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for the NA61/SHINE Collaboration

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Super Proton Synchrotron Heavy Ion and Neutrino Experiment



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Located at the CERN SPS

Successor of NA49

Large acceptance spectrometer for fixed target experiment on primary (ions) and secondary (ions, hadrons) beams

Data taking since 2009

NA61/SHINE is the second largest non-LHC experiment at CERN



Physics program

Strong interactions program

- •search for the critical point of strongly interacting matter
- •study of the properties of the onset of deconfinement
- •study high p T particles production (energy dependence of nuclear modification factor)

Hadron-production measurements for neutrino experiments

 reference measurements of p+C interactions for the T2K experiment for computing initial neutrino fluxes at J-PARC

Hadron-production measurements for cosmic ray experiments

•reference measurements of p+C, p+p, π +C, and K+C interactions for cosmic-ray physics (Pierre-Auger and KASCADE experiments) for improving air shower simulations



NA61/SHINE – unique multi-purpose facility to study hadron production in hadron-proton, hadron-nucleus and nucleus-nucleus interactions at the CERN SPS

LHC

Detector

SPS

Acceleration chain -> H2 beam-line -> Detecto



HIC programs @ SPS energy range
RHIC Beam Energy Scan (BNL, Brookhaven),
NICA (JINR, Dubna),
SIS-100/300 (FAIR GSI, Darmstadt)
NA61/SHINE (CERN)

HIC programs to perform a two-dimensional scan in beam momentum and mass number of colliding nuclei

•NA61/SHINE (CERN)



This gives

- better analysis of spectra
- better analysis of fluctuations due to the CP (critical point), which show up mainly in low p_{τ} particles



NA61/SHINE Facility

Acceleration chain → H2 beam-line → Detector + SAVD

Commissioned December 2016

NA61/SHINE detector



(p+p interaction at 40 GeV/c measured in the NA61/SHINE detector)

A small acceptance vertex detector

A large acceptance hadron spectrometer

Beam particles measured in set of counters and MWPC detectors

Charged tracks measured in set of 5 **TPCs** \rightarrow measurement of *q*, *p* and identification via d*E*/d*x*

- 3 ToF walls: identification via time of flight measurement
- Projectile Spectator
 Detector counts the non-interacting nucleons of the beam particle





Possible beams

<u>Hadrons</u>

- I. Primary protons at 400 GeV/c
- II. Secondary (π ,K,p) at 13-350 GeV/c

<u>lons</u>

- I. Primary: Ar, Xe, Pb at 13A-150A GeV/c
- II. Secondary from Pb fragmentation (e.g. Be) a 13A-150A GeV/c

Targets

- I. Almost any solid state (from 500 μ m to 1 m)
- II. Liquid hydrigen (20cm)





beam momentum [A GeV/c]





Gazdzicki, Gorenstein, Acta Phys. Polon. B30, 2705 (1999)

Evidence for phase transition at SPS and its volume dependence - the Step



signal the onset of deconfinement located at the low CERN SPS energies

S.. INE Evidence for phase transition at SPS and its volume dependence – the *Kink*



kink plots





signal the onset of deconfinement located at the low CERN SPS energies

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STRE Transverse momentum fluctuations



- Search for the critical point of strongly interacting matter
- No sign of any anomaly that can be attributed to the critical point (neither in p+p nor Be+Be)

SVINE Evidence for phase transition at SPS and its volume dependence - *Transverse momentum fluctuations*



No signs of critical behaviour



Rapid changes in system size dependence

 Be+Be results are very close to p+p at different collision energies.
 It seems as cluster (fireball) size rapidly increases – jumps above Be+Be size collisions.



Mean multiplicities ratio

Scaled multiplicity fluctuations

versus mean number of wounded nucleons <W>

Rapid changes in system size dependence



Scaled multiplicity and energy fluctuations of negatively charged hadrons undergo rapid changes between BeBe and ArSc sizes

With the increasing size of colliding systems light clusters are produced more and more copiously, as at some densitythey start to overlap – to reach *percolation* threshold.

Effect does not depend on energy

- only on the size of the system.



(i) charm hadron production in Pb+Pb collisions for heavy ion physics,
(ii) nuclear fragmentation cross sections for cosmic ray physics
(iii) hadron production in hadron-nucleus interactions for neutrino physics

as NA61/SHINE is the only experiment which could conduct such measurements in the near future. Together with other HIC experiments creates a full-tone physical picture of QCD in dense medium.



Charm hadron production measurements

First data on mean number of $c\overline{c}$ pairs produced in the full phase space in heavy ion collisions

Ouestions to answer: (i) What is the mechanism of open charm production? (ii) How does the onset of deconfinement impact open charm production? (iii) How does the formation of quark-gluon plasma impact J/ψ production?

To do it: 42 days of primary Pb beam at 150A GeV/c for data taking on charm hadron production in Pb+Pb collisions

to begin with in 2022 - the first year after the LS2



High-precision data needed for the interpretation of results from current-generation cosmic ray experiments

Questions to answer:

- (i) the characteristics of the diffuse propagation of cosmic rays in the Galaxy
- (ii) the origin of Galactic cosmic rays
- (iii) the cosmic-ray background for signatures of astrophysical dark matter.

<u>To do it:</u>

21 days of secondary light ion beam at 13A GeV/c for data taking on nuclear fragmentation cross section

to begin with in 2022 - the first year after the LS2

New hadron production measurements for neutrino physics

- i. Precision of hadron production measurements for the currently used T2K replica target, with special attention to the extrapolation of produced particles to the target surface;
- ii. Measurements for a new target material (super-sialon), both in thin target and replica target configurations, for T2K-II and Hyper-Kamiokande;
- iii. Measurements at low incoming beam momenta (below12 GeV/c) relevant for improved predictions of both atmospheric and accelerator neutrino fluxes;
- iv. Hadron production measurements with prototypes of Hyper-Kamiokande and DUNE targets.

<u>To do it:</u>

- I. 35 days of proton beam at 31 GeV/c for data taking on hadron production from the T2K replica target the Super-Sialon thin target
- II. 28 days of K beam at 60 GeV/c for data taking on hadron production induced by K⁺ mesons

to begin with in 2022 - the first year after the LS2



Detector upgrades

Requied:

- I. Construction of a new Large Acceptance Vertex Detector.
- II. Replacement of the TPC read-out electronics.
- III. Construction of a new trigger and data acquisition system.
- IV. Upgrade of the Projectile Spectator Detector.



Desirable:

The construction of new Time-of-Flight detectors



On the way to the Large Acceptance Vertex Detector

The Small Acceptance VD:

- Commissioned in December 2016
- Vertex resolution enough (30 µm) to distinguish
 D⁰ decay
- Pb+Pb data taking at 150 GeV/c (2016) test run
- Xe+La data taking at 150 GeV/c (2017) 5.10⁶ events
- Improvement in the primary vertex reconstruction precision (2.5 μm, 1.5 μm, 15 μm)

Fixed target effect! Lorenz factor ($\beta \gamma \approx 10$)

Data are currently under analysis. One expects to reconstruct several hundred of D⁰ and D⁰ decays. These statistics could by itself lead to interesting physical results.

This is just the beginning!