



Coherent J/ Ψ photoproduction and polarization in UPC and peripheral Pb-Pb collisions with ALICE

D. Mallick for the ALICE Collaboration

IJCLab Orsay, CNRS/IN2P3, Université Paris-Saclay

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European Physical Society

Conference on High Energy Physics

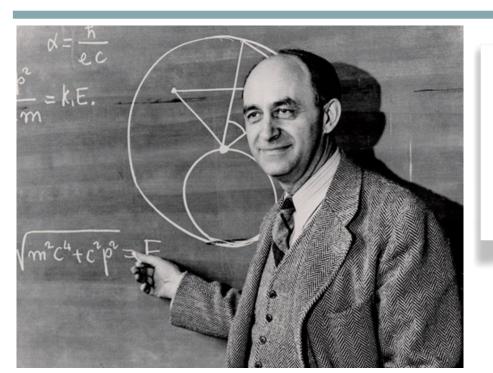
21-25 August 2023





Photon-induced processes in heavy-ion collisions





Equivalent photon approximation: electromagnetic field ~ photon flux [1]

Later, the method was extended to relativistic region known as **Weizsacker-Williams Methods** [2],[3]

[1] E. Fermi, Nuovo Cim.,2:143-158, arXiv:hep-th/0205086 (1925)

[2] C.F. von Weizsacker, Z. Phys. 88, 612 (1934)

[3] E. J. WILLIAM S, Kgl. Danske Videnskab. Selskab Mat.-Fys. Medd. 13, 4 (1935)]

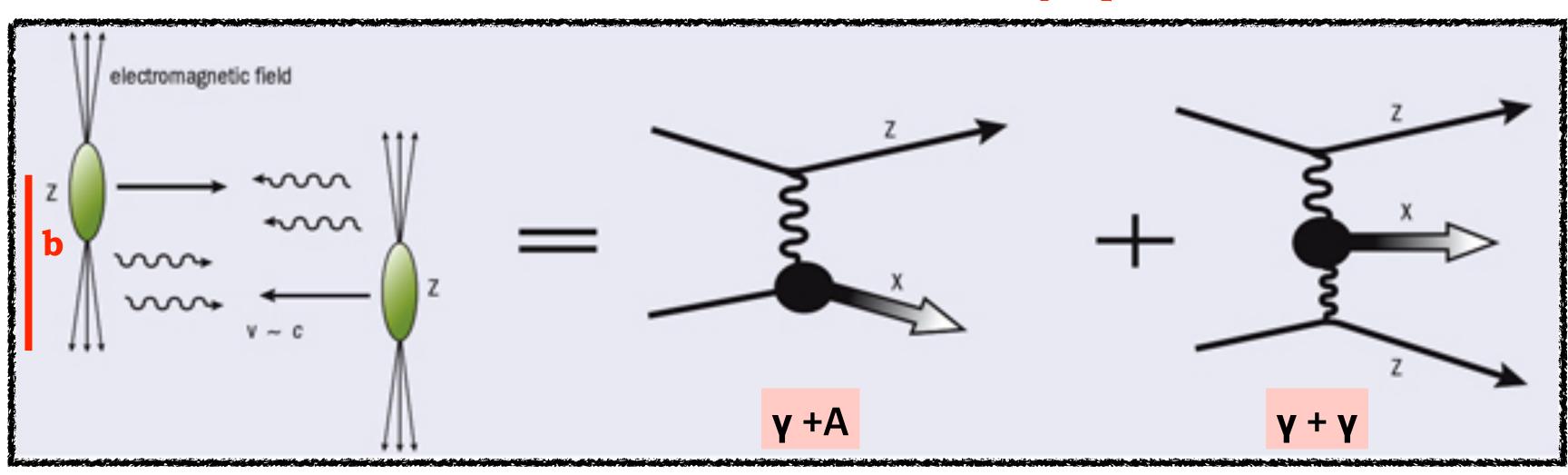
LHC: Photon-Photon and Photon-Hadron Collider at the highest available

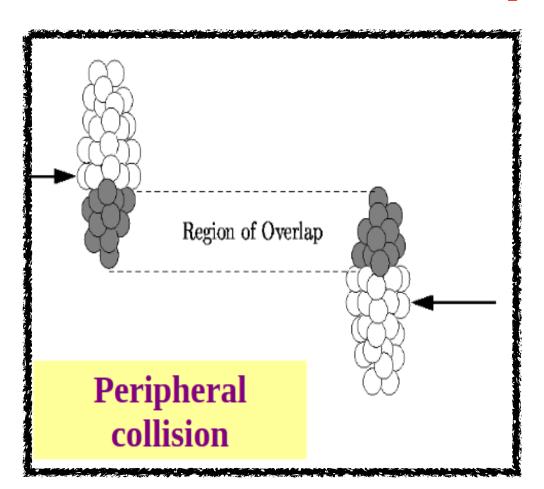
energies



UltraPeripheral Collisions (UPCs) : $b \ge R_1 + R_2$

Peripheral Collisions (PCs): b large and $b \le R_1 + R_2$



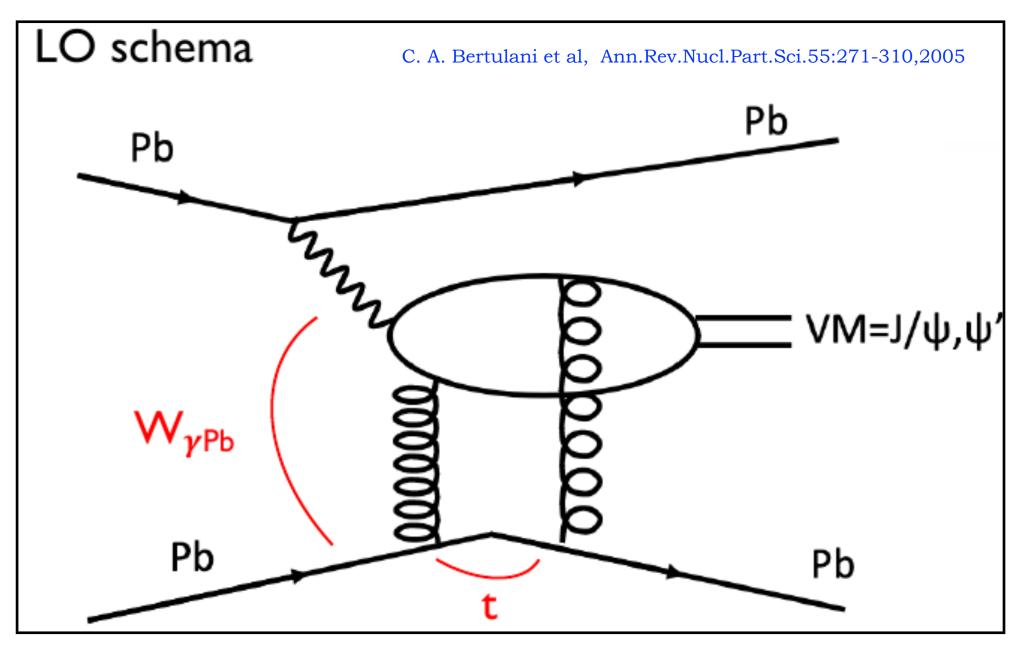


- ☐ Hadronic interactions are suppressed
- Electromagnetic interactions are dominant

Photon-induced (γ +A) processes are present both in UPCs and PCs with nuclear overlap

Vector Meson (VM) photoproduction in HICs





LO: Leading order

 $W_{\rm VPb}$: Center-of-mass energy of photon-lead system

t: Mandelstam variable = - p_{\perp}^2

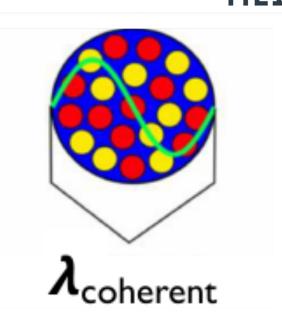
Dukhishyam Mallick

Coherent photoproduction:

Photon (γ) couples coherently to all nucleons

$$\mathbf{V} < p_{\mathrm{T}} > J/\Psi \sim 1/\mathrm{R} \sim 60 \mathrm{MeV}/c$$

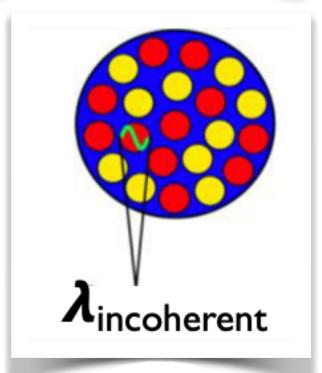
☑Usually no breaking of target



Incoherent photoproduction:

MPhoton (γ) couples to single nucleon

☑Usually target nucleus breaks



$$x = \frac{m_{J/\psi}}{\sqrt{s_{\rm NN}}} \exp(\pm y)$$

- \Box Clean experimental signature and production of VM at very low p_T (coherent case)
- \Box Gives access to gluon distributions in nuclei at low Bjorken-x ($10^{-5} < x < 10^{-2}$ at LHC energies)

The ALICE apparatus



Data sample : 2015 + 2018 Pb—Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{
m NN}}$ = 5.02 TeV

THE ALICE DETECTOR a. ITS SPD (Pixel) b. ITS SDD (Drift) c. ITS SSD (Strip) d. V0 and T0 Run 2 e. FMD Central barrel: |y| < 0.9J/Ψ —> e⁺e⁻ 18) (12) 1. ITS 2. FMD, T0, V0 ITS: Tracking, vertex 4. TRD TOF reconstruction 6. HMPID **EMCal** TPC: Tracking, 9. PHOS, CPV Particle 10. L3 Magnet 11. Absorber indentification 12. Muon Tracker (PID) 13. Muon Wall 14, Muon Trigger 15. Dipole Magnet 16, PMD 17. AD 18. ZDC 19. ACORDE

Muon Spectrometer : 2.5 < y < 4.0

J/Ψ -> μ+μ

Muon tracker: tracking

Muon trigger: triggering

A. Caliva, Highlights from ALICE, 23/08/2023

H .Sharma, Recent charmonium measurements in Pb–Pb collisions with ALICE, 21/08/2023 W. Guo, Quarkonium production and polarization in pp collisions with ALICE, 23/08/2023

