

Charged Hadron Spectra in p+Pb collisions at 8 TeV

Kushagra Chandak

International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad (IIIT-H), India

Supervisors: Dr. Petr Balek

Prof. Alexander Milov

Heavy Ion Physics Group

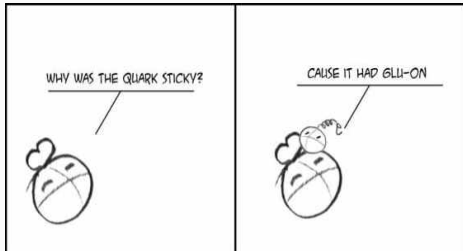
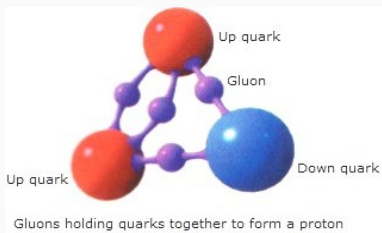
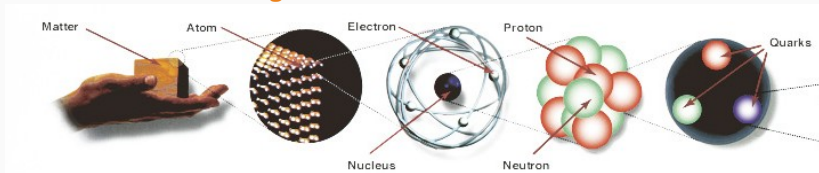
- Motivation
 - Matter and Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP)
- Setup
 - Heavy Ion (HI) Collisions
 - Colliders and Detectors
- Analysis
- Results
- Conclusion

Motivation: Why study heavy ion collisions?

What's the *hottest* thing you can imagine?

Matter and Quark-Gluon Plasma

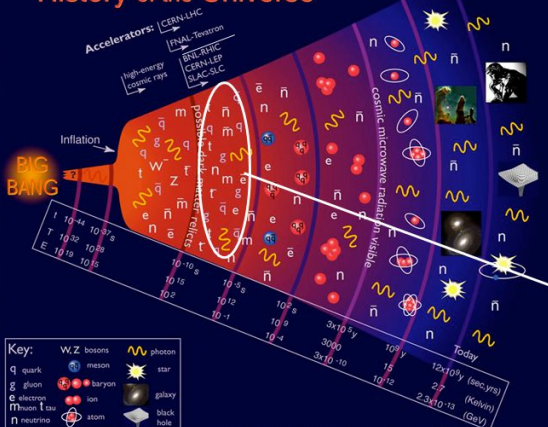
QGP: Extremely *hot* and dense state of **matter** where **quarks** and **gluons** are free to move!



WWW.BOSSYBOSON.COM

History of the Universe ~ History of Matter

History of the Universe



Quark Gluon
Plasma

Hadronization

Nucleosynthesis

QGP study

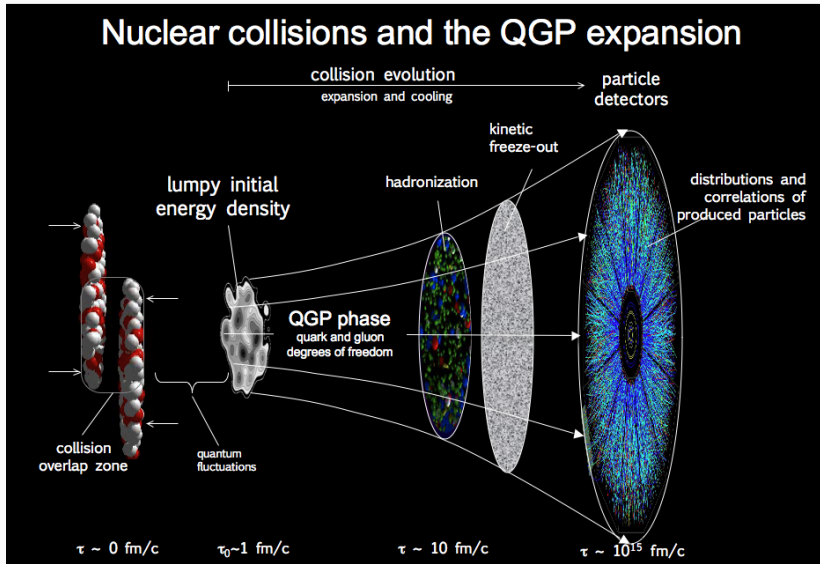
Understanding
early universe

Particle Data Group, LBNL, © 2000. Supported by DOE and NSF

Setup: How to study Quark-Gluon Plasma?

