

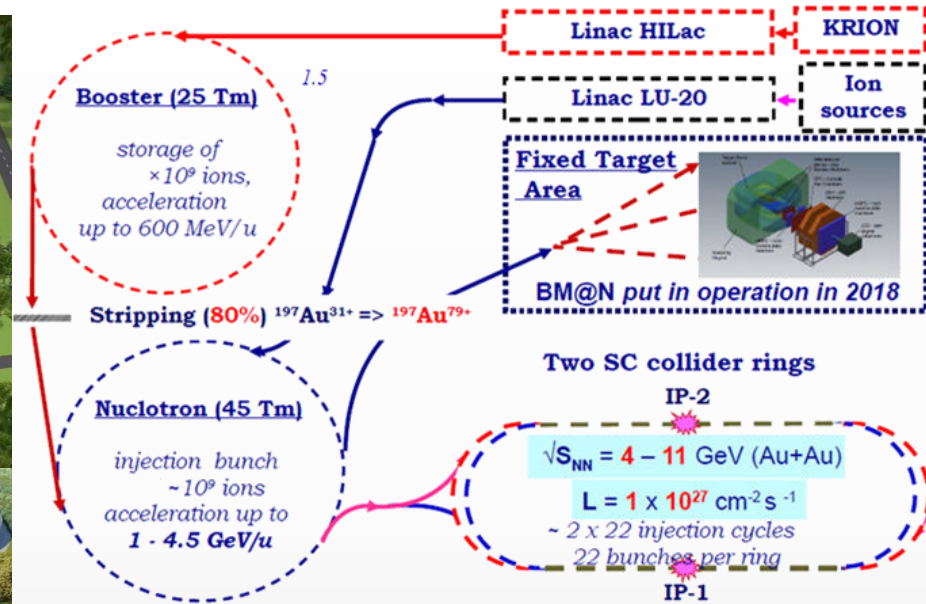
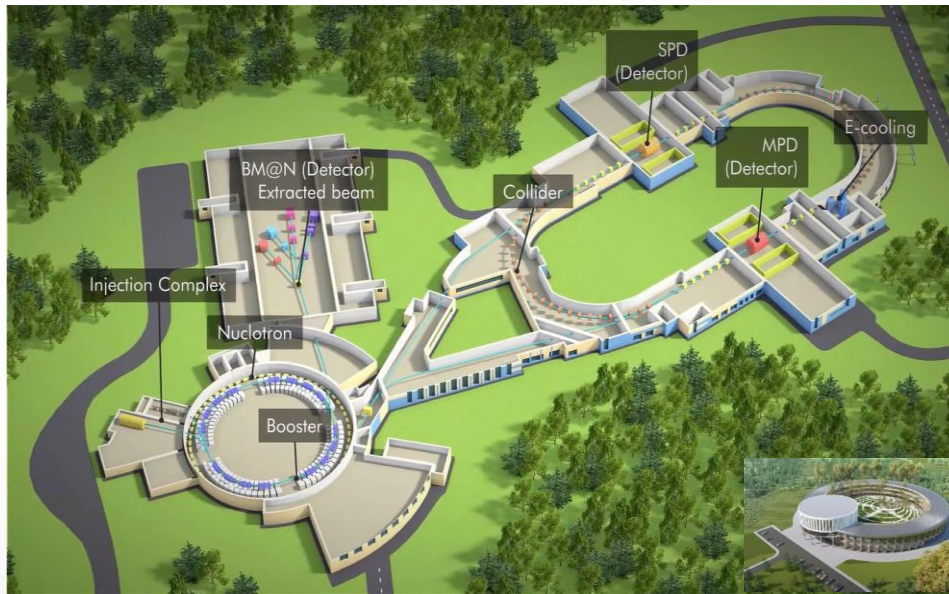


Nuclotron based Ion Collider Facility

Статус эксперимента МРД-NICA

В. Рябов, ЛРЯФ ОФВЭ





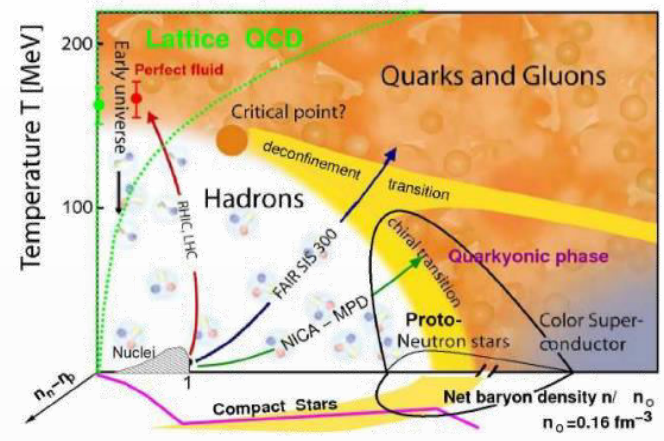
❖ Megascience project in Russia, which is approaching its full commissioning:

- ✓ already running in the fixed-target mode – BM@N
- ✓ start of operation in collider mode in 2023-2024 – MPD and later SPD

