XVIth Quark Confinement and the Hadron Spectrum



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K_1/K^* enhancement in heavy-ion collisions and the restoration of chiral symmetry

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We extend the recent study of K_1/K^* enhancement as a signature of chiral symmetry restoration in heavy ion collisions at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) via the kinetic approach to include the effects due to nonunity hadron fugacities during the evolution of produced hadronic matter and the temperature-dependent K_1 mass. Although including non-unity pion and kaon fugacities reduces slightly the K_1/K^* enhancement found in previous study due to chiral symmetry restoration, adding temperature-dependent K_1 mass leads to a substantial further reduction of the K_1/K^* enhancement. However, the final K_1/K^* ratio in peripheral collisions still shows a factor of 2.4 enhancement compared to the case without chiral symmetry restoration, confirming its use as a good signature for chiral symmetry restoration in the hot dense matter produced in relativistic heavy ion collisions.

Primary author: Ms SUNG, HAESOM (Yonsei University)

Co-authors: Prof. KO, Che-Ming; LIM, Sanghoon (Pusan National University (KR)); LEE, Su Houng; CHO, Sungtae

Presenter: Ms SUNG, HAESOM (Yonsei University)

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