# Reconstruction of neutral mesons and discussion of the electron purity

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# Outline

- Neutral mesons:  $\pi^0$  and  $\eta$  reconstruction vs. centrality, MC closure tests
- Electron purity and dielectrons, future plans

#### **Neutral mesons**

# Previously ...

• 4M events, UrQMD. Minbias AuAu@11, realistic vertex distribution, first centralized prod-n



- Last time:
  - ✓ presented MC closure test results for  $\pi^0$  in minbias AuAu@11, 4M events
  - $\checkmark$  fully corrected reconstructed spectrum matches the generated one within uncertainties
  - $\checkmark$  observed systematic effects at low momentum related to peak shape uncertainties
  - ✓ observed peaks for  $\eta$  with ~ 15M minbias AuAu@11
- Today:
  - ✓ higher statistics, minbias AuAu@11, ~ 15M events
  - $\checkmark$  centrality dependence +  $\eta$  in minbias collisions
  - ✓ tighter cuts to minimize systematic effects

# $\pi^0$ reconstruction, optimal cuts

- Cuts optimized for better  $\pi^0$  and  $\eta$  significance :
  - ✓ Events: UrQMD, |z-vertex| < 50 cm
  - ✓ Photons:  $E_{core2\%}$  > 0 GeV,  $T_{reduced}$  < 2 ns, charged track veto, Chi2/NDF < 4.0
  - ✓ Pairs: , |en1-en2|/(en1+en2) < 0.75, |y| < 0.5



- Efficiency for  $\pi^0$  is > 10%, increasing with  $p_T$
- Signal is measurable starting from  $\sim 50$  MeV/c,  $\sim$  the whole production spectrum is sampled
- Maximum raw yield of  $\pi^0$  is expected at ~ 300 MeV/c
- The cuts provide Gaussian-like shapes of the reconstructed peaks on top of the correlated background, deviations are still present

# $\pi^0$ mass and width vs. centrality

• Same cuts and selections for all centralities



- Reconstructed mass increases with multiplicity and p<sub>T</sub>:
  - $\checkmark$  shower merging at high multiplicity
  - $\checkmark$  energy leakage and non-linearity
- Reconstructed width increases with multiplicity and decreases with  $p_T$ :
- ✓ energy resolution is multiplicity dependent
- $\checkmark\,$  energy resolution improves with increasing energy

# $\pi^0$ reconstruction efficiency vs. centrality

• Same cuts and selections for all centralities



- Reconstruction efficiency shows strong multiplicity dependence:
  - ✓ multiplicity dependence of false track matching (false veto)
  - $\checkmark$  larger fraction of merged clusters with non-EM shower shapes at high multiplicity

# $\pi^0$ in minbias AuAu@11: MC closure test



- Statistical fluctuations are much reduced with higher statistics (15M events vs. 4M events)
- Reconstructed spectrum matches the generated one within uncertainties
- Reliable raw yield extraction starts at  $p_T > 50 \text{ MeV/c}$
- Signal is present at lower  $p_T < 50$  MeV/c but the signal shape is not trivial
- Small systematic effects at low momentum remain

# $\pi^0$ in 0-20% AuAu@11: MC closure test



- Reconstructed spectrum matches the generated one within uncertainties
- Reliable raw yield extraction starts at  $p_T > 50 \text{ MeV/c}$
- Signal is barely seen at lower  $p_T < 50 \text{ MeV/c}$
- Systematic effects at low momentum are smeared by statistical uncertainties

# $\pi^0$ in 60-90% AuAu@11: MC closure test



- Reconstructed spectrum matches the generated one within uncertainties
- Reliable raw yield extraction starts at  $p_T > 50 \text{ MeV/c}$
- Systematic effects are minimal

# η reconstruction in minbias AuAu@11



- Efficiency is higher compared to  $\pi^0$  due to higher decay photon energies
- Produced at much lower rate compared to  $\pi^0$  at low  $p_T < 2-3$  GeV/c,  $\eta/\pi \sim 0.5$  at  $p_T >> 1$
- $\eta \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$  results in a much wider peak (~40 MeV/c vs. ~10 MeV/c for  $\pi^0$ )  $\rightarrow$  need much larger statistics for observation of the signal
- Signal is observed with 15M sampled AuAu@11 events
- Multiplicity dependent study needs higher statistics (embedded simulations)

# η in minbias AuAu@11: MC closure test



- Coarse p<sub>T</sub> binning and large statistical uncertainties
- Reconstructed spectrum matches the generated one within uncertainties
- Possible systematic effects are smeared by statistical fluctuations

# **Status & conclusions**

- Neutral pions can be reliably reconstructed at  $p_T > 50 \text{ MeV/c}$ with  $> 10^7$  sampled AuAu@11 events (given the full acceptance)
- Some issues with  $\pi^0$  signal shape at low  $p_T$  remain  $\rightarrow$  focus is on low  $p_T$  signal reconstruction, look at alternative  $\gamma$ -ID and cut selections
- Centrality dependent studies for  $\eta$  require embedded simulations
- Consistency of simulated ECAL parameters with the beam test results is the remaining task