V0: triggering, centrality determination, background rejection

photoproduced VM in Pb-Pb collisions in PCs

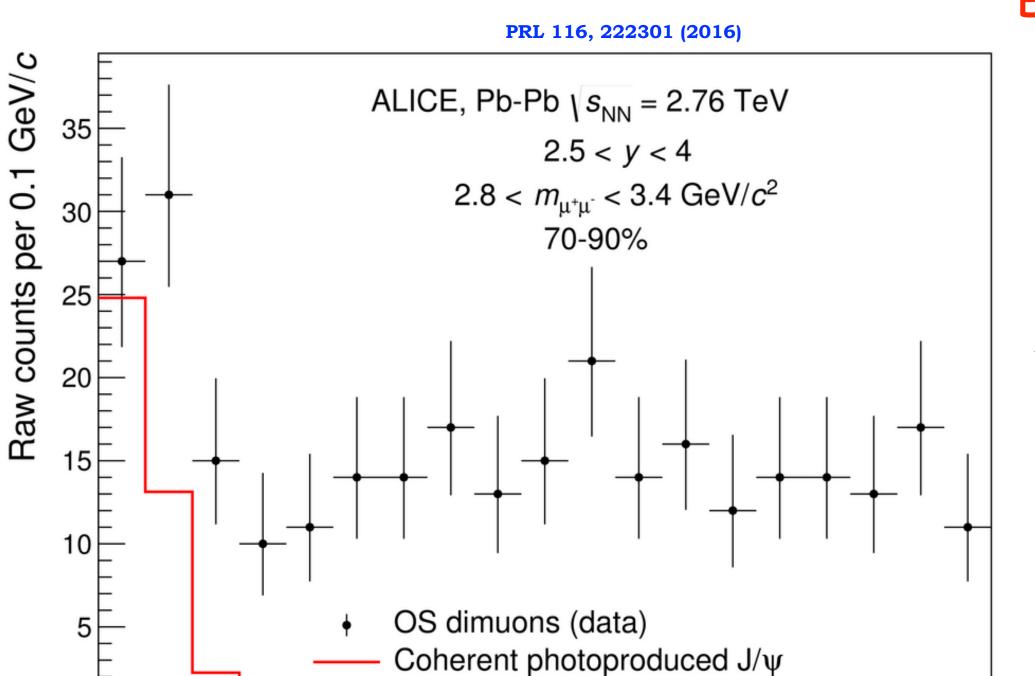


Experimental signatures

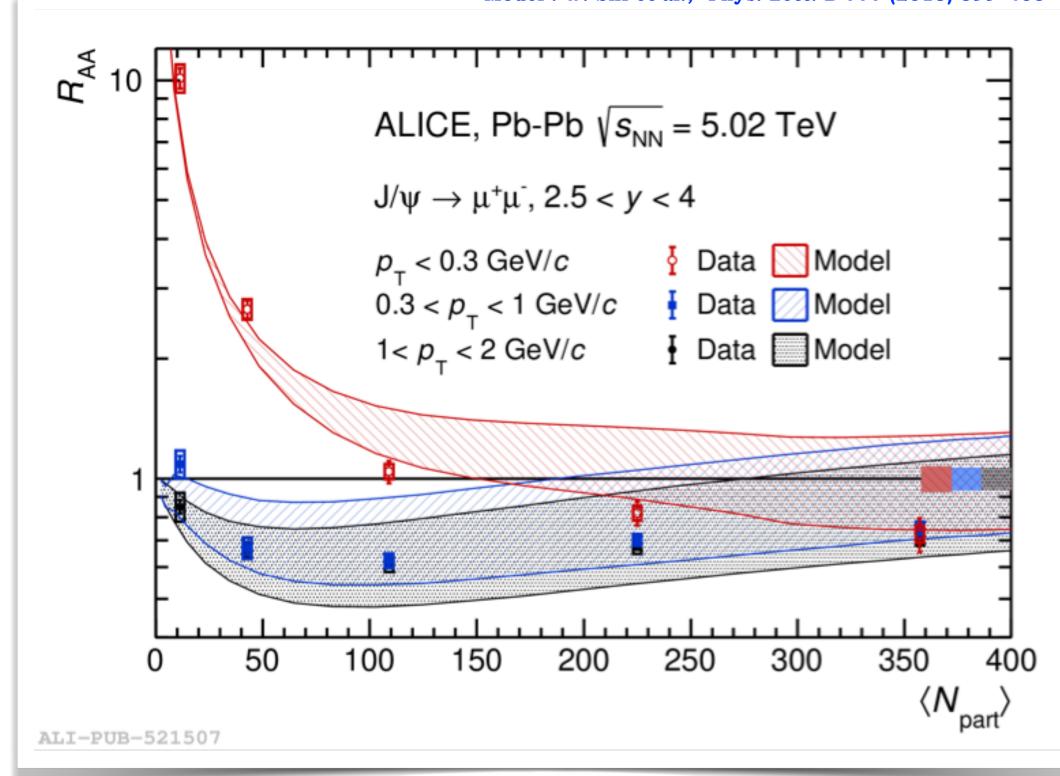
PCs = Peripheral Collisions = with nuclear overlap

arXiv:2204.10684

Model: W. Shi et al., Phys. Lett. B 777 (2018) 399-405



$$R_{\rm AA} = \frac{Y_{J\psi}^{\rm Pb-Pb}}{< T_{\rm AA} > \sigma_{J/\psi}^{\rm pp}}$$



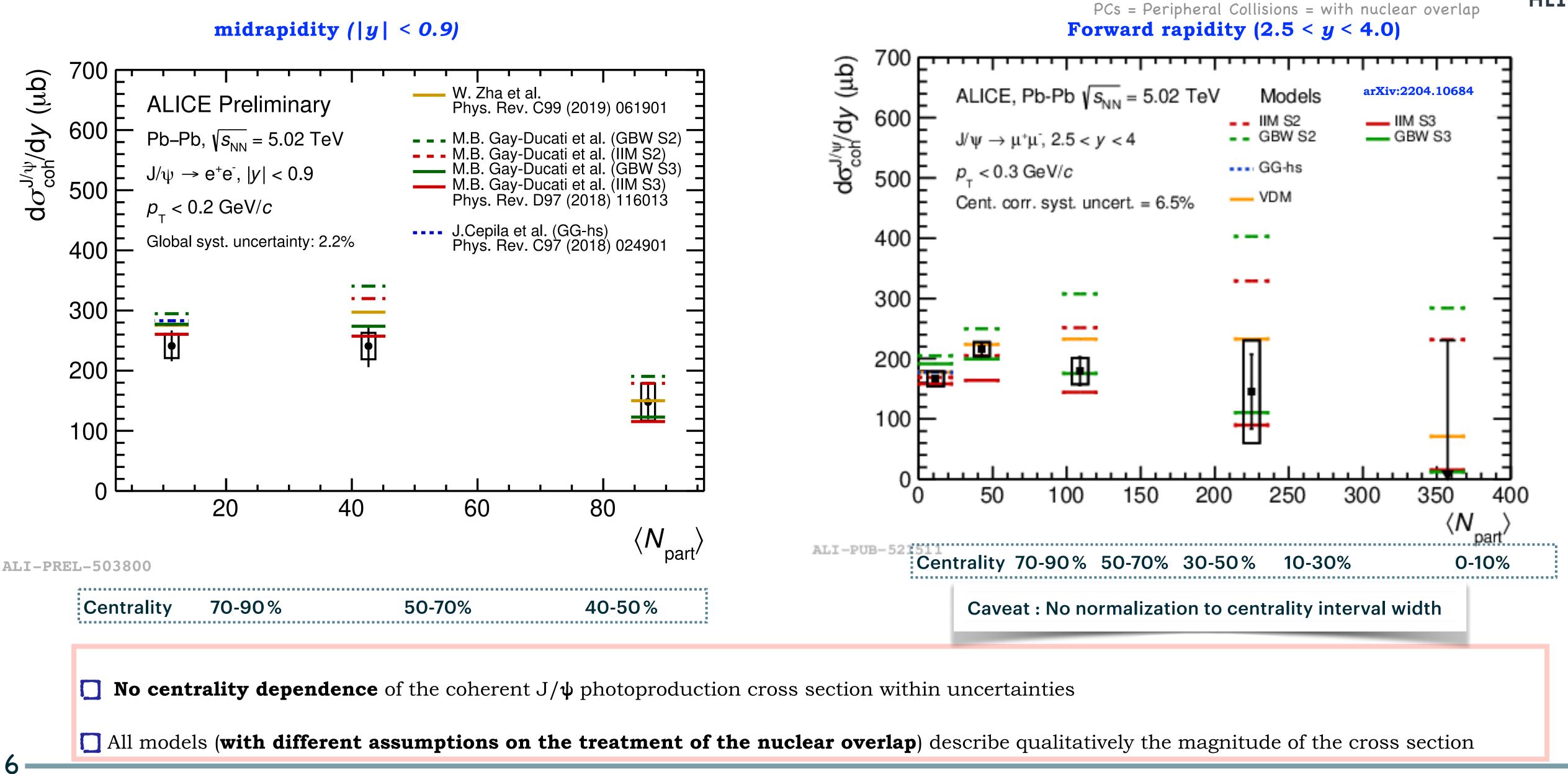
STARlight MC: Comp. Phys. Comm. 212 (2017) 258.

 $p_{_{\rm T}}$ (GeV/c)

- Usery **low-p_T J/ψ excess** in peripheral Pb—Pb collisions measured in ALICE at forward y and at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV (significance = 5.4σ) and 5.02 TeV (24σ) for 70-90 % -> Interpreted as **coherent photoproduction**
- ☐ Similar observation confirmed by other experiments, STAR Collaboration: PRL 123, 132302, 2019, and LHCb Collaboration: PRC105. 2022, L032201

Coherent VM photoproduction vs. centrality in PCs





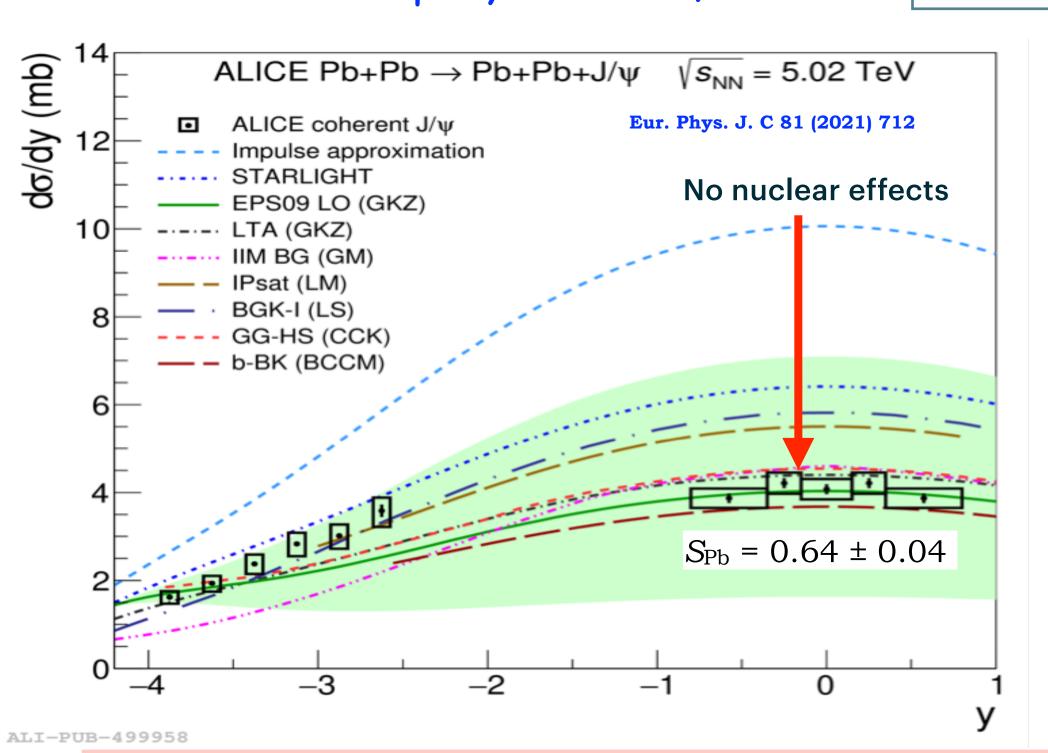
Coherent VM photoproduction cross section

