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**Measurements of High  $p_T$   $\pi^0$  Azimuthal Anisotropy in Au+Au Collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV at PHENIX** RUI WEI, Chemistry, Stony Brook University, PHENIX COLLABORATION — The phenomena of jet suppression has been well established via separate measurements of the nuclear modification factor  $R_{AA}$ , azimuthal anisotropy and di-hadron correlations. The current challenge is to quantitatively understand the underlying suppression mechanism, as well as to understand the interplay between jet suppression, collective flow and coalescence as function  $p_T$ . Meeting this challenge requires new measurements which extend the current experimental  $p_T$  reach and combine the constraining power of  $R_{AA}$  and anisotropy. In a recent experimental run (Year-2007), the PHENIX experiment collected over  $800 \mu b^{-1}$  in integrated luminosity of Au+Au collisions. Augmented with newly installed high resolution reaction plane detectors, this wealth of high statistics data allows detailed measurements of  $R_{AA}$  relative to the reaction plane. The results using  $\pi^0$ s will be presented and compared with various energy loss model calculations. We will also study the  $v_2$  results in different  $p_T$  regions, and compare them using reaction plane determined in various  $\eta$  windows. The former can shed light on the interplay between jet suppression, collective flow and coalesces, the later can help us to quantify the non-flow effects due to jets.

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