



XXV International Baldin Seminar  
on High Energy Physics Problems  
*Relativistic Nuclear Physics & Quantum Chromodynamics*  
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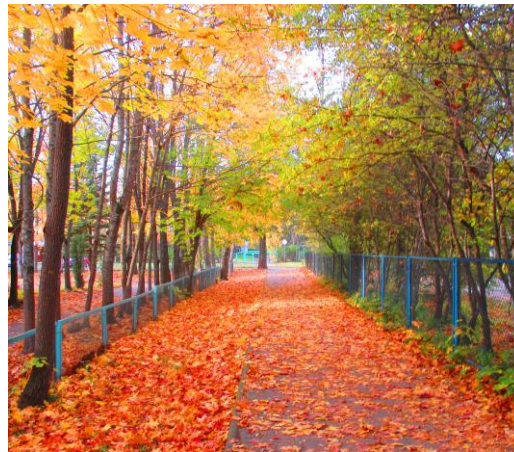


## On a signature of phase transition in heavy ion nuclear matter

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\*\*NPI, Řež, Czech Republic



- Introduction
- $z$ -Scaling (ideas, definitions,...)
- Properties of data  $z$ -presentation  
in  $pp$  and  $AuAu$  collisions at  $RHIC$
- Fractal entropy and fractal cumulativity
- Anomaly of specific heat and fractal entropy  
as signatures of phase transition
- Summary



Systematic analysis of inclusive cross sections of particle production in  $p+p$ ,  $p+A$  and  $A+A$  collisions to search for general features of hadron and nucleus structure, constituent interaction and fragmentation process over a **wide scale range**.

**$z$ -Scaling is a tool in high energy physics**

Development of  $z$ -scaling approach for description of processes with unpolarized and polarized particle production in inclusive reactions and verification of fundamental physical **principles of self-similarity, locality, fractality, maximal entropy, etc.**

Search for signatures of a phase transition in nuclear matter produced in heavy ion collisions at high energies.

Phys. Part. Nucl. 54, 640 (2023)





"Fundamental symmetry principles dictate the basic laws of physics, control the structure of matter and define the fundamental forces in nature."

Leon M. Lederman

"...for every conservation law there must be a continuous symmetry..."

Emmy Nöether



The concepts of symmetry, of invariance, play a very large role and, it appears, an increasing role in physics.

Eugene P. Wigner



"Scaling" and "Universality" are concepts developed to understanding critical phenomena.

Harry E. Stanley, Grigory I. Barenblatt,...



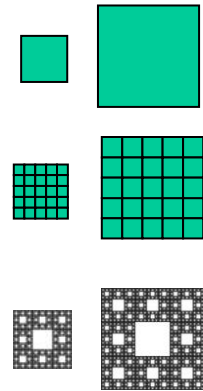
Discrete (C,P,T,..) and continuous symmetries correspond to fundamental principles (gauge, special, general and scale relativity, ...) and conservation laws (charge,....) and vice versa.

- Principles are reflected as regularities in measurable observables and can be usually expressed as scaling in a suitable representation of data.
- **z-Scaling** of differential cross sections of inclusive particle production in p+p, p+A and A+A is used as a tool to search for and study of principles and symmetries that reflect properties of hadron interactions at constituent level.
- **z-Scaling** is based on the principles of *self-similarity, fractality, and locality*.

... Scaling means that systems near the critical points exhibiting self-similar properties are invariant under transformation of a scale. According to universality, quite different systems behave in a remarkably similar fashion near the respective critical points. Critical exponents are defined only by symmetry of interactions and dimension of the space.



- A self-similar object is exactly or approximately similar to a part of itself (i.e. the whole has the same shape as one or more of the parts).
- Self-similarity is a typical property of fractals.
- Scale invariance is an exact form of self-similarity where at any magnification there is a smaller piece of the object that is similar to the whole.



Description of a process in terms of a scaling function and similarity parameter

Reynolds number

$$Re = \rho V D / \eta$$

laminar & turbulent flow



Mach number

$$Ma = v/c$$

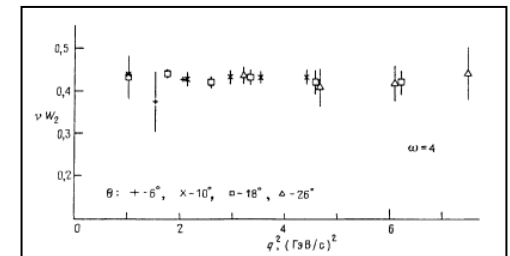
subsonic & supersonic wave



Bjorken variable

$$x = -q^2 / 2(pq)$$

low x & high x



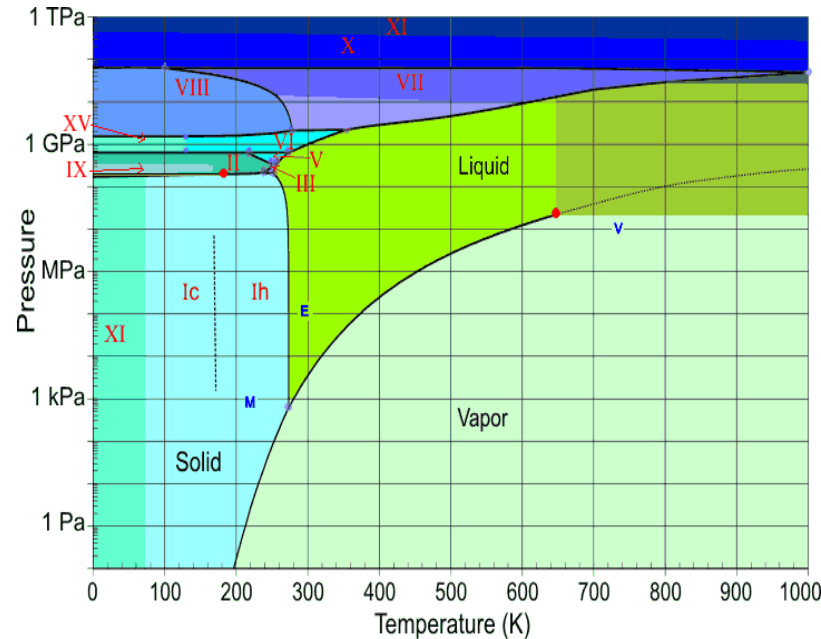
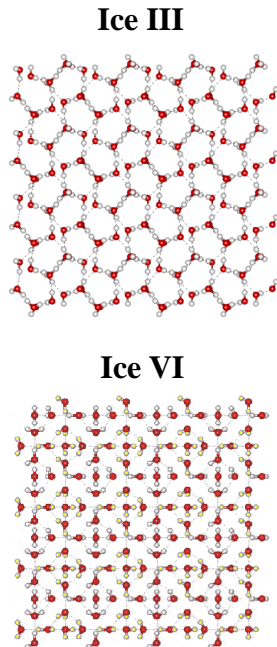
shock wave, explosion, confinement

Violation of a scaling is an indication of new phenomena



# The phase diagram of water $H_2O$

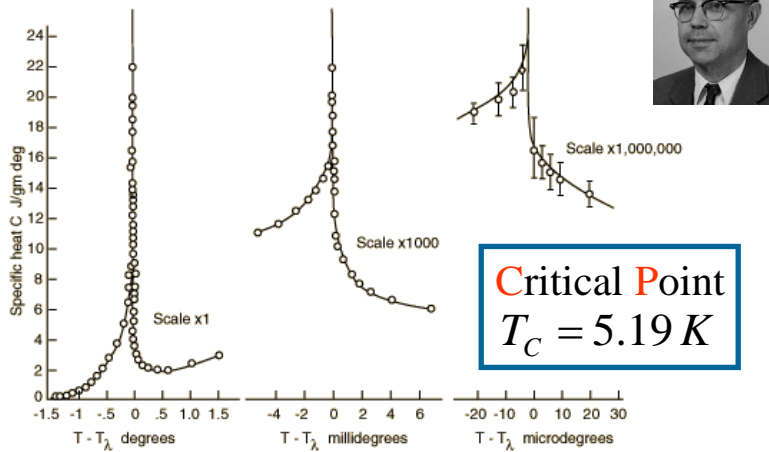
- Self-similarity as a symmetry principle is confirmed.
- The law of corresponding states, equation of state are found.
- Phase diagram – boundaries, triple and critical points,..., is established.
- Properties of phases are investigated.



- Phases (ice I-XVIII, liquid, vapor)
- Phase boundaries
- Phase transitions
- Triple Point (17)
- Critical Point (1)

What one can say about phase diagram of nuclear matter ?

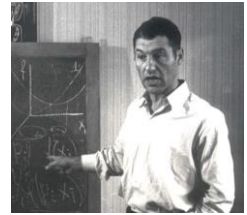
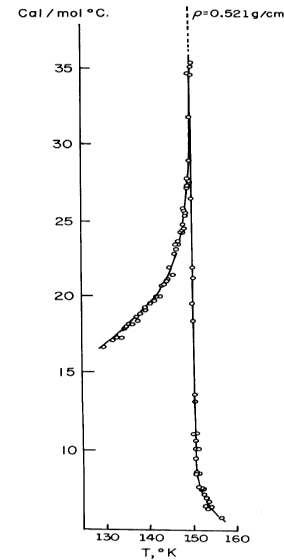
## Specific heat of liquid $^4\text{He}$ Superfluid transition



**Critical Point**  
 $T_C = 5.19\text{ K}$

M. J. Buckingham and W. M. Fairbank, 1961  
H.E. Stanley, 1971

## Heat capacity of Ar



**Critical Point**  
 $T_C = 150.8\text{ K}$

The isochoric heat capacity  $C_V$  of argon becomes infinite at the vapor-liquid critical point.

A.V. Voronel' et al.  
Zh. Exp. Teor. Fiz. 43, 728 (1962).

- Near a critical point the singular part of thermodynamic potentials is a Generalized Homogeneous Function (GHF).
- The Helmholtz potential  $F(\lambda^{\alpha_\epsilon} \epsilon, \lambda^{\alpha_V} V) = \lambda F(\epsilon, V)$  is GHF of  $(\epsilon, V)$ .

$$c_V \sim |\epsilon|^{-\alpha} \quad \epsilon \equiv (T - T_c)/T_c \quad c_V = -T(\partial^2 F / \partial T^2)|_V \quad c_V = T \partial S / \partial T|_V$$

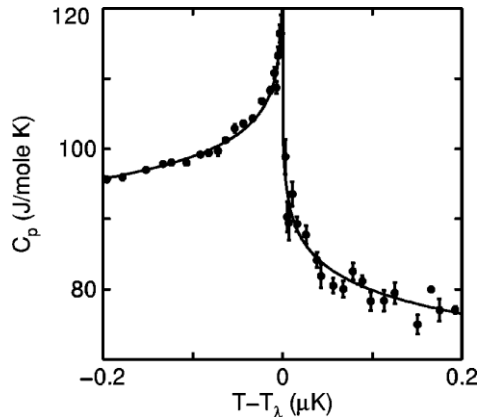
Critical exponents define the behavior of thermodynamic quantities nearby the Critical Point.



