

CHARMONIUM PRODUCTION  
IN p-A AND NUCLEUS-NUCLEUS  
INTERACTIONS AT THE CERN SPS

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S u m m a r y

Preliminary new results on  $J/\psi$  production in Pb-Pb collisions at 158 GeV/nucleon are presented. They are obtained from the most recent sample of data collected in year 2000 under improved experimental conditions. The results are compared with an updated normal absorption curve deduced from new high statistics proton-nucleus data. The new measurement shows a  $J/\psi$  suppression pattern departing from the normal absorption curve for mid-central lead-lead collisions and steadily decreasing for the most central interactions. It thus confirms the results obtained from previously collected data samples. The experiment has also measured the transverse momentum and transverse mass distributions of  $J/\psi$  mesons produced in p-A and in Pb-Pb collisions. The behaviour of these distributions as a function of the centrality and energy of the collisions is also discussed.