delta M_{\Upsilon(3S)-\Upsilon(2S)} \sim 300 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
  - Mass resolution  $\sim 150 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  and  $\sim 70 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  in the  $\Upsilon$  and  $J/\psi$  mass regions

# Physics results: heavy-quark production

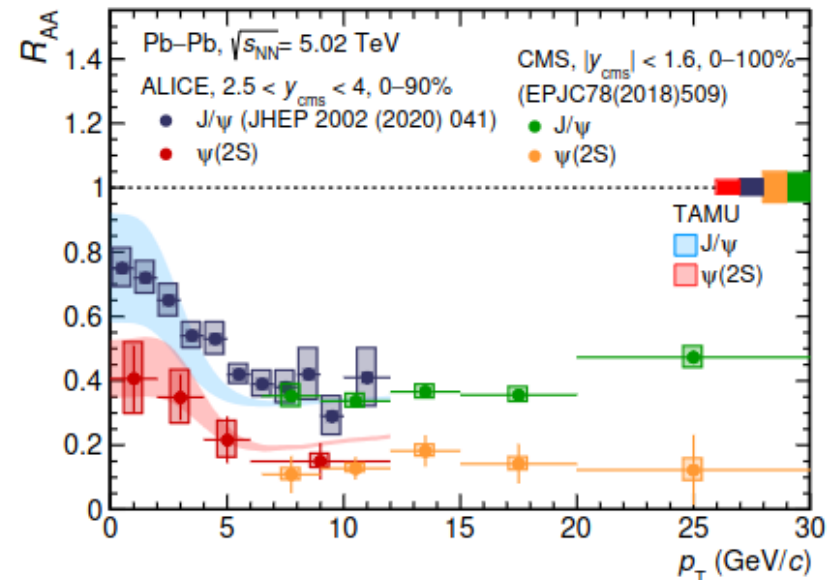
- Heavy quarks are **produced in the first stages of the Pb-Pb collisions**
  - They experience the full evolution of the system
  - They lose energy in the QGP via **radiative** and **collisional** energy loss
  - **Dead-cone effect**
    - Lighter quarks lose more energy while traversing QGP
- In-medium effects quantified by the nuclear modification factor ( $R_{AA}$ )

$$R_{AA}(p_T, y) = \frac{1}{\langle T_{AA} \rangle} \times \frac{d^2 N_{AA} / dp_T dy}{d^2 \sigma_{pp} / dp_T dy}$$

- $\langle T_{AA} \rangle$  is the **average nuclear overlap function**, the numerator is the  $p_T$  and  $y$ -dependent particle yield in Pb-Pb collisions and the denominator is the production cross-section in pp collisions (at the **same center-of-mass energy as the Pb-Pb ones**)

# Quarkonium suppression

- Large density of free color charges in QGP
  - **Screening of quark-antiquark binding** and dissociation of quarkonia
  - Charmonia ( $c\bar{c}$  pairs) exist in different states
  - $J/\psi$  and  $\psi(2s)$  (excited state) with **different binding energy** ( $\sim 640$  vs  $\sim 50$  MeV)
  - Dissociation of different states happens at different temperatures
- Clear **hierarchy** in  $J/\psi$  and  $\psi(2s)$  suppression across all  $p_T$  range
- **Larger suppression for  $\psi(2s)$**  but similar trend for the two states
- $R_{AA}$  **increase at low  $p_T$**  explained by **recombination** of charm quarks/anti-quarks
- **CMS data at higher  $p_T$  in agreement with ALICE results** at lower  $p_T$



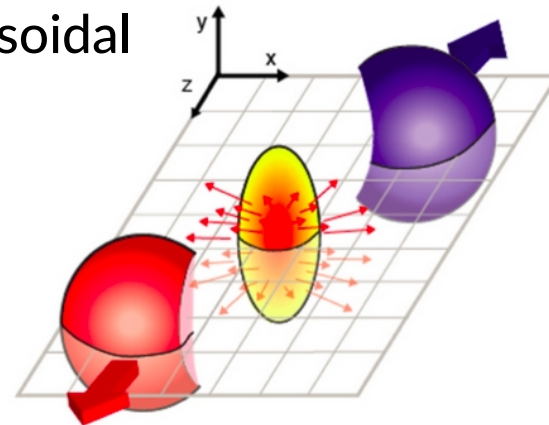
ALICE collaboration,  $\psi(2S)$  Suppression in Pb-Pb Collisions at the LHC, Phys. Rev. Lett. 132 (2024)

# J/Ψ flow in Pb-Pb collisions

- **Azimuthal dependence of particle production in Pb-Pb collisions**
  - Quantified in terms of a Fourier expansion of the distribution of the difference of the azimuthal angle of the particles ( $\phi$ ) wrt the angle of the initial symmetry plane ( $\Psi_n$ )

$$\frac{dN}{d\phi} \propto 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} v_n \cos[n(\phi - \psi_n)]$$

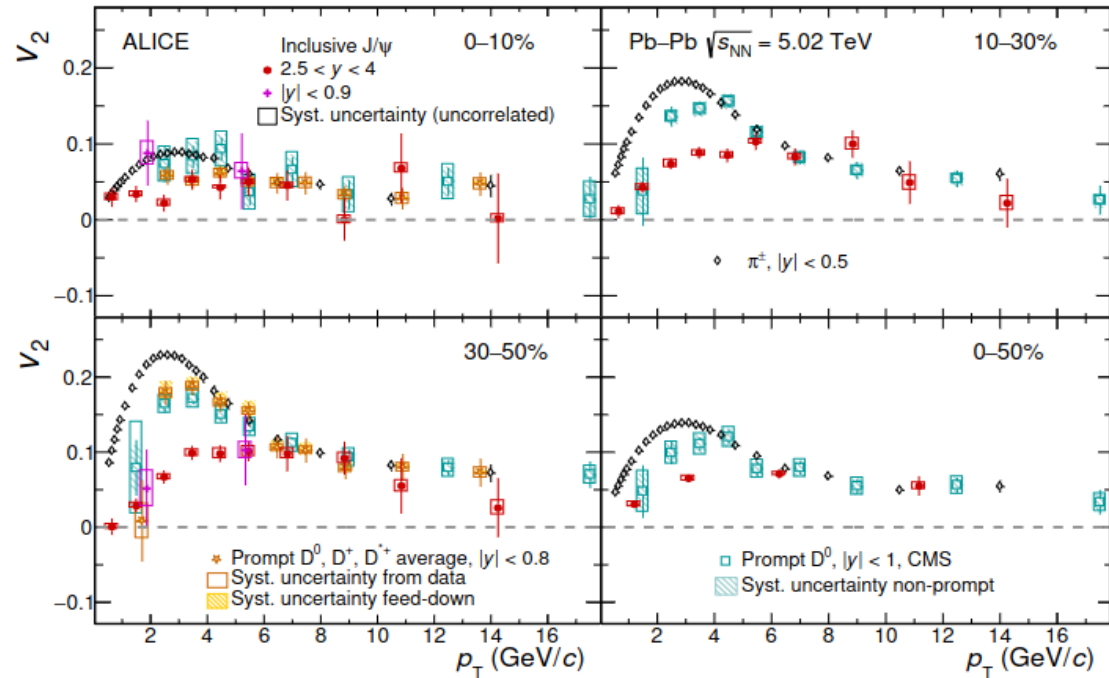
- **Initial state spatial anisotropy** of the collision overlap region is **transformed into a momentum anisotropy** of the produced particles
- Most dominant source of anisotropy is the ellipsoidal shape of the overlap region in peripheral Pb-Pb collisions
  - Second order harmonic ( $v_2$ )  
→ **Elliptic flow**



Sketch of peripheral Pb-Pb collision with ellipsoidal shape of overlap region. Figure taken from [this website](#)

# J/ψ flow in Pb-Pb collisions

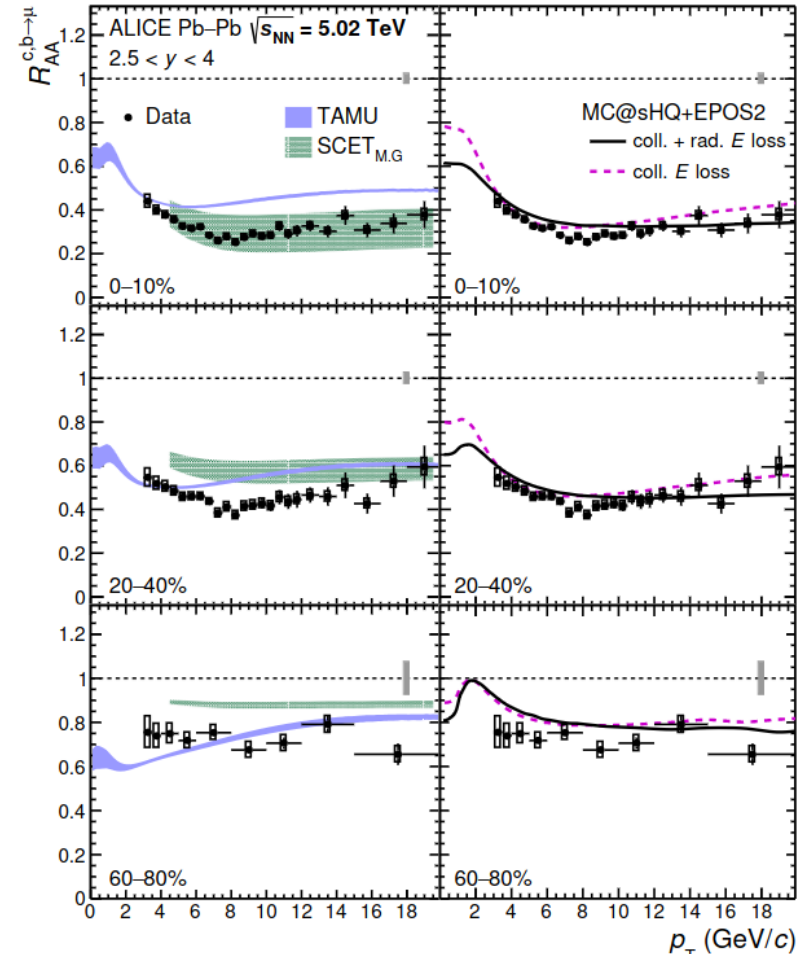
- $v_2$  coefficient calculated using the **scalar product** technique
- $v_2$  **increases with  $p_T$**  with a maximum at intermediate  $p_T$  and it also increases in **more peripheral collision** wrt central ones
- $v_2$  values are **statistically compatible with results at mid-rapidity**
- $v_2$  mass ordering for  $p_T < 6$  GeV/c while for  $p_T > 8$  GeV/c it converges to similar values