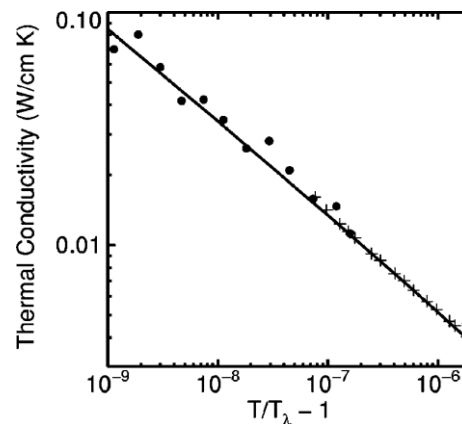


# Singularity of specific heat $c_p$ of liquid $^4\text{He}$ in cosmic space

## Specific heat



## Thermal conductivity



Specific heat and thermal conductivity vs. reduced temperature near the lambda point

$$t = \frac{T - T_\lambda}{T_\lambda}$$

- Density gradients cause substantial distortion of the singularity for reduced temperatures.
- Transition broadening associated with gravity and relaxation phenomena.

The experiment was performed in Earth orbit to reduce the rounding of the transition caused by gravitationally induced pressure gradients on Earth.

Critical exponent describing the specific-heat singularity was found to be  $\alpha = -0.01276 \pm 0.0003$ .

$$c_p = \frac{A^\pm}{\alpha} |t|^{-\alpha} + B^\pm$$

Expt. in space  $|t| < 10^{-10}$  ( $^4\text{He}$ , Lipa).

Expt. on Earth  $|t| < 10^{-7}$  ( $^4\text{He}$ , Fairbank).

Expt. on Earth  $|t| < 10^{-4}$  (Xe, Sengers, ).

In space, the lambda transition is expected to be sharp to  $|t| < 10^{-12}$  in ideal conditions.

J. A. Lipa et al.,

“Specific heat of liquid helium in zero gravity very near the lambda point”

Phys. Rev. B **68**, 174518, (2003)



- Critical phenomena reveal unusual characteristic behavior of substances in the vicinity of phase transition points.
- They are observed due to an increase in the characteristic sizes of different fluctuations.
- In these phenomena, the self-similarity of a system arises spontaneously.
- This scale property is characteristic of fractal structures.
- Second order transition is accompanied by a spontaneous symmetry breaking.

## Signatures of critical phenomena:

- **increase in compressibility** (liquid-vapor equilibrium)
- **increase in magnetic and dielectric susceptibility** in the vicinity of the Curie points of ferromagnets and ferroelectrics
- **anomaly in heat capacity** at the point of transition of helium to the superfluid state
- **slowing of the mutual diffusion** of substances near the critical points of mixtures of stratifying liquids
- **anomaly in the propagation of ultrasound** (absorption of sound and an increase in its dispersion)
- **anomalies in viscosity**, thermal conductivity, slowdown in the establishment of thermal equilibrium, etc.

These anomalies are described by power laws with critical indices.

Strong fluctuations and infinite correlation radii  
in such systems confirm self-similarity.



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**z-Scaling:**  
hypothesis, ideas, definitions,...

**Basic principles:**  
locality, self-similarity, fractality,...

Int.J.Mod.Phys. A 27 (2012) 1250115

J.Mod.Phys. 3 (2012) 815

Int.J.Mod.Phys. A 32 (2017) 750029

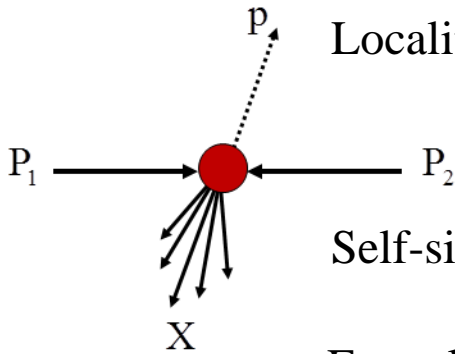
Phys. Part. Nucl. 51 (2020) 141

Nucl.Phys. A 993 (2020) 121646

Nucl.Phys. A 1025 (2022) 122492



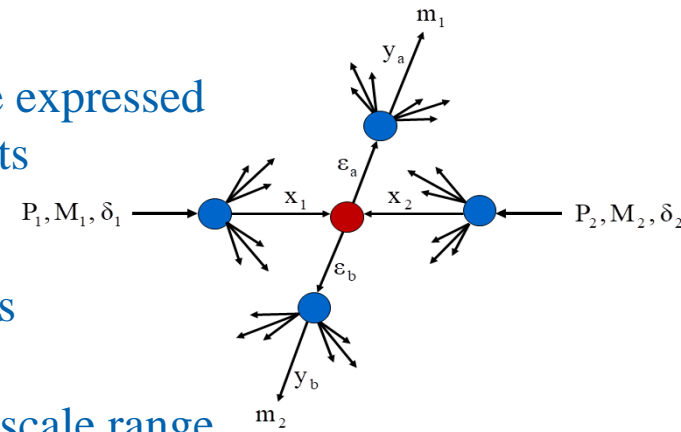
## Principles: locality, self-similarity, fractality



Locality: collisions of hadrons and nuclei are expressed via interactions of their constituents (partons, quarks and gluons,...).

Self-similarity: interactions of the constituents are mutually similar.

Fractality: self-similarity is valid over a wide scale range.



## Hypothesis of z-scaling :

$$s^{1/2}, p_T, \theta_{\text{cms}}$$

Inclusive particle distributions can be described in terms of constituent sub-processes and parameters characterizing bulk properties of the system.

$$x_1, x_2, y_a, y_b$$

$$\delta_1, \delta_2, \epsilon_a, \epsilon_b, c$$

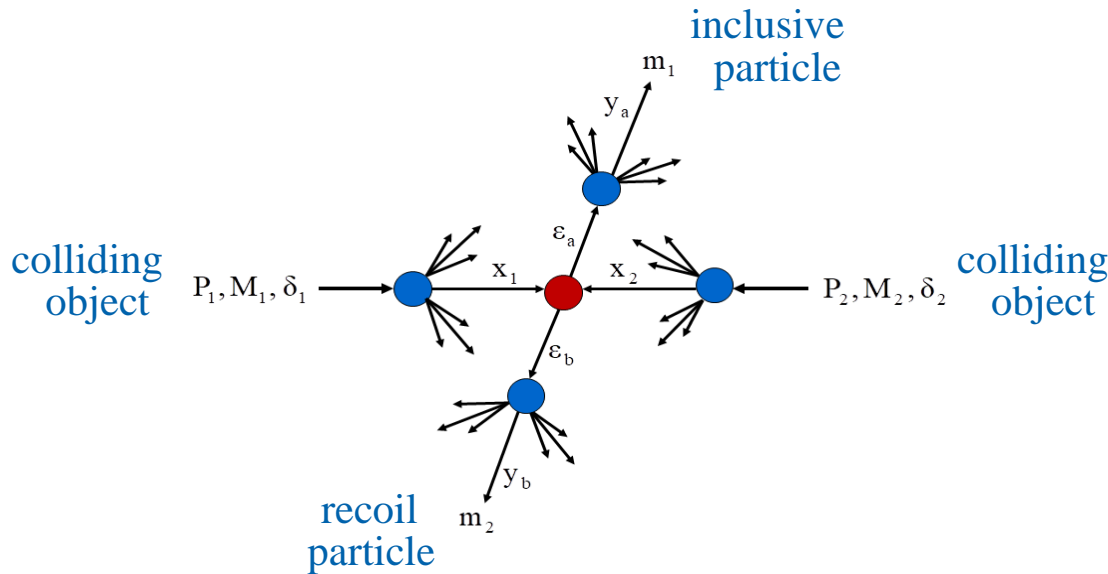
$$Ed^3\sigma/dp^3$$

Scaled inclusive cross section of particles depends in a self-similar way on a single scaling variable  $z$ .

$$\Psi(z)$$



## Collisions of colliding objects are expressed via interactions of their constituents



$P_1, P_2, p$  – momenta of colliding and produced particles

$M_1, M_2, m_1$  – masses of colliding and produced particles

$x_1, x_2$  – momentum fractions of colliding particles carried by constituents

$y_a, y_b$  – momentum fractions of scattered constituents carried by inclusive particle and its recoil

$\delta_1, \delta_2$  – fractal dimensions of colliding particles

$\epsilon_a, \epsilon_b$  – fractal dimensions of scattered constituents (fragmentation dimensions)

$m_2$  – mass of recoil particle

Elementary sub-process:

$$(x_1 M_1) + (x_2 M_2) \rightarrow (m_1 / y_a) + (x_1 M_1 + x_2 M_2 + m_2 / y_b)$$

Momentum conservation law for sub-process

$$(x_1 P_1 + x_2 P_2 - p / y_a)^2 = M_X^2$$

Mass of recoil system

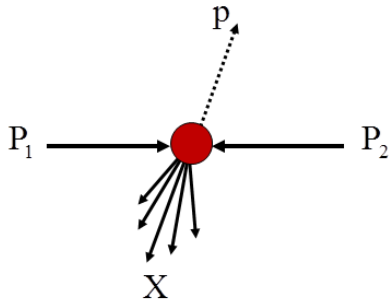
$$M_X = x_1 M_1 + x_2 M_2 + m_2 / y_b$$

M.Tokarev, I.Zborovský  
Yu.Panebratsev, G.Skoro  
Phys.Rev.D54 5548 (1996)  
Int.J.Mod.Phys.A16 1281 (2001)



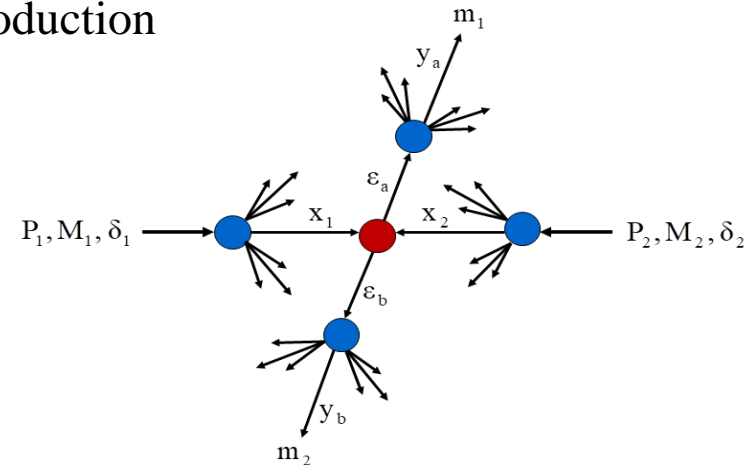
## Interactions of constituents are mutually similar

