



Search for critical effects in NA61/SHINE

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In this presentation...

Introduction to the NA61/SHINE experiment

Onset of deconfinement

Study of the onset of deconfinement in single particle spectra

Study of the onset of deconfinement in directed flow observation

Onset of fireball

Observation of the onset of fireball in particle production properties

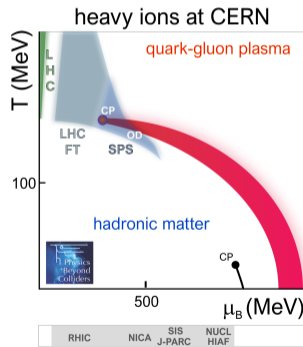
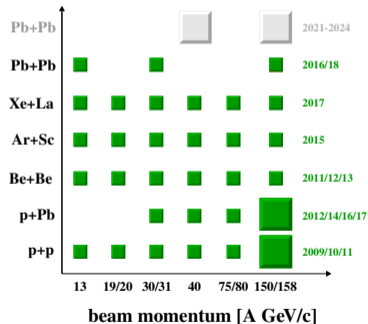
Search for critical point

Search for critical point in particle production properties

Summary and outlook

2D phase-space scan by NA61/SHINE

NA61/SHINE experiment performs 2D scan in **collision energy and system size** to study the phase diagram of strongly interacting matter in **baryon density and temperature**



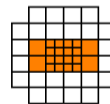
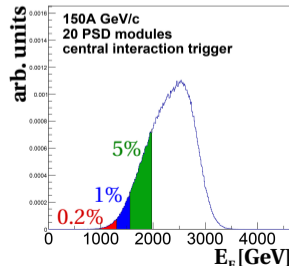
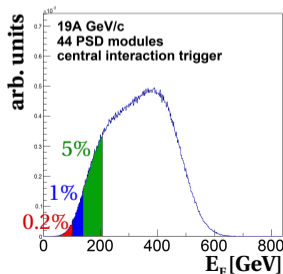
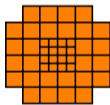
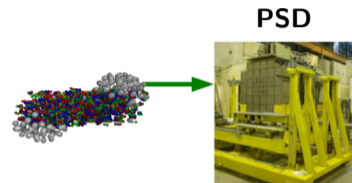
Main goals:

- study of threshold behaviour in HRG-QGP transition:
 - **onset of deconfinement**
 - **onset of fireball**
- search for the **critical point**

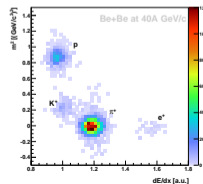
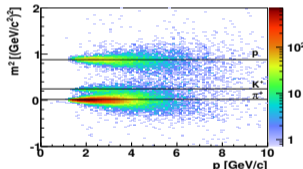
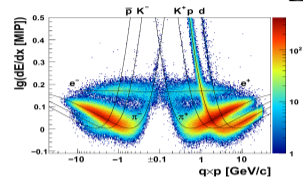
Methodology

Event selection based on forward energy measurements

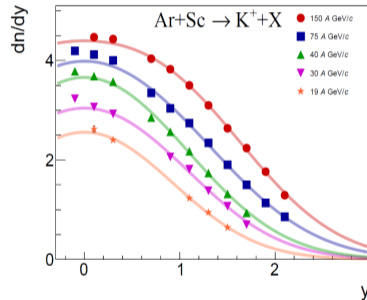
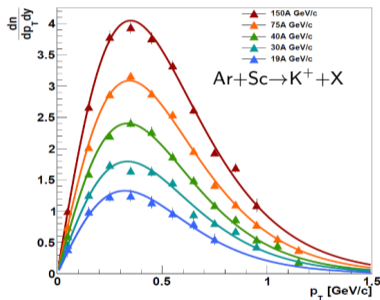
- **Event (centrality) selection** in nucleus-nucleus collisions is done using the measured **forward energy** (E_F) dominated by energy of projectile spectators.
- It **does not bias fluctuation studies** and it is one of the best ways to restrict event-by-event volume fluctuations on the detector level
- Intervals in E_F allow to select different centrality classes
- Examples of event selection using E_F for Ar+Sc:



