

Recent heavy-flavour results from ATLAS

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Abstract. The ATLAS heavy-ion program utilizes heavy-flavour hadrons to probe the hot, dense matter formed at the LHC. Quarkonium measurements have been performed in pp , p +Pb and Pb+Pb systems to study medium effects. The Pb+Pb results show a strong suppression of charmonium productions in more central events. Proton-lead interactions show little modification of the 1S charmonium state, but seem to indicate a centrality dependence of the 2S state. Upsilon's have been studied in p +Pb and are found to show decreasing behaviour in more central collisions. Inclusive muons with p_T above 4 GeV have been studied to provide insight on open-flavour production, and are found to be strongly suppressed in Pb+Pb collisions with a substantial and significant elliptic flow signal. Muon-hadron correlations have also been studied in the 2016 $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16$ TeV p +Pb data. There are clear indications of a near-side ridge, suggesting that similar mechanisms may be relevant for both the small and large systems.

1 Introduction

Measurements of quarkonium production and the azimuthal anisotropy of hadron production in p +Pb and Pb+Pb collisions provide opportunities to understand the cold nuclear matter (CNM) effects and the properties of hot and dense medium, quark gluon plasma (QGP), created in heavy-ion collisions. This paper presents a few measurements of this kind carried out using datasets collected by the ATLAS detector [1] from 2013 to 2016 in pp , p +Pb and Pb+Pb collisions at the LHC. In this paper, the following topics are discussed: 1) the measurement of nuclear modification factor of quarkonium production in p +Pb and Pb+Pb collisions [2, 3]; 2) the measurement of azimuthal anisotropy of charged particles and muons [4]. Among CNM effects, modification of nPDFs, nuclear absorption, induced medium energy loss and gluon saturation can be quantified by the nuclear modification factor, the ratio of quarkonium production cross sections in A+A relative to the cross sections measured in pp collisions at the same centre-of-mass energy. For excited quarkonium states, double ratio (the ratio of the nuclear modification factor in excited quarkonium states to the nuclear modification factor in the ground state) often to be used to quantify the CNM effects. The azimuthal anisotropy in particle $dN/d\phi$ distributions, usually described by a Fourier coefficient with n^{th} order harmonic $\langle \cos[n(\phi - \Psi_n)] \rangle$, v_n , where ϕ is the azimuthal angle of the particle momentum, and Ψ_n is the experimental event plane angle of n^{th} order. These measurements can provide valuable constraints on QGP transport property.

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2 Nuclear modification factor

It is well-known that J/ψ and $\psi(2S)$ can be produced from short-lived QCD decays including feed-down from other charmonium states (prompt) and produced in the decays of long lived b -hadrons (non-prompt). In this paper the measurements of prompt and non-prompt J/ψ , $\psi(2S)$ and Υ production are presented. Measurement of J/ψ , $\psi(2S)$ and $\Upsilon(nS)$ production using 28 nb^{-1} of $p+\text{Pb}$ data at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$ and 25 pb^{-1} of pp data at centre-of-mass energy of $\sqrt{s} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$ [2]. Measurement of J/ψ and $\psi(2S)$ productions in 0.42 nb^{-1} of $\text{Pb}+\text{Pb}$ data at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$ and 25 pb^{-1} of pp data at centre-of-mass energy of $\sqrt{s} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$ are also presented [3]. The nuclear modification factor:

$$R_{AA} = \frac{N_{AA}}{\langle T_{AA} \rangle \times \sigma^{pp}} \quad (1)$$

$$R_{p\text{Pb}} = \frac{N_{p\text{Pb}}}{\langle T_{p\text{Pb}} \rangle \times \sigma^{pp}} \quad (2)$$

where N_{AA} ($N_{p\text{Pb}}$) is the per event yield of quarkonium states measured in $A+A$ ($p+\text{Pb}$) collisions, $\langle T_{AA} \rangle$ ($\langle T_{p\text{Pb}} \rangle$) is the mean nuclear thickness function and σ^{pp} is the cross section for the corresponding quarkonium states in pp collisions at the same energy. Figure 1 and Figure 2 show the modification factor for J/ψ . In $p+\text{Pb}$ collisions, no obvious p_T and y^* (centre-of-mass rapidity) dependence is observed. In $\text{Pb}+\text{Pb}$ results, for prompt J/ψ , there is a trend of slight increase in R_{AA} with increasing p_T . For non-prompt J/ψ , R_{AA} is almost a constant as a function of p_T within the uncertainties. Both prompt and non-prompt J/ψ R_{AA} are essentially flat as a function of rapidity. J/ψ production is most strongly suppressed in central collisions.