The self-similarity parameter  $z$  is a dimensionless quantity, expressed through the dimensional values  $P_1, P_2, p, M_1, M_2, m_1, m_2$ , characterizing the process of inclusive particle production



$$z = z_0 \cdot \Omega^{-1}$$

$$z_0 = \frac{s_{\perp}^{1/2}}{(dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0)^c m_N}$$



- $\Omega^{-1}$  – the minimal resolution at which a constituent sub-process can be singled out of the inclusive reaction
- $s_{\perp}^{1/2}$  – the transverse kinetic energy of the sub-process consumed on production of  $m_1$  &  $m_2$
- $dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0$  – the multiplicity density of charged particles at  $\eta = 0$
- $c$  – a parameter interpreted as a “specific heat” of created medium
- $m_N$  an arbitrary constant (fixed at the value of nucleon mass)

## Self-similarity over a wide scale range

Fractal measure

$$z = z_0 \cdot \Omega^{-1}$$

$$\Omega = (1 - x_1)^{\delta_1} (1 - x_2)^{\delta_2} (1 - y_a)^{\varepsilon_a} (1 - y_b)^{\varepsilon_b}$$

$$0 < x_1, x_2 < 1$$

$$0 < y_a, y_b < 1$$

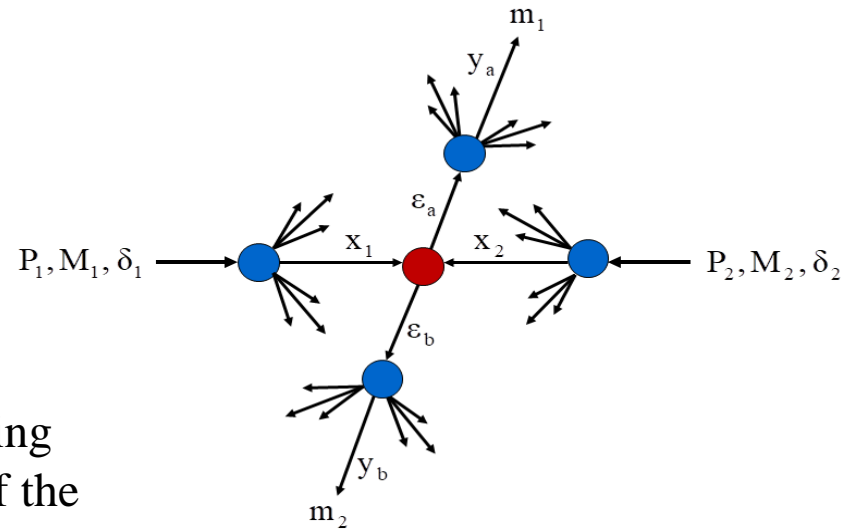
$\Omega$  – relative number of configurations containing a sub-process with fractions  $x_1, x_2, y_a, y_b$  of the corresponding 4-momenta

$\delta_1, \delta_2, \varepsilon_a, \varepsilon_b$  – parameters characterizing structure of the colliding objects and fragmentation process, respectively

$\Omega^{-1}(x_1, x_2, y_a, y_b)$  characterizes resolution at which a constituent sub-process can be singled out of the inclusive reaction

The fractal measure  $z$  diverges as the resolution  $\Omega^{-1}$  increases.

$$z(\Omega) \Big|_{\Omega^{-1} \rightarrow \infty} \rightarrow \infty$$



**Principle of minimal resolution:** The momentum fractions  $x_1, x_2$  and  $y_a, y_b$  are determined in a way to minimize the resolution  $\Omega^{-1}$  of the fractal measure  $z$  with respect to all constituent sub-processes taking into account 4-momentum conservation law:

## Momentum conservation law

$$(x_1 P_1 + x_2 P_2 - p/y_a)^2 = M_X^2$$

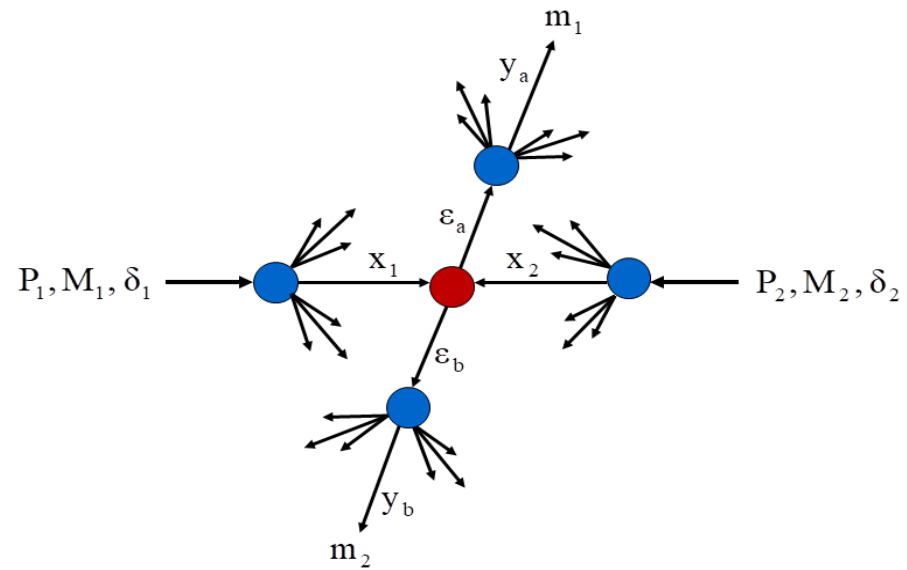
$$\begin{cases} \partial\Omega / \partial x_1 |_{y_a=y_a(x_1, x_2, y_b)} = 0 \\ \partial\Omega / \partial x_2 |_{y_a=y_a(x_1, x_2, y_b)} = 0 \\ \partial\Omega / \partial y_b |_{y_a=y_a(x_1, x_2, y_b)} = 0 \end{cases}$$

## Resolution of sub-process

$$\Omega^{-1} = (1 - x_1)^{-\delta_1} (1 - x_2)^{-\delta_2} (1 - y_a)^{-\varepsilon_a} (1 - y_b)^{-\varepsilon_b}$$

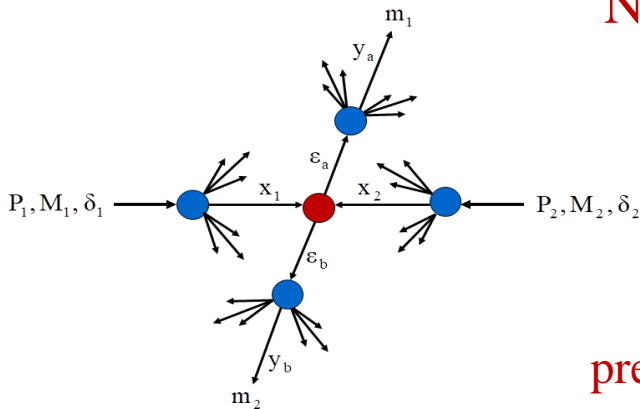
## Mass of recoil system

$$M_X = x_1 M_1 + x_2 M_2 + m_2 / y_b$$



Fractions  $x_1, x_2, y_a, y_b$  are expressed via Lorentz invariants – scalar products of 4-D momenta and particle masses.





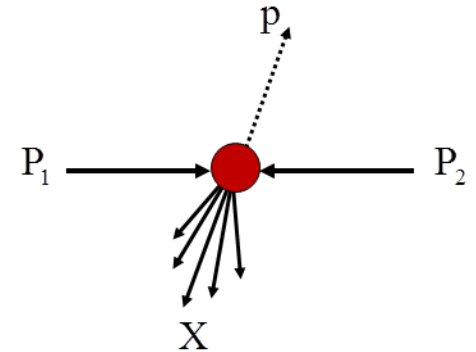
## Normalization condition

$$\int_0^{\infty} \Psi(z) dz = 1$$

## Scale transformation

$$z \rightarrow \alpha_F z \quad \Psi(z) \rightarrow \alpha_F^{-1} \Psi(z)$$

preserves the normalization condition



$$\Psi(z) = \frac{\pi}{(dN/d\eta) \cdot \sigma_{inel}} \cdot J^{-1} \cdot E \frac{d^3\sigma}{dp^3} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \int E \frac{d^3\sigma}{dp^3} dy d^2p_{\perp} = \sigma_{inel} \cdot \langle N \rangle$$

- $\sigma_{inel}$  – the inelastic cross section
- $\langle N \rangle$  – the average multiplicity
- $dN/d\eta$  – the multiplicity density
- $J(z, \eta; p_T^2, y)$  – the Jacobian
- $E d^3\sigma/dp^3$  – the inclusive cross section

The scaling function  $\Psi(z)$  is probability density to produce the inclusive particle with the corresponding  $z$ .

- Energy independence of  $\Psi(z)$  ( $s^{1/2} > 20 \text{ GeV}$ )
- Angular independence of  $\Psi(z)$  ( $\theta_{\text{cms}} = 3^\circ - 90^\circ$ )
- Multiplicity independence of  $\Psi(z)$  ( $dN_{\text{ch}}/d\eta = 1.5 - 26$ )
- Saturation of  $\Psi(z)$  at low  $z$  ( $z < 0.1$ )
- Power law,  $\Psi(z) \sim z^{-\beta}$ , at high  $z$  ( $z > 4$ )
- Flavor independence of  $\Psi(z)$  ( $\pi, K, \phi, \Lambda, \dots, D, J/\psi, B, Y, \dots, \text{top}$ )

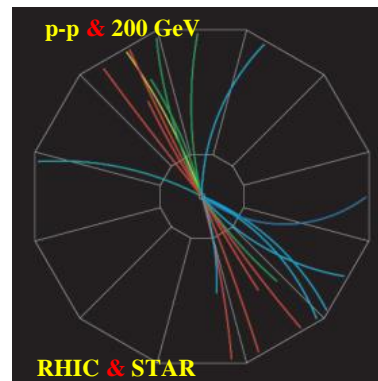
These properties reflect **self-similarity**, **locality**, and **fractality** of hadron interactions at a constituent level.

It concerns the **structure** of the colliding objects, constituent interactions and fragmentation process.



