

# Heavy quarks at LHCb

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INT PROGRAM INT-22-3

### Heavy Flavor Production in Heavy-Ion and Elementary Collisions

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# Outline

- LHCb apparatus
- Heavy quark measurements at high and low-x
  - Strong new constraints on nucleon structure
- Exotic hadrons in the nuclear medium
  - Unique access to newly discovered particles
- Fixed-target collisions
  - A unique heavy-ion collision program with LHCb beams on gas target
- Upgrades



# LHCb – Run 1 and 2



- Particle ID, precision vertexing, fast DAQ at forward rapidity
  - Unique fixed target program with p and Pb beams
- Reconstruction limited to multiplicities <60% central PbPb</li>



### **Forward detector advantages**

#### Access to extremes of x ranges



• Very low and very high x ranges can be probed by adjusting beam and target configurations



## **Forward detector advantages**



#### Access to extremes of x ranges

• Very low and very high x ranges can be probed by adjusting beam and target configurations

Event display of the rare decay  $B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ 



- Forward boost gives large distance between primary vertex and decay vertex – easier to reject prompt backgrounds
- High total momentum p aids access to relative low transverse momentum  $p_T$



### **Proton structure – intrinsic charm**

PRL 128 082001 (2022)



• *Z* + jet production at forward rapidity probes high x region – sensitive to intrinsic charm



### **Proton structure – intrinsic charm**



 Z + jet production at forward rapidity probes high x region – sensitive to intrinsic charm

• LHCb data favors calculations allowing IC at most forward rapidity

Recent global PDF analysis finds  $3\sigma$  evidence for IC in proton: NNPDF collab, *Nature* 608 (2022)



# **Constraining nPDFs – D mesons**



Large uncertainties on low-x gluon distributions



# **Constraining nPDFs – D mesons**



Inclusion of LHCb D meson data dramatically decreases nPDF uncertainties Incredible progress made on nPDF constraints at low x



# **Challenging nPDFs – D mesons**

LHCb 2205.03936



- Forward rapidity well described by updated nPDF calculations
- Discrepancy between 8.16 TeV data and nPDF occurs at backwards rapidity
  - Additional final-state effects coming into play? Energy loss? Hadronization modified?



### New hadrons discovered at LHC





### **Exotic hadrons discovered at LHC**





### **Exotics in the QCD medium**



B decays are a great way to discover exotics and measure some properties:

- Well constrained initial state
- Low backgrounds
- Not all states accessible
- After 20 years, fundamental questions about exotics remain unanswered



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Prompt production exposes exotics to the QCD medium and unique effects:

- Breakup with comoving particles Collectivity
- Production via coalescence/recombination
- Signal extraction can be COMPLICATED

Effects are sensitive to *size/binding energy of bound state* and *density of medium* Exotic states provide *new tests of models* in an *expanded range of n<sub>ca</sub>* 



# X(3872) production in pp





- NRQCD calculation matches high-p<sub>T</sub> data well
- Overpredicts yield at lower p<sub>T</sub>
- Room for additional effects? ٠



FONLL describes non-prompt X(3872) production well (also at ATLAS and CMS)

# Examine X(3872)/ $\psi$ (2S) ratio for direct comparison between exotic hadron and well-known conventional charmonium

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Prompt component: Increasing suppression of X(3872) production relative to  $\psi(2S)$  as multiplicity increases





Prompt component: Increasing suppression of X(3872) production relative to  $\psi(2S)$  as multiplicity increases

#### *b*-decay component:

Totally different behavior: no significant change in relative production, as expected for decays in vacuum. Ratio is set by  $\boldsymbol{b}$  decay branching ratios.





Molecular X(3872) immediately broken up Compact X(3872) gradually dissociated Data is consistent with compact tetraquark model.







### Exotic X(3872) in pPb, PbPb



- Comparison between X(3872) and  $\psi$ (2S) suggests *something different* may be happening to exotic vs conventional hadrons in medium
- Enhancing effects start to out compete breakup?

Higher statistics datasets in future should allow study of multiplicity dependence in pA/AA



### Exotic X(3872) in pPb, PbPb



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- Enhancing effects start to out compete breakup?

2017 PREDICTION: X(3872) enhanced in pA Nuclear effects on tetraquark production by double parton scattering F. Carvalho (Diadema, Sao Paulo Fed. U.), F.S. Navarra (Sao Paulo U.) 2017 8 pages Part of Proceedings, 12th Conference on Quark Confinement and the Hadron Spectrum (Confinement XII) : Thessaloniki, Greece Published in: *EPJ Web Conf.* 137 (2017) 06004 Contribution to: Confinement XII Published: 2017 Doi: 10.1051/epjcont/201713706004

Abstract. In this work we study the nuclear effects in exotic meson production. We estimate the total cross section as a function of the energy for pPb scattering using a version of the color evaporation model (CEM) adapted to Double Parton Scattering (DPS). We fond that the cross section grows significantly with the atomic number, indicating that the hypothesis of tetraquark states can be tested in pA collisions at LHC.

