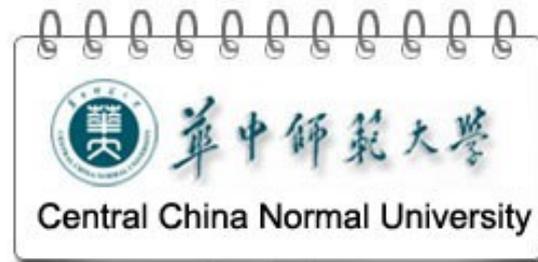


# Heavy flavour production as a function of multiplicity in small systems with ALICE

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Particle Physics Laboratory

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Shanghai Jiao Tong University

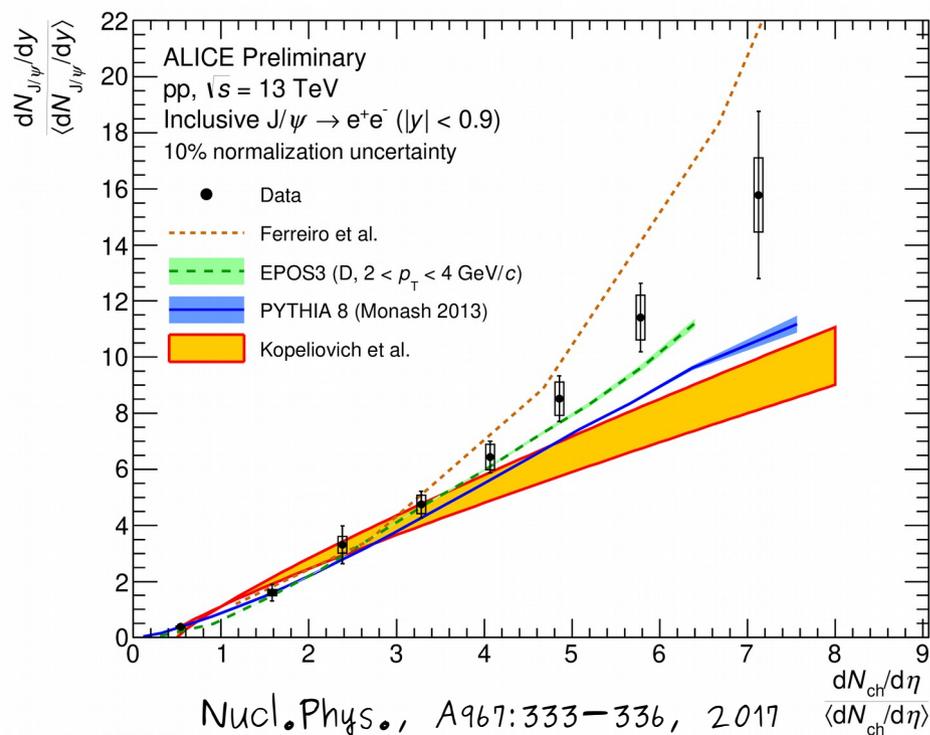
# Introduction



Charged-particle multiplicity dependence to study:

- Particle production mechanism
- Multiple parton interactions (MPI)
- Interplay between soft and hard processes

$J/\psi$  production in pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV



->  $J/\psi$  production increases faster than linear with the charged-particle multiplicity

-> This could tie in with hints of a QGP-like behavior at high multiplicity in small systems

-> Models assume  $J/\psi$  production in MPI and saturation of soft particle production ("compression of x-axis")

# The ALICE Detector



Charged-particle multiplicity is measured:

**Mid-rapidity:** number of SPD (the first two layers of the ITS) tracklets

**Forward rapidity:** sum of amplitudes in the  $V_0$  scintillator arrays

Heavy flavours are studied at :

**Mid-rapidity:**  $|\eta| < 0.5, 0.9 \dots$

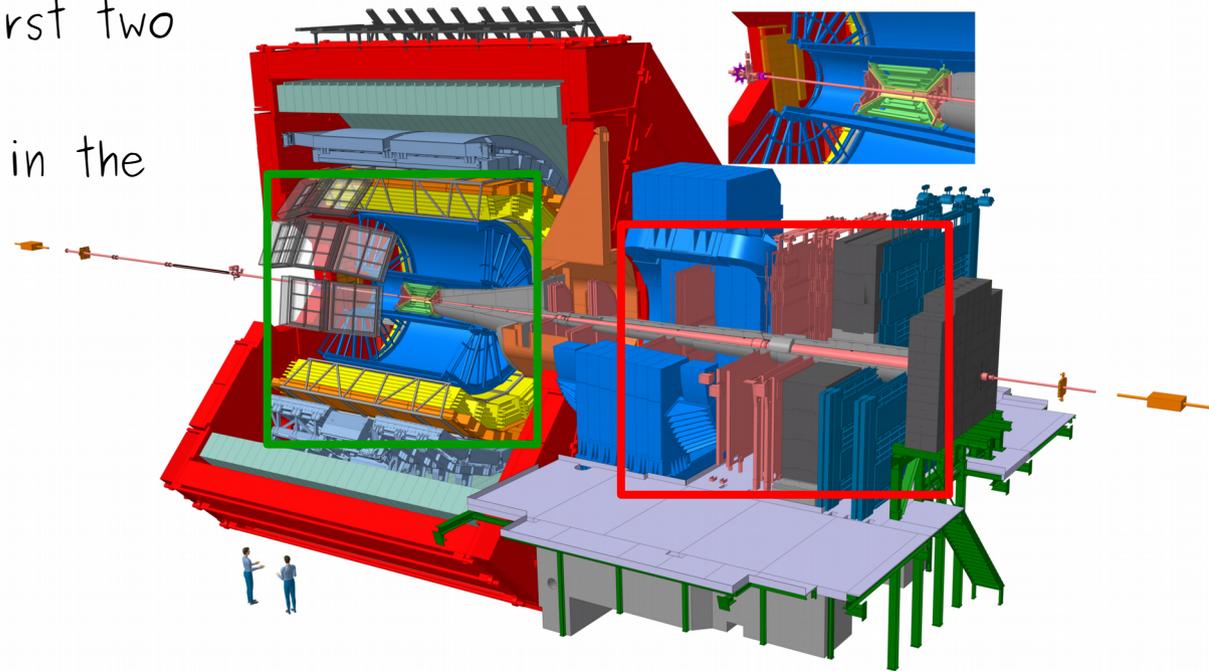
**Forward rapidity:**  $2.5 < \eta < 4$

Central barrel,  $|\eta| < 0.9$  :

- ITS: Tracking, vertexing, multiplicity
- TPC: Tracking, PID
- EMCal: High- $p_T$  electrons, triggering, PID

Smaller detectors :

- $V_0$ ,  $T_0$ , ZDC...
- Event activity characterization



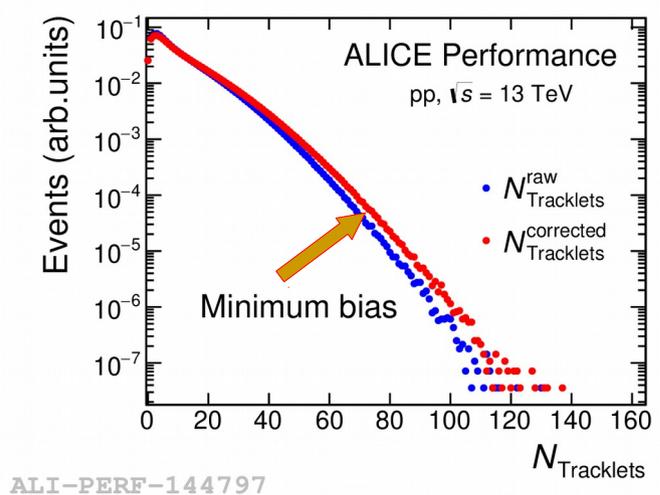
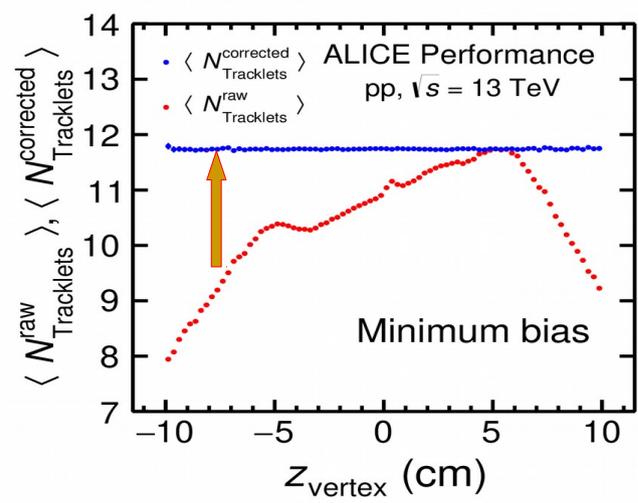
Muon Spectrometer,  $-4 < \eta < 2.5$  :

