### e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> production from p-Be to Pb-Au



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for the

#### **CERES** Collaboration



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# e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> production from p-Be to Pb-Au

- Introduction
- The CERES experiment at the SPS
- Electron pair analysis
- Recent results from run2000 158 AGeV/c Pb-Au



### **Electromagnetic Radiation**



1) formation phase

DY, qg...

#### 2) hot and dense medium

- thermal radiation, medium modifications (ρ)...
- 3) hadron decays  $\pi^0 n \omega \phi$

 $\pi^0,\eta,\omega,\phi..$ 

Penetrating probes ...but  $\alpha^2 \sim 10^{-5}$ 

#### 1) and 3) also in pp, new physics in 2)



# Dilepton mass spectrum (schematic)

#### NA50, NA60 (μ pairs): HMR and IMR:

- J/ψ suppression
- open charm enhancement...
- NA60: + low mass

#### **CERES (e pairs):** Low mass region, ρ,ω,φ:

- chiral symmetry restoration
- thermal radiation...







#### p-induced reactions:

• consistent with expectations from known hadronic sources

#### • the hadronic cocktail:

our best knowledge of cross sections, form factors, branching ratios... in the absence of new physics, folded with detector acceptance and resolution





#### **HI-induced reactions:**

- significant enhancement in the low mass region
- E = 5.0 +/- 0.7(stat) +/- 2.0 (syst) for m<sub>ee</sub>>0.2 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>





#### Pb-Au at 158 AGeV/c:

• *E* = 2.4 +/- 0.2(*stat*) +/- 0.6(*syst*) for m<sub>ee</sub>>0.2 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

w.r.t. HI-cocktail

thermal particle yields  $(\phi!)$  and mass dependence of flow





#### Pb-Au at 158 AGeV/c:

enhanced vacuum- $\rho$ due to  $\pi\pi$ -annihilation

- modified ρ-spectral function
- Brown-Rho scaling

calculations: R. Rapp





with TPC (Run1999):

Pb-Au at 40 AGeV/c

*E* = 5.9 +/- 1.5 (*stat*) +/- 1.2 (*syst*)+/- 1.8 (*decays*)

for m<sub>ee</sub>> 0.2 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

enhanced vacuum- $\rho$ due to  $\pi\pi$ -annihilation

- **modified** ρ**-spectral function**
- Brown-Rho scaling





# The upgraded CERES experiment





### Silicon Drift Detectors



#### SDD1 and SDD2:

charged particle tracking

#### vertex reconstruction





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# **RICH1 and RICH2:** electron ID via ring signature field-free operation allows combined mode



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# **Time Projection Chamber**



#### radial TPC:

- charged particle tracking
- momentum determination
- electron ID via dE/dx



# TPC tracking efficiency

p<sub>t</sub> ~ 0.1 GeV/c



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#### Momentum and mass resolution



#### mass resolution ~4% at $\phi$



### Electron pair analysis

#### Data set from Run 2000:

 Pb-Au
 80 AGeV/c
  $\sigma/\sigma_{geo} = 30\%$  0.5M Events

 Pb-Au
 158 AGeV/c
  $\sigma/\sigma_{geo} = 30\%$  3.0M Events

 Pb-Au
 158 AGeV/c
  $\sigma/\sigma_{geo} = 8\%$  30.0M Events



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### Electron pair analysis

- 1. charged particle tracking
- 2. electron identification
- 3. rejection of combinatorial background



# Charged particle tracking

#### **Angular matching of TPC and SDD tracks**



vertex condition suppresses late conversions



# Charged particle tracking

#### **Angular matching of TPC and SDD tracks**

→ Study of hadronic observables:





# **Electron identification**

#### **Ring signature in RICH:**

#### **Energy loss dE/dx in TPC:**

#### $\sigma(dE/dx) / (dE/dx) = 10\%$





### **Electron identification**



e.g. at 1.5 GeV/c: 0.03 (TPC) x 0.003 (RICH) =  $10^{-4} \pi$ -efficiency at 0.9 (TPC) x 0.65 (RICH) = 60% e-efficiency



**Dominant sources are**  $\pi^0$ **-Dalitz and**  $\gamma$ **-conversions** 

- 1. Dalitz recognition:
- Rejection of tracks which form a pair  $\Theta_{ee}$  < 35 mrad
- Tracks which form a pair m<sub>ee</sub> < 0.2 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> excluded from further pairing

...still a large number of tracks remaining from unrecognized  $\pi^0$ -Dalitz pairs and  $\gamma$ -conversions!



