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Analysis of the performance in the 2023 LHC Pb-Pb run

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In 2023, the Pb-Pb run in the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) took place during the last five weeks of operation at a record beam energy of 6.8 Z TeV. It marked the first heavy-ion run of Run 3, following a two-day test that took place in 2022 to verify some key machine and beam upgrades. The 2023 run profited for the first time of higher beam intensities than the previous runs and of machine upgrades that enable higher peak luminosities in the ion-dedicated ALICE experiment. This paper addresses two important performance aspects: firstly, it compares the achieved operational efficiency for the different filling schemes employed during the run, and secondly, it quantifies the main factors contributing to performance loss.

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