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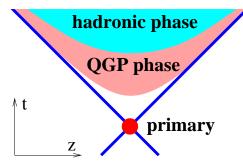
The Hadronic Interaction Workshop, Mar 18 – 20, 2025, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

EPOS4: a comprehensive MC for high-energy collisions from pp, pA to AA

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Space-time picture of pp, pA, AA at high energy



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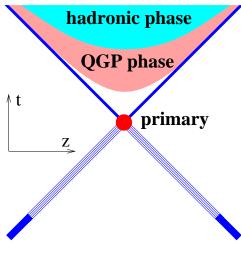
Primary interactions, pointlike overlap (even in *pA*, *AA* scattering: large γ factors)

followed (later) by QGP formation

BUT the picture is not really correct...

2

More realistic space-time picture



splitting into multiple partons (parton evolution) long in advance, takes a long time (large γ factors)

but the interaction region (red point) is pointlike

multiple scatterings must happen in parallel

EPOS4 philosophy concerning primary interactions

Avoid sequential scatterings,

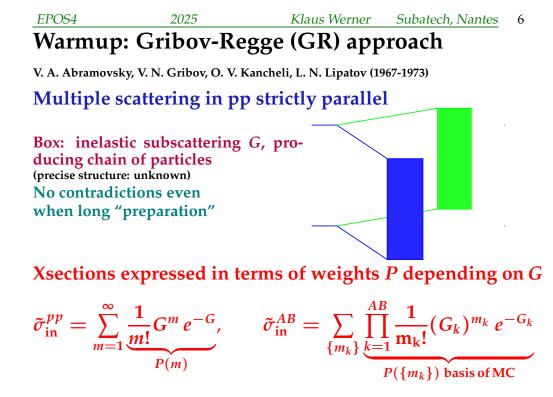
 concerning both parton-parton
 and nucleon-nucleon interactions

 Do multiple scatterings

 rigorously in parallel

□ Respect the rule "MC = theory"

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S	ome tecl	nnical remarks:				
Gra	phs are	nice but it should be	clear what is	behind. We use		
	symbol	meaning				
	T(s, t) elastic scattering T-matrix; s, t Mandelstam variables					
	T(s,b)	Fourier transformation of to the momentum transfer, (impact parameter represe	, divided by 2s	ect		
<i>G</i> 2 Im <i>T</i> – representing inelastic scattering (cut diagram)						
	$ ilde{\sigma}$	<i>pp</i> cross sections: $\sigma^{pp} =$	$=\int d^2b\tilde{\sigma}^{pp}(s,b)$			
		<i>A</i> + <i>B</i> cross sections: $\sigma^{AB} =$	$\int db_{AB} ilde{\sigma}^{AB}(s, b)$	$\{b_{i}^{A}\},\{b_{i}^{B}\})$		
		$\int db_{AB} = \int d^2b \int \prod_{i=1}^A d^2b_i^A T$)—1			
with	n transv. n	ucleon coordiates b_i^A and b_j^B ,	with the nuclear	thickness function		
		$T_A(b) = \int dz \rho_A$	$_{\rm A}\left(\sqrt{b^2+z^2}\right)$			
wl	here ρ_A is	the (normalized) nuclear der	nsity for nucleus	A.		



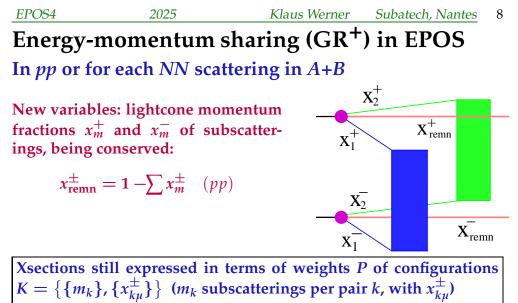
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EPOS4 improvement, step 1:

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- Implement energy-momentum conservation, referred to as GR⁺
- For certain observables not so important (total cross sections)
- For others absolutely crucial (particle production)
- Necessary as solid basis for MC (otherwise contradictions, but GR still widely used)



Solid basis of Monte Carlo:

 \Box one determines *K* according to *P*(*K*),

☐ instantaneously, no sequences, in parallel!! Here: MC = theory

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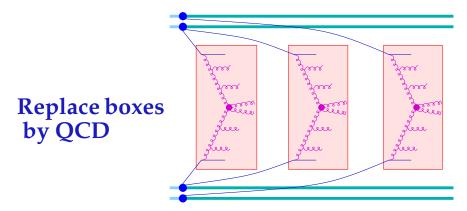
EPOS4 improvement, step 2:

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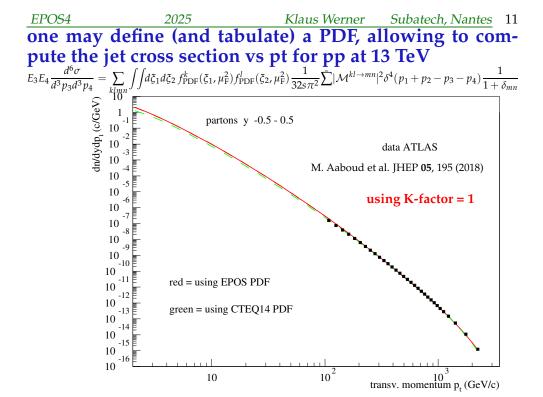
- □ So far: general framework, based on "some *G*"
- □ G represents a subscattering
- **D** Now: make link with QCD: $G = G_{QCD}$
- □ G_{QCD} represents parton-parton scattering, based on pQCD, including DGLAP evolution

See: K. Werner and B. Guiot, PRC 108, 034904 (2306.02396) Early work (no HF): H.J. Drescher, M. Hladik, S. Ostapchenko, T. Pierog, K. Werner, Phys.Rept. 350 (2001) 93-289 (hep-ph/0007198)



collision of two nuclei with three subscatterings

We compute and tabulate "moduls" (QCD evolution, Born cross sections, vertices) which then allow to evaluate the diagram Different ways to rearrange the modules...



Looks good, but

EPOS4

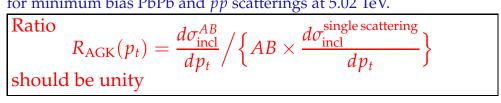
- □ Here we considered just one single subscattering
- □ In GR, the full multiple scattering scenario is equal to the single one for inclusive cross sections (AGK theorem)

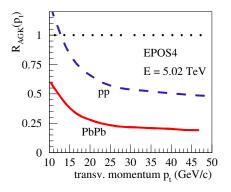
$$\frac{d\sigma_{\rm incl}^{AB}}{dp_t} = AB \times \frac{d\sigma_{\rm incl}^{\rm single \, scattering}}{dp_t}$$

- □ Does AGK hold in our case (GR⁺)?
- And does AGK hold for nuclear scattering (which would amount to binary scaling)?

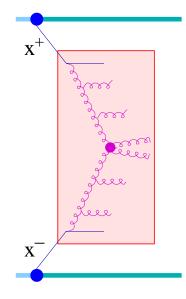
Validity of AGK Check *p*_t of partons

for minimum bias PbPb and *pp* scatterings at 5.02 TeV.





AGK badly violated!!! The problem is the energy sharing among subscatterings



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Inclusive particle spectra (like p_t) are determined by the distribution of the LC momenta x^+ and $x^$ of the subscatterings.

Crucial variable: the squared CMS energy fraction

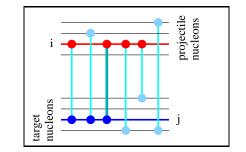
 $x_{\rm PE} = x^+ x^- \approx s / s_{\rm tot}$

For a given scattering, involving projectile nucleon *i* and target nucleon *j* define: $N_{\text{conn}} = \frac{N_{\text{P}} + N_{\text{T}}}{2}$

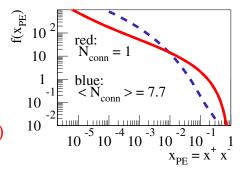
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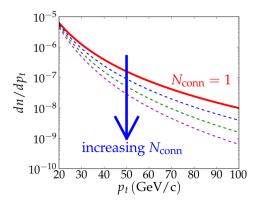
 $N_{\rm P}$ = number of scatterings involving *i* $N_{\rm T}$ = number of scatterings involving *j*



The x_{PE} distributions $f(x_{PE})$ depend on N_{conn} Large $N_{conn} \Rightarrow$ large x_{PE} suppressed small x_{PE} enhanced We will use the notation $f^{(N_{conn})}(x_{PE})$



Large $N_{\text{conn}} \Rightarrow \text{large } x_{\text{PE}} \text{ suppressed } \Rightarrow \text{large } p_t \text{ suppressed}$



Min, bias *pp* or *AA* = superposition of different *N*_{conn} contributions

Cannot be equal to the single-scattering case (*N***_{conn} = 1) => violation of AGK**