#### 2. on the remaining tracks: kinematical and topological cuts





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2. on the remaining tracks: kinematical and topological cuts

p<sub>t</sub>-cut: limits acceptance at low mass and pair p<sub>t</sub>





#### 2. on the remaining tracks: kinematical and topological cuts





• V-track signature in TPC:





#### **Invariant mass distributions**

~1.8x10<sup>7</sup> Pb-Au events at 158 AGeV/c:



#### **Invariant mass distributions**

~1.8x10<sup>7</sup> Pb-Au events at 158 AGeV/c:



# Electron pair analysis

#### Signal S:

combination of unlike-sign pairs from the same event

#### Background B:

- like-sign combinations from the same event
  - (+) same-event correlations (partially) contained
  - (-) if not S>>B, finite statistics contributes
- unlike-sign (or like-sign) combinations from mixed events
  - (+) no statistical limitation
  - (-) normalization, no correlation



### Electron pair analysis

#### combinatorial background



for subtraction: same-event BG for  $m_{ee} < 0.2$  GeV/c normalized mixed-event BG for  $m_{ee} > 0.2$  GeV/c



### Mass spectrum



Run 2000 Pb-Au 158 AGeV/c:

#### A.Marin (QM04) J.Phys.G30 (2004)

mixed-event background
normalization to cocktail at π<sup>0</sup>-Dalitz

Enhancement for  $m_{ee}$ >0.2 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>:

*E* = 3.3 +/- 0.3 (*stat*)

... no systematic errors yet!



### Mass spectrum



A.Marin (QM04) J.Phys.G30 (2004)

Run 2000 Pb-Au 158 AGeV/c:

 $\langle \langle R \langle S \rangle$ 

#### Transverse momentum spectra

m<sub>ee</sub><0.2 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

#### 0.2<m<sub>ee</sub><0.7 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

#### m<sub>ee</sub>>0.7 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>



- —— modified ρ-spectral function
  - Brown-Rho scaling
- enhancement located at low pt (known from 95/96)



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### **Centrality dependence**



• pair yield increases stronger than linear with <N<sub>part</sub>>



### **Centrality dependence**



pair yield increases stronger than linear with <N<sub>part</sub>>
 most central point confirmed by 2000 data



### p<sub>t</sub>>0.1 GeV/c mass spectrum

#### Run 2000 Pb-Au 158 AGeV/c:



- both spectra normalized to  $\pi^0$ -Dalitz
- spectra agree for m<sub>ee</sub>>0.7 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>
- p<sub>t</sub> > 0.1 GeV/c adds sensitivity to low masses and pair p<sub>t</sub> (m<sub>t</sub>>0.2 GeV)



### Mass spectrum and hadronic cocktail

#### Run 2000 Pb-Au 158 AGeV/c:



S. Yurevitch, PhD in prep.

with p<sub>t</sub>>0.1 GeV/c selection:

- Enhancement extends to  $\pi^0$ -peak
- *E* = 5.6 +/- 0.4 (*stat*) for m>0.2 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>



### Mass spectrum and models

#### Run 2000 Pb-Au 158 AGeV/c:



S. Yurevitch, PhD in prep.



#### Transverse momentum spectra

m<sub>ee</sub><0.2 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>

#### 0.2<m<sub>ee</sub><0.7 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>





modified ρ-spectral function

Brown-Rho scaling

S. Yurevitch, PhD in preparation

- Enhancement located at low p<sub>t</sub>
- Larger enhancement due to improved low p<sub>t</sub> acceptance



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### Summary and outlook

- preliminary results of e+e- production in 158 AGeV/c Pb-Au from run2000 have been presented
- low mass enhancement with p<sub>t</sub>>0.2 GeV/c consistent with highest centrality in 95/96
- larger enhancement observed with p<sub>t</sub>>0.1 GeV/c selection

- new data production just finished larger significance expected ( $\rho/\omega, \phi$ )
- evaluation of efficiency and systematic errors



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### Mass spectrum

#### **Comparison to 96 data:**



96 data: G. Hering, PhD thesis, nucl-ex/0203004



### Estimate of combinatorial background

 $p_t > 0.2 \text{ GeV/c}$ 







