



XXXIV International School "Francesco Romano"

on Nuclear, Subnuclear and Astroparticle Physics

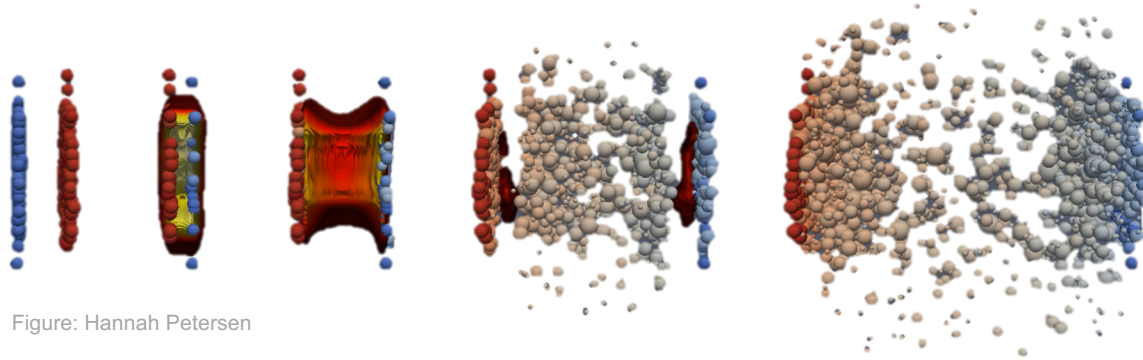


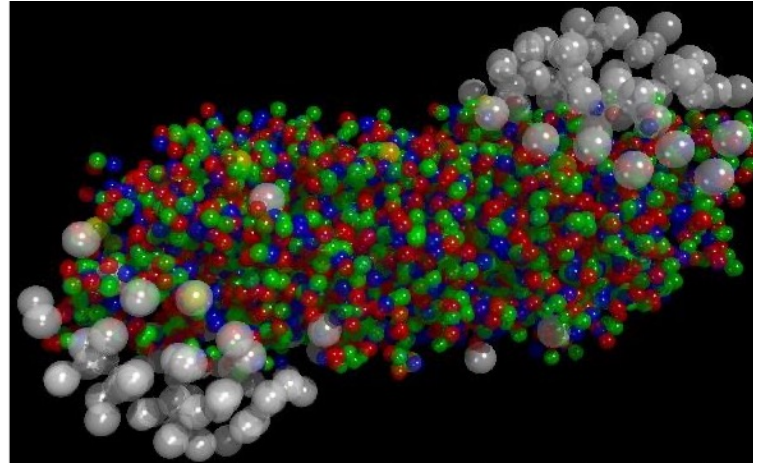
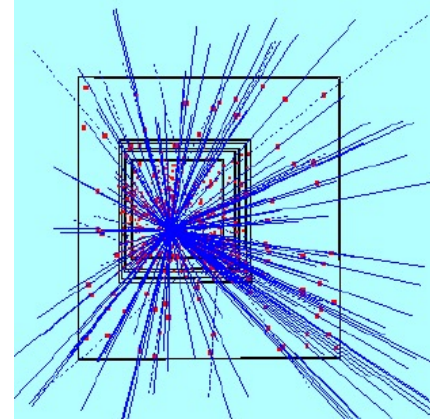
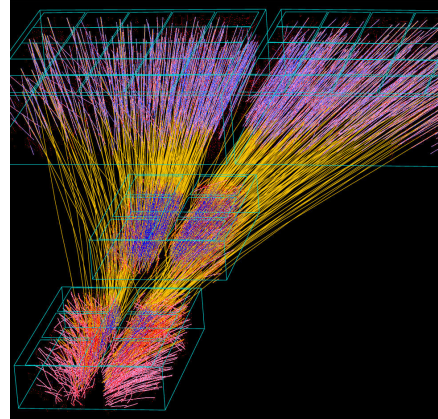
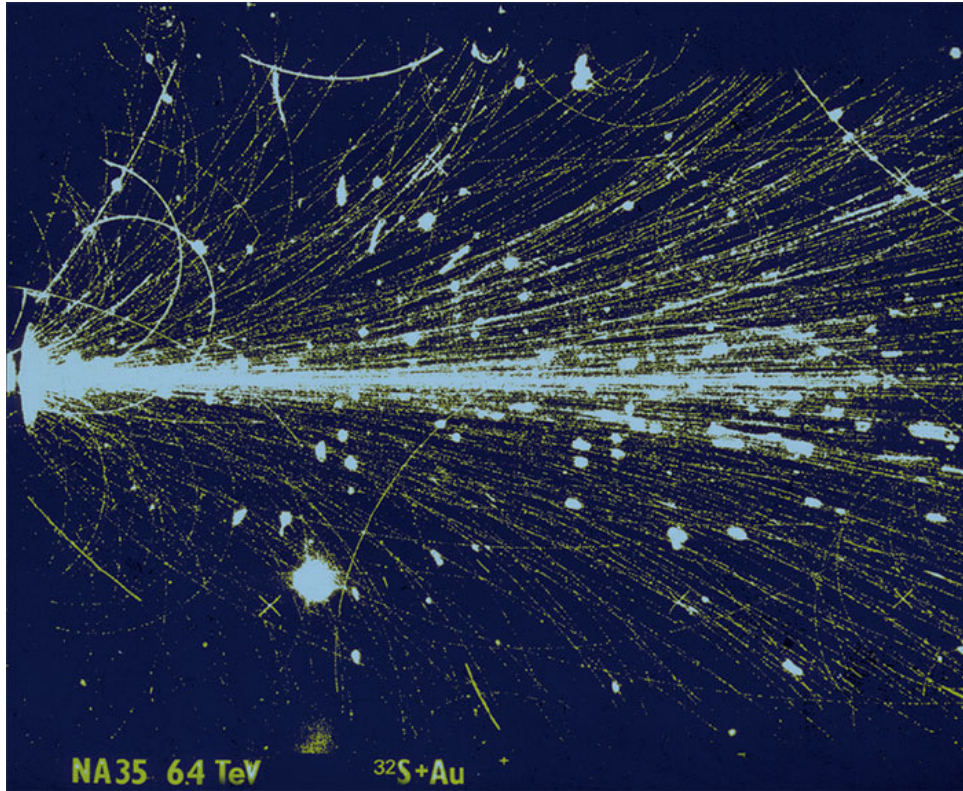
Figure: Hannah Petersen

Introduction to Ultrarelativistic Nuclear Collisions (1)

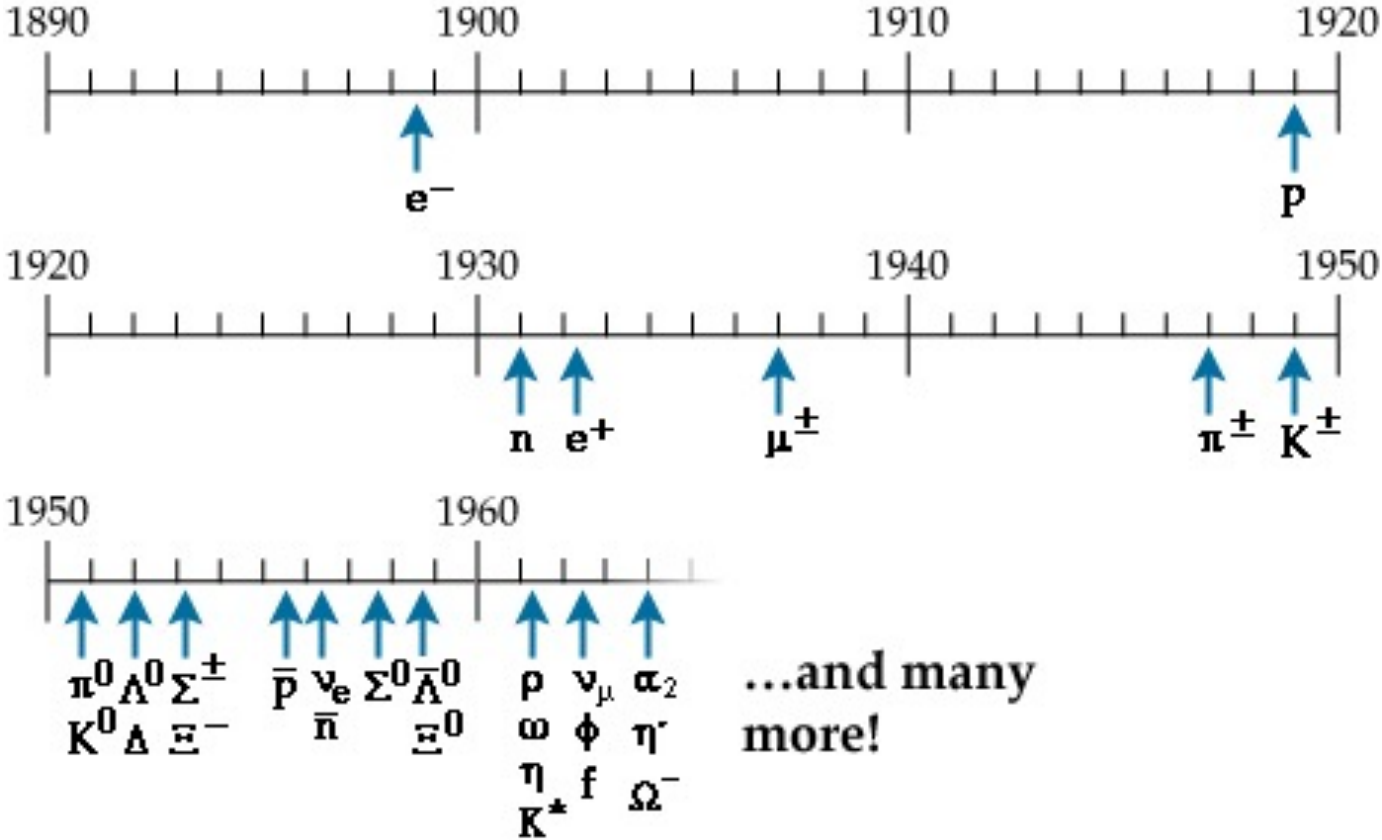


Federico Antinori
(INFN, Padova, Italy)

A bit of history...



