

# Probing the hot QCD matter via quarkonia at the next-generation heavy-ion experiment at LHC

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# Quarkonia in heavy ion collisions

- Heavy quarks are produced at the beginning of the collision and therefore experience the entire evolution of quark-gluon medium produced in heavy-ion collisions.
- Various mechanisms affect production of bound states  $c\bar{c}$  and  $b\bar{b}$  [1-3]
  - Binding of heavy quarks is suppressed because of color screening
  - Once the bound state is formed, it may dissociate because of interaction with medium
  - If there are enough  $Q\bar{Q}$  pairs, quarkonium states can be formed, either at the freeze-out or inside the QGP: recombination [3,4]
- Different quarkonium properties (binding energies, Debye radius, ...) might lead to different behaviors in the QGP In vacuum In QGP

[1] L. Kluberg and H. Satz, "Color Deconfinement and Charmonium Production in Nuclear Collisions", [arXiv:0901.3831 [hep-ph]].

[2] Matsui & Satz, Phys. Lett. B 178 (1986) 416

[2] Rothkopf, Phys. Rep. 858 (2020) 1-117

[3] Braun-Munzinger & Stachel, Phys. Lett. B 490 (2000) 196

[4] Thews, Schroedter & Rafelski, Phys. Rev. C 63, 054905



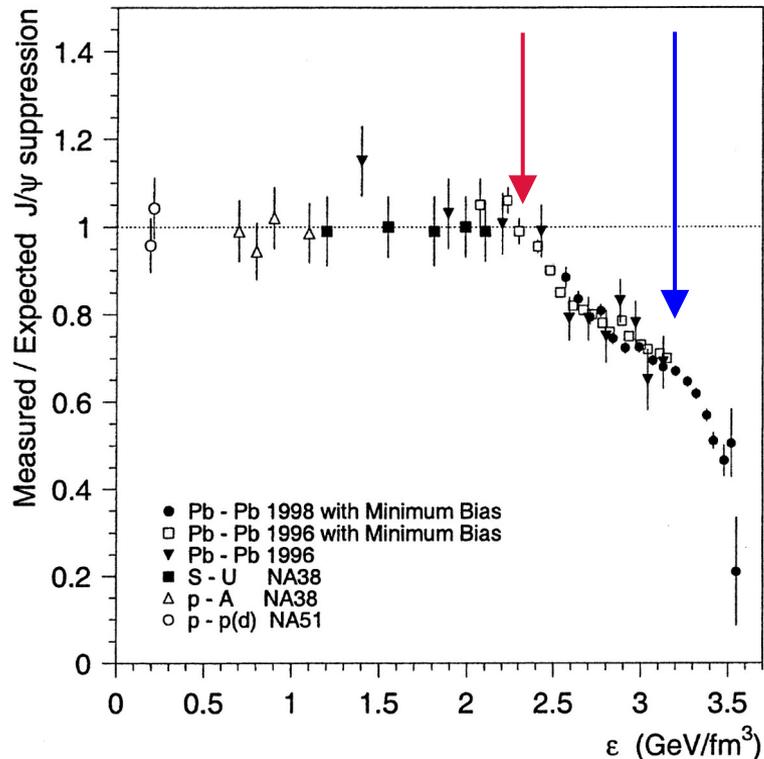
# Properties of $J/\psi$ (1S) vs $\chi_{cJ}$ (1P), $J=0,1,2$

- $J/\psi$  (1S):
  - $m=3096.90 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
  - $\text{Br}(J/\psi \rightarrow e^+e^-)=5.97\%$
  - $E_{\text{bind}} = 0.64 \text{ GeV}$
- $\chi_{c0}$  (1P):
  - $m=3414.75 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
  - $\text{Br}(\chi_{c0} \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma)=1.27\%$
  - $E_{\text{bind}} = 0.32 \text{ GeV}$
- $\chi_{c1}$  (1P):
  - $m=3510.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
  - $\text{Br}(\chi_{c1} \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma)=33.9\%$
  - $E_{\text{bind}} = 0.22 \text{ GeV}$
- $\chi_{c2}$  (1P):
  - $m=3556.20 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
  - $\text{Br}(\chi_{c2} \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma)=19.2\%$
  - $E_{\text{bind}} = 0.18 \text{ GeV}$
- Systematic studies of different charmonia in the same experiment can give hints on:
  - Study  $c\bar{c}$  interaction range and color screening in QGP
  - Charmonium dissociation
  - Enhancement through regeneration
- Measurements of  $\chi_{cJ}$  (1P) spectra is also needed for precise discrimination of prompt and non-prompt  $J/\psi$ , since  $\chi_{cJ}$  is a dominant source of decay  $J/\psi$