- Muon Tracker
- Muon Identifier (triggering)
- Open heavy flavours and quarkonia
- W/Z bosons
- Low mass resonances



# Analysis strategy

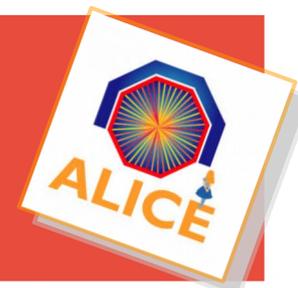
## Multiplicity estimation - SPD tracklets



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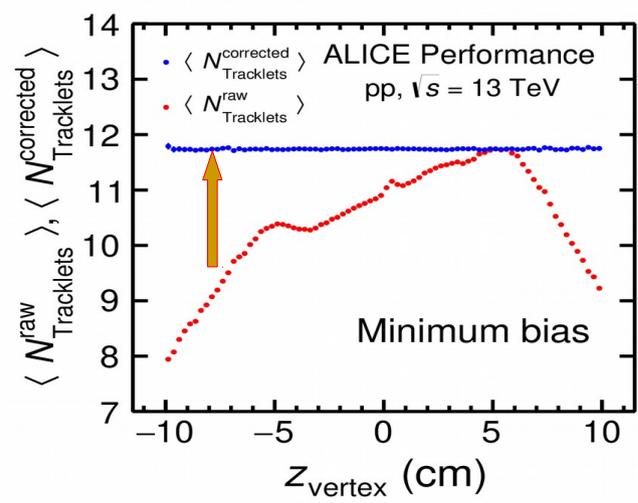
Correction for detector inefficiency

- Equalize acceptance and efficiency along the  $z$ -vertex direction

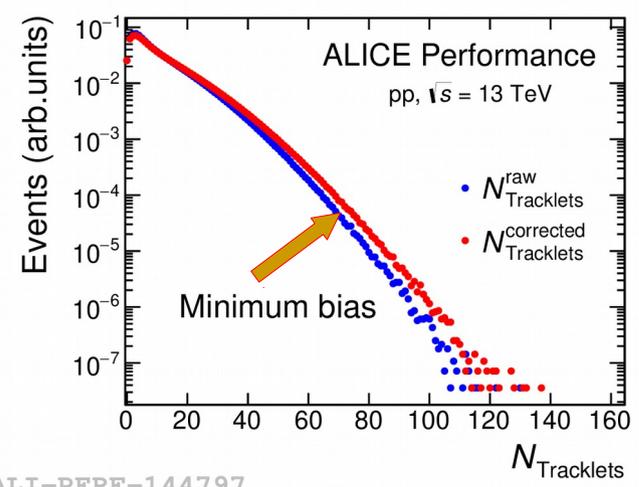


# Analysis strategy

## Multiplicity estimation - SPD tracklets



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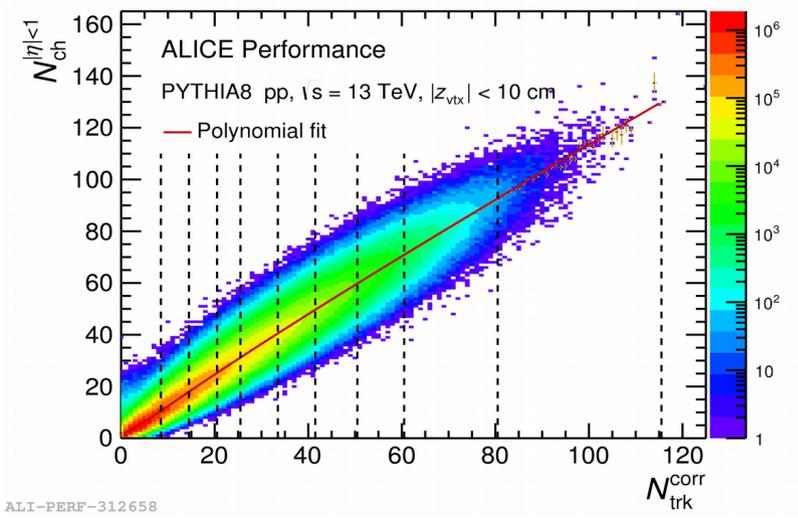


Correction for detector inefficiency

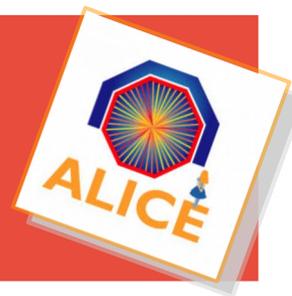
- Equalize acceptance and efficiency along the  $z$ -vertex direction

## Tracklet-to-charged-particle conversion

- Based on simulations which reproduce the realistic detector transport

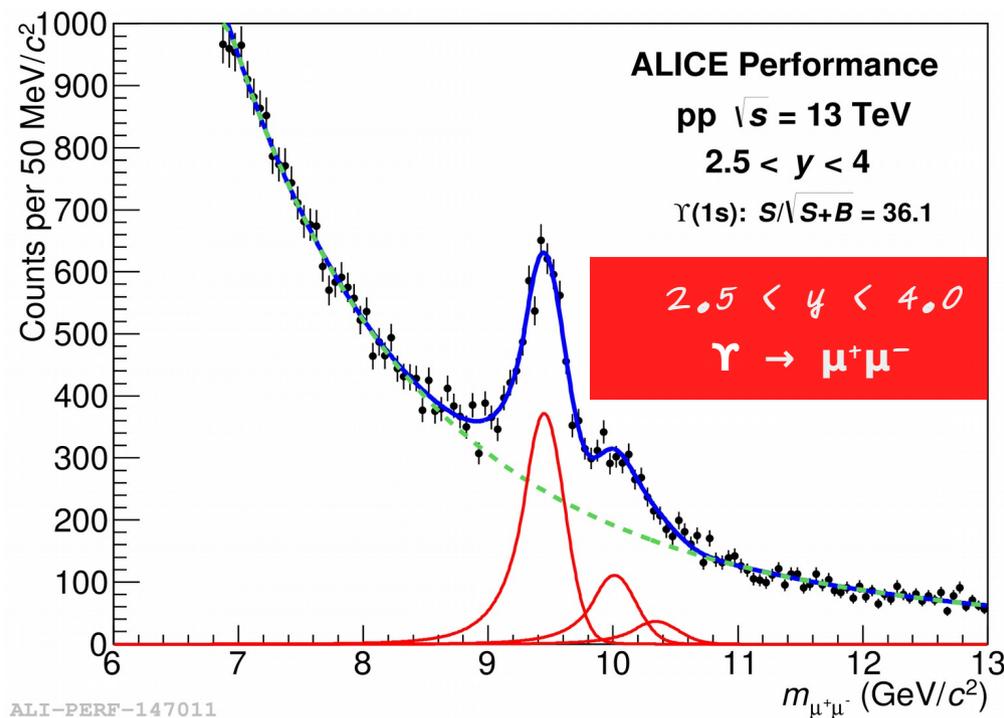
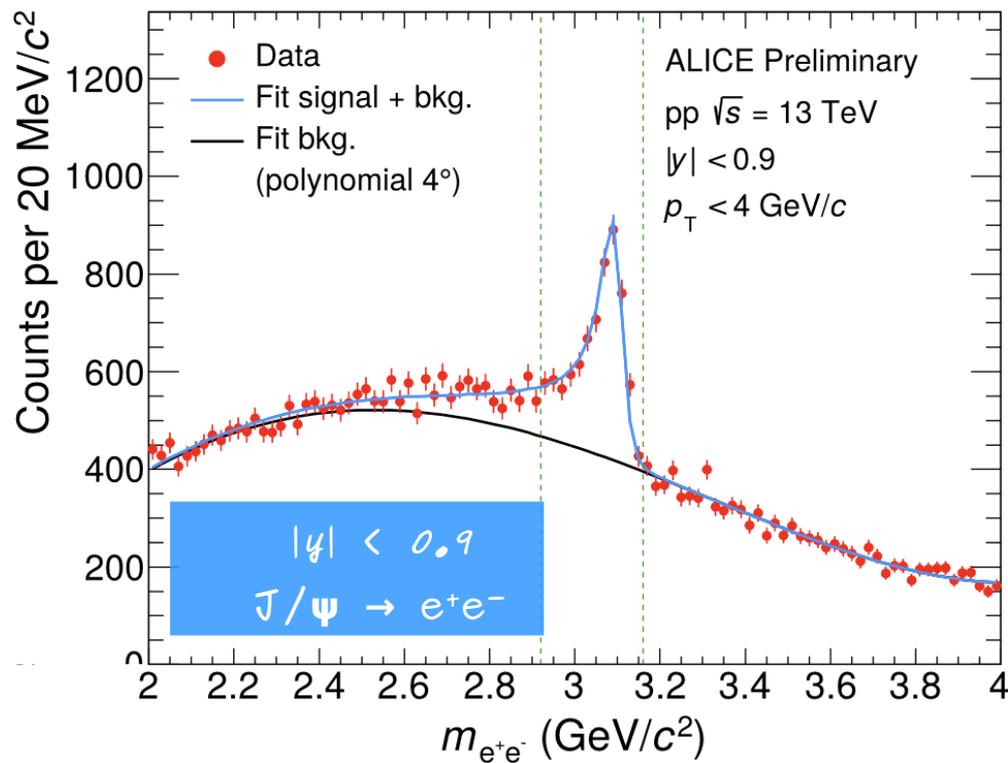