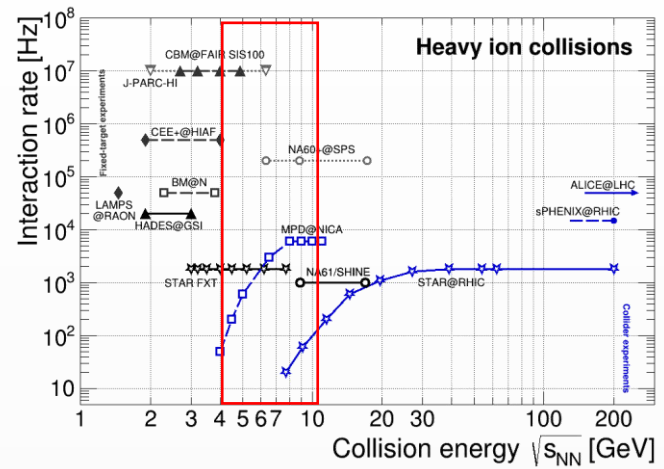
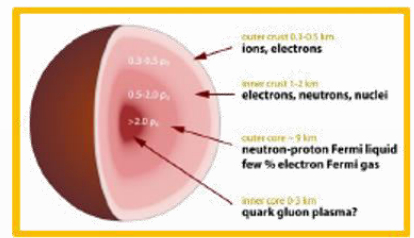
❖ Expected beam configuration in Stage-I:

- ✓ not-optimal beam optics with wide z-vertex distribution, $\sigma_z \sim 50 \text{ cm}$
- ✓ reduced luminosity ($\sim 10^{25}$) \rightarrow collision rate $\sim 50 \text{ Hz}$
- ✓ collision system available with the current sources: C (A=12), N (A=14), Ar (A=40), Fe (A=56), Kr (A=78-86), Xe (A=124-134), Bi (A=209) \rightarrow start with Bi+Bi @ 9.2 GeV in 2023-2024

Relativistic heavy-ion collisions



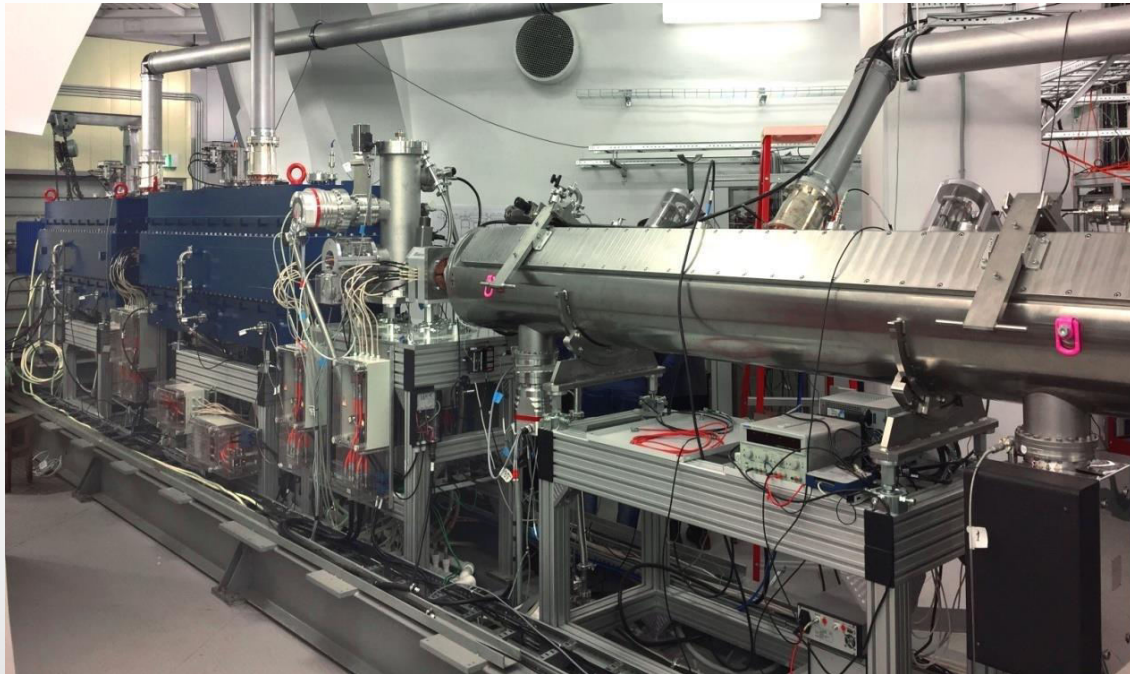
high baryon densities
 → inner structure of
 compact stars



- ❖ At $\mu_B \sim 0$, smooth crossover (lattice QCD calculations + data)
- ❖ At large μ_B , 1st order phase transition is expected → QCD critical point
- ❖ At NICA, both BM@N and MPD study QCD medium at extreme net baryon densities
- ❖ Many ongoing (HADES, NA61/Shine, STAR-BES) and future experiments in ~ same energy range
- ❖ MPD strategy – high-luminosity scans in energy and system size
 - ✓ order of the phase transition and search for the QCD critical point → structure of the QCD phase diagram
 - ✓ hypernuclei and equation of state at high baryon densities → inner structure of compact star, star mergers
- ❖ Scans to be carried out using the same apparatus with all the advantages of a collider experiment
 - ✓ maximum phase space, minimally biased acceptance, free of target parasitic effects
 - ✓ correlated systematic effects for different systems and energies → simplified extraction of physical signals

❖ Stages of the accelerator complex commissioning

- ✓ HILAC + transfer line to Booster → commissioned in 2018 with He^{1+} , Fe^{14+} , C^{4+} , Ar^{14+} and Xe^{28+}