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Some results of data analysis  
for  $p+p$  collisions in  $z$ -scaling approach



Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 32, 1750029 (2017)  
Phys. Part. Nucl. 51, 141 (2020)

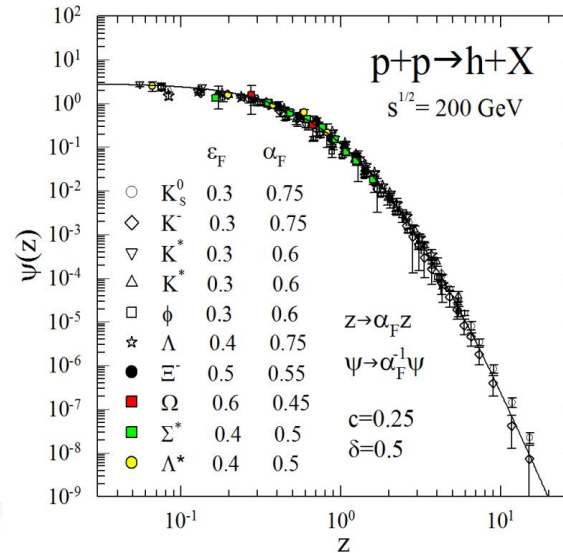
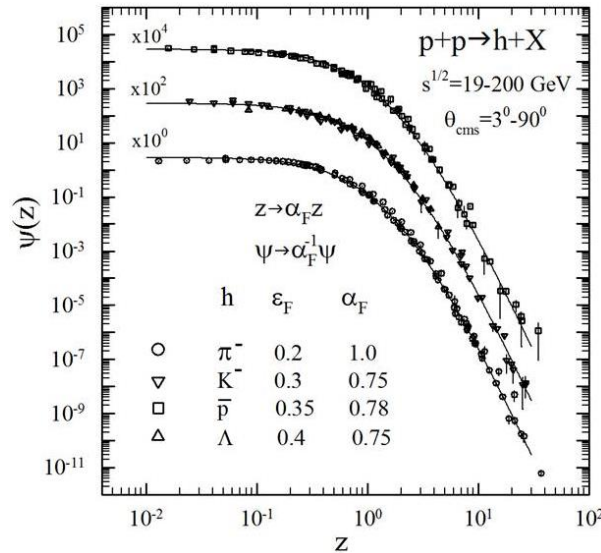


**Universality:** flavor independence of the scaling function

$K_S^0, K^-, K^*, \phi, \Lambda, \Xi, \Omega, \Sigma^*, \Lambda^*$

“Collapse” of data points onto a single curve

M.T.& I.Zborovský  
Int. J. Mod. Phys.  
A24,1417(2009)  
A32,1750029 (2017)



**STAR:**

PRL 92 (2004) 092301  
PRL 97 (2006) 132301  
PLB 612 (2005) 181  
PRC 71 (2005) 064902  
PRC 75 (2007) 064901  
PRL 108 (2012) 072302

**PHENIX:**

PRC 75 (2007) 051902  
PRD 83 (2011) 052004  
PRC 90 (2014) 054905

Solid line for  $\pi^-$  meson  
is a reference frame

$$\epsilon_\pi = 0.2, \quad \alpha_\pi = 1$$

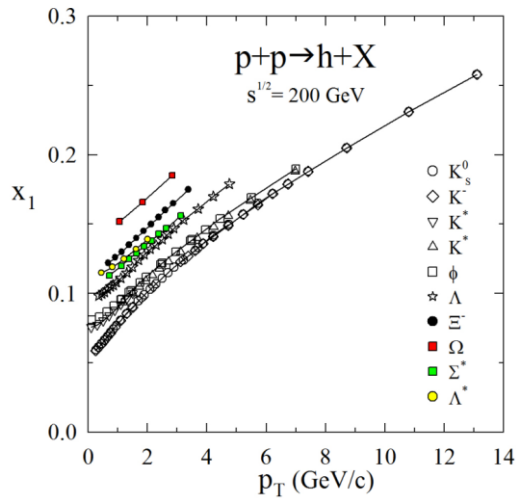
- Energy independence
- Angular independence
- Flavor independence
- Saturation for  $z < 0.1$
- Power law  $\Psi(z) \sim z^{-\beta}$  at large  $z$
- $\epsilon_F, \alpha_F$  independent of  $p_T, s^{1/2}$



$K_S^0, K^-, K^*, \phi, \Lambda, \Xi, \Omega, \Sigma^*, \Lambda^*$

Constituent sub-process in terms of

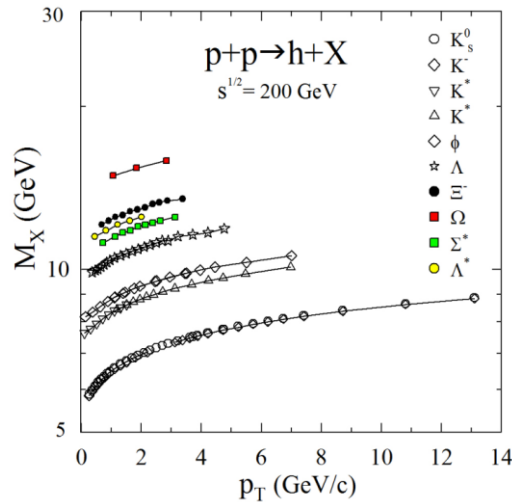
Momentum fraction



The more strangeness,  
the larger momentum fraction

$$x_1^\Omega > x_1^\Xi > x_1^\Sigma > x_1^K$$

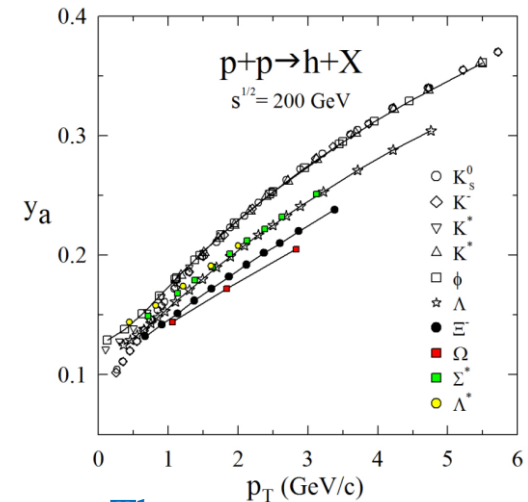
Recoil mass



The more strangeness,  
the larger recoil mass

$$M_X^\Omega > M_X^\Xi > M_X^\Sigma > M_X^K$$

Energy loss  $\Delta E/E \sim (1-y_a)$



The more strangeness,  
the larger energy loss

$$\epsilon_\Omega > \epsilon_\Xi > \epsilon_\Sigma > \epsilon_K$$

Smooth behavior of  $x_1, y_a, M_X$  vs.  $p_T$ .

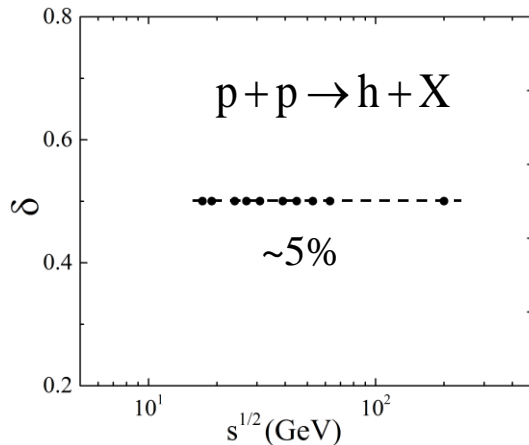
Self-similarity dictates the properties of constituent sub-process.



Parameters  $\delta$ ,  $\varepsilon_F$ ,  $c$  are found from the scaling behavior of  $\Psi$  as a function of self-similarity variable  $z$

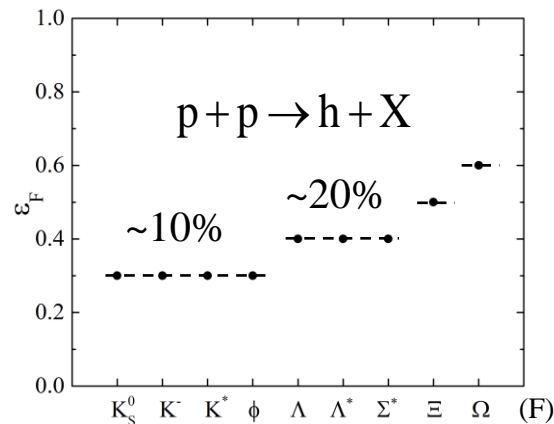
Proton fractal dimension

$\delta$



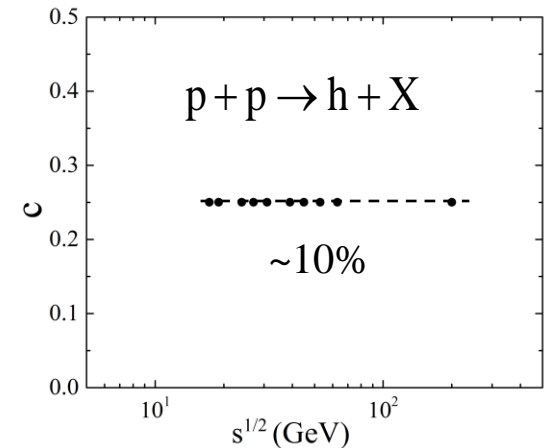
Fragmentation dimension

$\varepsilon_F$



“Specific heat”

$c$

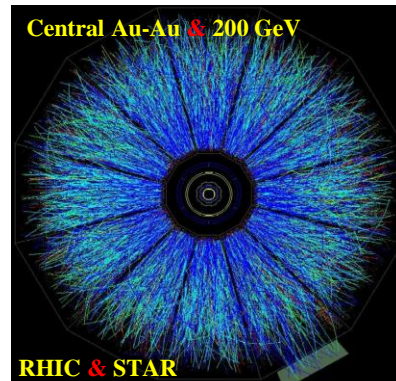


- $\delta$ ,  $\varepsilon_F$ ,  $c$  are independent of  $\sqrt{s}$ ,  $p_T$
- $\varepsilon_F$  depends on flavor

- Self-similarity of proton sub-structure:  $\delta = \text{const}$
- Self-similarity of hadronization process:  $\varepsilon_F = \text{const}$  for  $F = \text{const}$
- Constancy of “temperature” fluctuations:  $c = \text{const}$

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## Some results of data analysis for $A+A$ collisions in $z$ -scaling approach



Nucl. Phys. A993 (2020) 121646  
Nucl. Phys. A1025 (2022) 122492



## Self-similarity parameter

$$z = z_0 \Omega^{-1}$$

$$z_0 = \frac{s_{\perp}^{1/2}}{(dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0)^{c_{AA}} m_N}$$

$$\Omega = (1-x_1)^{\delta_A} (1-x_2)^{\delta_A} (1-y_a)^{\varepsilon_{AA}} (1-y_b)^{\varepsilon_{AA}}$$

- $dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0$  - multiplicity density
- $c_{AA}$  - “specific heat” of bulk matter
- $\delta_A$  - nucleus fractal dimension
- $\varepsilon_{AA}$  - fragmentation dimension

