

$p\bar{p}$ collisions and e^+e^- annihilation at high energies and the hydrodynamic theory

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Experimental data at the highest attainable energies of colliding $p\bar{p}$ and e^+e^- beams are compared with the hydrodynamic theory for multiple-production processes. It is shown that the theoretical predictions agree with experimental data obtained from colliding beams.

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According to the hydrodynamic theory,¹ multiple-production processes go through three stages: 1—a dissociation of the primary hadrons into their constituents; 2—an interaction between the constituents; 3—a conversion of the constituents into secondary hadrons. The basic task of the theory for multiple production is to develop models for these stages.

TABLE I.

\sqrt{s} (GeV)	5	7	9	11	15	19	23	31	35	39
$\langle N_{ch}^{e^+e^-} \rangle$	4,3	5,5	6,0	6,7	7,8	8,7	9,6	11,2	11,8	12,4
	$\pm 0,3$	$\pm 0,2$	$\pm 0,15$	$\pm 0,15$	$\pm 0,15$	$\pm 0,2$	$\pm 0,2$	$\pm 0,2$	$\pm 0,2$	$\pm 0,2$
m_x/m_p	0,27	0,36	0,31	0,33	0,32	0,31	0,32	0,32	0,32	0,31

The various characteristics of multiple-production processes are determined to varying degrees by the different stages. According to the hydrodynamic theory, the average charged-particle multiplicity $\langle N_{ch} \rangle$ is determined primarily in the first stage. The distribution in the rapidity y (or in the pseudorapidity η) is governed by the second and third stages. The increase in the average transverse momentum $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle$ with increasing energy E_L of the primary particle is determined almost entirely by the second stage, i.e., that of the hydrodynamic expansion. The functional dependence $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle (E_L)$ is therefore the acid test of the hydrodynamic concept, and the increase in $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle$ with increasing energy is an important consequence of the transverse hydrodynamic motion.

We will examine these three characteristics, since they were measured on a $p\bar{p}$ colliding-beam accelerator which was recently started up, at a total c.m. energy $\sqrt{s} = 540$ GeV ($E_L \sim 150$ TeV) of the colliding particles.^{2,4} It turns out that at this energy the average transverse momentum is $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle \sim 500$ MeV, while at $E_L \sim 1$ TeV (the Intersecting Storage Ring) the average transverse momentum is $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle \sim 370-400$ MeV.

Numerical calculations^{5,6} in the quasi-one-dimensional approximation⁷ yield $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle = 380$ MeV at $E_L \sim 1$ TeV and $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle = 480$ MeV at $E_L \sim 150$ TeV. These results correspond to an extremely slow increase, $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle \propto E_L^{1/14} - E_L^{1/12}$. (We recall that the quasi-one-dimensional approximation is based on the assumption that the longitudinal motion is quasi-one-dimensional and is determined by the hydrodynamics, while the transverse motion is governed by the thermal energy spread.)

At energies $E_L \lesssim 100$ GeV, the average multiplicity $\langle N_{ch} \rangle$ is determined by the exact values of the statistical weights, while at energies $100 \lesssim E_L \lesssim 1000$ GeV the functional dependence $\langle N_{ch} \rangle (E_L)$ is joined with the function $aE_L^{1/4}$ ($a = \text{const}$). If we eliminate the primary nucleons, which are not part of the statistical system (the leading particles),²⁾

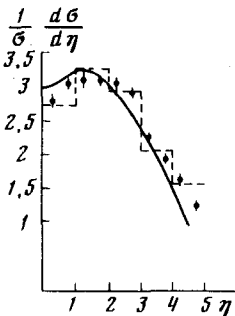


FIG. 1.

then the theory at $E_L \sim 150$ TeV yields the value $\langle N_{ch} \rangle \sim 30-32$, while the experimental value is $\langle N_{ch} \rangle = 27, 4 \pm 2$.

Figure 1 shows experimental and theoretical (curve) distributions in the pseudorapidity η . The theoretical calculations were carried out from the following expression in the quasi-one-dimensional approximation:

$$\frac{dN}{d\eta} = \frac{\langle N_{ch} \rangle (2\pi \bar{L})^{-1/2}}{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{K_2(n)}{n}} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^2 \sqrt{1+x^2} dx}{\sqrt{x^2 + (ch\eta)^{-1}}} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} K_1(m \sqrt{1+x^2}) \times \exp \left\{ - \frac{\text{Ar th}^2 \left(\frac{x \text{ th } \eta}{\sqrt{x^2 + (ch\eta)^{-1}}} \right)}{2\bar{L}} \right\}, \quad (1)$$

where K_1 and K_2 are the Bessel functions, $\bar{L} = (3/4) \ln E_L / m_p$, and m_p is the nucleon mass.

We turn now to the data on e^+e^- annihilation. In the energy range $\sqrt{s} \sim 10-40$ GeV, a striking similarity has been observed between this process⁹⁻¹¹ and pp interactions (if leading particles are eliminated from them) in terms of the following characteristics: the multiplicity, the inclusive spectra, and the two-jet nature of the distribution in p_{\perp} . There are also indications of a slight increase in $\langle p_{\perp} \rangle$ with the energy.

This analogy suggests a hydrodynamic description of both processes. For the e^+e^- annihilation, however, the absence of a characteristic mass presents a difficulty (this difficulty does not arise in pp collisions). The mass m_x for the annihilation should therefore be left as a free parameter. Using the quark-gluon interpretation of hydrodynamic theory,¹² we can derive the following expression for the secondary-particle multiplicity $\langle N_{ch}^{e^+e^-} \rangle$ in e^+e^- annihilation:

$$\langle N_{ch}^{e^+e^-} \rangle \simeq 2, 7 \left(\frac{m_x}{m_p} \right)^{1/4} \left(\frac{\sqrt{s}}{m_p} \right)^{1/2}. \quad (2)$$

Comparison of this expression with experimental data¹¹ yields m_x (see Table I). We see from the table that m_x is approximately $(1/3)m_p$; i.e., it is approximately equal to the mass of a constituent quark. This agreement may not be simply fortuitous.

In summary, the basic characteristics of multiple-production processes agree with the hydrodynamic theory.

¹⁾This value was found by an indirect method.

²⁾See Ref. 8 for a more detailed description of the method for calculating $\langle N_{ch} \rangle$.

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