Charged particle identification and spectra



Measured dn/dy yields ($\approx 99\%$) are extrapolated beyond the analysis acceptance



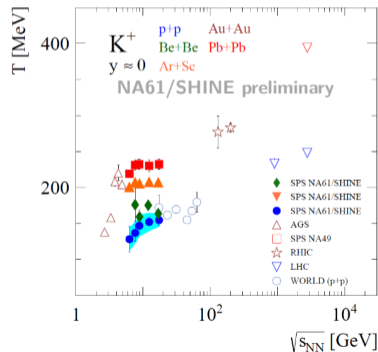
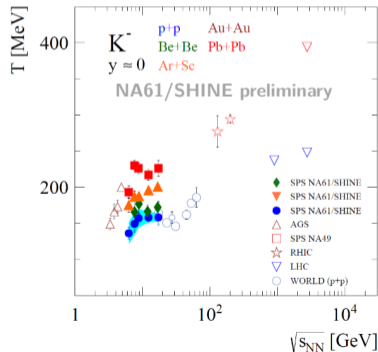
$$\frac{d^2n}{dp_T dy} = \frac{Sp_T}{T^2 + Tm_K} \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{p_T^2 + m_K^2}}{T}\right)$$

$$\frac{dn}{dy} = \frac{A}{\sigma_0 \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y-y_0)^2}{2\sigma_0^2}\right) + \frac{A}{\sigma_0 \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y+y_0)^2}{2\sigma_0^2}\right)$$

Study of the onset of deconfinement in single particle spectra

Onset of deconfinement: STEP

Plateau – **STEP** – in the energy dependence of the inverse slope parameter T of m_T spectra in Pb+Pb collisions observed at SPS energies. This is expected for the onset of deconfinement due to mixed phase of HRG and QGP (**S**tatistical **M**odel of the **E**arly **S**tage).



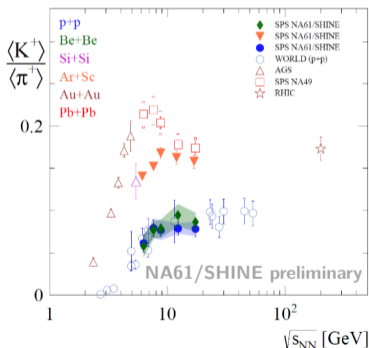
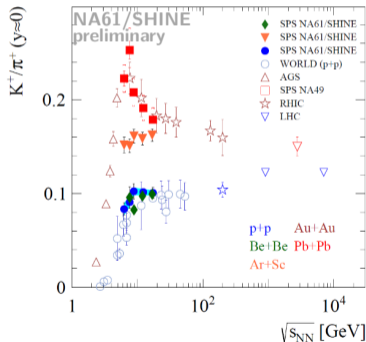
Qualitatively similar energy dependence is seen in p+p, Be+Be and Pb+Pb collisions

Magnitude of T in Be+Be slightly higher than in p+p

Ar+Sc results between p+p/Be+Be and Pb+Pb results

Onset of deconfinement: HORN

Rapid changes in the energy dependence of the K^+/π^+ ratio – **HORN** – were observed in Pb+Pb collisions at SPS energies. This was predicted (SMES) as a signature of onset of deconfinement.

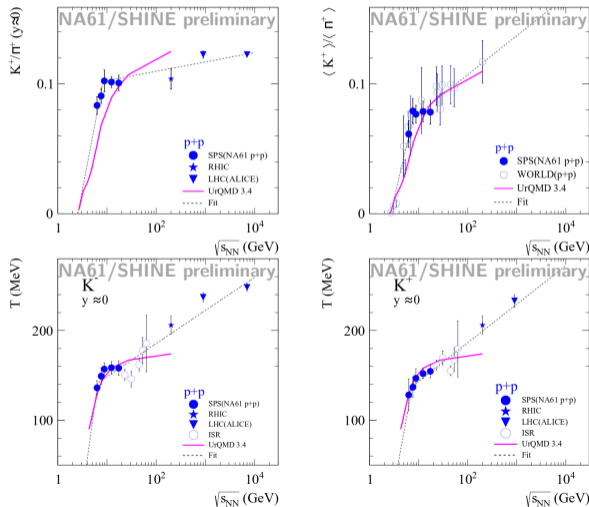


Plateau like structure visible in p+p

Be+Be close to p+p

Ar+Sc is higher than p+p but the energy dependence is similar to p+p (no horn)

