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PHENIX results on centrality dependence of yields and correlations in $d+Au$ collisions

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Measurements of the v_2 of identified hadrons and of azimuthal correlations between rapidity separated soft particles strongly suggest the presence of collective effects in central $d+Au$ collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=200$ GeV. The good agreement between low viscosity hydrodynamic calculations and experimental results also suggests a close relationship between the effects observed in high multiplicity $d+Au$ and heavy-ion collisions. This relationship can be further explored by extending the measurements to higher transverse momentum where physical effects such as jet fragmentation and energy loss begin dominating particle production. Another handle is provided by a detailed study of centrality dependence of the observed phenomena to pinpoint momentum versus centrality domain where the collective effects manifest themselves. Intermediate and high- p_T particle measurements also contribute to the systematic study of the baryon anomaly and jet quenching by placing constraints on cold-nuclear-matter effects. PHENIX has unique capabilities for measuring azimuthal correlations between high p_T neutral pions at midrapidity ($|\eta| < 0.35$) and clusters measured in the muon piston calorimeter (MPC) at forward rapidity ($-3.7 < \eta < -3.1$), providing effective separation of jet bias contributions. We present new PHENIX results on rapidity separated π^0 -MPC azimuthal correlations measured over a wide p_T range in different centrality $d+Au$ collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=200$ GeV. We also report recent PHENIX results on intermediate and high p_T hadron production.

On behalf of collaboration:

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