Discovery of subnuclear particles...

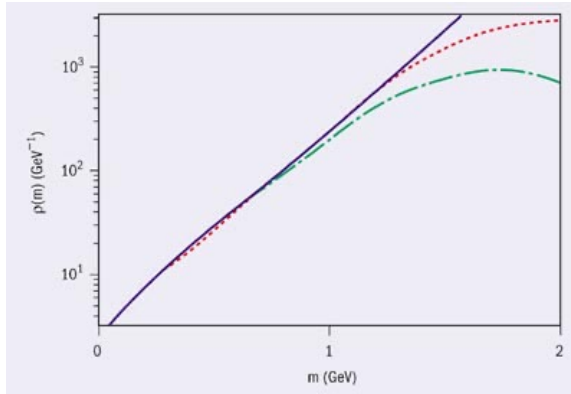


Statistical Bootstrap and Hagedorn Temperature

- very elegant idea:
 - hadrons are made of hadrons which in turn are made of hadrons which in turn...
 - no fundamental hadron (“nuclear democracy”)
 - very popular in the sixties (pre-quarks)
(very much “sixties”, in fact: F Capra takes the idea and runs away with it in “The Tao of Physics”)
- pioneered by Geoffrey Chew (UC Berkeley)
 - e.g.: G. Chew (1962). *S-Matrix theory of strong interactions*. New York: W A Benjamin
- developed by Rolf Hagedorn (CERN) to a full-fledged theory of strong interactions
 - e.g.: R Hagedorn: Statistical thermodynamics of strong interactions at high energies 1965 *Nuovo Cim. Suppl.* 3 147
- very successful in calculating hadronic collision cross sections
 - e.g.: H Grote, R Hagedorn and J Ranft, Atlas of particle spectra, CERN-report (1970)
 - calculated based on hadron exchange → need to know spectrum of all existing hadrons

Spectrum of hadron masses

- spectrum of hadrons from “bootstrap equation”: $\rho(m) \propto m^{-3} \exp\left(\frac{m}{T_H}\right)$
 - exponential growth of number of hadrons at higher and higher masses!
 - controlled by “Hagedorn temperature”, $T_H \sim 150\text{-}160$ MeV



green: states known in 1967
red: states known by mid-1990's
blue: expected spectrum for $T_H = 158$ MeV

- btw, still holds: very similar results from lattice QCD
 - e.g.: A Majumder, B Müller, PRL 105:252002,2010
 - that's why bootstrap theory worked well for hadron interactions!
(the idea was very deep, even if the picture was not the correct fundamental one!)

Hagedorn temperature: a limiting value?

e.g. following K Redlich, H Satz in “Melting Hadrons, Boiling Quarks”, J Rafelski ed (Springer, 2016)

- partition function for a system of non-interacting pions:

$$\ln \mathcal{Z}(T, V) = \frac{VTm_0^2}{2\pi^2} K_2\left(\frac{m_0}{T}\right)$$

- interactions as resonance formation:
 - interacting system of pions \leftrightarrow non-interacting gas of all possible resonances

$$\ln \mathcal{Z}(T, V) = \sum_i \frac{VTm_i^2}{2\pi^2} \rho(m_i) K_2\left(\frac{m_i}{T}\right) \approx \frac{VT}{2\pi^2} \int dm m^2 \rho(m) K_2\left(\frac{m}{T}\right)$$

- inserting Hagedorn’s spectrum:

$$\ln \mathcal{Z}(T, V) \approx V \left[\frac{T}{2\pi} \right]^{3/2} \int \frac{dm}{m^{3/2}} e^{-\left[\frac{m}{T} - \frac{m}{T_H}\right]} \quad \leftarrow \text{diverges for } T \rightarrow T_H$$

- energy pumped into such a system, goes to creating heavier and heavier resonances
- asymptotically reaching T_H

→ T_H would then be the maximum possible temperature!

... but Quarks enter the scene...

- the other main idea proposed in the 60's to explain the multitude of hadrons
 - 1961: “eightfold way” (SU(3) flavour symmetry, Murray Gell-Mann)
 - 1965: quark hypothesis (Murray Gell-Mann, George Zweig)
 - 1968: observation of “partons” in Deep Inelastic Scattering at SLAC
 - 1970: GIM mechanism (Sheldon Glashow, John Iliopoulos, Luciano Maiani)
 - to explain absence of flavour-changing neutral currents
 - proposal of fourth quark (charm) → cancellation of flavour-changing terms
 - 1974: discovery of charm (J/ψ) at Brookhaven and SLAC (+ Frascati 5 days later)
- quark hypothesis widely accepted, and in 1975...

1975, Cabibbo and Parisi: “quark liberation” at high T

Volume 59B, number 1

PHYSICS LETTERS

13 October 1975

EXPONENTIAL HADRONIC SPECTRUM AND QUARK LIBERATION

N. CABIBBO

*Istituto di Fisica, Università di Roma,
Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Sezione di Roma, Italy*

G. PARISI

Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Frascati, Italy

Received 9 June 1975

The exponentially increasing spectrum proposed by Hagedorn is not necessarily connected with a limiting temperature, but it is present in any system which undergoes a second order phase transition. We suggest that the “observed” exponential spectrum is connected to the existence of a different phase of the vacuum in which quarks are not confine

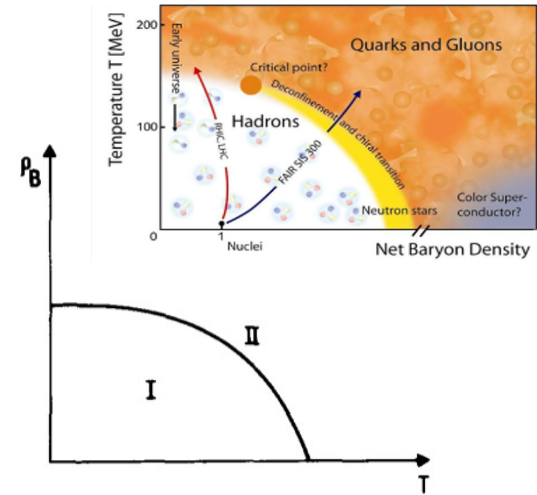


Fig. 1. Schematic phase diagram of hadronic matter. ρ_B is the density of baryonic number. Quarks are confined in phase I and unconfined in phase II.

- T_H not maximum attainable, simply: for $T > T_H$ quarks not confined any more

1975, Collins and Perry: “quark soup” in neutron stars?

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 21

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

26 MAY 1975

Superdense Matter: Neutrons or Asymptotically Free Quarks?

J. C. Collins and M. J. Perry

*Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, University of Cambridge,
Cambridge CB3 9EW, England*

(Received 6 January 1975)

We note the following: The quark model implies that superdense matter (found in neutron-star cores, exploding black holes, and the early big-bang universe) consists of quarks rather than of hadrons. Bjorken scaling implies that the quarks interact weakly. An asymptotically free gauge theory allows realistic calculations taking full account of strong interactions.

the basic argument is contained in only a few lines...

A neutron has a radius¹⁰ of about 0.5–1 fm, and so has a density of about $8 \times 10^{14} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$, whereas the central density of a neutron star^{1,2} can be as much as 10^{16} – $10^{17} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$. In this case, one must expect the hadrons to overlap, and their individuality to be confused. Therefore, we suggest that matter at such high densities is a quark soup.