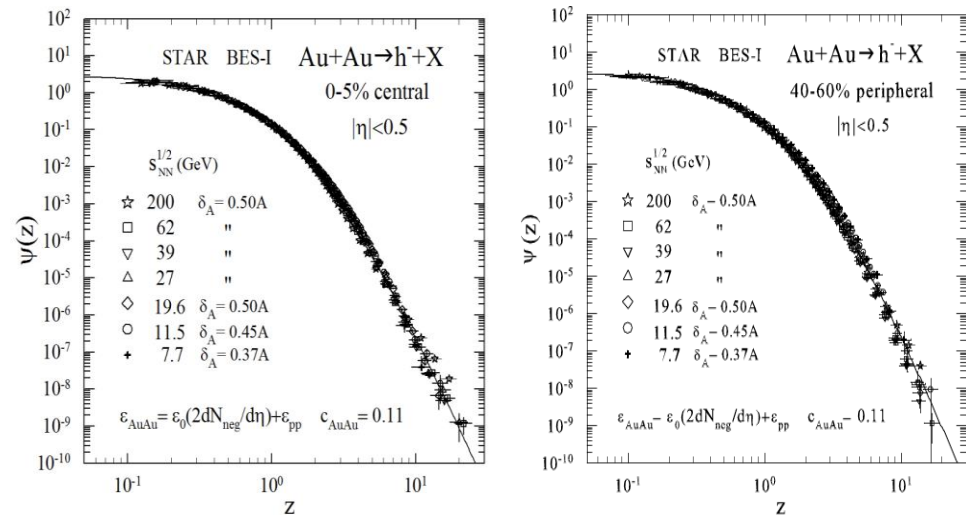
## AA collisions:

$$\delta_A = A\delta$$

$$\varepsilon_{AA} = \varepsilon_0 (2dN_{neg}^{AA}/d\eta) + \varepsilon_{pp}$$

$$\Psi(z) = \frac{\pi A_1 A_2}{(dN/d\eta) \sigma_{in}} J^{-1} E \frac{d^3\sigma}{dp^3}$$

“Collapse” of data points onto a single curve



- Energy independence of  $\Psi(z)$
- Centrality independence of  $\Psi(z)$
- Dependence of  $\varepsilon_{AA}$  on multiplicity
- Power law at low- and high- $z$  regions

Indication of the decrease of  $\delta$  for  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 19.6$  GeV

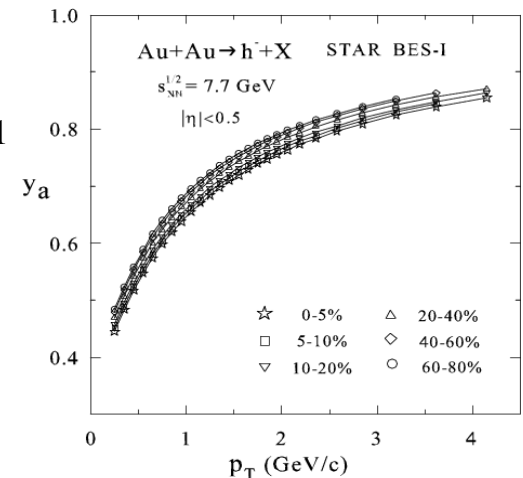
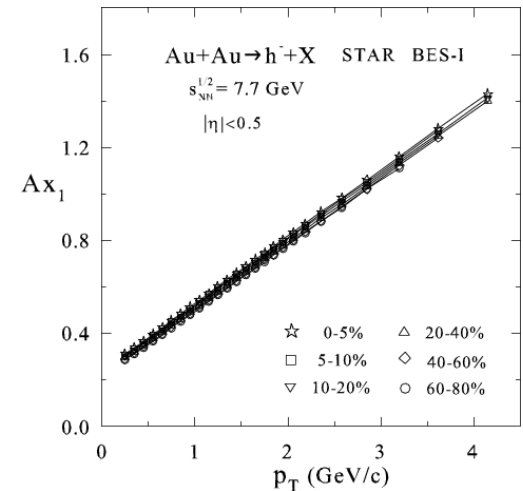
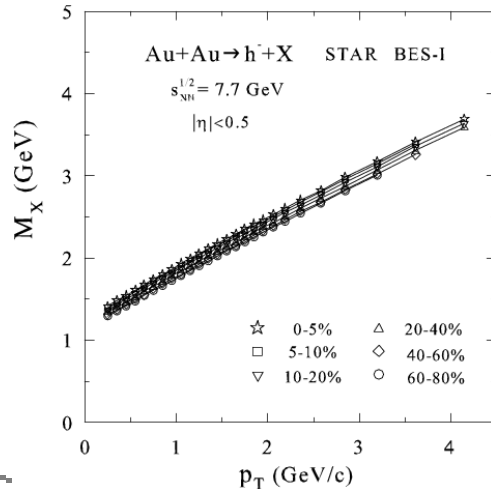
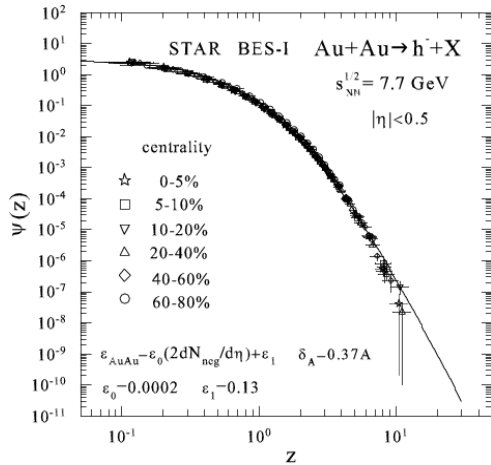




# Scaling function, momentum fractions and recoil mass vs. centrality and $p_T$ at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7$ GeV & $|\eta| < 0.5$

## Au+Au $\rightarrow$ $h^- + X$

- Scaling behavior of  $\Psi(z)$
- Weak dependence of  $Ax_1$ ,  $y_a$ ,  $M_X$  on centrality
- Cumulative region is reached
- Smooth dependence vs. variables
- Power behavior of  $\Psi(z)$  at  $z < 0.4$
- Power behavior of  $\Psi(z)$  at  $z > 4$
- Linear dependence of  $M_X$  and  $Ax_1$  on  $p_T$  for all centralities
- Growth and flattening of  $y_a$  vs.  $p_T$
- Decrease of  $\delta_A = A\delta$  with  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$

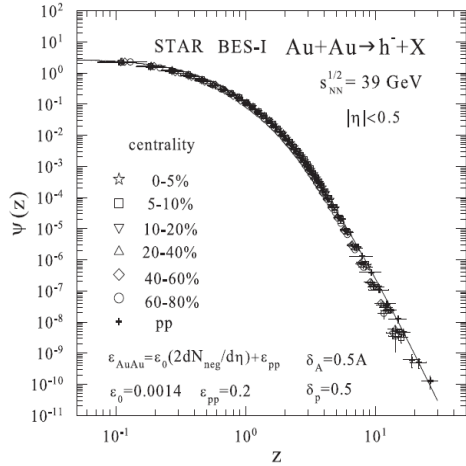


There are no found discontinuities in these dependences.

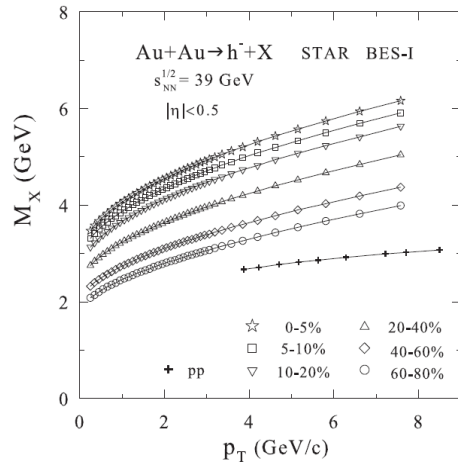
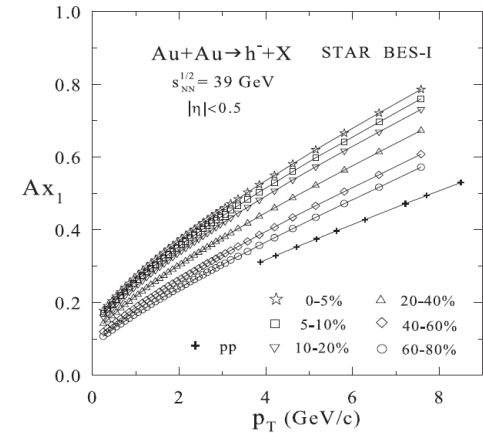


# Scaling function, momentum fractions and recoil mass vs. centrality and $p_T$ at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 39$ GeV & $|\eta| < 0.5$

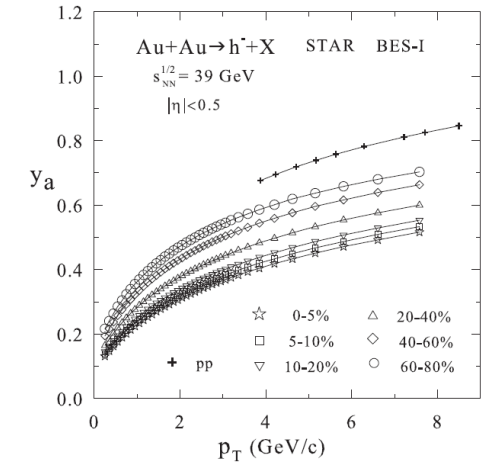
## Au+Au $\rightarrow$ $h^- + X$



- Scaling behavior of  $\Psi(z)$
- Strong dependence of  $Ax_1, y_a, M_X$  on centrality
- Cumulative region is not reached
- Smooth dependence vs. variables



- Power behavior of  $\Psi(z)$  at  $z < 0.4$
- Power behavior of  $\Psi(z)$  at  $z > 4$
- Growth of  $Ax_1, y_a, M_X$  on  $p_T$  for all centralities
- Independence of  $\delta_A = A\delta$  on  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$



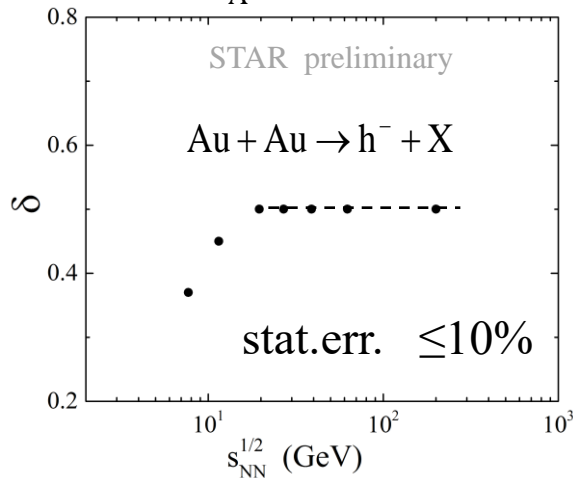
There are no found discontinuities in these dependences.



