# Photon and jet measurements with the ALICE detector at the LHC

**Miguel Arratia** 



#### Outline

- Why measure photons?
- How to measure photons?
- Preliminary results
- Prospects

Photons emerge from process like:



Sensitive to gluon density in proton (nuclei)

#### Gluon density nuclei/proton



Eur.Phys.J. C77 (2017) no.3, 16

## At low $Q^2$



Eur.Phys.J. C77 (2017) no.3, 16

#### Existing data constraining gluon density in nuclei



"Standard candle" for jet-quenching studies in quark-gluon plasma



Mean-free-path of photons in quark-gluon plasma is relatively large.

Photon momentum constrains momentum of recoiling quark.

8

Photons are a control probe to the quark-gluon plasma



Electroweak bosons are NOT suppressed in the quark-gluon plasma

#### Challenges

- The  $\gamma/\pi^0$  cross-section ratio is about 1% in the pT at 10 GeV.
- High-energy photons measurements require large data samples.

#### LHC data

- pp collisions at 5 TeV
- p-Pb collisions at 5 TeV
- Pb-Pb collisions at 5 TeV

I will show results on these today



#### Electromagnetic Calorimeters

#### **EMCAL,** Pb/Sc sampling calorimeter Shashlik layout

Supermodule

Module (2x2 towers)

Preamplifier+APD

2 cm

□12 supermodules 24 strips in η 12 (or 6) modules in φ 12672 elementary sensors (towers) 77 alternating layers of **1.44 mm Pb (1% Sb)** 1.76 mm polystirene scintillator  $\Delta \eta \times \Delta \phi = 0.014 \times 0.014$ 

#### Photon identification with shower shapes



Higher-order processes yield **about 50%** of the photon cross-section



These are real photons, so shower-shape might

#### Isolation criteria reduces higher-order terms



#### Photon Isolation distribution



Isolation criteria reduces fragmentation photons background to about ~20%

It also reduces  $\pi^0$  background (jet)

## Template fit for purity measurement



- Data-driven background template
- Signal template from MC
- 1 free parameter

#### Width of the shower-shape



#### Energy-weighted Spatial RMS of shower-shape

## Machine learning



#### Photon Purity measurement



- Measurement reported down to pT  $\sim$  12 GeV
- Most of the systematic uncertainties cancel in the pA/pp ratio.
- Aim measurement with about 10% uncertainty

## Photons measured with ALICE access a poorly explored low $Q^2$ , low-x region



#### Isolated photon + jet correlations





#### Track resolution with silicon-tracker



A good factor of 7 worse track resolution with silicon tracker only, Mainly due to larger TPC lever arm

#### Jet performance (silicon tracker only)



- Jet energy resolution in 15-25% range
- Jet energy scale 13-16% range

This can be corrected with unfolding (deconvolution)

## 5 TeV pp run in (November 2017)





## Photon + jet angular correlation



- Anti-*k*T *R*=0.4 jets. Track constituents
- Pairs with  $\ \Delta arphi > \pi/2$  kept

#### Spectrum of jets recoiling to isolated photons



 No significant difference between pp and p-Pb data

#### Integrated photon + hadron correlations



No significant difference between pp and p-Pb data

#### Future prospects

#### 5 TeV PbPb run (November 2018)



## Potential of upgraded silicon tracker



- Standalone tracking with upgraded silicon tracker (2021–2029).
- Better resolution and faster readout .
- The only way to enough pp/pA data statistics for photon/jet measurements.

## Summary

- I have presented work towards first isolated photon and jet analyzes with ALICE.
- These cover an unexplored kinematics at low momentum.
- No significant difference is observed between pp and p-Pb measurements
- This result establishes a benchmark for photon identification and jet reconstruction for future measurements with ALICE

#### Backup Slides

#### Fragmentation photons





#### Correlation functions methodology

 Correlation between photons with 12—15 GeV/c and tracks, in different z<sub>T</sub> bins. Corrected by acceptance (mixed events), efficiency and fake rate:

$$C(\Delta\varphi,\Delta\eta) = \frac{S(\Delta\varphi,\Delta\eta)}{M(\Delta\varphi,\Delta\eta)} \frac{1}{\epsilon} (1-f)$$

- Pedestal from underlying event, U, estimated with ZYAM and large  $\Delta\eta$
- These are ingredients for signal correlation, obtained with measured purity (*p*) 25%:

$$C_{S} = \frac{(C_{SR} - U) - (1 - p)(C_{BR} - U)}{p}$$



 $C_{SR}$ 

#### Isolated-photon + hadron correlations



No significant difference between pp and p-Pb data

#### Isolated-photon + hadron correlations



No significant difference between pp and p-Pb data



Phys.Lett. B718 (2012) 482-487



```
Silicon Tracker + TPC
```

#### Silicon Tracker only







Standalone Silicon tracker during Run3/4.
IMHO, only way to enough pp/pA data statistics for hard processes.

• ITS-only tracking during the High-Luminosity LHC era

#### ALICE in the 2030'?

With the LS2 upgrade, ALICE will reach the maximal rate with a spectrometer based on a TPC ALICE

- Maximum interaction rate limited by space-charge (ions) accumulated in drift volume (distortions ≈10cm) and track density (inner region signal occupancy ≈ 40%)
- Running at higher rates seems excluded with a TPC

Running ALICE beyond LS4 ↔ Completely new detector without TPC?

The use of CMOS technologies opens new opportunities

➡ Vertex detectors, large area tracking detectors and digital calorimeters