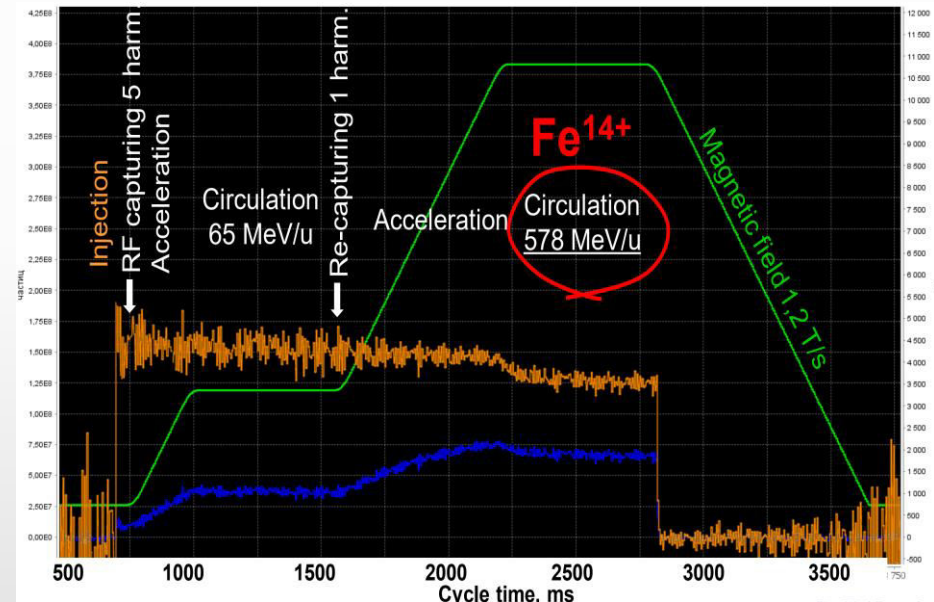


A/q (Target Ion Au^{31+})	6.25
Beam current	< 10 emA
Repetition rate	< 10 Hz
Output energy	3.2 MeV/u

Beam transition through the Booster injection beam line ~ 75%

❖ Stages of the accelerator complex commissioning

- ✓ HILAC + transfer line to Booster → commissioned in 2018 with He^{1+} , Fe^{14+} , C^{4+} , Ar^{14+} and Xe^{28+}
- ✓ HILAC + Booster → first run in November-December, 2020 with He^{1+} , energy up to 100 MeV/u
- ✓ HILAC + Booster + transfer line to Nuclotron → second run in October, 2021 with He^{1+} and Fe^{16+}

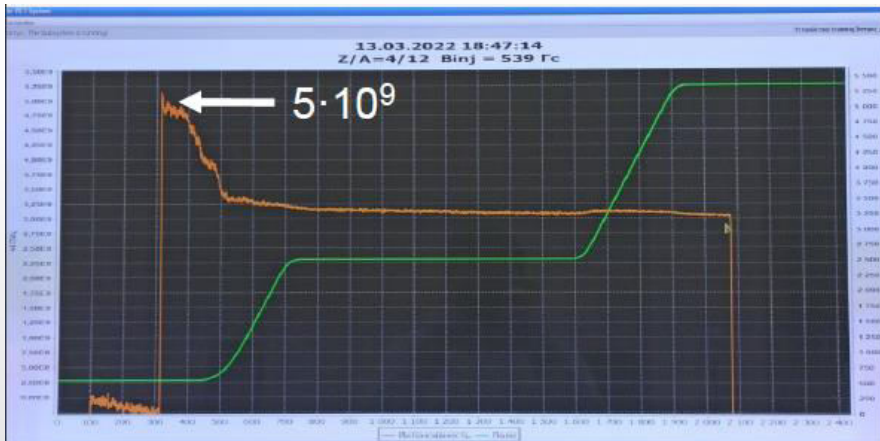


He^+ and Fe^{14+} ions, energy up to 578 MeV/u, residual gas pressure sufficiently low for heavy ions
 Beam extraction from the Booster and transport line to the Nuclotron are put into operation and tuned
 He^+ and Fe^{14+} beams were transported through the beam transfer line to Nuclotron

❖ Stages of the accelerator complex commissioning

- ✓ HILAC + transfer line to Booster → commissioned in 2018 with He^{1+} , Fe^{14+} , C^{4+} , Ar^{14+} and Xe^{28+}
- ✓ HILAC + Booster → first run in November-December, 2020 with He^{1+}
- ✓ HILAC + Booster + transfer line to Nuclotron → second run in October, 2021 with He^{1+} and Fe^{16+}
- ✓ HILAC + Booster + Nuclotron + transfer line to BM@N → third run in Jan.-Apr., 2022 with C^{6+}

Booster



Nuclotron



Average efficiency ~ 30%, non-optimum stripping target thickness

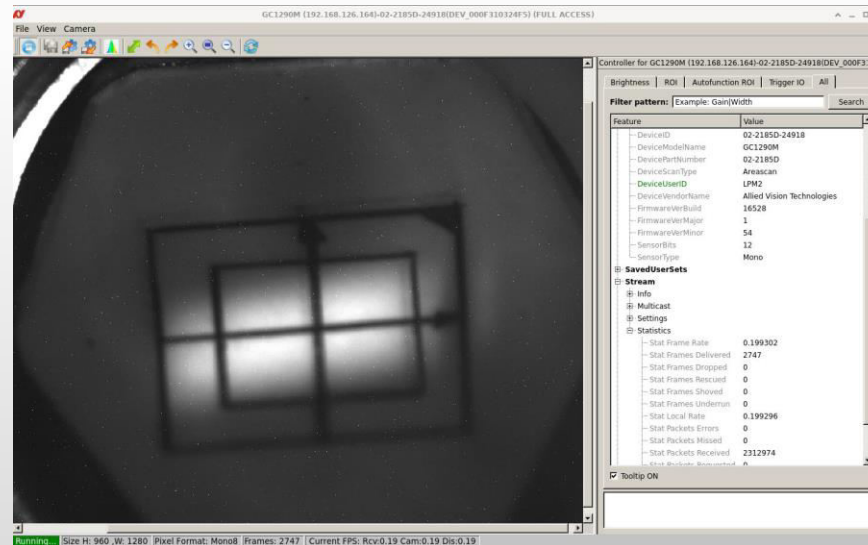
3 GeV/u Carbon beam transported to BM@N area : 5.03 – 29.03