We define the "deformation" of $f^{(N_{\text{conn}})}(x_{\text{PE}})$ relative to the reference $f^{(1)}(x_{\text{PE}})$

 $R_{\text{deform}} = \frac{f^{(N_{\text{conn}})}(x_{\text{PE}})}{f^{(1)}(x_{\text{PE}})}$

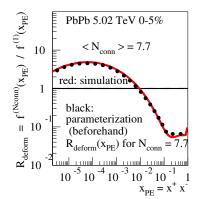
 $R_{deform} \neq 1$ creates the problem

But we are able to parameterize R_{deform} and tabulate it, for all systems, all centrality classes

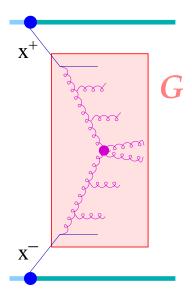
So

 $R_{\text{deform}} = R_{\text{deform}}(N_{\text{conn}}, x_{\text{PE}})$

can be considered to be known, it is tabulated and available via interpolation (to be used later).



There are actually two problems



concerning the single scattering expression *G*, the fundamental building block of the multiple scattering formalism

□ The assumption $G = G_{QCD}$ seems to be wrong (AGK problem)

Nonlinear effects are completely missing

EPOS4 improvement, step 3: Add saturation

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Saturation phenomena (nonlinear effects, inside circles) may be "summarized" by saturation scales Q²_{sat}

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Saturation phenomena (nonlinear effects, inside circles) may be "summarized" by saturation scales

suggesting to treat nonlinear effects by introducing saturation scales Q_{sat}^2 as the lower limits Q_0^2 of the virtualities for DGLAP evolutions

We compute and tabulate $G_{QCD}(Q_0^2, x^+, x^-, s, b)$ for a large range of Q_0^2 values see K. Werner and B. Guiot, PRC 108, 034904 (2306.02396)

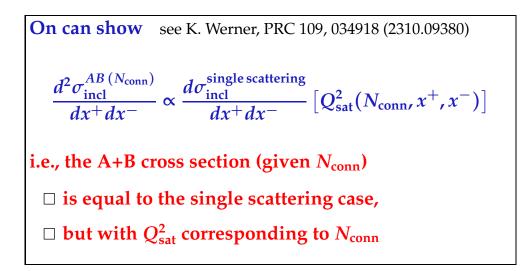
For the connection between the basic multiple scattering building block *G* and the QCD expression G_{QCD} one postulates:

For each subscattering, for given x^{\pm} , *s*, *b*, and N_{conn} : $G(x^{+}, x^{-}, s, b) = n \frac{G_{\text{QCD}}(Q_{\text{sat}}^{2}, x^{+}, x^{-}, s, b)}{R_{\text{deform}}(N_{\text{conn}}, x_{\text{PE}})}$ such that *G* does not depend on N_{conn} , whereas Q_{sat}^{2} does depend on $x^{+}, x^{-}, N_{\text{conn}}$

n is a normalization constant

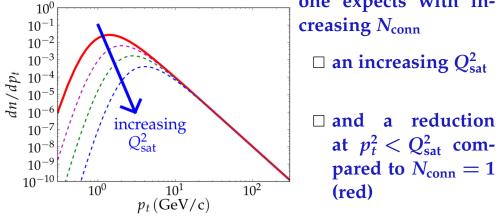
Early attemps in this direction:

K. Werner, F.-M. Liu, and T. Pierog, Phys. Rev. C 74, 044902 (2006), hep-ph/0506232 K. Werner, B. Guiot, I. Karpenko, and T. Pierog, J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 458, 012020 (2013) T. Pierog and K. Werner, Acta Phys. Polon. Supp. 8, 1031 (2015)



Same relation for p_t distributions (deduced from x^+x^-)

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But no change for large p_t . If interested in large p_t : One replaces Q_{sat}^2 by some constant $Q_0^2 = \max\{Q_{sat}^2\}$

