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**Balance Functions from Au+Au Collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 7.7$  to 200 GeV** GARY WESTFALL, Michigan State University, STAR COLLABORATION  
— We present balance functions from Au+Au collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 7.7$  to 200 GeV measured at STAR and compare with recent results for Pb+Pb collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 2.76$  TeV [1]. We find that the balance function narrows as the collisions become more central and as the incident energy increases, which is consistent with the concept of delayed hadronization of a deconfined quark-gluon plasma (QGP). We also present balance functions for  $\pi^+\pi^-$  pairs,  $K^+K^-$  pairs,  $p\bar{p}$  pairs, and  $pK^-$  pairs from central Au+Au collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 200$  GeV. We compare to a model [2] that relates these balance functions to the correlations of up, down, and strange quarks in the QGP created in central Au+Au collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{\text{NN}}} = 200$  GeV. Our results are consistent with two waves of charge creation in time, one early in the collision ( $\sim 1$  fm/ $c$ ) and a second at hadronization ( $\sim 5 - 10$  fm/ $c$ ). We find that the densities of up, down, and strange quarks in the QGP extracted from the model comparison are consistent with current lattice gauge calculations.

[1] ALICE, Phys. Lett. B 723, 267 (2013).

[2] S. Pratt, Phys. Rev. Lett. 108, 212301 (2012); S. Pratt, Phys. Rev. C 85, 014904 (2012); S. Pratt, PoS(CPOD 2013)023.

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