Onset of deconfinement: p+p results



Eur. Phys. J. C77, 671 (2017)

Rates of increase with energy of the K^+/π^+ ratio and T change sharply in results from p+p interactions at SPS energies.

The fitted change energy is ≈ 7 GeV – close to the energy of the onset of deconfinement ≈ 8 GeV.

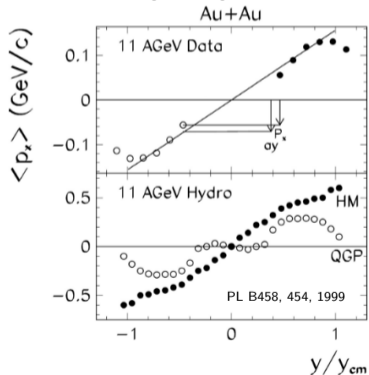
Resonance-string model (UrQMD) fails to reproduce data

Study of the onset of deconfinement in directed flow observation

Directed flow and the onset of deconfinement

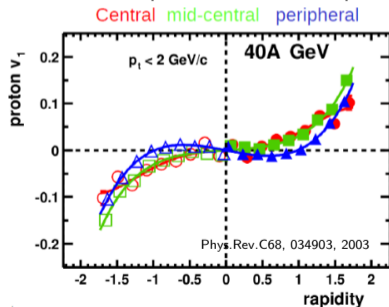
Directed flow v_1 is considered to be **sensitive to 1st order phase transition** (softening of EOS).
 Expected: **non-monotonic behavior** (positive→negative→positive) **of proton dv_1/dy as a function of beam energy** - “collapse of proton flow”

Predictions of hydrodynamical model:

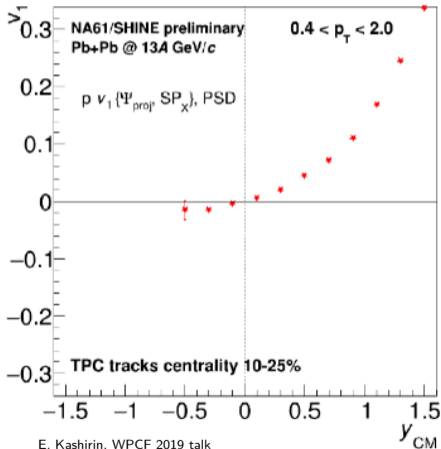


$$V_1 = \left\langle \frac{p_x}{p_T} \right\rangle$$

Directed flow measured by NA49
 at middle SPS energy
 (“anti-flow” of protons at mid-rapidity):



Directed flow as a function of rapidity



Flow coefficients are measured relative to the spectator plane estimated with Projectile Spectator Detector (PSD) → unique for NA61/SHINE

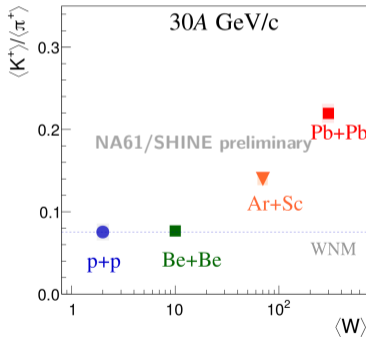
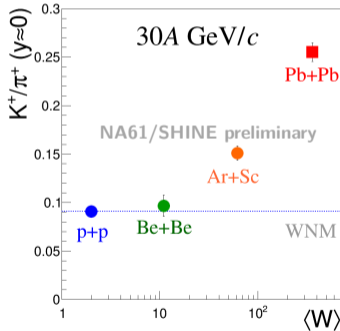
No evidence for the collapse of proton directed flow in semi-central Pb+Pb collisions at 13.4 GeV/c

Results from Pb+Pb collisions at 30A and 150A GeV/c soon!

