

Monte Carlo simulations of Upsilon meson production

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Υ meson production dependence on charged particle multiplicity involves the interplay between soft and hard QCD processes. Normalised multiplicity dependence is a meaningful tool for understanding the particle production mechanisms. The observed strong increase may be explained by multi-parton interactions, string percolation or color glass condensate saturation effects. This paper presents Monte Carlo simulations of Υ meson production in proton-proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 500$ GeV with PYTHIA and Herwig generators. The aim of the simulations is to explore the dependence of normalised Υ meson yield on normalised event multiplicity. Herwig with $k_{\perp} > 4$ GeV/c shows a linear dependence of $N_{\Upsilon}/\langle N_{\Upsilon} \rangle$ vs. $N_{\text{ch}}/\langle N_{\text{ch}} \rangle$ for Upsilon $p_{\text{T}} > 0$ GeV/c, while both PYTHIA 8 and Herwig with $k_{\perp} > 20$ GeV/c show a stronger than linear dependence.

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1. Introduction

This work focuses on PYTHIA and Herwig simulations of Υ production vs. charged particle multiplicity (N_{ch}) in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 500$ GeV. Normalised multiplicity dependence is a meaningful tool for understanding the particle production mechanisms and the interplay between soft and hard QCD processes. Recent experimental results show stronger than linear increase [1, 2]. This may be explained by multi-parton interactions, string percolation or color glass condensate saturation effects.

The experimental observable $N_{\Upsilon}/\langle N_{\Upsilon} \rangle$ is calculated as $N_{\Upsilon}/\langle N_{\Upsilon} \rangle = (N_{\text{MB}}/N_{\text{MB}}^{\text{bin}})(N_{\Upsilon}^{\text{bin}}/N_{\Upsilon})$, where $N_{\text{ch}}/\langle N_{\text{ch}} \rangle$ is the self-normalised particle multiplicity, N_{Υ} (N_{MB}) is the total number of events containing Υ meson (minimum bias events) and $N_{\Upsilon}^{\text{bin}}$ ($N_{\text{MB}}^{\text{bin}}$) is the number of Υ (minimum bias) events in the corresponding multiplicity bin.

2. Simulation

The simulation consists of two parts: minimum bias and Υ production. For minimum bias events non-single-diffractive soft QCD events were chosen. Criteria for particle selection are: $|\eta| < 1$, $p_{\text{T}} > 0.2$ GeV/c (STAR cuts), stable particles ($\tau > 10$ mm/c to reject weak decay contribution). Only directly produced $\Upsilon(1S)$ states within $p_{\text{T}} > 0$ or 4 GeV/c in electron decay channel were selected. This study also includes comparison to STAR preliminary data [3].

The Monte Carlo generators used in this study are PYTHIA 8.240 [4] with STAR HF tune and Herwig 7.2.0 [5, 6]. The main features of PYTHIA include p_{T} ordered showers, Lund string hadronisation model and direct Υ production (dedicated matrix elements for Bottomonia). Herwig's main features are angular ordered showers, cluster hadronisation and Υ production during hadronisation phase ($b\bar{b}$ matrix element). The results from Herwig depend on b-parton k_{\perp} cut (4 or 20 GeV/c) - the value of the k_{\perp} cut influences the N_{ch} and p_{T} spectra.

The multiplicity and p_{T} distributions can be seen in Fig. 1. Both PYTHIA and Herwig minimum bias spectra describe real data reasonably well. For Υ containing events, Herwig with $k_{\perp} > 4$ GeV/c is in closest agreement in terms of multiplicity and PYTHIA in terms of p_{T} distributions [3].

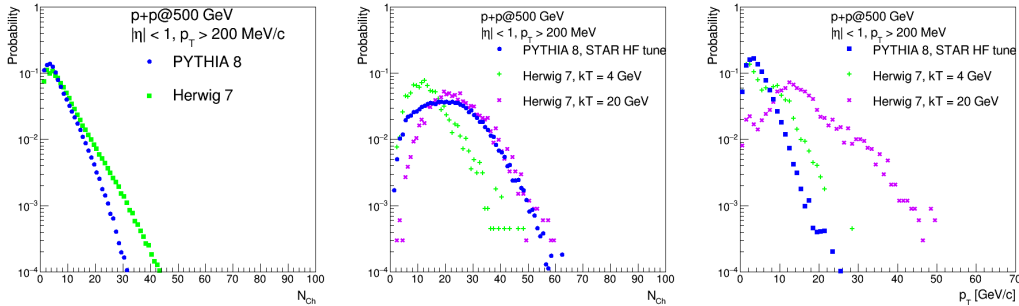


Figure 1: Charged particle multiplicity distributions for MB (left) and $\Upsilon(1S)$ containing (middle) events and p_{T} distributions for Υ containing events (right).

3. Results and Conclusion

The results of both Herwig and PYTHIA simulation are compared to STAR preliminary data in Fig. 2.

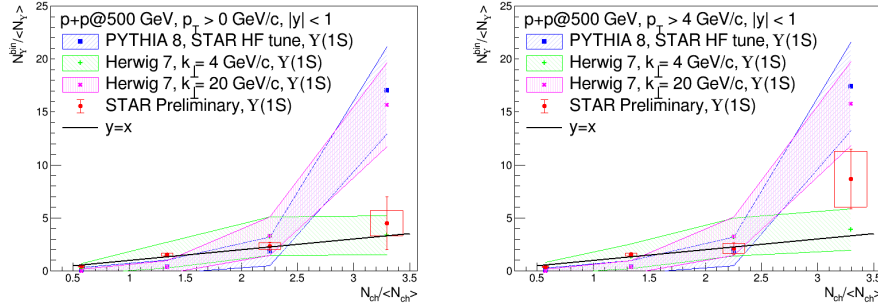


Figure 2: Normalised $Y(1S)$ yield dependence on normalised multiplicity. The PYTHIA simulations for direct $Y(1S)$ and Herwig simulations are compared to STAR preliminary data [3] for p_T -integrated (left) and $p_T > 4$ GeV/c (right).

STAR Y data with $p_T > 0$ GeV/c are better described by Herwig with $k_{\perp} > 4$ GeV/c, which is consistent with linear dependence. For $p_T > 4$ GeV/c, the STAR data indicate a stronger than linear rise, which is qualitatively reproduced by PYTHIA 8 and Herwig with $k_{\perp} > 20$ GeV/c. It may indicate that Upsilon mesons are produced in multiple parton interactions [2]. However, higher precision measurement as well as dedicated Monte Carlo tunes are needed for a deeper insight.

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