



ALICE - A Large Ion Collider Experiment and EIC - Electron-Ion Collider

Jian Liu (University of Liverpool) on behalf of the Liverpool ALICE/EIC group

Liverpool Particle Physics Annual meeting 2024

23-24 May 2024

Upgraded ALICE for Run 3 and 4

• Major upgrades underwent for ALICE during LHC long shutdown 2 (2019-2022)

• Physics goals \rightarrow high-precision measurements of QGP properties

- Heavy-flavor hadrons, jets and quarkonia at very low $p_{\scriptscriptstyle T}$
- Vector mesons and low-mass di-leptons
- High-precision measurements of light nuclei and hypernuclei

• The new Inner Tracking System (ITS2) currently operational and showing excellent performance in LHC Run 3









Heavy-ions were back in the LHC!

Heavy-ion LHC Run 3 started on 26/09/23

• Vastly upgraded ALICE detectors and subsystems ready for data taking

LHC intensity ramp up to maximum number of bunches 1240b by 06/10/23

 Successful data taking at ~50 kHz interaction rate proceeded smoothly until end of run on 30/10/23, routinely processing 700 GB/s of data

https://alice-collaboration.web.cern.ch/2023 Dec heavy ion





Run 1+2 (2010-18): 1.5 nb⁻¹ Pb-Pb collisions delivered at 2.76 and 5.02 TeV Run 3 (2023): ~ 2 nb⁻¹ Pb-Pb collisions delivered at 5.36 TeV

→ Recorded Minimum Bias sample of ~ 12 billion collisions, ~ 40 times larger than Run 1+2 (Also recorded ~ 30 pb⁻¹ pp collisions during 2022-23 at 0.9 and 13.6 TeV)





- First observation of significant medium-induced yield enhancement and acoplanarity broadening of low- p_T jets from measurements in pp and central Pb–Pb collisions at $Vs_{NN} = 5.02$ TeV with ALICE (Run 2 data).
- Medium response or medium-induced soft radiation favoured as cause for both measured effects.

Hadron-Jet Correlations – Run 3 data analyses in progress ALICE Main contributors: Danny Jones (PhD), Jaime Norman, Matt Ockleton (MPHYS) 24.03M pp-collisions. R = 0.2 24.09M pp-collisions, R = 0.5 Trigger hadron 20 < p_{1.10} < 40 GeV/o 20 < p, _ < 40 GeWo 2.2 $\Delta \varphi$ pp, (s = 13.6 TeV Ch-particle iets, anti-k Inclusive Jets $|\Delta \phi - \pi| < 0.6$ LHC22 pass4 1.8 TT(20,50) - TT(5,7) Work in progress Fit f(3.6) = p. e WTA: a = 0.266 + 0.011 rad NTA: c = 0.310 +- 0.020 rad Bipt: a = 0.295 +- 0.014 rad Blot: a = 0.329 + 0.022 rad 1.2 EWEL JEWEL 20M PbPb collisions: Recoils off, R = 0.2 20M PbPb collisions: Recoils off, R = 0.5 20 < p < 40 GeV/0 20 < p __ < 40 GeWo 0.8 Recoiling jet WTA 0.6

 ΔR_{axis}

 Ratio of R=0.2 jets to R=0.5 jets for inclusive jets (red) and recoil jets (white)

P_{T.iet}

- Not full data sample analysed yet
- Investigations of origin of broadening with JEWEL MC simulations <u>https://jewel.hepforge.org/</u>

 $f(3ab) = p = \frac{4}{\sigma} + p,$ f(x = 0.350 + 0.027 rad) $t: \sigma = 0.264 + 0.022 \text{ rad}$ $\frac{1}{2.6} = 2.8 = 3$ 1.6 1.8

Fit $f(3\phi) = p_1 e^{-\phi} + p_1$ WTA: $\sigma = 0.257 + 0.011$ rad

IEWEI

20 < p_{1,m} < 40 GeV/c

4M PbPb collisions: Recoils on, R = 0.2

Blipt: a = 0.253 +- 0.010 rad



WTA: c = 0.255 +- 0.013 rad

Blot: a = 0.241 +- 0.015 rad

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Ratio R=0.2/R=0.

0.4

Congratulations to Dr Clara Bartels!



