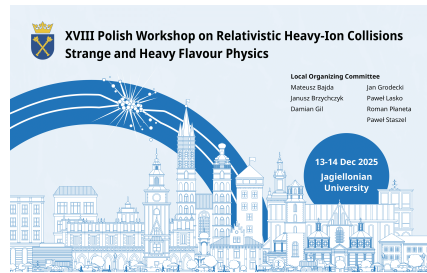


XVIII Polish Workshop on Relativistic Heavy-Ion Collisions: Strange and Heavy Flavour Physics



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News on charged hadron production in central nucleus-nucleus collisions from NA61/SHINE at the CERN SPS

NA61/SHINE is a multipurpose fixed-target experiment located at the CERN SPS. One of its main goals is to study the onset of deconfinement and the properties of strongly interacting matter. For this purpose, a unique two-dimensional scan in collision energy ($\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.1 - 17.3$ GeV) and system size was performed. Results on charged hadron spectra produced in nucleus-nucleus collisions, including the recent results for the Xe+La system, which completes the two-dimensional scan, will be presented. In addition, new results for Pb+Pb collisions obtained by NA61/SHINE will be shown. The kinematic distributions and the measured multiplicities of identified hadrons will be compared with NA49 Pb+Pb results, as well as with available world data. The obtained results, particularly the ratio of positively charged kaons to pions, are crucial for understanding the phenomena of the onset of deconfinement and the onset of fireball, which is one of the main aims of the strong interaction program of the NA61/SHINE collaboration.

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