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# Analysis strategy

## Signal extraction

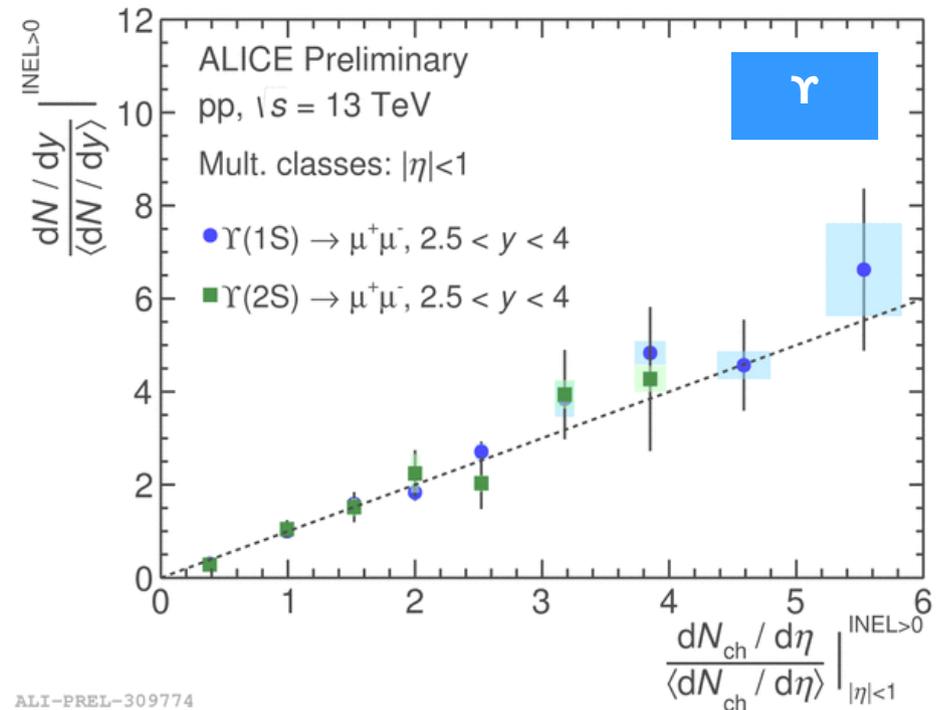
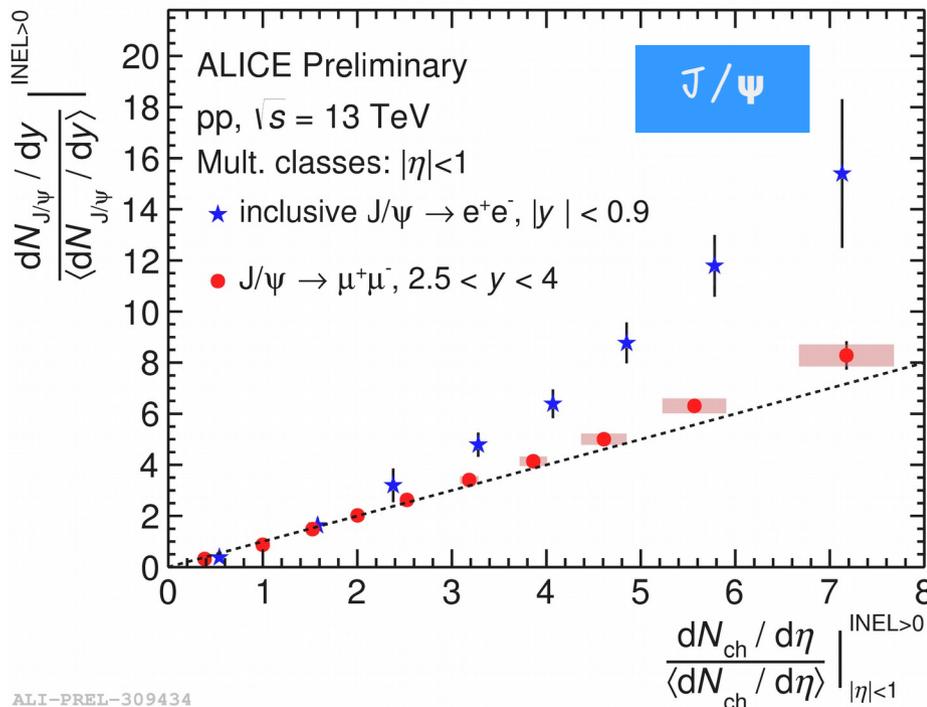
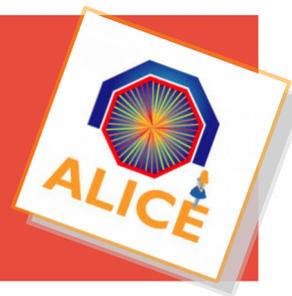


- Clear signal peak at both mid-rapidity and forward rapidity
- A combined fit is applied to disentangle signal and background

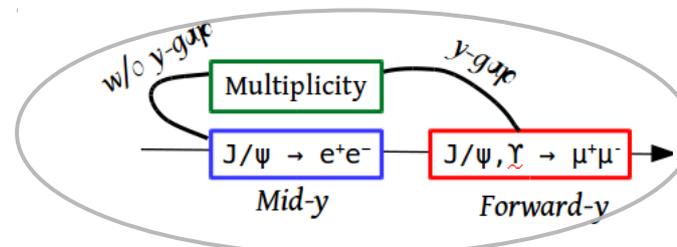


pp collisions

# Inclusive J/ψ and γ production vs multiplicity



- Forward rapidity (with  $y$ -gap): Linear increase for J/ψ, γ(1S) and γ(2S)
  - Mid-rapidity (without  $y$ -gap): Stronger than linear increase for J/ψ
- Hint of auto-correlation bias

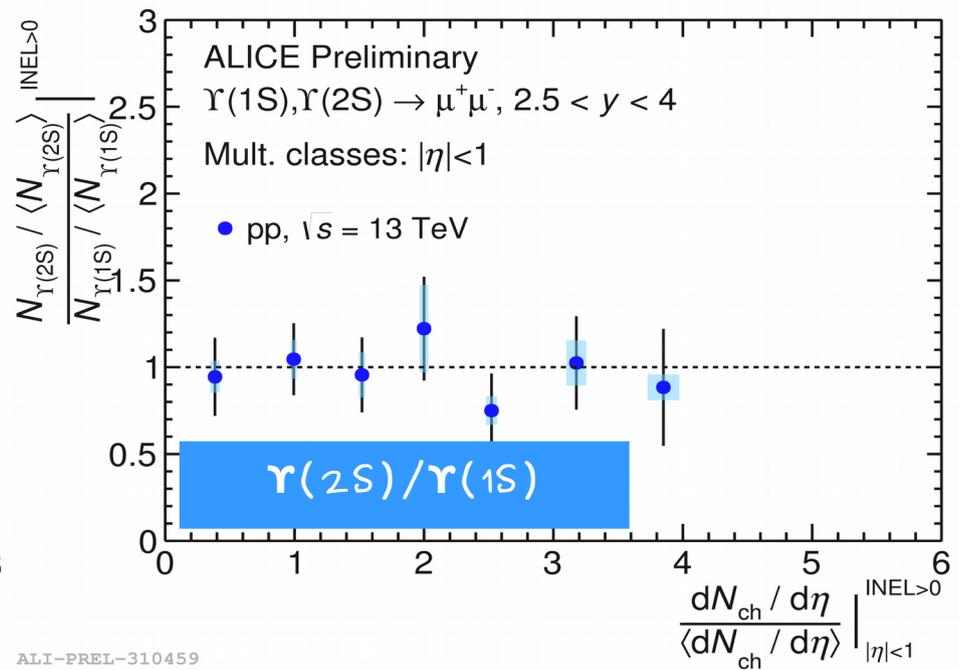
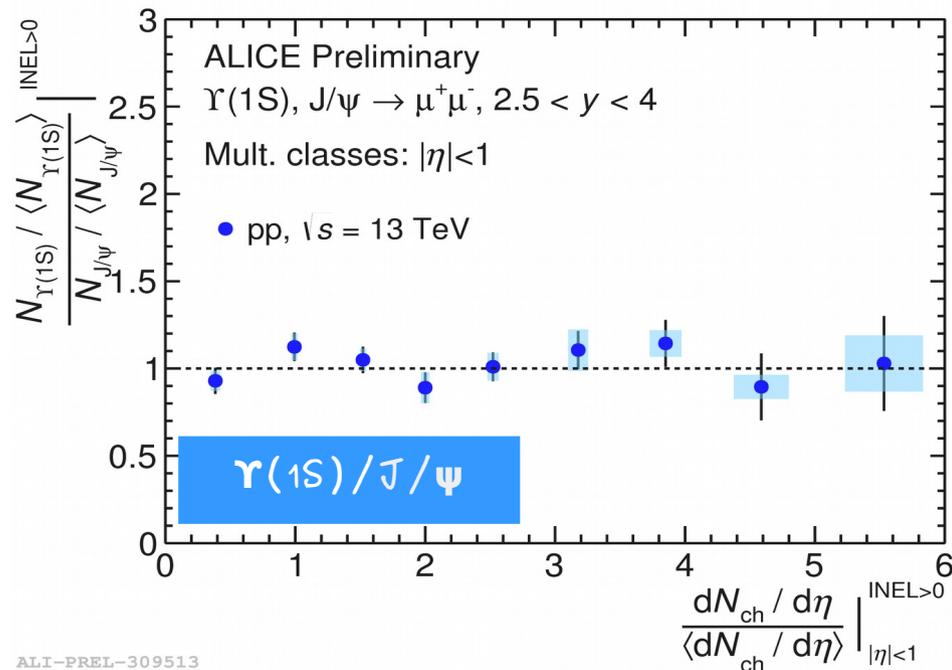


