

Energy Dependence of Energy Loss in Au+Au Collisions at PHENIX

Norbert Novitzky for PHENIX collaboration University of Jyväskylä, Finland Helsinki Institute of Physics, Finland







PHENIX R_{AA} in low – energy scan

In Au+Au at 200 GeV:

- Strong suppression (x5) in central Au+Au coll.
- No suppression in peripheral Au+Au coll.
- No suppression (Cronin enhancement) in control d+Au exp.

Convincing evidence for the final state partonic interaction - emergence of sQGP

Cu+Cu energy scan:

•Significant suppression at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ = 200 and 62.4 GeV

•Moderate enhancement at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 22.4 \text{ GeV}$





Energy – Loss in HI – Theory Models

In principle four different theory classes of models:

- Opacity expansion (GLV): Gyulassy, Levai,. Vitev, PLB538, 2002
- Multiple soft scattering (BDMPS-Z-ASW): Wiedemann, NPB588, 2000
- Higher-twist (HT): Guo, Wang, PRL. 85, 3591, 2000
- Thermal field theory (AMY): Arnold, Moore, Yaffe, JHEP 11, 001(2000)



- 1. The data do not discriminate between different models
- 2. Theoretical models has large uncertainties:
 - Energy density (differs by factors).
 - Different transport coefficients.
 - Collinear approximation violations.
 - > Different values of strong coupling α_s

How can the experiment help to constrain the models?



Systematic study of the π^0 suppression

It is natural to ask where the **onset** of such massive suppression is in terms of: •Different colliding energies

• Low-energy scan (observe region between SPS – RHIC)

•Different system sizes

- Centrality dependence of the same colliding ions
- Different size of the colliding ions (Cu, Au)



PH**ENIX π^0 invariant yields of the Au+Au at 62.4 and 39 GeV



The scale-less theory from pQCD: $d^3\sigma = 1$

 $E\frac{d^3\sigma}{dp^3} \propto \frac{1}{p_T^4}$

To lower \sqrt{s} the contribution from other processes are larger:

- Running $\alpha(Q^2)$
- PDF evolution
- **k**_T smearing
- Higher-twist phenomena

The minimum bias spectra are fitted with a power-law shape function for p_T > 4 GeV/c :

$$f(x) = \frac{A}{(p_T)^n}, \qquad \begin{array}{l} n_{200\text{GeV}} = 8.1 & \pm \\ 0.03 & \\ n_{62\text{GeV}} = 10.9 & \pm \\ 0.03 & \\ \end{array}$$
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$$n_{39\text{GeV}} = 12.1 & \pm 0.5$$



Nuclear Modification Factor

- For the R_{AA} the p+p reference from same experiment is vital. External reference will increase systematic errors.
 - 62.4 GeV p+p data is available from PHENIX, however only up to p_T < 7 GeV/c (heavy-ion up to 10 GeV/c)
 - 39.0 GeV p+p data is **not yet available** from PHENIX,
 - Because of that we used fix target p+p experiment at Tevatron, E0706 (\sqrt{s} = 39 GeV, PRD68: 052001, 2003).

PH*ENIX 62.4 GeV p+p reference extrapolation



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• The systematic uncertainty is calculated from the errors of the power-law fit

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 It agrees well with the CCOR data (ISR) in p_T 7-10 GeV/c region

- Data from PHENIX are available up to $p_T \le 7 \text{ GeV/c}$
- To extrapolate to higher p_T points powerlaw function was used:
 - The limit of the fits is vital
 - --> systematic errors.





39 GeV p+p reference



- p+p data measured only in fix-target experiment by E0706 at Tevatron with 800 GeV beam energy. (Phys.Rev.D68:052001,2003)
- The E0706 has different rapidity acceptance $-1.0 \le y \le 0.5$ (PHENIX $|y| \le 0.35$).



- Acceptance correction based on PYTHIA8 simulation.
- The systematic uncertainty of the correction function is calculated based on data to PYTHIA8 comparison.





