

### The Quark Gluon Plasma: results and prospects with the ALICE experiment

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**RICCI90 SYMPOSIUM** 

# Phase diagram of strongly-interacting (QCD) matter



At high energy density  $\varepsilon$  (high temperature and/or high density) hadronic matter undergoes a phase transition to the Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP): a state in which colour confinement is removed

Phase transition: confined state  $\rightarrow$  deconfined state

Lattice QCD calculations: Critical temperature at 0 baryon density~ 155 MeV Critical energy density  $\varepsilon_c \sim 1 \text{ GeV/fm}^3 \sim 6-7 \varepsilon_{nucleus}$ 

### QGP in laboratory: nucleus-nucleus collisions

 Can we form the QGP in laboratory? Need to compress/heat matter to very high energy densities.



- By colliding two heavy nuclei at ultra-relativistic energies we recreate, for a short time span (about 10<sup>-23</sup> s, or a few fm/c) the conditions for deconfinement
- As the system expands and cools down it undergoes a phase transition from QGP to hadron again, like at the beginning of the life of the Universe: we end up with confined matter again
- Chemical freeze out: time at which inelastic interactions cease
   →abundances of particle species (π,K,p,... yields, not resonances) are fixed
- Kinetic freeze out: all interactions cease → free streaming of particles to detector

#### Ultra-relativistic heavy-ion accelerators

-- only main collision systems are indicated --

- **BNL-AGS**, early '90s, Au-Au up to  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5 \text{ GeV}$
- **CERN-SPS**, from 1994, Pb-Pb up to  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 17 \text{ GeV}$
- BNL-RHIC, from 2000, Au-Au  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 8 200 \text{ GeV}$
- **CERN-LHC**, from 2010, Pb-Pb  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76 5.5 \text{ TeV}$

# Pb-ion facility at CERN

#### Approved 1990, started operating 1994



### First acceleration stage (LNL)

A Heavy Ion Linac for the CERN Accelerator Complex

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Abstract

The injector linac required by CERN for heavy ions, e.g.  $Pb^{28+}$ , is being made in collaboration with several

charge state ions, e.g. pulses of  $O^{6+}$  to  $O^{7+}$ ,  $Ar^{10+}$  to  $Ar^{14+}$ ,  $Pb^{25+}$  to  $Pb^{29+}$  could be obtained. The phenomenon is stable and reproducible and the afterglow peak, dependent on the adjustment of the source parameters, is about 2 or 3 times the



#### Still in use at the LHC!

#### Heavy-ion experiments at the LHC











#### The ALICE detector



### The Silicon Pixel Detector



8192 pixel cells (256x32) with size

50x425 μm<sup>2</sup>

## The Silicon Pixel Detector



One of the most important ALICE sub-detectors trigger, primary vertex reconstruction, event multiplicity, ...



Resolution on track position at the primary vertex better than 70 micron for  $p_T$ >1 GeV/*c* 

#### SPD crucial for charm and beauty measurements



#### Few introductory concepts: centrality, $R_{AA}$

**Nuclear modification factor**  $(R_{AA})$ : compare particle production in Pb-Pb with that in pp scaled by a "geometrical" factor (from Glauber model) to account for the larger number of nucleon-nucleon collisions



# Quarkonia and QGP (re)discovery

## Quarkonium in the QGP

Bound quark-antiquark states: "charmonia"  $\chi_c$ , J/ $\psi$ ,  $\psi$ (2S),... "bottomonia" Y, Y(2S), Y(4S),...

Recall: quant-antiquark QCD potential

$$V(r) = -\frac{\alpha}{r} + kr$$

The QGP consists of deconfined colour charges → screening effect

$$V(r) = -\frac{\alpha}{r} e^{-r/\lambda_D}$$

 $\lambda_{\text{D}}$ : screening radius



The binding of a  $q\overline{q}$  pair is subject to the effects of colour Debye-like screening:

• the "confinement" contribution disappears

• the coulumbian term of the potential is screened by the high color density

# $J/\psi$ suppression -- QGP discovery smoking gun --



N.b. "expected suppression" =  $J/\psi$  absorption in "cold" nuclear matter (no QGP). Not discussed in the slides, but note: p-A needed as reference

Also previous indications: NA51 Collaboration, PLB 438 35 (1998) NA38 Collaboration, PLB 444 516 (1998); PLB 449 128 (1999)

# $J/\psi$ suppression -- QGP discovery smoking gun --



Also previous indications: NA51 Collaboration, PLB 438 35 (1998) NA38 Collaboration, PLB 444 516 (1998); PLB 449 128 (1999)

#### Adding RHIC data: similar suppression than SPS, despite the x12 larger collision

energy (x2  $\varepsilon$ )... unexpected!