2150 h of the facility operation, BM@N stable operation with beams for 24 days

SRC Collaboration collected 185 M events of carbon interactions with hydrogen target

❖ Stages of the accelerator complex commissioning

- ✓ HILAC + transfer line to Booster → commissioned in 2018 with He^{1+} , Fe^{14+} , C^{4+} , Ar^{14+} and Xe^{28+}
- ✓ HILAC + Booster → first run in November-December, 2020 with He^{1+}
- ✓ HILAC + Booster + transfer line to Nuclotron → second run in October, 2021 with He^{1+} and Fe^{16+}
- ✓ HILAC + Booster + Nuclotron + transfer line to BM@N → third run in Jan. –Apr., 2022 with C^{6+}
- ✓ ESIS + HILAC + Booster + modified Nuclotron + transfer line to BM@N → fourth run started in September, 2022 with Ar and Xe beams → beams at BM@N to collect $\sim 2 \cdot 10^9$ events



Beam of Xe on the phosphor screen at the end section of the Booster-Nuclotron transport line

- ❖ All arc dipole magnets are installed in the tunnel

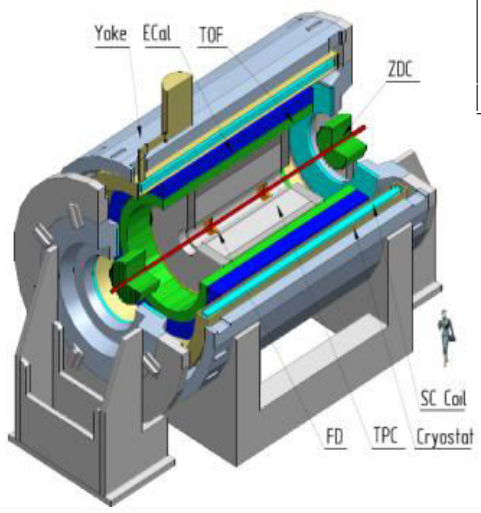


- ❖ Future plans:

- ✓ August-September, 2023 → technological run of NICA without beams
- ✓ End of 2023: first run with beams in the collider rings

Multi-Purpose Detector

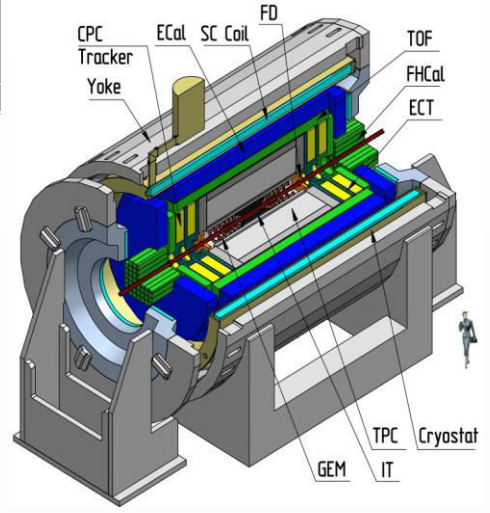
Stage- I



Length	340 cm
Vessel outer radius	140 cm
Vessel inner radius	27 cm
Default magnetic field	0.5 T
Drift gas mixture	90% Ar+10% CH ₄
Maximum event rate	7 kHz ($L = 10^{27} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$)



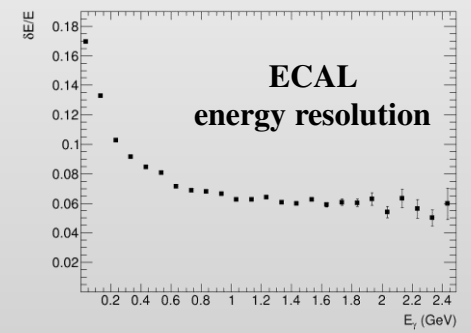
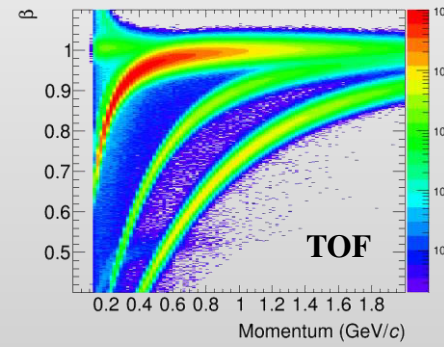
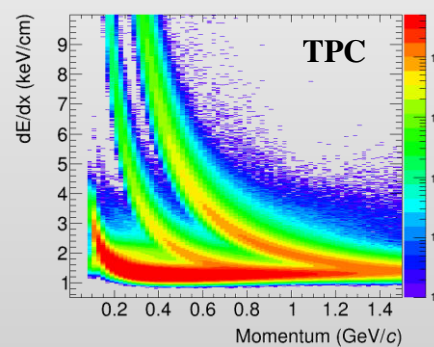
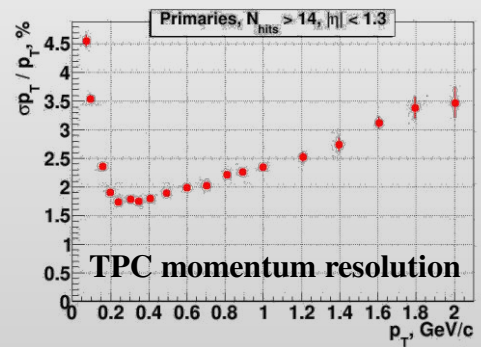
Stage- II