Parameters  $\delta_A, \varepsilon_{AA}, c_{AA}$  are determined from the requirement of scaling behavior of  $\Psi$  as a function of self-similarity parameter  $z$

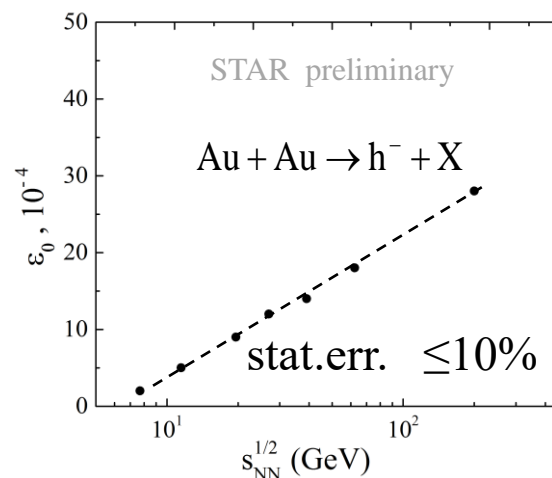
Nucleus fractal dimension

$$\delta_A = A \cdot \delta$$



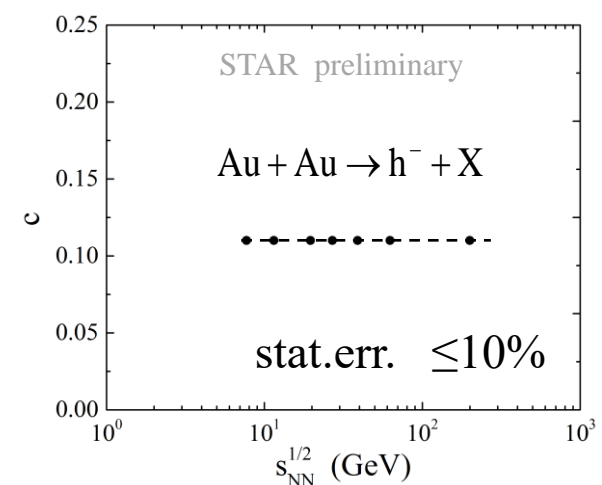
Fragmentation dimension

$$\varepsilon_{AA} = \varepsilon_0 (dN_{AA}/d\eta) + \varepsilon_{pp}$$



“Specific heat”

$$c_{AA}$$



- $\delta_A$  decreases with energy for  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \leq 20$  GeV
- $\delta_A$  is independent of energy for  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \geq 20$  GeV
- $\varepsilon_{AA}$  increases with energy
- $c_{AA}$  is independent of energy

Search for discontinuity and correlations of the model parameters.



## Self-similarity parameter

$$z = z_0 \Omega^{-1}$$

$$z_0 = \frac{s_{\perp}^{1/2}}{(dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0)^{c_{AA}} m_N}$$

$$\Omega = (1-x_1)^{\delta_A} (1-x_2)^{\delta_A} (1-y_a)^{\varepsilon_{AA}} (1-y_b)^{\varepsilon_{AA}}$$

- $dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0$  - multiplicity density
- $c_{AA}$  - “specific heat” of bulk matter
- $\delta_A$  - nucleus fractal dimension
- $\varepsilon_{AA}$  - fragmentation dimension

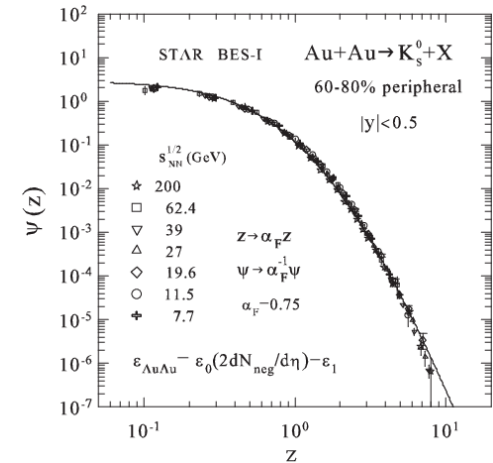
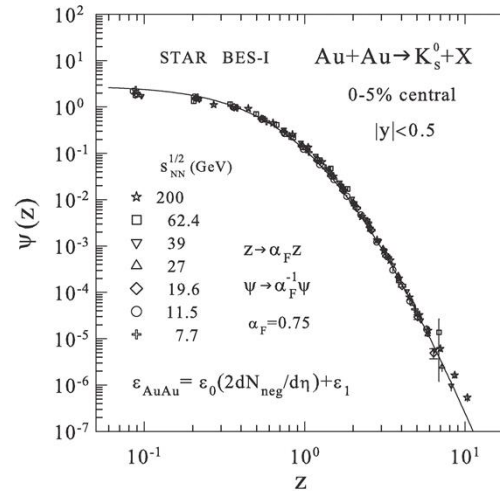
## AA collisions:

$$\delta_A = A\delta$$

$$\varepsilon_{AA} = \varepsilon_0 (2dN_{neg}^{AA} / d\eta) + \varepsilon_{pp}$$

$$\Psi(z) = \frac{\pi}{(dN/d\eta) \sigma_{inel}} J^{-1} E \frac{d^3\sigma}{dp^3}$$

“Collapse” of data points onto a single curve



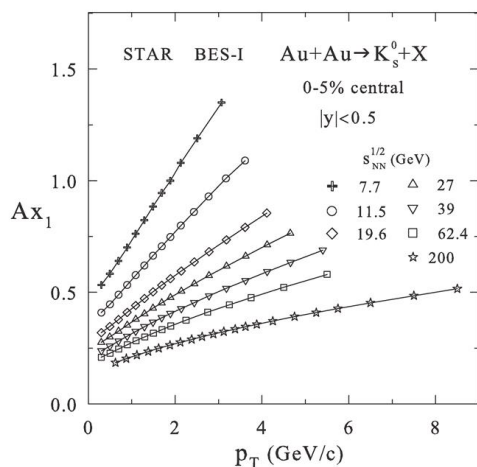
- Energy independence of  $\Psi(z)$
- Centrality independence of  $\Psi(z)$
- Dependence of  $\varepsilon_{AA}$  on multiplicity
- Power law at low- and high- $z$  regions

Indication of a decrease of  $\delta$  for  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 19.6$  GeV



## Constituent sub-process in terms of

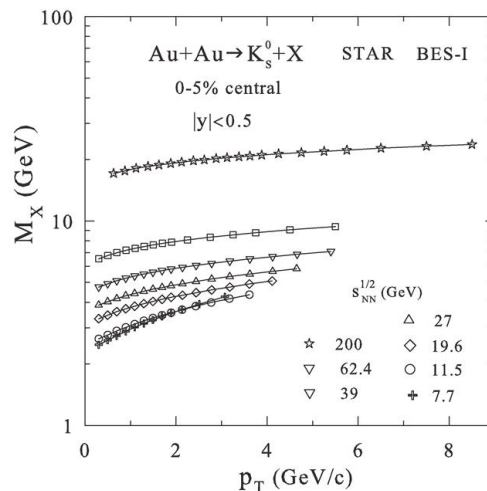
### Momentum fraction $Ax_1$



### Momentum fraction

- increases with  $p_T$
- decreases with  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$

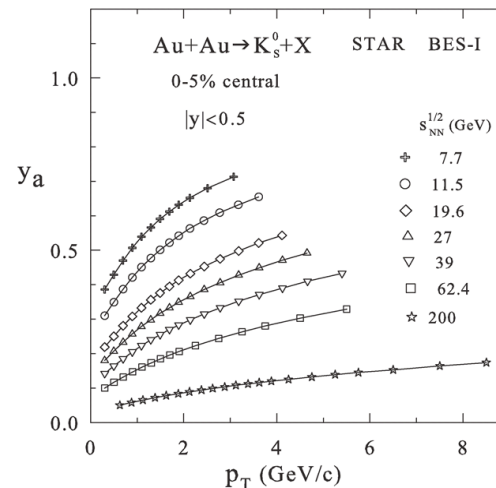
### Recoil mass $M_X$



### Recoil mass

- increases with  $p_T$
- increases with  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$

### Energy loss $\Delta E/E \sim (1-y_a)$



### Energy loss

- decreases with  $p_T$
- increases with  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$

Smooth behavior of  $x_1, y_a, M_X$  vs.  $p_T$ , centrality, collision energy

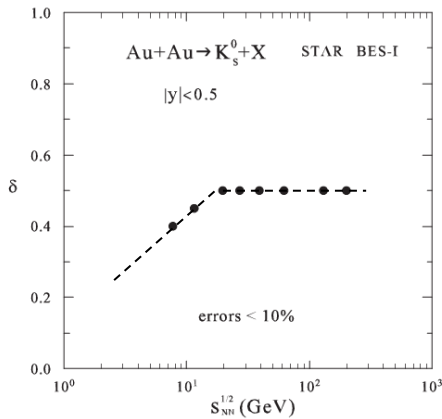
- High  $x_1$  and  $p_T$  → compressed nuclear matter
- Large  $M_X$  → high density recoil system
- High  $y_a$  → small energy loss



Parameters  $\delta_A, \epsilon_{AA}, c_{AA}$  are found from the scaling behavior of  $\Psi$  as a function of self-similarity variable  $z$

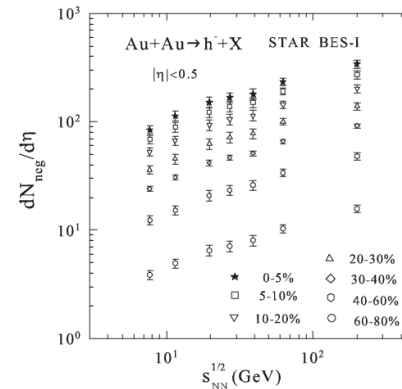
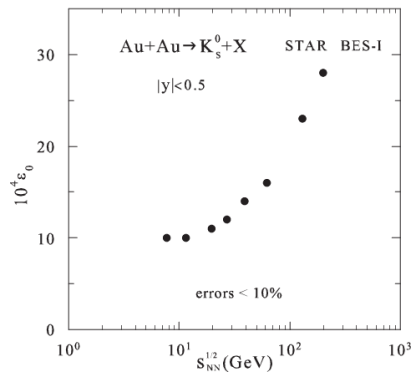
## Nucleus fractal dimension

$$\delta_A = A \cdot \delta$$



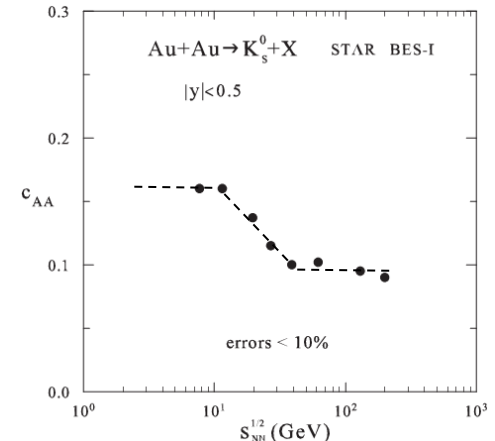
## Fragmentation dimension

$$\epsilon_{AA} = \epsilon_0 (2dN_{neg}^{AA} / d\eta) + \epsilon_{pp}$$



## “Specific heat”

$$c_{AA}$$



- $\delta_A, \epsilon_{AA}, c_{AA}$  depend on  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$
- $\epsilon_{AA}$  depends on flavor and multiplicity

Decrease of resolution with energy :  $\delta = 0$  for point-like object.