Higher statistics datasets in future should allow study of multiplicity dependence in pA/AA



### Models of X(3872) in PbPb



SHMC model: Significant increase in X(3872) predicted for central AA collisions

Yield reaches up to ~1% of  $J/\psi$  yield

AMPT model: difference in molecule vs diquark-diquark coalescence gives dramatically different yields and centrality dependence:

 $N_{molecule} > N_{tetraquark}$ 

Transport calculation: molecules have larger reaction rate, formed later in fireball evolution

 $N_{tetraquark} > N_{molecule}$ 



# **Fixed target collisions**

A unique capability at LHCb: inject noble gas into beampipe Originally intended for precise luminosity measurements: Precision on 2012 pp data is ±1.16%, best ever at bunched beam collider JINST **9** P12005 (2014)



"System for Measurement of Overlap with Gas"





# Fixed target *p*Ne collisions – intrinsic charm



- $J/\psi$  yield in *p*Ne collisions at 68.5 GeV
- Data consistent with (and without) IC



# Fixed target *p*Ne collisions – $\psi(2S)$



 Ratio consistent with other measurements in small systems (within significant uncertainties)

LHCb-PAPER-2022-014 (in prep)



### **Fixed target PbNe collisions**





# **Fixed target PbNe collisions**





- $\alpha = \alpha \alpha'$
- Assume  $\sigma_{J/\psi} \propto N_{coll}^{\alpha'}$  and  $\sigma_D \propto N_{coll}$
- Consistent with NA50 measurements in pA: no "anomalous" suppression



# LHCb upgrade 1(a) - Run 3 (commissioning now)



- LHCb has **advanced the state of the art** with full streaming readout in pp at 40MHz
- All new tracking system reconstructs up to 30% most central PbPb collisions



# LHCb upgrade 1(a) - Run 3 (commissioning now)



Example SMOG2 pAr at 115 GeV for one year

Int. Lumi.		80 pb-1
Sys.error of	<sup>z</sup> J/Ψ xsection	~3%
$J/\Psi$	yield	28 M
$D^0$	yield	280 M
$\Lambda_c$	yield	2.8 M
$\Psi'$	yield	280 k
$\Upsilon(1S)$	yield	24 k
$DY \mu^+\mu^-$	yield	24 k

- LHCb has advanced the state of the art with full streaming readout in pp at 40MHz
- All new tracking system reconstructs up to 30% most central PbPb collisions
- Upgraded *SMOG2* storage cell in front of Vertex Locator greatly increases fixed target rates
  - Simultaneous running with pp collisions gives high statistics p+He, p+Ar, p+Xe, etc
  - Can record O+O, Ar+Ar, etc data at two energies simultaneously



# LHCb upgrade 2 - Run 5+



Further upgraded tracking to deal with high pp pileup and heavy ion collisions

- Full PbPb centrality range accessible
- B hadrons, exotic states, and more at low  $p_T$  in central collisions
- Solid target? Polarized target?



## **Summary**

- LHCb has a unique dense QCD/heavy ion physics program:
- Forward data places strong constraints on partonic structure of protons and nuclei
  - New information on intrinsic charm currently statistics limited
  - Open questions remain on role of medium effects on PDF extractions
- An explosion of new info on allowed configurations of quarks inside hadrons
  - Fundamental questions remain about the nature of many new particles
  - Guidance from experiment and theory needed to make progress
- Unique fixed target program just getting underway
  - Major upgrade installed



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# **Challenging nPDFs – light flavor**



- Prompt charged particle and  $\pi^0$  modification agrees with nPDF at forward rapidity
- Discrepancy between data and nPDF occurs at backwards rapidity
- High x effect? Final state effects? *Does this data challenge assumptions of PDF fits?*
- To separate effects: non-interacting probes like Z, direct photons, gamma-h correlations



# SMOG2



https://cds.cern.ch/record/2673690/files/LHCB-TDR-020.pdf

xample	e SMOG2 pAr at 115 Ge	eV for one yea
Int. Lun	ni.	80 pb-1
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- Upgraded SMOG 2 system at LHCb allows greatly increased rates of beam+gas collisions at LHCb
- Variable target gases allows hadronic environment to be adjusted (H, He, ..., Xe)
- Access to exotic states near RHIC energies
- Can potentially run concurrent with proton+proton collisions large data sets



# Hadronization mechanisms





Charged