-From HI collisions

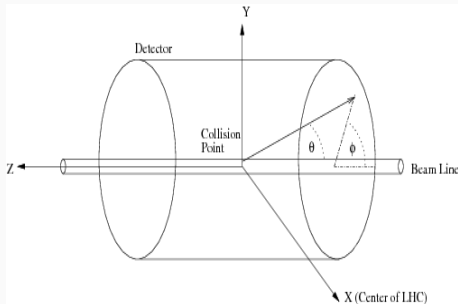
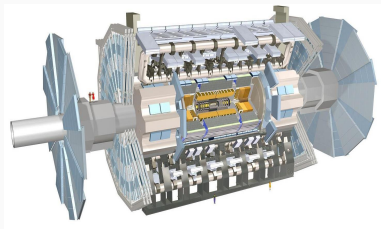
Nuclear collisions and the QGP expansion



Colliders and Detectors: ATLAS

- ATLAS follows right-handed coordinate system.
- Measure positions of particles after collision using θ (from z-axis) and ϕ (from x-axis in transverse plane).
- Transverse Momentum (p_T): a very important quantity to measure.

The **ATLAS** Detector (cylindrically symmetric)

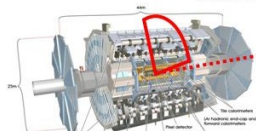
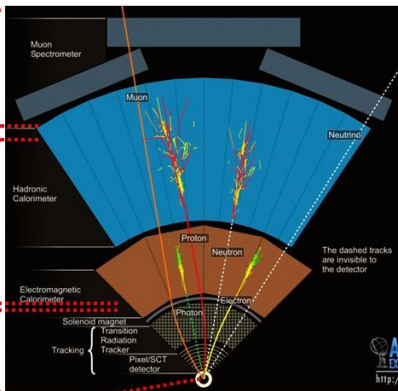


Colliders and Detectors

Measure p of muons
Tracking

Measure E of all particles
Calorimeters convert absorbed energy
in light

Measure p of charged particles
Silicon & gas based tracking
detectors in B field

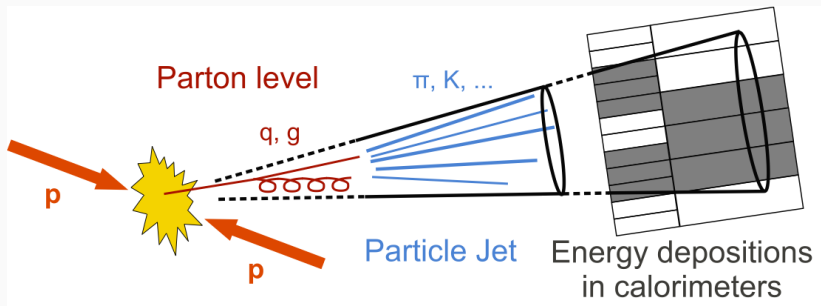


Analysis: Evaluation of charged hadron spectra in p+Pb

Why do we want to measure charged hadron spectra?

- Production of *hadrons* (particles composed of quarks) is modified in HI collisions compared to pp collisions.
- This modification is a result of energy loss in the hot medium.
- We're interested in the p_T distribution of the **tracks** made by *hadrons*.
- High p_T tracks are coming from jets.

Analysis: Jets



- **Jet**: A spray of hadrons depositing energy in the calorimeter.
- *Track* with high p_T is part of a jet, which is found by a trigger and the event is recorded.
- *Need to record events but can't record everything!*
- We need **triggers**!