### Quarkonium suppression & regeneration

Hot QGP  $\rightarrow$  quarkonia suppression due to Debye-like screening of QCD Q $\overline{Q}$  potential ("melting" of bound Q $\overline{Q}$  states)  $\rightarrow$  signature of deconfinement (T. Matsui and H. Satz, PLB 178 (1986) 416)

#### Surprisingly similar J/ $\psi$ suppression at SPS and RHIC ( $\epsilon$ x2) energies

→ Could quarkonia states be (re)generated via recombination (coalescence) of deconfined quarks? (P. Braun-Munzinger, J. Stachel, PLB 490 (2000) 196)



# $J/\psi$ suppression: LHC vs. RHIC



- $J/\psi$  suppression stronger in central events than peripheral
- Smaller suppression at LHC than RHIC
- Analysis vs. transverse momentum: suppression stronger at higher momentum. In agreement with models expecting about 50% contribution of J/ $\psi$  from recombination at low  $p_{T}$ .

#### "Twice a signature of QGP"

#### Quarkonia: sequential suppression

Indication that  $\psi(2S)$  is more suppressed than J/ $\psi$ 

Y (2S) ~4 times more suppressed than Y(1S)





"Soft probes" --few selected topics--

### Particle ratios



central Pb-Pb collisions ("radial flow peak")

- Pressure gradients leads to radial flow
- Same "velocity" boost gives larger momentum to heavier particles
- Alternative/concurrent explanation: hadronisation via quark coalescence → higher momentum for baryons (3 quarks) than mesons (2 quarks): challenged by φ/p ratio

3 tio  $p(qqq)>p(qq) \leftarrow \vec{p} = \sum_{quarks} \vec{p}_i^{21}$ 

3

p<sub>\_</sub> (GeV/*c*)

2

# Anisotropic (Elliptic) flow



Non-central collisions: azimuthal anisotropy of nuclei overlap region

→ Asymmetric pressure gradients transfer the anisotropy to momentum space



→ The transfer of this asymmetry to momentum space provides a measure of the strength of collective phenomena

Effects addressed by measuring the azimuthal distribution of the particles with respect to the "Reaction Plane"  $\rightarrow$  Fourier analysis

$$N(\varphi) \propto 1 + 2\sum_{n} v_n \cos(n(\varphi - \psi_{RP})) = 1 + 2v_1 \cos(\varphi - \psi_{RP}) + 2v_2 \cos(2(\varphi - \psi_{RP})) + \dots$$
  
v\_e = Elliptic flow, main parameter

# Anisotropic (Elliptic) flow



#### Elliptic flow (v<sub>2</sub>) significantly>0

- Evidence of system collective motion
- "Early signal": develops in partonic phase
- Well described by hydrodinimical models
- Expected trends vs. particle mass
- ightarrow Thermalized partonic system
- → (via more detailed comparisons with models) Data suggest very low viscosity (← small mean free path)

System behaves as ~perfect liquid (the RHIC "paradigm")

JHEP 1609 (2016) 164

# Constraining further viscosity: higher harmonics

#### Initial geometry is not an ideal almond shape

 ○ Fluctuations of initial energy/pressure distributions lead to "irregular" shapes (→ need more harmonics to describe them) that fluctuate event-by-event

#### Simulation of energy density evolution





Viscosity determines the "conversion efficiency" of the initial shape into final momentum azimuthal distribution

Higher harmonics add sensitivity to the value of shear viscosity

# Constraining further viscosity: higher harmonics



2.76 TeV (Run 1): PRL 107 (2011) 032301 5 TeV (Run 2): PRL116,132302 (2016)

Higher-harmonic coefficients significantly non-zero

# QGP viscosity very low (lower than any atomic matter)

### High-energy probes $\rightarrow$ microscopic processes (local interactions) in the medium

#### QGP tomography with high-energy partons

- Early production in hard-scattering processes with high  $Q^2$
- Production cross sections calculable with pQCD
- Strongly interacting with the medium