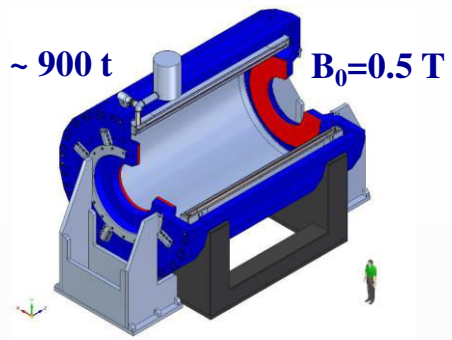
- TPC:** $|\Delta\phi| < 2\pi, |\eta| \leq 1.6$
- TOF, EMC:** $|\Delta\phi| < 2\pi, |\eta| \leq 1.4$
- FFD:** $|\Delta\phi| < 2\pi, 2.9 < |\eta| < 3.3$
- FHCAL:** $|\Delta\phi| < 2\pi, 2 < |\eta| < 5$

- + ITS** (heavy-flavor measurements)
- + forward spectrometers**

Au+Au @ 11 GeV (UrQMD + full chain reconstruction)



SC Solenoid + Iron Yoke

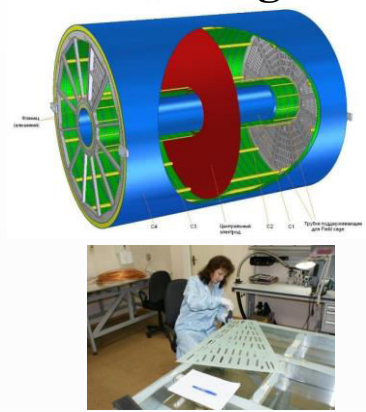


~ 900 t $B_0=0.5$ T

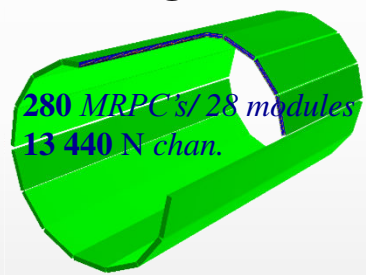
Goal is to cool down and power the magnet + magnetic field measurements in 2023

TPC – central tracking detector

ROCs done
Cylinders done
Electronics in mass production



TOF



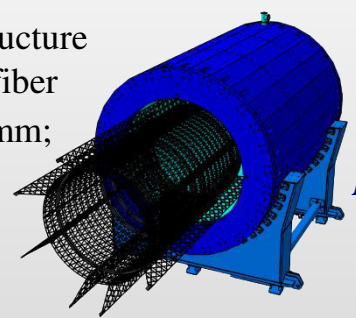
280 MRPCs/ 28 modules
13 440 N chan.



~ 100% of MRPCs (modules) are ready, cosmic tests ongoing

Support structure

support structure of carbon fiber
sagite ~ 5 mm;
0,13 X₀

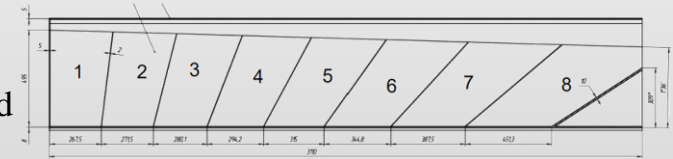


ECAL ~ 100 t

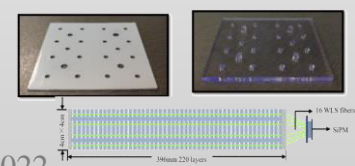
Constructed and delivered

ECAL (projective geometry)

8 sectors = 16 half sectors = 768 modules = 12288 towers



38 400 towers
66-83% of the whole detector will be produced for Stage-I



Pb+Sc “shashlyk”-type towers

See <http://mpd.jinr.ru/doc/mpd-tdr/> for details



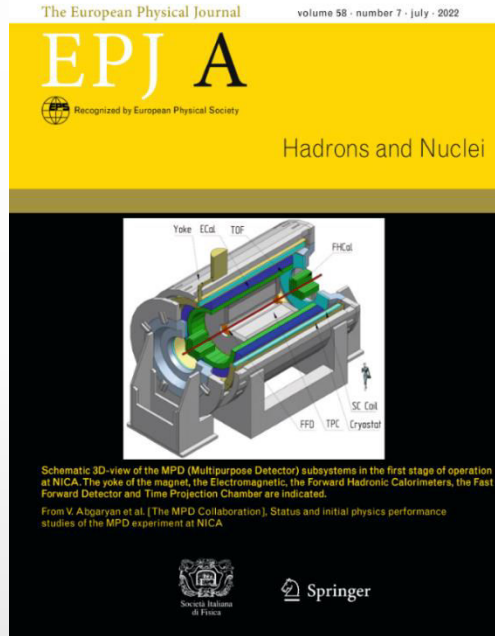
- ❖ 2022:
 - ✓ preparation of the SC magnet for cooling
- ❖ 2023:
 - ✓ cooling the magnet and MF measurement
 - ✓ installation of the support frame and detectors
- ❖ 2024:
 - ✓ MPD commissioning
 - ✓ first run with BiBi@9.2 GeV, ~ 50-100 M events for alignment, calibration and physics
- ❖ 2025 and beyond:
 - ✓ Au+Au @ 11 GeV, design luminosity
 - ✓ system size and collision energy scans

- ❖ Preparation of the MPD detector and experimental program is ongoing, all activities are continued
- ❖ All components of the MPD 1-st stage detector are in advanced state of production (subsystems, support frame, electronics platforms, LV/HV, control systems, cryogenics, cabling, etc.)