Observation of the onset of fireball in particle production properties

Onset of fireball: system size dependence of particle spectra

Rapid enhancement of the K^+/π^+ ratio with the system size was predicted due to formation of the droplet of strongly interacting matter (SMES).



Experimental results suggest:

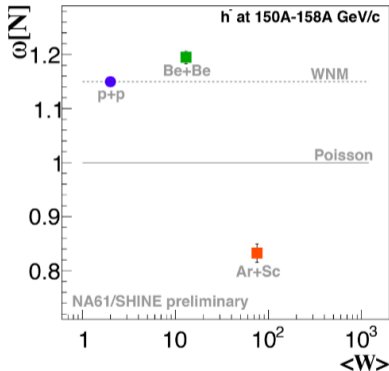
- **p+p \approx Be+Be**
- **visible change between light and intermediate or heavy systems**
- effect manifests in mid-rapidity and full acceptance

Onset of fireball: system size dependence in particle multiplicity fluctuations

Scaled variance defined as:

$$\omega[N] = \frac{\langle N^2 \rangle - \langle N \rangle^2}{\langle N \rangle},$$

is significantly larger for p+p interactions and central Be+Be collisions than for central Ar+Sc collisions and suggest non-negligible change between light and intermediate systems.



p+p data are corrected for experimental biases, systematic uncertainty ~ 0.1 [EPJ.C76:635]; 0-1% Be+Be data is uncorrected, experimental bias is $\sim 10-15\%$; 0-0.2% Ar+Sc data is uncorrected, experimental bias is $\sim 5-7\%$

Search for critical point in particle production properties

Search for critical point in strongly intensive measures: event-by-event fluctuations

Intensive quantities: a ratio of two extensive quantities (\sim volume) is an intensive quantity e.g.:

$$\omega[A] = \frac{\langle A^2 \rangle - \langle A \rangle^2}{\langle A \rangle}$$

- independent of V
- depends on fluctuations of V
- $\omega = 1$ for Poisson distribution

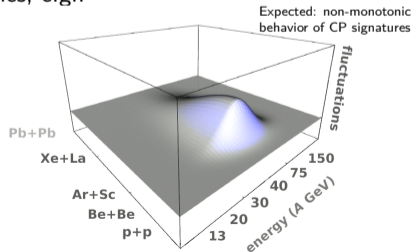
where A stands for an extensive event quantity.

In statistical model (IB-GCE) $\omega_i = \frac{\text{Var}(a)}{\langle a \rangle} + \langle a \rangle \frac{\text{Var}(V)}{\langle V \rangle}$, where a - particles produced in a system with fixed V

Strongly intensive quantities: special combination of extensive quantities, e.g.:

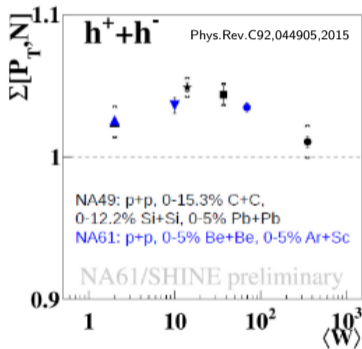
$$\Sigma[A, B] = \frac{1}{C_\Sigma} \left[\langle B \rangle \omega_A + \langle A \rangle \omega_B - 2(\langle AB \rangle - \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle) \right]$$

- independent of V and fluctuations of V
- normalization chosen such that $\Sigma[A, B] = 1$ for independent particle model and quantity is dimensionless
- $\Sigma[A, B] = 0$ in the absence of fluctuations
- note: Σ can be sensitive to several physics effects in different ways