ALICE collaboration, *J/ψ elliptic and triangular flow in Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV*, J. High Energ. Phys., 141 (2020)

# Heavy flavor production

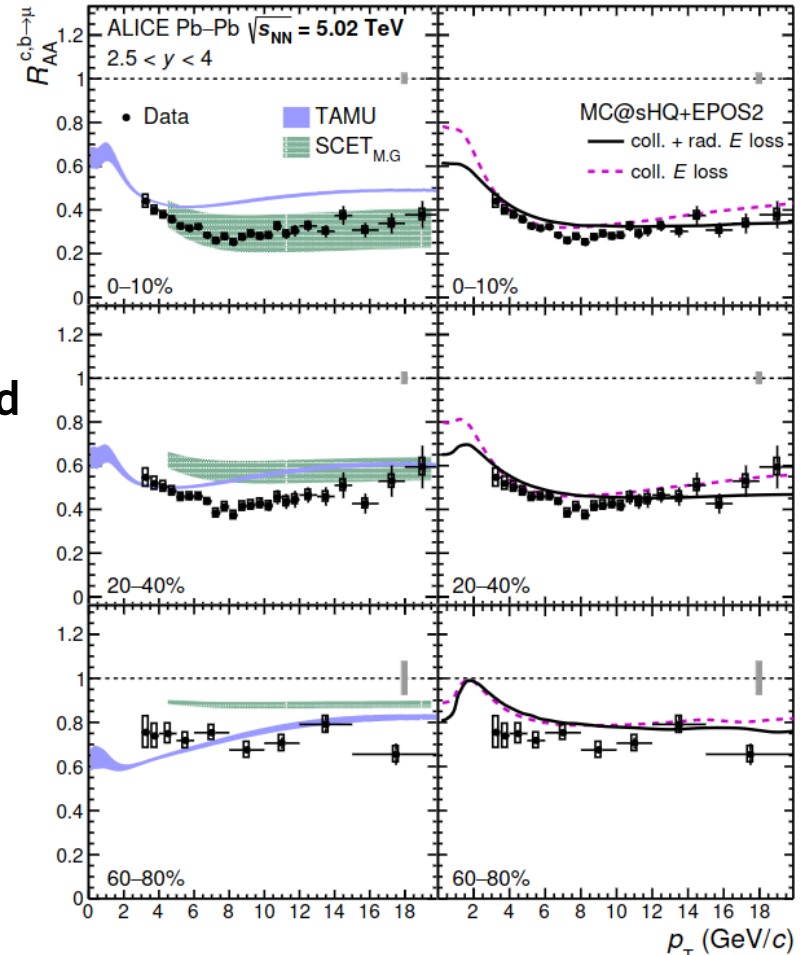
- Inclusive heavy-quark (b and c) production studied in the MS
- Larger suppression (lower  $R_{AA}$ ) in more central collisions**, especially in the range  $6 < p_T < 10$  GeV/c
- $R_{pPb} \sim 1$  (not shown here) in the same  $p_T$  range (QGP formation not expected in **pPb** collisions)  
 $\rightarrow R_{AA} < 1$  due to final state effects in Pb-Pb



ALICE collaboration, *Production of muons from heavy-flavour hadron decays at high transverse momentum in Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=5.02$  and 2.76 TeV*, Physics Letters B, 820 (2021)

# Heavy flavor production

- Data compared to several models
- **TAMU** [He, M. et al (2014)]
  - Interactions described by **elastic collisions only**
- **SCET** [Kang, Z.-B. Et al (2017)]
  - pQCD-based model, it implements **medium-induced gluon radiation**
  - Modified splitting function and finite quark masses
- **MC@sHQ+EPOS2** [Nahrgang, M. et al (2014) and Nahrgang, M. et al (2014)] transport model:
  - **Hydrodynamic description of the medium**
  - Coupled with different parton energy losses
  - Describes the measured  $R_{AA}^{c,b \rightarrow \mu}$  over the whole  $p_T$  range within uncertainties



ALICE collaboration, Production of muons from heavy-flavour hadron decays at high transverse momentum in Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=5.02$  and 2.76 TeV, Physics Letters B, 820 (2021)

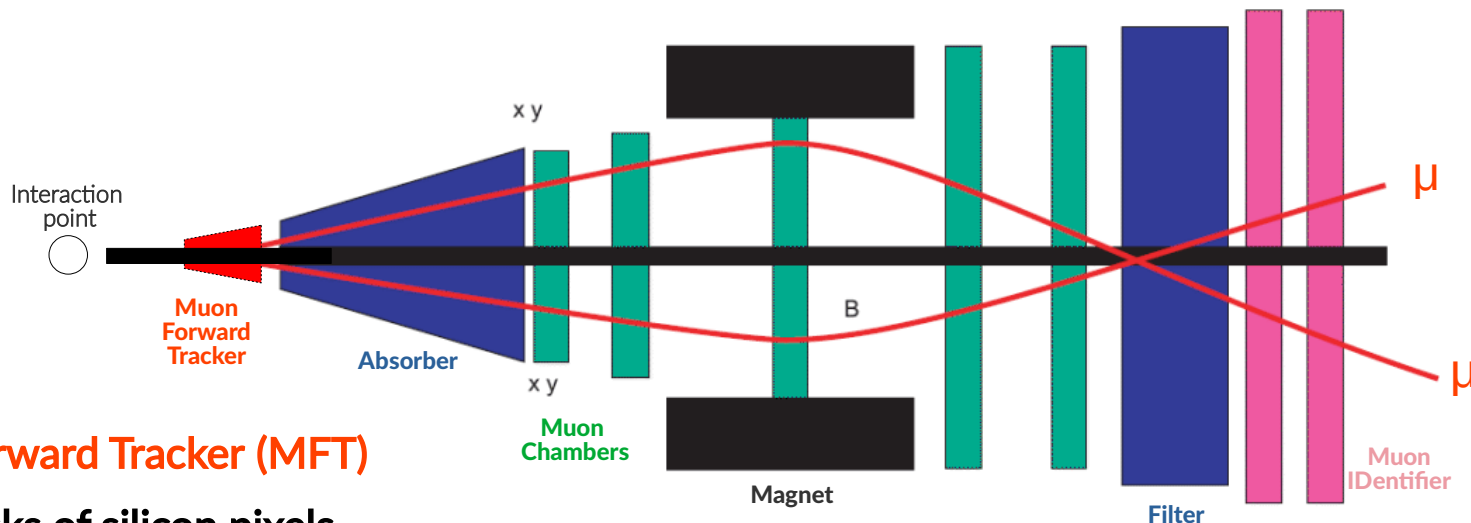
# MS limitations

- Large **distance between tracking chambers and the interaction point +  $\mu$  multiple scattering** in the absorber
  - No track constraint in the primary vertex region
    - 1) Limited possibilities to **reject  $\mu$  from semi-leptonic decays of  $\pi$  and  $K$**
    - 2) **Impossible** to disentangle **prompt/non-prompt  $J/\Psi$**
- Degradation of tracks angular resolution due to multiple scattering
  - Limited mass resolution of resonances (especially at low mass, e.g.  $\omega$  and  $\Phi$ )
  - From  $\sim 46$  to  $13 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  (without and with MFT) for  $\omega$
  - From  $\sim 50$  to  $15 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  for  $\Phi$

# MS upgrade for Run 3/4

- Installation of silicon pixel vertex detector **upstream** of the hadron absorber
  - **Muon Forward Tracker (MFT)**
  - Installed in ALICE during the LHC Long Shutdown 2 (2019-22)
  - It allows to match  $\mu$  tracks *upstream* and *downstream* of the absorber, enabling vertex finding
- **Other MS upgrades:**
  - Higher luminosity in pp and Pb-Pb collisions
  - 50 kHz interaction rate in Pb-Pb
  - Need to run in continuous readout mode
- Goal of the upgrade for Run 3+4
  - Integrated luminosity of **13 nb<sup>-1</sup>** in Pb-Pb, **> 200 pb<sup>-1</sup>** in pp and **~ 0.6 pb<sup>-1</sup>** in p-Pb