# Bottomonia states

- $Y(1S)$ :
  - $m=9460.20 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
  - $\text{Br}(Y \rightarrow e^+e^-)=2.38\%$
  - $E_{\text{bind}} = 1.10 \text{ GeV}$
- $\chi_{b0}(1P)$ :
  - $m=9859.44 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
  - $\text{Br}(\chi_{b0} \rightarrow Y \gamma)=1.76\%$
  - $E_{\text{bind}} = 0.70 \text{ GeV}$
- $\chi_{b1}(1P)$ :
  - $m=9892.78 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
  - $\text{Br}(\chi_{c1} \rightarrow Y \gamma)=33.9\%$
  - $E_{\text{bind}} = 0.67 \text{ GeV}$
- $\chi_{c2}(1P)$ :
  - $m=9912.21 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
  - $\text{Br}(\chi_{c2} \rightarrow Y \gamma)=19.1\%$
  - $E_{\text{bind}} = 0.64 \text{ GeV}$
- Properties of bottomonia states are very similar to charmonia.
- Detection modes are the same.
- Main challenges:
  - Smaller cross section
  - Smaller mass splitting of 1P states

# J/ψ suppression at SPS

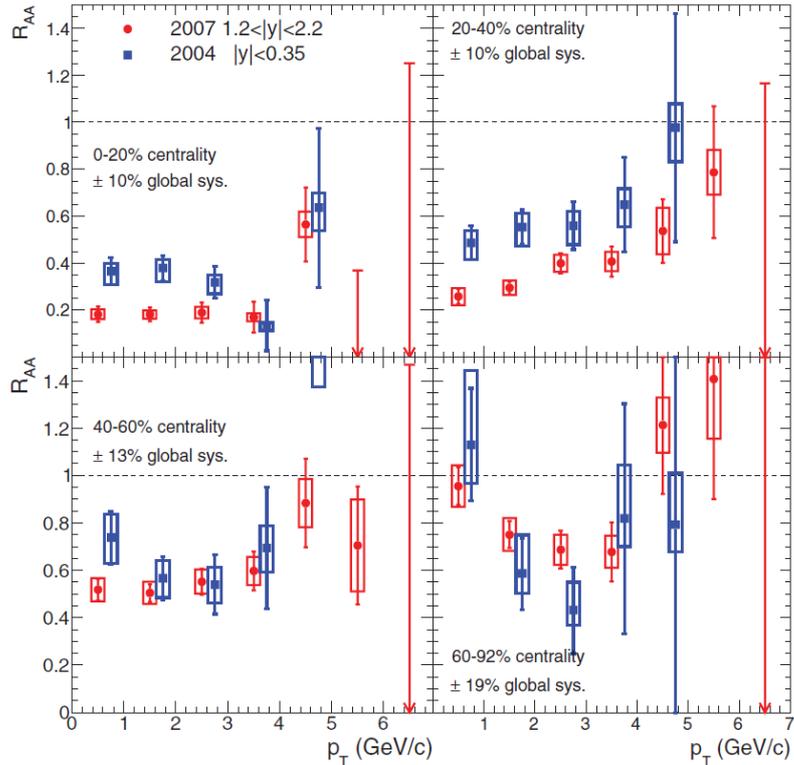


One of the first evidence of existence of deconfined quark-gluon matter was observation of J/ψ suppression in Pb-Pb collision at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=17$  TeV (NA50, SPS [1])

- $\varepsilon > 2.3 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$ : the first drop in J/ψ yield due to the disappearance of the  $\chi_c$ , responsible for a fraction of the observed J/ψ
- $\varepsilon > 3.1 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$ : stronger suppression due to dissolving the more tightly bound J/ψ
- Observed suppression can be naturally anticipated and understood in a deconfinement scenario as resulting from the **melting** of the charmonia states above a certain energy density

[1] M. C. Abreu et al. [NA50], "Evidence for deconfinement of quarks and gluons from the J/psi suppression pattern measured in Pb+Pb collisions at the CERN SPS," Phys. Lett. B 477 (2000)