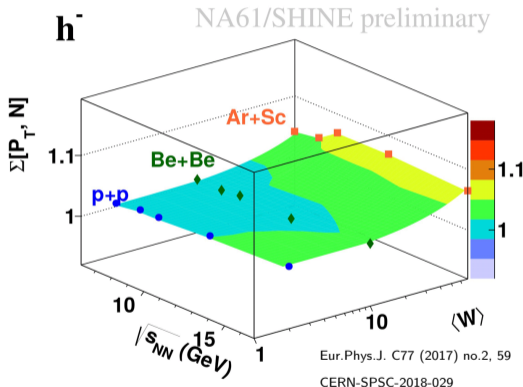


Critical point: strongly intensive measures $\Sigma[P_T, N]$

Comparison to NA49 A+A at 158A GeV/c
 within NA49 two different acceptances



System size dependence of $\Sigma[P_T, N]$ at 150/158A GeV/c: NA49 and NA61/SHINE points show consistent trends



So far there are no prominent structures which could be related to critical point

Critical point: proton intermittency as signal of CP

Critical point as 2nd order phase transition → scale invariance → characteristic dependence of fluctuations on size δ of subdivision intervals of momentum space Δ (power-law form of correlation function for large distances/small momentum transfer)

- **Net protons** used as proxy for **net baryons** (same critical fluctuations)
- Transverse momentum space is partitioned into M^2 cells, $M^2 = (\Delta/\delta)^2$
- Second factorial moments $F_2(M)$ as a function of cell size are defined:

$$F_2(M) \equiv \frac{\left\langle \frac{1}{M^2} \sum_{m=1}^{M^2} n_m(n_m-1) \right\rangle}{\left\langle \frac{1}{M^2} \sum_{m=1}^{M^2} n_m \right\rangle^2}$$

$$\Delta F_2(M) \equiv F_2^{data}(M) - F_2^{mixed}(M)$$

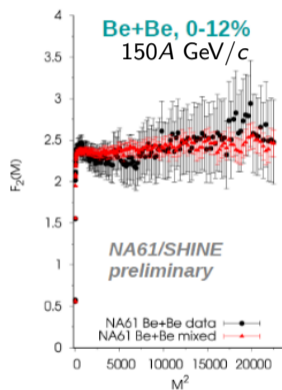
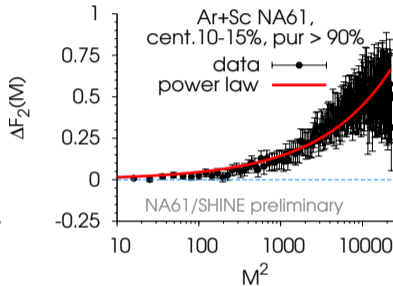
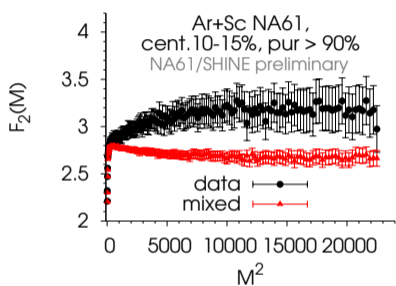
(background subtraction)

At critical point power law dependence is expected:

$$\Delta F_2(M) \sim (M^2)^{\varphi_2}$$

prediction for intermittency index for critical point: $\varphi_2 = 5/6$

Critical point: proton intermittency in Ar+Sc and Be+Be



$F_2(M^2)$ moments are higher in data than in mixed events in

Ar+Sc collisions @ 150A GeV/c.

Possible hint of the intermittency effect???

(detailed investigation of significance of this result – in progress)

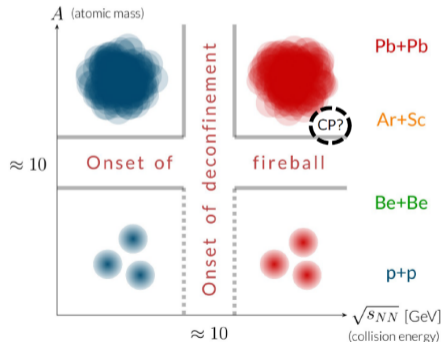
No signal visible
 in Be+Be

NA61/SHINE: PoS(CPOD2017) 054

Summary and outlook

Summary

- 2D scan in system size and collision energy was completed in 2017 with Xe+La data
- Analysis ongoing for p+p, Be+Be, Ar+Sc, Xe+La and Pb+Pb data
- **No horn in Ar+Sc**
- **Unexpected system size dependence:**
 $(p+p \approx Be+Be) \neq (Ar+Sc \neq Pb+Pb)$
- **No convincing indication of CP, proton intermittency signal in Ar+Sc is under scrutiny**
- **Plans to extend NA61/SHINE program with measurements of open charm production in 2021-2024**