1978, the name is coined

by E V Shuryak in Yadernaya Fizika 28 (1978) 403: "Kvark-Glyuonnaya Plazma"

**КВАРК-ГЛЮОННАЯ ПЛАЗМА И РОЖДЕНИЕ ЛЕПТОНОВ,
ФОТОНОВ И ПСИОНОВ В АДРОННЫХ СОУДАРЕНИЯХ**

Э. В. ШУРЯК

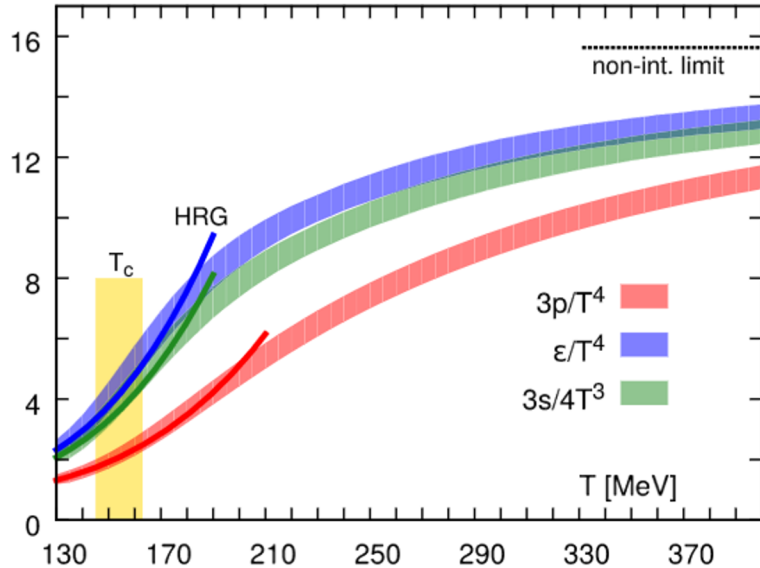
ИНСТИТУТ ЯДЕРНОЙ ФИЗИКИ СО АН СССР

(Поступила в редакцию 14 марта 1978 г.)

Предлагается теория явлений, связанных с массами M и поперечными импульсами p_{\perp} , такими, что $1 \text{ Гэв} \lesssim M$, $p_{\perp} \ll \sqrt{s}$. Для их описания применяется модель локально-равновесной кварк-глюонной плазмы, разлетающейся по определенному закону. Применение квантовой хромодинамики для вычисления скоростей ряда реакций в такой плазме позволяет вычислить спектры масс дилептонов, распределение по p_{\perp} лептонов, фотонов, пионов и адронных струй, сечения рождения пар очарованных кварков и различных состояний чармония (псионов): J/ψ -, χ -, ψ' -мезонов. Результаты согласуются с экспериментальными данными.

Lattice QCD

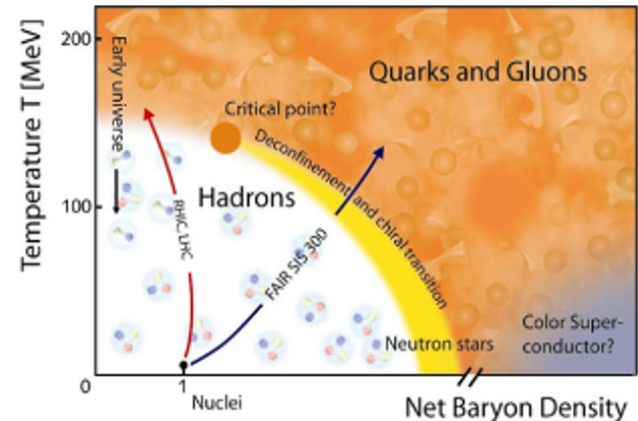
- the rigorous way of performing calculations in the non-perturbative regime of QCD
- discretisation on a space-time lattice
 - → ultraviolet (i.e. large-momentum scale) divergencies can be avoided



[A Bazavov et al. PRD 90 094503 (2014)]

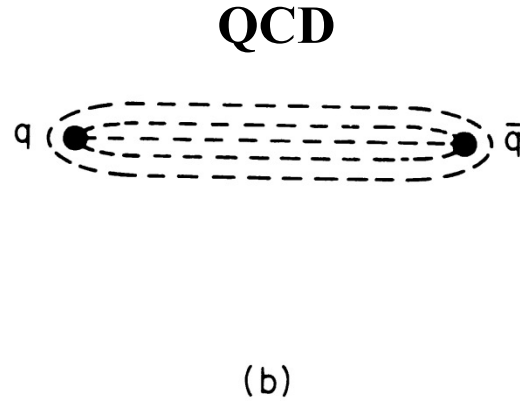
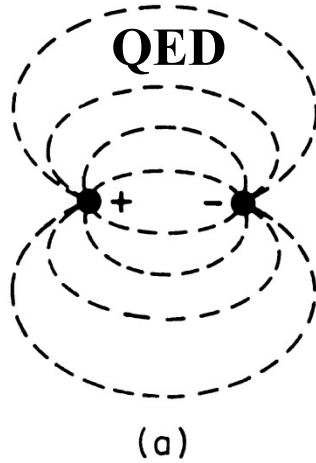
- around critical temperature (T_C): rapid change of
 - energy density ϵ
 - entropy density s
 - pressure density p
- due to activation of partonic degrees of freedom
- at zero baryon density → smooth crossover
- $T_C = (156.5 \pm 1.5) \text{ MeV}$ [A Bazavov et al. Phys.Lett.B 795 (2019) 15]

○ $\epsilon \sim O(\text{GeV}/\text{fm}^3)$



- ... what about the physical mechanisms behind confinement?
- can we get an intuitive view of what happens in a confined system?
- can we get a feeling about the physical conditions for deconfinement?
- ... let's try...
(mostly following K Gottfried and V Weisskopf, "Concepts of Particle Physics", Vol. II, Oxford University Press, 1986)

Confining potential in QCD



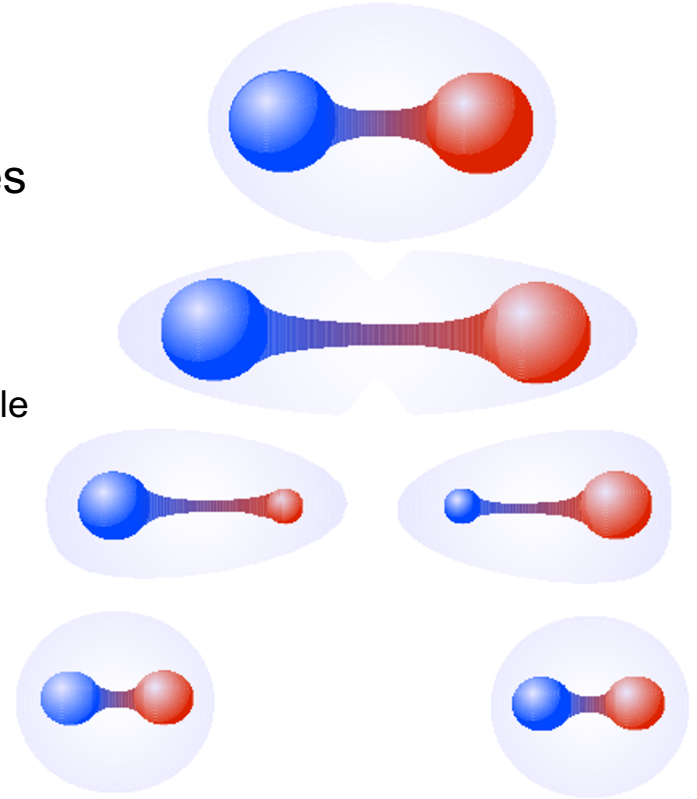
- unlike in QED, the QCD field lines are compressed into a “flux tube” (or “string”)
 - cross-section ($\sim \text{fm}^2$)
 - long-distance potential which grows linearly with r :

$$V \sim \kappa r \text{ with } \kappa \sim \text{GeV/fm}$$

→ this leads to confinement

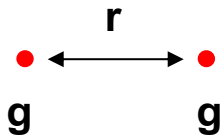
String potential

- pulling string apart → energy in string increases
 - $V \sim \kappa r$
 - string breaking point
 - creating a q-qbar pair becomes energetically favourable
 - colour charge neutralised
- one ends up with two colour neutral strings
- ... and eventually hadrons



The QCD vacuum is far from trivial...

- e.g.: 2 gluons in singlet state at a distance r



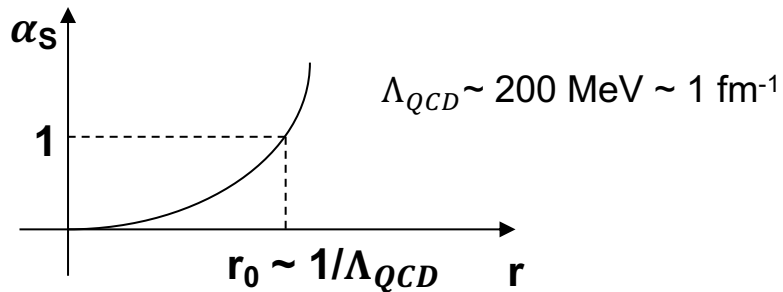
$$\Delta p \Delta r \sim \hbar = 1$$

$$r \sim \frac{1}{p} \sim \frac{1}{E_{KIN}} \rightarrow E_{KIN} \sim \frac{1}{r}$$