#### "Calibrated probes" of the medium $\omega = x E$ Study parton interaction with the medium ω=(1-x)E Hard **energy loss via radiative** ("gluon Bremsstrahlung") Production collisional processes Medium ~ Study QCD "Bethe-Block" curve µ<sup>+</sup> on Cu for partons in the QGP Bethe-Bloch Radiative Anderson-Ziegler indhard Scharff $E_{\mu c}$ Radiative Radiative losses **Connection of "local" interactions** Minimum effects ionization reach 1% Nuclear losses with global medium properties Without **b** $\rightarrow$ Microscopic description of the $10^4$ 0.11000 105 10<sup>6</sup> 0.001 0.01 1 10100βγ medium 0.11 101001010010100ı 1 1 [MeV/c][GeV/c][TeV/c]Muon momentum

#### QGP tomography with high-energy partons

- Early production in hard-scattering processes with high  $Q^2$
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- Strongly interacting with the medium

#### Calibrated probes" of the medium

Study parton interaction with the medium

 energy loss via radiative ("gluon Bremsstrahlung") collisional processes

~ Study QCD "Bethe-Block" curve for partons in the QGP

Connection of "local" interactions with global medium properties → Microscopic description of the medium



e.g. in BDMPS-Z formalism\*

$$\left<\Delta E\right>^{\rm rad} \propto \alpha_s C_R \hat{q} L^2$$
  
 $\left< k_{\rm T}^2 \right> (z^2)$ 

$$\hat{q} = \frac{\langle n_{\rm T} \rangle}{\lambda} = \left\langle k_{\rm T}^2 \right\rangle \rho \sigma$$

Transport coefficient(s)

\*Baier, Dokshitzer, Mueller, Peigné, Schiff, NPB 483 (1997) 29 Zakharov, JTEPL 63 (1996) 952.

#### QGP tomography with high-energy partons



# Jet quenching



ALI-PREL-114186

- Is the jet internal structure modified?
  - Kinetic properties
  - Spatial distribution of jet constituents
- Particle specie composition
  Many studies performed/ongoing

Jets are "extended" objects
→ provide complementary information to single particle observables
→Address spatial distribution and kinetic properties of radiated energy

#### Jet suppression → Out-of-cone radiation



## Open charm and beauty



 $R_{AA}$  (J/ $\psi$  from B) >  $R_{AA}$ (D) in central collisions

Indication of  $\tilde{R}_{AA}(B) > R_{AA}(D)$ 

The different suppression and the centrality dependence as expected from **models with quark-mass dependent energy loss** 

 $(\Delta E_{g} > \Delta E_{lq} \ge \Delta E_{c} > \Delta E_{b})$ 

Expected from dead cone effect:



## Open charm and beauty





### Charm flows $\rightarrow$ important constraints to models $D_s$ vs. non strange D: modification of particle species abundances? $\rightarrow$ hadronisation via coalescence?

- $\rightarrow$  Charm participates to system collective motion
- → Possible thermalisation? Need more precision at low  $p_{\rm T}$



### Prospects for the future



# ALICE data-taking in Run-2

System	Year	√s <sub>nn</sub> (TeV)	L <sub>int</sub>
рр	2015-2016	13	~14 pb <sup>-1</sup>
рр	2015 (~4 days)	5.02	~100 nb⁻¹
p-Pb	2016	5.02	~3 nb <sup>-1</sup>
p-Pb	2016	8.16	~20 nb⁻¹
Pb-p	2016	8.16	~20 nb <sup>-1</sup>
Pb-Pb	2015	5.02	~0.4 nb <sup>-1</sup>

- Goals for 2017-18:
  - Pb-Pb: reach 1/nb target
  - pp 13 TeV: reach 40/pb target
  - High statistics pp 5 TeV sample

### ALICE after Run-2



#### Performance examples for HF signals

Access to charm and beauty down to very low  $p_{T}$ 


### QGP in small systems?



The future has already started!!