# The ALICE Muon Spectrometer upgrade



## Muon Forward Tracker (MFT)

- 5 disks of silicon pixels
- It covers the  $-3.6 < \eta < -2.45$  range
- It enables vertexing in the spectrometer

## Muon chambers upgrade

- New front-end electronics (DUAL-SAMPA)
- New DAQ chain to support **continuous** (trigger-less) readout

## Muon Identifier (MID)

- **New front-end electronics** (FEERIC) with lower threshold (higher rate capability)
- Provide **muon identification** in new trigger-less mode

# Beauty via non-prompt J/ψ

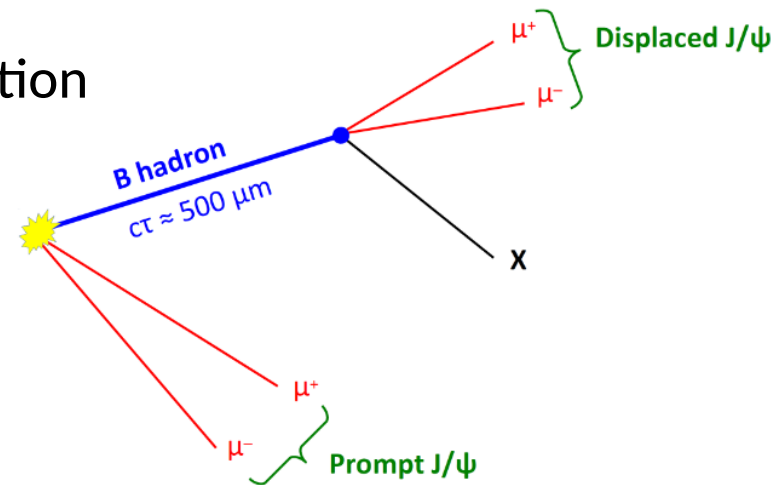
- Measurement of **non-prompt J/ψ**
  - 1) Originating from the decay of B-hadrons



2) Based on the **measurement of the distance between primary (collision) and secondary (decay of B-hadron) vertices**

3)  $B^0$ ,  $B^+$ ,  $B_s$  and  $\Lambda_b$  baryons give the largest contribution

- Distance of displaced vertex  $\approx c\tau$  of B-hadron
  - 420-490 nm
- Need of precise vertex detector at forward rapidity  
→ MFT



Example of displaced J/ψ production.  
Figure taken from: ALICE collaboration, *Technical Design Report for the Muon Forward Tracker*, CERN-LHCC-2015-001 (2015)

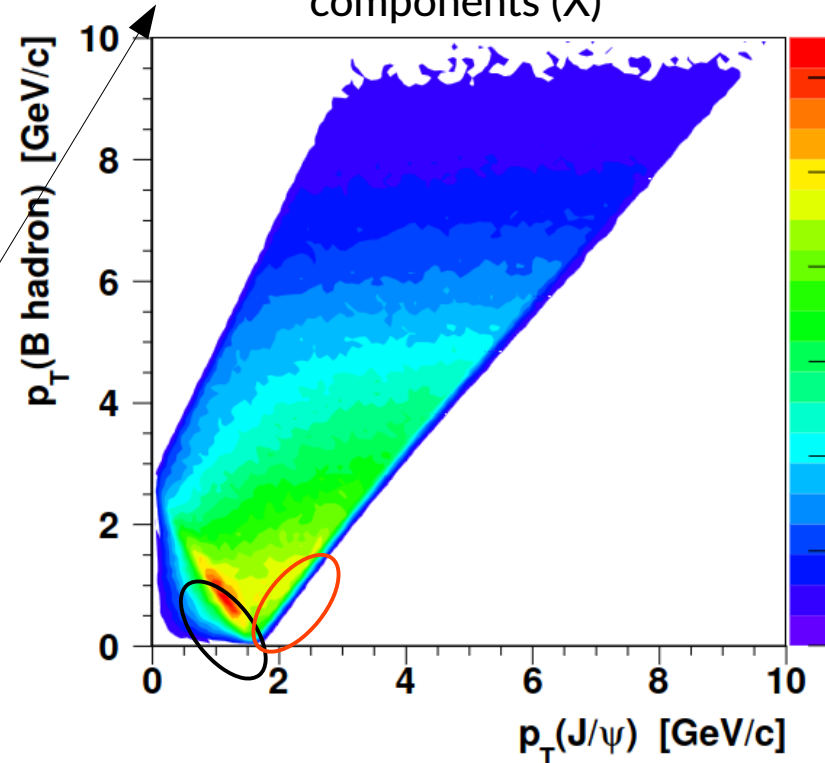
# Beauty via non-prompt J/ $\Psi$

- Interest in studying B-hadrons down to  $p_T = 0$
- Possible thanks to peculiar kinematics correlation

B-hadron with  $p_T = 0$  decays into a J/ $\Psi$  with finite  $p_T$  due to the presence of other decay components (X)

$p_T(\text{J}/\Psi) > 2 \text{ GeV}/c$   
→ Loose correlation with  $p_T(\text{B-hadron})$

$p_T(\text{B-hadron}) < 2 \text{ GeV}/c$   
→ Anti-correlation with  $p_T(\text{J}/\Psi)$   
→ Minimum  $p_T(\text{J}/\Psi) \approx 1.5 \text{ GeV}$   
→ Well within MS capabilities



Correlation between B-hadron and J/ $\Psi$   $p_T$ . Figure taken from:  
ALICE collaboration, *Technical Design Report for the Muon Forward Tracker*, CERN-LHCC-2015-001 (2015) 16/25

# Beauty via non-prompt J/ψ

- Statistical separation between prompt and non-prompt J/ψ according to the different distribution of their distance from the primary vertex (L)
- L/c (corrected by the γ factor of the B-hadron) = proper B-hadron decay time
- Assuming that  $\gamma_{J/\psi} \approx \gamma_{B\text{-hadron}}$   
→ **pseudo-proper decay time (t)** of B-hadron introduced

Secondary vertex position

Primary vertex position

$$t = \frac{|\vec{r}_{J/\psi} - \vec{r}_{\text{vtx}}| \cdot M_{J/\psi}}{p}$$

J/ψ momentum

J/ψ mass

$$t_{xy} = \frac{\sqrt{(x_{J/\psi} - x_{\text{vtx}})^2 + (y_{J/\psi} - y_{\text{vtx}})^2} \cdot M_{J/\psi}}{p_T}$$

Transverse plane

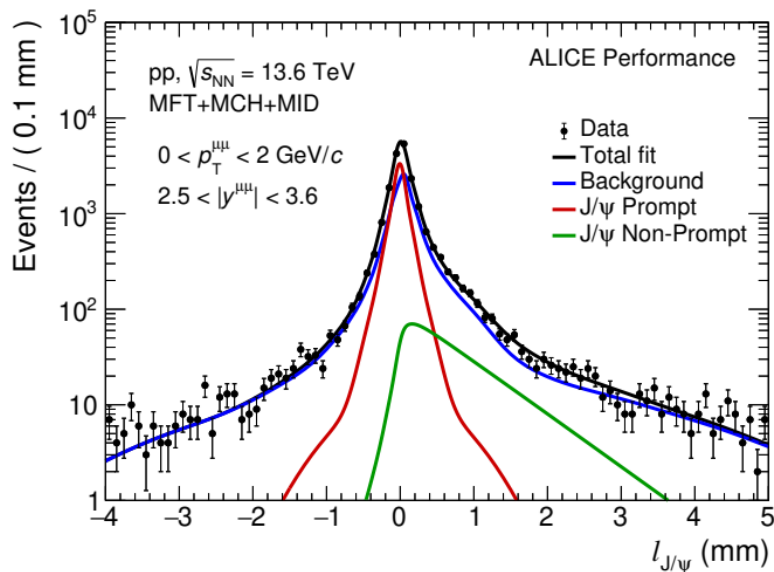
**Used in ALICE (better separation)**

$$t_z = \frac{(z_{J/\psi} - z_{\text{vtx}}) \cdot M_{J/\psi}}{p_z}$$

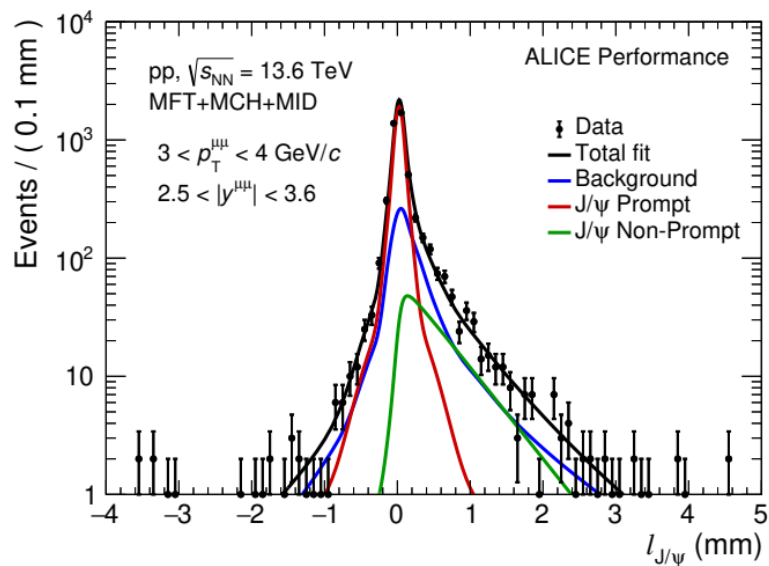
Longitudinal plane

# Beauty via non-prompt J/ψ

- Distribution of prompt J/ψ pseudo-proper decay length is peaked at 0
- Displaced J/ψ has a positive  $l_{J/\psi}$  tail that reflects B-hadron decay time (also includes background)
- Simultaneous fit to invariant mass spectrum and  $l_{J/\psi}$  distribution **Gaussian with variable width  $\sigma$  ( $\sim M_{\mu\mu}^3$ )**
  - Invariant mass fit to **fix the background normalization**
  - $l_{J/\psi}$  **decomposed in its components** (prompt/non-prompt J/ψ and background) and fitted with a variable width Gaussian
    - Inclusive J/ψ normalization and prompt/non-prompt ratio as free parameters (estimated with the fit)