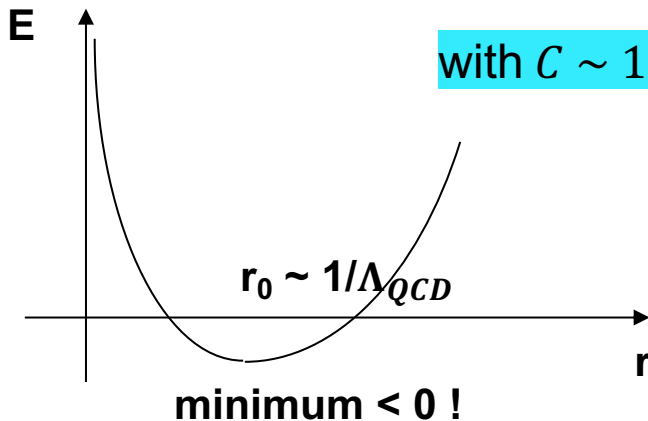
$$r \rightarrow 0 \quad E \sim \frac{1}{r}$$

$$r \sim r_0 \quad E \lesssim 0$$

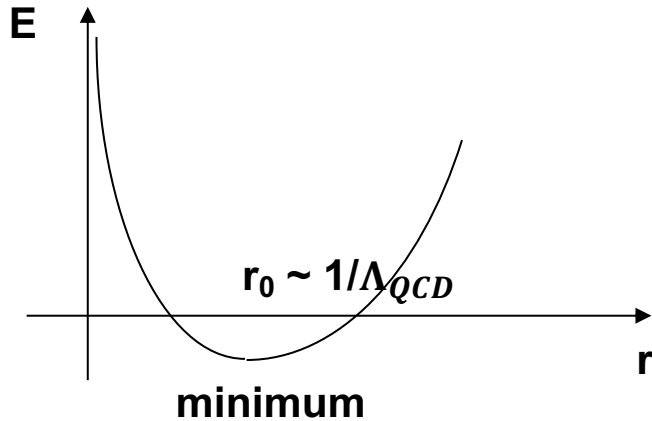
$$r \rightarrow \infty \quad E \sim kr$$



$$E = \frac{1}{r} - C \frac{\alpha_s}{r} = \frac{1 - C\alpha_s}{r}$$



What just happened?



a state with

- two gluons in singlet configuration
- at a distance $r_0 \sim 1/\Lambda$

... is actually energetically favoured!

- over the “empty” vacuum

or, as Gottfried and Weisskopf put it:

“The ‘empty’ vacuum is unstable. There is a state of lower energy that consists of cells, each containing a gluon pair in colour- and spin- singlet state. The size of these cells is of order r_0 . We may speak of a “liquid” vacuum.”



We can picture confinement as an effect of the pressure exerted by this liquid...

The MIT Bag Model

- the essential phenomenology of confinement is described as follows:
 - assume quarks are confined within bubbles (bags) of perturbative (=empty) vacuum
 - on which the QCD vacuum (“liquid”) exerts a confining pressure B (= bag constant)
 - $B \sim \Lambda_{QCD}^4 \rightarrow$ hadron size $\sim 1/ \Lambda_{QCD}$

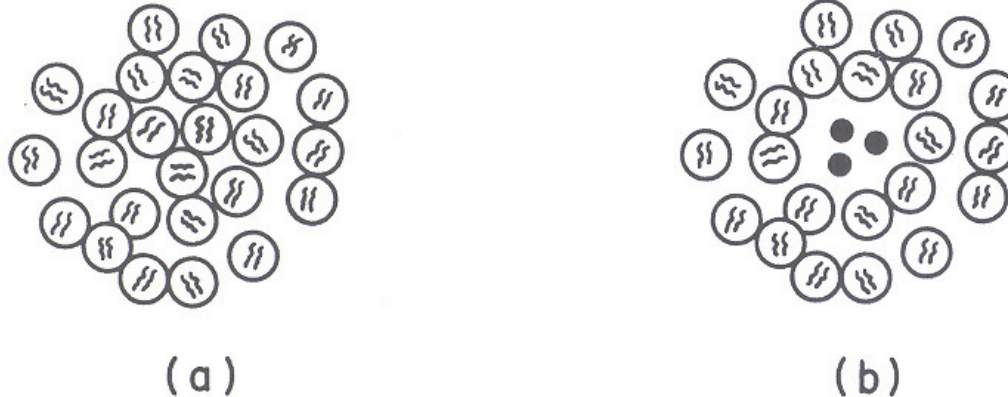
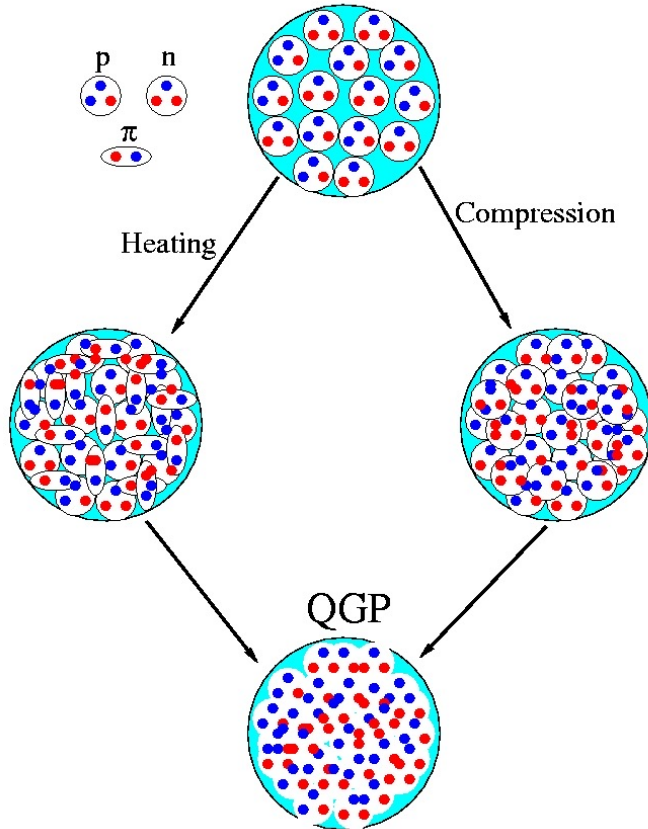


FIG. 9. The QCD vacuum state is depicted in (a). It is a random distribution of cells that contain a gluon pair in a color and spin singlet state. Quarks (in a color singlet configuration) displace these cells, creating a region (or “bag”) of “empty” vacuum, as shown in (b).

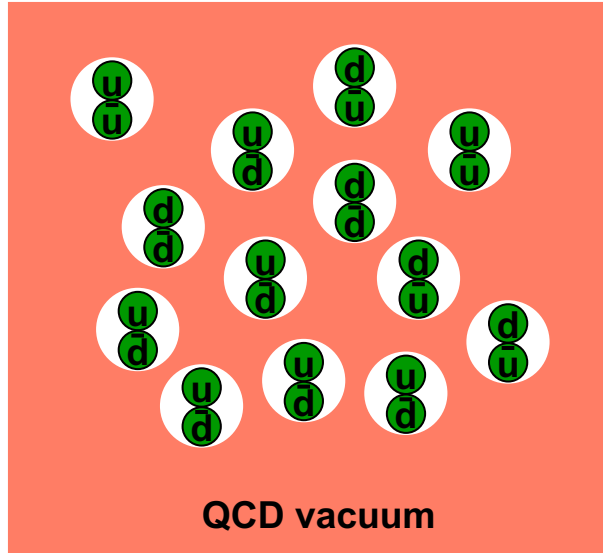
Deconfinement: the bag viewpoint



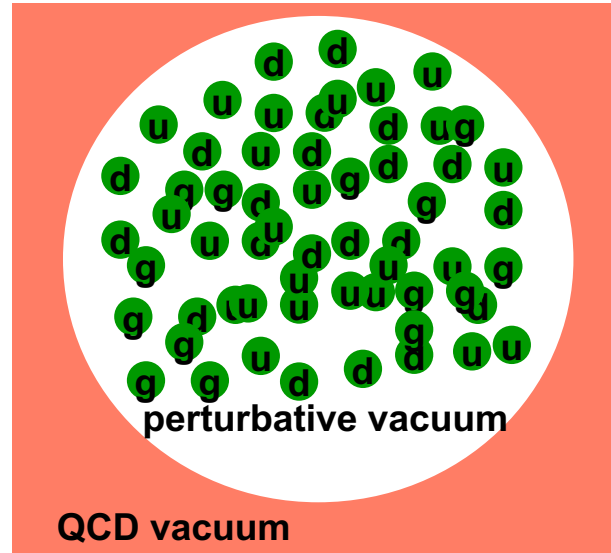
- if a system of hadrons is brought to sufficiently large density and/or large temperature
→ deconfinement phase transition
- in the deconfined phase the individual bags have coalesced into a single large bag of Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP)
- quarks and gluons are now free to move around over a larger volume
- can one get a quantitative estimate of T?

