NA49 Results from Pb+Pb Collisions at the CERN SPS

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- NA49 experiment Introduction
- ³He, tritium production (V.Kolesnikov)
- Balance function (P.Christakoglou)
- Status of fluctuation measurements

(K.Grebieszkow, M.Rybczynski, B.Lungwitz, C.+G.Roland)

• Future plans



The NA49 Detector





P.Seyboth: NA49 results from Pb+Pb collisions at the CERN SPS ISMD 2007 - Berkeley, USA, August 4-9, 2007

dE/dx

Changes of hadron production properties in central Pb+Pb collisions at the CERN SPS energies are not reproduced by models without onset of deconfinement at low SPS energies





Freeze-out parameters determined from hadron yields for central Pb+Pb collisions at the CERN SPS are close to the predicted phase boundary between hadron gas and quark-gluon plasma





light fragments (1)



NA9

light fragments (2)

coalescence paramater ($p_T = 0$)

penalty factor (using dn/dy)





light fragments (3)



total yields estimated from parabolic fits up to |y_{beam}| (motivated by RQMD) yields show surprising agreement with statistical hadron gas model

F.Becattini et al., PRC73 (2006) 044905



light fragments (4)





Balance Function: charge correlations in pseudo-rapidity

$$B(\delta\eta) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{N_{(+-)}(\delta\eta) - N_{(--)}(\delta\eta)}{N_{-}} + \frac{N_{(-+)}(\delta\eta) - N_{(++)}(\delta\eta)}{N_{+}} \right)$$

narrowing of the balance function proposed as QGP signature (delayed hadronisation due to phase coexistence)



data compared to shuffled events (scrambling of rapidities, retention of global charge conservation)



narrowing of BF in central Pb+Pb collisions

 width decreases ≈ 17 % at SPS and RHIC from peripheral to central collisions
 narrowing only at central rapidity at SPS





BF: energy dependence of the range of charge correlations



 $W = (\langle \Delta \eta \rangle_{shuff} - \langle \Delta \eta \rangle_{data}) / \langle \Delta \eta \rangle_{shuff} \cdot 100$



normalised narrowing parameter W increases smoothly with energy



BF: model comparisons at midrapidity



- effects due to local charge conservation and radial flow may dominate (Pratt, Bialas)
- microscopic model AMPT has deconfined phase and gets BF narrowing





- fluctuations measured at forward rapidity (1.1 < y_{π} < 2.6) where azimuthal acceptance is best
- number of projectile participants fixed by projectile spectator energy cut; no restriction on target participants
- central collisions: fluctuations nearly Poissonian (independent emission)
- peripheral collisions: fluctuations exceed Poissonian

measure: $\omega = Var(n_)/(<n_))$





system size dependence at 158A GeV

rise due to effect of fluctuating target participants ?
reproduced by string models with string fusion (QGSM+fusion)

L.Cunqueiro et al., PRC69(2005)024907



energy dependence (forward rapidity)



fluctuations in central Pb+Pb collisions small, no anomalies
results close to UrQMD and statistical model predictions



similar observations

near midrapidity

for $p_T < 500 \text{ MeV/c}$



NA 49

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Event-by-event fluctuations of $< p_T >$ (negative hadrons)



- distributions of <p_T> similar for real and mixed events
- no evidence for distinct event classes
- non-statistical (dynamical) fluctuations are small, < few %

measure:
$$\Phi_{pT}$$

 $\Phi p_T = \sqrt{\frac{\langle Z^2 \rangle}{\langle N \rangle}} - \sqrt{\langle Z^2 \rangle}$
 $z = p_T - \langle p_T \rangle$ $Z = \sum_{i=1}^{N} (p_T^i - \langle p_T \rangle)$



Event-by-event fluctuations of $< p_T >$ (negative hadrons)





decrease towards central collisions; effect of string fusion ?