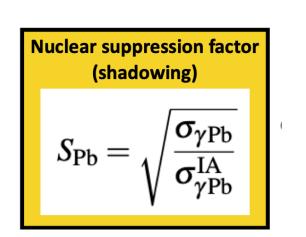


Rapidity differential, UPC

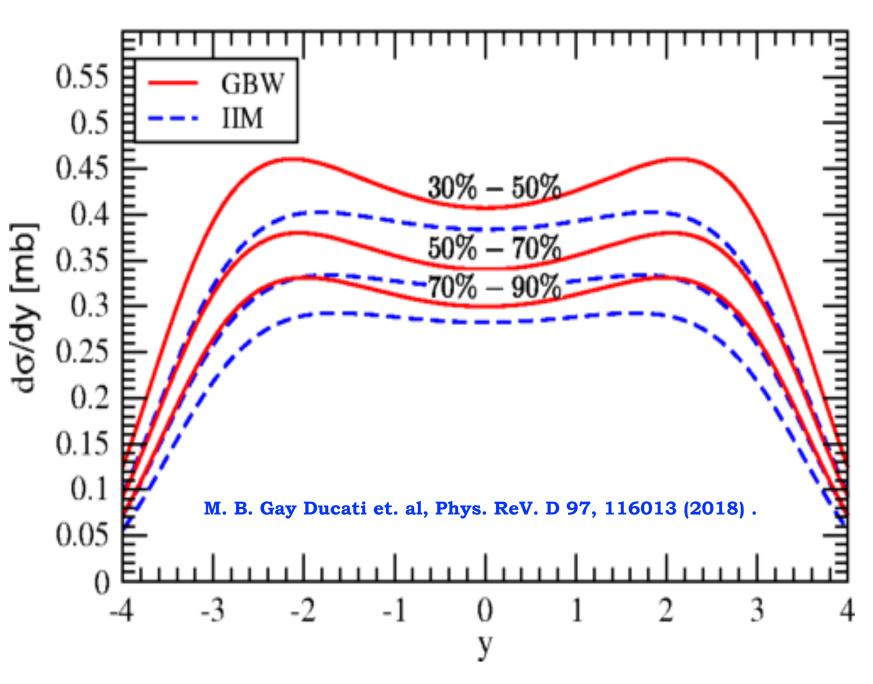
UPC and Pb—Pb collisions with nuclear overlap (PCs)











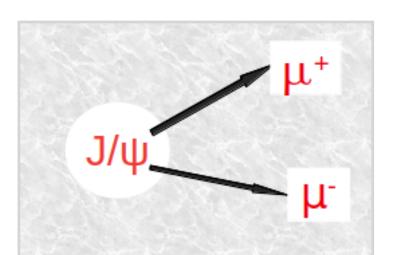
- None of the models in UPC is able to fully describe the rapidity dependence of the J/ψ cross section, Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 712
- Nuclear gluon shadowing of S_{Pb} = 0.64 ± 0.04 for Bjorken-x (~ 10-3) at mid-y w.r.t impulse approximation (IA) calculation (neglect nuclear effects)
- GBW and IIM show strong centrality/rapidity, dependence, M. B. Gay Ducati et. al, Phys. Rev. D 97, 116013 (2018).

New

First measurement of y-differential coherent J/ ψ photoproduction at forward rapidity with nuclear overlap

J/Ψ Signal: different y intervals

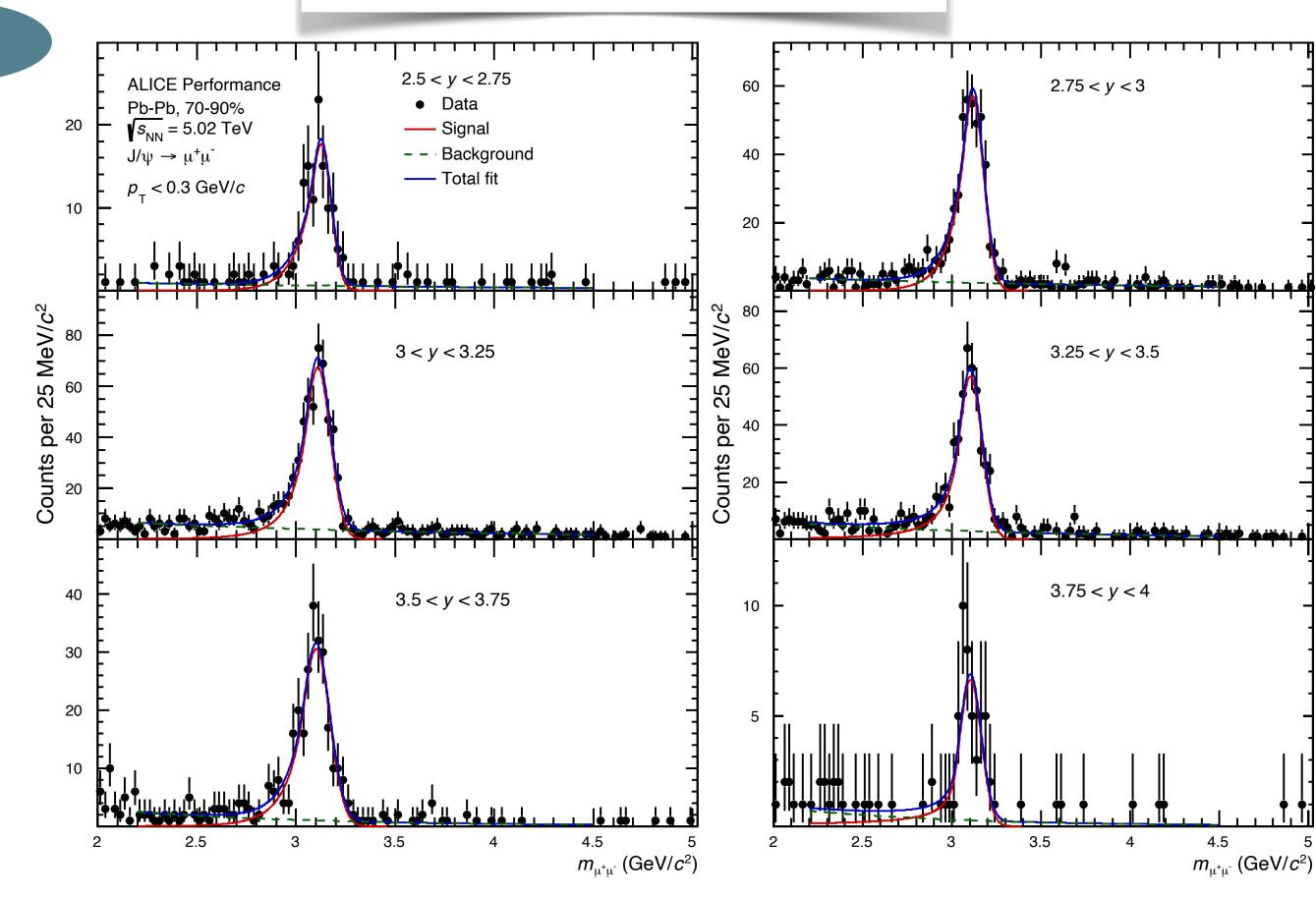




J/ψ is reconstructed from its decay daughters using invariant mass quantity

$$m^2 = E^2 - \overrightarrow{p}^2 = (E_{\mu^+} + E_{\mu^-})^2 - (\overrightarrow{p_{\mu^+}} + \overrightarrow{p_{\mu^-}})^2$$

centrality 70-90 %, $p_T < 0.3 \text{ GeV}/c$



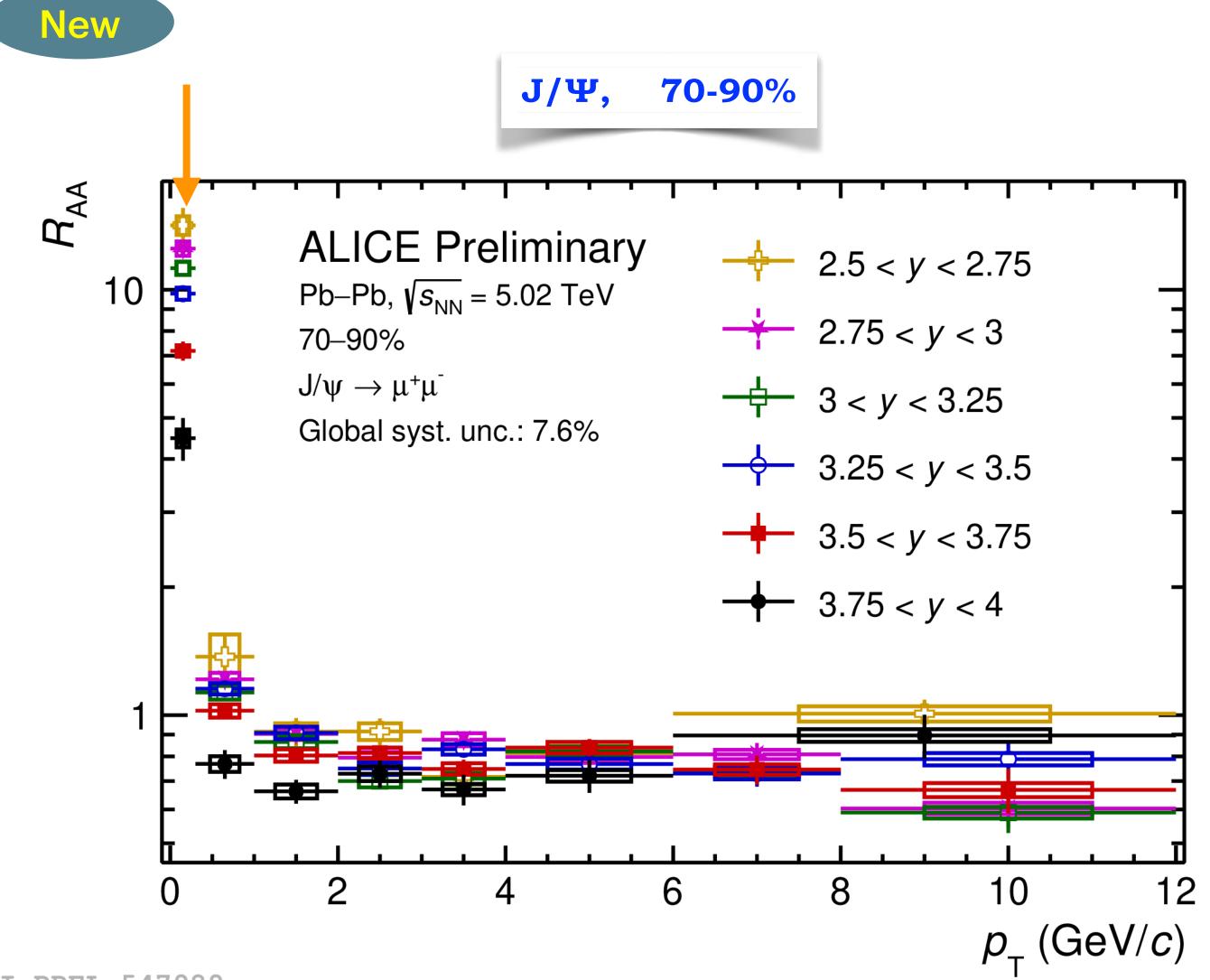
ALI-PERF-538924

New

Nuclear modification factor (R_{AA}): Evolution with p_T and y



PCs = Peripheral Collisions = with nuclear overlap



$$R_{\rm AA} = \frac{Y_{J\psi}^{\rm Pb-Pb}}{\langle T_{\rm AA} \rangle \sigma_{J/\psi}^{\rm pp}}$$

- \square A dramatic increase in the R_{AA} at low p_T (< 0.3 GeV/c) is observed w.r.t hadroproduction
 - -> Excess of the J/Ψ yield due to coherent photoproduction
- \square A **clear hierarchy in** y **is observed** at low p_T , the most forward interval (3.75 < y < 4) is the least enhanced

