# Study of nuclear effects in small collision systems connecting proton-proton and heavy-ion collisions

Sanghoon Lim Pusan National University

Nuclear Physics Seminar @ BNL Jan-14-2020

#### Relativistic heavy-ion collisions



#### Inside the QGP



#### Heavy quark production in heavy-ion collisions



#### Heavy quark production in heavy-ion collisions



- Electrons from heavy-flavor decays in Au+Au collisions at 200 GeV
  - Strong suppression in high  $p_T$
  - Significant  $v_2$

#### Heavy quark production in heavy-ion collisions



- Similar results at the LHC
- Several models can reproduce both  $R_{AA}$  and  $v_2$  simultaneously

#### **Control** experiment

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#### What's happened in p+A collisions ?



Initial geometry



#### Versatility of RHIC

RHIC energies, species combinations and luminosities (Run-1 to 17)



#### Cold Nuclear Matter effects Gluon saturation

- Gluons density increases with decreasing x
  - Gluon density should be finite
  - Gluons can interact with each other
- At a certain scale called saturation scale, Q<sub>s</sub>(x), gluon density may not increase any more





#### **Cold Nuclear Matter effects** Shadowing w/ pQCD

- In case of particle production at forward rapidity where parton's x inside the nucles is small, interactions with the partons inside the nucleus happen coherently.
  - Resumming the coherent multiple scattering is equivalent to a shift of the momentum fraction of the active parton from the nucleus  $\rightarrow$  Lead to a net suppression of

the cross section

 $P_c$ 

 $\frac{P_c}{Z_1}$ 

 $q^{\mu}$ 

 $x_p P_p$ 

(b)





### Cold Nuclear Matter effects Modification of nPDFs (Parameterization)



- Parameterization of nPDFs
  - Modification depends on x and  $Q^2$
  - The most recent nPDF set (EPPS16) starts to include LHC results
    Still large uncertainty particularly on gluon distribution
  - Can be used to pQCD calculation for pA collisions
  - Possible to be affected by some other CNM effects

#### Cold Nuclear Matter effects Initial-state energy loss & Breakup of Quarkonia

- Initial-state energy loss
  - Partons can loose their energy before hard scattering
- Breakup of Quarkonia states
  - Quarkonia can be broken by interacting with co-moving particles
  - Breakup cross section can be varied with binding energy



#### A hint of Quark-Gluon-Plasma

- Observed significant amount of  $v_2$  in various small collision systems
  - QGP in small systems?
  - Other origins of the anisotropy?



Phys. Lett. B 765 193 (2017)

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#### Experimental results in small systems

Heavy quark production in d+Au collisions



#### Heavy quark production in d+Au collisions



 nPDF only can not describe the rapiditydependent modification



Heavy quark production in d+Au collisions



- Fail to reproduce the data at both rapidity simultaneously w/ combinations of initialstate effects
  - modification of nPDF
  - initial k<sub>T</sub> broadening



#### Comparison with J/ $\psi$



- In 0-20% central d+Au collisions
  - $R_{dA}$  of HF muon and J/ $\psi$  are similar at forward rapidity
  - charm production is enhanced but
    J/ψ production is significantly
    suppressed at mid- and backward rapidity
  - Larger break-up in range of higher multiplicity (A-going)



#### System size dependence?



Clear A-dependence at forward rapidity
 Different shadowing/energy loss

#### System size dependence?



- Clear A-dependence at forward rapidity
  Different shadowing/energy loss
- A-dependence at backward rapidity as well
  Larger nuclear absorption effect in Au than AI (relevant at RHIC energy)

#### Charged hadrons in p+A



pQCD calculation: Phys. Lett. B 740, 23 (2015)

- In charged hadron production, very similar modification as the  $\phi$  results
  - Modification based on nPDF sets can describe the forward results but underestimate the enhancement at backward
- In p+AI collisions, a clear A-dependence only at backward (A-going direction)
  - pQCD calculation considering incoherent multiple scattering can describe the difference between p+Au and p+Al collsions

#### A-dependent modification



pQCD calculation: Phys. Lett. B 740, 23 (2015)

- At backward rapidity (A-going direction)
  - R<sub>pA</sub> in p+Au and p+Al follows the same trend of increasing with  $< N_{part} >$
  - Dominated by final-state effects (multiplicity)?
- At forward rapidity (p-going direction)
  - $R_{pA}$  in p+Au and p+Al show their own trend of decreasing with  $\langle N_{part} \rangle$
  - Dominated by initial-state effects (impact parameter)?



#### Comparison with heavy-flavor



Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 252301 (2014)

- Similar modification in charged hadrons and heavy-flavor muons (dominated by charm)
- Common nuclear effects for light and charm in small collision systems?

## CNM effects in A<sub>N</sub>?





Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 122001 (2019)

Clear A-dependence of A<sub>N</sub>
 → Related to A-dependent p<sub>T</sub> broadening?

 $A_N = \frac{\sigma_L}{\sigma_L}$ 

#### Heavy-flavor v<sub>2</sub> in small systems



 Non-zero v<sub>2</sub> of muons from heavy-flavor decays (mostly charm) at forward and backward in d+Au collisions

#### Heavy-flavor v<sub>2</sub> in small systems



- Non-zero v2 of muons from heavy-flavor decays (mostly charm) at forward and backward in d+Au collisions
- Similar results at the LHC
- These results can not be reproduced by models used for heavy-ion collisions

#### Can we turn off the flow?

#### **Charm and bottom v\_2 in p+p**

p<sub>T</sub> (ĠeV)



 $\rightarrow$  No theory/model for comparison yet

#### **Charm and bottom** $v_2$ in p+Pb



- Non prompt D0 v<sub>2</sub> in high multiplicity in p+Pb collisions Consistent with zero within uncertainties
- Clear difference between charm and bottom  $\rightarrow$  Similar with the results in p+p collisions

#### **Charm and bottom** v<sub>2</sub> in Pb+Pb



- Non-zero bottom muon v<sub>2</sub>
- Charm muon  $v_2$  is higher than bottom muon  $v_2$  in lower  $p_T$  region and becomes similar in higher  $p_T$  of 40-60% centrality interval
- DREENA-B considering energy loss inside medium can reproduce the magnitude of  $v_2$  both for charm and bottom muon
- DAB-MOD model including Langevin drag and diffusion underestimates charm muon  ${\rm v_2}$

#### Summary



# BACKUP