# Inclusive J/ψ and γ production vs multiplicity



Double ratio of charged-particle multiplicity dependence to study:

- Relative production in terms of mass and flavor content
- Excited to ground state production



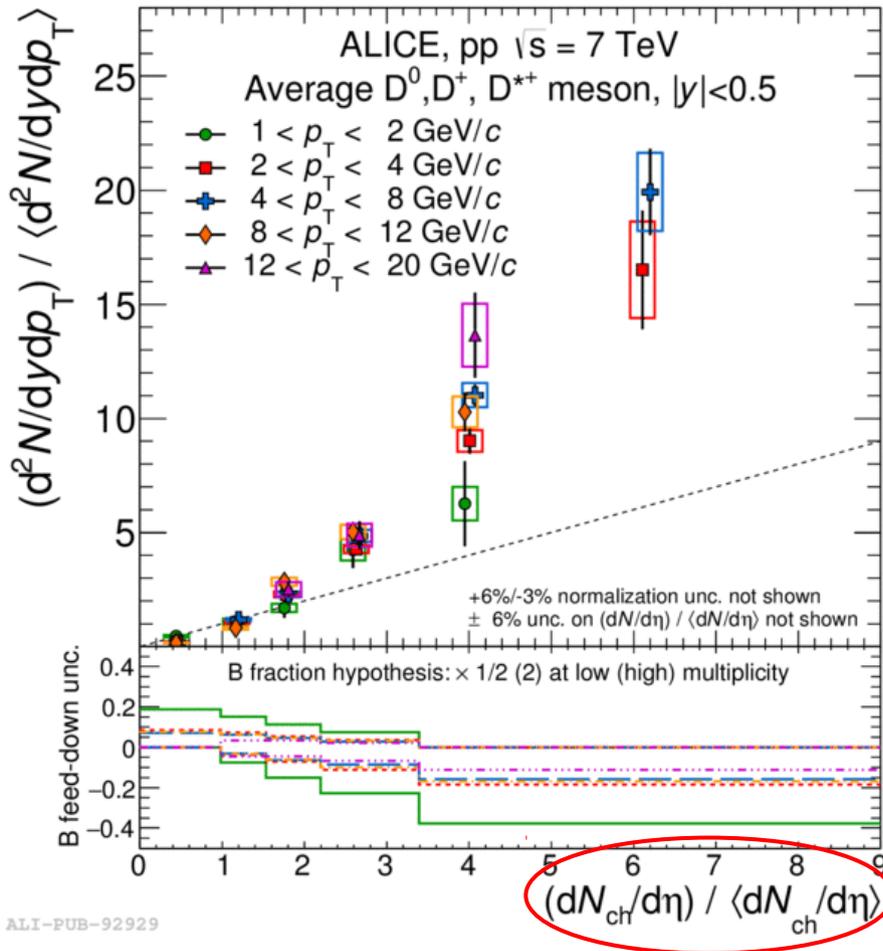
Measurements performed at forward rapidity, i.e. with  $y$ -gap:

- Left: No dependence on mass and quark content
- Right:  $\Upsilon(2S) / \Upsilon(1S)$  ratio is compatible with unity within current uncertainties

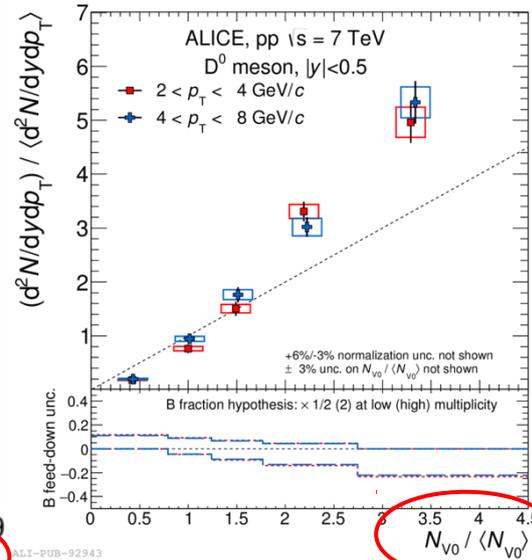
# D-meson production vs multiplicity



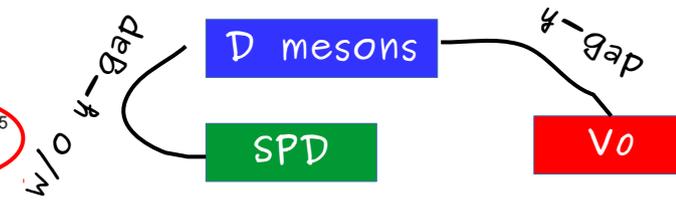
JHEP 09 (2015) 148



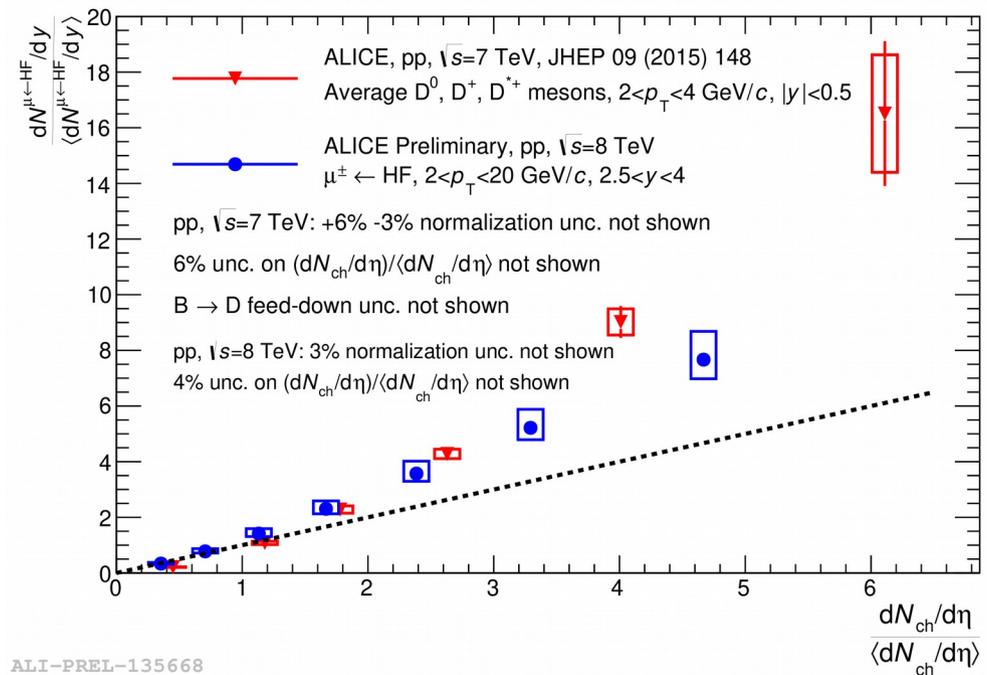
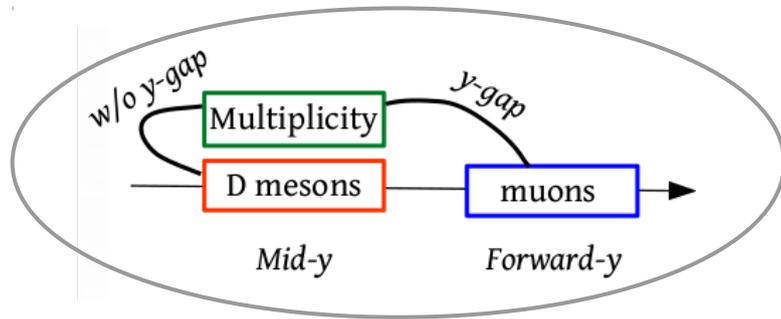
- Approximately linear increase within uncertainties at low multiplicity
- Deviation from linearity in the higher multiplicity bins
- No  $p_T$  dependence within uncertainties



