The Quark Gluon Plasma: ALICE

Raimond Snellings for the ALICE group

FOM Programme: 2014-2021

Group composition:

• 7 staff, 4 postdocs, 15 PhD students (paid by UU, FOM program, grants, CERN, China, collaboration Nantes)

LHC FOM programme up to 2021 (2013) NWO BIG Nikhef ALICE hardware (2014) Two vici's, 1 vidi, ERC, projectruimte





The Nikhef ALICE Group



Very strong position in ALICE

- Management board
- Sub detector project leader
- Deputy physics coordinator
- Physics working group convenors
- Physics analysis group convenor
- Editorial board members
- Conference committee
- Primary author many papers

ALICE Run 1

- We study matter under unprecedented conditions (energy densities, magnetic fields)
- Extremely challenging to constrain the largely unknown properties of the QGP and the phase transition in heavy-ion collisions
- Requires many different observables
 - bulk observables (correlations e.g. collective flow)
 - heavy-quarks and jets
 - electromagnetic probes
- made a lot of progress in the last years

- After this short intro there will be two presentations of almost finalised PhD topics which address two of these very different observables
- Redmer Bertens: jet anisotropy in PbPb collisions
- Emilia Leogrande: minijets and multi parton interactions in pA collisions

ALICE Run 2

- Good ongoing run
- Already first papers in the collaboration based on golden runs
- Really looking forward to much more data (x10) and to the new measurements which will become possible
 - new heavy flavour observables accessible for the first time
 - multi-particle correlations
 - connections between pp, pA and AA



ALICE upgrades 2018/2019



The main upgrades of the central detector

ITS upgrade



- focus on rare probes (many not possible to trigger on)
 - precision studies of charm and beauty baryons, mesons and quarkonia at low $\ensuremath{p_t}$
 - low mass di-leptons and direct photons
 - b-jets and di-jets with particle identification over a large kinematic range
- again factor 10 increase in events

14-12-2015

Pixel module test system



test system running single ALPIDE2 for now until real modules become available



Produce 10 for collaboration



Industrial (Romex) PCB probing system. Custom adapted to finer pitch or contacts and flexible circuits



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FPC trimmer





Other possibility under investigation for testing produced modules with cable and cut after tests

Read-out

Nikhef/UU has responsibility for testing data transport for across (firefly) cables and between modules





Nikhef has responsibility for integration of the read-out unit (between pixel modules and DAQ)

Interface to local power supplies (Berkeley) Interface to pixel modules (CERN) GBT link to DAQ (Nikhef/UU)



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ASIC development

Produced and tested variants of bandgap and temperature sensor (Deepak) Both selected for inclusion in ALPIDE





Serial versus parallel powering scheme investigated as well as options for including the power relation in the pixel chip (abandoned in favour of a more classical scheme)

Test board designed and tests done (German Hennao)

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Stave assembly



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FoCAL

In addition we have currently a small R&D project for a new electromagnetic calorimeter in ALICE at forward rapidity. There is also interest in this project from the ILC (CALICE)



Excellent two shower separation

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Thanks!