ALI-PERF-571258



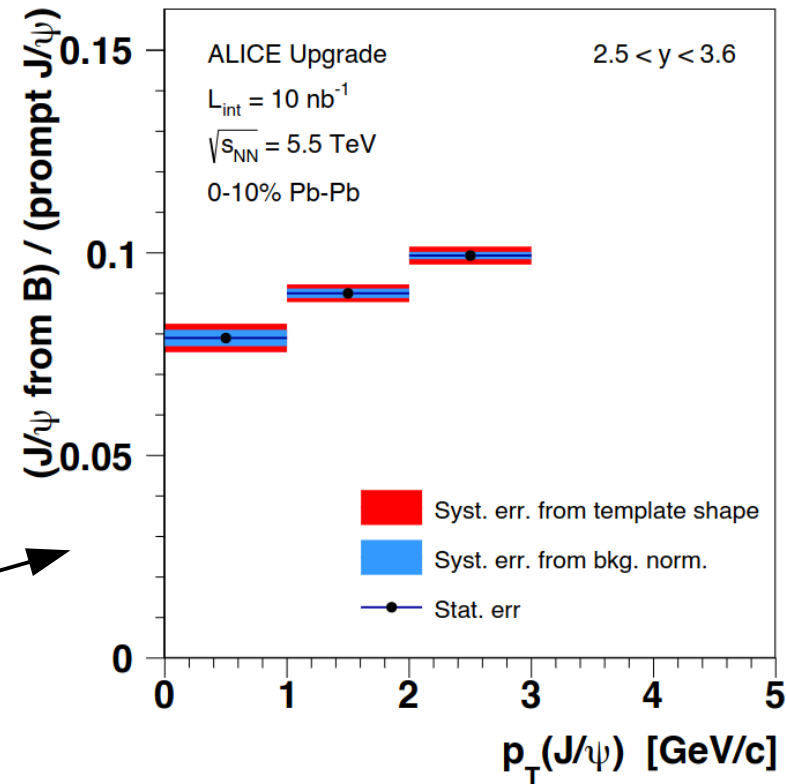
ALI-PERF-571268

Pseudo-proper decay length of muon pairs measured at forward rapidity using *global muon tracks* in two different  $p_T$  bins. ALICE performance figures



# Beauty via non-prompt J/ψ

- Statistical uncertainty: 0.8% to 1.6% in the range  $p_T < 3$  GeV/c (obtained from the fit of the  $t_z$  distribution)
- **Two sources of systematic uncertainties:**
  - 1) 1% due to background normalization
    - 1a) Obtained by fitting the  $t_z$  distribution varying the background within 1%
  - 2) Uncertainty on the shape of  $t_z$  distributions
    - 2a) Experimental resolution on  $t_z$  varied by  $\pm 10\%$  and re-fit of the distribution  
→ Extremes taken as the error
- In general **< 5% down to  $p_T = 0$**

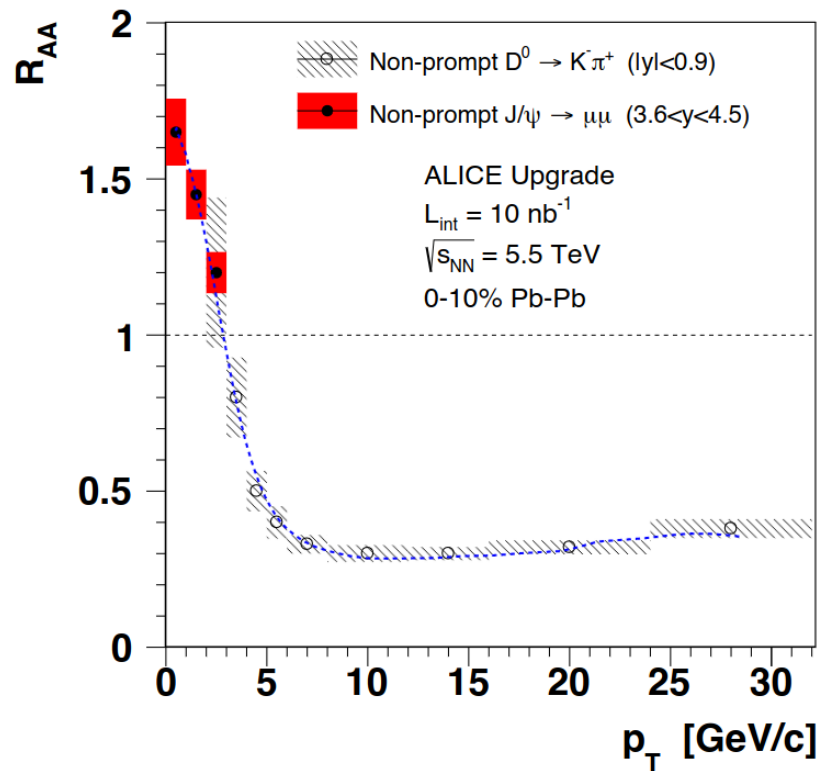


Uncertainties in the non prompt/prompt J/ψ ratio as a function of  $p_T$ . Figure taken from: ALICE collaboration, *Technical Design Report for the Muon Forward Tracker*, CERN-LHCC-2015-001 (2015)



# Non-prompt J/ψ $R_{AA}$

- To calculate error on non-prompt J/ψ  $R_{AA}$ 
  - Uncertainty coming from pp reference needed
  - Same  $\sqrt{s}$  as Pb-Pb (5.5 TeV)
- Signal obtained in Pb-Pb scaled to the expected  $L_{int}$  in pp reference
- Statistical uncertainty calculated by fitting the  $t_z$  distributions, in pp (perfect matching between MFT and MS due to lower background in pp)
- Systematic uncertainty assumed to be the same as for prompt/non-prompt J/ψ
- 5% systematic uncertainty due to MS tracking efficiency
- Possible down to  $p_T = 0$



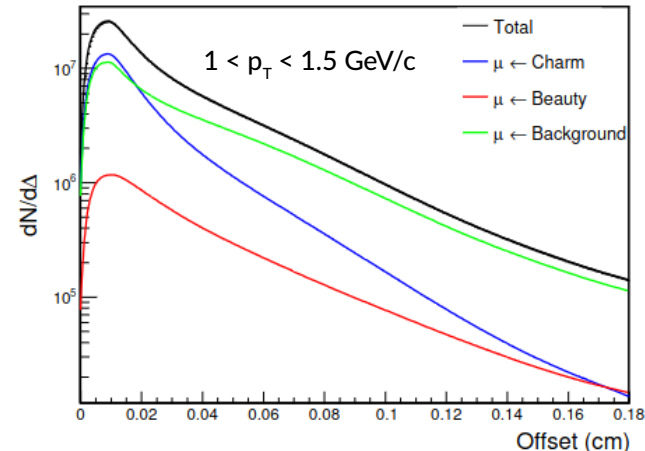
$R_{AA}$  of non-prompt J/ψ at forward rapidity and of  $D^0$  meson at central rapidity. Figure taken from: ALICE collaboration, *Technical Design Report for the Muon Forward Tracker*, CERN-LHCC-2015-001 (2015)