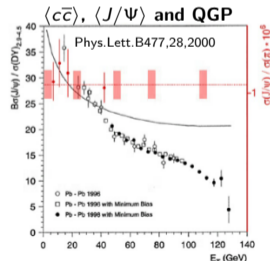
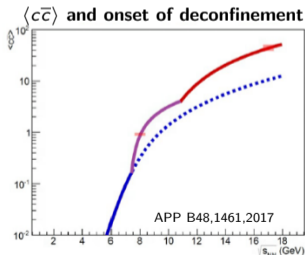
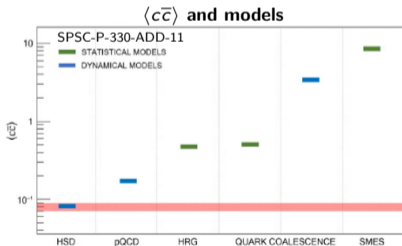


NA61/SHINE programme for 2021-2024

Open questions:

- **What is the mechanism of $\langle c\bar{c} \rangle$ production?**
- **How does the onset of deconfinement impact $\langle c\bar{c} \rangle$ production?**
- **How does the formation of quark gluon plasma impact $\langle J/\psi \rangle$ production?**

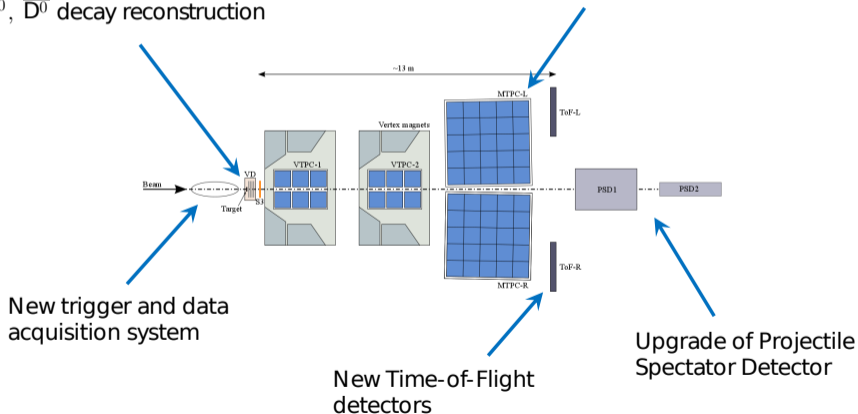
To answer these questions **mean number of charm quark pairs, $\langle c\bar{c} \rangle$** , produced in A+A collisions has to be known. Up to now corresponding **experimental data does not exist** and **only NA61/SHINE can perform this measurement in the near future.**



Detector upgrade during LS2

Construction of Vertex Detector (VD)
for D^0 , \bar{D}^0 decay reconstruction

Replacement of the TPC
read-out electronics
to increase data rate to 1 kHz

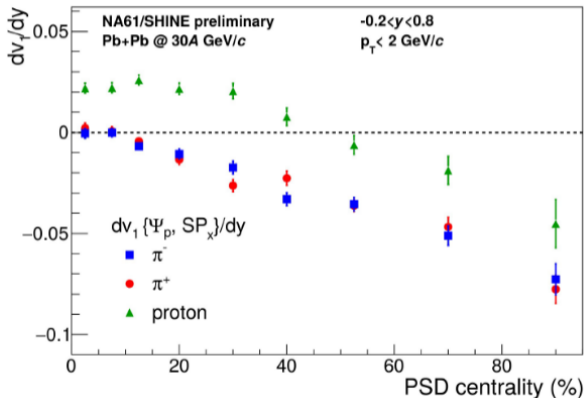


Stay tuned!
More results from the NA61/SHINE soon

Additional slides

Directed flow as a function of centrality

NA61/SHINE fixed target setup → tracking and particle identification over wide rapidity range



