AFRICAN COUNTRIES JOINING LARGE INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS – PHENIX AND EIC



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NELSON MANDELA

UNIVERSITY

The 3rd African Conference on Fundamental and Applied Physics

25 - 29 September 2023

Venue: Protea by Marriot Hotel King George, George, South Africa



OUTLINE

- University of Zambia Overview
- Building Capacity in Nuclear Science & Technology (NST)
- PHENIX Collaboration
- Electron Ion Collider (EIC) Research Opportunity
- Summary

UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA (UNZA) OVERVIEW

UNZA is geographically situated in Southern Africa, Lusaka, Zambia.



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Zambia derives its name from the Zambezi river.



The river hosts the Victoria falls (UNESCO Site ID: 509) on the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. The falls is one of largest waterfalls in the world with a width of about 1, 708 m.

Zambia is 752,617 Km² subdivided into 10 provinces with an estimated population of 20 million in 2023.

UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA (UNZA) OVERVIEW

- UNZA is a public university. Zambia's largest and ordest learning institution.
- Established in 1965 & opened to the public on July 12, 1966.
- Students: 30, 000 (undergraduate + postgraduate)
- Language of instruction English.

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 UNZA has 13 Schools: Agr. Sciences, Education, Engineering, Business Studies, Health Sciences, Humanities & Social Sciences, Law, Medicine, Mines, Nursing Sciences, Public Health, Veterinary Medicine, & School of Natural Sciences (NS).



Website: <u>https://www.unza.zm</u>.



UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA OVERVIEW - SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES

The School of Natural Sciences comprises six (6) Departments:

• Physics

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- Chemistry
- Biological Sciences
- Mathematics and Statistics
- Computer Science
- Geography and Environmental Studies

Bachelors degrees in NS are four-year programs.

Master's programs are 2 years (1 year taught + 1 year research + thesis).

Doctoral degrees are three-year minimum offered as PhD by research only.

Taken following steps:

 Formation of Nuclear, High Energy, & Medical Physics (NHEMP) research group.

- Three MSc curricula being finalized with the financial support of GRZ and IAEA besides an already running MSc in Physics:
- 1. Master of Science (MSc) in Nuclear Engineering
- 2. Master of Science (MSc) in Medical Physics.
- 3. Master of Science (MSc) in Health Physics and Radiation Protection.

Further, since last year, UNZA Department of Physics -

 Started participating in IPPOG's International Particle Physics Masterclasses organized by TU Dresden & QuarkNet Notre Dame.

 UNZA particle physics masterclass is coordinated by Dr. Chilufya Mwewa (Postdoc., BNL, USA) & Benard Mulilo (Lecturer & Coordinator of NHEMP at University of Zambia).



22 students participated in the masterclass. ATLAS and PHENIX lectures were delivered by Dr. Chilufya Mwewa and myself.



Acknowledgements to Kenneth, Uta, Pedro,..., & CERN to bring on board the UNZA masterclass.

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Masterclass is a full-day event, so students had lunch, tea-breaks & a light moment to interact among themselves, tutors, and academic staff.





After lunch, students were oriented on the use of HYPATIA to analyze data, & later students participated hands-on ATLAS' Z-Path experimental data.



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CERN's staff then collected and combined all students' analyzed ATLAS Z-Path results from all five institutions that took the masterclass on the day: Lusaka, Oxford, Milan, Paris, & Podebrady.



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NUCLEAR AND PARTICLE PHYSICS RESEARCH AND LARGE INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

Department is currently in collaboration with:

• PHENIX at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), New York, USA.

UNZA signed Memorandum of undertanding (MoU) with BNL in firstquarter of 2022.

UNZA currently contributing to PHENIX collaborative research work.

• The Electron ion collider (EIC) is another potential research opportunity.