# Open heavy-flavor in the single $\mu$ channel

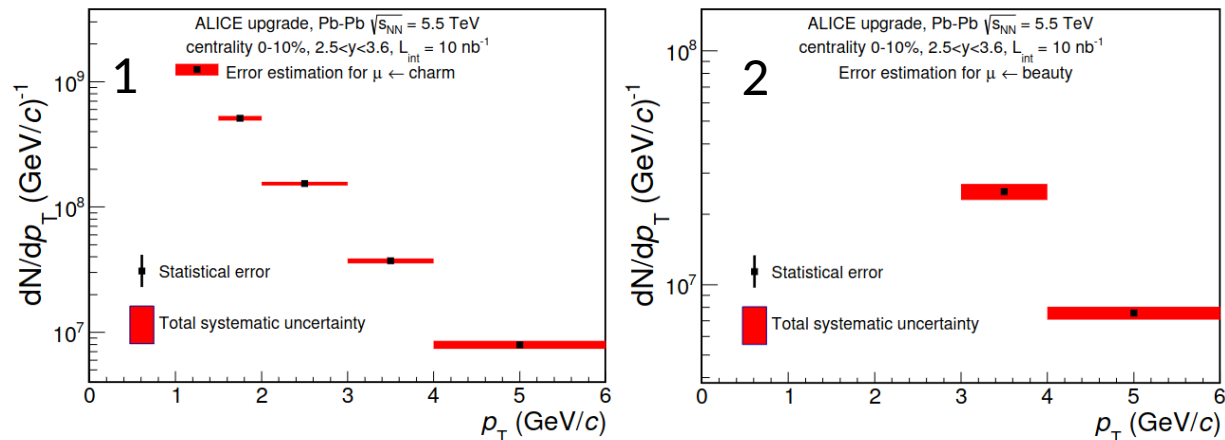
- MFT will contribute to the study of open heavy flavors in the single muon and dimuon channels
- Needed down to low  $p_T$ 
  - To extract charm and beauty cross sections with least model dependence as possible (**charmonium regeneration**)
- **Separate study of charm and beauty**
  - Investigate different energy loss in QGP
  - Hierarchy of  $R_{AA}$ :  $R_{AA}^D < R_{AA}^B$
- Study done with MC simulation
  - **Signal**: b or c direct decays or *chain decays*  $\mu \leftarrow D \leftarrow B$
  - **Background**:  $\mu$  from decays of particles produced in the underlying event

# MC Open heavy-flavor in the single $\mu$ channel

- Yield study based on the offset ( $\Delta$ ) distribution
  - Decay of b and c is displaced wrt primary interaction vertex
- Offset distribution for signal and background
  - Fitted in each  $p_T$  bin with a **vw Gaussian** ( $\sigma \sim \Delta^3$ )
- Total distribution re-fitted with normalization as free parameter to get the yield
- Statistical error** in the single  $\mu$  yield  $< 0.5\%$
- 4 sources of systematical errors** (see backup)



Single  $\mu$  offset distribution in the 0-10% most central Pb-Pb collisions for  $L_{\text{int}} = 10 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ . Figure taken from: ALICE collaboration, *Technical Design Report for the Muon Forward Tracker*, CERN-LHCC-2015-001 (2015)



- For **open charm**  
 → Total error  $< 10\%$  at  $p_T = 1 \text{ GeV}/c$
- For **open beauty**  
 → Robust measurements only for  $p_T > 3 \text{ GeV}/c$

$p_T$  distribution of single muons from open charm (left) and beauty (right) in the 0-10% most central Pb-Pb collisions for  $L_{\text{int}} = 10 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ . Figure taken from ALICE collaboration, *Technical Design Report for the Muon Forward Tracker*, CERN-LHCC-2015-001 (2015)

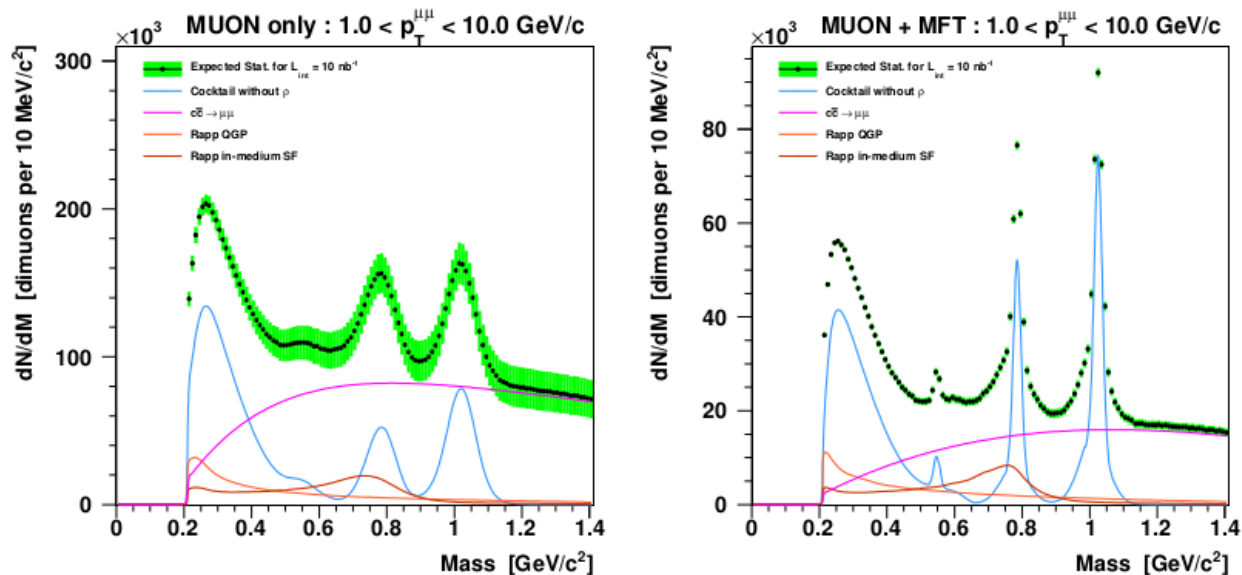


# Low-mass dimuons

- Dimuon invariant mass depends on the momentum of both muons ( $p_1, p_2$ ) and opening angle ( $\theta$ )

$$M_{\mu\mu} = \sqrt{2p_1p_2(1 - \cos\theta)} \approx \sqrt{p_1p_2\theta^2}$$

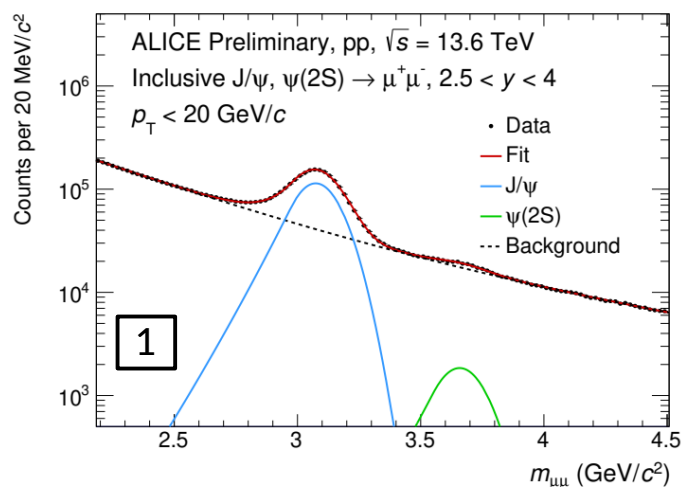
- At low invariant mass measurements
  - **Multiple scattering in the absorber is the main source of error in  $M_{\mu\mu}$  measurement**
- MFT will measure opening angle before the absorber, improving mass resolution and improving the S/B ratio



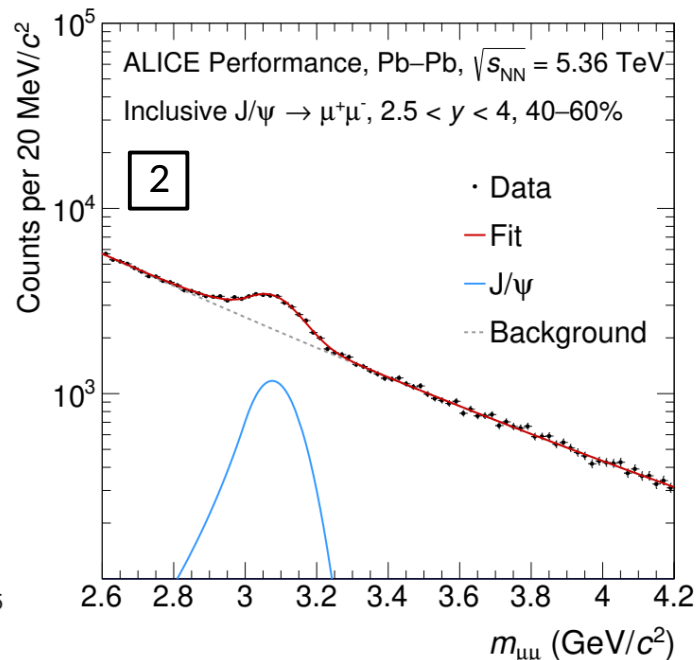
Improvement of low-mass dimuons invariant mass spectrum, with (right) and without (left) MFT. Figure taken from: ALICE collaboration, *Addendum of the Letter of Intent for the upgrade of the ALICE experiment : The Muon Forward Tracker*, CERN-LHCC-2013-014 (2013)

# Preliminary Run 3 results

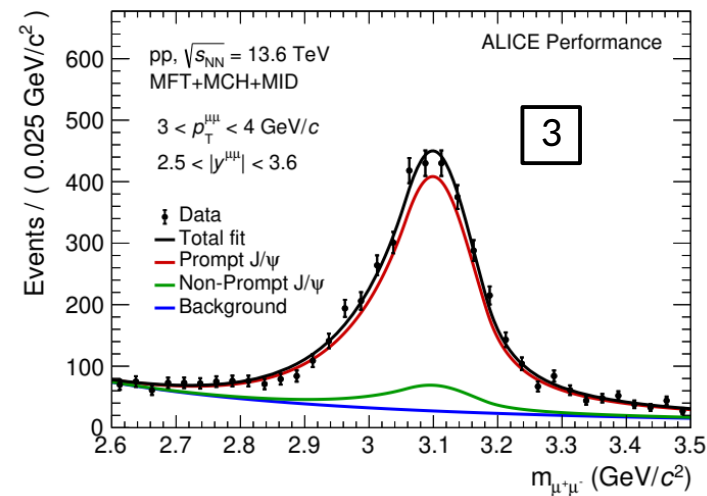
- Analysis of Run 3 data has already produced preliminary and performance results of the upgraded MS
- Few results obtained in pp and Pb-Pb collisions ( $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$  and  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.36$  TeV) shown here
  - 1,2) Inclusive J/ $\psi$  and  $\psi(2S)$  production with the MS without MFT (in pp and Pb-Pb collisions)
  - 3) Separation of prompt/non-prompt J/ $\psi$  contributions to the dimuon invariant mass spectrum (with MFT)