Measurement of Λ_c^+ *production in Pb–Pb collisions at VsNN = 5.02 TeV with the ALICE experiment at the LHC.*



PhD examiners: Tara Shears and Pietro Antonioli (Bologna IT) Supervisors: Jaime Norman, Marielle Chartier, Roy Lemmon





First measurements of the production cross section of the charmed baryon Λ_c^+ via the Λ_c^+ $\rightarrow pK^-\pi^+$ decay channel, as a function of transverse momentum (p_T) in Pb–Pb collisions (in two collisional centrality classes, central and semi-central).

Probe hadronisation in the Quark Gluon Plasma through charm hadron / baryon-tomeson production ratios.



ALICE upgrades timeline





Upgrade motivations and requirements

Main physics motivations

- Heavy flavours hadrons at low p_T (charm and beauty interaction and hadronisation in the QGP)
- Quarkonia down to $p_T = 0$ (melting and regeneration in the QGP)
- Thermal dileptons, photons, vector mesons (thermal radiation, chiral symmetry restoration)
- Precision measurements of light (hyper)nuclei and searches for charmed hypernuclei

Main requirements

- Increased effective acceptance (acceptance x readout rate)
- Improved tracking and vertexing performance at low p_T for background suppression
- Preserve in ALICE 2 and enhance in ALICE 3 particle identification (PID) capabilities





ITS3

Replacing the 3 innermost layers with new ultra-light, truly cylindrical layers

- Reduced material budget (from 0.36% to 0.07% X₀ per layer) with a very homogenous material distribution by removing water cooling, circuit boards and mechanical support
- Closer to the interaction point (from 23 to 19 mm)

Sensor design roadmap

MLR1 (Multi-Layer Reticle 1): first MAPS in 2021 TPSCo 65 nm • Successfully qualified the 65 nm process for 2022 ITS3 (and much beyond) ER1 (Engineering run 1): first stitched MAPS 2023 Large design "exercise", stitching was new Tests ongoing ER2: first ITS3 sensor prototype 2024 Specifications frozen Design ongoing **ER3: ITS3 sensor production** 2025

Liverpool involvement with sensor characterisation

- MLR1 prototype and ER1 babyMOSS laboratory tests in LSDC with ⁵⁵Fe and ⁹⁰Sr
- Beam tests at CERN PS and SPS
- Software development and test beam data analysis



ITS2 Inner Barrel







MLR1 test system in LSDC

Analogue Pixel Test Structure (APTS): arXiv:2403.08952

ALICE 3

- Compact and lightweight all-silicon tracker
 - *p*_T resolution better than 1% @1 GeV/*c* and ~1-2% over large acceptance
- Retractable vertex detector with excellent pointing resolution
 - About 3-4 μm @ 1 GeV/*c*
- Large acceptance: $-4 < \eta < 4$, $p_T > 0.02 \text{ GeV}/c$
- e/π/K/p particle identification over large acceptance
- Superconducting magnet system
- Continuous readout and online processing
 - Large data sample to access rare signals
- Muon Identification system
- Large-area ECal for photons and jets
- Forward Conversion Tracker for ultrasoft photons



UK proposed involvement in outer tracker and triggering

ALICE 3 - Tracker

- 8 + 2 x 9 tracking layers (barrel + disks)
- 60 m² silicon pixel detector based on CMOS MAPS technology
- Compact: $r_{out} \sim 80 \text{ cm}$, $z_{out} \pm 3.5 \text{ m}$
- Large coverage: $\pm 4 \eta$
- Time resolution: ~100 ns
- Sensor pixel pitch of ~50 μm for σ_{POS} = 10 μm
- Low power consumption: ~ 20 mW/cm²
- Low material budget: ~1% X₀ per layer



R&D challenges: module integration, timing performance and material budget

UK collaboration including Liverpool: seeking larger strategic O(20M) investment in view of complementary development and synergies in detectors for future colliders