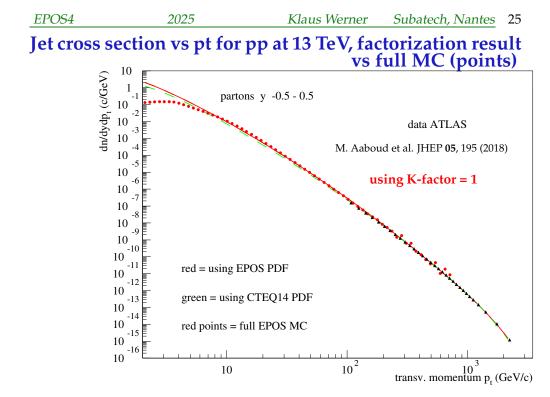


$$\frac{d\sigma_{\rm incl}^{AB\,(mb)}}{dp_t} = AB \frac{d\sigma_{\rm incl}^{\rm single\, scattering}}{dp_t} \left[Q_0^2\right]$$

but only for p_t^2 bigger than the relevant Q_{sat}^2 values (gAGK theorem)

Extremely important: One gets factorization (in *pp* and *A*+*B*) for inclusive cross sections at high pt in a fully self-consistent ^(*) multiple (parallel) scattering scheme.

(*) Mandatory: (A) energy-mom. conservation, (B) parallel scattering, (C) MC = theory, (D) factorization

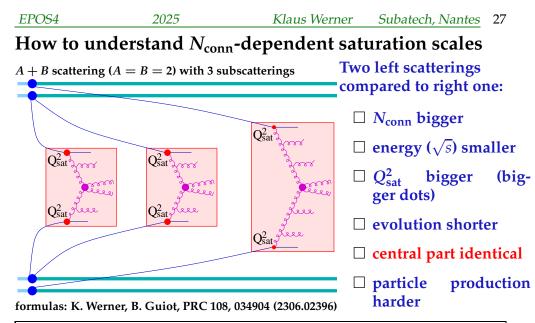


Why is this test so important?

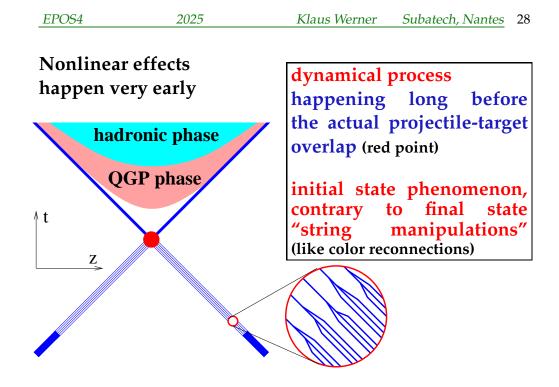
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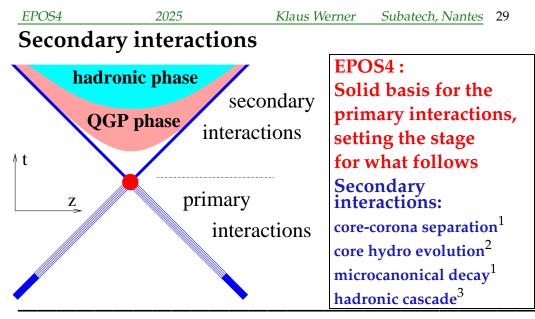
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- □ Does EPOS4 perform better for inclusive min. bias pp cross sections at high *p*_t? No
- But EPOS4 is designed to work for situations where multiple scattering is important (high mult. *pp*, *p*+A, A+B)
- □ And inclusive min. bias pp at high p_t is (although rare) a very important "special case", and we must show that this "test case" works as well



Implementing both energy-mom conservation and saturation is needed, the one compensates the other, such that the central part remains unchanged





- ¹) K. Werner, PRC 109, 014910 (2024), arXiv:2306.10277
- ²) I. Karpenko et al, Computer Physics Communications 185, 3016 (2014), K. Werner, B. Guiot, I. Karpenko, and T. Pierog, PRC 89, 064903 (2014), 1312.1233
- ³) S. A. Bass et al., Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 41, 225 (1998), M. Bleicher et al., J. Phys. G25, 1859 (1999)

For the following plots, distinguish:

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- (A) The "core+corona" contribution: primary + core-corona separation + hydrodynamic evolution + microcanonical hadronization, but without hadronic rescattering.
- **(B)** The "**core**" contribution: as (A), but considering only core particles.
- **(C)** The "**corona**" contribution: as (A), but considering only corona particles.
- **(D)** The "**full**" EPOS4 scheme: as (A), but in addition hadronic rescattering.
- Note: Rescattering concerns core and corona particles



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Core, corona, full pp at 7 TeV