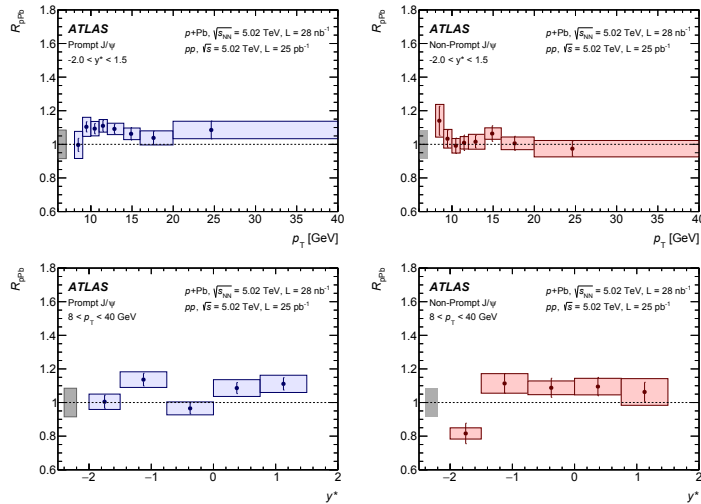


Figure 1. The nuclear modification factor, $R_{p\text{Pb}}$, as a function of p_T (top) and y^* (bottom) for the production of prompt J/ψ , non-prompt J/ψ . The vertical error bars correspond to the statistical uncertainties [2].

In Figure 3, the $\Upsilon(nS)$ ($n = 2, 3$) to $\Upsilon(1S)$ double ratio provides information on the difference of the CNM effects on states with different binding energies. Both the integrated double ratio are found to be less than unity by two standard deviations. For the double ratio as a function of centrality, both

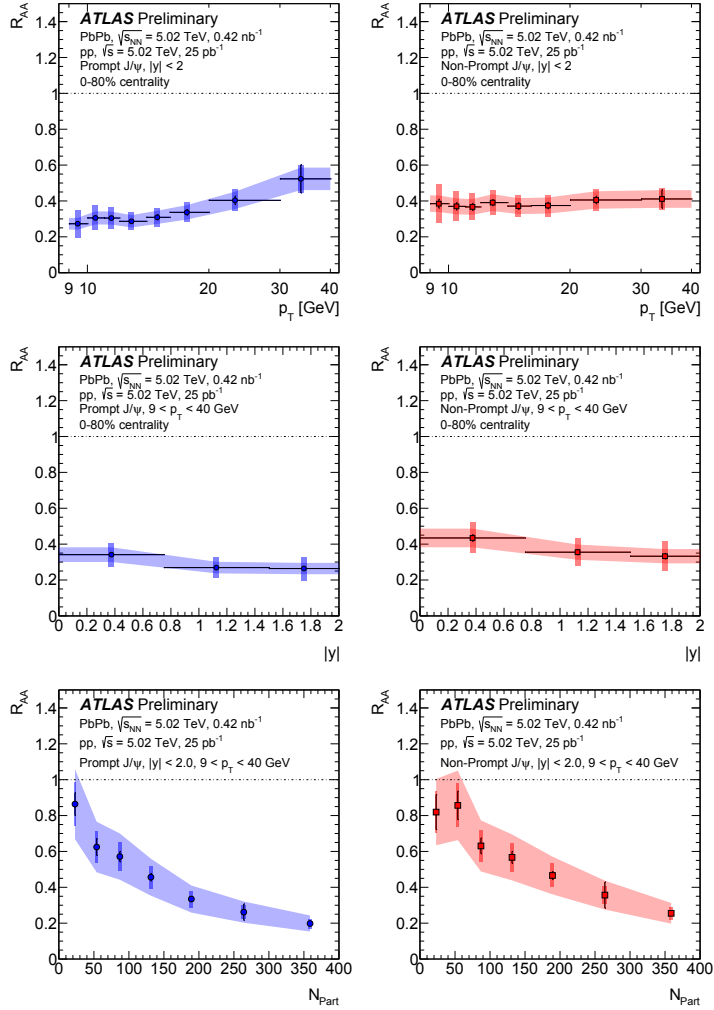


Figure 2. The nuclear modification factor as a function of p_T (top), rapidity y (middle) and centrality (bottom) for the prompt J/ψ (left) and non-prompt J/ψ (right). The statistical uncertainty on each point is indicated by a narrow error bar which is smaller than the plotting symbol for most points. The wide error bar plotted with each point represents the point-to-point systematic uncertainty, while the error band connecting the points represents correlated scale uncertainties [3].

are found to decrease slightly with increasing centrality at the significance level of one-standard-deviation. The suppression of double ratio for prompt $\psi(2S)$ and J/ψ indicates the more tightly bound quarkonium system, the J/ψ , survives the temperature of the hot dense medium with a higher probability than the more loosely bound quarkonium, the $\psi(2S)$. Non-prompt mesons are always formed outside the medium, thus, the double ratio is expected to be unity, as is observed.

