

Motivation of the Study: Observation of Quark Gluon Plasma!

It is predicted from lattice QCD calculation that at high energy density, a phase transition from hadronic matter to a plasma of deconfined quarks and gluons (QGP) may occur, which is believed to exist in the early universe a few microseconds after the Big Bang. Relativistic heavy ion collisions at Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) is expected to produce such a phase transition.

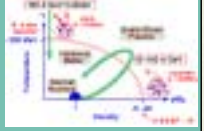
Idea on Searching QGP in Relativistic Heavy Ion Collision experiment

Estimation of energy density we expect to reach: $\sim 2-3\text{GeV}/\text{fm}^3$

- Compare Au+Au collision data with p+p collision data at the same energy per nucleon
- If there is a significant change from p+p collision data scaled by the number of participant nucleons (N_{part}) or binary collisions (N_{coll}), there will be an additional nuclear effect
- Number of binary collisions: Number of underlying binary nucleon-nucleon collisions.
- Centrality: Degree of nuclear overlapping, which is associated with the number of participant nucleons (number of participated nucleons into the collisions). In Au+Au collision, 2 to 197x2



QGP state!?

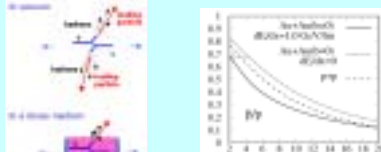


Physics on QGP scoped by high transverse momentum (p_T) hadron ratios

Jet Quenching

Jet will lose its energy in the dense medium

In Year-1, suppression of high p_T hadrons are seen for both π^0 and h^+ , h^- . At even higher p_T , suppression expected to be more dramatic



Xin-Nian, Wang, PRC Vol.58 (1998)2321

Baryon number transport

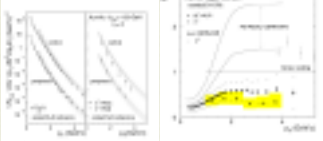
- Baryon number will be transported via gluon junction that will give an another p_T kick on baryon spectra (accelerated)
- In Year-1, proton spectrum reaches close to charged π spectrum
- What will happen even more high p_T ? (return to pQCD base?)



I. Vitev and M. Gyulassy, PRC65(2002)041902
Baryon/meson ratio will give an information on baryon number transport.
Jet quenching can enhance the baryon transport effect (π^+ , π^- , π^0 suppress, while pbar, p enhance)

A hint of Jet Quenching from Year-1 result

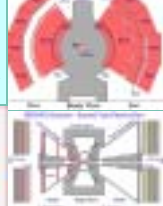
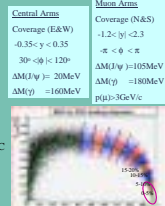
- Clear deficit is seen in π^0 yield in central collisions compared to the p+p data scaled by number of binary collisions
- Peripheral collision data is well consistent with scaled p+p data



"Suppression of Hadrons with Large Transverse Momentum in Central Au+Au Collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 130\text{ GeV}$ ", K. Adcox et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 88, 022301

A complex apparatus to measure: Hadrons, Mesons, Leptons, Photons

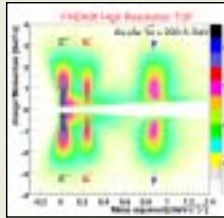
- ~30 Million Minimum Bias Events @ $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=200\text{GeV}$ Au+Au Collisions
- Detectors used in the analysis
 - Tracking: DC and PC
 - Identified charged hadrons: TOF
 - Neutral π : PbSc and PbGL (EMCal)
- Events triggered by BBC and ZDC
- Centrality characterized
- Number of participants determined by Glauber model calculation



PHENIX Detector

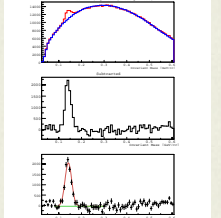
Analysis (proton, pbar and π^+ , π^-)

- Using High Resolution TOF PID device and Drift Chamber.
- Making p_T dependent 2σ cut in squared mass
- Range and Systematic Error
 - proton, pbar: up to 4GeV/c
 - p_T dependent: 11%
 - Overall normalization: Central 18%, Peripheral 16.4%
 - π^+ , π^- : up to 2GeV/c
 - p_T dependent 7%
 - Overall normalization: Central 14%, Peripheral 14%

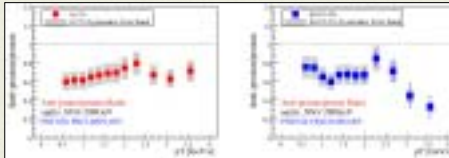


Analysis (Neutral π)

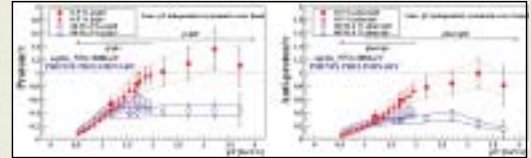
- Using Electro-magnetic Calorimeter
 - 1GeV/c < p_T < 10GeV/c for π^0 !
- Calculate $\gamma\gamma$ invariant mass spectra and subtract combinatorial background
- Efficiency is evaluated by embedding simulated π^0 into real event.
- Systematic Error
 - p_T independent: 9%, Overall: 20-30%



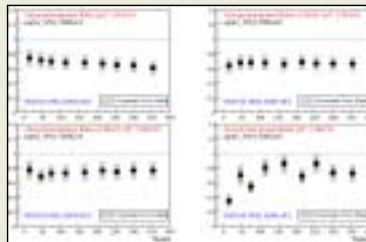
Anti-proton to proton ratios as functions of p_T and number of participant nucleons (Centrality)



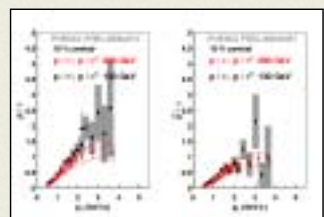
Baryon to meson ratios through Anti-proton and proton to pion ratios as a function of p_T



- pbar/p ratio extends up to 4GeV/c in Year-2
- Point-by-Point Error: Statistical Error
- Bands by lines: Common Systematic Error
- It is almost flat over both entire p_T and centrality (number of participant nucleons)



- pbar/ π^- , p/ π^+ ratios
 - $p_T < 2\text{GeV}$, pbar/ π^- , p/ π^+
 - $p_T > 1\text{GeV}$, use π^0 with π^+ , π^-
- Point-by-Point Errors include point-by-point statistics+systematic errors
- Bands: p_T independent systematic errors
- Decreasing at much more high p_T ?
- Data Compared to Year-1
- Both Year-1 and Year-2 are consistent within systematic error
- Another hint.
- More π rather than protons?



Conclusion

- Ratio of anti-proton/proton is measured up to 4GeV/c. The result is almost flat over the entire p_T and centrality within systematic error
- Ratio of baryon/meson through pbar/ π^- and p/ π^+ is measured up to 4GeV/c. Hints on the effect of dense medium is seen. The result is consistent with Year-1 result within systematic error