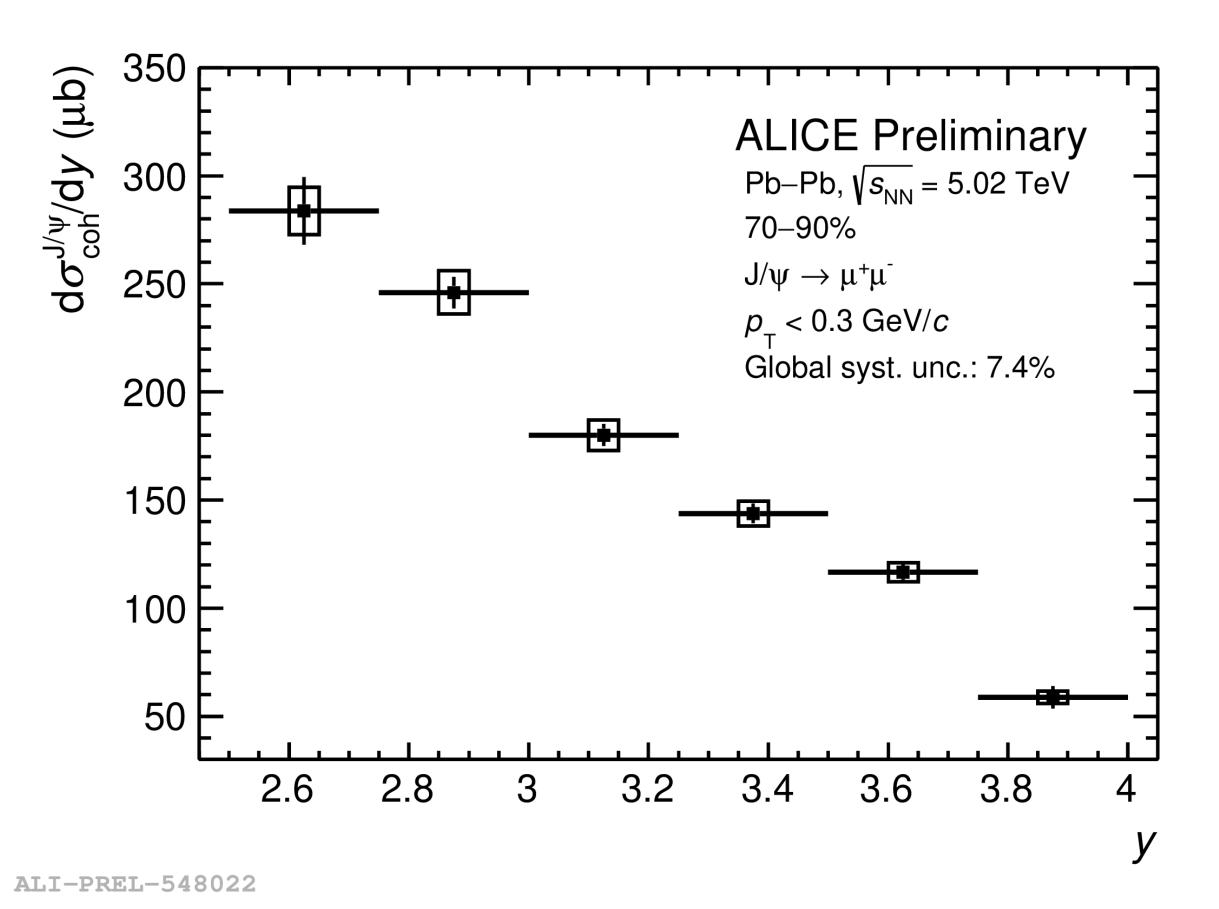
ALI-PREL-547989

Coherent J/ Ψ photoproduction cross section vs. rapidity in PCs



PCs = Peripheral Collisions = with nuclear overlap

New



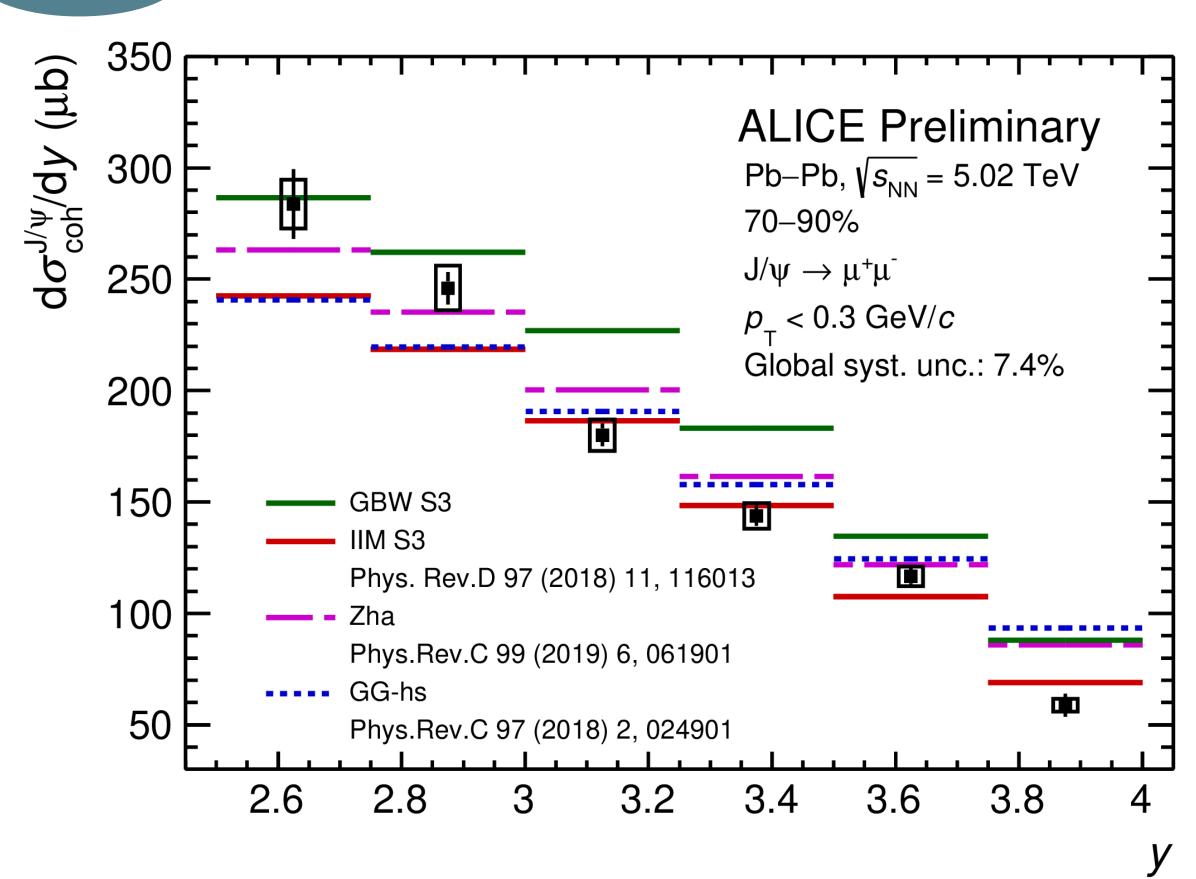
 \square Strong rapidity dependence of the J/ Ψ photoproduction cross section

Coherent J/Ψ photoproduction cross section vs. rapidity in PCs



PCs = Peripheral Collisions = with nuclear overlap





ALI-PREL-547942

- \square Strong rapidity dependence of the J/ Ψ photoproduction cross section
- ☐ Models reproduce **qualitatively the magnitude of the cross section,** but none of them catch the rapidity dependence in the full range (similar observation as UPC, i.e GG-hs model) Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 712

Models:

[1] GG-hs: photon flux with constraints on impact parameter range

J. Cepila et al., Phys. Rev.C 97 (2018) 2, 024901

[2] Zha: Assumptions on the coupling between photon and

pomeron (Nucleus +Spectator) W Zha et al., Phys. Rev. C 99 (2019) 6, 061901

[3] IIM /GBW

S1: no relevant modification w.r.t UPC calculations

S2: only photon reaching the spectator region are considered

S3: S2 + photonuclear cross section modified

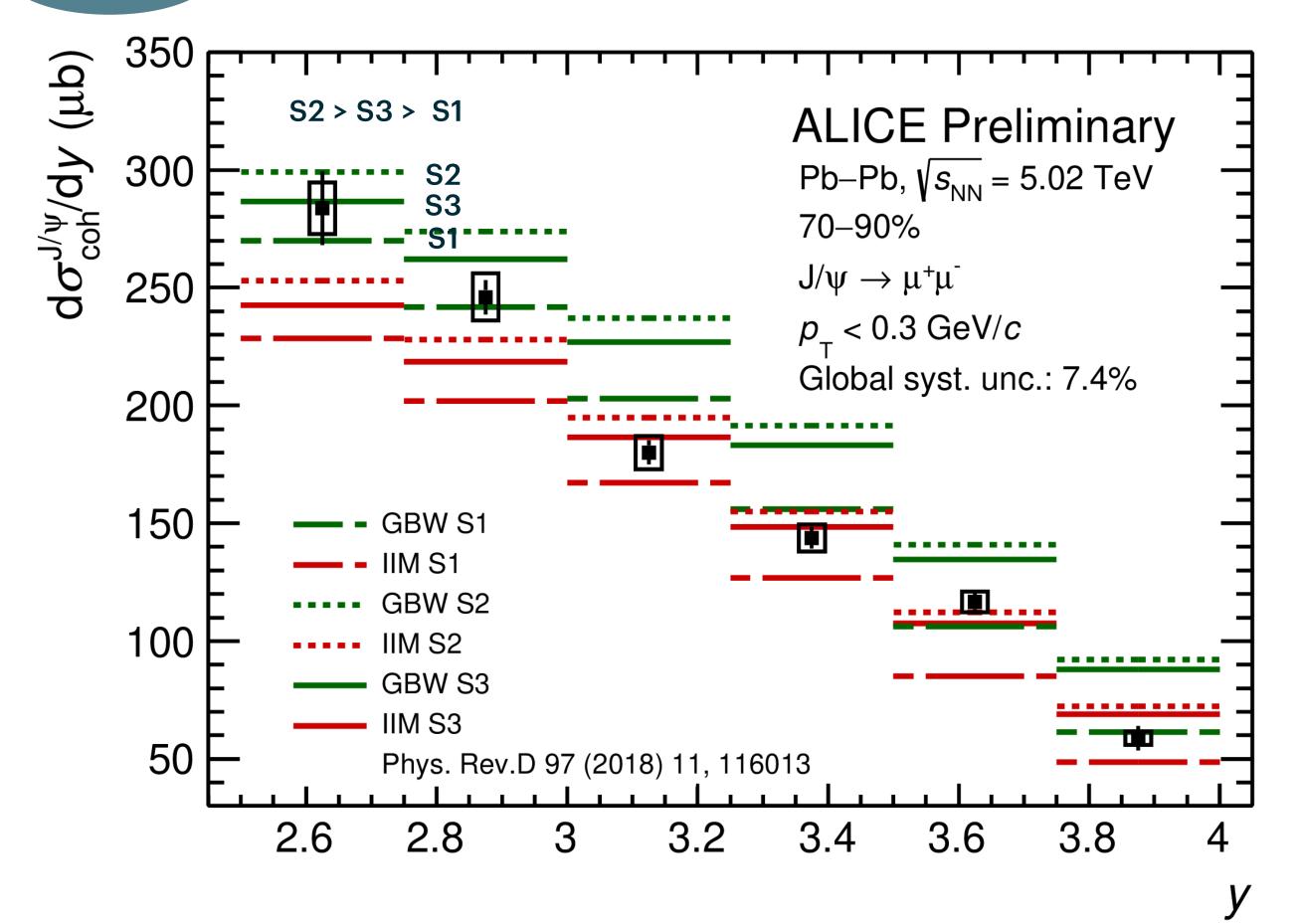
M. B. Gay Ducati et al., Phys. Rev. D. 97 (2018) 116013