Schedule of the MPD-NICA is significantly affected by the current geopolitical situation (suspension of collaboration with CERN and Polish & Czech Republic member institutions, economical sanctions and problems with supplies of many components from western companies). The primary goal to have the MPD commissioned by the first beams at NICA collider is preserved.

- ❖ MPD publications: over 200 in total for hardware, software and physics studies (SPIRES)
- ❖ First collaboration paper recently published EPJA (~ 50 pages): Eur.Phys.J.A 58 (2022) 7, 140

Status and initial physics performance studies of the MPD experiment at NICA



Eur. Phys. J. A manuscript No.
(will be inserted by the editor)

Status and initial physics performance studies of the MPD experiment at NICA

The MPD Collaboration¹
¹The full list of Collaboration Members is provided at the end of the manuscript

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Abstract The **Nucleon-based Ion Collider Facility (NICA)** is under construction at the **Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR)**, with commissioning of the facility expected in late 2022. The **Multipurpose Detector (MPD)** has been designed to operate at NICA, and its components are currently in production. This detector is expected to be ready for data taking with the first beam from NICA. This document provides an overview of the landscape of the investigation of the QCD phase diagram in the region of maximum baryonic density, where NICA and MPD will be able to provide significant and unique input. It also provides a detailed description of the MPD set-up, including its various subsystems as well as its support and computing infrastructure. Selected performance studies for particle physics measurements at MPD are presented and discussed in the context of existing data and theoretical expectations.

Keywords NICA · MPD · QCD

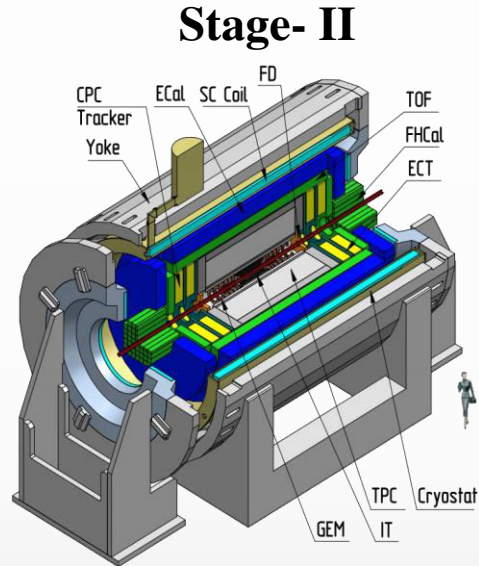
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- ❖ MPD @ conferences: presented at all major conferences in the field:

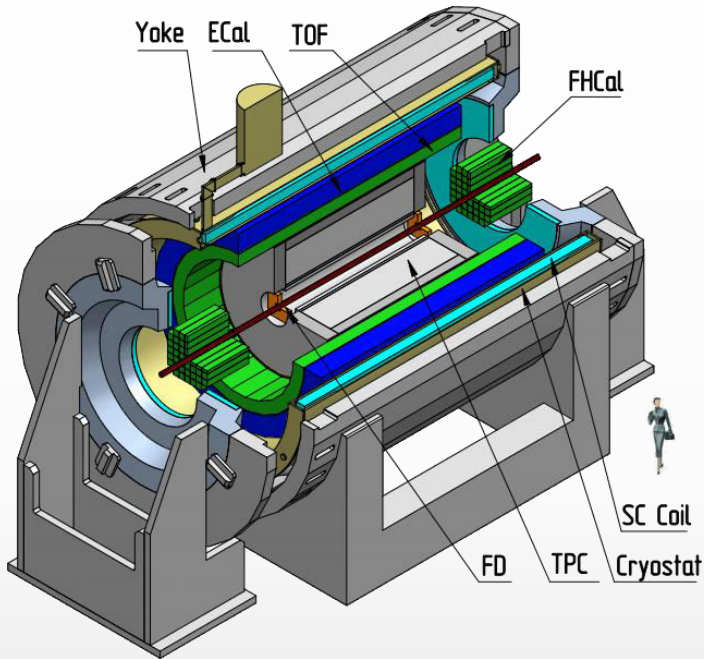
- ✓ Quark Matter (QM-2022), April 4-10
- ✓ Nucleus-2022, July 11-16
- ✓ ICHEP-2022, July 6-13
- ✓ NST-2022, September 26-30
- ✓ EuNPC-2022, October 24-28
- ✓ DAE-BRNS CETHENP-2022, November 15-17
- ✓ XVIII MWPF, November 21-25
- ✓ ICPPA-2022, November, 29-December, 2

1. Forward spectrometers for Phase-II MPD detector:



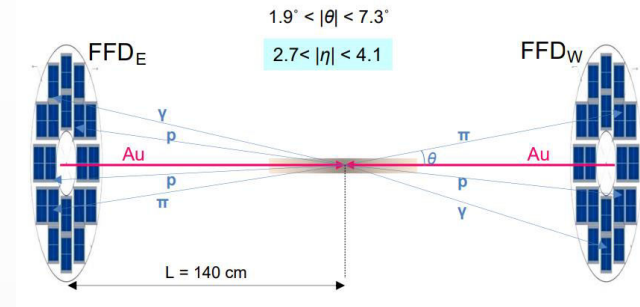
- ✓ Physics tasks for forward spectrometers, what observables should be studied at $|\eta| > 1-1.5$ (global hyperon polarization and vector meson spin alignment, angular distribution of fragments for the database, higher precision for integrated particle yields, ???)
- ✓ Understanding background situation in heavy-ion collisions
- ✓ Design of the forward spectrometer, see p.1
- ✓ Production of the detectors for the spectrometer