Invariant mass spectrum of dimuon pairs in pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$  TeV. Extraction of J/ $\psi$  and  $\psi(2s)$  signal



Invariant mass spectrum of dimuon pairs in Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.36$  TeV, extraction of the J/ $\psi$  signal



Invariant mass distribution of dimuon pairs in pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$  TeV. The contributions by prompt/non-prompt J/ $\psi$  and background are highlighted

# Conclusion

- The ALICE MS has performed well during Run 1 and 2, leading to interesting physics results in the study of QGP
- The **detector upgrade during LS2** has allowed ALICE to run in continuous readout mode at higher interaction rate in Pb-Pb collision to reach higher integrated luminosity values
- The **installation of MFT** has unlocked new physics potential for the MS:
  - 1) Increase of S/B ratio for  $\psi$  and  $\psi(2s)$
  - 2) Allow the study of prompt and non-prompt  $J/\psi$  at forward rapidity
  - 3) Study open heavy flavors separately (b and c quarks) in the single  $\mu$  channel at forward rapidity
  - 4) Improve the S/B and mass resolution for low-mass dimuon pairs
- MFT has been fully integrated in ALICE and it is regularly taking data
- **Many interesting and exciting physics results to come!**

**Thank you for your  
attention!**

# References

- [1] ALICE collaboration, *Production of muons from heavy-flavour hadron decays at high transverse momentum in Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=5.02$  and 2.76 TeV*, Physics Letters B 820, 136558 (2021)
- [2] ALICE collaboration,  *$\psi(2s)$  Suppression in Pb-Pb Collisions at the LHC*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 042301 (2024)
- [3] ALICE collaboration,  *$J/\psi$  elliptic and triangular flow in Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV*, J. High Energ. Phys., 141 (2020)
- [4] ALICE collaboration, *Addendum of the Letter of Intent for the upgrade of the ALICE experiment : The Muon Forward Tracker*, CERN-LHCC-2013-014 (2013)
- [5] ALICE collaboration, *Technical Design Report for the Muon Forward Tracker*, CERN-LHCC-2015-001 (2015)

**Backup**

# Summary of physics performance

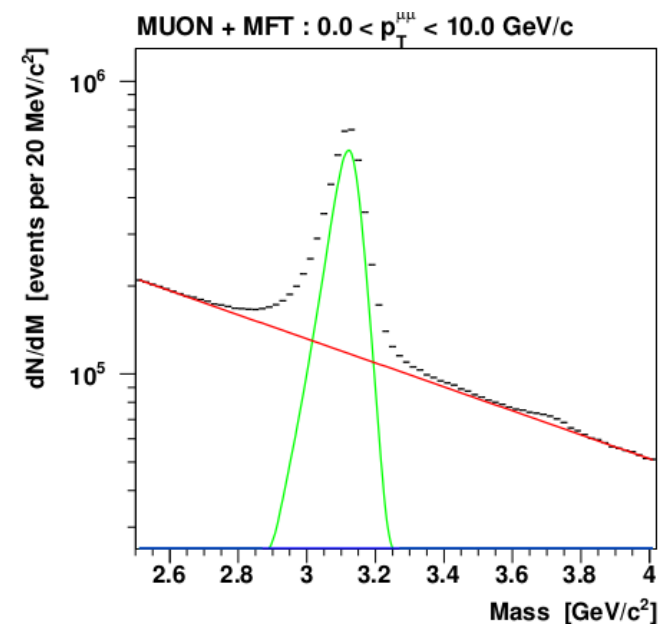
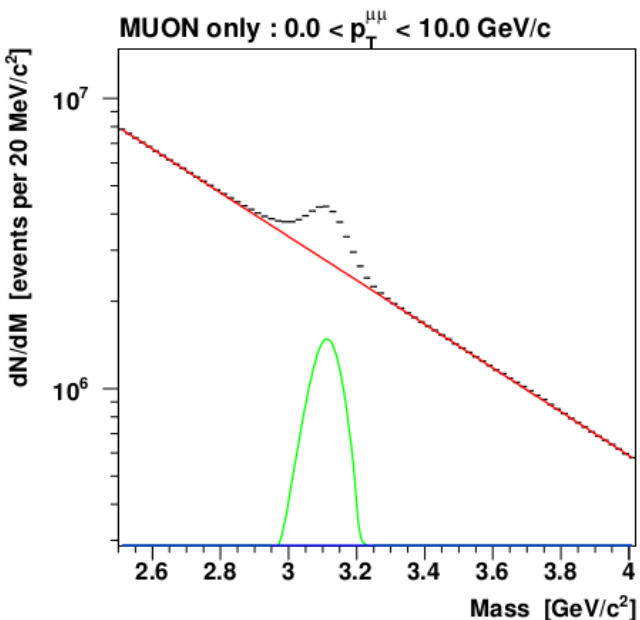
**Table 1:** Comparison of physics reach for the two scenarios without and with the MFT (MUON only / MUON + MFT) assuming an integrated luminosity of  $10 \text{ nb}^{-1}$  in central Pb–Pb collisions.  $p_T^{\min}$  gives the minimum accessible  $p_T$  for the different observables. The quoted uncertainties include both statistical and systematic uncertainties.

Observable	MUON only		MUON + MFT	
	$p_T^{\min}$ (GeV/c)	uncertainty	$p_T^{\min}$ (GeV/c)	uncertainty
Inclusive $J/\psi$ $R_{AA}$	0	5 % at 1 GeV/c	0	5 % at 1 GeV/c
$\psi'$ $R_{AA}$	0	30 % at 1 GeV/c	0	10 % at 1 GeV/c
Prompt $J/\psi$ $R_{AA}$		not accessible	0	10 % at 1 GeV/c
$J/\psi$ from $b$ -hadrons		not accessible	0	10 % at 1 GeV/c
Open charm in single $\mu$			1	7 % at 1 GeV/c
Open beauty in single $\mu$			2	10 % at 2 GeV/c
Open HF in single $\mu$ no $c/b$ separation	4	30 % at 4 GeV/c		
Low mass spectral func. and QGP radiation		not accessible	1–2	20 % at 1 GeV/c

Table taken from the [Muon Forward Tracker Lol](#)

# Inclusive charmonium production

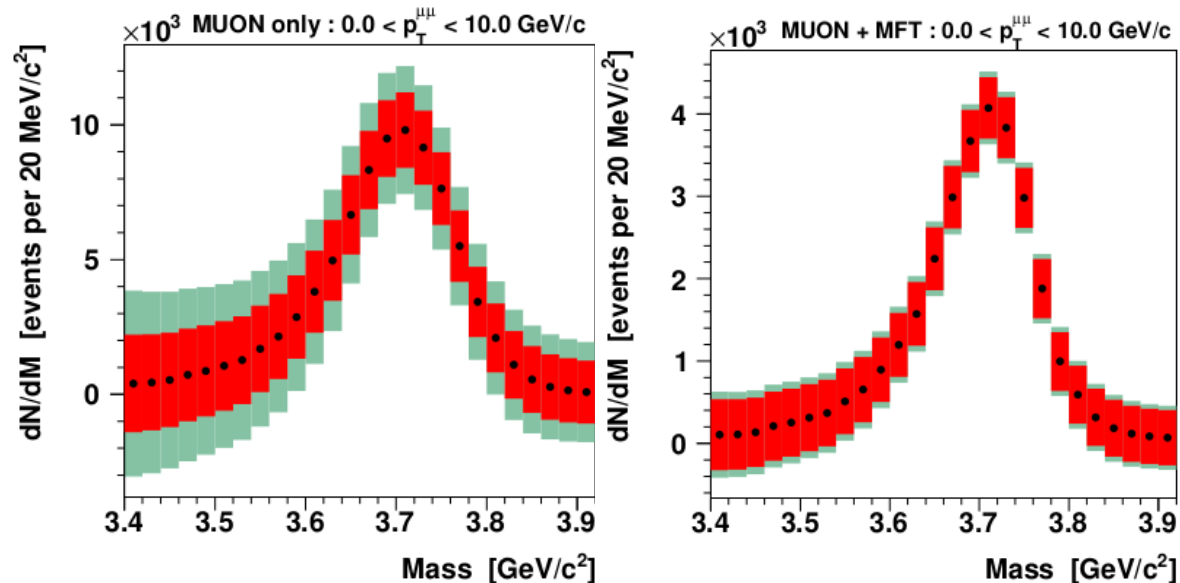
- Comparison of the current MS layout and MS+MFT in inclusive quarkonium production
- Values computed for the 0-10% most central Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.5$  TeV
  - Binary scaling (1600 binary collisions)
  - $\sigma = 30 \mu\text{b}$  for  $J/\Psi$  production
  - $\sigma = 60 \text{ mb}$  inelastic pp
  - $\Psi'$  production = 0.14  $J/\Psi$  production
  - $R_{AA}(J/\Psi) = 0.7$  and  $R_{AA}(\Psi') = 0.3$
  - Axε corrected
- Adding MFT
  - Global loss of statistics
  - Increase of S/B for both  $J/\Psi$  and  $\Psi'$  (visible also without background subtraction)