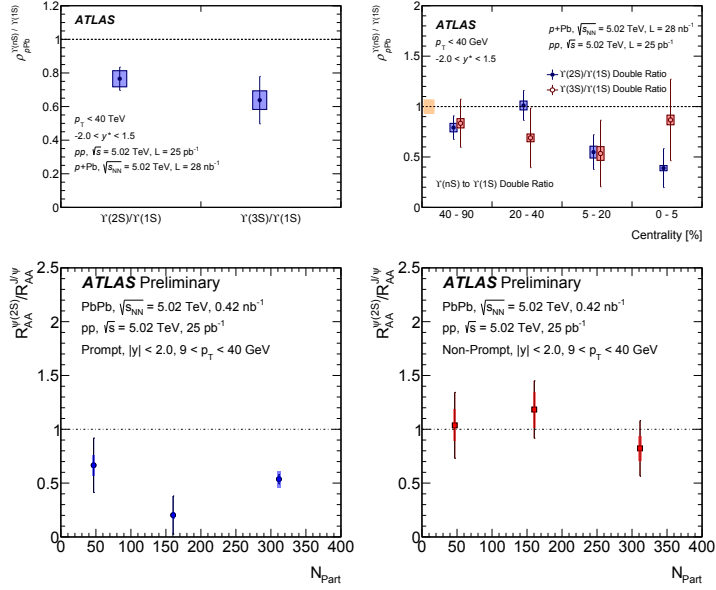


Figure 3. Top: The $\Upsilon(nS)$ ($n = 2, 3$) to $\Upsilon(1S)$ double ratio, integrated in the whole measured p_T and y^* range (left). The $\Upsilon(nS)$ ($n = 2, 3$) to $\Upsilon(1S)$ double ratio, as a function of event centrality in p +Pb collisions [2]. Bottom: double ratio for $\psi(2S)$ to J/ψ , as a function of centrality expressed as N_{Part} , for prompt meson production (left) and non-prompt meson production (right). This ratio has the advantage that corrections are similar for the numerator and denominator, and thus systematic uncertainties are reduced. The narrow error bar represents the statistical uncertainties while the wider error bar represents the total systematic uncertainty [3].

3 Azimuthal anisotropy

For a given event class, the two particle correlation function is defined as [4]:

$$C(\Delta\eta, \Delta\phi) = \frac{S(\Delta\eta, \Delta\phi)}{B(\Delta\eta, \Delta\phi)} \quad (3)$$

where $\Delta\phi \equiv \phi^a - \phi^b$ is the relative azimuthal angle, $\Delta\eta \equiv \eta^a - \eta^b$ is the relative pseudorapidity. S and B represent pair distributions constructed from the same event and from mixed event. One-dimensional correlation function $C(\Delta\phi)$ is obtained by integrating Eq. (3). Figure 4 shows the two-particle h - μ correlation functions in 8.16 TeV p +Pb collisions. A significant contribution to the two-particle correlations arise from back to back dijets is observed. In order to estimate the contribution of such dijets and other process, a template fit $C^{\text{templ}}(\Delta\phi)$ is used:

$$C^{\text{templ}}(\Delta\phi) = FC^{\text{periph}}(\Delta\phi) + C^{\text{ridge}}(\Delta\phi) \quad (4)$$

$$C^{\text{ridge}}(\Delta\phi) = G \left(1 + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} 2v_{n,n} \cos(n\Delta\phi) \right) \quad (5)$$

where F is the scale factor, $C^{\text{periph}}(\Delta\phi)$ is the correlation measured in low multiplicity or "peripheral" events, $C^{\text{ridge}}(\Delta\phi)$ is the genuine long-range harmonic modulation. In Eq. (5), G represents the mag-

nitude of the combinatoric component of $C^{\text{ridge}}(\Delta\phi)$. The harmonics $v_{n,n}$ quantify the strength of the genuine long-range correlation. The single-particle anisotropies v_n can be obtained from $v_{n,n}$:

$$v_{n,n}(p_T^a, p_T^b) = v_n(p_T^a)v_n(p_T^b) \quad (6)$$

where a and b are two particles in the long-range correlations.

