Highlights from NA61/SHINE: proton intermittency analysis

Daria Prokhorova for NA61/SHINE Collaboration Laboratory of Ultra-High Energy Physics, St. Petersburg State University







ZIMÁNYI SCHOOL'18 WINTER WORKSHOP ON HEAVY ION PHYSICS 6 December 2018



 NA61/SHINE (SPS Heavy Ion and Neutrino Experiment) is a particle physics fixed-target experiment at CERN SPS



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Schematic picture of the NA61/SHINE experiment NA61 JINST 9: 06005



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Event browser http://shine3d.web.cern.ch/shine3d/ 2/15

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3-7 December 2018, Zimanyi School, Budapest



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Centrality selection in A+A collisions by measuring of forward energy with Projectile Spectator Detector (PSD)



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Baryo-chemical potential



- study the properties of the onset of deconfinement
- search for the critical point (CP) of strongly interacting matter

Sketch of the phase diagram of strongly interacting matter



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Sketch of the expected «critical hill»

3/15

Sketch of the phase diagram of strongly interacting matter

Common knowledge: critical opalescence



[T. Csorgo PoS HIGH-pTLHC08:027, 2008]

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Finally, we see a signature of a second order phase transitions and the critical point is reached

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Critical point and Intermittency

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The order parameters of QCD are the chiral condensate and the net-baryon density. Critical fluctuations show up in fluctuations of the net-baryon density and can be observed by intermittent behavior of the net-proton or proton density

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In this talk I will present:

- theoretical aspects formulated by Fotios Diakonos at NA61/SHINE theory virtual meetings, can be found also at https://indico.cern.ch/event/760216/contributions/3154442/attachments/1722303/2781998/Diakonos_cpod2018v2.pdf
- experimental approach and results by Nikolaos Davis in collaboration with Nikolaos Antoniou & Fotios Diakonos for the NA61/SHINE collaboration based on NA61/SHINE and NA49 data with full information being available at: https://indico.cern.ch/event/760216/contributions/3153684/attachments/1721653/2779754/Davis_CPOD2018.pdf

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Momentum of produced particles is our tool instead of scattered photons momentum in ordinary QED matter. We can look at produced protons and pions

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Our system has a finite size L

Q – any thermodynamic quantity f – scaling function ξ_{∞} - correlation length

This introduces an additional length scale **L**, with exponent **p** describing the scaling of thermodynamic quantities for finite systems:

$$Q_L(t_{\pm}) = L^p f_{\pm}(L/\xi_{\infty}(t_{\pm}))$$
 ; $t = \pm rac{T - T_c}{T}$ reduced temperature

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Hence, power-law $\langle n_B(\mathbf{r_1})n_B(\mathbf{r_2})\rangle \sim |\mathbf{r_1} - \mathbf{r_2}|^{-(d-d_F)}$:behavior in configuration space near the Critical Point could be observed for distances of the order of the correlation length, and therefore larger than system size L: $|\mathbf{r_1} - \mathbf{r_2}| \approx \xi_{\infty} \gtrsim L$ - Finite Size Scaling (FSS) regime

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Of course, we have a cutoff on L in the real system and after performing Fourier transform:

$$\lim_{\mathbf{k_1}\to\mathbf{k_2}}\langle n_B(\mathbf{k_1})n_B(\mathbf{k_2})\rangle\sim |\mathbf{k_1}-\mathbf{k_2}|^{-d_F}$$

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The power-law decay in r-space leads to power-law singularity of the density-density correlation function in p-space 6/15



FSS: $n_B \sim L^{-\beta/\nu} \Rightarrow d_F = d - \frac{\beta}{\nu}$. **Universality class:** 3d-Ising, then critical exponents $\beta \approx \frac{1}{3}$, $\nu \approx \frac{2}{3}$.

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Fractal dimension:



Possible representation of a phase-space: transverse \cdot longitudinal = $p_T \cdot$ rapidity It is desirable to work at one time (thermal equilibrium demand), however, rapidity mixes time and space

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Net-baryon density

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Contra: large combinatorial background of non-critical pions; fluctuations might wash-out quickly due to pions being a "fast component"

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only protons also carry **all** information about criticality [Y. Hatta and M. A. Stephanov, PRL91, 102003 (2003)]

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Pro: measurable and critical fluctuations might be observed due to protons being a "slow component"
Contra: small statistics 7/15

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Daria Prokhorova for NA61/SHINE Collaboration



Experimental observation of local, power-law distributed fluctuations

[N. Davis, CPOD 2018 talk] 8/15

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Theoretical predictions in slide 7 apply to the mid-rapidity region



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Approach:

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Approach:

- Transverse momentum space is partitioned into M² cells
- Calculate second factorial moments $F_2(M)$ as a function of cell size \Leftrightarrow number of cells M

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



Background of non-critical proton pairs must be subtracted at the level of factorial moments in order to eliminate trivial (baseline) and non-critical correlations (with a characteristic length scale, that do not scale with bin size)





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1. Cross term can be neglected [Antoniou, Diakonos, Kapoyannis and Kousouris, PRL. 97, 032002 (2006).]

2. Non-critical background moments can be approximated by (uncorrelated) mixed event moments:



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one can obtain **intermittency critical index** in the model independent way:

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

$$\phi_2 = 1 - \frac{\tilde{d}_{F,\perp}}{2} \approx \frac{5}{6}$$
 \leftarrow 3d-Ising effective action 9/15

Daria Prokhorova for NA61/SHINE Collaboration



[N. Davis, CPOD 2018 talk]

3-7 December 2018, Zimanyi School, Budapest



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What are the **intermittency indexes** for these systems?

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Intermittency index ϕ_2 for Ar+Sc at 150A GeV/*c* (80, 85 and 90% purity selection for protons)



 $\mathcal{P}_{p} = p/(\pi + K + p + e)$

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 $\phi_2 = 2/3$ (0.66..) **theory**



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[N. Davis, CPOD 2018 talk]

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[N. Davis, CPOD 2018 talk]

Intermittency index: NA49 and NA61/SHINE

Intermittency index ϕ_2 for A+A at 150/158A GeV/c



[[]M. Gazdzicki, indico.cern.ch]

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Expanding the analysis to other NA61/SHINE systems (Xe+La, Pb+Pb) and SPS energies (Ar+Sc) in order to obtain reliable interpretation of the observed intermittency signal in terms of the critical point
Summary and outlook

- Indication of intermittency effect in middle-central NA61/SHINE **Ar+Sc collisions at 150A GeV/***c*, which is also seen in **"Si"+Si collisions (NA49) at 158A GeV**/*c*
- No observed power-law behavior for "C"+C, Pb+Pb (NA49) and Be+Be (NA61/SHINE) systems
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Stay tuned and have a SHINY day!