- Test possible auto-correlation:  $y$ -gap  $\rightarrow$  Qualitatively similar increasing trend



# Semi-leptonic decay: $\mu \leftarrow \text{HF}$ vs multiplicity

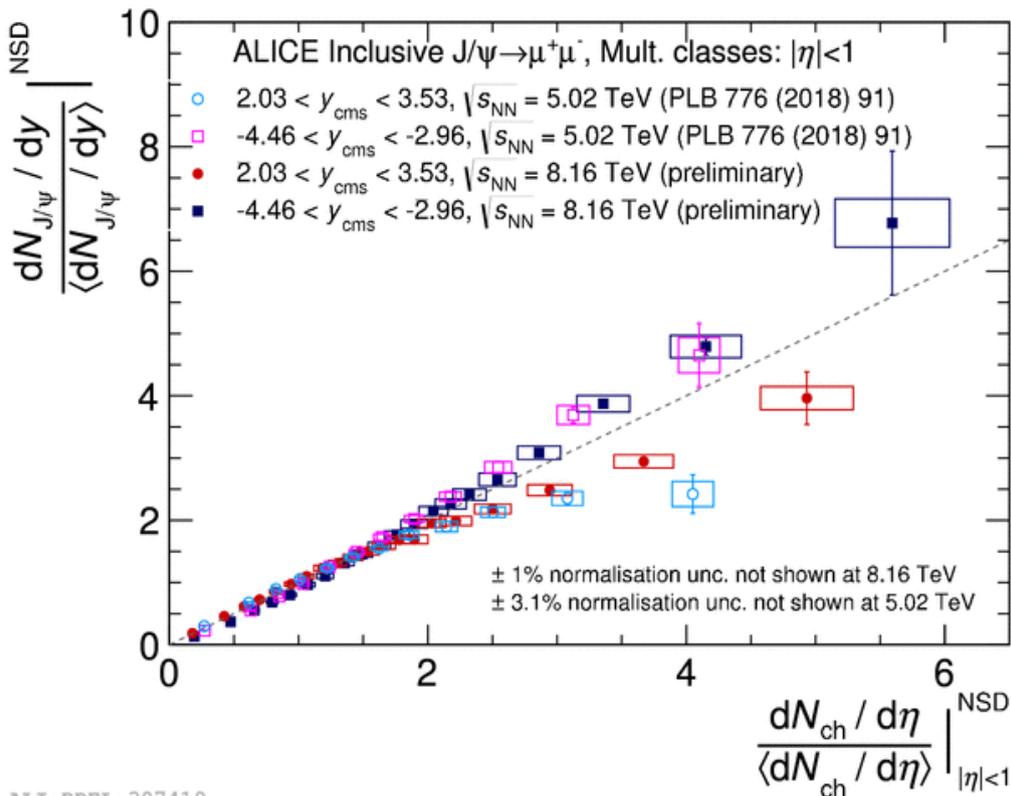


- Low multiplicity : similar multiplicity dependence as  $J/\psi$  and  $\Upsilon$
- High multiplicity : stronger than linear increase
  - > The increase appears slightly faster at mid-rapidity than at forward, which is similar to what is observed for  $J/\psi$
  - > Need to study the role of jet fragmentation in  $J/\psi$  production

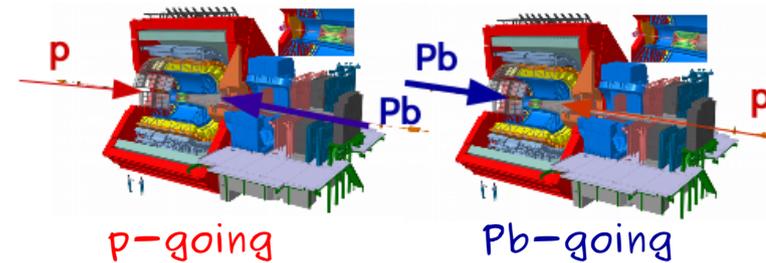


$p$ - $Pb$  collisions

# Inclusive J/ψ production vs multiplicity



→ J/ψ production vs. multiplicity shows a rapidity dependence while no energy dependence is observed

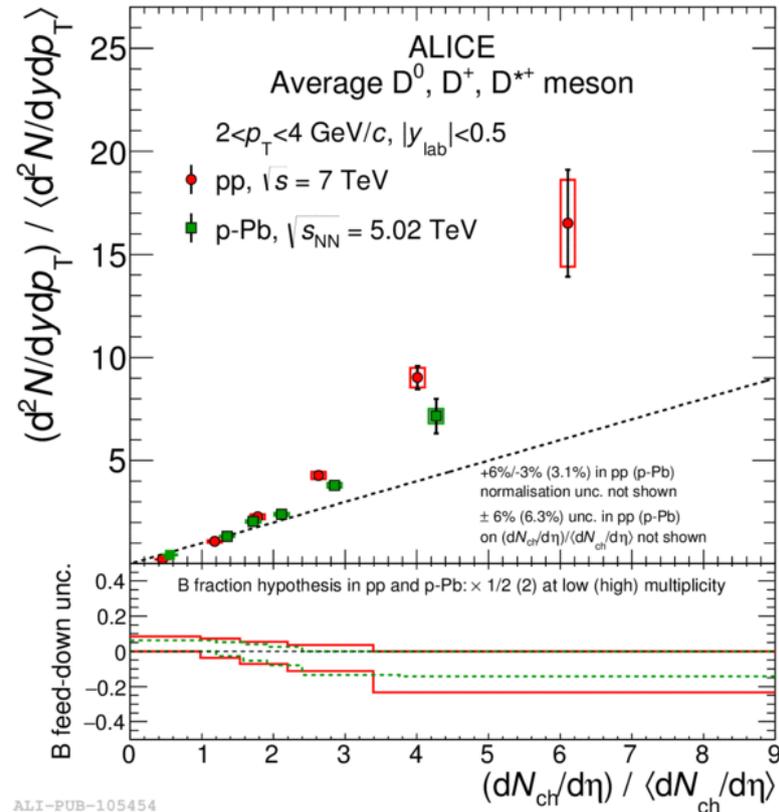
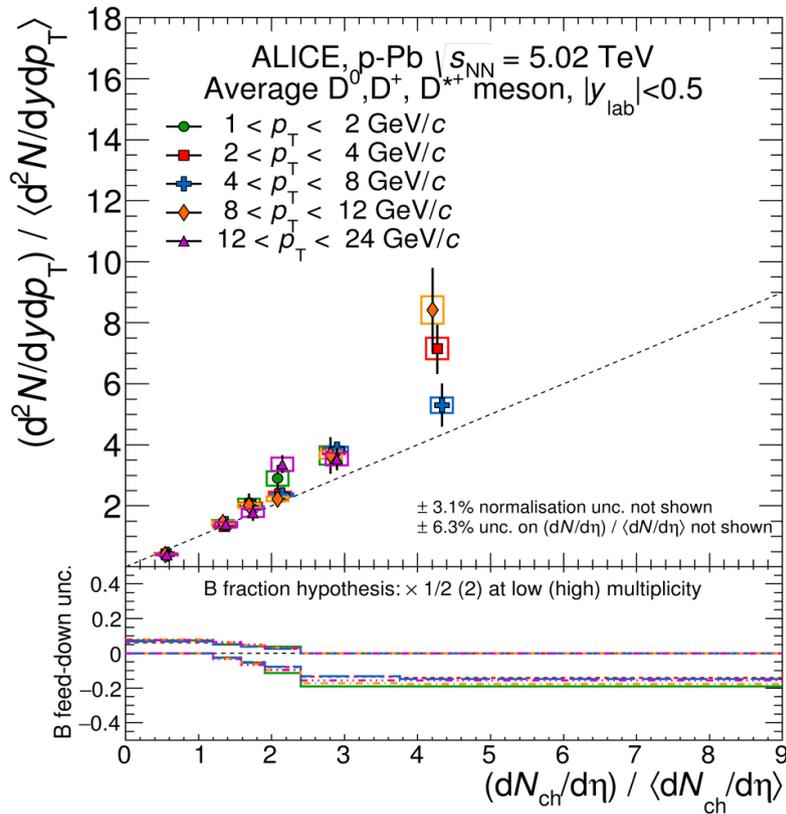


- Low multiplicity: Both backward and forward results show a linear increase with multiplicity
- High multiplicity, i.e.:  
 $dN_{ch} / dη / \langle dN_{ch} / dη \rangle > 2$ :  
**Forward (p-going side)**: shows slower than linear increase (saturation?)  
**Backward (Pb-going side)**: keeps increasing linearly within uncertainties, similar as pp collisions