Invariant mass spectra of dimuon pairs without (left) and with (right) the MFT.  
Figure taken from ALICE collaboration (2013)

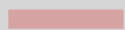
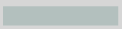
# Inclusive charmonium production

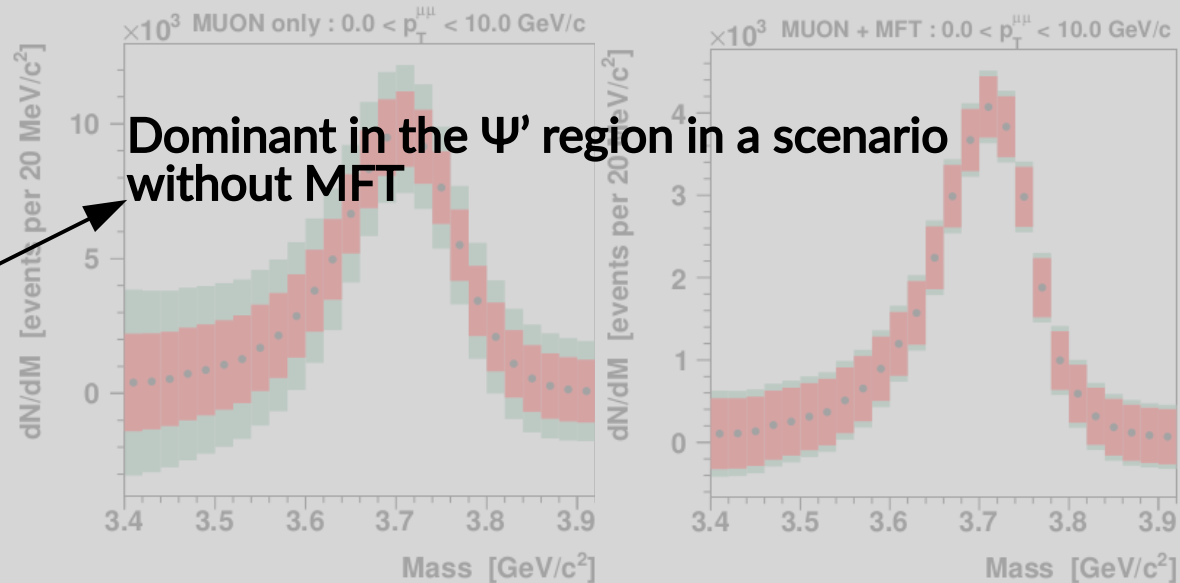
- Example of  $\Psi'$  signal extraction with and without the MFT
- Pure signal obtained by subtracting the background distribution (J/ $\Psi$  signal irrelevant due to no overlap)
- Statistical uncertainty █
  - Combination of stat uncertainty of signal and background
- Systematic uncertainty █
  - Shape and normalization of the background ( $\sim 0.1\%$  per bin)
- Cuts and selections used to extract charmonium signals estimated  $\sim 4/5\%$



Signal shape for the  $\Psi'$  with (right) and without (left) the MFT.  
Figure taken from ALICE collaboration (2013)

# Inclusive charmonium production

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# Inclusive charmonia production

**Inclusive  $J/\psi$  ( $2.80 < M_{\mu\mu} < 3.30 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ ) :  $R_{AA} = 0.7$  without the MFT**

$p_T$ [GeV/c]	Signal [ $\times 10^3$ ]	S/B	$S/\sqrt{S+B}$	Stat. Err. [%]	Sys. Err. [%]
0–1	1710	0.15	470	0.20	5
1–2	3320	0.14	650	0.14	5
2–3	2784	0.16	610	0.16	5
3–4	1750	0.16	490	0.19	5
4–5	1055	0.18	400	0.25	5
0–10	12040	0.15	1 300	0.08	5

Inclusive  $J/\psi$  production (S/B and significance) at forward rapidity without MFT, taken from the [Muon Forward Tracker Lol](#)

**Inclusive  $J/\psi$  ( $2.80 < M_{\mu\mu} < 3.30 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ ) :  $R_{AA} = 0.7$ , with the MFT**

$p_T$ [GeV/c]	Signal [ $\times 10^3$ ]	S/B	$S/\sqrt{S+B}$	Stat. Err. [%]	Sys. Err. [%]
0–1	531.6	0.50	420	0.23	7
1–2	851.9	0.92	640	0.15	7
2–3	715.3	1.28	630	0.15	7
3–4	544.0	2.03	600	0.17	7
4–5	382.2	3.25	540	0.18	7
0–10	3664	1.15	1 400	0.07	7

Inclusive  $J/\psi$  production (S/B and significance) at forward rapidity with MFT, taken from the [Muon Forward Tracker Lol](#)

**Inclusive  $\psi'$  ( $3.40 < M_{\mu\mu} < 3.90 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ ) :  $R_{AA} = 0.3$ , without the MFT**

$p_T$ [GeV/c]	Signal [ $\times 10^3$ ]	S/B	$S/\sqrt{S+B}$	Stat. Err. [%]	Sys. Err. [%]
0–1	12.8	0.0048	7.6	10.9	20.9
1–2	24.2	0.0039	9.7	9.5	26.5
2–3	20.4	0.0031	8.0	12.3	32.3
3–4	12.4	0.0026	5.6	17.7	39.0
4–5	6.9	0.0021	3.8	26.1	48.1
0–10	85.0	0.0030	16.1	6.0	33.3

Inclusive  $\psi'$  production (S/B and significance) at forward rapidity without MFT, taken from the [Muon Forward Tracker Lol](#)

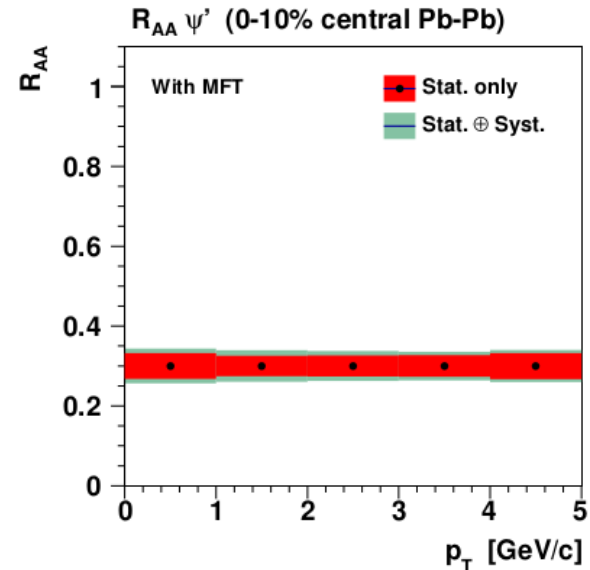
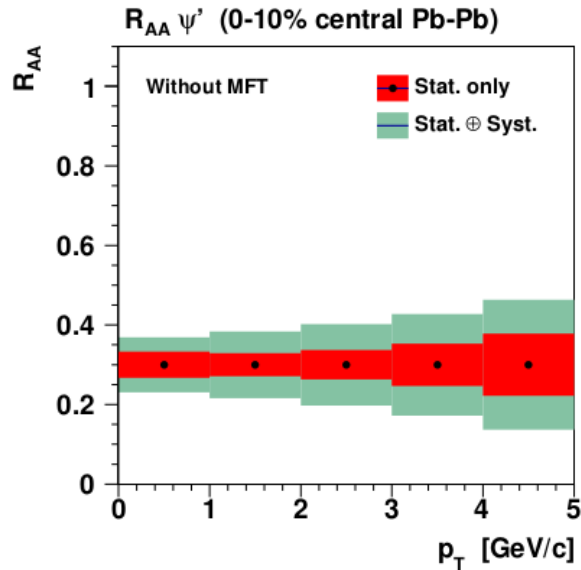
**Inclusive  $\psi'$  ( $3.40 < M_{\mu\mu} < 3.90 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ ) :  $R_{AA} = 0.3$ , with the MFT**

$p_T$ [GeV/c]	Signal [ $\times 10^3$ ]	S/B	$S/\sqrt{S+B}$	Stat. Err. [%]	Sys. Err. [%]
0–1	4.47	0.014	7.8	10.7	9.9
1–2	8.67	0.014	11	8.5	10.1
2–3	6.76	0.018	11	8.7	9.0
3–4	4.11	0.027	10	9.0	8.0
4–5	2.57	0.030	8.7	10.9	7.8
0–10	30.3	0.017	22	4.3	9.2

Inclusive  $\psi'$  production (S/B and significance) at forward rapidity with MFT, taken from the [Muon Forward Tracker Lol](#)

