



Probes of nuclei in Ultra-Peripheral Collisions: selection of latest results

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Outline

- Introduction
- Vector meson photoproduction in UPCs
 - ρ^0 -meson photoproduction
 - J/ ψ photoproduction
- Dijet photoproduction in UPCs
 - Inclusive dijet photoproduction
 - Exclusive dijet photoproduction
- Summary

Physics of UPCs

- Nuclei "miss" each other (b > 2R)
- Electromagnetic interaction dominates over strong
- Photon flux grows with the square of the charge, Z²



Probes of nuclei in UPC

- UPCs at RHIC and LHC: the most energetic photon-nuclei interactions
- Low-x physics and search for the nonlinear parton dynamics (saturation regime)



Probes of nuclei in UPC: ρ^0 photoproduction



Probes of nuclei in UPC: ρ^0 in AuAu UPC

The t-distribution from coherent ρ⁰ photoproduction probes the distribution of interaction sites within the nucleus.
STAR Phys. Rev. C 96 054904



The Fourier transform of do/dt gives the distribution of interaction sites within the nucleus



Two diffractive minima observed in the t-distribution.

Nuclei act as a black disk.

See talk by Spencer Klein at DIS 2021 for more details.

Probes of nuclei in UPC: ρ0 in pPb UPC CMS Eur. Phys. J. C 79 (2019) 702



Probes of nuclei in UPC: J/ ψ vector meson

• Photoproduction process is sensitive to the gluon density Pb squared in the nucleon (nucleus) at LO

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\gamma p,A \rightarrow V p,A}}{dt}\Big|_{t=0} = \frac{\alpha_s^2 \Gamma_{ee}}{3\alpha M_V^5} 16\pi^3 [xG(x,Q^2)]^2$$

$$\sigma_{\gamma p \to VMp} = \frac{1}{b} \frac{d\sigma_{\gamma p, A \to VM \, p, A}}{dt}|_{t=0}$$



• Probe gluon distributions in the nuclei at low-x

 $x = (M_{\rm VM}/W_{\gamma Pb})^2$

• Energy of the collision

$$(\mathbf{W}_{\gamma Pb})^2 = 2 \cdot \mathbf{E}_{Pb} \cdot \mathbf{M}_{VM} \cdot \exp(-\mathbf{y})$$

 E_{Pb} – ion beam energy

 $M_{\rm VM}$ – mass of the Vector meson

y – rapidity of the vector meson

Probes of nuclei in UPC: J/ ψ in PbPb UPC

• The cross-section of coherent J/ψ photoproduction as a function of rapidity or |t| probe the nuclear shadowing and saturation effects.

ALICE *arXiv:2101.04577*



New challenges for the theoretical models



Future prospects (Run3 data at LHC)

https://arxiv.org/pdf/1812.06772.pdf



Dijet photoproduction

Going beyond single particle production makes it possible to obtain even more detailed information about the nuclear structure.

Probes of nuclei in UPC (inclusive dijet production)





ATLAS-CONF-2017-011

Inclusive dijet production gives new input into nPDFs 1

Probes of nuclei in UPC (inclusive dijet production)

• NLO pQCD vs. ATLAS data as a function of the dijet transverse momentum $H_T=E_T^{jet1}+E_T^{jet2}$ and nuclear momentum fraction $x_A=(m_{jets}/\sqrt{s_{NN}})e^{-yjets}$



• Shape and normalization of the ATLAS data are reproduced well. Note that the data is preliminary and has not been corrected for detector response.

Just one step from extraction nPDFs

Probes of nuclei in UPC (exclusive dijet production)

Exclusive dijet photoproduction is the only process directly sensitive to the Wigner gluon distribution. e.g., Y. Hatta, B.-W. Xiao, and F. Yuan, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 116, 202301 (2016)



Elliptic gluons: predicted non-trivial angular correlations of the gluon Wigner distributions. Depend on impact parameter and gluon transverse momentum.

The magnitude of the spatial momentum anisotropy is measured by the second Fourier harmonic of the azimuthal distribution $v_2 = \langle \cos(2\phi) \rangle$,

where φ is the angle between P_T and Q_T : $\cos(\phi)$

$$\cos(\phi) = \vec{Q}_T \cdot \vec{P}_T / (|| \vec{Q}_T || \cdot || \vec{P}_T ||)$$



Effect of decorrelation in data: Peaks at 0 and π are much less pronounced than in RAPGAP MC prediction.

 $<\cos(2\varphi)>$ reaches a constant value ~0.4 at $Q_T > 5$ GeV

Exclusive dijets in UPC PbPb @5 TeV (CMS-PAS-HIN-18-011)



Recent theoretical calculations by *Y. Hatta et al. arXiv:2010.10774 [hep-ph]*



 $<\cos(2\varphi)>$ reaches a constant value at $Q_T > 5$ GeV both in data and theory. Lower value is expected in data after unfolding.

Summary

- Ultra-peripheral collisions are the energy frontier for electromagnetic probes of the nuclei.
- Vector meson photoproduction
 - Light vector meson photoproduction has been used to observe diffraction patterns from gold nuclei.
 - Determine the hadronic size and shape of the gold nucleus.
 - Lead-target data demonstrates moderate shadowing, consistent with leading order twist or saturation models.
- UPC Dijets in PbPb at 5 TeV
 - Inclusive dijet production gives new input into nPDFs
 - Measurement of exclusive dijets is the first (and essential) step to extract the gluon Wigner/Husimi gluon distributions.

Thank you for your attention!

Probes of nuclei in UPC: $\rho 0$ in pPb UPC

• The t-distribution measured as a function of $W_{\gamma p}$ allows to extract the Pomeron trajectory. **CMS** *Eur. Phys. J. C* 79 (2019) 702



Pomeron trajectory extracted using the CMS data only:

$$\alpha' = 0.28 \pm 0.11 \, (\text{stat}) \pm 0.12 \, (\text{syst})$$

Consistent with the ZEUS value $(0.23 \pm 0.15(stat.) \pm 0.10(syst.))$ and Regge expectations.