Increases of energy loss vs. energy, multiplicity :  $\epsilon_{AA} = 0$  no energy loss

Increase of temperature fluctuations with energy : decrease of specific heat  $c_{AA}$

Strange meson  $K_S^0$  is a sensitive probe to state of the nuclear matter.



---

# Fractal entropy $S_{\delta,\varepsilon}$ for systems with structural constituents



# Entropy of nuclear system produced in $A+A \rightarrow h+X$ 32

According to statistical physics, entropy of a system is given by a number  $W_s$  of its statistical states:

$$S = \ln W_s$$

The most likely configuration of the system is given by the maximal value of  $S$ .

For inclusive reactions, the quantity  $W_s$  is the number of **all parton and hadron configurations** in the initial and final states of the colliding system which **can contribute** to the production of inclusive particle with momentum  $p$ .

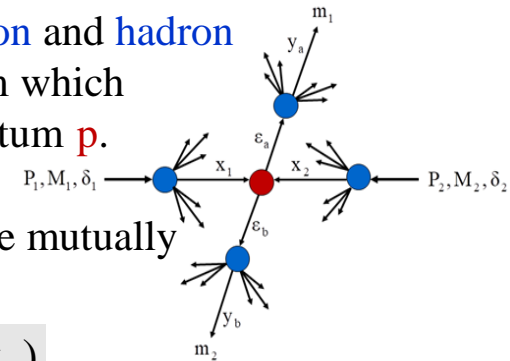
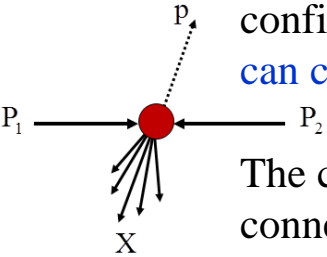
The configurations comprise **all constituent configurations** that are mutually connected by independent binary **subprocesses**:

$$(x_1 M_1) + (x_2 M_2) \rightarrow (m_a / y_a) + (x_1 M_1 + x_2 M_2 + m_b / y_b)$$

The **subprocesses** corresponding to the production of the inclusive particle with the 4-momentum  $p$  are subject to **the momentum conservation law**:

$$(x_1 P_1 + x_2 P_2 - p / y_a)^2 = (x_1 M_1 + x_2 M_2 + m_b / y_b)^2$$

The underlying subprocess, which defines the variable  $z$ , is singled out from the corresponding subprocesses by the **principle of maximal entropy  $S$** .

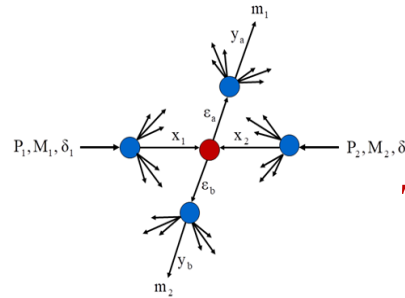




$$z = z_0 \Omega^{-1}$$

$$z_0 = \frac{\sqrt{s_{\perp}}}{(dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0)^c m_N}$$

$$\Omega = (1-x_1)^{\delta_1} (1-x_2)^{\delta_2} (1-y_a)^{\varepsilon_a} (1-y_b)^{\varepsilon_b}$$



Statistical entropy

$$S = \ln W_S$$

Thermodynamical entropy  
for ideal gas

$$S = c_v \ln T + R \ln V + S_0$$

Fractal entropy for  
independent processes

The quantity  $W_S$  is the number of all parton and hadron configurations in the initial and final states of the colliding system which can contribute to the production of inclusive particle with momentum  $p$

$$z = \frac{\sqrt{s_{\perp}}}{W}$$

$$W_S = W \cdot W_0 = (dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0)^c \cdot \Omega \cdot W_0$$

$$S_{\delta,\varepsilon} = c \cdot \ln(dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0) + \ln(V_{\delta,\varepsilon}) + \ln W_0$$

Entropy  $S_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  for systems with structural constituents

$$S_{\delta,\varepsilon} = c \cdot \ln(dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0) + \ln[(1-x_1)^{\delta_1} (1-x_2)^{\delta_2} (1-y_a)^{\varepsilon_a} (1-y_b)^{\varepsilon_b}] + \ln W_0$$

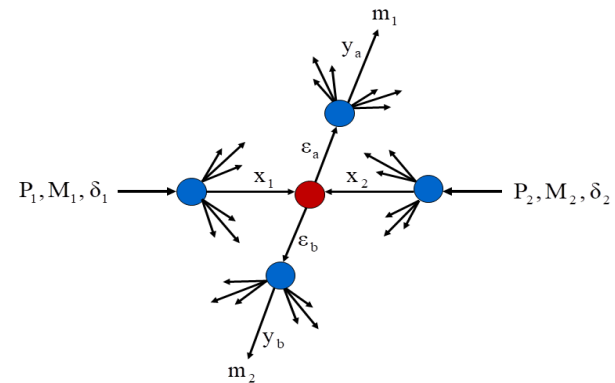
- $dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0$  characterizes “temperature” of the colliding system.
- $c$  has meaning of a “specific heat” of the produced medium.
- Fractional exponents  $\delta_1, \delta_2, \varepsilon_a, \varepsilon_b$  are fractal dimensions in the space of  $\{x_1, x_2, y_a, y_b\}$ .
- $V_{\delta,\varepsilon} = \Omega$  is fractal volume in the space of momentum fraction.



**Principle of maximal entropy:** The momentum fractions  $x_1, x_2$  and  $y_a, y_b$  are determined in a way to maximize the entropy  $S_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  with respect to all constituent sub-processes taking into account 4-momentum conservation law.

$$S_{\delta,\varepsilon} = c \cdot \ln(dN_{\text{ch}}/d\eta|_0) + \ln[(1-x_1)^{\delta_1} (1-x_2)^{\delta_2} (1-y_a)^{\varepsilon_a} (1-y_b)^{\varepsilon_b}] + S_0$$

$$\begin{cases} \partial S_{\delta,\varepsilon} / \partial x_1 |_{y_a=y_a(x_1,x_2,y_b)} = 0 \\ \partial S_{\delta,\varepsilon} / \partial x_2 |_{y_a=y_a(x_1,x_2,y_b)} = 0 \\ \partial S_{\delta,\varepsilon} / \partial y_b |_{y_a=y_a(x_1,x_2,y_b)} = 0 \end{cases}$$



**Momentum conservation law**

$$(x_1 P_1 + x_2 P_2 - p/y_a)^2 = M_X^2$$

**Mass of the recoil system**

$$M_X = x_1 M_1 + x_2 M_2 + m_2/y_b$$

Fractions  $x_1, x_2, y_a, y_b$  are expressed via Lorentz invariants – scalar products of 4-D momenta and particle masses.

Maximal entropy  $S_{\delta,\varepsilon} \Leftrightarrow$  minimal resolution  $\Omega^{-1}$  of the fractal measure  $z$ .



## Principle of maximal entropy:

The momentum fractions  $x_1, x_2, y_a, y_b$  are determined in a way to maximize the entropy  $S_{\delta, \varepsilon}$  with a kinematic constraint (momentum conservation law).

### Maximum of $S_{\delta, \varepsilon}$

$$\begin{cases} \partial\Omega / \partial x_1 = 0 & \partial\Omega / \partial y_a = 0 \\ \partial\Omega / \partial x_2 = 0 & \partial\Omega / \partial y_b = 0 \end{cases}$$

### Momentum conservation law

$$(x_1 P_1 + x_2 P_2 - p / y_a)^2 = M_X^2$$

### Mass of recoil system

$$M_X = x_1 M_1 + x_2 M_2 + m_2 / y_b$$

### Resolution w.r.t. constituent sub-processes

$$\Omega^{-1} = (1 - x_1)^{-\delta_1} (1 - x_2)^{-\delta_2} (1 - y_a)^{-\varepsilon_a} (1 - y_b)^{-\varepsilon_b}$$

Equivalence of **minimal resolution** and **maximal entropy** principle

### Conservation law

$$\delta_1 \frac{x_1}{1 - x_1} + \delta_2 \frac{x_2}{1 - x_2} = \varepsilon_a \frac{y_a}{1 - y_a} + \varepsilon_b \frac{y_b}{1 - y_b}$$

for arbitrary  $P_1, P_2, p, \delta_1, \delta_2, \varepsilon_a, \varepsilon_b$  !!!

The conservation law corresponds to maximum of fractal entropy  $S_{\delta, \varepsilon}$

I.Zborovsky & MT

Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 33, 1850057 (2018)  
ICHEP 2020, Prague, July 28 – August 6



## “Fractal cumulativity”

$$C(D, \zeta) = D \cdot \frac{\zeta}{1 - \zeta}$$

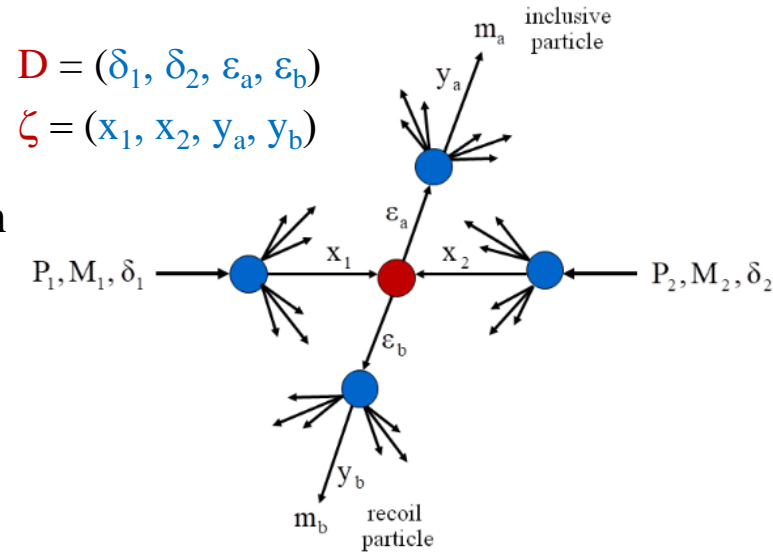
“The **fractal cumulativity** before a constituent interaction is equal to the fractal cumulativity after a constituent interaction for any binary constituent sub-process”

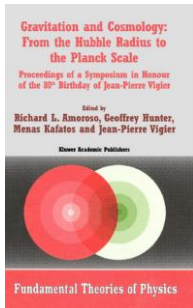
$$\sum_i^{\text{in}} C(D_i, \zeta_i) = \sum_j^{\text{out}} C(D_j, \zeta_j)$$

We assume that

- every physical particle is a structural one
- particle’s constituents possess a fractal-like structure
- fragmentation is a fractal-like process
- compactness of the fractal structures is governed by the **Heisenberg** uncertainty principle

**Fractal cumulativity**  $C(D, \zeta)$  is a property of a fractal-like object (or fractal-like process) with fractal dimension  $D$  to form a local compact “structural aggregate” - a **FRACTALON**, which carries the fraction  $\zeta$  of momentum of its parent fractal.