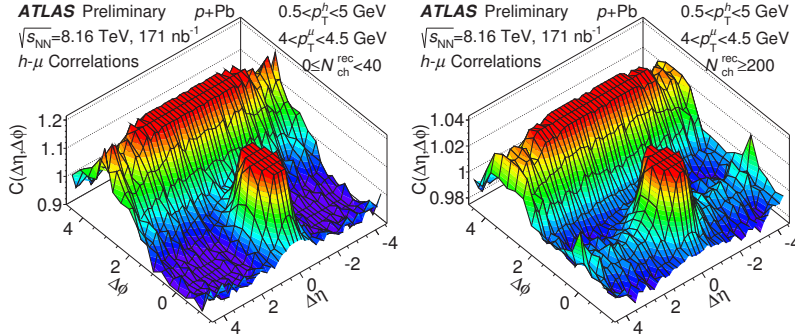


Figure 4. Two-particle h- μ correlation functions in $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8.16$ TeV p +Pb collisions [4].

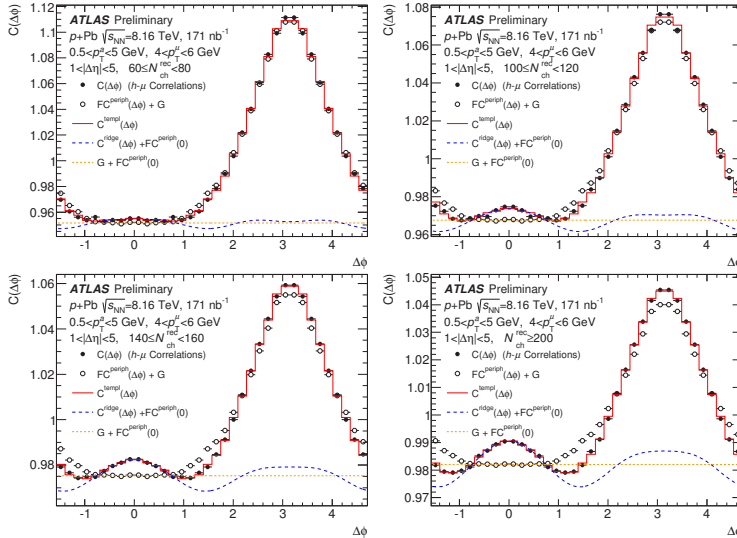


Figure 5. Template fits to h- μ correlations for $|\Delta\eta| > 1$. Each panel corresponds to a different multiplicity interval [4].

Figure 5 shows template fits to h- μ correlations for $|\Delta\eta| > 1$. Each panel corresponds to a different multiplicity interval. The template fitting includes second-order, third-order and fourth-order harmonics. Measurements of heavy flavour muons in Pb+Pb and pp collisions show an elliptic anisotropy [5].

Such correlations were understood to be the result of azimuthal anisotropies of the single-particle distributions. In p +Pb analyses of long-range correlations, the event activity is quantified by $N_{\text{ch}}^{\text{rec}}$: the total number of reconstructed charged-particle tracks passing the track selections [4]. In Figure 6, the measured v_2 for charged particles increases with $N_{\text{ch}}^{\text{rec}}$ at low $N_{\text{ch}}^{\text{rec}}$ and eventually saturates for $N_{\text{ch}}^{\text{rec}} > 150$. However even at the lowest measured multiplicity, a large v_2 is observed. Over the p_T range shown, the measured v_2 for muons are consistent with having no $N_{\text{ch}}^{\text{rec}}$ dependence.

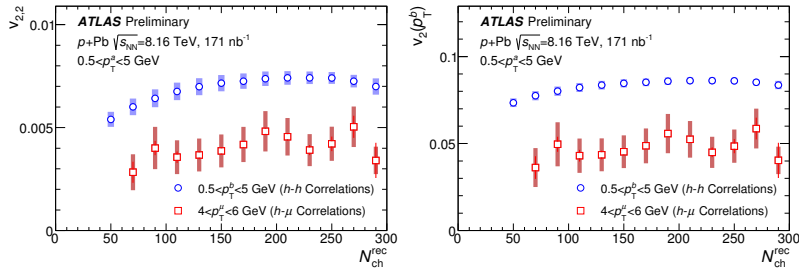


Figure 6. The $v_{2,2}$ to h-h correlations (circles), h- μ correlations (squares) and the corresponding v_2 values for the associated particle [4].

4 Conclusion

ATLAS has measured the production of quarkonia and heavy flavour muons in p +Pb and Pb+Pb systems. For quarkonium production, stronger suppression in more central Pb+Pb collisions is observed. Proton-lead interactions show little modification of the ground charmonium state. Upsilon's also have been studied in p +Pb and are found to show decreasing behaviour in more central collisions. Significant azimuthal flow modulation of heavy flavour muon is observed via heavy flavour muon-hadron correlation. These results can provide insight into nuclear parton distributions, allow quantitative studies of heavy quarkonium production, and also provide the opportunity to improve our understanding of the propagation of heavy quarks in the QGP.

References

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- [3] ATLAS Collaboration, ATLAS-CONF-2016-109 (2016), <https://cds.cern.ch/record/2220771>
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