Coherent J/ Ψ photoproduction cross section vs. rapidity in PCs



PCs = Peripheral Collisions = with nuclear overlap





- \square Strong rapidity dependence of the J/ Ψ photoproduction cross section
- ☐ Models reproduce qualitatively the magnitude of the cross section, but none of them catch the rapidity dependence in the full range (similar observation as UPC, i.e GG-hs model) Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021)

[3] IIM /GBW

- S1: no relevant modification w.r.t UPC calculations
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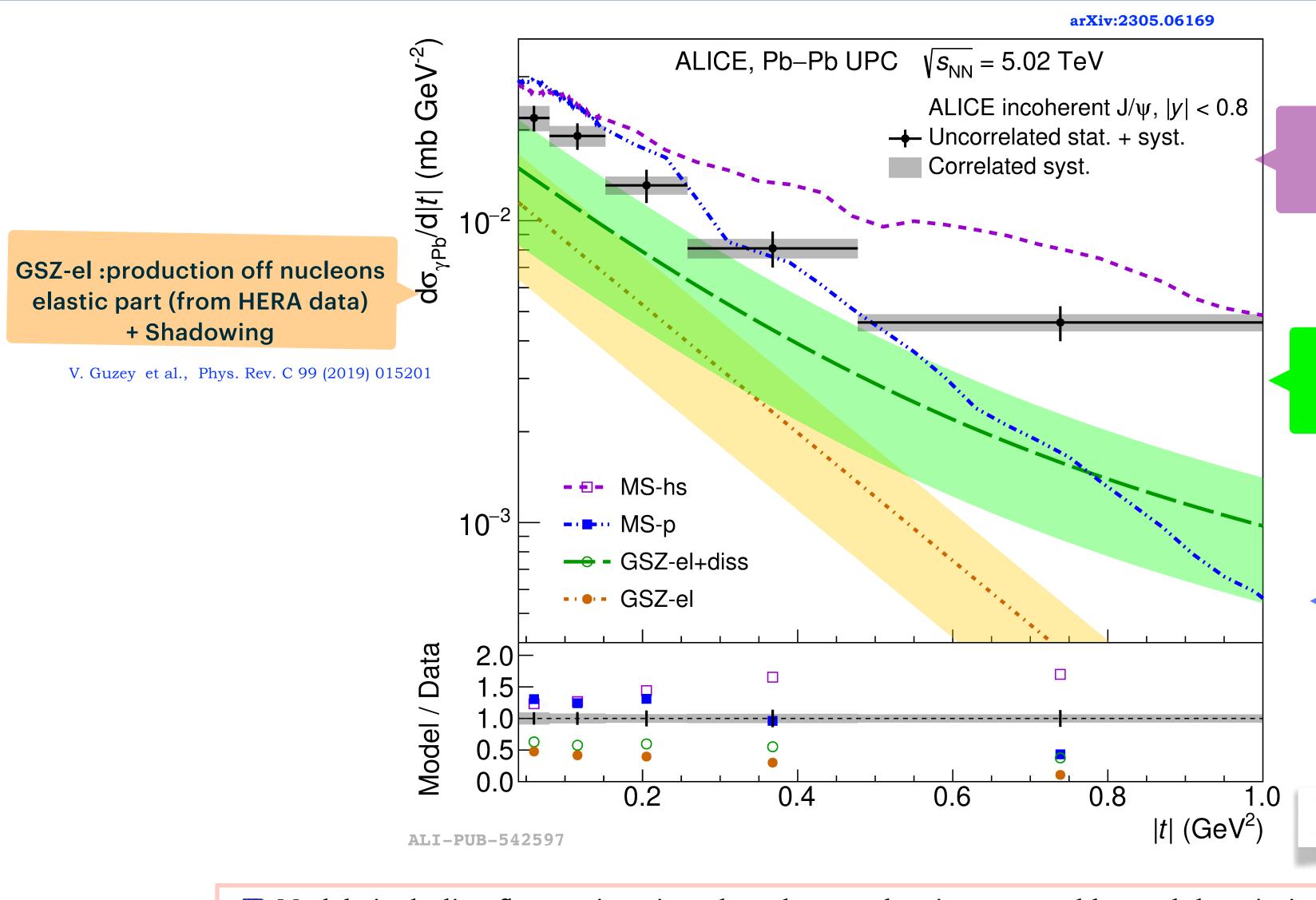
M. B. Gay Ducati et al., Phys. Rev. D. 97 (2018) 116013

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t-dependence incoherent photoproduction cross section in UPC





MS-hs: subnucleon fluctuations
(hot spots fluctuating event by event)
+ saturation

H. Mäntysaari et al., Phys. Lett. B 772 (2017) 832-838

Saturation model: H. Kowalski et al. Phys. Rev. D 68 (2003) 114005

GSZ-el -diss: production off nucleons including dissociation (Shadowing+ elastic part from HERA data)

V. Guzey et al., Phys. Rev. C 99 (2019) 015201 Shadowing: N. Armesto, *J. Phys. G* 32 (2006) R367–R394

MS-p: subnucleon fluctuations not considered + saturation

H. Mäntysaari et al., Phys. Lett. B 772 (2017) 832-838

 $|t| = p_{\perp}^2 = related to the transverse size of the target$

- ☐ Models including fluctuations in subnucleon scale give reasonably good description of the measurement
 - —> suggests nuclear gluon density is not static at high energies

Polarization: Coherent vector meson photoproduction



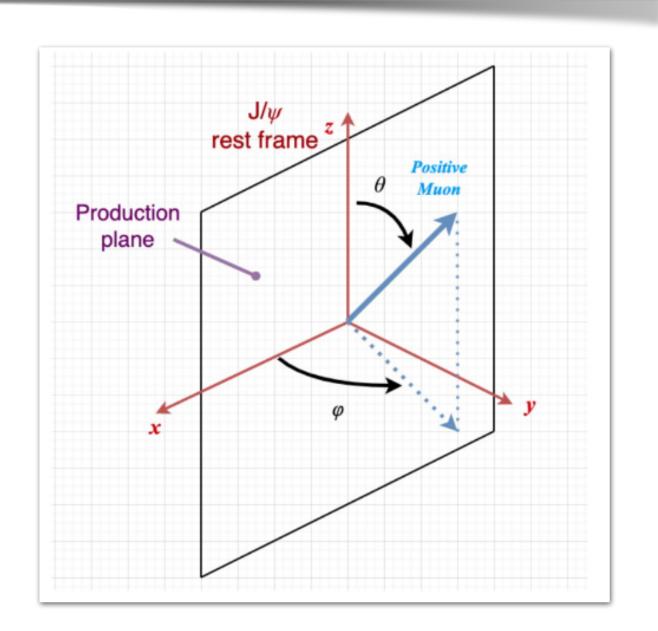
s-channel helicity conservation (SCHC): helicity of photon transferred to vector meson (J/ψ)

Vector meson (VM) has retained same helicity and polarization as that of the initial photon that interacted with the target

F.J. Gilman, Phys. Lett. B 31 (1970) 387-390 E. V. Kuraev, JETP Lett. 68 (1998) 696-703

Polarization refers to the particle spin alignment with respect to a chosen direction

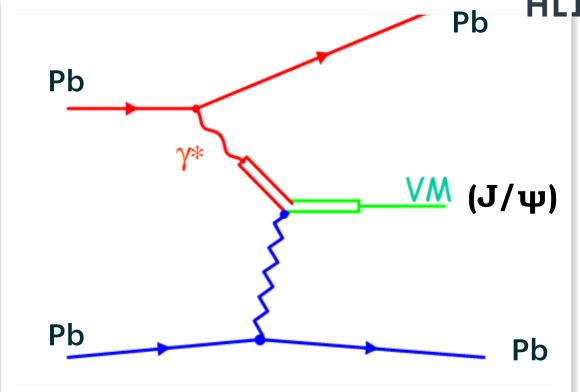
Helicity frame z-axis (polarisation axis): flight direction of the J/ψ in its rest frame

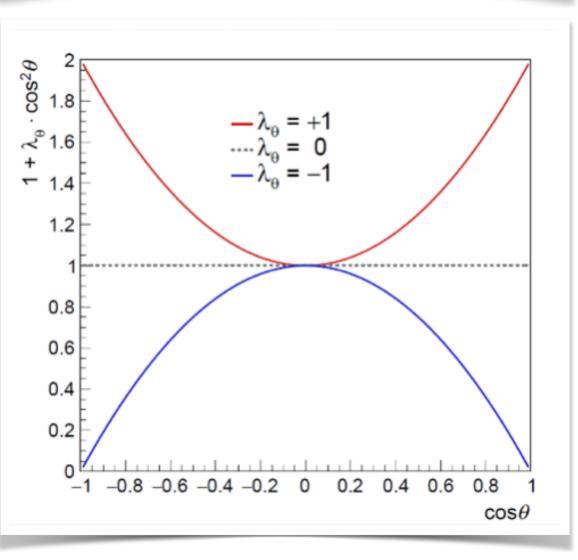


Dilepton decay angular distribution

$$W(\cos\theta,\phi) \propto \frac{1}{3+\lambda_{\theta}} \cdot (1+\lambda_{\theta}\cos^2\theta + \lambda_{\phi}\sin^2\theta\cos2\phi + \lambda_{\theta\phi}\sin2\theta\cos\phi)$$

P. Faccioli et al., Eur.Phys.J.C69:657-673, 2010



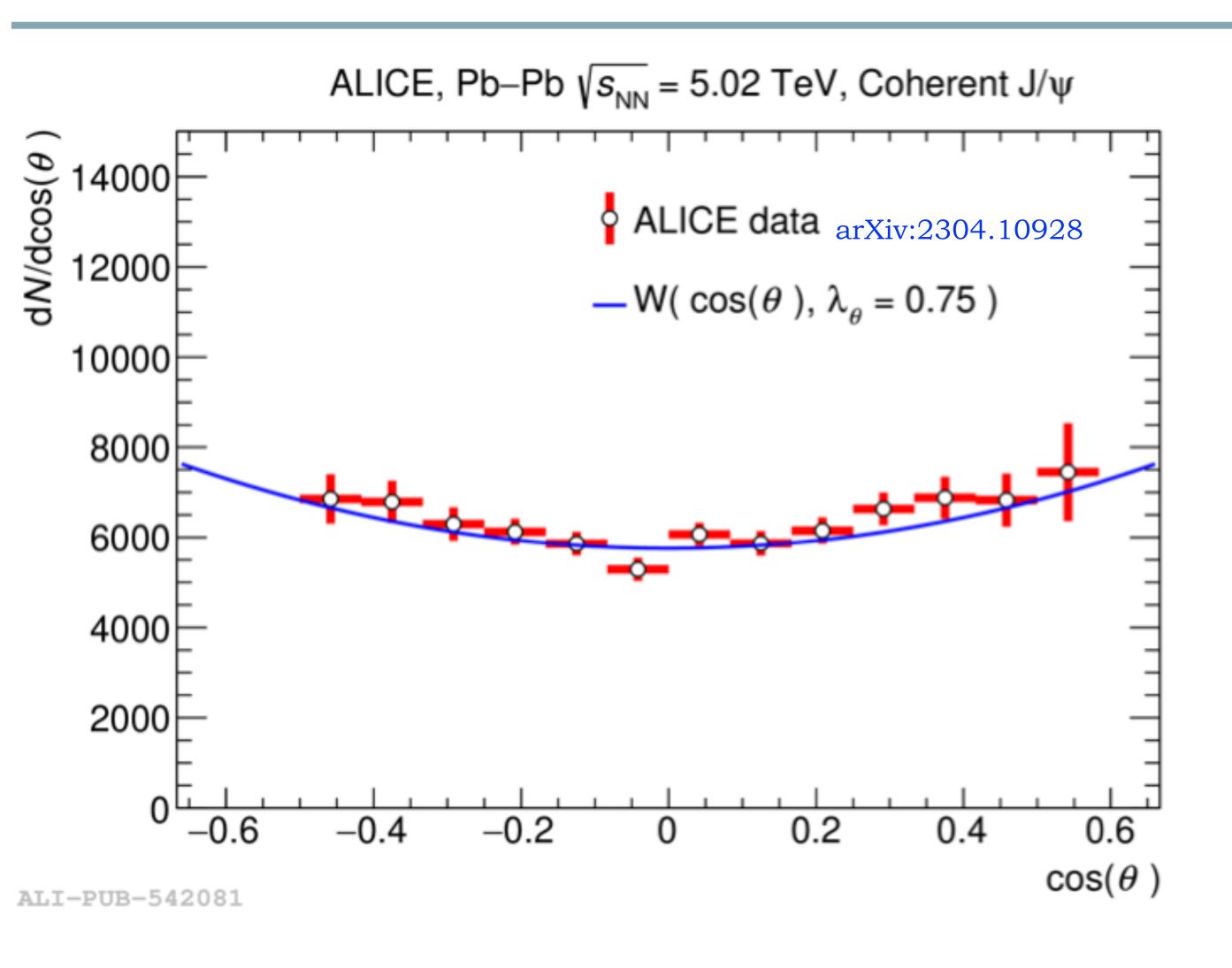


$$(\lambda_{\theta}, \lambda_{\phi}, \lambda_{\theta\phi}) = (0,0,0) \implies \text{No polarization}$$