# Determination of $\Psi'$ $R_{AA}$

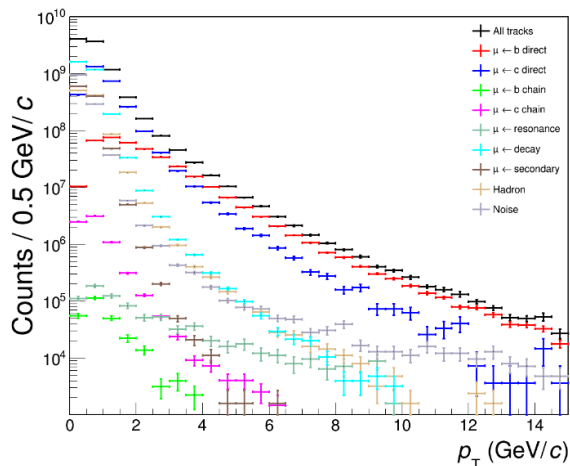
- $R_{AA}$  of  $\Psi'$  estimated at 0.3 (independent of  $p_T$ )
- Improvement of its estimation with the addition of MFT



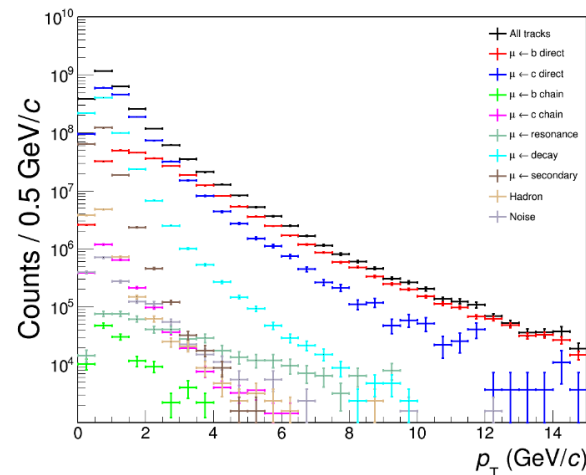
Estimation of the  $\Psi'$   $R_{AA}$  with (right) and without (left) MFT

# Heavy flavor analysis cuts

- Several cuts on the single muon track to reduce background contamination
  - Track must be within the acceptance of the MFT  $-3.6 < \eta < -2.5$
  - All reconstructed tracks must match a *tracklet* in the MID (-96% hadron and -81% fakes)
    - match implies a  $p_T$  cut (-61% muons from light hadron decays)
  - Cut on the  $\chi^2/\text{ndf}$  of the track:  $\chi^2/\text{ndf} < 3$  (-99% of residual fake tracks, -66% of residual hadrons and only 8% signal loss)
- Lower  $p_T$  limit = 1 GeV/c (to improve MFT-MCH matching) and higher  $p_T$  limit = 6 GeV/c (lack of statistics in the background)



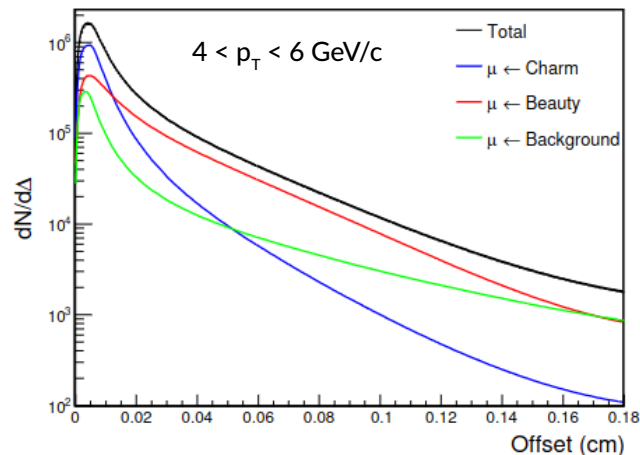
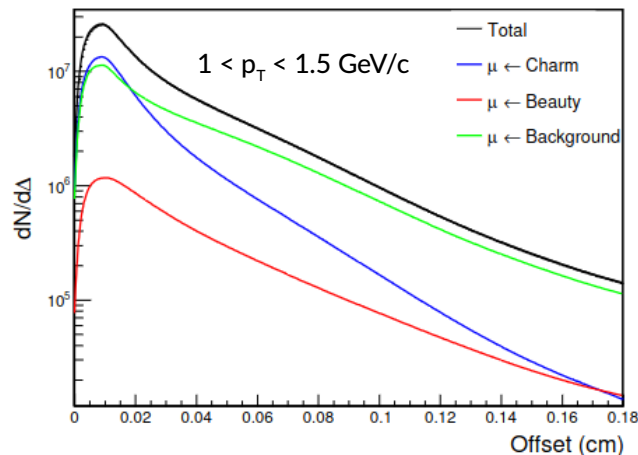
$p_T$  distribution of single muons with no cuts as reported in the MFT TDR



$p_T$  distribution of single muons with track cuts as reported in the MFT TDR

# MC Open heavy-flavor in the single $\mu$ channel

- Yield study based on the offset distribution ( $\Delta$ )
  - Decay of b and c is displaced wrt primary interaction vertex



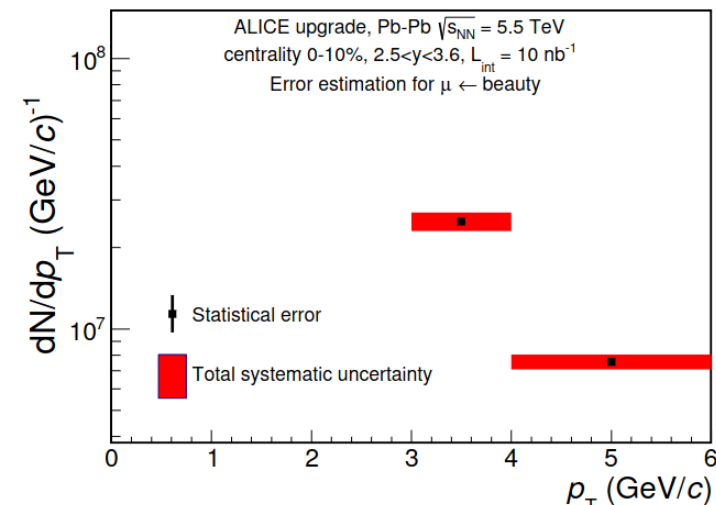
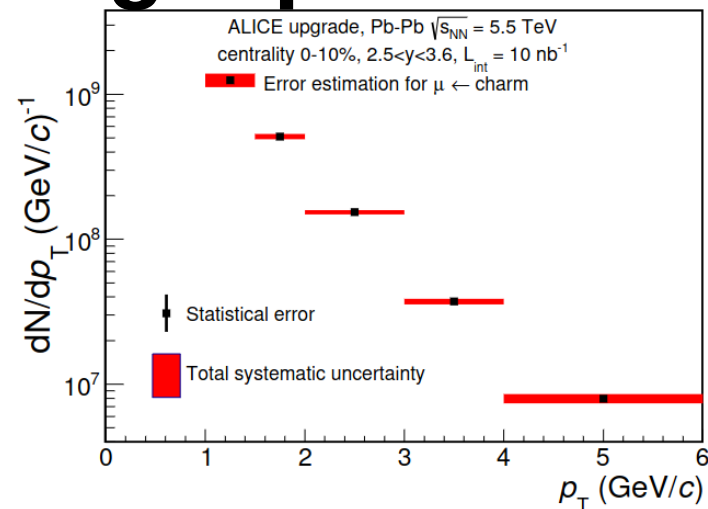
Single  $\mu$  offset distribution in the 0-10% most central Pb-Pb collisions for  $L_{\text{int}} = 10 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ . Figure taken from ALICE collaboration (2015)

- Offset distribution for signal and background
  - Fitted in each  $p_T$  bin with a vw Gaussian ( $\sigma \sim \Delta^3$ )  $\rightarrow$  MC template
- Simulated data re-scaled to  $L_{\text{int}} = 10 \text{ nb}^{-1}$
- Total distribution fitted with  $f(\Delta) = C \cdot f_c(\Delta) + B \cdot f_b(\Delta) + D \cdot f_d(\Delta)$ 
  - $B, C, D$  = normalization = free parameters of the fit
  - $f_b(\Delta), f_c(\Delta), f_d(\Delta)$  = MC templates



# Open heavy-flavor in the single $\mu$ channel

- Statistical error in the single  $\mu$  yield  $< 0.5\%$
- 4 sources of systematical errors:
  - 1) Residual misalignment between ITS and MFT
    - ITS used to measure primary vertex
    - Primary vertex moved by  $\pm 10 \mu\text{m}$  and data re-fitted
  - 2) Weak dependence of the average offset value from the parent hadron  $p_T$ 
    - Vary  $R_{AA}(p_T)$  with models that describe ALICE data well
  - 3) Pointing resolution of the MFT
    - Gaussian smearing of the measured vertex
  - 4) MS tracking efficiency
    - Assumed to be  $\sim 2.5\%$
- Ratio between biased and reference offset represents the magnitude of the distortion  
→ used to distort the nominal MC templates
- Deformed templates used to fit the nominal offset distributions
- For open charm, total error  $< 10\%$  at  $p_T = 1 \text{ GeV}/c$
- For open beauty, robust measurements only for  $p_T > 3 \text{ GeV}/c$



Single  $\mu$ -Pb collisions for  $L_{\text{int}} = 10 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ .  
Figure taken from ALICE collaboration (2015)