Photoproduction of vector mesons in ultraperipheral Pb-Pb collisions with ALICE at LHC

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In Ultra-Peripheral Collisions (UPC), two nuclei pass close to each other at an impact parameter greater than the sum of their radii; in such collisions hadronic processes are strongly suppressed, while γ interactions are enhanced with respect to minimum-bias collisions. Photoproduction of vector mesons in UPC is a powerful tool to probe the nuclear gluon distribution in the nucleus, for which there is considerable uncertainty in the low-x region. The ALICE collaboration has published measurements of UPC J/ ψ and ψ (2S) photoproduction in LHC Run 1 at forward (J/ ψ) and at mid-rapidity. In addition the increased energy and more detailed measurements in the forward region in Run 2 give access to significantly lower values of Bjorken-x than in previous studies. In this talk, the latest available results from Run 2 will be given, together with results on photoproduction of ρ 0 from Run 1 and 2 and a comparison with theoretical models.

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