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Open and Hidden Charm Production in 920 GeV Proton-Nucleus Collisions

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Outline of the Talk



HERA-B detector and trigger systems

- Charmonium production
- Open charm production
- Summary



Detector & Trigger





The Dilepton Trigger



5 MHz

3 MHz

20 kHz

100 Hz

HERA-B detector: data is read out and buffered for 10 μ s (proton bunches cross every 96 ns, 0.5 interactions/BX)

Pretriggers: ECAL cluster or hit coincidence in muon detector as trigger seed (custom hardware)

First Level Trigger (FLT): Track trigger in hardware using tracking detectors behind magnet, seeding by pretriggers

Second Level Trigger (SLT): FLT tracking confirmed, extrapolation to vertex detector, vertex fit (PC farm)



Data Sample 2002/2003



- Data-taking period: October 2002–February 2003
- **Dilepton trigger: require \geq 2 electrons or muons**
 - Trigger performance: >1,000 J/ ψ per hour
 - Sample for charmonium studies:
 - 300,000 J/ψ
 - 10,000 χ_c
 - 3,500 ψ(2S)
 - Study of beauty production \rightarrow see talk by H. Wahlberg, B3.8
- Minimum bias trigger: minimum activity in RICH/ECAL
 - 200 million events recorded
 - Strangeness and hyperon production
 - Pentaquark searches \rightarrow see talk by A. Sbrizzi, ST.3
 - Open charm production



Dilepton Spectrum: Muon Channel







Dilepton Spectrum: Muon Channel









Charmonium Production

J/ψ Production Cross Section



■ $J/\psi \rightarrow e^+e^-/\mu^+\mu^-$ signals observed in minimum bias data



Determination of J/ψ **cross section without trigger bias**

$$\sigma_0^{J/\psi} = \frac{N_{J/\psi}}{\mathsf{BR}(J/\psi \to \ell^+ \ell^-) \cdot \sum_i \varepsilon_i A_i^{\alpha} L_i}$$

(systematic effects currently under study)







J/ψ *A***-Dependence**



- Test of charmonium production models in nuclear matter (nonrelativistic QCD + initial/final state interactions in nucleus)
- Parametrization: $\sigma_{pA} = \sigma_{pN} \cdot A^{\alpha}$, where $\sigma = N/\varepsilon L$
 - α < 1: charmonium suppression by nuclear effects
 - HERA-B: extract α from runs with two target wires simultaneously (carbon: *A*=12, tungsten: *A*=184)

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{\log(A_{\rm W} / A_{\rm C})} \log\left(\frac{N_{\rm W}}{N_{\rm C}} \cdot \frac{L_{\rm C}}{L_{\rm W}} \cdot \frac{\varepsilon_{\rm C}}{\varepsilon_{\rm W}}\right)$$

• 3 ingredients of A-dependence measurement:

I. Ratio of J/ ψ yields: fits to invariant mass spectra

II. Ratio of luminosities: intercalibration of target wires

III. Ratio of efficiencies: detailed detector/trigger simulation



- Previous result of FNAL E866 extended to $x_F = -0.3$
- Result from 10% of full μ⁺μ⁻ sample, statistical uncertainties only
- Two different combinations of carbon and tungsten wires (different acceptances): consistent results
- Work on systematics ongoing



ψ(2S) Production





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- Measure ψ(2S) cross section relative to J/ψ
 - → reduce systematic uncertainties

•
$$\varepsilon_{J/\psi}/\varepsilon_{\psi(2S)}=0.72$$
 (MC)

Preliminary result (electrons, 30% of full statistics):

 $R = 0.13 \pm 0.02$ (stat.)

Muon channel: compatible results

 10^{2}

Target Atomic Mass [u]





χ_c Production



• Test of charmonium production models: fraction $R(\chi_c)$ of J/ ψ from radiative decays $\chi_c \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \gamma$

$$R(\chi_{c}) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{2} \sigma_{\chi_{c,i}} \cdot \mathsf{BR}(\chi_{c,i} \to \mathsf{J}/\psi)}{\sigma_{\mathsf{J}/\psi}} = \frac{N_{\chi_{c}}}{N_{\mathsf{J}/\psi}} \cdot \frac{\varepsilon_{\mathsf{J}/\psi}}{\varepsilon_{\chi_{c}}\varepsilon_{\gamma}}$$



Published result of 2000 data-taking (370±74 χ_c):

R(χ_c)=0.32 ±0.06(stat.)±0.04(syst.)

I. Abt et al., Phys. Lett. B561 (2003) 61



R(χ_c): Analysis in 2002/2003



Signal found in mass difference $M(J/\psi \gamma) - M(J/\psi)$



 \rightarrow compatible with 2000 results, systematic studies ongoing



Open Charm Production







Open Charm Production



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New Limit on BR($D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$)





- Search for flavor-changing neutral current decay D⁰→µ⁺µ⁻
 (branching fraction enhanced in some SUSY models)
- 3 events in signal region:

BR(D⁰→μ⁺μ⁻) < 2.0×10⁻⁶ (90% CL)

Currently best upper limit I. Abt *et al.,* hep-ex/0405059, to be published in Phys. Lett. **B**

 Previous limit by CDF: BR(D⁰→µ⁺µ⁻) < 2.5×10⁻⁶ (90% CL)
 D. Acosta *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D68 (2003) 091101

Summary & Outlook



- HERA-B has finished data-taking
- Analysis of 2002/2003 data in progress
- Charmonium production:
 - Production cross sections and differential distributions
 - A-dependence of J/ ψ production: HERA-B covers $x_F < 0$
 - Production ratios: $\psi(2S)$ to J/ ψ , fraction of J/ ψ from χ_c
- Open charm production:
 - D meson production cross sections and ratios: D⁰, D[±], D^{*±}
 - − New limit for FCNC decay: $D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$
- Outlook:
 - First results of 2002/2003 run to be published soon
 - Stay tuned more interesting results to come

Thanks to: HERA-B charmonium & open charm working groups