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Nuclear Modification Factor

$$R_{AA}(p_T) = \frac{d^2 N^{AA} / dp_T d\eta}{\left\langle N_{binary} \right\rangle d^2 N^{pp} / dp_T d\eta}$$

- 39 GeV: with external reference from E0706, Tevatron
- 62 GeV: PHENIX reference with extrapolation to higher p_T.



PH^{*}ENIX R_{AA} in Au+Au at 39 and 62 GeV



 $π^0$ R_{AA} as a function of p_T in PHENIX at $√s_{NN} = 39$, 62 and 200 GeV. •Still strong suppression (factor of 2) at most central $√s_{NN} = 39$ GeV. •R_{AA} from $√s_{NN} = 62$ GeV data is comparable with R_{AA} from $√s_{NN} = 200$ GeV for p_T 6 >GeV/c •In peripheral $√s_{NN} = 62$ and 200 GeV are suppressed, but the $√s_{NN} = 39$ GeV is not suppressed

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p_T averaged R_{AA}



 R_{AA} evolution in Au+Au at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 39, 62$ and 200 GeV:

•62-200 GeV large suppression

•39 GeV shows suppression only in N_{part}>100

In higher p_T ranges, the 62 GeV points are comparable to the 200 GeV points in all centralities.

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The lines are just to guide the eyes over the points.



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System size dependence



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N_{part}



Comparison with recent SPS R_{AA}



- In previous experiment at WA98 we see only (PRL 100 (2008), 242301) suppression at "ultra"-central (0-1%) collisions of Pb+Pb.
- The x_T is overlapping between the SPS and RHIC intervals.
- The "onset" of the energy loss is dependent on system size and collision energy.
- The energy loss is present in lower energies also.

The magenta closed circles are the most comparable with the PHENIX results, as they have the smaller system (p+C) for reference.

The "onset" of the suppression depends on collision energy and centrality or system size (and p_T)



All $\pi^0 R_{AA}$

Total energy available of the collision:

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System size:

- Circles: Cu+Cu
- Squares: Au+Au

The R_{AA} values seems to have the same trend.



E_{AA} = 2 – 5 TeV

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or PHENIX



E_{AA} dependence on p_T





In higher p_T the scaling does not work.

shadowing? Bjorken energy density?

Summary and Outlook

• The systematic study of the π^0 suppression:

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- The R_{AA} 62 and 200 are comparable in higher p_T (> 6GeV/c)
- The R_{AA} in 39 GeV collision shows a large suppression (2x)
- The Cu+Cu and Au+Au R_{AA} are are similar in same N_{part}.
- The averaged R_{AA} at 39 GeV collision bellow 1 when N_{part} >100.
- The "onset" of the suppression varies with collision energy and system size.
 - The total energy of the system gives fairly good scaling of the R_{AA} , however it breaks down at high- p_T region.
- Stay tuned: 19.6 GeV AuAu, 27 GeV AuAu

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References of PHENIX data: Cu+Cu results, π^0 (22.4-200 GeV): Phys. Rev. Lett.101, 162301 (2008) Au+Au results, π^0 at 200 GeV: Phys. Rev. Lett. 101, 232301 (2008)

Thank you for your attention



Backup



New SPS results (from 2008)



NA49: (charged hadrons)

•There is a slight suppression in the most central collision for the RAA results.

•The "suppression" is still within the systematic errors of the data.

•Point-by-point systematic errors are not shown...



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WA98 results:

Phys.Rev.Lett. 100 (2008) 242301

- •No p+p reference,
- •p+C : $N_{coll} \approx 1.7$

•Suppression in "ultra-central" collisions only (0-1%).

•In Npart < 100 same "constant" behavior as CuCu 22 GeV.



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PH*ENIX Supportive slide with Glauber MC (to backup)





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62.4 GeV p+p: powerlaw VS. Tsallis





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WA98 suspicion



The WA98 published their Glauber model results from 2001-2008 period:

• In last year there was a 15% increase in from 2007 to 2008 numbers

Simple equation:

$$R_{AA} = \frac{Yield^{AuAu}}{N_{coll} \times Yield^{pp}}$$

 If the yields of the Au+Au and p+p collisions are fixed, increasing the Ncoll will decrease the RAA value.
 However:









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PHKENIX Suppression of Light- and Heavy-quarks





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