# The multi collision-system experimental approach: the initial design







#### Local structure of QCD vacuum

Local QCD + initial state/cold nuclear matter

Local QCD + initial state/cold nuclear matter + Quark-Gluon Plasma

Copied by. C. Loizides who adapted it from G. Roland

#### Long range correlations and flow in p-Pb



#### Large $v_2$ (elliptic flow) values!

**Mass ordering and "crossing"** similar to Pb-Pb, where data are reproduced by hydrodynimical models



## Strangeness enhancement



- Increase of strange particle yield with collision centrality
- Stronger effect for particles with larger strangeness content
- Historical QGP "smoking gun" (Rafelski, Müller, PRL48(1982)1066), associated with partial chiral symmetry restoration (see backup) and removal of canonical suppression

#### PHYSICS LETTERS B





- Increase of strange particle yield v
- Stronger effect for particles with la
- Historical QGP "smoking gun" (Rat chiral symmetry restoration (see b)

Physics Letters B 449 (1999) 401-406

ELSEVIER

#### Strangeness enhancement at mid-rapidity in Pb–Pb collisions at 158 A GeV/c

WA97 Collaboration

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### Strangeness enhancement



- Increase of strange particle yield with collision centrality
- Stronger effect for particles with larger strangeness content
- Historical QGP "smoking gun" (Rafelski, Müller, PRL48(1982)1066), associated with partial chiral symmetry restoration (see backup) and removal of canonical suppression
   Now observed also in pp collisions at high multiplicity
   → New research direction

# ... only a snapshot of the main results presented

After 30 years of studies QGP formation in heavy-ion collisions quite established

The experimental goal is now to measure precisely its properties and achieve a comprehensive microscopic description of the medium

- Event-by-event studies and fluctuations
- Push precision for particle chemistry (baryon/mesons, resonances,...)
- Hard-probes: still much room for improving precision and for more differential measurements → still a lot to learn!

Recent years: indication of collective QGP-like effects in small collision systems with particle multiplicity a possible "collant"/common scale  $\rightarrow$  Really QGP in pp/p-A collisions?

- $\rightarrow$  Possibility to study onset of these phenomena?
- $\rightarrow$  New research direction

#### A lot of work for ongoing and future/upgraded experiments!

### SPARES

#### System size: HBT interferometry Hanbury-Brown and Twiss



## Energy density

• Particle multiplicity at mid-rapidity  $\rightarrow$  transverse energy density



 $\varepsilon_c \simeq 0.6 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$ 

# Thermal model and chemical freeze-out temperature

Chemical freeze-out temperature estimated from **relative particle abundances** Model assuming statistical hadronization: particle abundances determined by their mass and quantum numbers (spin) at by system properties ( $T_{ch}$ , $u_{B}$ ,..)



Hadron yields described assuming chemical equilibrium and  $T_{ch}$ ~156 MeV  $\rightarrow$ close to lattice QCD expectation for  $T_{crit}$ 

Some tension for protons and K\*

## Kinetic freeze-out temperature



Combined fit to several particle spectra  $\rightarrow$  system properties at kinetic freeze-out "Blast-wave" model: thermalized volume elements expanding in a common velocity field ( $\rightarrow$  convolution of thermal velocity with expansion velocity)

• Goodness of the global fit  $\rightarrow$  hydro-dynamical description holds

### Kinetic freeze-out temperature



Combined fit to several particle spectra  $\rightarrow$  system properties at kinetic freeze-out "Blast-wave" model: thermalized volume elements expanding in a common velocity field ( $\rightarrow$  convolution of thermal velocity with expansion velocity)

- Goodness of the global fit  $\rightarrow$  hydro-dynamical description holds
- In central collisions at LHC: T<sub>kin</sub>~ 90 MeV, transverse expansion velocity ~0.65 c

### Elliptic flow at 5 TeV



#### $\phi$ flow vs. $p_{T}$ :

- Mass ordering at low  $p_{T}$
- Baryon vs. meson grouping at higher  $p_T$  (2-6 GeV/c)

Quark-level flow + recombination?

