Inclusive photonuclear processes: recent search for collectivity & opportunities with the STAR detector

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- Introduction
- Lessons from HERA and LHC
- Opportunities with the STAR detector (model studies)

At fundamental levels conservation laws determine correlation among few particles



Momentum conservation





Momentum conservation

Δη

Δη=0

Δφ

At the fundamental level conservation laws determine correlation among few particles



p+p (Low multiplicity)



These correlations will not fill the full-phase space

(Conservation \Rightarrow perfect configurations)

Deviations from these perfect configurations or correlation among few particles \Rightarrow Important physics at play (often non-perturbative)



Momentum conservation

Collectivity ⇒ observation of a specific pattern or behavior that is followed by most of its constituents in a system

Observing correlations among many must be accompanied by a large scale deviation \Rightarrow interesting to study with decreasing system size

Au+Au \rightarrow p+A \rightarrow p+p \rightarrow e(γ)+A \rightarrow e(γ)+p \rightarrow e+e

Inclusive processes in DIS



Events with $Q^2 > 1$ are conventionally regarded as DIS Most ep events have $Q^2 << 1$ and $Q^2 -> 0$ photoproduction processes Until the BNL EIC is built UPCs provide an opportunity to study highenergy photoproduction processes (low virtuality limit of DIS)

Lessons from HERA

Inclusive processes in DIS

Inclusive DIS at HERA



Typical HERA kinematics $E_e=27.5 \text{ GeV}$ $E_p=920 \text{ GeV}$ 0.0001 < x < 0.01 $5 < Q^2 < 100 \text{ GeV}^2$ (DIS) $W_{YP} \sim 270 \text{ GeV}$ (Photoproduction) N_{trk} (HM) < 30



Search for collectivity in e-p collisions with ZEUS data

JHEP 04 (2020) 070,1912.07431 [hep-ex]



No sign of ridge

Azimuthal correlations —> consistent with expectations from momentum conservation & hard processes, well described by DIS models

Collectivity in ep DIS with H1 data

Chuan Sun, H1 Collaboration, DIS 2021



https://www-h1.desy.de/h1/www/publications/htmlsplit/H1prelim-20-033.long.html

No near-side long-range ridge with H1 DIS data Results on $V_{n\Delta}$ & c_n {4} \rightarrow no sign of collectivity

Collectivity in ep photoproduction from H1



https://www-h1.desy.de/h1/www/publications/htmlsplit/H1prelim-20-033.long.html

No near-side long-range ridge with H1 DIS data Results on $V_{n\Delta}$ & c_n {4} \rightarrow no sign of collectivity

Lessons from LHC

Inclusive UPC at the LHC/RHIC

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Typical kinematics at LHC and RHIC:
Q^2 < (\hbar c/R_A)^2 \rightarrow 0; R_A \sim 1.2 (A)^{1/3} fm
A \sim 200, Q^2 \sim 0.0008 \text{ GeV}^2
E_{\gamma} \sim \gamma^{\text{Lorentz}} (\hbar c/R_A), W_{\nu A} \sim \sqrt{(4 E_{\nu} E_A)}
\gamma^{L} (Pb, LHC)=2.51e3, \gamma^{L} (p, LHC)=6.51e3
E_{\gamma} (LHC) ~ 71 GeV,
W_{\gamma p} (LHC) ~ 1.36 TeV, dN_{trk}/d\eta (HM) > 7
W_{yPb} (LHC) ~ 844 GeV, dN_{trk}/d\eta (HM) > 10
\gamma^{L}(Au, RHIC)= 27,100, \gamma^{L}(p/d, RHIC)=100
E_{\gamma} (RHIC) ~ 2.86 GeV,
W_{\gamma(p/d)} (RHIC) ~ 33.8 GeV
W<sub>YAu</sub> (RHIC) ~ 17.6, 33.8 GeV
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Main challenge is to exclude hadronic events (peripheral AA or pA)

A Photonuclear events from ATLAS



P. Tribedy, CFNS meeting on RHIC to EIC, May 24-26, 202⁻

Challenge : purity of yA events



Primarily cut: "0nXn" events using the ZDC. Major discrimination of Pb+Pb using sum-gap

Can achieve > 97% purity for γ +Pb events

γ+Pb: broader sum-gap
distribution
Pb+Pb: narrow sum-gap
distribution

Ridge yield extracted in γ+Pb events



Use template to extract ridge & anisotropy:

$$Y(\Delta\phi, 2 < |\Delta\eta| < 5) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{trig}}} \frac{d^2 N_{\text{pair}}}{d\Delta\phi} = \frac{N_{\text{asco}}}{2\pi} \left(1 + \sum_n 2a_n \cos(n\Delta\phi) \right)$$
$$Y(\Delta\phi)^{\text{template}}(HM) = F Y(\Delta\phi)(LM) + Y(\Delta\phi)^{\text{ridge}}(HM)$$
$$Y(\Delta\phi)^{\text{ridge}}(HM) = G\{1 + 2a_2\cos(2\Delta\phi) + 2a_3\cos(3\Delta\phi) + 2a_4\cos(4\Delta\phi)\}$$



Elliptic anisotropy in y+A and CGC

ATLAS Collaboration, e-Print: 2101.10771 [nucl-ex]





Cartoon: Blair Seidlitz, IS2021

Elliptic anisotropy is lower in γ +Pb than in p+Pb CGC calculations provide an explanation based on color domain picture.