# J/ $\psi$ suppression at RHIC

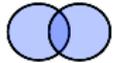
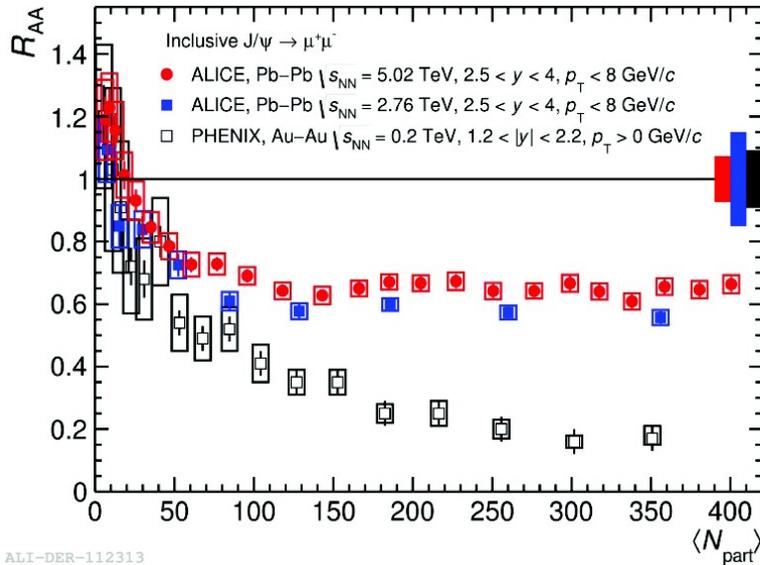


- Suppression of J/ $\psi$  at forward rapidity is stronger than at midrapidity
- Suppression description calls for variety of physics mechanisms including gluon saturation, gluon shadowing, initial-state parton energy loss, cold nuclear matter breakup, color screening, and charm recombination.

A. Adare et al. [PHENIX], “ $J/\psi$  suppression at forward rapidity in Au+Au collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV,” Phys. Rev. C 84 (2011), 054912

# J/ψ suppression at LHC

$$R_{AA} = \frac{dN_{AA}/dy}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle \times dN_{pp}/dy}$$

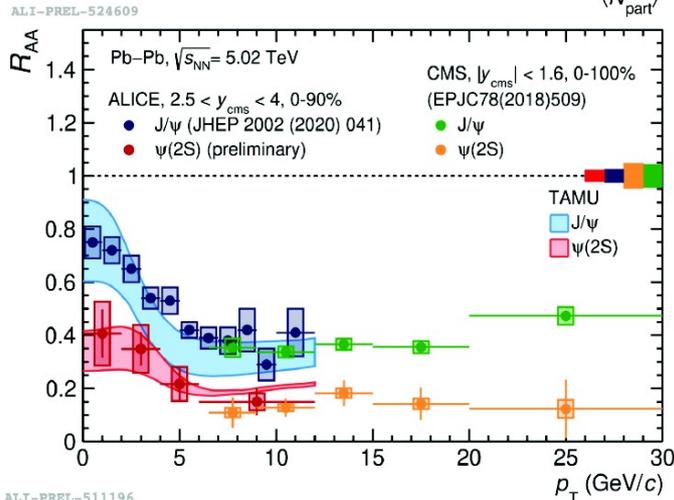
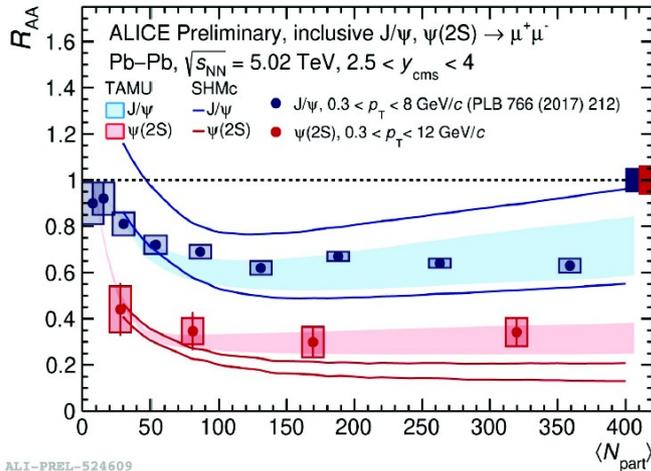


- ALICE [1] and PHENIX [2] observed a clear J/ψ suppression at forward rapidity
- Smaller suppression for central events in ALICE despite a collision energy more than 10 times higher
  - First clear sign of charmonium regeneration
- Quarkonium polarization in AA (as compared to the one in pp) can also probe regeneration
- In addition, quarkonium polarization (vs Event Plane) can probe initial stages of HI collisions: impact of strong magnetic field in QGP and large vorticity

[1] ALICE collaboration, PLB766 (2017) 212

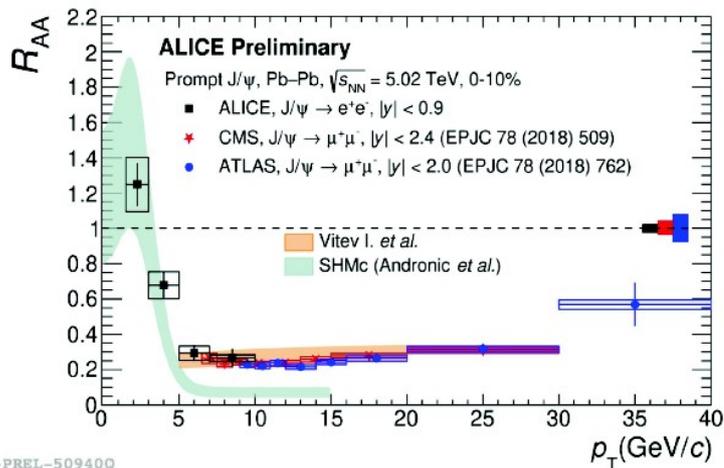
[2] PHENIX collaboration, Phys. Rev. C 84 (2011) 054912

