# **STAR** Open charm measurement in p+p $\sqrt{s}$ = 200 GeV collisions at STAR **David Tlusty NPI ASCR FNSPE CTU Prague** for STAR collaboration





### Charm production and Mass



- »  $gg \rightarrow c\overline{c}$  dominates at initial hard collisions
- » good pQCD test at RHIC
- »  $m_c(\sim 1.5 \text{ GeV}) >> \Lambda_{QCD} (\sim 200 \text{ MeV})$ : can be evaluated by perturbative QCD http://arxiv.org/abs/nucl-ex/0407006v5
- » mass given by Electroweak SSB
- » QCD chiral symetry breaking doesn't affect charm quark mass X. Zhu, et al, Phys. Lett. B647, 366(2007).



- » in gluon radiative energy loss mechanism, charm quarks suffer less energy loss while traversing through partonic matter (dead cone eff.) D. Kharzeev et al., Phys. Lett. B 519, 199(2001)
- » collective motion or thermalization only if interactions at the partonic level occur at high frequency (excellent probe of QGP)
- » cross sec. in AA scaled with  $N_{bin}$

### **Open Charm measurement**



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### The STAR detector and PID



### **Event Display**



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### Invariant mass of all K, $\pi$ pairs



- Mixed event: A pion from an event is paired with all kaons in buffer events. Event buffer is filled randomly (within the z-vertex window)
- Rotated kaon momentum: Each pion is paired with kaon with reversed 3-momenta
- Like Sign: pions are paired with same charged kaons (within current event only). The geometric mean is calculated by  $2\sqrt{N_{\pi^+K^+}N_{\pi^-K^-}}$

### D<sup>0</sup> reconstruction



Zoom in mass window  $(1.72 - 2.1 \text{ GeV/c}^2)$ ~ 4 $\sigma$  signal observed.

#### D\* reconstruction



#### D\* reconstruction





All triggers included.

More than  $4\sigma$  signal at low  $p_T$  and very significant at high  $p_T$  - mostly from EMC-based high neutral energy triggers.

Wrong sign and side-band method reproduce background well.

### Summary and outlook

- 4σ raw D<sup>0</sup> signal observed in p+p 200 GeV collisions
- more significant D\* signal at high p<sub>T</sub> is observed
- excellent method to constrain charm cross section
- Cross section is coming soon!

## Backup slides



### Track selection

- primary tracks
- 0<flag<1000,
- nHitsFit>15,
- nHitsFit/nMax>0.52
- |dca| < 2 cm
- p<sub>T</sub> > 0.2
- |Eta| < 1
- remove tracks with first or last point in TPC sectors
  5,6 and 20 for FullField data
- Bemc or TOF match



### cos(θ\*) < 0.8



In higher  $p_T$ , jets are important contribution to combinatorial background.