EIC will provide much control to explore this

CMS y+p collisions



Quan Wang, CMS Collaboration, IS2021

Pb-going side detector is quiet but a lot of activity in p-going sideAlready gives 95% γp purity

Big step towards UPC-DIS complimentarily although kinematics is different



CMS y+p collisions



	EIC (DIS)	EIC (PhP)	LHC (UPC)	RHIC (UPC)	HERA (DIS)	HERA (PhP)
γ+p	? (ATHENA)	? (ATHENA)	CMS)	? (STAR, sPHENIX)	CEUS, H1)	(H1)
γ+A	? (ATHENA)	? (ATHENA)	(ATLAS)	? (STAR, sPHENIX)		

Since RHIC will make transition to EIC with similar p/A energies, how about search at RHIC (STAR or sPHENIX)?

Opportunities with STAR

STAR now and in near future



Inclusive photonuclear processes with STAR



Events like these are eliminated by coincidence triggers, threshold, vetoing and not saved during run

Only datasets on tape: Au+Au 54 GeV (477 µb⁻¹) Au+Au 200 GeV (80 µb⁻¹)

Feasibility study with models: e+Au with BeAGLE (thanks to Z.Tu, Z.Xu) $E_e = 10$ GeV, $E_{Au} = 27$ and 100 GeV, $E_{\gamma} < 2$ GeV, $0.001 < Q^2 < 0.01$ GeV² e+p with PYTHIA (thanks to M.Mondal, K.Kauder)

 $E_{e}\!=\!10$ GeV, $E_{p}\!=\!27$ GeV, $E_{\gamma}\!\!<\!\!2$ GeV, $0.001\!<\!Q^{2}\!<\!\!0.01$ GeV^{2}

Au+Au with UrQMD with RHIC-ZDC ToyMC (thanks to S.Choudhuri) $\sqrt{s} = 54$ GeV, 0<b<15 fm, tuned to STAR TPC vs ZDC correlation

Predictions form eA Monte-Carlo



Primary selection can be done based on ZDCs with one neutron from photon emitting nucleus in the ZDC (reduce beam-gas, FXT events)

Will be associated with η -asymmetry in TPC, gap in BBC & VPDs

Predictions form AA Monte-Carlo



Hadronic events with asymmetry in neutrons and ZDCs are background (Deformed nuclei, fluctuations of nucleon and clustering of fragment)

Will the characteristics of these events be similar to γ +A?

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How to separate γ +A from A+A?



Spectator & η-asymmetry are anti-correlated in hadronic events while the opposite is expected for γ+A

These extreme configurations occur in U+U collisions and have been triggered and studied by STAR (also see arXiv:1412.5103)



 $dN/d\eta (\eta > 0) > dN/d\eta (\eta < 0)$ $\propto - (ZDC (\eta > 0) > ZDC (\eta < 0))$

η asymmetry in TPC unique for $\gamma + A$



The observation of η -asymmetry in TPC will the very first step.

Using VPDs to identify y-A-rich events



The forward Vertex Position detector can be a used in γ+A events to see if there is a mismatch of vertex from TPC & VPDs

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Projection with 54 GeV data

d+Au data are from talk by Shengli Huang, STAR Collaboration, IS2021



Au+Au 54 GeV from year 2017 and Au+Au 200 GeV data from year 2019 on tape provides an opportunity for an exploratory study for STAR.

Anticipated Run 2023 with Au+Au 200 GeV

 $E_{Au} = 100 \text{ GeV}$



If a high statistics Au+Au 200 GeV dataset if accumulated by STAR from the anticipated 2023 run of RHIC it will provide a golden opportunity to study photonuclear events with the forward upgrades. The same can be done in the photo production limit of e+A at EIC. Key measurements: 1. ridge 2. chemistry (pi/k/p yield) and how they change when compared to hadronic events at the same multiplicity.

γ+p in STAR with p/d+Au UPC 200 GeV

 $E_{Au} = 100 \text{ GeV}$



Measurements in γ +p can also be done if opportunity comes to collect d/p+Au data.



	EIC (DIS)	EIC (PhP)	LHC (UPC)	RHIC (UPC)	HERA (DIS)	HERA (PhP)
γ+p	? (ATHENA)	? (ATHENA)	CMS)	? (STAR, sPHENIX)	CEUS, H1)	(H1)
γ+A	? (ATHENA)	? (ATHENA)	(ATLAS)	? (STAR, sPHENIX)		





Names we borrowed from Greek pantheon & their correlations



Photonuclear processes in UPC from STAR



Opportunities and scope:

- 1. STAR with enhanced pseodorapidity acceptance (iTPC + EPD + FTS/FCS)
- 2. Anticipated Au+Au 200 GeV run of RHIC (2023, 2025)
- 3. Data on tape: Au+Au 54 GeV (2017), Au+Au 200 GeV (2019)
- 4. Opportunistic p+Au or d+Au run at RHIC (2021, 2024)

Measurements:

1. Ridge, 2. change of chemistry (pi/k/p yield) & compare to hadronic events

Photonuclear processes in UPC from STAR



CGC calculation arXiv: 2008.03569



Significant difference between correlation in HM (red) & LM (blue) γ+p/Au will be interesting

Understanding anisotropy from CGC:

 $x - Q_s$ and domain size in Target $Q^2 - Size$ of the probe #domains

Best opportunity:

Controlled scan of x-Q² at EIC

How anisotropy in p+p/Au compare to γ+p/Au @RHIC ?



Cartoon: Blair Seidlitz, IS2021