EIC - Electron-Ion Collider

- Facility
 - To be built at the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) incorporating the existing Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC)
 - Two intersecting accelerators, one producing an intense beam of electrons, the other a high-energy beam of protons or heavier atomic nuclei
- Uniqueness
 - World's first polarized electrons and ions collider
- Science questions to be answered
 - How do the nucleon properties like mass and spin emerge from quarks and their interactions?
 - What are the emergent properties of dense systems of gluons?
- Timeline
 - Dec 2019: EIC Project approved
 - Apr 2025: EIC Project Detector TDR
 - Apr 2032 Apr 2034: Transition to Operations





ePIC detector

- The Electron-Proton/Ion Collider (ePIC) Collaboration was formed to design, build, and operate the first experiment at the EIC
- Detector details
 - High-precision tracking, PID, EM and hadronic calorimetry in all directions, covering equal rapidity areas (-4 < η < 4), high-precision polarimetry
 - Asymmetric beam energies, different electron and hadron endcaps
 - A 1.7 T superconducting magnet for curving the trajectories of charged particles
 - Streaming readout approach and AI-powered data collection



Hadrons



ePIC Silicon Vertex Tracker (SVT)



- Well integrated, large acceptance, high precision SVT based on large area, low power MAPS in 65 nm CMOS imaging technology
 - Spatial resolution: $\sigma_{pos} \sim 5 \ \mu m$
 - Power consumption: < 40 mW/cm²
 - Framing rate: $\leq 2 \ \mu s$
- 5 barrel layers and 10 endcap discs (~ 8.5 m²)
 - 3 Inner Barrel (IB) layers same curved, wafer-scale stitched MAPS used within ITS3
 - 2 Outer Barrel (OB) layers stave-based, optimised sensor for EIC
 - Focus of EIC-UK WP1 (MAPS)
 - 5 discs for Electron and Hadron Endcaps (EE/HE)
 - Same optimised sensor as OB
- EIC-LAS (Large Area Sensor)
 - Optimised sensor variant based on the ITS3 sensor
 - Minimise the material required due to service (data/power/control) connections
 - Improve yield for large area coverage
 - Liverpool involvement under discussion with the UK collaboration (incl. Birmingham, Oxford, STFC Daresbury and RAL)
 opportunities in sensor characterisation, mechanical design, stave tooling and assemblies, QA/QC etc.
 - £ 58m investment from UKRI Large Infrastructure fund approved.





A Good Year for our group!





Jaime Norman

- ALICE Physics Convener (jets & hard photons analyses) Nov. 2021 – Nov. 2023
- Quark Matter Conference, Houston, Sep. 2023
- LHC Physics Seminar, CERN, Oct. 2023
- ALICE Editorial Board member from Nov. 2023
- Joint APP, HEPP and NP IOP Conference, April 2024
- Rencontres de Moriond, April 2024

Marielle Chartier

- Chair ALICE Collaboration Board 2022-2025
- ACHEP Conference, Rabat, Oct. 2023
- 'Recent highlights and future plans with ALICE at the LHC'





Jian Liu

- ALICE ITS System Run Coordination Jan. 2021 – June 2023
- ALICE Data Preparation Group

Asynchronous QC coordinator from Jan. 2023

- ALICE ITS Technical Director (Deputy) from Jan. 2024
- LHCP Conference, Belgrade, May 2023
- IWORID Conference, Oslo, June 2023
- Tracking and Vertexing technologies Workshop, London, Nov. 2023
- HSTD'13 Symposium, Vancouver, Dec. 2023
- Joint APP, HEPP and NP IOP Conference, April 2024

Roy Lemmon

(STFC Daresbury)

- IPPP Durham Associate 2021-2023 (Higgs self coupling using EFTs at future e+e-colliders)
- Honorary Visiting Professor from 2023







- Successful Heavy-Ion data taking in 2023, leading roles in detector operation and data assurance, achieved a data-taking rate of 50 kHz and recorded 2 nb-1 of Pb-Pb collisions
- Great results and leading new physics analyses in heavy-flavour and jet measurements; ongoing analyses using Run 3 data
- Strong involvement in future upgrade projects, e.g., ALICE ITS3, EIC ePIC SVT, and ALICE 3, focusing on advanced CMOS sensor R&D and detector construction

Summary



- Successful Heavy-Ion data taking in 2023, leading roles in detector operation and data assurance, achieved a data-taking rate of 50 kHz and recorded 2 nb-1 of Pb-Pb collisions
- Great results and leading new physics analyses in heavy-flavour and jet measurements; ongoing analyses using Run 3 data
- Strong involvement in future upgrade projects, e.g., ALICE ITS3, EIC ePIC SVT, and ALICE 3, focusing on advanced CMOS sensor R&D and detector construction

Special thanks to our HEP colleagues for their invaluable help and support in setting up the upgrade projects in LSDC!



