Measurement of elliptic and higher-order flow harmonics at 2.76 TeV Pb+Pb collisions with the ATLAS detector.



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Azimuthal anisotropy in heavy ion collisions



Pressure gradients lead to azimuthal anisotropy $\frac{dN}{d\phi} = N_0 \Big(1 + 2v_1 \cos(\phi - \Psi_1) + 2v_2 \cos(2(\phi - \Psi_2)) + 2v_3 \cos(3(\phi - \Psi_3)) + \dots \Big)$ directed flow elliptic flow triangular flow Fourier harmonics $v_n = \langle \cos(n(\Phi - \Psi_n)) \rangle$

- Initial shape of the interaction region (v_2 elliptic flow)
- Initial spatial fluctuations of interacting nucleons (higher orders, v,)

ATLAS detector



ATLAS detector



Integrated v_2 down to very low p_T

- Integrated v_{2} flow harmonic measured using the EP method
- Reaching low p₁ reduces uncertainty on the integrated v₂



Pseudorapidity dependence of integrated v₂

- $v_{2}(\eta)$ integrated over p_{τ} , shows weak pseudorapidity dependence
- v₂(η) scaling with η y_{beam} consistent with the trend observed by PHOBOS at RHIC (Phys.Rev.C72:051901,2005)



Pseudorapidity dependence of v₂



 No substantial η dependence for any p_T or centrality interval is observed (v₂ drops by about 5–10% over the range |η|=0–2.4)

Different from PHOBOS measurements at RHIC in which v₂ decreases by ~30% within the same η range (PHOBOS Phys. Rev. C72 (2005) 051901) 6/13

Higher order flow harmonics - p_T dependence

- The p_T-dependence of v₂-v₆ for several centrality selections
- Similar p_T-dependence for all harmonics
- v_n generally decreases for larger n, except in the most central events:
 - v₃ dominates in p_T range
 ~2-7 GeV
 - $v_4 > v_2$ in p_T range ~3-5 GeV



The two-particle correlation function: $C(\Delta \phi, \Delta \eta) = \frac{N_s(\Delta \phi, \Delta \eta)}{N_m(\Delta \phi, \Delta \eta)}$

 N_s – same event pairs N_m – mixed event pairs



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Projected onto $\Delta \varphi$ **1D correlation function** $\frac{dN}{d\Delta \phi} \propto 1 + 2 \sum_{n} v_{n,n} \cos(n\Delta \phi)$



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Projected onto Δφ **1D correlation function** $\frac{dN}{d\Delta\phi} \propto 1 + 2\sum_{n} v_{n,n} \cos(n\Delta\phi)$



 $\mathbf{v}_{n,n}$ are calculated via Discrete Fourier





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Projected onto \Delta \phi 1D correlation function $\frac{dN}{d\Delta \phi} \propto 1 + 2 \sum_{n} v_{n,n} \cos(n\Delta \phi)$



 $v_{n,n}$ are calculated via Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) : $\sum_{m} \cos(n\Delta\phi_m)C(\Delta\phi_m)$ $v_{n,n} = \langle \cos(n\Delta\phi) \rangle = \frac{m}{2}$

$$\sum_{m} C(\Delta \phi_{m})$$

It is expected that for flow modulations: $v_{n,n}(p_T^a, p_T^b) = v_n(p_T^a)v_n(p_T^b)$

And for "fixed-pT" correlations:

$$v_n = \sqrt{v_{n,n}}$$



Two particle correlation vs EP results

$$C(\Delta \Phi) = b^{2PC} (1 + 2v_{1,1}^{2PC} \cos \Delta \Phi + 2\sum_{n=2}^{6} v_n^{EP, a} v_n^{EP, b} \cos n\Delta \Phi$$



- b^{2PC} average of the correlation function
- v_{1,1}^{2PC} first harmonic
 from the 2PC analysis
- Other v_n components measured with the event plane method
- Correlation function reproduced very well

even harmonics contribution odd harmonics contribution

Elliptic flow with cumulant method

• Elliptic flow harmonics of charged particles obtained with the cumulant generating function method

(N. Borghini, P.M.Dinh and J.Y. Ollitrault Phys.Rev.C 64 (2001) 054901)

v₂ measurement (e.g. with the Event Plane method) is distorted by non-flow effects (not related to initial geometry)

• Cumulants of multi-particle (>2) correlations eliminates non flow contributions



Comparison of v_{2} , v_{3} , v_{4} and v_{5} , EP

- Strong reduction of v_2 is observed by using four-particle cumulants
- v₂{4} consistent between ATLAS, ALICE and CMS
- The v₂{EP} lies between v₂{2} and v₂{4}



Elliptic flow fluctuations (cumulant method)

• Cumulant method provides a measure of elliptic flow event—by-event fluctuations (N. Borghini, P.M.Dinh and J.Y. Ollitrault Phys.Rev. C64 (2001) 054901)



Summary

- ATLAS measured integrated v_2 flow harmonic reaching very low p_T
- Differential v_2 and higher order flow harmonics were measured with various methods in wide p_T , η and centrality range
- v_n(p_T) shows the same trends
 - rise up to ~3 GeV
 - decrease within 3-8 GeV
 - varies weakly at high p₁
- v_n(η) remains approximately constant
- Relative fluctuations of elliptic flow from 2- and 4-particle cumulants are consistent with the Glauber MC model

Backup slides

Integrated v₂



p_T dependence of the v_2 of charged particles



- All centrality intervals shows:
 - Rapid rise in $v_2(p_T)$ up to $p_T \sim 3 \text{ GeV}$
 - Decrease out to 7-8 GeV
 - Weak p_T -dependence above 9-10 GeV
- The strongest elliptic flow at LHC is observed in centralities 30-50%

Event plane determination

 Reaction plane (Ψ^{RP}) is approximated by event plane (Ψ^{EP}) measured in FCal:



ATLAS, Phys. Rev. C 86, 014907 (2012)





- The event plane resolution correction factor R is obtained using two-sub event and various tree-subevent method
- Significant resolution for harmonics n=2 6
- Resolution corrected harmonics:

$$v_n = \langle \cos(n(\Phi - \Psi_n)) \rangle / R$$

Comparison with ALICE and RHIC experiments



• All data sets are quite consistent for both low and high $p_{\rm T}$

Higher order harmonics scaling

- Hydrodynamics model suggests scaling v₄~v₂² (PHENIX PRL 105, 062301 (2010))
- The p_T-dependence of the v_n^{1/n}/v₂^{1/2} (n=3-6) ratio for several centrality selections
- Weak p_T-dependence of the ratio except 5% most central events
- Ratio for n=3 systematically lower than for n=4, 5



Two particle correlation vs EP results