PHENIX – RELATIVISTIC HEAVY ION COLLIDER (RHIC)

- **PHENIX Pioneering High Energy Nuclear Interaction eXperiment**
- Heavy ion and proton collision exploratory experiment.
- Measures collision probes: photons, muons, neutrons, etc.,
- Study of new state of matter called quark-gluon plasma (QGP).

QGP allows us to better understand our universe.

• Particle collisions possible using relativistic heavy ion collider (RHIC).

RHIC – BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY (BNL), USA

RHIC is world-class scientific research facility, physicists use to study what the universe may have looked like in the first few moments after its creation.



Layout of the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), USA.

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PHENIX DETECTOR AT RHIC – BNL, UNITED STATES



PHENIX detector image

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PHENIX detector side view

PHENIX detector is decommissioned, replaced by **sPHENIX**



FORWARD NEUTRON TSSA IN P+P COLLISIONS AT 200 GeV – PHENIX 2015 DATA

Collision of 100 GeV proton with another 100 GeV proton at $\sqrt{s} = 200$ GeV



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- Initial state: $p\uparrow + p$ collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 200 \ GeV$.
- Measure final state on either side of p[↑] going direction – azimuthally.
- Perturbative quantum chromodynamics (pQCD) known to contribute negligibly to TSSA (< 1%).
- Large TSSA imply nonperturbative spinmomentum & spin-spin correlations with proton.

• TSSA $(A_N) = \frac{\sigma^{\uparrow} - \sigma^{\downarrow}}{\sigma^{\uparrow} + \sigma^{\downarrow}}$ of final state particles.

FORWARD NEUTRON TSSA IN P+P COLLISION AT 200 GeV-PRD PUBLISHED RESULTS (PHD –THESIS WORK)



TSSA parametrizations as a function of p_T for (a) 3rd order polynomial dependence "Pol3," (b) power-law dependence "Power Law," and (c) an exponential dependence "Exponential."

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Physical Review D 103 (3), 032007

MY PHD THESIS WORK WITH KOREA UNIVERSITY (SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA) IN COLLABORATION WITH RIKEN RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN JAPAN.

THE PHENIX COLLABORATIVE EFFORT WITH UNZA

PHENIX recognizes all contributing insitutions to the experiment thus, since joining the collaboration in 2021, UNZA is one of the institutions on PHENIX publications in APR journals.

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ELECTRON ION COLLIDER (EIC) RESEARCH

World's first polarized ep & eA in plan for construction at BNL Discovery machine to unlock secrets of force binding matter.

[Details in BNL's senior researcher – Dr. R. Venugopalan]

Key physics research questions EIC is to address include:



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THE EIC CFNS-CTEQ 2023 SUMMER SCHOOL – STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY



June 5–16, 2023 — in-person event.

Hosted by Stony Brook University.

Attracted participants from Africa, Asia, Europe, & North America.

Participants included students, postdocs, faculty with expertise in theory & expt'al particle physics.

School featured lectures, tutorials, and discussion sesions.

Acknowledge CFNS & South African Institute of Physics (SAIP) support.



SUMMARY

- UNZA is participating in annual IPPOG's International Particle Physics Masterclasses.
- UNZA is a registered member of the PHENIX Collaboration.
- Electron ion collider (EIC) another potential research opportunity for Africa.

More interesting EIC content will follow from talks by:

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BNL senior researcher, Dr. R. Venugopalan – Science of the EIC.
CFNS director (SBU) – (Prof. A. Deshpande) – Status and opportunities at the EIC.

Acknowledgements

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- Support from the LOC, IOC, ASP-Alumni program, SAIP, & the Nelson Mandela University).

BACKUP



FORWARD NEUTRON TSSA IN P+P COLLISION AT 200 GeV-PRD PUBLISHED RESULTS



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Neutron transverse single spin asymmetries as a function of the true transverse momentum.

Data points represent unfolded asymmetries obtained via average over all parametrizations and MC generators.

Uncertainty boxes represent systematic uncertainties due to parametrization, functional form, MC generator, and the unfolding procedure.