



# Probing cold nuclear matter with virtual photons

#### Outline:

- Virtual photons in cold nuclear matter
- HADES
- Slow and fast e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> pairs
- Nuclear modification factor
- Conclusion

<u>Michael Weber</u>, Manuel Lorenz, Anar Rustamov and Pavel Tlusty for the HADES collaboration

#### Virtual photons in cold nuclear matter

- EM structure / Vector mesons in matter
- Decay in e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup>:
  - Weak interactions with surrounding medium
  - Other sources (conversion, Dalitz decays)
- Experiments:
  - Shape measurements (spectral function)
  - Absorption (total width)
- Results (Spring8, KEK E328, JLab CLAS, CB/TAPS@ELSA, ANKE)
  - Broadening
  - Pole mass shift?
  - Difficult interpretation (Differences in Background determination,

ho contribution, decay kinematics, ...)



## HADES@GSI



<u>Data sets:</u> protons with E<sub>kin</sub> = 3.5 GeV

- pNb (cold nuclear matter)
- pp (reference)



Observable	Detector
р	MDC (Magnet)
β	TOF(ino)
dE/dx	MDC
	TOF(ino)
e⁺/e⁻	RICH
	Pre-Shower

## HADES@GSI



<u>Data sets:</u> protons with E<sub>kin</sub> = 3.5 GeV

- pNb (cold nuclear matter)
- pp (reference)



#### See also:

- "In-medium modification of hadrons", Piotr Salabura
- "Neutral kaon production in pp and pNb collisions", Kirill Lapidus

## e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> Invariant Mass



- Signal = all e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> pairs same event Like Sign CB
- S/B ~ 10 in vector meson mass region
- Mass resolution:  $\sigma_{\omega}$ ~15 MeV/c<sup>2</sup>
- 2 independent PID: Hard Cuts and Multi Variate Analysis

```
HADRON 2011 - 17.06.11
```

#### Reference: pp ( $E_{kin} = 3.5 \text{ GeV}$ )



#### Cold nuclear matter: pNb (E<sub>kin</sub> = 3.5 GeV)



- Normalization:
  - pp: elastic collisions
  - pNb: negative pion yield
- Pion scale with ~ A<sup>0.7</sup>
  - Expected for surface production
- Shape analysis:
  - Relative to  $\pi^0$  yield
- Nuclear modification factor

## Comparison: pNb vs. pp



- Shape analysis
- Scaled with the number of  $\pi^0$
- Different production and/or absorption processes dominant for different e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> sources

## Pair momenta



• Enrich in-medium decays of vector mesons

## Pair momenta



- Enrich in-medium decays of vector mesons
- HADES: Significant  $e^+e^-$  yield with  $p_{ee} < 800 \text{ MeV/c}$  ( ~ 35 % in VM mass region)

## Slow and fast pairs





- High p: free p+p production
- Low p: overshoot over p+p different for  $\rho$ ,  $\omega$ , and  $\phi$

Nuclear modification factor



$$R_{pA} = \frac{A_{part}^{pp} \cdot dN / dp^{pNb}}{A_{part}^{pNb} \cdot dN / dp^{pp}}$$
$$= \frac{A_{part}^{pp} \cdot \sigma_{reaction(pp)} \cdot d\sigma / dp^{pNb}}{A_{part}^{pNb} \cdot \sigma_{reaction(pNb)} \cdot d\sigma / dp^{pp}}$$

$$\frac{\sigma_{reaction(pNb)}}{\sigma_{reaction(pp)}} = 20, 5 = (A)^{0.67}$$

$$R_{pA} = 1$$
: No In-Medium effects  
 $R_{pA} > 1$ : Excess  
 $R_{pA} < 1$ : Suppression

# Nuclear modification factor



## Transport model calculations



J. Weil, GIBUU [http://arxiv.org/abs/1106.1344]

#### **Transport model calculations**

R<sub>pNb</sub> vs. momentum (in four mass bins)



## **Transport model calculations**



# Conclusion

- Relative yield  $\ln \pi^0 / \omega$  region ~ 1.0 Other sources ~ 1.5
- Fast and slow pairs

High p: p+Nb = p+p Low p: excess (secondary reactions) ω absorption?

• Nuclear modification factor

High p:  $R_{pNb} = 0.8 - 0.9$ Low p:  $R_{pNb} = 0.8 - 2.5$ 

- Have to understand production mechanisms in primary and secondary reactions:
  - Transport models
  - $-\pi$  beam experiments

#### BACKUP

#### Transverse momenta



## Rapidities



# Isospin dependence

- Dielectron cross sections in p +p and p+d at beam energies from 1.04 to 4.88 GeV measured with DLS
- Decreasing mass dependence of pd/pp with increasing beam energy
- pd cross section becomes approximately twice the pp cross section at all masses with increasing beam energy



W.K.Wilson et al., PRC 57 (1997) 1865

# Transparency ratio ?

 $\gamma + \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \omega/\rho + \mathbf{X}$ 



Low interaction probability  $\rightarrow$  Production in whole volume  $\rightarrow \sim A^{\alpha}, \alpha = 1$ 

# $T_A \rightarrow$ absorption in nucleus $\rightarrow$ in medium width

 $\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \omega/\rho + \mathbf{X}$ 



Strong interaction  $\rightarrow$  Production on surface  $\rightarrow \sim A^{\alpha}, \alpha = 2/3$ BUT: secondary proction via pions  $\rightarrow \sim A^{\alpha}, \alpha > 2/3$ 

 $T_A \rightarrow$  disentanglement of production and absorption  $\rightarrow$  Model dependence