

NFN

The LHCf experiment

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Very-high-energy cosmic ray spectrum



cm energy at LHC (7+7TeV) <=> 10^17eV CR (fixed target) >10^15eV: detected with *air-showers*, but many unknowns

Physics motivation of LHCf

The air-shower development of ultra-high-energy cosmic-ray should be understood by the high-energy particle physics



How forward?

Multiplicity and energy flux at LHC 14TeV collisionspseudo-rapidity; $\eta = -\ln(\tan(\theta/2))$ MultiplicityEnergy Flux



The LHCf Collaboration

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LHCf location







neutral particles, such as γ , π^0 , n, with $\eta > 8.4$ enter into the detector slot

LHCf detectors

Sampling and imaging EM calorimeter

- Absorber: W (44 r.l, 1.55λ)
- Energy measurement: plastic scintillator tiles
- 4 tracking layers for imaging: XY-SciFi (Arm1) and XY-Silicon strip(Arm2)
- Each detector has two calorimeter towers, which allow to reconstruct π^0

Front Counters

- thin scintillators 80x80 mm
- monitors beam condition
- Van der Meer scan





25mm

Performances

- Energy resolution (> 100 GeV): < 3% for 1 TeV γ & ~ 30% for n
- Position resolution for photons: ~150 µm (Arm1) & ~40 µm (Arm2)



Operations & status

Period	Туре	Beam energy	LAB proton Energy (eV)	Detector
2009/2010	p - p	450+450 GeV	4.3 10 ¹⁴	Arm1+Arm2
2010	p - p	3.5+3.5 TeV	2.6 10 ¹⁶	Arm1+Arm2
now	detectors were detached from the tunnel			
Nov 2012	p - Pb	3.5 (4.0) TeV proton E	10 ¹⁶	Arm2
2014-2015	p - p	6.5+6.5 TeV	9.0 10 ¹⁶	Arm1+Arm2 upgraded

Results: 900 GeV photons



Submitted to PLB

- two pseudo-rapidity ranges: $\eta > 10.15 \& 8.77 < \eta < 9.46$
- Integral luminosity ~ 0.3nb⁻¹, and its uncertainty is 21%
- Efficiency and purity in PID are corrected in each bin.

Independent analyses show a good agreement within their syst. errors





- None of the models perfectly describe the data,
- EPOS and SIBYLL show a reasonable agreement with the LHCf data.
- *Quite similar tendency to the 7 TeV results.*



- None of the models nicely describe the LHCf data in the whole energy range (100 GeV 3.5 TeV).
- A big discrepancy in the high energy region

Comparison btw 900 GeV & 7 TeV

- Only Arm1, the same p_T region selected $\phi=5$ mm circle for 7 TeV, while 39mm for 900 GeV
- Spectral shape is common. **Small** $<\mathbf{p_T}>$ **dependence on** $\mathbf{E_{cm}} \frac{1}{\sigma_{\text{inel}}} \frac{d\sigma_{\gamma}}{dX_{\text{F}}} \Big|_{\eta < \text{limited}} \propto \frac{1}{\sigma_{\text{inel}}} \frac{d\sigma_{\gamma}}{p_{\text{T}} dp_{\text{T}} dX_{\text{F}}} \langle p_{\text{T}} \rangle dp_{\text{T}}$



Results: neutral pions





- Type-I only. p_T range: 0~0.6 GeV, limited by detector configuration
 - 6 rapidity bins (8.9 11.0)
 - BG estimation w/ rec. mass
- Unfolding for detector response
 Submitted (arXiv:1205.4578)

Combined spectra vs. MCs arXiv:1205.4578



LHCf data are mostly bracketed among hadronic interaction models

MCs / Data

arXiv:1205.4578



EPOS shows the best agreement in the p_T distribution

Averaged p_T comparison

arXiv:1205.4578



- Estimate <p_T> for the 6 rapidity regions to compare with the UA7
- Roughly, the data by the 2 experiments lie on a common curve => Small <p_T> dependence
- EPOS is consistent with the data, also for UA7

Indication for QCD: small $\langle p_T \rangle$ dependence on E_{cm} (γ : LHCf 900 GeV - 7 TeV, π^0 : UA7 630 GeV - LHCf 7 TeV) EPOS1.99 describes the dependence well.