# $\psi(2S)$ suppression at LHC

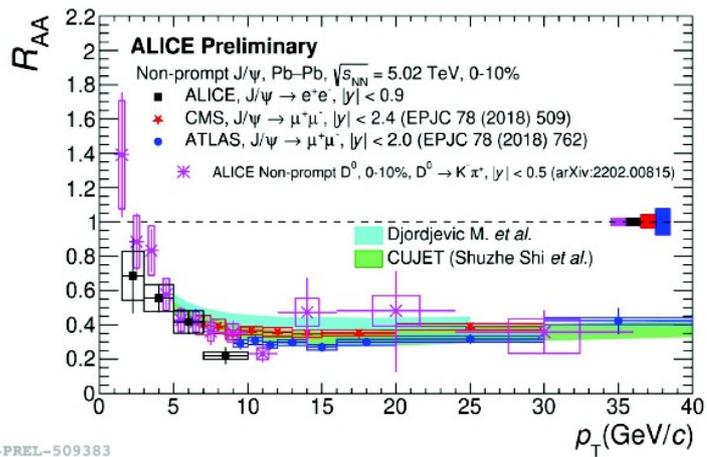


- As a function of  $p_T$ , increasing trend of the  $J/\psi$  and  $\psi(2S)$   $R_{AA}$  at low  $p_T$ 
  - indication of recombination
- $\psi(2S)$  shows a stronger suppression than the  $J/\psi$  in all centralities
- $\psi(2S)$  suppression does not depend on centrality centrality within the current uncertainties

# Prompt and non-prompt J/ψ at LHC



- Non prompt J/ψ are more suppressed than prompt J/ψ in central collisions, prompt J/ψ are less suppressed at low  $p_T$  than at higher  $p_T$  (and even enhanced at low  $p_T$ )
- indication of recombination
- Non-prompt J/ψ data is compatible with models implementing beauty quark energy loss at high  $p_T$



# Lessons from charmonium studies

- Over last 20 years of charmonium studies in heavy-ion collisions advances of experiments were going along with theory development
- For understanding underlying physics of quarkonium production and evolution in QCD medium, precision measurements of different charmonium and bottomonium states are needed:
  - Statistics enhancement via increased luminosity and faster detector readout
  - Systematic uncertainties improvement via better particle identification and background suppression
  - Direct measurements of states other than  $J/\psi$  are needed to probe effects of color screening, dissociation, recombination
- The next-generation heavy-ion experiment **ALICE 3** at LHC will pursue these studies in Run 5 and beyond

# ALICE 3 concept

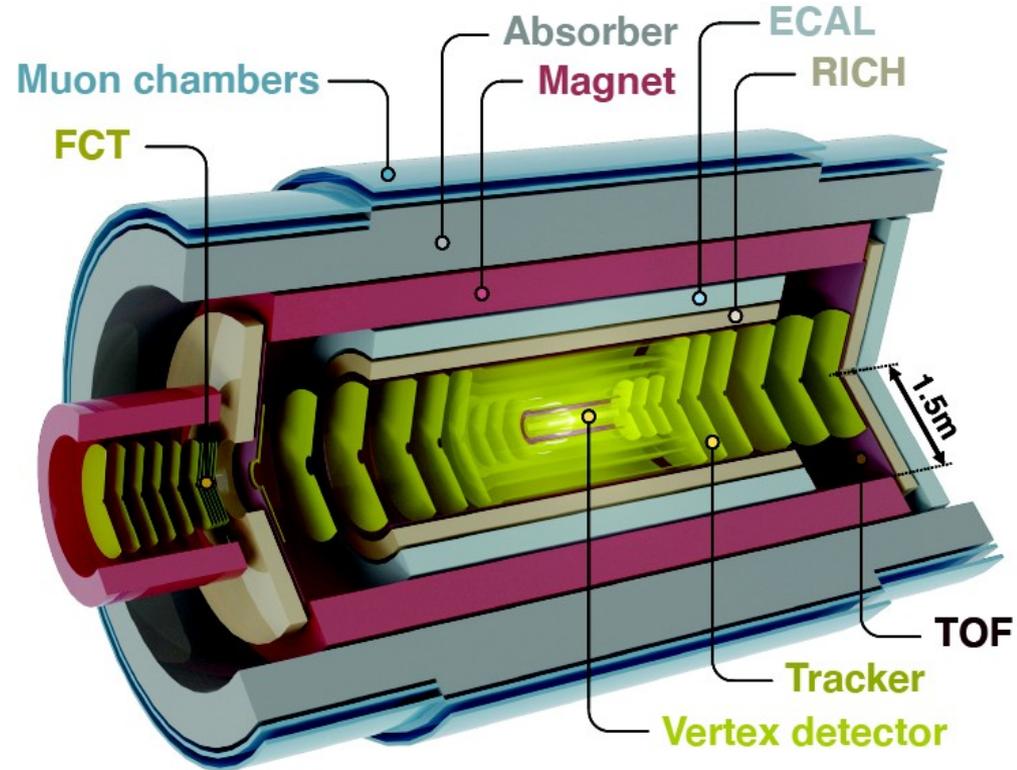
## Advanced detector:

- Compact all-silicon tracker with high-resolution vertex detector
- Superconducting magnet system
- Particle Identification over large acceptance:
  - muons, electrons, hadrons, photons
- Fast read-out and online processing

## Running scenario for 6 years with ALICE 3

- Heavy ions: 1 month/year  $35 \text{ nb}^{-1}$  for Pb-Pb
- Under study: lighter species for higher luminosity
- pp at  $\sqrt{s} = 14 \text{ TeV}$ :  $3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  / year compared to Run 3+4

ALICE collaboration, Letter of intent for ALICE 3: A next generation heavy-ion experiment at the LHC.  
CERN-LHCC-2022-009 ; LHCC-I-038 <http://cds.cern.ch/record/2803563>



# Quarkonia measurement at ALICE 3

S-state quarkonia will be detected in traditional dilepton decay channel:

- $J/\psi(Y) \rightarrow e^+e^-, \mu^+\mu^-$

P-state quarkonia will be reconstructed via 2-prong decay:

- $\chi_{c(b)J} \rightarrow J/\psi(Y) \gamma (J=0,1,2)$

Leptons will be detected and identified in central tracker with muon identifier and electromagnetic calorimeter

Photons will be detected with precise electromagnetic calorimeter and via photon conversion

## Muon chambers at central rapidity

- ~70 cm non-magnetic steel hadron absorber
- search spot for muons  $\sim 0.1 \times 0.1$  ( )
- $\sim 5 \times 5$  cm<sup>2</sup> cell size
- matching demonstrated with 2 layers of muon chambers
- scintillator bars
- wave-length shifting fibers
- SiPM read-out
- possibility to use using RPCs as muon chambers optimized for reconstruction down to  $p_T = 0$  GeV/c

## Large acceptance ECal ( $2\pi$ coverage)

- sampling calorimeter O(100) layers (1 mm Pb + 1.5 mm plastic scintillator)
- PbWO<sub>4</sub>-based high energy resolution segment critical for measuring P-wave quarkonia and thermal radiation via real photons

# ALICE 3 ECAL

- The Electromagnetic Calorimeter (ECal) is planned to cover the full central barrel region and one forward region, i.e. an rapidity range of  $-1.6 < \eta < 4$ .
- Most of the rapidity range will be instrumented with a sampling calorimeter.
- A fraction of the central barrel will be covered by the existing  $\text{PbWO}_4$  crystals for the measurement of  $\chi_c$  and soft direct photons.

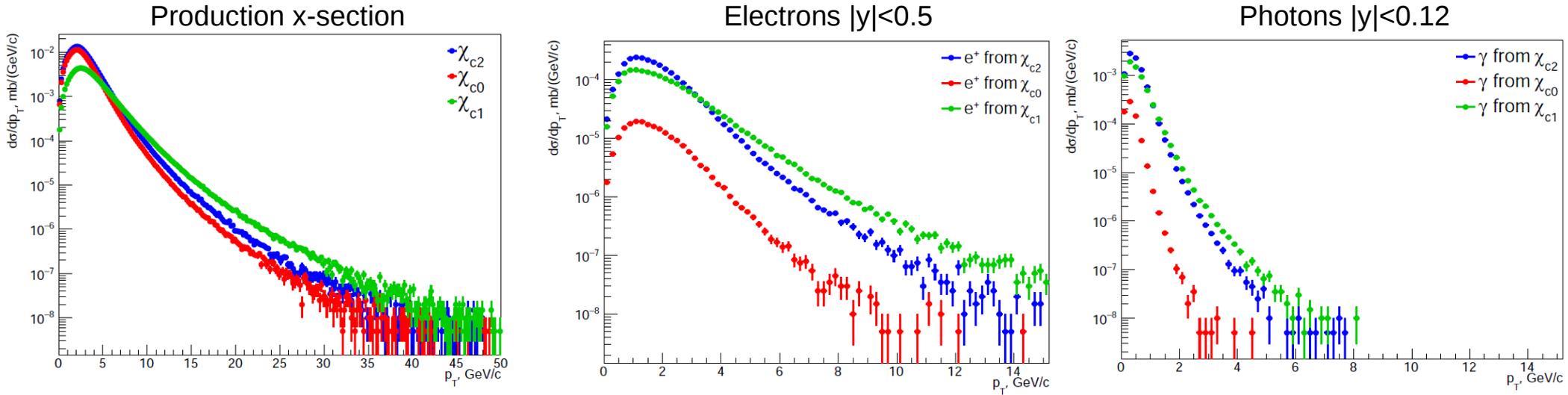
ECAL energy resolution:

$$\frac{\sigma_E}{E} = \frac{a}{E} \oplus \frac{b}{\sqrt{E}} \oplus c$$

ECal module	Barrel sampling	Endcap sampling	Barrel high-precision
acceptance	$\Delta\varphi = 2\pi,$ $ \eta  < 1.5$	$\Delta\varphi = 2\pi,$ $1.5 < \eta < 4$	$\Delta\varphi = 2\pi,$ $ \eta  < 0.33$
geometry	$R_{\text{in}} = 1.15 \text{ m},$ $ z  < 2.7 \text{ m}$	$0.16 < R < 1.8 \text{ m},$ $z = 4.35 \text{ m}$	$R_{\text{in}} = 1.15 \text{ m},$ $ z  < 0.64 \text{ m}$
technology	sampling Pb + scint.	sampling Pb + scint.	$\text{PbWO}_4$ crystals
cell size	$30 \times 30 \text{ mm}^2$	$40 \times 40 \text{ mm}^2$	$22 \times 22 \text{ mm}^2$
no. of channels	30 000	6 000	20 000
energy range	$0.1 < E < 100 \text{ GeV}$	$0.1 < E < 250 \text{ GeV}$	$0.01 < E < 100 \text{ GeV}$

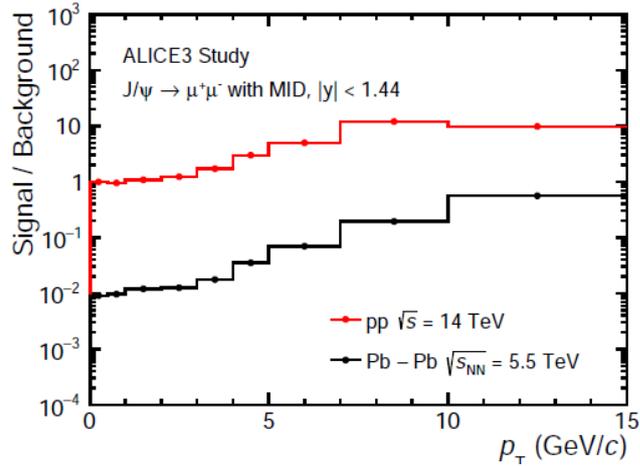
# X-section and kinematics of $\chi_{cJ}$ (1P)

Pythia8 simulations pp @ 13 TeV

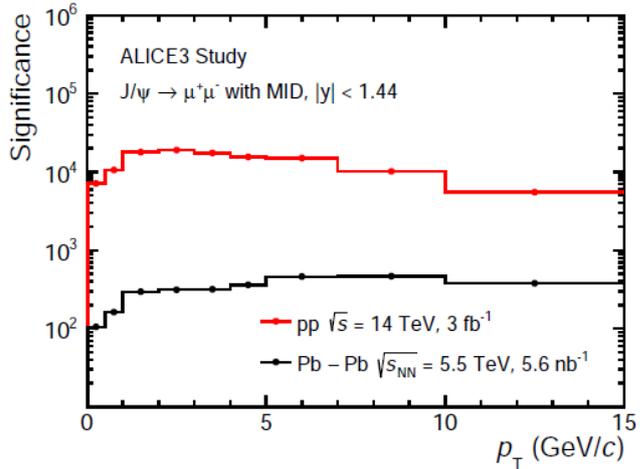


Due to small mass difference of  $\chi_{c1}$  and J/ $\psi$ , photons are essentially low-energy