2. Trigger system for pp and light A-A collisions:



- FFD (Fast Forward Detector):

- ✓ fast event triggering, T_0 for TOF and ECAL

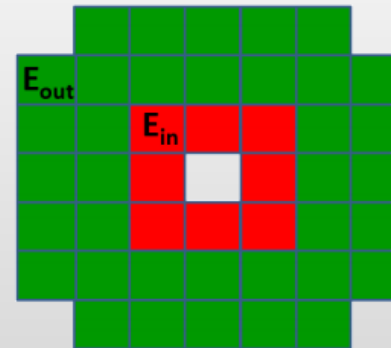


- FHCAL (Forward Hadron Calorimeter):

- ✓ fast event triggering, reaction plane detector

- MPD challenges at NICA energies:

- ✓ low multiplicity of particles produced in heavy-ion collisions
- ✓ particles are not ultra-relativistic (even the spectator protons)

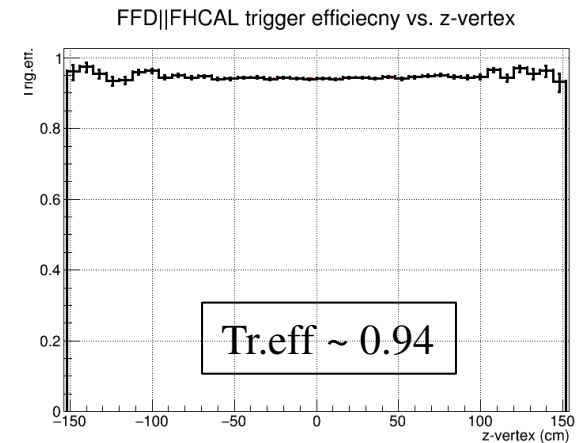
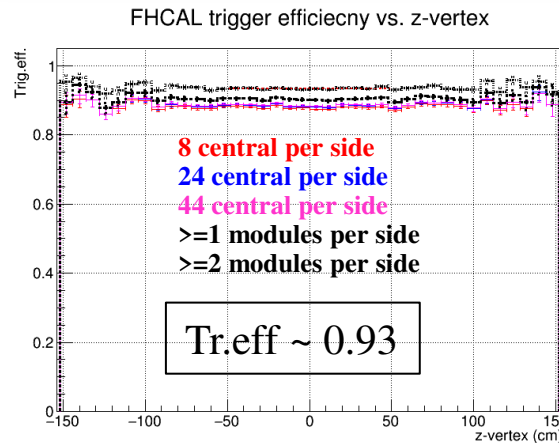
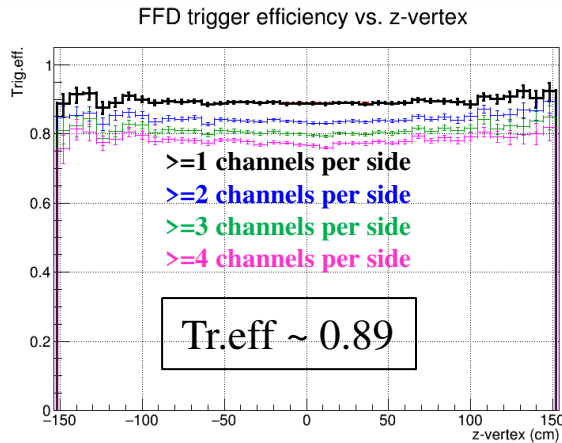


$$2 < |\eta| < 5$$

$$\sim 1 \times 1 \text{ m}^2$$

Trigger efficiency vs. z-vertex

- ❖ DCM-QGSM-SMM, BiBi@9.2: trigger efficiency is 90-95% for different trigger configuration



- ❖ DCM-QGSM-SMM, CC@9.2: trigger efficiency < 50%; pp@9.2: efficiency vanishingly small
 - ❖ The existing trigger system does not provide high enough efficiency in light A-A and pp collisions
 - ❖ Need to develop another (additional) system on the basis of existing STAR event plane or ALICE V0:
 - ✓ evaluate design (distance in z from vertex, radius, segmentation)
 - ✓ build and test the prototypes
3. Further development of the MPD physics program with focus on new signals/observables which would be unique for the MPD



- ❖ Preparation of the MPD detector and experimental program is ongoing, all activities are continued
- ❖ All components of the MPD 1-st stage detector are in advanced state of production
- ❖ Commissioning of the MPD Stage-I detector and the first data taking with BiBi@9.2 in 2024

С НАСТУПАЮЩИМ НОВЫМ ГОДОМ!



