Electromagnetic effects on charged pion spectra at SPS energies



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Outline



- Introduction.
- The NA61/SHINE experiment.
 - Results on EM effects.
 - Monte Carlo simulation.
 - Conclusions.



Introduction

Heavy ion collisions at SPS energies



- Charged spectators generate electromagnetic fields.
- These modify charged pion spectra in the final state.
- We use this effect as a new source of information on the **space-time evolution of the system**.

NA61/SHINE experiment

Eight (!) TPCs \rightarrow particle tracks in 3D

- Curvature \rightarrow charge and momentum.
- Particle identification via Energy loss (dE/dx).
- **PSD** \rightarrow centrality of the collision.

Many different projectile-target configurations.



~13 m

3D Visualization Ar+Sc collision NA61/SHINE http://shine3d.web.cern.ch/shine3d/



Performance

- Total acceptance ~ 80%.
- Momentum resolution $\sigma(p)/p^2 \sim 10^{-4} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$
- Track reconstruction efficiency > 95%.

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Electromagnetic effects in Ar+Sc collsions



- The following picture emerges:
 - → Peripheral Pb+Pb collisions (spectator charge \approx 70) **large** effect, $\pi^+/\pi^- \approx 0$.
 - → Intermediate Ar+Sc collisions (spectator charge \approx 8) **visible** effect, breaks isospin symmetry.
 - → Central Ar+Sc collisions (spectator charge \approx 3) **possible** shadow of effect.

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First insight into EM effects in Pb+Pb collisions from NA61/SHINE

Conclusions

- New preliminary data on spectator-induced EM effects in Ar+Sc collisions from NA61/SHINE were presented.
- First observation of these effects in small systems at SPS energies.
- Electromagnetic effects bring us new information on space-time evolution of the Ar+Sc system, especially on that of charged π meson production.
- A first comparison of pion emission distances from the spectator system has been performed for Ar+Sc and Pb+Pb/Au+Au collisions. Consistently, faster pions are emitted closer to the spectator system.
- We obtained new insight into the interplay between EM effects on pion emission and the spectator system:

 \rightarrow expansion of the effective charge cloud is needed,

 \rightarrow possible hint of the presence of participant charge at high rapidity.

Electromagnetic effects on charged pion spectra at SPS energies

Thanks for your attention! **S**

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This work was supported by the National Science Centre, Poland under grant no. 2014/14/E/ST2/00018.

6 - 7 April

XIV Polish Workshop on Relativistic Heavy-Ion Collisions, AGH, Kraków

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Extra slides

NA61/SHINE experiment

This is just a beginning!

Data taking schedule:

taken data (green), approved for 2018 (<mark>red</mark>), proposed extension (gray).

Data sets, centrality

• NA61/SHINE experiment, ⁴⁰Ar + ⁴⁵Sc @ 150A GeV/c.

Pb + Pb @ 30A GeV/c.

• Reference: **NA49** experiment, Pb + Pb @ 158A GeV/c.

A. Rybicki, Acta. Phys. Polon. B42 (2011) 867.

- Centrality selection is defined by the Projectile Spectator Detector (PSD):
 → Forward rapidity calorimeter.
- Dedicated Glauber simulations.

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Data analysis: Ar+Sc @ 150A GeV/c

• Simple PID, done with cuts on dE/dx of ±5% from pion Bethe-Bloch.

Data analysis: Ar+Sc @ 150A GeV/c

 Stability of π⁺/π⁻ ratios has been investigated in detail.

 $\rightarrow \pi^+/\pi^-$ ratios appear far more robust than π^+ or π^- spectra taken separately.

- Systematic biases estimated on the level of ±0.06.
- This includes:
 - \rightarrow kaon contamination,
 - \rightarrow pion Bethe-Bloch precision,
 - \rightarrow feed-down from weak decays.

*Note: centrality is estimated by the total number of wounded nucleons and the Ar spectator mass.

Data analysis: Ar+Sc @ 150A GeV/c

• NOTE: the strongest EM effects for the beam rapidity and at low p_{T} .

- New data on spectator-induced EM effects on charged pion spectra in Ar+Sc collisions at 150A GeV/c.
- \rightarrow **First observation** of such an effect in Ar+Sc collisions.
- \rightarrow First observation of spectator-induced EM effects in small systems at SPS.