# Benchmark of J/ψ reconstruction ALICE 3

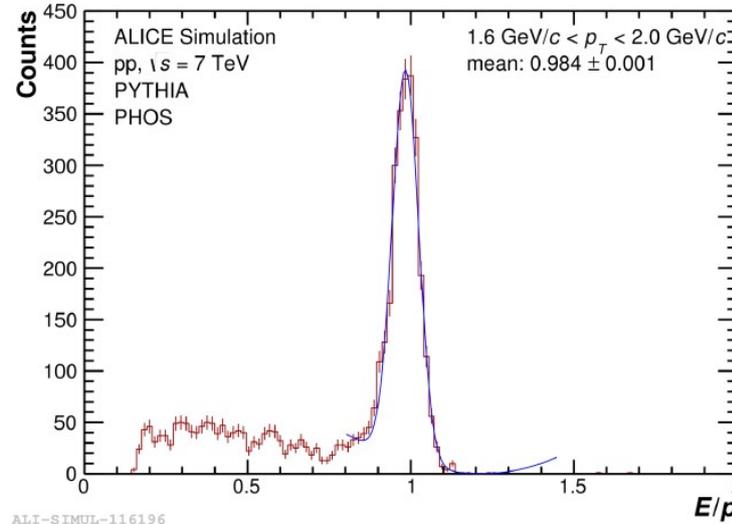
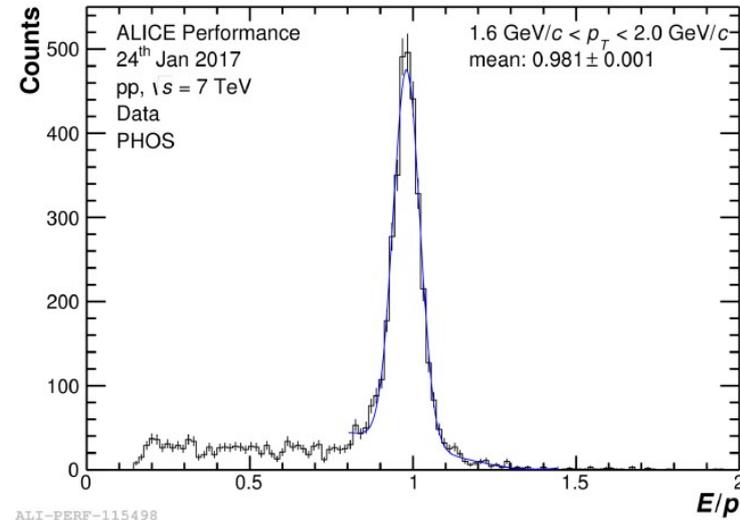


Decays of J/ψ in the muon channel are reconstructed by selecting tracks with muon ID in the MID, implying a minimum transverse momentum of  $\sim 1.5 \text{ GeV/c}$  at  $\eta = 0$ .

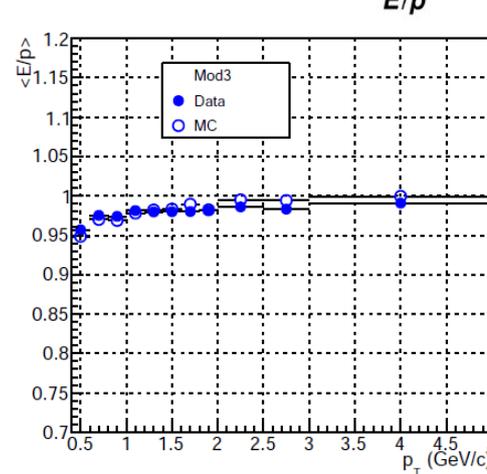
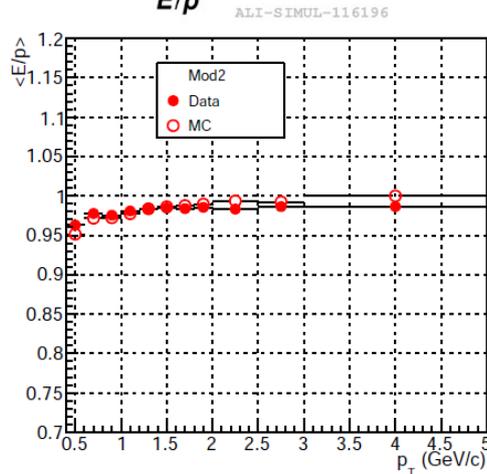
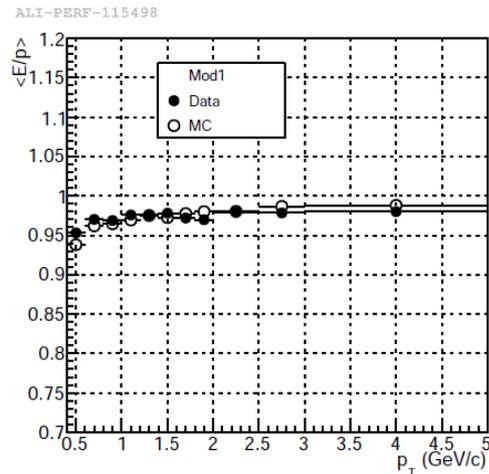


J/ψ signal-to-background and significance in pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 14 \text{ TeV}$  ( $L_{\text{int}} = 3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ ) and in Pb-Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.5 \text{ TeV}$  ( $L_{\text{int}} = 5.6 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ ), corresponding to one-year data taking.