 $(\lambda_{\theta}, \lambda_{\phi}, \lambda_{\theta\phi}) = (+1,0,0) \implies \text{Transverse polarization}$
 $(\lambda_{\theta}, \lambda_{\phi}, \lambda_{\theta\phi}) = (-1,0,0) \implies \text{Longitudinal polarization}$

Polarization: Coherent vector meson photo production in UPC





Coherently photoproduced J/ ψ in UPCs at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$ TeV, arXiv:2304.10928

- Transversely polarized
- ☑ Consistent with SCHC hypothesis

Can we see similar observation for J/ ψ at low $p_{\rm T}$ (< 0.3 GeV/c) in Pb—Pb collisions with nuclear overlap (70–-90 %)?

Additional challenge w.r.t UPC measurement : Deal with a contamination from hadronic J/ψ

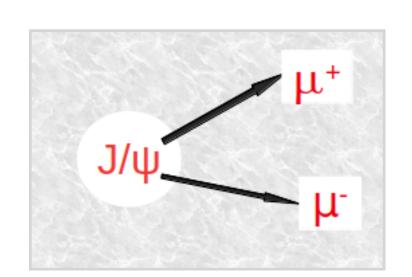
New

First measurement of inclusive J/ ψ polarization for $p_T < 300 \text{ MeV}/c$ at forward rapidity in Pb—Pb collisions with nuclear overlap

J/Ψ Signal: different $\cos\theta$ intervals



 J/ψ is reconstructed from its decay daughters using invariant mass quantity

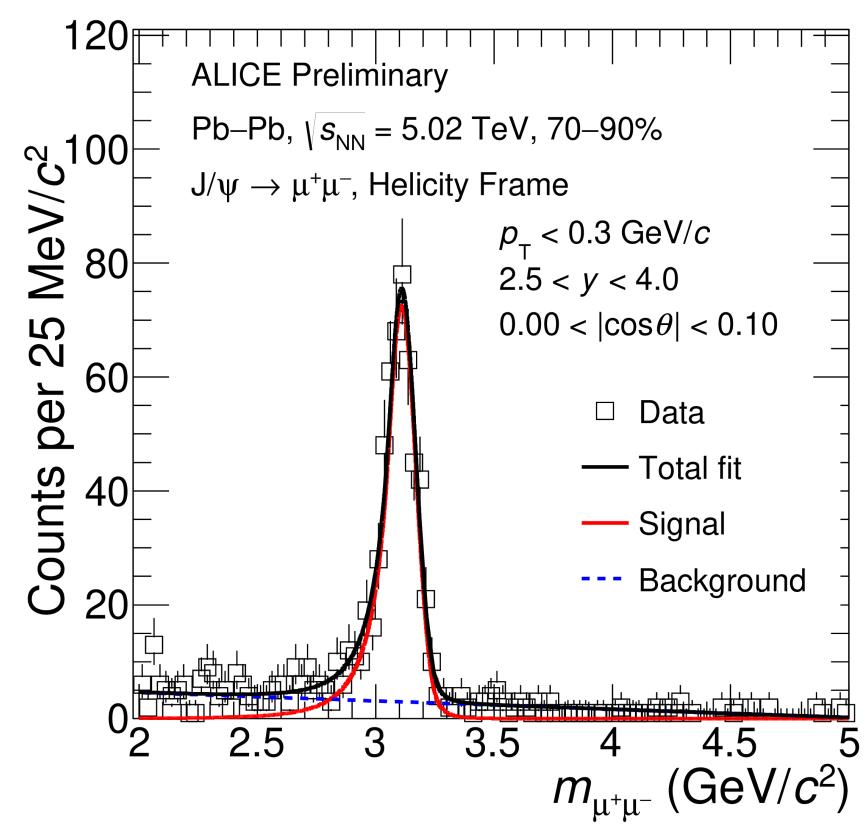


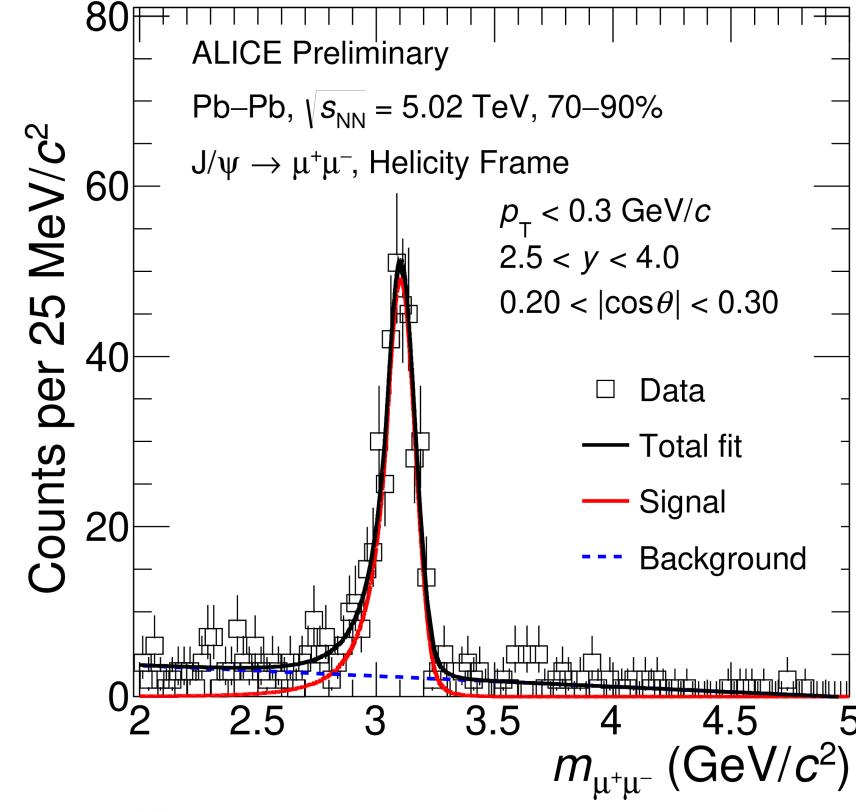
$$m^2 = E^2 - \overrightarrow{p}^2 = (E_{\mu^+} + E_{\mu^-})^2 - (\overrightarrow{p_{\mu^+}} + \overrightarrow{p_{\mu^-}})^2$$

centrality 70-90 %, $p_T < 0.3 \text{ GeV}/c$

EPS-HEP, 21-25 August, 2023

New

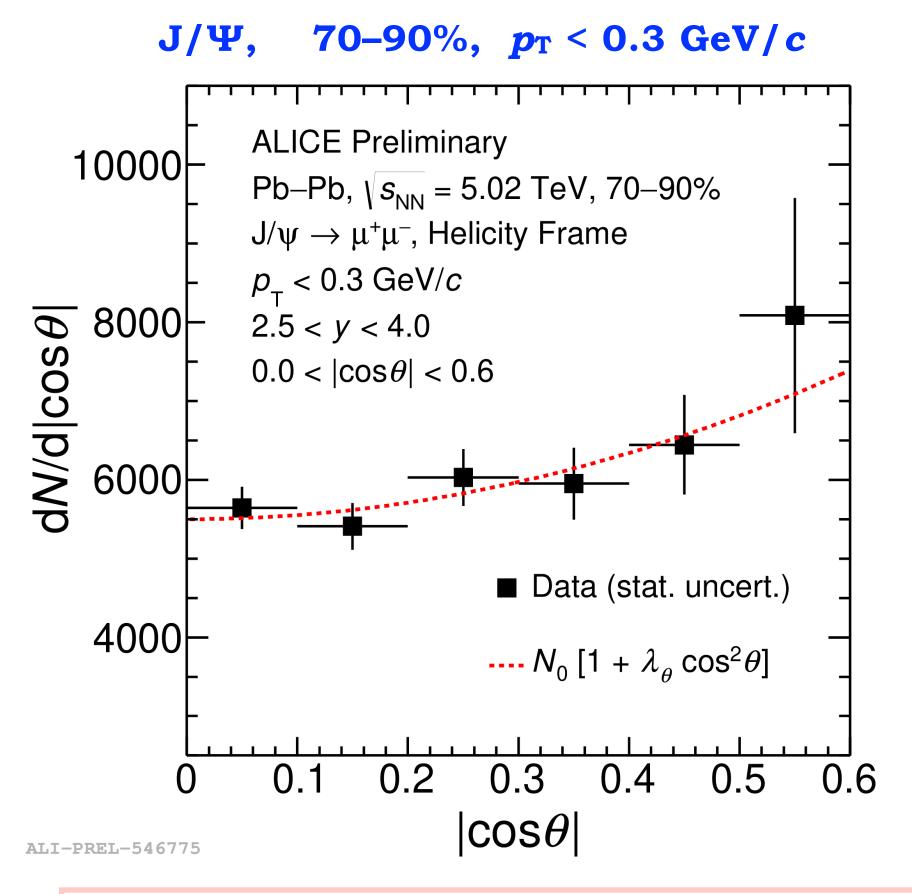




Inclusive J/Ψ polarization in Pb-Pb collisions with nuclear overlap in PCs

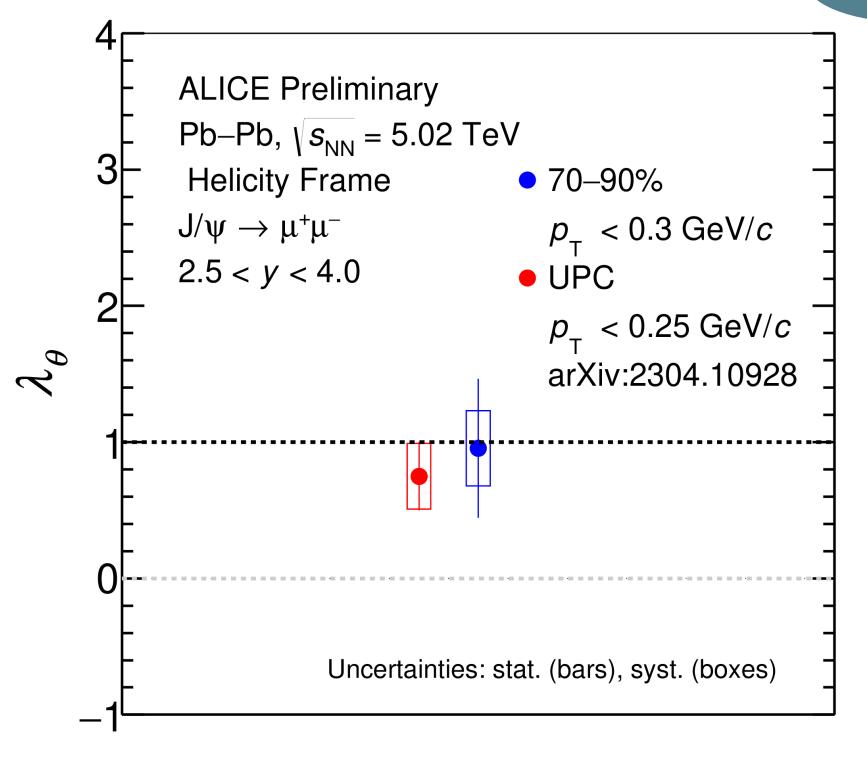


New



PCs = Peripheral Collisions = with nuclear overlap





Inclusive measurement of the J/ψ polarization is compatible with transverse polarization within ~ 1.6σ.