DAQ at pA runs in Nov. 2012

LOI: CERN-LHCC-2011-015 / LHCC-I-021

- Hadron model discrimination with a CR point of view, by photons, neutral pions & neutrons
- Nuclear modification factor, etc.

⇒MC study: Multiplicity should be checked (p energy = 3.5 TeV, 10^7 collisions, DPMJET3 & EPOS1.99)



• First p-remnant side, then Pb-side by swapped beam



- γ: 10⁷ collisions (<14hrs) is enough
- n: introduced $\Delta E=35\%$ is dominant, but still has a certain power for the model discrimination 20

γ invariant cross section: p-remnant side



- Smooth enough with the same stat
- If the γ spectrum in 4.4 TeV pp collisions is measured (or estimated), we can derive the nuclear modification factor for η >8.4
- A big suppression reported for η=4
 cf.) NMF by STAR@RHIC (PRL97, 152302, 2006)





Better energy reconstruction with upgraded scintillators & Si detectors

Summary

- LHCf: experiment for measurement of very forward neutral particles (γ , π^{o} ,n), for the cosmic-ray physics
- Analyses show:
 - Smooth curves = a good detector performance
 - Small $< p_T >$ dependence on E_{cm} both for $\gamma \& \pi^o$
 - EPOS shows the best agreement among models
 The above are consistent with the past data
- We will be back to LHC for:
 - the coming pA runs in this year with Arm2 detector
 - the 14 TeV pp runs in 2014 with the upgraded detectors

backup

Recent input from LHC data



Inelastic cross section

Charged hadron multiplicity

Missing part: spectra of forward neutral particles

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- Protons with energy $E_p = 3.5$ TeV, and Pb with $E_N = \frac{Z}{A}E_p = 1.38$ TeV/nucleon $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 4.4$ TeV
- Detector responses are not introduced, but the geometrical config. and a realistic E-smearing of Arm2 are considered
- 10⁷ collisions (~ 2*10⁵ photon events in total)

<about hadronic models>

- Results are shown for DPMJET 3.0-5 and EPOS 1.99
- EPOS 1.99 does not consider Fermi motion and Nuclear Fragmentation. Be careful for the Pb-remnant side results
- QGSJET2 can be used for p-Pb collisions. Works in progress.
- Public version of other models (Sybill, HIJING, Pythia etc.) cannot be used for p-Pb collisions

multiplicity: p-remnant side



multi-hit events are <~1% of single events

multiplicity: Pb-remnant side small tower



• Arm2, which has the finer Si μ -strip detectors

• First p-remnant side, then Pb-side by swapped beam (no strong need to install both of the two detectors) 28

Neutral pions



Expected spectra: Pb-remnant side small tower large tower



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Plans for DAQ

- 1. Only Arm2 will be installed in a short TS in Oct Radiation, transportation, cabling, etc. are all ok.
- 2. DAQ first in p-remnant side, then in Pb side Arm2 was installed in this side in 2010. No big change.
- 3. Required min. # events: 10⁸ collisions (2*10⁶γ) Beam parameters : #bunch=590, Luminosity<10²⁸cm⁻²s⁻¹, σ=2b (pile-up is negligible for the max. luminosity) Assuming that the luminosity is only 10²⁶cm⁻²s⁻¹, the min. running time for physics is 140 hours (6 days)

Presented in LPCC (10/2011), then approved in LHCC (12/2011 & 03/2012) *We will be back in this autumn!*

pPb is still useful for CR

- γ spectrum (p-remnant) in different η intervals at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7$ TeV
- Comparison of p-p / p-N / p-Pb
- Enhancement of suppression for heavier nuclei case



Courtesy of S. Ostapchenko

Discussions ~physics with ATLAS?~

- In hardware level a common trigger with ATLAS is hard to be implemented in this pA run.
- An ATLAS event ID is recorded in our data. Event reconstruction with ATLAS can be done in offline.
- Thus, the point is the # fraction of common events, i.e., the trigger efficiencies of each experiments. If the beam luminosity is not high, they would be similar.
- Which detector of ATLAS? It would be relatively easy to combine the ZDC data with our data, compared with data of the central detectors.
- Max. trigger rate?