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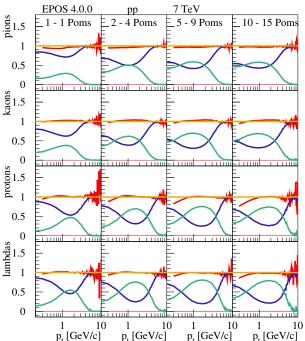
pions, kaons, protons, lambdas (top to bottom)

Green: $\frac{\text{core}}{\text{core}+\text{corona}}$ Blue: $\frac{\text{corona}}{\text{core}+\text{corona}}$ Red: $\frac{\text{full}}{\text{core}+\text{corona}}$

Core reaches to higher pt for baryons

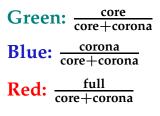
Core has maximum at intermediate pt (flow)

Rescattering not very important





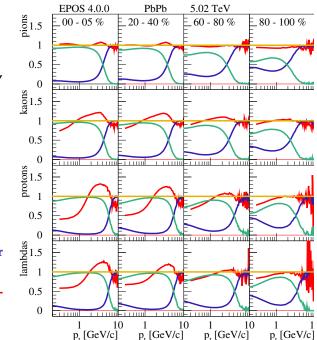
pions, kaons, protons, lambdas (top to bottom)



Core reaches to higher pt for baryons

Core has maximum at intermediate pt (flow)

Rescattering important



0.5

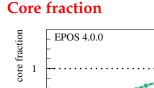
0

PhPh

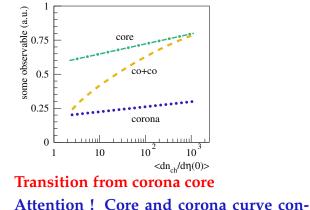
 10°

 $10^{\frac{3}{3}}$

 $\langle dn_{ch}/d\eta(0) \rangle$



Core + corona (co+co) results (sketch)



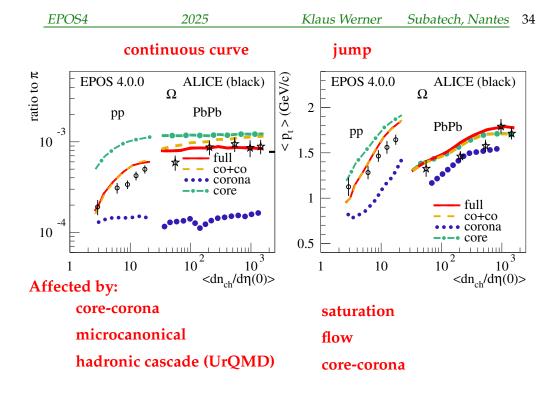
see DCCI2, Y. Kanakubo et al Phys. Rev. C 105 (2022) 2, 024905

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Almost continuous!

tinuous ... or not (depends on variable)

On top: effects from hadronic cascade (UrQMD, S. A. Bass et al., Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 41, 225 (1998), M. Bleicher et al., J. Phys. G25, 1859 (1999))



EPOS4 web page: https://klaus.pages.in2p3.fr/epos4

	Home	Links	Register	Contact		
out						
ysics	EPOS4	: A Mon	te Carlo t	ool for simulating	, <mark>high-</mark> er	nergy scatterings
de						
	Based on the requirement to have at LHC energies a formalism with multiple scatterings happening rigorously in parallel, in pp and AA collisions, we managed for the first time to get a fully selfconsistent scheme, compatible with the factorization approach, but allowing to go much beyond. Theoretical consistency (not fitting data) led to the implementation of variable saturation scales , where the latter depend in a well-defined way on the number subscatterings. This has major consequences, in particular a hardening of events with increasing multiplicity.					
				EPOS4 in short		The basis of EPOS4
	Treating	heavy flavo	r properly more	A pedagical overview	more	A series af four (technical) papers more

thanks Damien Vintache for managing installation/technical issues

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Summary (concerning primary scatterings in EPOS4)

- □ There are ad hoc assumptions, details may be questioned, but the overall multiple-scattering picture seems mandatory, since based on very fundamental principles:
 - * parallel scattering formalism
 - * energy-momentum sharing (EMS)
 - * implementing saturation
 - Seems mandatory to implement "environment dependent" factorization scales, which compensate exacly the effect of the EMS
 - * validity of factorization at high pt
 - * MC = theory
- Solid basis for further activities: EPOS4 systematic improvements EPOS4HQ, including quarkonia and HF collectivity, EPOS4JET ...
- □ AND (with Tanguy Pierog) create a fast version to be used for air shower simulations