Transverse-momentum spectra in heavy-ion collisions at sqrt(sNN) = 2.76 TeV within chemical non-equilibrium model

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B. Abelev et al., [ALICE Collaboration] PRC 88 (2013)



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Transverse-momentum distributions are calculated from the Cooper-Frye formula:

$$\frac{dN}{dyd^2p_T} = \int d\Sigma_{\mu} p^{\mu} f(p \cdot u),$$

where $d\Sigma_\mu$ is an element of the freeze-out hypersurface and u^μ is the hydrodynamic flow at freeze-out

The primordial distribution of the *i*-th hadron in the local rest frame has the form:

$$f_i = g_i \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\Upsilon_i^{-1} \exp(\sqrt{p^2 + m_i^2}/T) \mp 1}$$

where $\Upsilon_i = \gamma_q^{N_q^i + N_q^i} \gamma_s^{N_s^i + N_s^i}$. The N_j^i are the numbers of light (u, d) and strange (s) quarks and anti-quarks in the *i*-th hadron. We compare the non-equilibrium, $\gamma_j \neq 1$, and equilibrium, $\gamma_j = 1$ cases

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- Resonance decays are handled by the THERMINATOR Monte-Carlo event generator, see M. Chojnacki, A. Kisiel, W. Florkowski and W. Broniowski, Comp. Phys. Com. 183 (2012)



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- We fit the pion and kaon spectra with only one parameter r_{max}/τ_f and find a remarkable agreement with data
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- The non-equilibrium model is much better than the equilibrium
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The assumption of a smaller emission volume for Λ's and Ξ's (by 20%) and also for Ω's (by 30%) gives us a remarkable agreement.



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Pion condensation?

- The low p_T enhancement of pions can be explained only in non-equilibrium
- The value of γ_q that we use is equivalent to the pion chemical potential $\mu_{\pi} = 2T \ln \gamma_q \simeq 134$ MeV, which is very close to the π^0 mass, $m_{\pi^0} \simeq 134.98$



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Conclusions:

- We connect the proton anomaly with the pion enhancement effect and show that the two problems may be solved naturally within the non-equilibrium Cracow single freeze-out model
- ► The obtained values of the non-equilibrium parameter γ_q are close to the pion condensation limit $(\gamma_q^{cond})^2 = e^{m_{\pi}/T}$
- It may be interpreted as a signature of the onset of pion condensation in ultra-relativistic heavy-ion collisions at LHC.

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