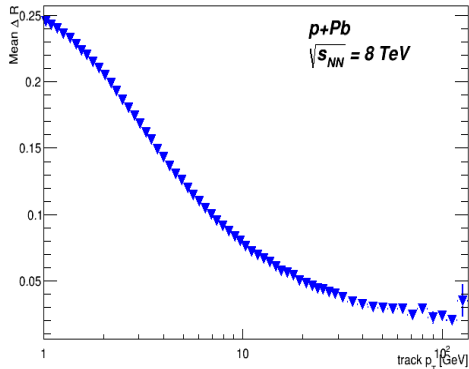
Triggers and Analysis

- **Trigger:** A system or a software or both that selects events which potentially contain interesting physics. ("rare" or important events)
- Many types of triggers:
 - **MinBias:** Selects *basically* all events.
 - **Jet Trigger:** Selects events with jets.
 - Many other types of triggers...
- All events in my dataset were selected using **MinBias and Jet triggers.**
- The main goal is to combine measurements from all the triggers, in order to make a spectrum to high p_T .

Results

Results: ΔR

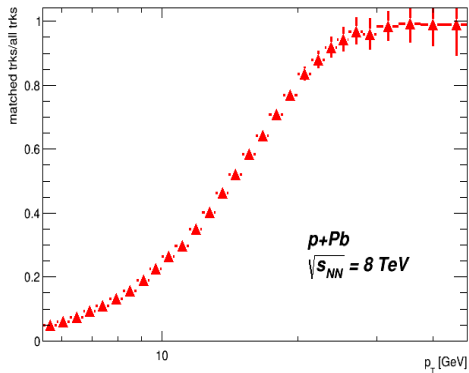
Track p_T vs ΔR



- $\Delta R = \sqrt{(\Delta\phi)^2 + (\Delta\eta)^2}$
- $\eta = \text{pseudorapidity} = -\ln \tan(\theta/2)$
- Matching: High p_T tracks are sitting near to jet axis, within 0.05.

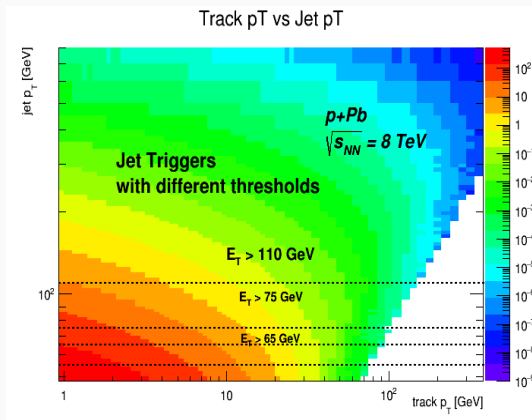
Results: Ratio

(Tracks matched to jets)/(All tracks), for most central events



- Matching: Looking at tracks within $\Delta R \leq 0.4$
- MinBias: Doesn't use jets. But ratio at high p_T goes to 1.
- Confirms the initial assumption: More than 99% of the tracks are part of a jet at high p_T .

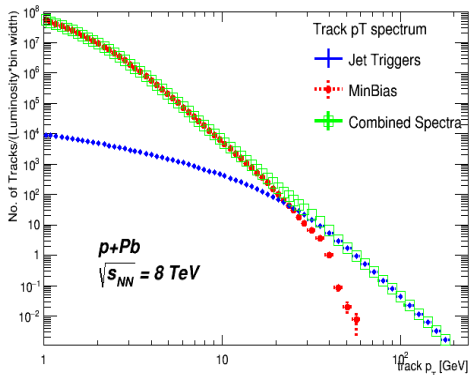
Results: Correlation between track p_T and jet p_T



- Combination of several triggers with different energy thresholds.
- More tracks and jets at low p_T .
- Record all events with high p_T . (They're *rare*.)
- Energy conservation in high p_T region.
- Histogram properly normalized, so we don't see the triggers in the plot.

Results

Track p_T vs No. of Tracks



- Spectrum for **jet triggers**, **MinBias triggers** and **combined**.
- Combined spectra: *Unbiased*. Seamless transition.
- **Ten orders** of magnitude measurement!!!
- Use of jet triggers allows to measure spectrum at high p_T .

Conclusion

Conclusion

- These are the *first* real results of p+Pb collisions at 8 TeV recorded with the ATLAS detector in Nov-Dec, 2016.
Groundbreaking! ;)
- Lot more work is needed to work out losses and systematic uncertainties.
- By comparing the hadron spectra in p+Pb relative to pp, we can study the properties and effects of QGP.
- Learned about ROOT, triggers and physics of heavy ions.

Take Home

Quark-Gluon Plasma is currently a **HOT** topic and still a lot has to be discovered about it!



Thank You!