

# System size dependence of high $p_T$ hadron yield modification in the Quark-Gluon Plasma with $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV isobar collisions at STAR

Tong Liu for the STAR Collaboration<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Yale University, New Haven, CT 06520, USA

1 While traversing the Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP) produced in relativistic heavy-  
2 ion collisions, high energy partons lose energy to the medium, and hence provide  
3 information about transport properties of the QGP. A common proxy to these par-  
4 tons is the high transverse momentum ( $p_T$ ) particles they hadronize into. Quenching  
5 effects of high  $p_T$  partons can be quantified via the nuclear modification factor ( $R_{AA}$ )  
6 relative to  $p+p$  collisions. While previous studies focus more on the collision energy  
7 dependence of the modification, we present results that study its dependence on the  
8 size of the collision system.

9 We will present differential measurements of high  $p_T$  charged hadrons and their  
10  $R_{AA}$  using the large isobar (Ru+Ru and Zr+Zr) dataset, with  $\sim 2$  billion events  
11 per species, collected with the STAR detector in 2018. Different centralities of the  
12 isobar collisions provide a unique coverage of the number of participants from a few  
13 to a couple hundred. Combining the isobar results with previous measurements in  
14 d+Au, Cu+Cu, and Au+Au collisions, we will discuss the dependence of high  $p_T$   
15 hadron  $R_{AA}$  on system size. We will also report the observation of geometry and  
16 selection bias to  $R_{AA}$  in peripheral isobar events, and discuss possible methods to  
17 account for this bias.