(E.Ferreiro et al, PRC 69, 034901 (2004))



Event-by-event fluctuations of $< p_T >$ (negative hadrons)

energy dependence $(1.1 < y_{\pi} < 2.6)$



no significant change with energy at SPS for central Pb+Pb collisions
no indication of critical point (maximum of ≈ 8 MeV/c predicted)

(M. Stephanov)



The Event-by-Event K/ π ratio





M.Gorenstein et al., PLB585(2004)237



Future Plans

- Search for the QCD critical point in fluctuations
- Study details of the onset of deconfinement
 - \rightarrow scan SPS energies with smaller size nuclei



Experiment NA61 (upgraded NA49 detector) will start data taking with protons this year and with S ions in 2009



The NA49 Collaboration

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Intermediate p_T results (1)





baryon/meson ratio

- rises rapidly with \boldsymbol{p}_{T}
- deviates from blast-wave (hydro) for $p_T > 1.2$ GeV/c as at RHIC
- SPS data reach coalescence range but end below pQCD region



Intermediate p_T results (2) Baryon/meson ratio at SPS vs RHIC



SPS: central Pb+Pb at \sqrt{s} = 17.3 GeV RHIC: central Au+Au at \sqrt{s} = 200 GeV

- same relative increase with $\ensuremath{p_{\text{T}}}$ at SPS and RHIC





- similar increase of ratio at SPS in pPb and PbPb (Cronin effect)
- R_{PbPb} stays below binary scaling like R_{AuAu} at RHIC



Intermediate p_T results (4) nuclear modification factor R_{CP} at SPS and RHIC



trends of R_{CP} quite similar at SPS and RHIC

p_T range at SPS not yet sufficient to establish suppression



elliptic flow v_2 in Pb+Pb collisions at 158AGeV



- blast wave fits ok
- overprediction by pure hydro model
- preliminary K⁰_s unexpectedly low

reasonable scaling also at SPScoalescence region not reached



more realistic freeze-out model

- QGP + hydro model expansion
- statistical hadronisation
- hadronic re-scattering stage (RQMD)

Teaney, Lauret, Shuryak PRL 86 (2001) 4783





Baryon stopping (1)

Proton and antiproton rapidity spectra in central Pb+Pb collisions

- new results from dE/dx analysis at forward rapidities
- published results from TOF analysis at midrapidity (PRC73(2006)044910)



evolution of shape, decrease of yield

Gaussian shape, increase of yield



Baryon stopping (2)

net-baryon distributions in central 7% Pb+Pb collisions



construction of net-baryon distributions:

$$N(B-\overline{B}) = S_n \cdot (p-\overline{p}) + S_{\Sigma^{\pm}} \cdot (\Lambda - \overline{\Lambda}) + S_{\Xi^0} \cdot (\Xi^- - \overline{\Xi}^+)$$

scaling factors taken from statistical model fits F.Becattini et al., PRC73 (2006) 044905



Baryon stopping (3)

evolution of net-baryon rapidity distributions



- pronounced change of shape at SPS energies peak → dip structure
- net-baryon density decreases rapidly at mid-rapidity



Baryon stopping (4)

energy dependence of projectile rapidity loss $<\delta y > /y_p$



(UrQMD: M.Bleicher, Florence Workshop)



Baryon stopping (5)

energy dependence of inelasticity K



Inelasticity saturates at K = 0.7-0.8 above SPS



rapidity and p_T dependence at 158A GeV



NA49 preliminary

rapidity and p_T dependence reproduced by the UrQMD model



Event-by-event fluctuations of $< p_T > at SPS$





The Event-by-Event $(p + \overline{p})/\pi$ ratio





Pb+Pb collisions at top SPS energy

- Initial energy density exceeds the critical value predicted by lattice QCD (≈ 1 GeV / fm³)
- Strong collective behavior
 - anisotropic and radial flow
 - transverse expansion of the matter droplet by factor 2
- Proposed signatures for deconfinement observed
 - strangeness enhancement
 - $J/\Psi, \Psi'$ yield suppression
 - di-lepton enhancement, ρ⁰ modification
 (circumstantial evidence for a new state of matter (2000)
- Validate by a search for a threshold in the largest collision system (central Pb+Pb reactions)
- ➢ SPS energy scan: 20, 30, 40, 80, 158 GeV/nucleon (√s_{NN} = 6.3, 7.6, 8.7, 12.3, 17.3 GeV)



Balance Function



Bass, Danielewicz, Pratt: PRL 85, 2689 (2000)

- oppositely charged particles created at the same point in space – time
- particles get separated in rapidity by thermal motion (rescattering) and developing collective flow
- early produced pairs are separated more in rapidity than late produced pairs
- separation δη quantified by the balance function:

$$B(\delta\eta) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{N_{(+-)}(\delta\eta) - N_{(--)}(\delta\eta)}{N_{-}} + \frac{N_{(-+)}(\delta\eta) - N_{(++)}(\delta\eta)}{N_{+}} \right)$$

delayed hadronisation = narrowing of balance function predicted as signature of first order phase transition