## BOHM & VIGIER: IDEAS AS A BASIS FOR A FRACTAL UNIVERSE

C.Ciubotariu, V.Stancu & C.Ciubotariu

“... the universality of **fractal structure of spacetime** at small and large scales areas...”

“... a quantum mechanical particle (corpuscule) moving on fractal paths may be one or a small cluster of stochastic elements constituting the particle... “

“ ... **fractalon** is a free particle conned to move on the fractal trajectory”

*R.L. Amoroso et al (eds.),*

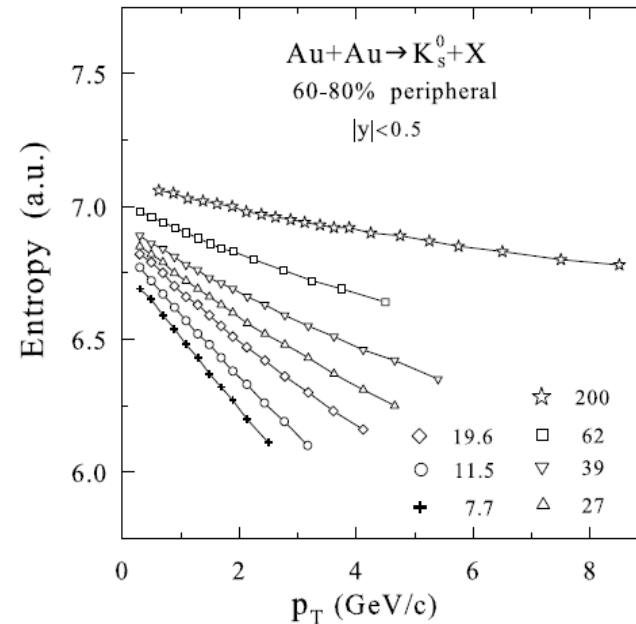
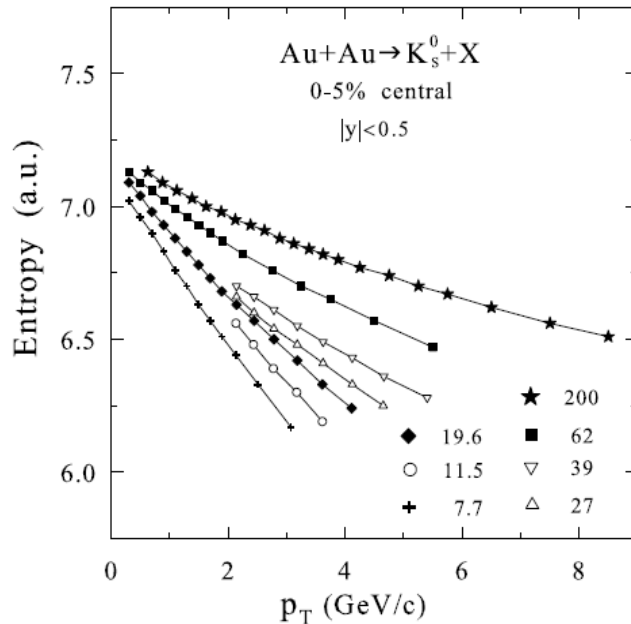
*Gravitation and Cosmology:From the Hubble Radius to the Planck Scale, 85-94.*

*  2002 Kluwer Academic Publishers. Printed in the Netherlands.*

The notion of “**FRACTALON**” in **z**-scaling approach is applied for description of particle production in collisions of hadrons and nuclei at high energy and small scales.



$$S_{\delta,\varepsilon} = c \cdot \ln(dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0) + \ln[(1-x_1)^{\delta_1} (1-x_2)^{\delta_2} (1-y_a)^{\varepsilon_a} (1-y_b)^{\varepsilon_b}] + S_0$$



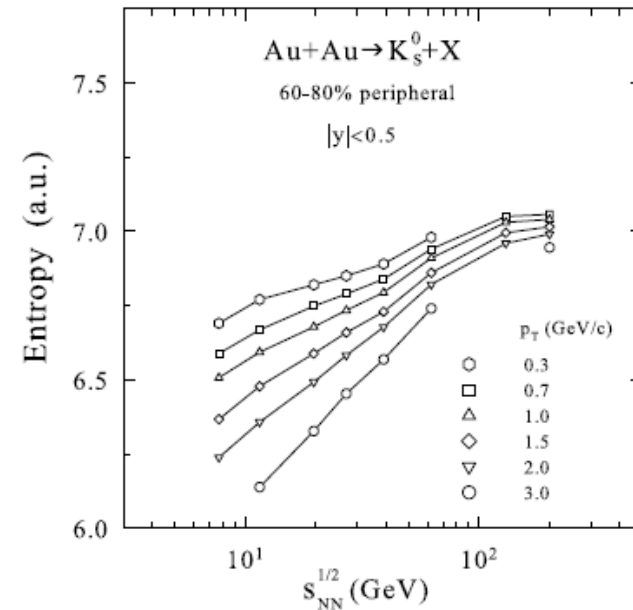
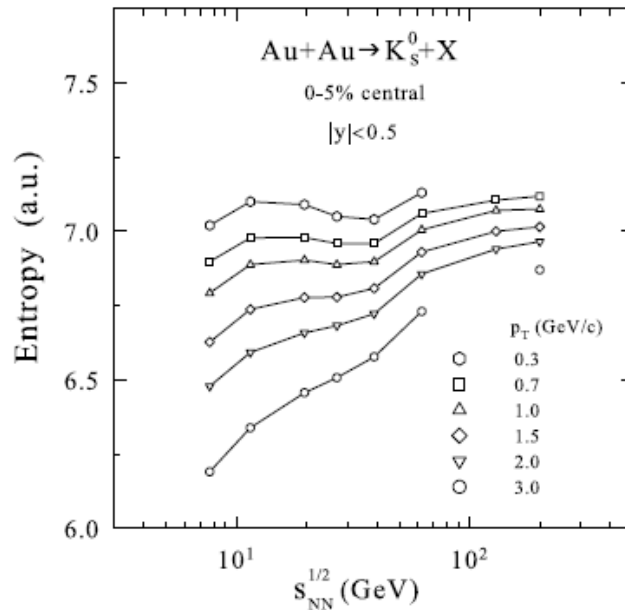
Fractal entropy  $S_{\delta,\varepsilon}$

- is a smooth function of collision energy and  $p_T$
- decreases as  $p_T$  increases
- increases with collision energy
- in central collisions is larger than in peripheral ones at low  $p_T < 1$  GeV/c
- increases with multiplicity density  $dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0$
- decreases with increasing resolution  $\Omega^{-1}$ .



Anomaly of  $S_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  in the region  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 11.5\text{--}39$  GeV at low  $p_T$

$$S_{\delta,\varepsilon} = c \cdot \ln(dN_{ch}/d\eta|_0) + \ln[(1-x_1)^{\delta_1} (1-x_2)^{\delta_2} (1-y_a)^{\varepsilon_a} (1-y_b)^{\varepsilon_b}] + S_0$$



- The entropy reaches a local maximum at the energy  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=11.5\text{--}19.6$  GeV and  $p_T=0.3$  GeV/c.
- An abrupt fall of  $S_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  is seen at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=27\text{--}39$  GeV with a gradual increase at higher energies.
- Anomalous behavior of  $S_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  is also visible at  $p_T=0.7$  and 1.0 GeV/c in the same energy range.
- Monotonic growth of  $S_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  is observed for all  $p_T$  in the peripheral collisions for all  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ .

- Discontinuity or abrupt change of the model parameters:  
“specific heat”-  $c$ , fractal dimensions –  $\delta, \varepsilon$ 
  - Enhancement of  $c$ - $\delta$ - $\varepsilon$  correlations
  - Anomalous behavior of the fractal entropy  $S_{\delta, \varepsilon}$
  - Energy loss is a contamination factor leading to smearing of the phase transition signatures





- Some results of **STAR data** analysis on transverse momentum inclusive spectra of hadrons produced in **p+p** and **Au+Au** collisions at **RHIC** in the **z**-scaling approach were given.
- **Self-similarity of hadron** production in **p+p** and **Au+Au** collisions over a wide kinematic and centrality range was found.
- Properties of data **z**-presentation and dependence of the model parameters - fractal dimensions and “specific heat”, on collision energy and centrality were discussed.
- **Universality of  $\Psi$**  vs. **z** and **smooth behavior of  $x_1, y_a, M_X$**  vs.  **$p_T$** , centrality, and collision energy were observed.
- **Fractal entropy** introduced in **z**-scaling approach was discussed.
- **Conservation law of fractal cumulativity** was formulated.
- Anomaly of “specific heat”  **$c_{AA}$**  in the range  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 11-39$  GeV was found.
- Anomaly of fractal entropy  **$S_{\delta,\varepsilon}$**  in the range  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 27-39$  GeV was found.
- **Signatures** of phase transition and critical point of nuclear matter produced in heavy ion collisions were discussed.





# XXV International Baldin Seminar on High Energy Physics Problems *Relativistic Nuclear Physics & Quantum Chromodynamics*

September 18 - 23, 2023, Dubna, Russia



XXV INTERNATIONAL BALDIN SEMINAR ON  
HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS PROBLEMS

## RELATIVISTIC NUCLEAR PHYSICS & QUANTUM CHROMODYNAMICS

SEPTEMBER 18-23, 2023
 DUBNA, RUSSIA

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- Quantum chromodynamics at large distances
- Relativistic heavy ion collisions
- Hadron spectroscopy, multiquarks
- Cumulative and subthreshold processes
- Structure functions of hadrons and nuclei
- Dynamics of multiparticle production
- Polarization phenomena, spin physics
- Nuclear astrophysics
- Studies of exotic nuclei in relativistic beams
- Applied use of relativistic beams
- Accelerator facilities: status and perspectives
- Project NICA/MPD/SPD at JINR
- Progress in experimental studies in high energy centers — JINR, CERN, BNL, JLAB, GSI, etc.

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Thank you for attention!



M. Tokarev

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