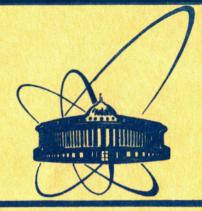
84-376



СООБЩЕНИЯ ОБЪЕДИНЕННОГО ИНСТИТУТА ЯДЕРНЫХ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЙ ДУБНА

E1-84-376

ANALYSIS OF A AND ASSOCIATIVE PION PRODUCTION IN RELATIVISTIC NUCLEUS-NUCLEUS COLLISIONS

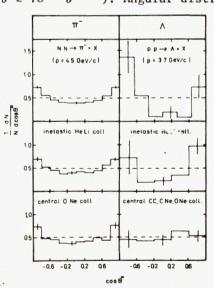
Dubna-Tbilisi-Warsaw Collaboration

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E. Skrzypczak Institute of Experimental Physics, University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland Experimental investigations of the nuclear stopping power /1/, density and temperature /2/ in relativistic nucleus-nucleus collisions are expected to shed light on the widely discussed problem of quark-gluon plasma formation. Data on nucleus-nucleus collisions show that nuclear matter is in general substantially transparent /3/, i.e., interaction products "remember" the primary collision direction. The first evidence for isotropic flow of the energy and the number of particles has been obtained from Nb-Nbhigh multiplicity collisions at 0.4 GeV per incident nucleon /4/.

Our data at 4.5 GeV/c per incident nucleon  $^{/5/}$  obtained using the streamer chamber spectrometer, SKM-200 show that  $\cos\theta^*$  ( $\theta^*$  - emission angle in the nucleon-nucleon, N-N, c.m. system) distributions for  $\Lambda'$ s produced in central C-C, C-Ne and O-Ne collisions are flat (in contrast to those observed for both p-p/6/ and inelastic He-Li collisions), whereas  $\cos\theta^*$  distributions of  $\pi^-$ -mesons/7/ are similar and forward-backward peaked (Fig.1). Pions from central collisions with  $\Lambda'$ s produced beyond the N-N kinematical limit were analyzed as a separate pion subsample (the cross section for such " $\Lambda$  out" events is  $\sigma \approx 10^{-3} \ \sigma^{\rm incl}$ ). Angular distributions of the flows of the



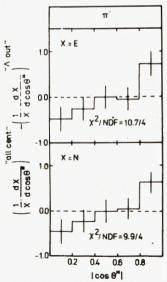
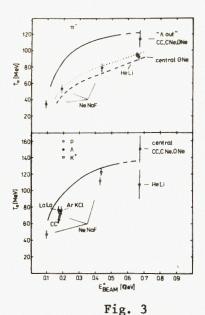


Fig. 1

Fig. 2



energy and the number of pions turned out to be flat for "A out" events. The differences between the distributions for "A out" and "all central" O-Ne events are plotted in Fig.2.

The average transverse momenta and their dispersions for pions from " $\Lambda$  out" and "all central" O-Ne events are:  $\langle p_T \rangle = 279+21$ ,  $D_{p_T} = 191+22$  and  $\langle p_T \rangle = 234+6$ ,  $D_{p_T} = 164+8$  (in MeV/c), respectively.

Average temperatures,  $T_0$ , of particle sources can be obtained using a  $< p_T > fit^{/8}$ . Fig. 3 shows  $T_0$  versus the kinetic c.m. energy of the incident beam per nucleon for protons,  $K^+$ , and  $\pi^-$ -mesons at lower ener-

gies  $^{/2/}$ , together with out data. Solid lines correspond to calculations performed assuming the full thermalization of nuclear matter (100% stopping power)  $^{/8/}$ . N-N data, shown as dotted and dashed lines, correspond to  $T_0$  calculated using the  $< p_T >$  and  $(\frac{d^3\sigma}{dp^3} (\theta^* = 90^\circ) - \exp{(-T^*/T_0)})$  fits  $^{/2/}$ , respectively. The highest values of  $T_0$  close to the full thermalization are obtained for  $\Lambda$  's from central nuclear collisions ( $T_0 = (150 + 19)$  MeV) and for  $\pi$  's from " $\Lambda$  out" events ( $T_0 = (114 + 11)$  MeV). Temperatures derived from the pion data are expected to be underestimated due to a possible significant contribution of pions from decays of  $\Lambda$  and possibly to other effects discussed in ref. '8'.

Our data presented in this paper seem to indicate that in the above discussed " $\Lambda$  out" events  $\Lambda$ 's and pions are emitted from a single hot source being at rest in the N-N c.m. system.

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Аникина М. и др. Е1-84-376 Анализ взаимодействия  $\Lambda$ -гиперонов и ассоциативного рождения пионов во взаимодействиях релятивистских ядер

Дается анализ процессов образования пионов,  $\Lambda$ -гиперонов и ассоциативного рождения пионов в центральных ядро-ядерных взаимодействиях при 4,5 ГэВ/с на нуклон, зарегистрированных в стримерном спектрометре СКМ-200. Полученные результаты указывают на то,что в событиях,в которых рождаются кумулятивные  $\Lambda$ -гипероны, частицы испускаются из одного "горячего" источника, покоящегося в системе центра масс для нуклон-нуклонного взаимодействия.

Работа выполнена в Лаборатории высоких энергий ОИЯИ.

Сообщение Объединенного института ядерных исследований. Дубна 1984

Anikina M. et al. E1-84-376 Analysis of A and Associative Ion Production in Relativistic Nucleus-Nucleus Collisions

Data on pion,  $\Lambda$  and associative pion production in central nucleus-nucleus collisions at a momentum of 4.5 GeV/c per incident nucleon obtained using the streamer spectrometer, SKM-200, are analyzed. The results indicate that a single hot source of particles being at rest in the c.m. system in created in events with  $\Lambda$ 's produced beyond the nucleon-nucleon kinematical limit.

The investigation has been performed at the Laboratory of High Energies, JINR.

Communication of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research. Dubna 1984