Deconfinement: a “toy model”

Hadron (pion) Gas



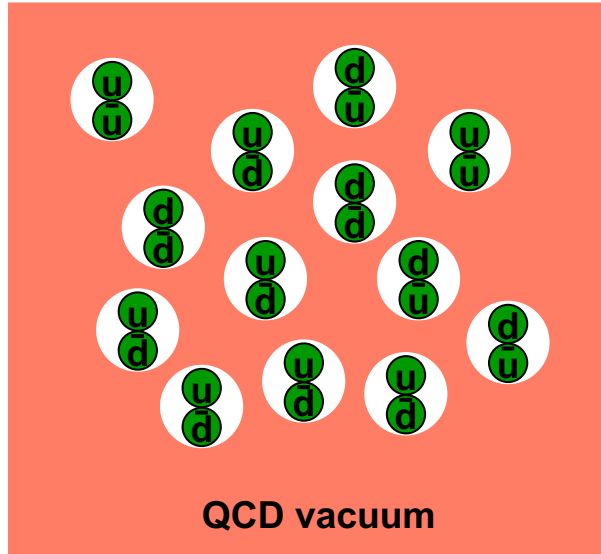
Quark-Gluon Plasma



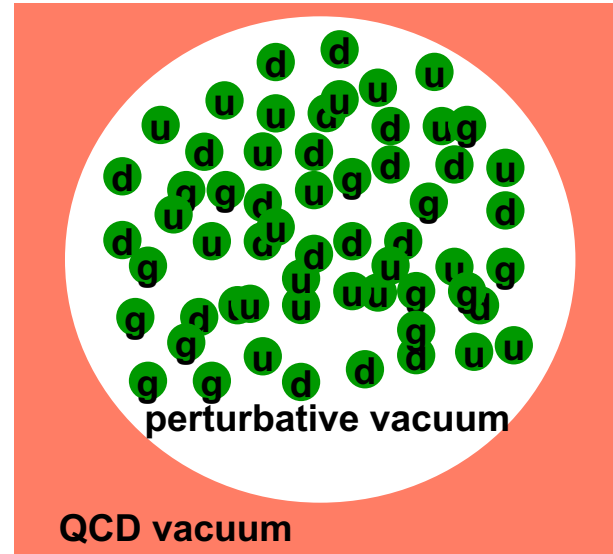
- Gibbs' criterion: the stable phase is the one with the largest pressure
- from statistical mechanics:
(for an ideal gas)

$$P = \frac{\varepsilon}{3} = \left(g_B + \frac{7}{8} g_F \right) \frac{\pi^2 T^4}{90}$$

Hadron (pion) Gas



Quark-Gluon Plasma



$$g_B = 3 \quad g_F = 0$$

$$p = \frac{\varepsilon}{3} = \left(g_B + \frac{7}{8} g_F \right) \frac{\pi^2 T^4}{90}$$

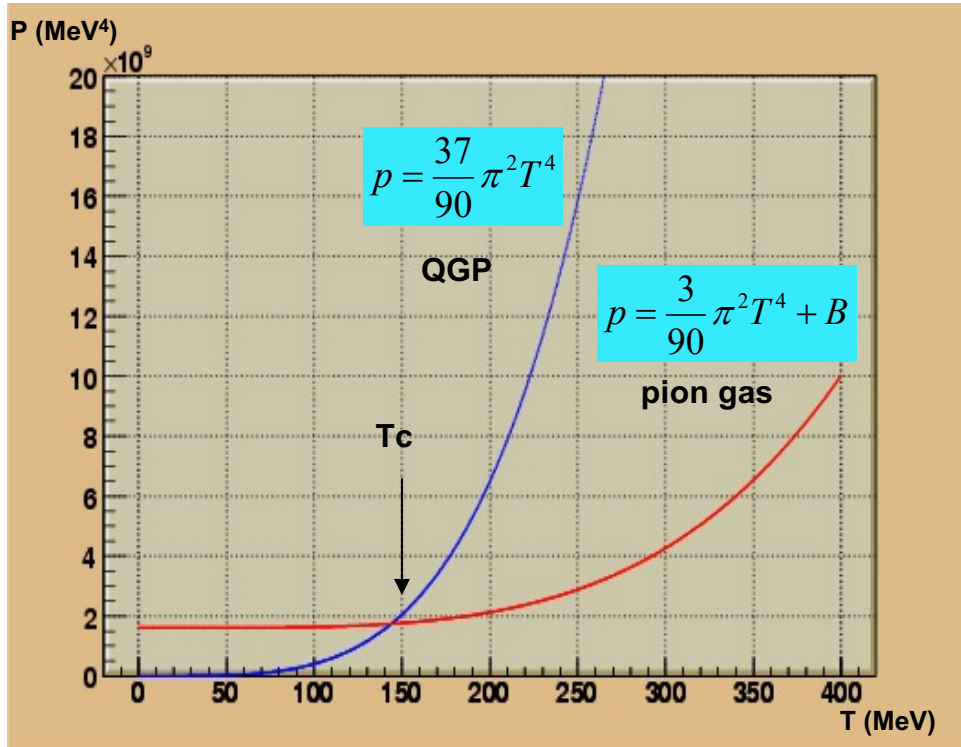
$$g_B = 16 \quad g_F = 24$$

$$p = \frac{3}{90} \pi^2 T^4 + B$$

from hadron spectra:
 $B \sim (200 \text{ MeV})^4$

$$p = \frac{37}{90} \pi^2 T^4$$

- at low temperature the hadron gas is the stable phase
- but there is a temperature (T_C) above which the QGP “wins”
 - thanks to the larger number of degrees of freedom



one can easily derive:

$$T_C = \left[\frac{90}{34\pi^2} \right]^{1/4} B^{1/4}$$

and plugging in $B^{1/4} \sim 200 \text{ MeV}$
one gets:

$$T_C \sim 150 \text{ MeV}$$

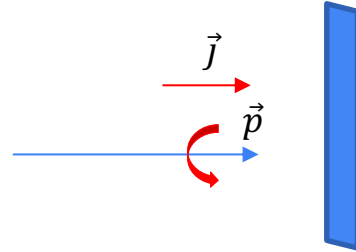
not too bad...

(latest lattice estimate: $156.5 \pm 1.5 \text{ MeV}$)

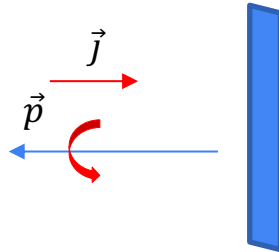
[A Bazavov et al. Phys.Lett.B 795 (2019) 15]

Confinement, chiral symmetry and mass (an intuitive example)

- “chiral symmetry”: fermions and antifermions have opposite helicity
- exact only for massless fermions
 - travel at light speed \rightarrow cannot be overtaken (overtaking would flip helicity...)
- now, take e.g. a left-handed, **confined** fermion
 - propagation is limited \rightarrow at some point it will “hit a wall”...

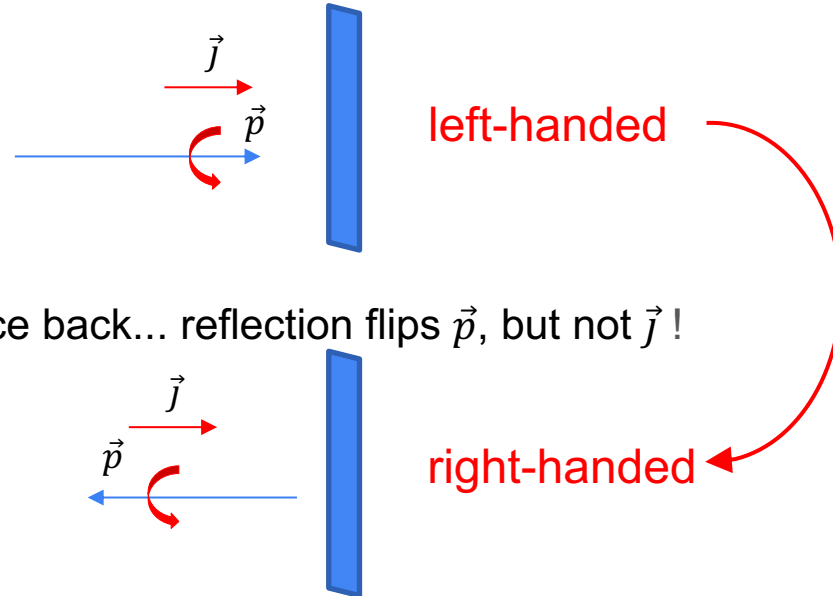


- ... and bounce back... reflection flips \vec{p} , but not \vec{j} !



Confinement, chiral symmetry and mass (an intuitive example)

- “chiral symmetry”: fermions and antifermions have opposite helicity
- exact only for massless fermions
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 - propagation is limited \rightarrow at some point it will “hit a wall”...



\rightarrow even (quasi-)massless fermions acquire an additional mass term when confined!

(Partial) chiral symmetry restoration

- confined quarks acquire additional mass (~ 350 MeV) dynamically
 - through the confining effect of strong interactions
 - e.g.: $M(\text{proton}) \approx 938$ MeV; $m(u)+m(u)+m(d) \sim 10$ MeV
 - $\sim 99\%$ of the mass of standard matter is generated by confinement!
 - only $\sim 1\%$ by Higgs mechanism!
- deconfinement expected to be accompanied by restoration of masses
 - to the “bare” values of the Lagrangian
 - e.g.: $m(s)$: ~ 500 MeV $\rightarrow \sim 150$ MeV
- as we saw, symmetry can be exact only for massless particles:
 - “partial” restoration of chiral (χ) symmetry

1980's: the hunt is on ...

- how to access this physics experimentally? high-energy nuclear collisions!
 - since the 70's nuclear physicists were already colliding heavy ions
 - Coulomb barrier, shock waves...
 - UNILAC (GSI), Super-Hilac and Bevalac (Berkeley), Synchrophasotron (Dubna)
 - it was realised that nuclear collisions could provide the conditions for QGP formation
 - but to reach T_c higher-energy accelerators were needed → ultrarelativistic AA collisions
- starting from the mid-80's: high-energy beams of nuclei on fixed target
 - at the Alternating Gradient Synchrotron (AGS)
 - at Brookhaven National Laboratory (New York)
 - $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 5 \text{ GeV}$
 - O (1986), Si (1987), Au (1993)
 - at the Super-Proton Synchrotron (SPS)
 - at CERN (Geneva)
 - $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 17 \text{ GeV}$
 - O (1987), S (1987), Pb (1994)

Two historic predictions...