#### **Temperature from Photon spectrum**

- Photons in heavy-ion collisions
  - Photons from QCD hard scattering: power law spectrum – dominant at high  $p_{\rm T}$
  - Thermal photons, emitted by the hot system (analogy with black body radiation): exponential spectrum dominant at low  $p_{\rm T}$ 
    - From inverse slope:

#### $T_{eff}^{*} = 304 \pm 41 \text{ MeV}$ ~ 2 $T_c (T_c \sim 160 \text{ MeV})$ ~ 1.25 x $T_{eff}(\text{RHIC})$

\* "Average" over whole medium evolution

ALICE, Phys.Lett. B754 (2016) 235





# $J/\psi$ elliptic flow



Positive J/ $\psi$  elliptic flow Expected for  $J/\psi$  from recombination Remains high at high  $p_{T} \rightarrow$  not expected from models

25

30

PbPb √s<sub>NN</sub> = 2.76 TeV

Cent. 10-60%

High p<sub>T</sub>

20

### QGP tomography with heavy quarks

- Early production in hard-scattering processes with high  $Q^2 \ll$  at all  $p_{T}$  for charm and beauty
- Production cross sections calculable with pQCD
- Strongly interacting with the medium

Study parton interaction with the medium • energy loss via radiative ("gluon Bremsstrahlung") collisional processes > path length and medium density > color charge (Casimir factor) > quark mass (e.g. from dead-cone effect) HQ Gluonsstrahlung probability Gluonsstrahlung probability  $\frac{1}{\left[\theta^2 + \left(m_Q/E_Q\right)^2\right]^2}$ Dokshitzer, Khoze, Troyan, JPG 17 (1991) 1602.

Dokshitzer, Khoze, Iroyan, JPG 17 (1991) 1602. Dokshitzer and Kharzeev, PLB 519 (2001) 199.



(large masses >>  $\Lambda_{OCD}$ )

Figure from A. Andronic *et al.*, EPJC C76 (2016) M. Djordjevic, Phys. Rev. C80 064909 (2009), Phys. Rev. C74 064907 (2006).

### QGP tomography with heavy quarks

(large masses  $>> \Lambda_{OCD}$ )



- Production cross sections calculable with pQCD
- Strongly interacting with the medium
- Hard fragmentation → measured meson properties closer to parton ones

   "Calibrated probes" of the medium



participation in collective motion → azimuthal anisotropy of produced particle

# Open charm and beauty

ALICE, JHEP 1511 (2015) 205 CMS, EPJ C 77 (2017) 252



Similar D meson and pion R<sub>AA</sub> Expected from small charm-quark mass + differences between charm and gluon/LF spectra slope and fragmentation

 $R_{AA}$  (J/ $\psi$  from B) >  $R_{AA}$ (D) in central collisions



The different suppression and the centrality dependence as expected from **models with quark-mass dependent energy loss** 

 $(\Delta E_{g} > \Delta E_{lq} \ge \Delta E_{c} > \Delta E_{b})$ 

Expected from dead cone effect:



# Open charm and beauty





- Charm flows →important constraints to models D<sub>s</sub> vs. non strange D: modification of particle species abundances? →hadronisation via coalescence?
- $\rightarrow$  Charm participates to system collective motion
- → Possible thermalisation? Need more precision at low  $p_{\rm T}$



#### QGP tomography with high-energy partons



Very similar result at 5 TeV (run-2)

Strong suppression of intermediate/ high  $p_T$  particles in central Pb-Pb collisions

Absent in p-Pb collisions (no QGP expected)

- → final-state effect
- → Evidence of in-medium partonic energy loss



#### QGP tomography with high-energy partons



Strong suppression of intermediate/ high  $p_{\rm T}$  particles in central Pb-Pb collisions

Absent in p-Pb collisions (no QGP expected)

- $\rightarrow$  final-state effect
- → Evidence of in-medium partonic energy loss



#### Started to extract information from data

From analysis of inclusive charged particle spectra at RHIC and LHC and considering many models



Nucl.Phys. A931 (2014) 404-409  $\hat{q} = 1.2 \pm 0.3 \text{ GeV}^2/\text{fm} \text{ (central Au-Au } \sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 200 \text{ GeV} \text{)}$  $\hat{q} = 1.9 \pm 0.7 \text{ GeV}^2/\text{fm} \text{ (central Pb-Pb } \sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 2.76 \text{ TeV} \text{)}$ 



from J. Liao, QM2017

# Jet quenching

Jets are "extended" objects  $\rightarrow$  provide complementary information to single particle observables