Backup

Strongly interacting matter The place of chromodynamics in the SM of the Universe

QCD is asymptotically free, and we expect at high enough temperature to find a gas of weakly interacting quarks and gluons.

However, at temperatures accessible in a lab, the QGP is strongly coupled (liquid with very low viscosity).

What is the nature of the QGP constituents?

➔ Determine the quasi-particle structure of the QGP and study how a strongly-coupled liquid emerges from its constituent degrees of freedom.

These are just some of the open questions!

Can we probe its short distance structure?

Can a Rutherford scattering experiment be performed in the QGP?





ALICE Data Preparation



- Coordination of Asynchronous Quality Control (A-QC) in Data Preparation Group (DPG)
 - Review of data reconstruction quality from sub-detectors and PWGs
 - A-QC workflow maintenance
 - Coordination of ALICE Run Condition Table (RCT) development
 - JavaScript based framework for automatically run quality aggregation

Bookkeeping								AL	I FLP Hom	e Log Entrie	s Environn	nents LHC	Fills Runs	RCT	Overview	About									+ Log	+ EoS re	aport 🚨
Physics Ru																		Export	Runs								
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ALPIDE: ALICE Plxel DEtector





ALPIDE technology features:

- TowerJazz 180 nm CiS Process, full CMOS
- Deep P-well implementation available
- High resistivity epi-layer (>1 k Ω ·cm) p-type, thickness 25 μ m
- Smaller charge collection diode → lower capacitance → higher S/N
- Possibility of reverse biasing
- Substrate can be thinned down

Sensor specification:

- Pixel pitch 27 μ m x 29 μ m \rightarrow spatial resolution 5 μ m x 5 μ m
- Priority Encoder Readout
- Power: 40 mW/cm²
- Trigger rate: 100 kHz
- Integration time: < 10 μs
- Read out up to 1.2 Gbit/s
- Continuous or triggered read-out

ITS3 chip development roadmap



- 2021 MLR1 (Multi-Layer Reticle 1): first MAPS in TPSCo 65 nm
 - Successfully qualified the 65 nm process for ITS3 (and much beyond)

ER1 (Engineering run 1): first stitched MAPS

- Large design "exercise", stitching was new
 - Tests ongoing

2022

2024

ER2: first ITS3 sensor prototype

- Specifications frozen
- Design ongoing

2025 ER3: ITS3 sensor production





MLR1





ITS3 MLR1 characterization



Digital Pixel Test Structure (DPTS)

- 32x32 pixel matrix
- Asynchronous digital readout with Timeover-Threshold information
- Pitch: 15 μm
- Only "modified with gap" process







DPTS: NIM A.2023.168589

- Validated in terms of charge collection efficiency, detection efficiency and radiation hardness
 - Several pixel variants (pitch 10 25 μm) were tested both in laboratory and in beam tests
 - Excellent detection efficiency over large threshold range for the ITS3 radiation hardness requirement (10 kGy + 10¹³ 1MeV n_{eq} /cm²)

ITS3 MOSS test beams

- Wafer probing and systematic lab tests: verified all basic functionalities, ongoing full characterization to assess yield of different sensor sections
- Three campaigns: July, August and September at PS in 2023
- Data analysis in progress and parameters to be further optimised

ALICE ITS3 beam test preliminary MOSS @ CERN PS August 2023, 10 GeV/c hadrons

10

ITS3 sensor bending

- Functional chips (ALPIDEs) and MLR1 sensors are bent routinely at different labs)
- Full mock-up of the final ITS3, called "µITS3"
 - 6 ALPIDE chips, bent to the target radii of ITS3 tested
- The sensors continue to work after bending
 - Spatial resolution of 5 µm consistent with flat ALPIDEs ٠
 - Efficiency > 99.99 % for nominal operating conditions and • compatible with flat ALPIDEs
- Bent MLR1 prototypes are being tested

