ψ production and B decay in heavy ion collisions at LHC

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Based on a transport approach, we have calculated the ratio of nuclear modification factors of inclusive ψ ' and ψ in heavy ion collisions at LHC energy [1]. We have found that after experiencing the hot medium created in the early stage of the collisions, a part of the promptly produced J/ ψ s still survive and dominate the final state J/ ψ distributions, but most of the prompt ψ 's are dissociated in the hot medium, and the finally observed ψ 's are mainly from the B-hadron decay. Therefore, the ratio of nuclear modification factors of inclusive ψ ' and ψ in semi-central and central heavy ion collisions is controlled by the B decay. Our transport approach calculations agree reasonably well with the LHC data [2,3] in most transverse momentum and rapidity regions, but fail to explain the data in the region of 3<pt<2.4 as shown in Fig. 1. The big difference between the theory and the data needs further theoretical study and precise experimental measurement.



FIG. 1. Ratio of ψ' and ψ nuclear modification factors as a function of number of participants N_p. The data are from the CMS [1] (top windows) and ALICE (bottom windows) [2] collaborations, and the solid and dashed lines are, respectively, the transport model calculations with and without considering the B decay contribution.

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