BACKUP

❖ Data taking by STAR at RHIC: $3 < \sqrt{s_{NN}} < 200$ GeV ($750 < \mu_B < 25$ MeV)

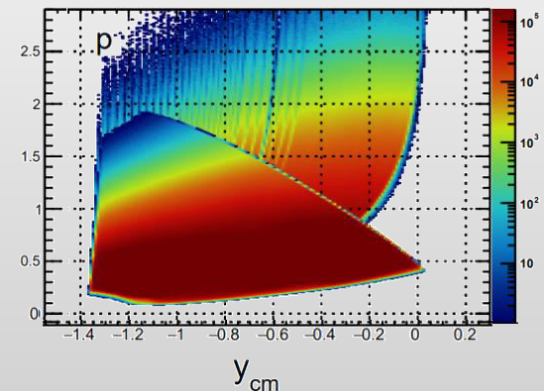
Au+Au Collisions at RHIC											
Collider Runs						Fixed-Target Runs					
	$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	#Events	μ_B	y_{beam}	run		$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	#Events	μ_B	y_{beam}	run
1	200	380 M	25 MeV	5.3	Run-10, 19	1	13.7 (100)	50 M	280 MeV	-2.69	Run-21
2	62.4	46 M	75 MeV		Run-10	2	11.5 (70)	50 M	320 MeV	-2.51	Run-21
3	54.4	1200 M	85 MeV		Run-17	3	9.2 (44.5)	50 M	370 MeV	-2.28	Run-21
4	39	86 M	112 MeV		Run-10	4	7.7 (31.2)	260 M	420 MeV	-2.1	Run-18, 19, 20
5	27	585 M	156 MeV	3.36	Run-11, 18	5	7.2 (26.5)	470 M	440 MeV	-2.02	Run-18, 20
6	19.6	595 M	206 MeV	3.1	Run-11, 19	6	6.2 (19.5)	120 M	490 MeV	1.87	Run-20
7	17.3	256 M	230 MeV		Run-21	7	5.2 (13.5)	100 M	540 MeV	-1.68	Run-20
8	14.6	340 M	262 MeV		Run-14, 19	8	4.5 (9.8)	110 M	590 MeV	-1.52	Run-20
9	11.5	157 M	316 MeV		Run-10, 20	9	3.9 (7.3)	120 M	633 MeV	-1.37	Run-20
10	9.2	160 M	372 MeV		Run-10, 20	10	3.5 (5.75)	120 M	670 MeV	-1.2	Run-20
11	7.7	104 M	420 MeV		Run-21	11	3.2 (4.59)	200 M	699 MeV	-1.13	Run-19
						12	3.0 (3.85)	2000 M	750 MeV	-1.05	Run-18, 21

❖ A very impressive and successful program with many collected datasets, already available and expected results

❖ Limitations:

- ✓ Au+Au collisions only
- ✓ Among the fixed-target runs, only the 3 GeV data have full mid-rapidity coverage for protons ($|y| < 0.5$), which is crucial for physics observables

Au+Au @ 3.9 GeV



- ❖ MPD strategy – high-luminosity scans in **energy** and **system size** to measure a wide variety of signals:
 - ✓ order of the phase transition and search for the QCD critical point → structure of the QCD phase diagram
 - ✓ hypernuclei and equation of state at high baryon densities → inner structure of compact star, star mergers

- ❖ Scans to be carried out using the **same apparatus** in the same configuration/geometry with all the advantages of collider experiments:
 - ✓ maximum phase space, minimally biased acceptance, free of target parasitic effects
 - ✓ correlated systematic effects for different systems and energies → simplified extraction of physical signals

- ❖ Continuously develop physical program based on the recent advancements in the field:
 - ✓ identified particle spectra and ratios, collective flow and femtoscopy, production of strangeness and hypernuclei net-proton fluctuations, global polarization of hyperon and spin alignment of vector mesons, dilepton continuum and LVMs, etc.

- ❖ Work in close cooperation with theoreticians to look for new signals/observables including those unique for the MPD
 - ✓ direct photons
 - ✓ system size scan collective flow, strangeness enhancement
 - ✓ applied research → high energy heavy-ion reaction database, input for transport codes (Geant-4, Fluka, PHITS, etc)

Multi-Purpose Detector (MPD) Collaboration



MPD International Collaboration was established in 2018 to construct, commission and operate the detector

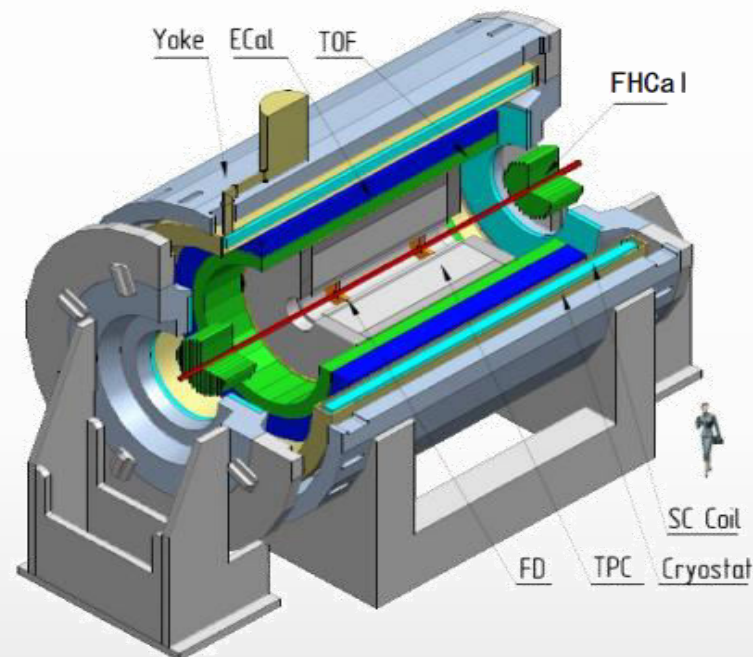
10 Countries, >450 participants, 33 Institutes and JINR

Organization

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Institutional Board Chair: **Alejandro Ayala**
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