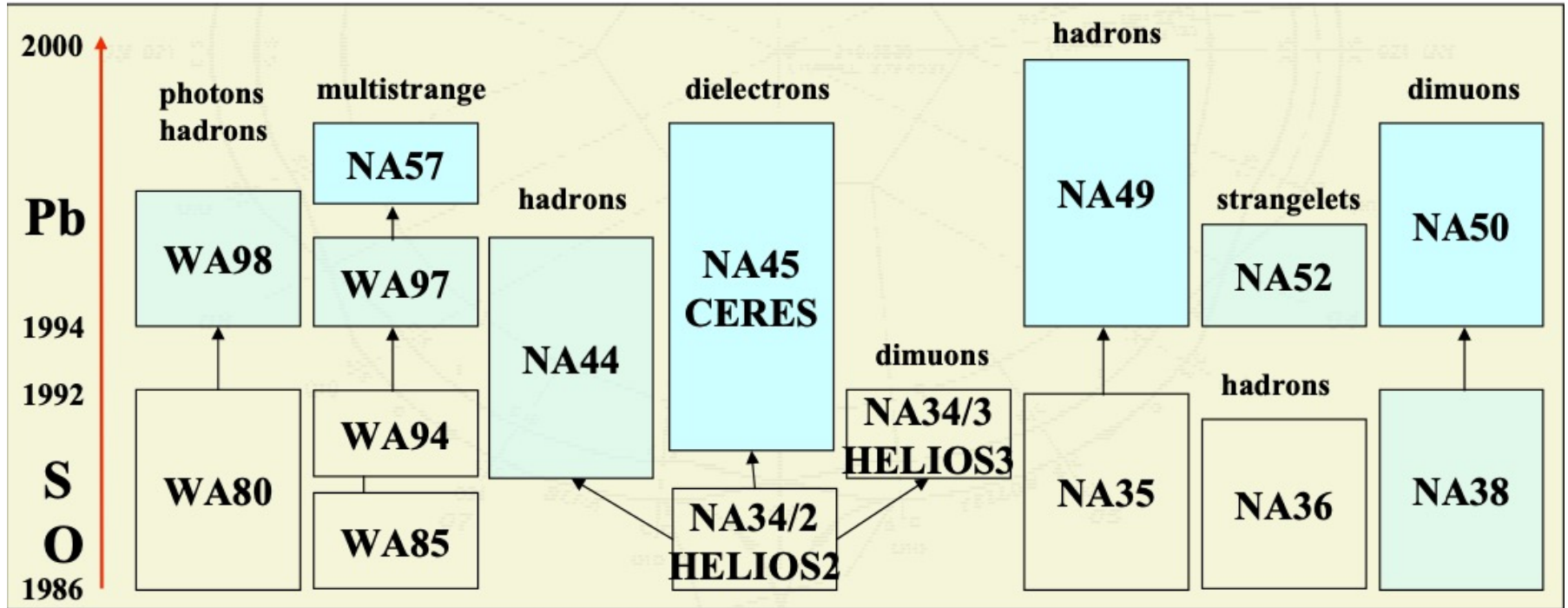
- QGP phase, if existed, would obviously be very short-lived, how to observe it?
 - is there a memory of the passage through the QGP phase?
 - are there “signatures” of the QGP that we can look for in the final state?

two major proposals made in the 80's:

- strangeness enhancement (Johann Rafelski and Berndt Müller)
 - enhanced production of strange quarks in the QGP
 - enhancement of strange particles in the final state
- J/ψ suppression (Tetsuo Matsui and Helmut Satz)
 - colour field screened at short distances in QGP
 - suppression of production of tightly-bound quarkonium states

Nuclear beam experiments at the SPS (1986 – 2000)

- a wide spectrum of observables (and technologies!)



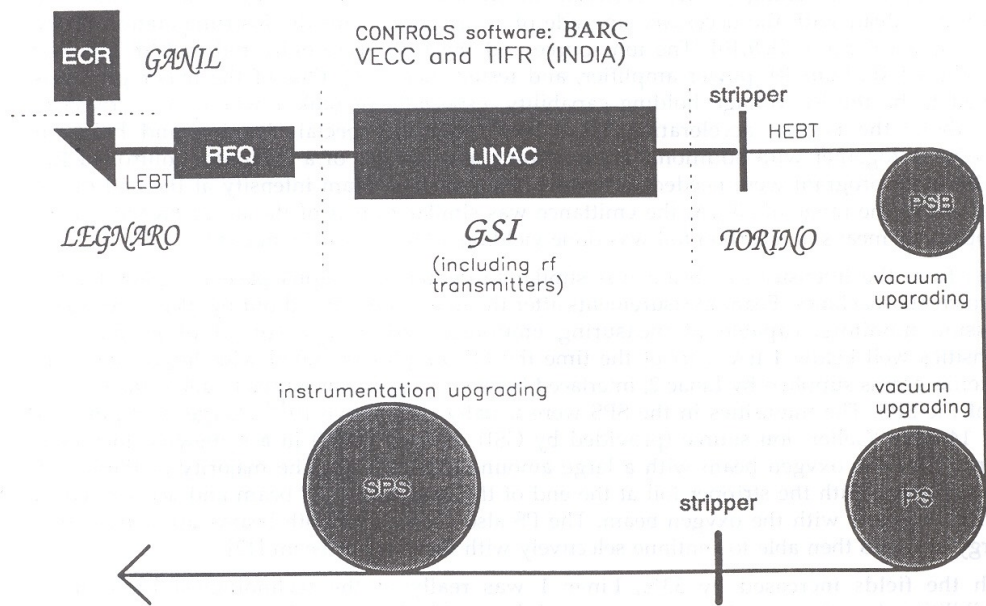
(from F Fleuret)

The advent of Pb beams at CERN

- approved in 1990
- a significant international effort!

- France
 - GANIL (Caen)
- Italy
 - INFN (Legnaro)
 - INFN (Torino)
- Germany
 - GSI (Darmstadt)
 - IAP (Frankfurt)
- India
 - VECC (Kolkata)
 - TIFR (Mumbai)
 - BARC (Mumbai)
- Czech Republic
 - CAS (Prague)
- + cash contributions from Switzerland, Sweden

- started operations in 1994



2 Fig. 1.1 Collaborations Involving Laboratories from France, Italy, Germany and India

Pb-beam experiments at the SPS (1994 – 2000)

a very wide spectrum of techniques and observables!

- WA97: silicon pixel telescope spectrometer
 - production of strange and multi-strange particles
- WA98: photon and hadron spectrometer
 - production of photons and hadrons
- NA44: single-arm spectrometer
 - particle spectra, interferometry, particle correlations
- NA45: electron and hadron spectrometer
 - low mass lepton pairs, hadron production
- NA49: large acceptance TPCs
 - particle spectra, strangeness production, interferometry, event-by-event , ...
- NA50: muon spectrometer
 - high-mass lepton pairs, J/ψ production
- NA52: focussing spectrometer
 - strangelet search, particle production
- NA57: silicon pixel telescope spectrometer
 - production of strange and multi-strange particles

Tutorial: kinematic variables

or:

Everything You Always Wanted to
Know About the Pseudorapidity*

(*But Were Afraid to Ask)

Rapidity

- four momentum ($c = 1$, z coordinate along beam axis)

$$p^\mu = (p^0, p^1, p^2, p^3) = (E, \vec{p}) = (E, \vec{p}_T, p_z = p_{||})$$

- addition of velocities along z :

$$v = v_1 + v_2 \quad (\text{Galileo})$$

$$\beta = \frac{\beta_1 + \beta_2}{1 + \beta_1 \beta_2} \quad (\text{relativistic})$$

$$\tanh(y_1 + y_2) = \frac{\tanh y_1 + \tanh y_2}{1 + \tanh y_1 \tanh y_2}$$

$$y = \tanh^{-1} \beta = \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{1 + \beta}{1 - \beta} \right) \quad \text{“rapidity”}$$

→ under a Lorentz transformation with velocity β along z :

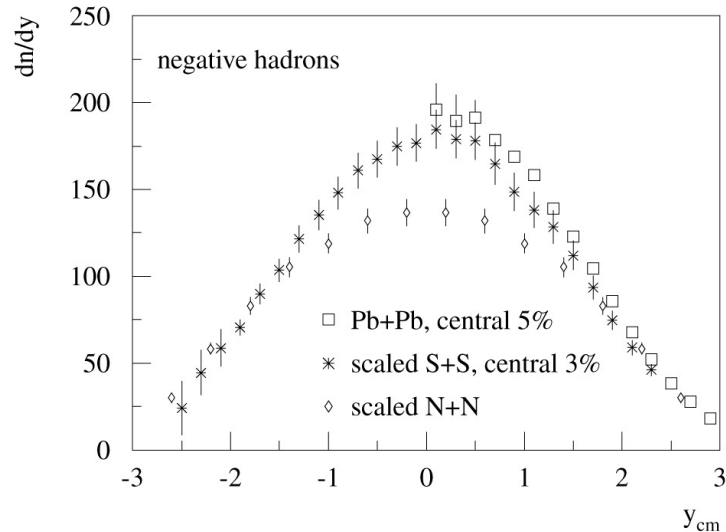
$$y \rightarrow y' = y - y_\beta \quad (\text{rapidities "add up"})$$

$$\text{compare: } p'_z = \gamma(p_z - \beta E)$$

$$\frac{dN}{dy'}(y') = \frac{dN}{dy}(y = y' - y_\beta)$$

e.g. at SPS :

$$y_{cm} = y_{lab} - y_\beta \quad \text{with} \quad y_\beta \approx 3$$



→ under a Lorentz transformation with velocity β along z :