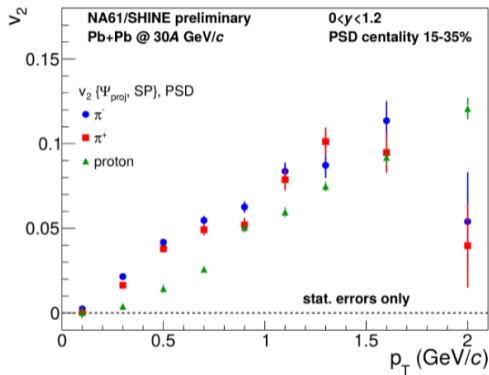
Nucl.Phys.A982, 439,2019

Flow coefficients are measured relative to the **spectator plane estimated with Projectile Spectator Detector (PSD)** → unique for NA61/SHINE

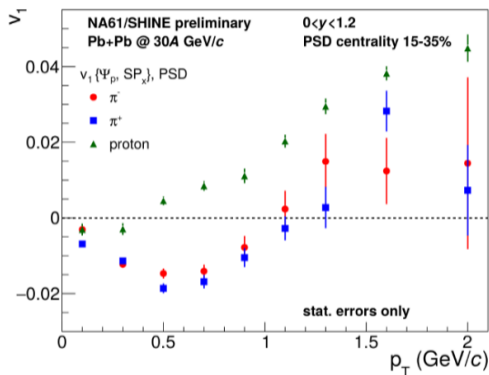
Close to mid-rapidity (-0.2 < y < 0.8):

- **slope of pion v_1 is always negative**
- **slope of proton v_1 changes sign at centrality of about 50%**

Particle type dependence of elliptic and directed flow

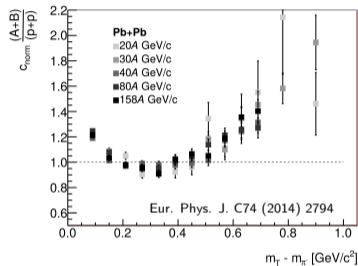
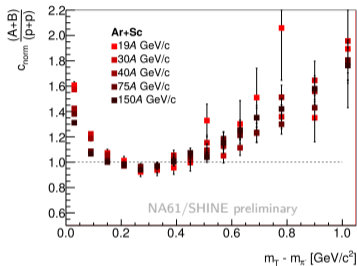
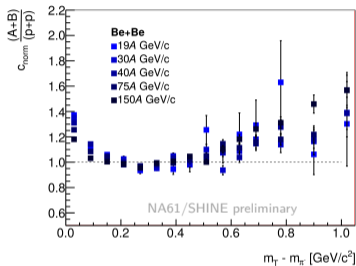


Clear mass hierarchy of v_2 - radial flow
Difference between v_2 for π^+ and π^- is small



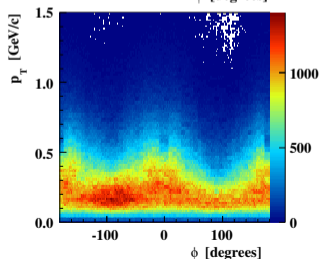
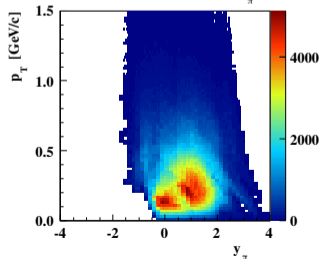
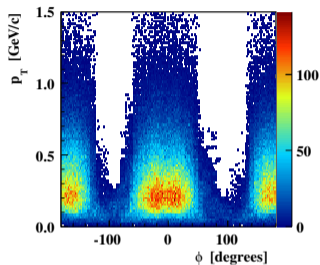
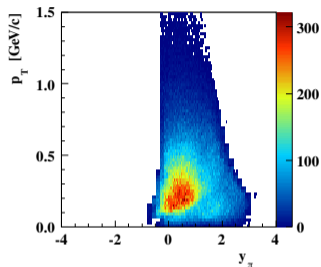
Significant mass dependence of v_1
Difference between v_2 for π^+ and π^- is sensitive to electromagnetic effects