# D-meson production vs multiplicity



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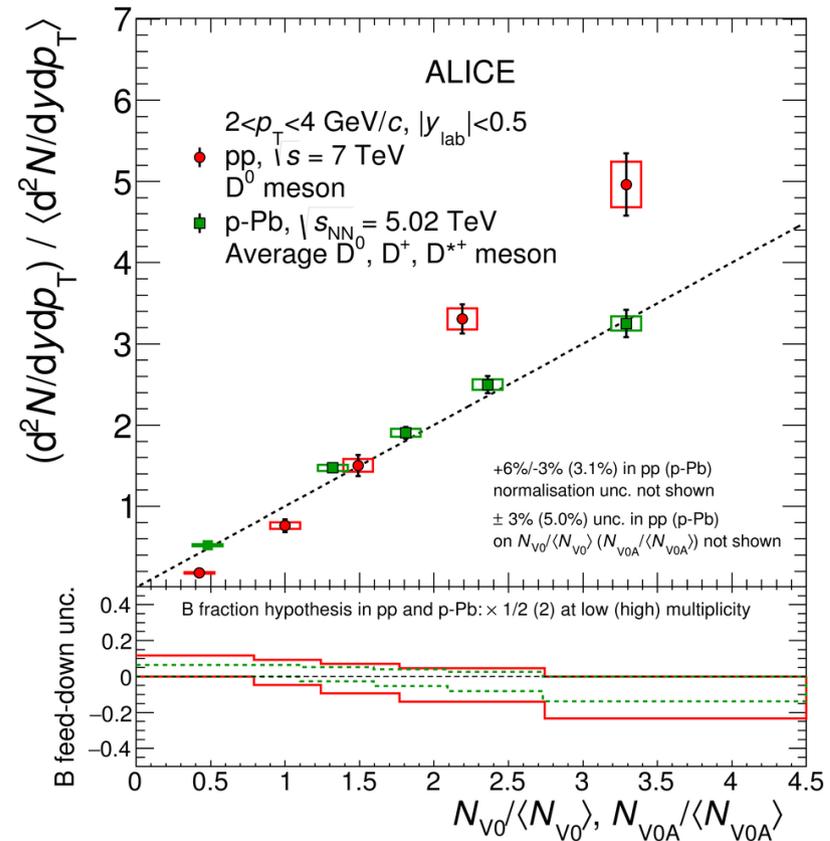
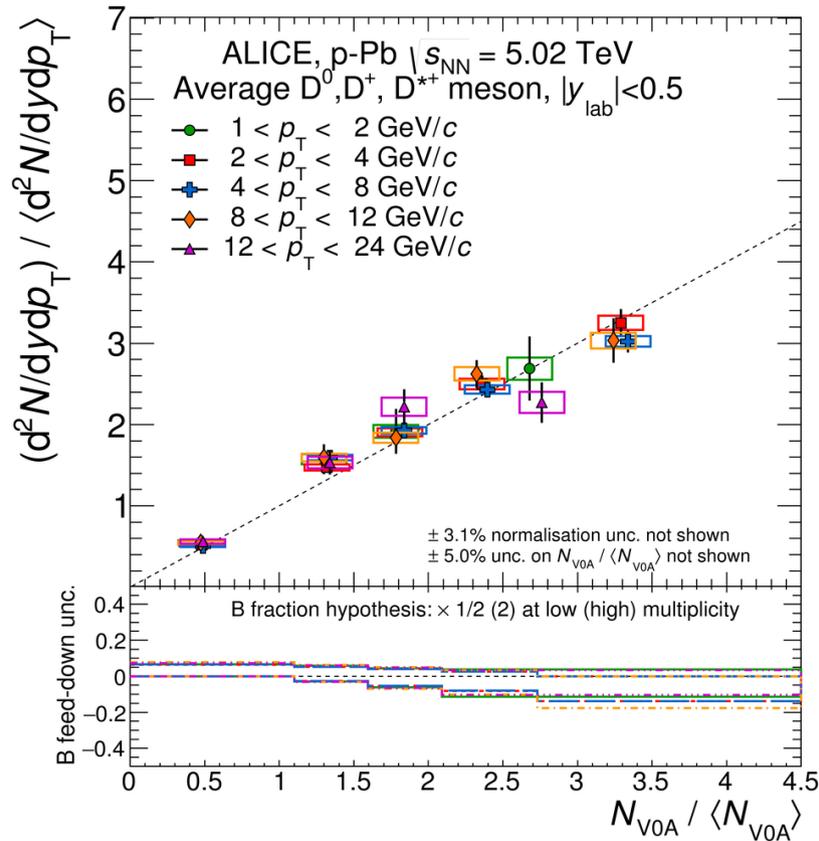
- Independent of transverse momentum within uncertainties
- Faster than linear increase with the charged-particle multiplicity at central rapidity
- Similar trend as pp collisions

# D-meson production vs multiplicity



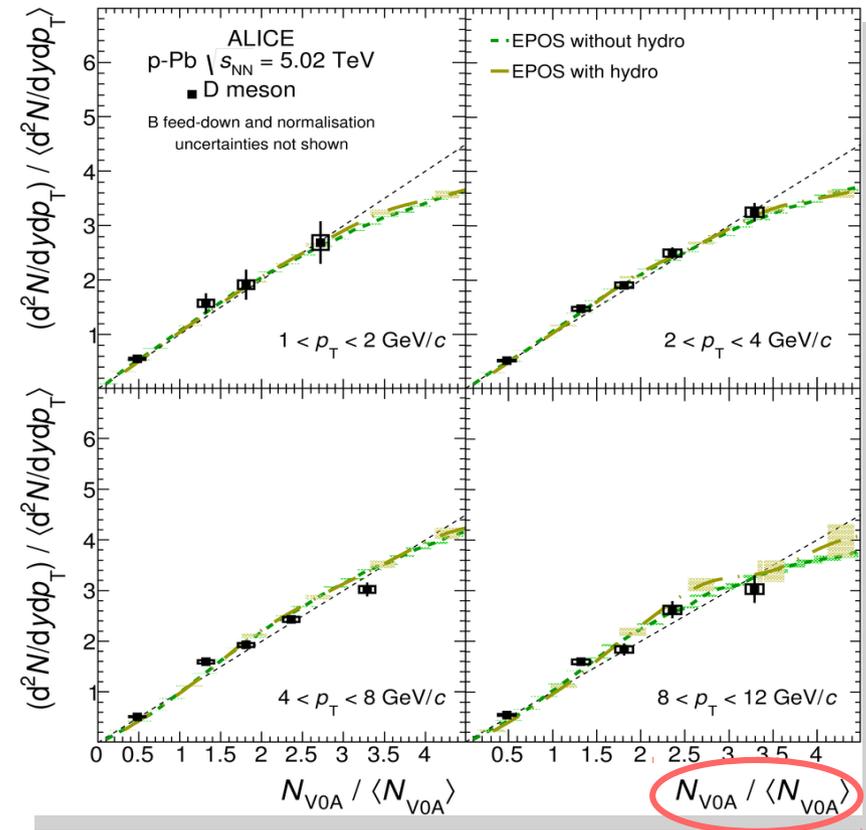
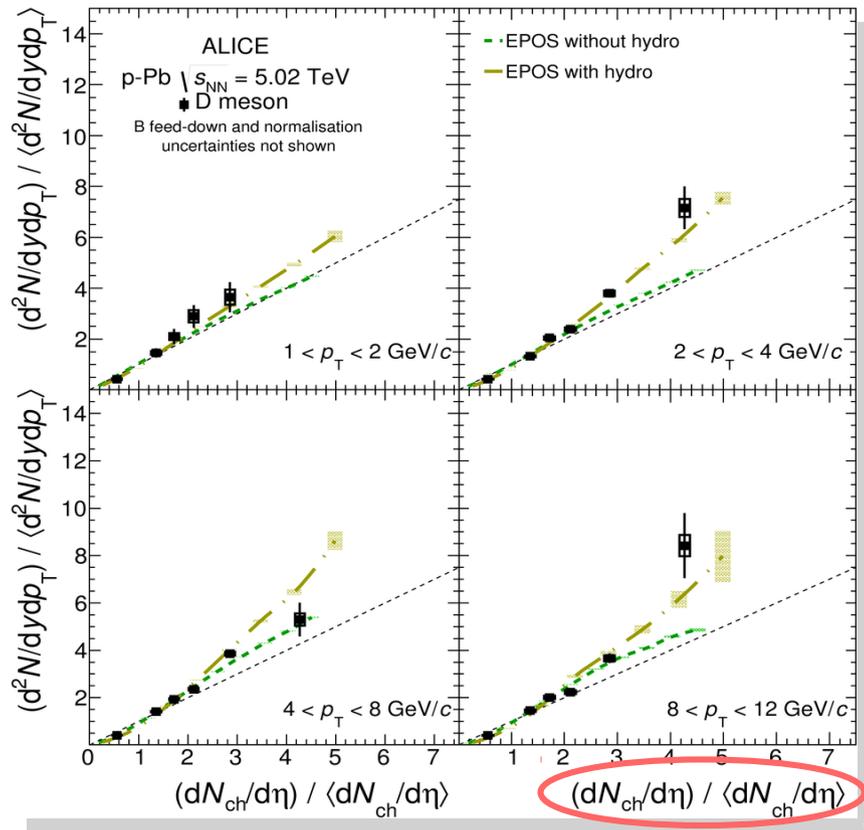
JHEP 8 (2016) 1-44