ALI-PREL-546778

- \square λ_0 value consistent with UPC measurement within uncertainties => Indication in favor of **SCHC**
- \square Polarization measurement is another way to **probe the production mechanisms** at low p_T

(contribution of coherent photoproduction is ~ 76.8%, as discussed in arXiv:2204.10684)

Summary and outlook



Peripheral collisions (PCs):

- This is measurement of y-differential coherent J/ ψ photoproduction cross section in Pb—Pb collisions with nuclear overlap at $\sqrt{s_{\rm NN}}$ = 5.02 TeV
- A rapidity dependence of the coherent J/psi photoproduction cross section is observed
- Models based on UPC calculations and modified to account for the nuclear overlap region qualitatively describe the measurement
- \bigcirc First measurement of **inclusive J/Ψ polarization for p_T < 300 \text{ MeV}/c** in Pb—Pb collisions with nuclear overlap at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$
- \triangleright Results consistent with **transverse polarization (SCHC scenario)** and in line with dominant photoproduction mechanisms at play at low $p_{\rm T}$

Ultra Peripheral collisions (UPCs):

- \bigcirc First measurement of **t-dependent incoherent J/\psi photoproduction cross section** in Pb—Pb collisions with UPC
- Suggests model including subnucleon quantum fluctuations describe the measurement

Summary and outlook



Outlook:

- \square Extraction of coherent J/ Ψ photonuclear cross section (σ_V Pb) in two Bjorken-x regions using both UPC and PC results
 - Permits to solve the ambiguity of photon emitter, J.G. Contreras, Phys. Rev. C 96, 015203 (2017)

- With Run 3: Improved **precision of the coherent J/Ψ photoproduction** measurements
 - Towards more central collisions at both mid and forward y
 - Double differential measurements as a function of centrality and rapidity
 - Better significance of polarization measurements and access to other vector mesons

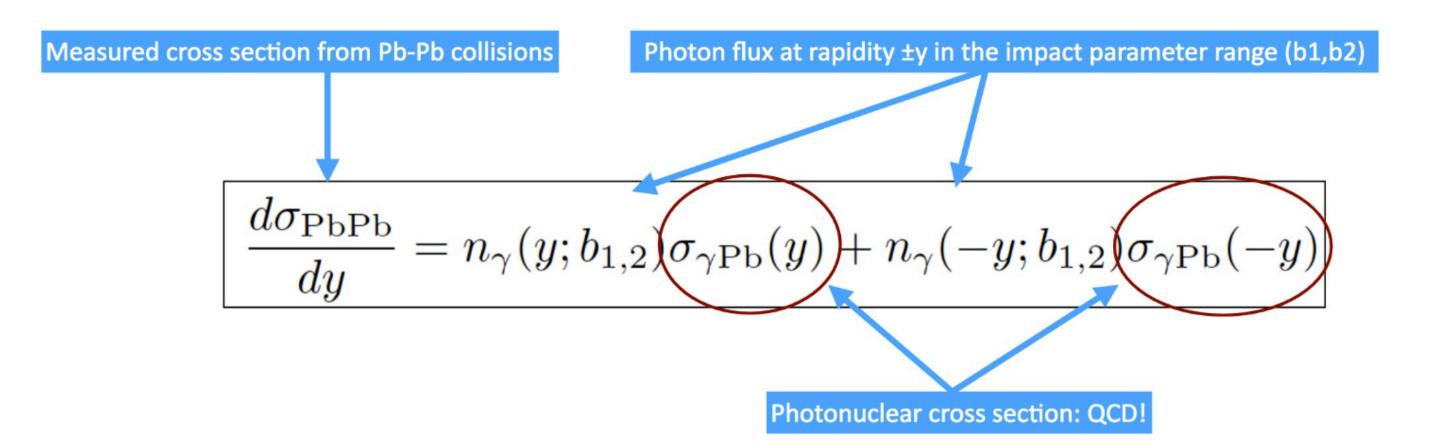


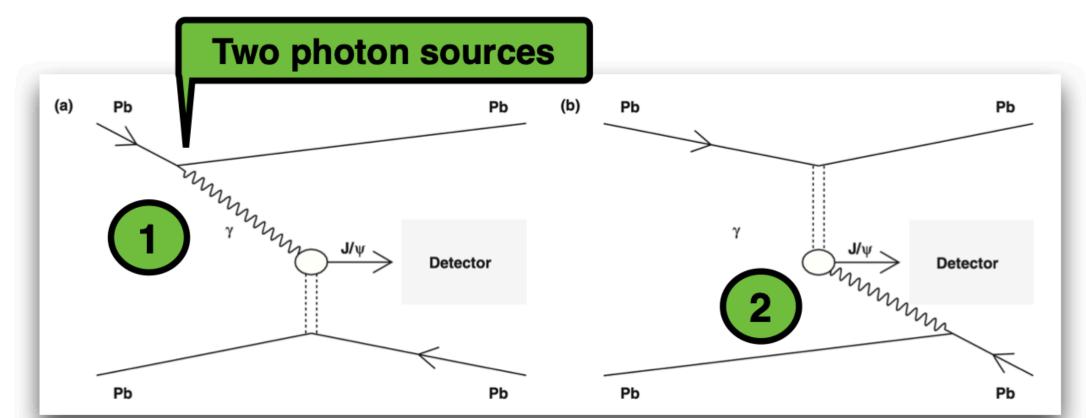
Back up

Vector Meson (VM) photo production in HICs with nuclear overlap



An idea to disentangling the low and high x_g contributions in J/ψ photoproduction





Theoretical challenge:

Current available theoretical approach is based on UPC -like model with modified γ flux and/or modified $\sigma_{\rm VPb}$ to account for overlap

A novel way to σ_{VPb} when combined to UPC measurement? (see J.G. Contreras, Phys. Rev. C 96, 015203 (2017), Zha et al., Phys. Rev. C97 (2018) 4, 044910)

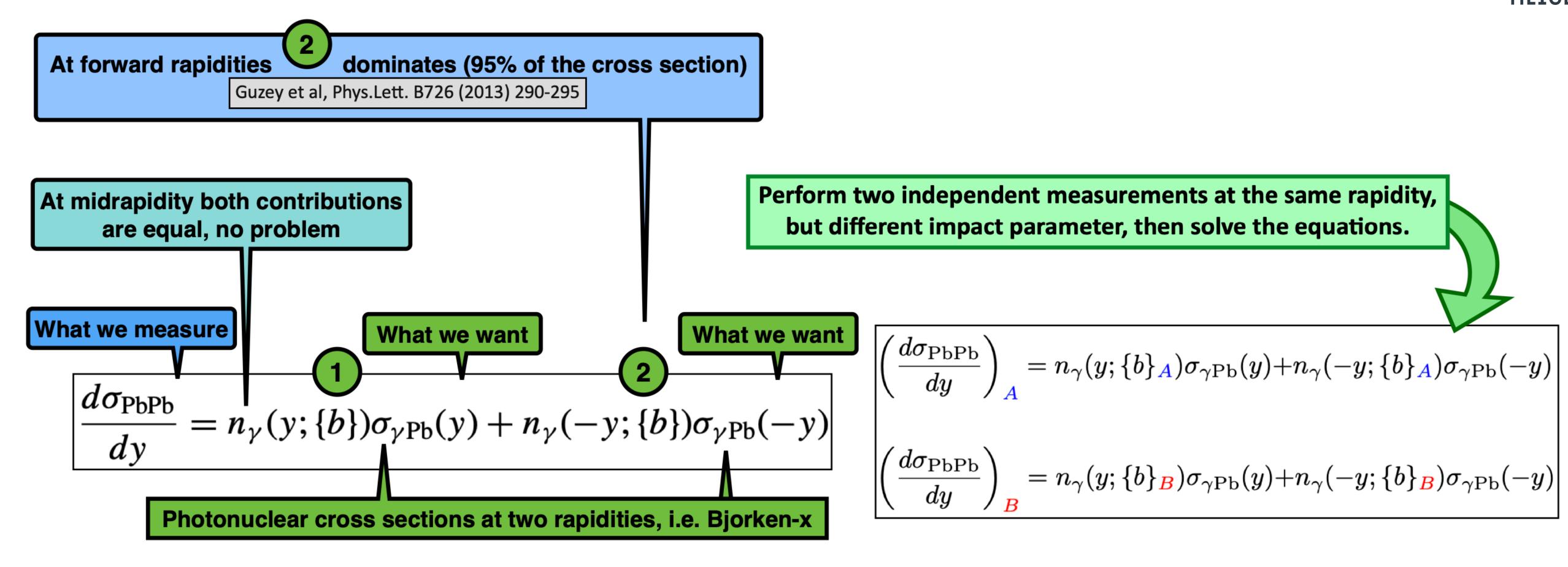
Caveat: need to understand time ordering of the interaction and theoretical open questions related to the treatment of the nuclear overlap

Survival of coherence condition for a broken nuclei? Only spectator nucleons participating to coherence?

Ref: https://indi.to/NRwVH

Vector Meson (VM) photo production in HICs with nuclear overlap





How to extract the photonuclear cross section if the photon fluxes are known?

