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# D meson measurements at STAR



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INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

### Motivation

#### Topics

- properties of the Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP) at RHIC
- interactions of heavy quarks with QCD matter

#### Heavy quarks (c, b)

- produced in initial hard processes (due to large masses)
- probe the strongly interacting QGP
- modified spectrum: mechanism of energy loss
- collective flow: sensitive to dynamics, thermalization



# The STAR detector



VPD: minimum bias trigger

TPC: particle identification via dE/dx, tracking

TOF: particle identification

BEMC: high  $p_{\tau}$  trigger



### Measurement of charm quarks

Indirect measurements through semileptonic decay + easy to trigger (hight  $p_{\tau}$  electrons) + higher branching ratio - no direct access to parent hadron kinematics - contribution from both charm and bottom hadron decays **Direct open charm reconstruction** + direct access to parent hadron kinematics - smaller branching ratio 800 - large combinatorial background (without  $\pi^+$ 3,80% vertex detector)  $\pi^+$ 



 $D_0$ 

D\*+

 $\pi^+$ 

### Particle identification

- TPC better than TOF for kaon/pion seperation with momentum above ~2.5 GeV/c
- TOF provides clean sample of kaons with momentum up to ~1.6 GeV/c







#### D<sup>o</sup> reconstruction in Au+Au

Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 142301 (2014)





 $K^{-}$ 

 $\mathsf{D}^0$ 

 $\pi^+$ 

#### D\* reconstruction in p+p





### Production cross section in p+p





- Levy fit describes data well
- new p+p 500 GeV measurement
  - consistent with FONLL

FONLL: Fixed Order plus Next-to-Leading Logarithms calculation,  $\mu_{\rm F}$  =  $\mu_{\rm R}$  =  $m_{\rm c},~$  |y| < 1, arXiv: 1210.4610



## D<sup>o</sup> production in 200 GeV Au+Au



Charm is mostly produced in initial hard processes



# D<sup>o</sup> suppression in 200 GeV Au+Au



- p+p baseline from Levy fit to Run 09 data
- strong suppression in central collisions at  $p_{T} > 2GeV/c$

similar suppression to pions

/ enhancement at 1 <  $p_{\tau}$  < 2 GeV/c

$$R_{AA} = \frac{1}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle} \frac{dN/dy^{AuAu}}{dN/dy^{PP}}$$

 $R_{AA} = 1$  indicates no modification of the production in the medium.



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similar suppression to pions

• enhancement at  $1 < p_T < 2 \text{ GeV/c}$ 

Understanding from models:

- The enhancement is consistent with models that include charm–light quark coalescence
- The suppression is consistent with strong charmmedium interaction
- Cold Nuclear Matter effects
  might be important



# D<sup>o</sup> in 193 GeV U+U



U+U collisions reach ~20% higher Bjorken energy density than Au+Au: Phys. Rev. C 84 054907



# D<sup>o</sup> in 193 GeV U+U



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- Increasing suppression for  $p_T > 3 \text{ GeV/c}$  with  $N_{part}$
- Trend in Au+Au continued in U+U



# Heavy Flavor Tracker (HFT)



- Precision measurement of heavy quark production
- Reconstruction of secondary vertices (separate charm and bottom)
- Run14 was taken with HFT fully operational





# Summary

- Charm quark production cross-section in p+p collisions is consistent with pQCD predictions
- Total D<sup>0</sup> cross-section follows N<sub>bin</sub> scaling confirming that charm is mostly produced in initial hard processes
- D<sup>o</sup> enhancement in central Au+Au collisions around 1.5 GeV/c suggests production via charm\_light quark coalescence
- Strong suppression of D<sup>0</sup> production above 3 GeV/c in central Au+Au collisions indicates strong charm-medium interaction
- U+U measurements show similar suppression pattern to Au+Au



# Backup



# Models for R<sub>AA</sub>

	TAMU	SUBTECH	Torino	Duke	LANL
HQ prod.	LO	FNOLL	NLO	LO	LO
QGP-Hydro.	ideal	ideal	viscous	viscous	ideal
HQ eLoss	coll	coll. +rad.	coll. +rad.	coll. +rad.	diss.+rad.
Coalescence	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Cronin effect	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Shadowing	No	No	Yes	Yes/No	Yes



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