· Address spatial distribution and kinetic properties of radiated energy

Out-of-cone radiation → jet suppression





- Kinetic properties
- Spatial distribution of jet constituents
- Particle specie composition Many studies performed



# Jet-structure modifications

• First measurement of jet mass in Pb-Pb (and in p-Pb):

$$M = \sqrt{p^2 - p_T^2 - p_z^2}. 
onumber \ p_z = \sum_{i=1}^n p_{T_i} \sinh \eta_i, \ \ p = \sum_{i=1}^n p_{T_i} \cosh \eta_i$$

- Large *M*: soft constituents far from jet axis
- Small *M*: few hard constituents close to axis

• 
$$\langle M_{\text{quark jet}} \rangle < \langle M_{\text{gluon jet}} \rangle$$



p-Pb baseline described by PYTHIA and HERWIG

**No significant modification of jet structure in central Pb-Pb wrt p-Pb** Pb-Pb better described by PYTHIA than by generators with gluon radiation in a QGP

#### **Bottomonium suppression**



→Trend expected from "sequential suppression"

#### Few introductory concepts: centrality, $R_{AA}$

**Nuclear modification factor**  $(R_{AA})$ : compare particle production in Pb-Pb with that in pp scaled by a "geometrical" factor (from Glauber model) to account for the larger number of nucleon-nucleon collisions



# Geometry of heavy ion collisions



64

#### Signals reconstructed with central barrel



# Lattice QCD: Phase Transition

Lattice QCD is neither a calculation not a simulation: "realization" of QCD over a discretized space. It allows to compute thermodynamical properties of a system even in a non-perturbative regime of QCD



 $\mathcal{E}$ 

Proportional to number of degrees of freedom (ndof) (S. Boltzmann's law)

- Zero baryon density, 2(u, d) or 3 (u, d, s) quark flavours
- $\varepsilon$  changes rapidly around  $T_c$
- → signal change in number of degrees of freedom
- Most recent calculations:

$$T_c \sim 155 \text{ MeV}$$
 :

$$\rightarrow \varepsilon_c \sim 0.6 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$$

F. Karsch. Lattice QCD at High Temperature and Density. Lecture Notes of Physics, vol. 583, 2002. arXiv:hep-lat/0106019.

# Strangeness enhancement

Most of light particle mass (and thus of matter) is due to spontaneous breaking of chiral symmetry of QCD

### In the QGP chiral symmetry is expected to be partially restored (more details in backup)

[Raf. Rep. elski: Phys88 (1982) 331] [Rafelski-Müller: Phys. Rev. Lett. 48 (1982) 1066]

Quarks reacquire the "bare" mass values they have in the QCD Lagrangian

m(u,d): ~ 350 MeV  $\rightarrow$  a few MeV m(s): ~ 500 MeV  $\rightarrow$  ~ 150 MeV

The symmetry is exact only for massless particles, therefore its restoration is only partial.

#### Consequence:

→abundant strange quark pair production
→easier to form multi-strange hadrons





# QCD Lagrangian and spontaneous breaking of chiral symmetry

 $\mathcal{L}_{ ext{QCD}} = ar{\psi}_i \left( i (\gamma^\mu D_\mu)_{ij} - ar{\delta}_{ij} 
ight) \psi_j - rac{1}{4} G^a_{\mu
u} G^{\mu
u}_a$ 

In the limit of vanishing quark masses, the QCD Lagrangian becomes symmetric under transformations under the group  $SU(N_f)_L \times SU(N_f)_R$ : chiral symmetry.

However, chiral symmetry is spontaneously broken by the non-zero expectation value of the chiral condensate in vacuum,  $\langle \psi \bar{\psi} \rangle \neq 0$ , i.e. the QCD vacuum (at *T*=0) breaks the chiral symmetry. This mechanisms generates a "dynamical" mass for quarks, which is responsible for most of the matter mass.

This symmetry is approximately valid for u,d,(s) quarks (lightest).