# ECAL for electron ID

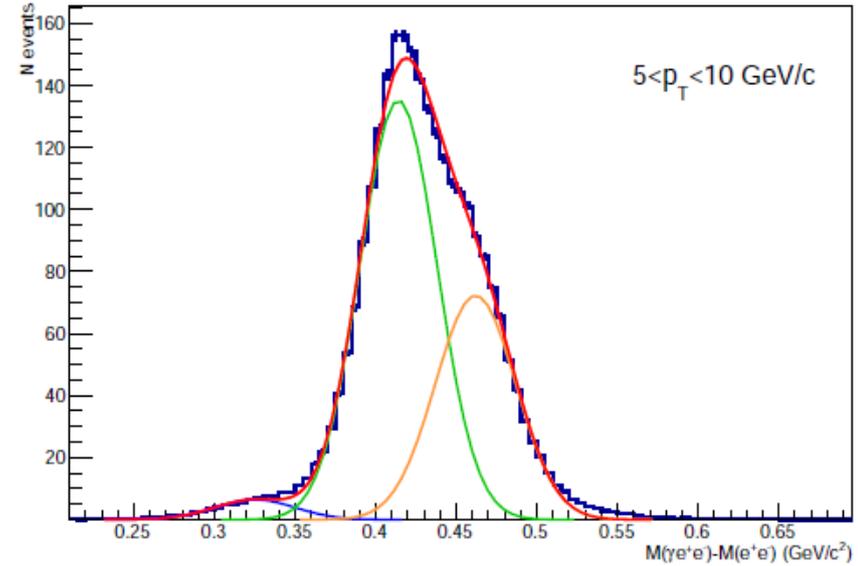
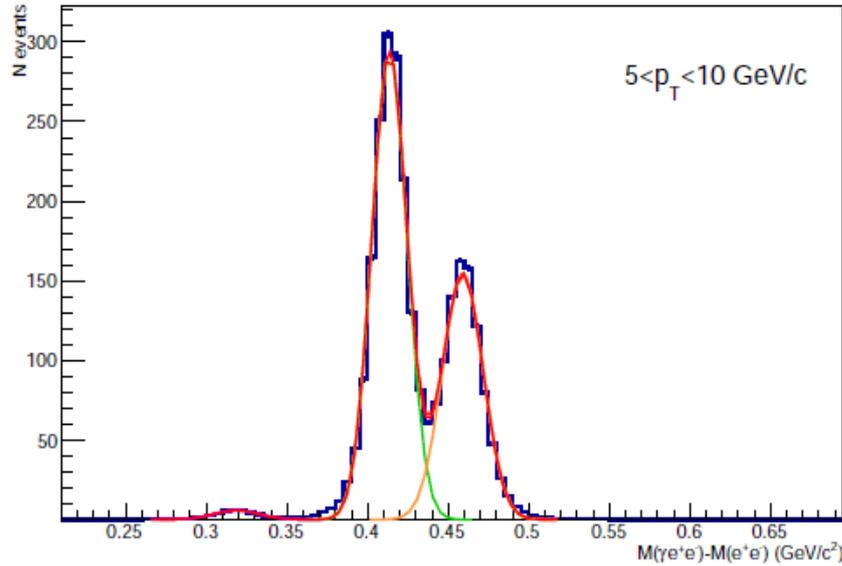


Relation of electron energy deposited in CALO and electron track momentum reconstructed in tracking system is a measure of electron ID



E/p in PHOS from pp 7 TeV data

# ECAL performance for $\chi_c$ mass resolution



Invariant mass difference spectra of decay  $\chi_{cJ} \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma$  with a photon detected in the ECAL at mid-rapidity assuming different stochastic term of the photon energy resolution:  $b = 0.02$  GeV<sup>1/2</sup> (left) and  $b = 0.05$  GeV<sup>1/2</sup> (right).

Only high-precision ECAL is suitable for separation of  $\chi_{c1}$  and  $\chi_{c2}$ .

# Summary

- Quarkonium production in heavy-ion collisions remains one of the major signatures of deconfined QCD matter
- Systematic analysis of charmonium production in heavy-ion collisions at different energies and centralities reveal several physics effects responsible for production, dissociation and recombination of bound  $Q\bar{Q}$  states
- Quantitative probe of various effects will be pursued in the future ALICE 3 experiment, a successor of ALICE at LHC Point 2 which is planned beyond LS4.