# (Di)electrons

## Particle identification, TOF: MPD





- Observed non-physical tail (β > 1) in the TOF: much more prominent in high multiplicity events (b < 1 fm); the tail is almost absent in peripheral collisions (b > 12 fm)
- Ascribed the effect to track mismatching in the TOF

#### Particle identification, TOF: STAR PHYSICAL REVIEW C 92, 024912 (2015)



• Similar non-physical effect of  $1/\beta < 1$  is observed in the TOF

- Same centrality dependence as in the MPD: the tail is prominent in central collisions; the tail goes away in peripheral collisions
- Similar conclusions on the source of the tail:

with increasing multiplicity the fake association fraction increases substantially. These random associations were further confirmed using MC GEANT [28] simulations.

• Degree of contamination depends on the matching criteria, which are not transparent for the MPD and STAR

# **Electron purity: MPD vs. STAR**



- STAR reports better electron purity at p > 600 MeV/c using TPC&TOF only
- Note rather large uncertainties at  $p\sim 500$  MeV/c and  $p\sim 1000$  MeV/c
- Can we directly compare the purities between the MPD and STAR → no, because the final purity depends on the initial (before eID) e/h ratio as a function of momentum
- What drives the e/h ratio in different momentum ranges?

#### **Sources of electrons: MPD**



- Minbias AuAu@11 collisions (centralized production #3, AuAu@11 with Geant-3)
- Only TPC  $e^{\pm}$  tracks matched to the TOF are selected, the only difference is in DCAx,y,z cuts
- With tight DCAx,y,z cuts the main source of electrons is  $\pi^0$  (Dalitz decays)
- With no DCAx,y,z selections, the electron spectrum is totally dominated (by an order of magnitude) by conversion electrons while contributions from  $\pi^0$  and  $\eta$  remain ~ the same
  - → Comparison of the electron purities make sense only when contributions of conversion are comparable in the experiments (materials and cuts)



- MPD:  $p_T$ -dependent  $2\sigma$  cut on DCAx, y, z; mean&width is parameterized for inclusive tracks
  - STAR: the only mention is:
    the distance of closest approach (DCA) to the primary vertex should be less than 1 cm in order to reduce contributions from secondary decays;
- The DCA < 1 cm cut for the MPD is consistent at low momentum and is too loose at high  $p_T$
- Contribution of conversion in the MPD is much larger with DCA < 1 cm cut at p > 500 MeV/c → just the place where the purities start to diverge in the MPD and STAR



- Purity gets better with looser DCA cuts due to larger contamination by conversion electrons
- The purity with "STAR-like" DCA cut is still worse than that at STAR at p > 1.3 GeV/c





- Only tracks matched to TOF; tracks with TOF e-ID by  $|1/\beta 1| < 0.025$  on the bottom
- For the MPD, the  $|1/\beta 1| < 0.025$  cut is pretty much the same as  $2\sigma$  TOF-eID cut
- Selection power of  $|1/\beta 1| < 0.025$  is stronger at STAR, higher track mismatching in MPD?
- Obvious difference for TPC  $\pi$ -ID between MPD and STAR (see also next slide)

#### TPC eID: MPD vs. STAR



V. Riabov, PWG4-ECAL Meeting, 25.06.2020



# eID efficiency: STAR



$$\begin{split} \varepsilon_{\mathrm{eID}} &= \varepsilon_{\beta} \times \varepsilon_{\mathrm{dEdxPID}} \\ \varepsilon_{\mathrm{dEdxPID}} &= \varepsilon_{\mathrm{ndEdx}} \times \varepsilon_{\mathrm{n}\sigma_{\mathrm{e}}} \end{split}$$

- Single eID efficiency at  $p_T > 200 \text{ MeV/c} \text{ (STAR)}: ~ 0.45 \cdot (0.93-0.75) = 30-40\%$
- The MPD TPC-TOF-ECAL single eID efficiency with tight cuts is comparable

## **Dielectrons, MPD**



- 15M minbias AuAu@11, MPD with TPC&TOF eID only
- Higher electron purity corresponds to smaller hadron contamination
- The  $\omega/\phi$  peak significance does not improve because of smaller efficiency
- Higher purity does not automatically mean better signal

#### **Status & conclusions**

- Single electron purity & efficiency should be considered together, for each observable
- TOF tail ( $\beta > 1$ ) is from track mismatching, confirmed by similar observations in STAR
- e-purity in the MPD is worse than that in the STAR on the average:
  - $\checkmark$  dE/dx bands for charged electrons/pions are different
  - ✓ TOF matching parameters are most suspicious → need more details
- Need more input on the generated signals: PLUTO ... ?
- Plans:
  - $\checkmark$  conversion rejection
  - ✓ scaling to PHSD predictions
  - $\checkmark$  setup new simulation with fixed resonance widths and  $\eta$ -Dalitz phase space