Energy and system size dependence of the m_T spectra of π^-



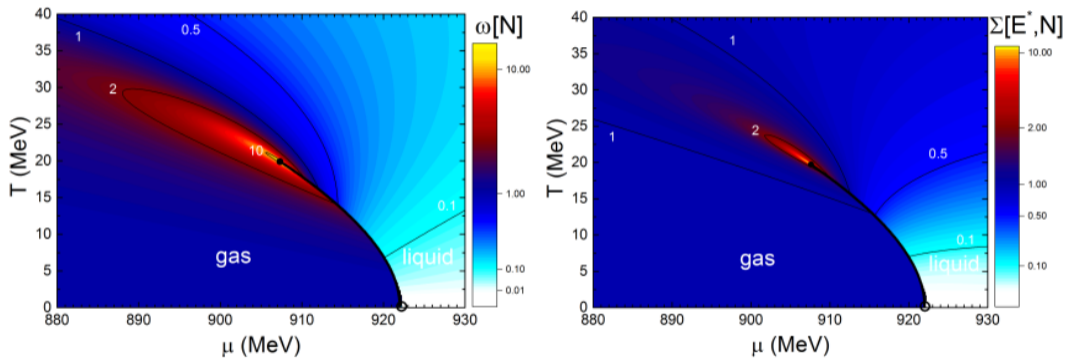
- m_T spectra shape differs significantly between p+p and A+A results
- clear system size dependence with small energy dependence
- the effect possibly associated to transverse collective flow

Example of acceptance maps



- TOP ROW → acceptance map example for $p_{beam} = 19A$ GeV/c
- BOTTOM ROW → acceptance map example for $p_{beam} = 150A$ GeV/c
- acceptance studied with MC simulation
- only region with registration efficiency $\geq 99\%$ selected for fluctuation analysis

Event-by-event fluctuations – model predictions

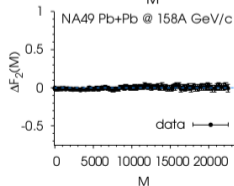
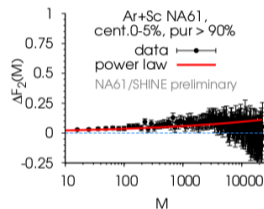
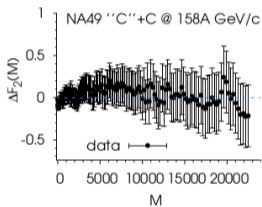
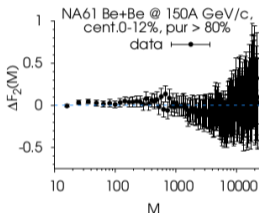


Vovchenko, Anchishkin, Gorenstein, Poberezhnyuk, Stoecker, Acta Phys.Polon.Supp. 10 (2017) 753

Fluctuations as a function of momentum bin size

Experimental results

ΔF_2 for mid-rapidity protons at 17 GeV



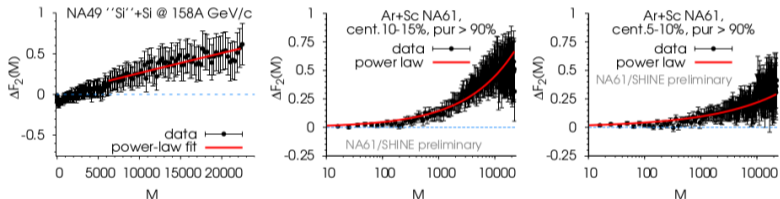
No signal visible in central Be+Be,
C+C, Ar+Sc and Pb+Pb

NA49: EPJC 75 (2015) 587
NA61/SHINE: PoS(CPOD2017) 054

Fluctuations as a function of momentum bin size

Experimental results

ΔF_2 for mid-rapidity protons at 17 GeV



A deviation of ΔF_2 from zero seems apparent in central Si+Si and mid-central Ar+Sc

Proton intermittency vs background