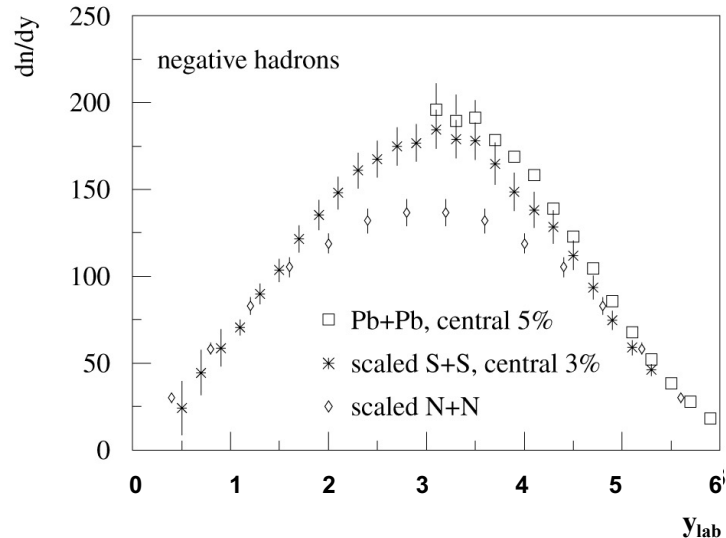
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e.g. at SPS :

$$y_{cm} = y_{lab} - y_\beta \quad \text{with} \quad y_\beta \approx 3$$



$$y = \tanh^{-1} \beta = \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{1 + \beta}{1 - \beta} \right)$$

- in the non-relativistic limit:

$$y = \beta$$

- it can be shown that:

$$y = \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{E + p_z}{E - p_z} \right)$$

$$y = \tanh^{-1} \beta = \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{1 + \beta}{1 - \beta} \right)$$

- in the non-relativistic limit:

$$y = \beta$$

- it can be shown that:

$$y = \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{E + p_z}{E - p_z} \right)$$

← exercise: prove this



Transverse variables

- transverse momentum

$$\vec{p}_T = (p_x, p_y)$$

$$p_T = \sqrt{p_x^2 + p_y^2}$$

- transverse mass

$$m_T = \sqrt{m^2 + p_T^2}$$

$$E = \sqrt{m^2 + p^2} = \sqrt{m_T^2 + p_z^2}$$

$$p_z = m_T \sinh(y)$$

$$E = m_T \cosh(y)$$

Exercise: prove these



Pseudorapidity

$$y = \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{E + p_z}{E - p_z} \right)$$

$$\eta = \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{p + p_z}{p - p_z} \right)$$

- in the ultrarelativistic limit: $p \sim E \rightarrow \eta \sim y$

Pseudorapidity

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$$\eta = -\log \tan(\theta / 2)$$



Exercise: prove this



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← Exercise: prove this



$$p_z = m_T \sinh(y)$$

$$E = m_T \cosh(y)$$

$$p_z = p_T \sinh(\eta)$$

$$p = p_T \cosh(\eta)$$

End of Tutorial

Strangeness enhancement

Strangeness Production in the Quark-Gluon Plasma

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(Received 11 January 1982)

Rates are calculated for the processes $g\bar{g} \rightarrow s\bar{s}$ and $u\bar{u}, d\bar{d} \rightarrow s\bar{s}$ in highly excited quark-gluon plasma. For temperature $T \geq 160$ MeV the strangeness abundance saturates during the lifetime ($\sim 10^{-23}$ sec) of the plasma created in high-energy nuclear collisions. The chemical equilibration time for quarks and light quarks is found to be less than 10^{-24} sec.

PACS numbers: 12.35.Ht, 21.65.+f

Given the present knowledge about the interactions between constituents (quarks and gluons), it appears almost unavoidable that, at sufficiently high energy density caused by compression and/or excitation, the individual hadrons dissolve in a new phase consisting of almost-free quarks and gluons.¹ This quark-gluon plasma is a highly excited state of hadronic matter that occupies a volume large as compared with all characteristic length scales. Within this volume individual color charges exist and propagate in the same manner as they do inside elementary particles as described, e.g., within the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) bag model.²

It is generally agreed that the best way to create a quark-gluon plasma in the laboratory is with collisions of heavy nuclei at sufficiently high energy. We investigate the abundance of strangeness as function of the lifetime and excitation of the plasma state. This investigation was motivated by the observation that significant changes in relative and absolute abundance of strange particles, such as $\bar{\Lambda},^3$ could serve as a probe for quark-gluon plasma formation. Another interesting signature may be the possible creation of exotic

multistrange hadrons.⁴ After identifying the strangeness-producing mechanisms we compute the relevant rates as functions of the energy density ("temperature") of the plasma state and compare them with those for light u and d quarks.

In lowest order in perturbative QCD $s\bar{s}$ -quark pairs can be created by annihilation of light quark-antiquark pairs [Fig. 1(a)] and in collisions of two gluons [Fig. 1(b)]. The averaged total cross sections for these processes were calculated by

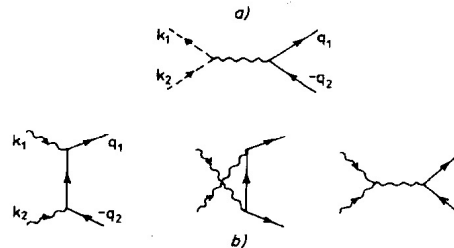
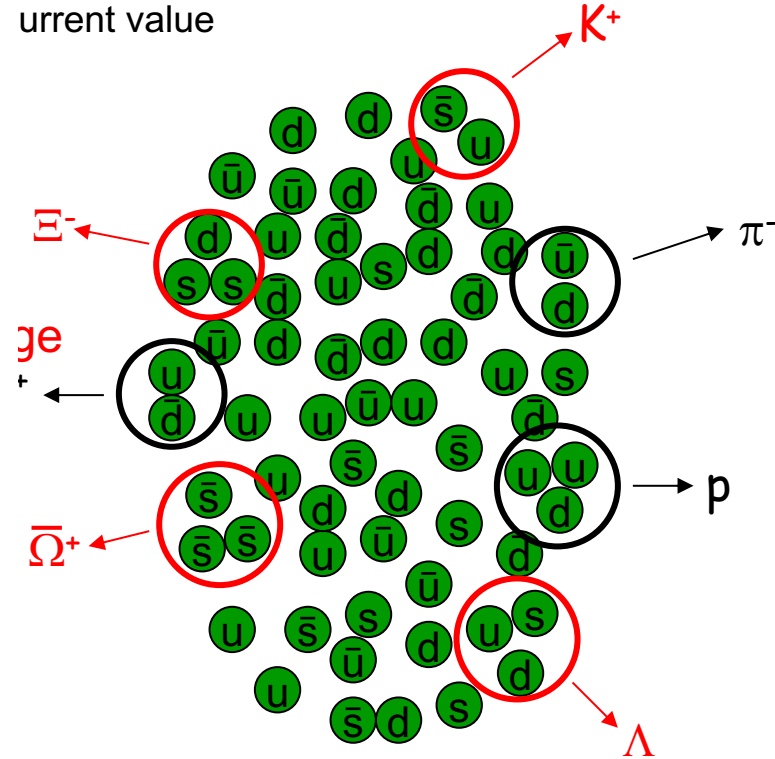


FIG. 1. Lowest-order QCD diagrams for $s\bar{s}$ production: (a) $q\bar{q} \rightarrow s\bar{s}$, (b) $g\bar{g} \rightarrow s\bar{s}$.