X.Zhu et al., PLB 647 (2007) 366

### Restoration of bare quark masses in the QGP (T>0)

Deconfinement is expected to be accompanied by a "Partial Restoration of Chiral Symmetry", due to the vanishing of the  $\langle \psi \bar{\psi} \rangle$  expectation value. Quarks reacquire the "bare" mass values they have in the QCD Lagrangian

- m(u,d): ~ 350 MeV → a few MeV
- m(s): ~ 500 MeV → ~ 150 MeV

Since the symmetry is exact only for massless particles, therefore its restoration here is only partial.

Consequence:

it's easier to produce strange quarks!





#### Constraining further viscosity: example with a model J. E. Bernhard et al. Phys. Rev. C 94, 024907 (2016)

9 parameters: 3 initial state, 4 for QGP response, 2 model parameters



#### The ALICE detector: "small-angle" detectors



#### The ALICE detector: central barrel






Possible interest by experiment for lighter ion run (Ar or Xe)

## ALICE upgrade: New ITS

Design requirements:

- 1. Improve impact parameter resolution by a factor ~3 (5) in r $\phi$  (z)
  - → Reduce pixel size (currently 50 µm x 425 µm)
    - monolithic (MAPS) with size ~ 28  $\mu$ m x 28  $\mu$ m
  - ➔ Go closer to interaction point:
    - → new smaller beam pipe: 2.9 cm → 1.9 cm
    - → first layer with smaller radius (2.3 cm, currently 3.9 cm)
  - → Reduce material thickness: 50 µm silicon, X/X₀ from current ~1.13% to ~0.3(0.8)% per layer
- 2. High standalone tracking performance (efficiency, spatial and momentum resolutions)
  - ➔ Increase granularity
  - → Add 1 layer (from 6 to 7)
- **3. Faster (x50) readout**: Pb-Pb interactions up to 100 kHz
- **4. Maintenance:** allow for removal/ insertion of faulty detector components during annual winter shutdown



# **New ITS: performance**

ITS TDR:

Studies done with simulations with realistic and complete detector geometry and material budget description.

#### Track spatial resolution at the primary vertex





## **Muon Forward Tracker**



Complementing muon spectrometer at forward rapidity

Extrapolating back to the vertex region degrades the information on the kinematics and trajectory

→ Cannot separate prompt and displaced muons

## Muon Forward Tracker



Complementing muon spectrometer at forward rapidity

Muon Spectrometer

Muon tracks are extrapolated and matched to the MFT clusters before the absorber



## **Muon Forward Tracker**





## **5-6 planes of CMOS silicon pixel sensors** (same technology as ITS):

- 50 < z < 80 cm
  - R<sub>min</sub> ≈ 2.5 cm (beam pipe constraint)
  - 11 < R<sub>max</sub> < 16 cm
- Area ≈ 2700 cm<sup>2</sup>
- $X/X_0 = 0.4\%$  per plane
- Current pixel size scenario: ~28 x 28  $\mu$ m<sup>2</sup>

# ALICE at high rate: field cage TPC Upgrade

### Goals

- Operate TPC at 50 kHz
- Preserving current momentum resolution and PID capability
- Current TPC readout based on MWPC limits the event readout rate to 3.5 kHz

## → Upgrade TPC strategy

- New readout chambers: MWPC replaced with micropattern gaseous detectors, including GEM (Gas Electron Multiplier)
  •No gating, small ion backflow
- Redesign TPC front-end and readout electronic systems to allow for continuous readout
- Significant online data reduction to comply with the limited bandwidth
  - •Online cluster finding and cluster-track association



# **Di-electron production**

One of the most fundamental measurements, sensitive to:

- chiral-symmetry restoration by modification of  $\rho\text{-meson}$  spectral function
- partonic equation of state studying space–time evolution with invariant-mass and  $p_{\rm T}$  distributions of dileptons
- photon thermal emission extrapolating to zero dilepton mass



## Target measurements:

- di-electron yield vs. mass and  $p_{\rm T}$  (require background subtraction)
- di-electron elliptic flow

### New ITS

- Reduced combinatorial background (reduce impact of γ-conversions)
- Charm rejection

## **Di-electron production**

Excess after background subtraction



current ITS and event rate: new ITS and high-rate: large statistical and systematic uncertainties **precise measurement** Allows for an estimation of the **temperature at various phases of system expansion** with 10-20% precision (stat.+syst.)