Introduce an  $\eta$ -gap between D-meson and multiplicity



- Independent of  $p_T$  within uncertainties
- Consistent with a linear growth as a function of multiplicity
- Increase faster in pp than p-Pb collisions at backward rapidity

# Model predictions for D-meson



- The measurements agree with the EPOS3 model calculations within uncertainties
- At central rapidity, the results at high multiplicity are better reproduced by the calculations including hydrodynamic evolution  $\rightarrow$  faster than linear increase
- At backward rapidity, the calculations evaluate an approximately linear increase

# Summary



- Heavy flavour production as a function of multiplicity is an interesting observable for understanding particle production mechanism, the correlation between soft and hard QCD processes
- ALICE has measured the heavy flavour production at several energies in small systems



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- Heavy flavor production as a function of multiplicity is an interesting observable for understanding particle production mechanism, the correlation between soft and hard QCD processes
- ALICE has measured the heavy flavour production at several energies in small systems
- Linear increase with multiplicity highlights the importance of MPI
- Stronger than linear increase could be explained by:
  - Auto-correlation with associated multiplicity production
  - soft particle saturation
  - Bias from jet fragmentation/decay daughters
- 



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  - ...
- The  $r$  analysis will be finalized by analyzing the full statistics in view of publication



# Summary

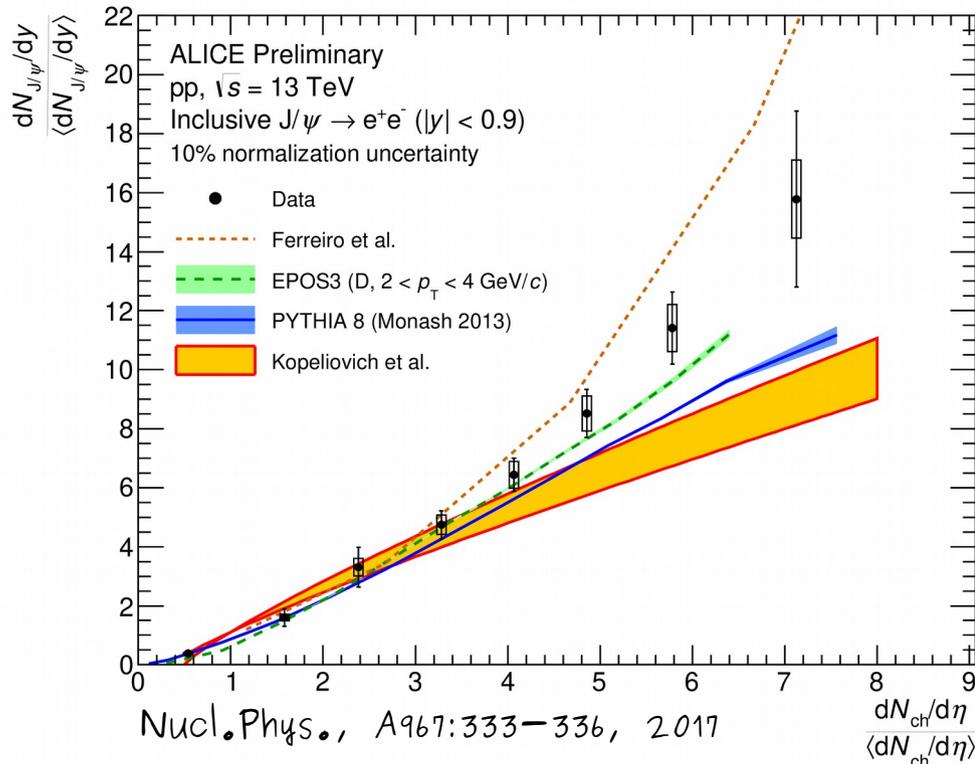


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Thank you

# Back up



ALI-PREL-128843

$J/\psi$  in pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV

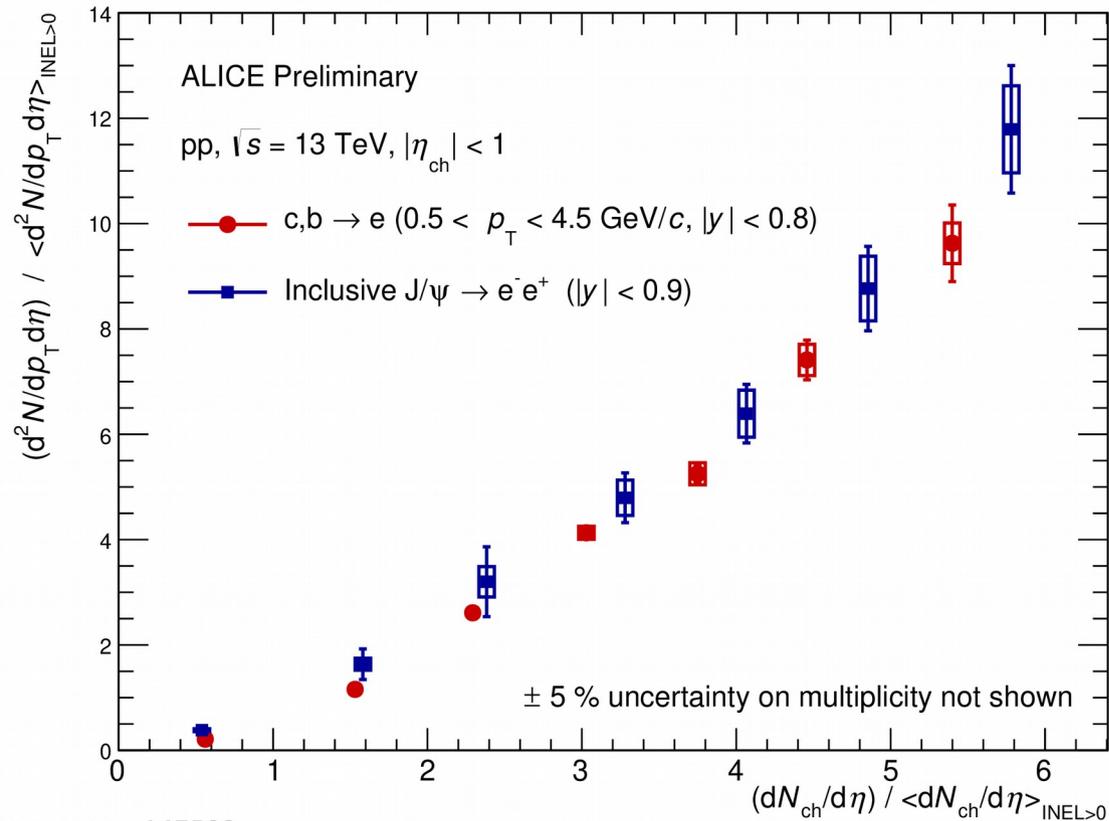
→ Models assume  $J/\psi$  production in MPI and saturation of soft particle production ("compression of x-axis")

– Ferreiro: Overlapping strings  
Phys. Rev. C 86 (2012) 034903

– Kopeliovich: Draw analogy between high multiplicity pp and pA collisions  
Phys. Rev. D 88, 116002 (2013)

– EPOS3: Hydrodynamic expansion reduces particle multiplicity  
arXiv:1602.03414

- $J/\psi$  production increases faster than linear with the charged multiplicity
- This could tie in with hints of a QGP-like behavior in high-multiplicity pp events