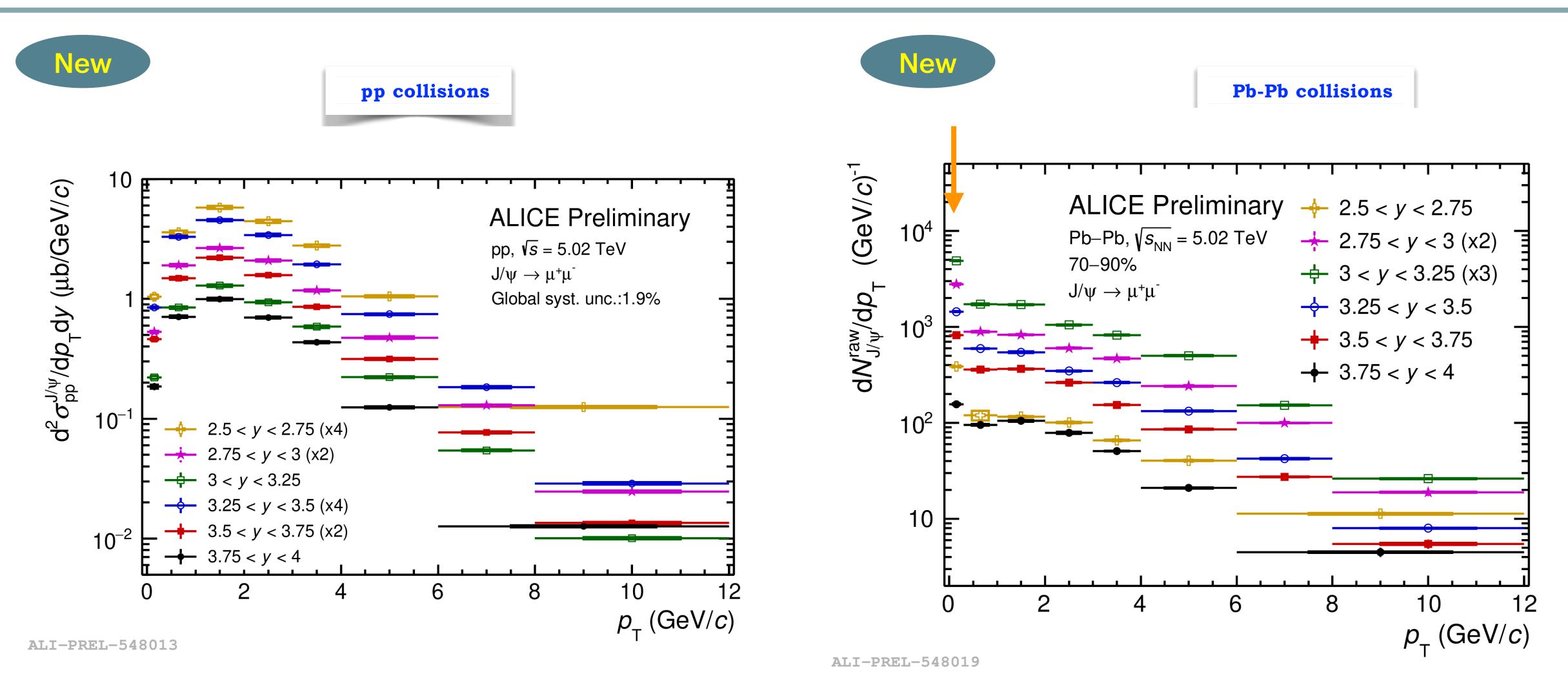
For example, use peripheral and ultra-peripheral collisions

JGC, PRC **96**, 015203 (2017)

Ref: https://indi.to/NRwVH

pt differential raw yield vs. rapidity





 $[\]Box$ Excess of the J/Ψ yield as a function of rapidity at low p_T (< 0.3 GeV/c) is observed w.r.t hadroproduction in peripheral Pb-Pb collisions

Model Assumptions



GBW/IIM: Phys. Rev. D. 97 (2018) 116013

— γ flux : γ reaching the overlap region not considered

[b-dependent area]

S2: no modification in $\sigma_{\gamma Pb}$

S3: no overlap for calculation of $\sigma_{\gamma Pb}$

Zha: Phys. Rev. C 99 (2019) 6, 061901

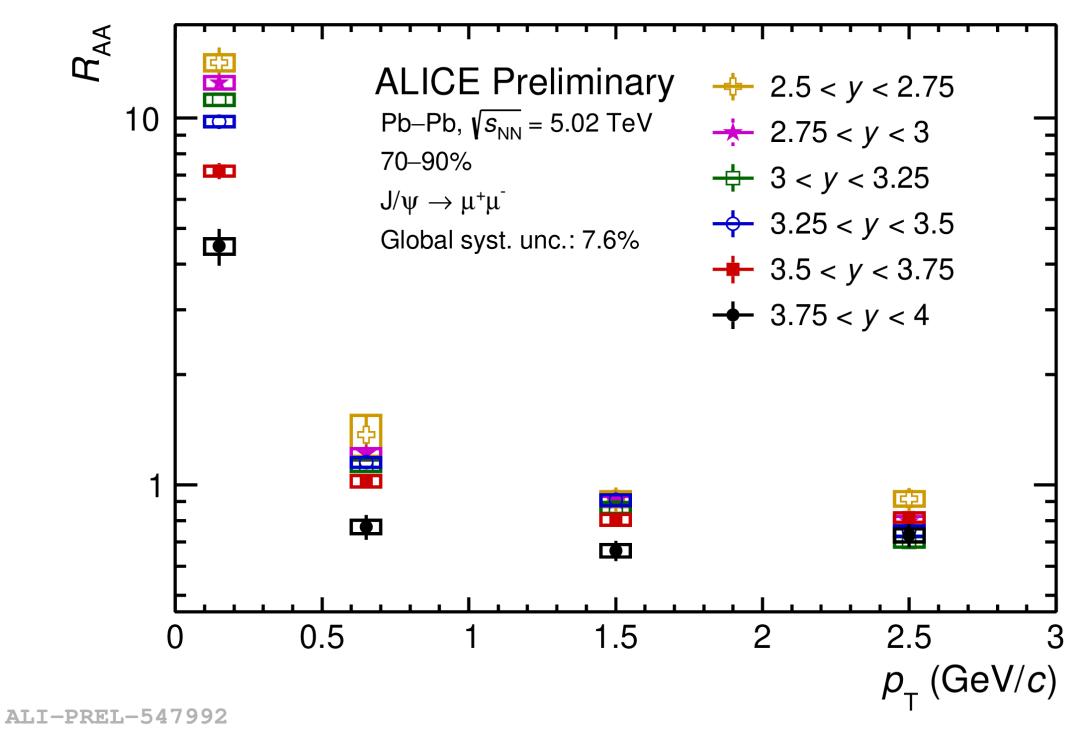
— Spectator coupling hypothesis (different coupling between photon and Pomeron:)

GG-hs: Phys. Rev.C 97 (2018) 2, 024901

 $-\gamma$ flux with constraints on impact parameter range

Table 5: Photonuclear cross sections extracted from the UPC measurements using the procedure described in the text. The quoted uncertainties are uncorrelated (unc.), correlated (corr.), caused by migrations across neutron classes (mig.) and by variations of the flux fractions in the different classes (flux frac.). The lines separate the different ranges in |y|. Note that two photonuclear cross sections in each rapidity interval are anti-correlated.

у	$W_{\gamma \mathrm{Pb,n}}$ (GeV)	$\sigma_{\gamma Pb} (\mu b)$	unc. (µb)	corr. (µb)	mig. (µb)	flux frac. (µb)
3.5 < y < 4	19.12	8.84	0.30	0.68	0.02	0.04
-4 < y < -3.5	813.05	57.32	20.77	7.57	6.41	6.56
3 < y < 3.5	24.55	13.89	0.23	1.08	0.05	0.08
-3.5 < y < -3	633.21	46.58	6.61	5.73	3.77	3.63
2.5 < y < 3	31.53	16.89	0.59	1.32	0.11	0.18
-3 < y < -2.5	493.14	44.68	6.38	5.15	2.73	2.97
0.2 < y < 0.8	97.11	21.73	5.12	3.12	4.32	2.73
-0.8 < y < -0.2	160.10	25.00	7.33	4.88	5.43	3.91
-0.2 < y < 0.2	124.69	24.15	0.69	1.37	0.50	0.06



Vector meson Polarization: Experimental status



ρ^0 meson measurement: consistent with SCHC

Phys. Rev. D 7, 3150, (1970) by SLAC Collaboration Z. Phys. C 53, 581–594, (1992) by CERN SPS

ρ^0 [1], ω [2] and ϕ [3] photoproduction by CLAS Collaboration : SCHC violation

- [1] Eur. Phys. J. A 39, 5–31, (2009)
- [2] Int. J. Mod. Phys. Conf. Ser. 26,1460063, (2014)
- [3] Phys.Rev.C 90, 019901, (2014)

ρ0 photoproduction by STAR Collaboration: consistent with SCHC

Phys. Rev. C 77 (2008) 034910

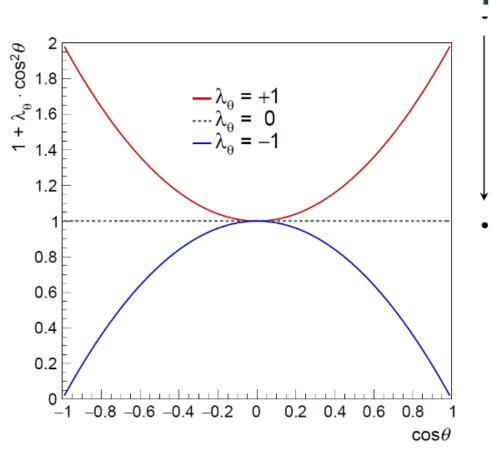
Exclusive J/ψ photoproduction by H1 and ZEUS collaborations : consistent with SCHC

[1] Eur. Phys. J. C 46, 585–603 (2006)

[2] Nucl. Phys. B 695, 3–37 (2004)

Do we see similar observation for J/ ψ at low $p_{\rm T}$ (< 0.3 GeV/c) in Peripheral Pb-Pb collisions with nuclear overlap?

- ✓ Is the J/ψ transversely polarized and therefore obey the SCHC hypothesis?
- ✓ Another way to test the **production mechanism** at the origin of the J/ψ very low p_T excess
- ✓ Also complementary to the UPCs measurement



$$r_{00}^{04} = rac{1-\lambda_{ heta}}{3+\lambda_{ heta}} \ r_{1,-1}^{04} = rac{\lambda_{\phi}}{2} \cdot (1+r_{00}^{04}) \; .$$

Observables: Extract angular variables and spin density matrix element

Results from UPC

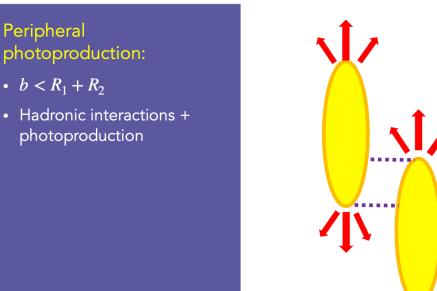


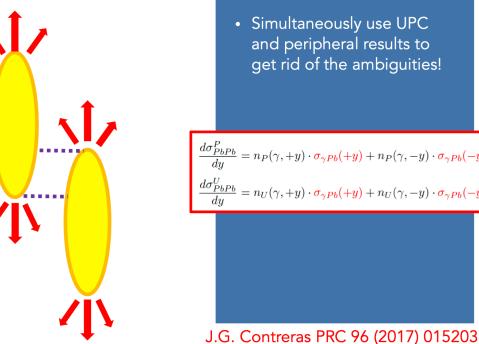
- Impulse approximation: Photoproduction data from protons, does not include nuclear effects except coherence
- STARlight: Photoproduction data from protons + Vector Meson Dominance model, includes multiple scattering but no gluon shadowing [Klein, Nystrand et al: Comput. Phys. Commun. 212 (2017) 258]
- EPS09: parametrization of nuclear shadowing data [Guzey, Kryshen, Zhalov, PRC93 (2016) 055206]
- LTA: nuclear shadowing [Guzey, Kryshen, Zhalov, PRC93 (2016) 055206]
- IIM BG, IPsat, BGK-I: Color dipol-based approaches [Goncalves, Machado et al.: PRC 90 (2014) 015203, JPG 42 (2015) 105001], [T. Lappi, H. Mäntysaari, PRC 83 (2011) 065202; 87 (2013) 032201]
- GG-HS: Color dipole + hot spots [Cepila, Contreras et al. PRC97 (2018) 024901]
- LS: Color dipole model [Luszczak, Schafer: PRC 99, 044905 (2019)]
- b-BK: Color dipole + Balitsky-Kovchegov equation

Techniques for the photon direction ambiguity









Coherent J/ψ with neutron emission