ALICE

25

ITS3 assembly practicing

Wire-bonding for the curved sensor

Gluing of foams and additional supports

Assembled first layer of ITS3

- Improvement in pointing resolution by a factor of 2 over all momenta
- Increase of tracking efficiency for low- p_T particles and extension of the low- p_T reach

ITS3 performance – impact on dead zones

Assumptions here:

- 1mm gap between top and bottom
- Total: 8-9% dead area

 Dead zones (on chip and between halves) have direct impact on efficiency → important to optimise mechanics and chip design in this parameter

ITS3 geometry - dead zones

- Blue: sensitive areas
- Red: dead areas
- Gap between the two hemicylinders

ITS3 ER2 stitched sensor

Layer 0: 12 x 3 repeated units+endcaps Layer 1: 12 x 4 repeated units+endcaps Layer 2: 12 x 5 repeated units+endcaps

Repeated (Stitched) Sensing Unit

1,5

ITS3 ER1

First MAPS for HEP using stitching

- One order of magnitude larger than previous chips
- "MOSS": 14 x 259 mm, 6.72 MPixel (22.5 x 22.5 and 18 x 18 $\mu m^2)$
- Conservative design, different pitches

"MOST": 2.5 x 259 mm, 0.9 MPixel (18 x 18 μm^2)

• More dense design

ITS3 ER1 postprocessing

Pick, align, glue MOSS on Carrier

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ITS3 mechanics and cooling solutions

- The limited dissipated power allows for the use of air cooling at ambient temperature (colder gas are also being considered as back up)
- The material budget requirement call for a unpalpable support structure i,.e. carbon foam used as support and radiator (carbon fiber truss support being considered as backup)

Support

ERG Carbon

@Duocel

 $\rho = 0.045 \text{ kg/dm}^3$

k = 0.033 W/m·K

P

- - -

K9 Standard Density ρ = 0.2-0.26 kg/dm3 k = >17 W/m·K

Support & cooling

ALICE

ALICE 3 timeline

Long-term schedule

- **2023-25**: selection of technologies, small-scale proof of concept prototypes (~25% of R&D funds)
- 2026-27: large-scale engineered prototypes (~75% of R&D funds) → Technical Design Reports
- 2028-30: construction and testing
- 2031-32: contingency and pre-commissioning
- 2033-34: preparation of cavern, installation

ALICE 3 - Vertex detector

- 3 layers of wafer-size, ultra-thin, curved, CMOS MAPS inside the beam pipe in secondary vacuum
- Retractable configuration thanks to movable petals: distance of 5 mm from beam axis for data taking and 16 mm at beam injection
- Unprecedent spatial resolution: $\sigma_{pos} \sim 2.5 \ \mu m$
- Extremely low material budget: 0.1% per layer
- Radiation tolerance requirements: 10 Mrad + 2x10¹⁵ 1MeV n_{eq} /cm² (from FLUKA simulations; safety factor to be decided)

ITS3 prototype already achieved 10^{15} 1MeV n_{eq} /cm²

R&D challenges: radiation hardness, technology feature size and cooling

Plans in 2024: new irradiation tests (NIEL, TID), sensor specs, lab tests (mechanics, services, vacuum, etc.)

35

Open unit in mm

Bread-Board Model 3 3D-printed aluminium petals 0.5 mm wall thickness

Close

ITS3 - Physics goals - Dileptons

Thermal dileptons, photons, vector mesons (thermal radiation, chiral symmetry restoration)

• High precision measurement of temperature in mass region 1<Mee<2 GeV/c²

ALICE3 - Physics goals - Dileptons

- ALICE 3 high precision tracking results in an unprecedented HF rejection and low-p^T electron ID → background suppression allows a very precise temperature measurement
- Differential analysis in p_{Tree} : **only** accessible with ALICE 3

ALICE3 - Physics goals - Heavy flavours

- Heavy flavour hadrons at low p⁺ (charm and beauty interaction and hadronisation in the QGP)
- SHM: hierarchy with **n** number of charms $(g_{c^n}) \rightarrow$ multicharm hadrons (e.g., Ξ_{++cc})
- Silicon layers inside the beam pipe allow for direct tracking of Ξ/Ω baryons (strangeness tracking) -> full reconstruction of multi-charm baryon decay vertices