ALI-PREL-147582

# Model predictions for D-meson



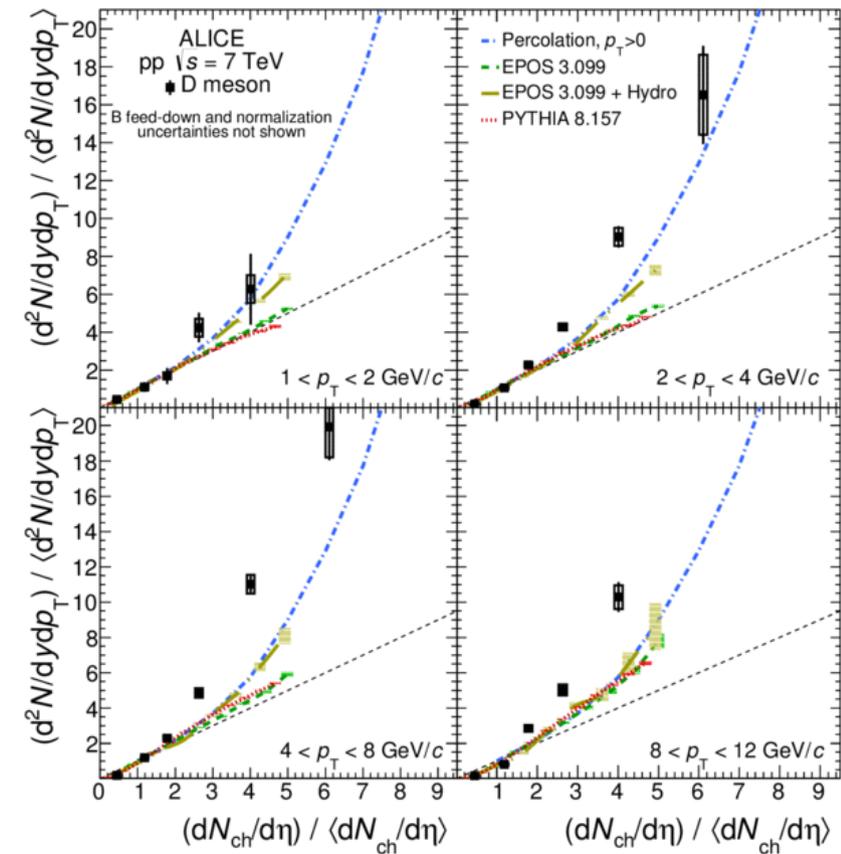
Ferreiro and Pajares, PRC 86 (2012) 034903;

Sjostrand and Mrenna, Comput. Phys. Comm. 178 (2008) 852;

Drescher, Hladik, Ostapchenko, Pierog and Werner, Phys. Rept. 350 (2001) 93

## D-meson production in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV

- **PYTHIA 8** and **EPOS w/o hydro** show linear behavior
- **Percolation** and **EPOS w/ hydro** present deviation from linearity at high multiplicity
- > Percolation and EPOS w/ hydro qualitatively supported by data at low  $p_T$
- > General difficulty of the models to reproduce the data especially at high  $p_T$



ALI-PUB-92985

# The ALICE Detector



Charged-particle multiplicity is measured using the number of SPD (the first two layers of the ITS) tracklets in  $|\eta| < 1$

Heavy-flavors are studied at :

Mid-rapidity:  $|\eta| < 0.9$

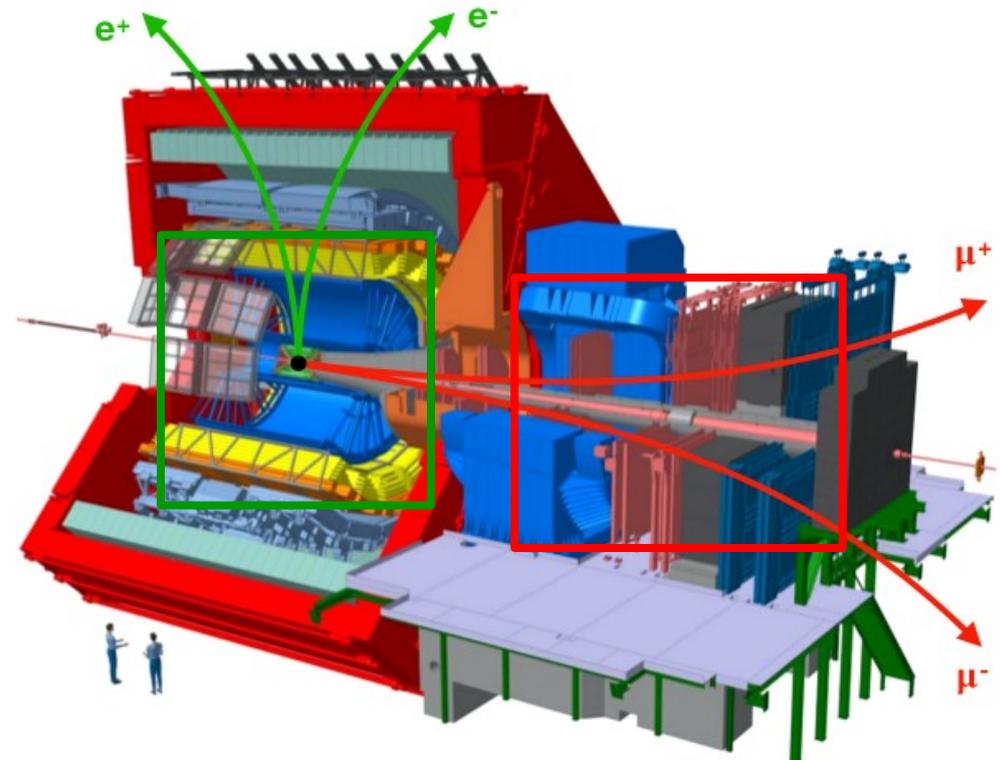
Forward rapidity:  $2.5 < \eta < 4$

Central barrel,  $|\eta| < 0.9$  :

- ITS: Tracking, vertexing, multiplicity
- TPC: Tracking, PID
- EMCal: High- $p_T$  electrons, triggering, PID

Smaller detectors :

- $V_0$ ,  $T_0$ , ZDC...
- Event activity characterization



Muon Spectrometer,  $-4 < \eta < 2.5$  :

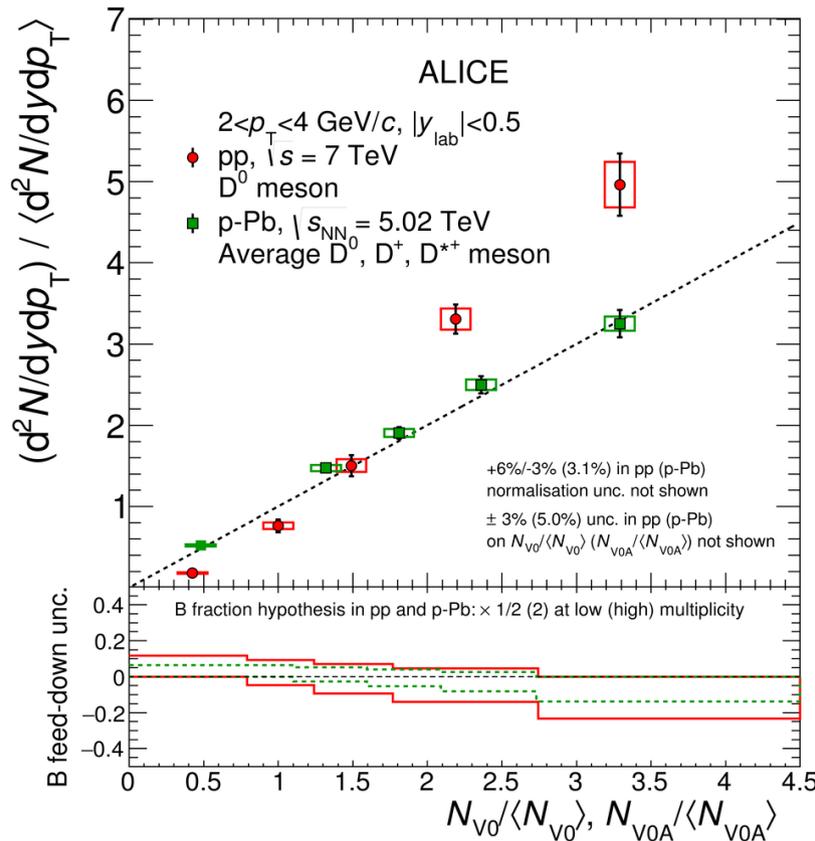
- Muon Tracker
- Muon Identifier (triggering)
- Open heavy flavours and quarkonia
- W/Z bosons
- Low mass resonances

# D-meson production vs multiplicity



Introduce an  $\eta$  gap between D-meson and multiplicity

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Increase faster in pp than p-Pb collisions at backward rapidity  
 -> Different pseudorapidity intervals of the multiplicity measurement  
 -> The initial conditions of the collision are affected by the presence of the Pb nucleus  
 -> Multiple binary nucleon-nucleon interactions per p-Pb collision

# Summary



- ALICE has measured the heavy-flavor production at several energies in small systems
  - pp collisions: HF measured at central rapidity shows a stronger than linear increase with multiplicity, while at forward rapidity, keeps a linear increase trend, except muon-based analysis
  - p-Pb collisions:
    - Quarkonia** measured at forward rapidity, keeps increasing linearly for Pb-going side, but a saturation trend for p-going side;
    - Open heavy-flavor** production shows dependence of multiplicity estimator: at mid-rapidity → faster than linearly increase; at forward rapidity → linear increase
- It is of interest to investigate more about this details

Thank you