on of s
current value



Strangeness enhancement

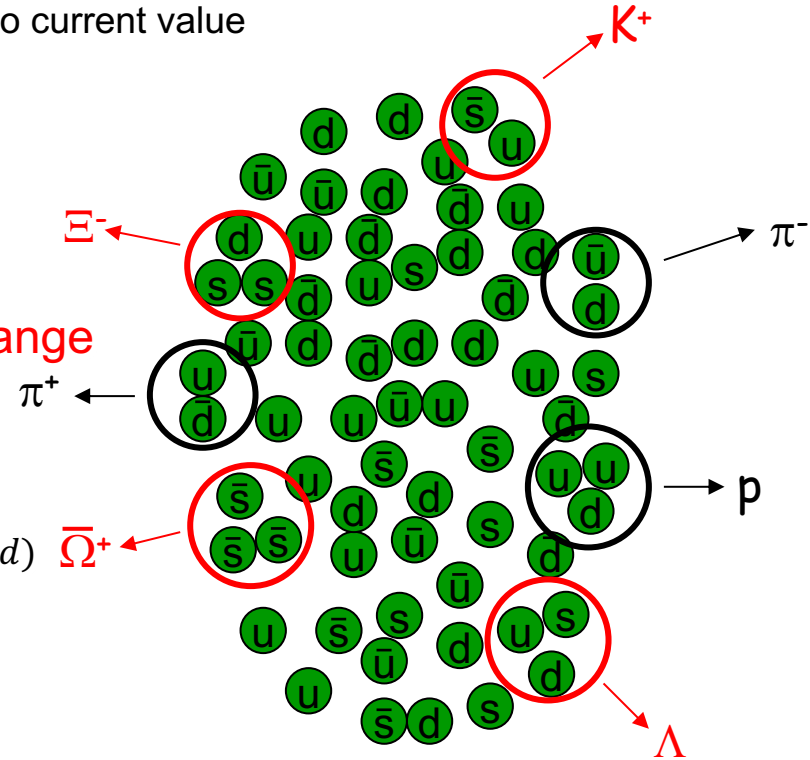
- **restoration of χ symmetry -> increased production of s**
 - mass of strange quark in QGP expected to go back to current value
 - $m_s \sim 150 \text{ MeV} \sim T_c$
 - copious production of $s\bar{s}$ pairs, mostly by gg fusion

[J Rafelski: Phys. Rep. 88 (1982) 331]

[J Rafelski and B Müller: Phys. Rev. Lett. 48 (1982) 1066]

- **deconfinement → stronger effect for multi-strange**
 - can be built recombining s quarks
 - strangeness enhancement increasing with strangeness content
 - expect larger for $\Omega(sss)$ than for $\Xi(ssd)$ than for $\Lambda(sud)$

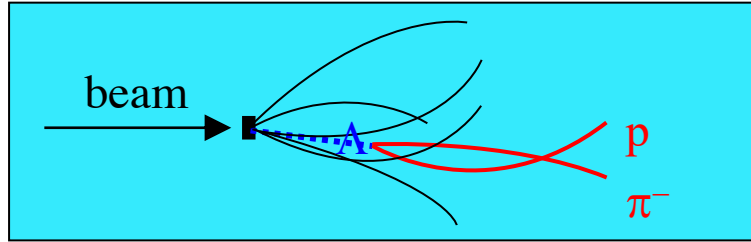
[P Koch, B Müller and J Rafelski: Phys. Rep. 142 (1986) 167]



Strange baryons (hyperons)

- there are 35 strange baryons listed in the PDG summary tables
- only 6 decay weakly
($c\tau \sim \text{cm's}$ \rightarrow separate decay vertex from event interaction vertex):

$\Lambda, \Sigma^+, \Sigma^-$ (sqq)
 Ξ^0, Ξ^- (ssq)
 Ω^- (sss)



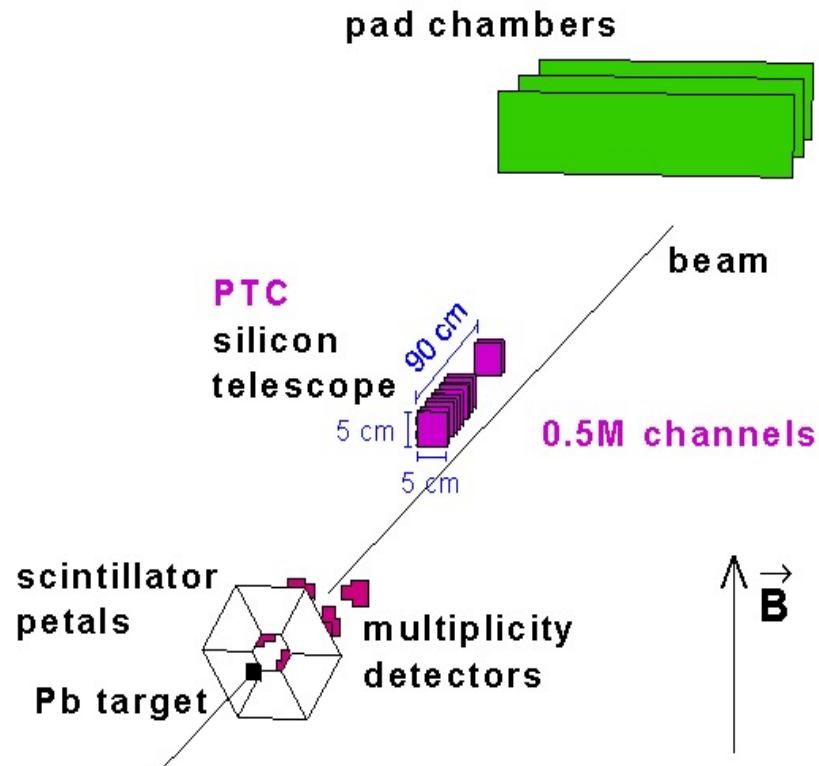
- only 3 of them can decay into final state with only charged particles

$$\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^- \text{ (B.R. } \approx 64\%)$$

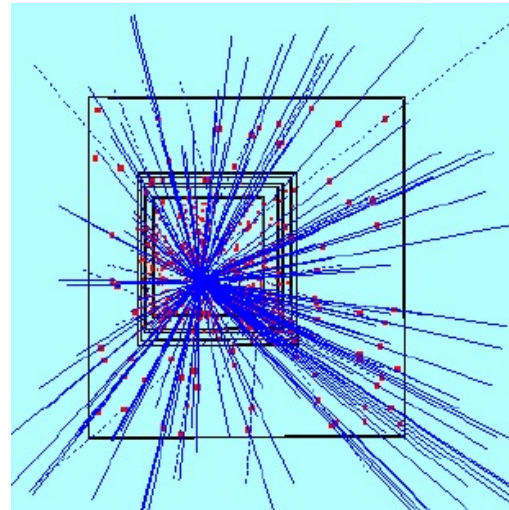
$$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda\pi^- \text{ (B.R. } \approx 100\%)$$

$$\Omega^- \rightarrow \Lambda K^- \text{ (B.R. } \approx 68\%)$$

WA97/NA57 experiment



- silicon pixel telescope spectrometer
 - first pixel detector in particle physics (collaboration WA97/NA57 – RD19)



- strange and multi-strange particles

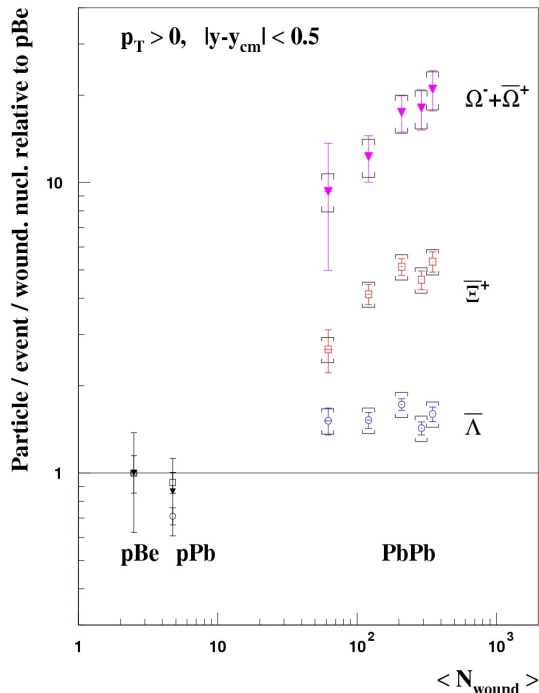
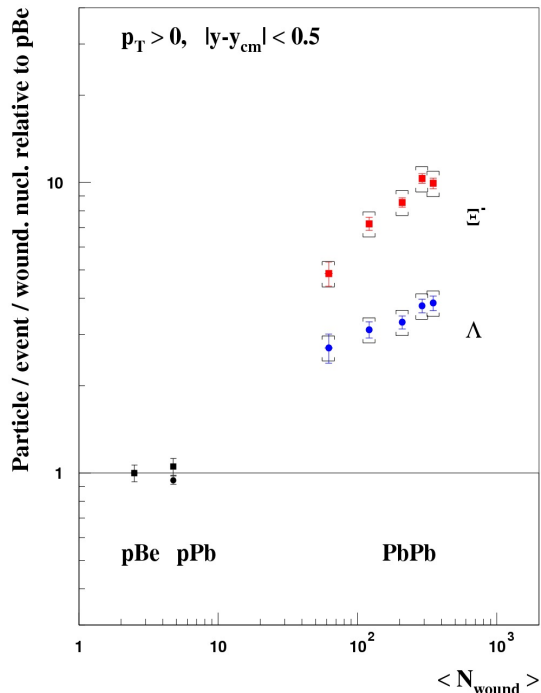
Yield, enhancement

- yield: multiplicity per event
e.g.: $Y_{\Omega^-} = \# \text{ of } \Omega^- / \text{event in } y_1 < y < y_2$
- enhancement: yield per participant relative to yield per participant in pp (p-Be)
e.g.: Ω^- enhancement:

$$\mathcal{E}_{\Omega} = \frac{[Y_{\Omega}/N_{part}]_{Pb-Pb}}{[Y_{\Omega}/N_{part}]_{p-Be}}$$

Strangeness enhancement at the SPS

- **WA97/NA57**



- enhancement relative to p-Be, p-Pb
- increasing with $|S|$
- up to $\sim \times 20$ for the Ω