Measurements of High Density Matter at RHIC

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Phase transition in high (energy-) density matter?

Hagedorn (1960's):

- Spectrum of excited hadronic states: exponentially increasing level density
- Heat a hadron gas \Rightarrow excite more massive resonances
- Hadronic gas has limiting temperature $T \sim 170 \text{ MeV}$



But cannot continue to arbitrary energy density: hadrons have finite size \Rightarrow transition to phase of hadronic consituents at T~170 MeV?

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QCD Phase Diagram



T >> Λ_{QCD}: weak coupling ⇒ deconfined phase (Quark Gluon Plasma)
 T < Λ_{QCD}: strong coupling ⇒ confinement

 \Rightarrow phase transition at T~ Λ_{OCD} ?

Lattice QCD at Finite Temperature

- Coincident transitions: deconfinement and chiral symmetry restoration - Recently extended to $\mu_B\!\!>0$



Ideal gas (Stefan-Boltzmann limit)

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Can we study the QCD Phase Diagram in the Laboratory?

Space-time Evolution of Heavy Ion Collisions



The Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider at Brookhaven National Laboratory



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RHIC

- Dedicated collider for heavy ion physics
 - independent superconducting rings
 - enormous flexibility in nuclear beams and energies (incl. p+A)
 - polarized protons

RHIC Design Parameters: • Au+Au: $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}@L = 2x10^{26}/\text{cm}^{2}/\text{s}$ Interaction rate ~ 1.4 kHz

• p+p (polarized): $\sqrt{s} = 500 \text{ GeV} @L = 1.4 \times 10^{31} / \text{cm}^2/\text{s}$ Interaction rate ~ 300 kHz



- 2000 run: Au+Au @ $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ =130 GeV
- 2001 run: Au+Au @ $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ =200 GeV (80 µb⁻¹); polarized p+p @ \sqrt{s} =200 GeV (~15% polarization, ~1 pb⁻¹)

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The Two Large Detectors

STAR

Solenoidal field, large-Ω tracking TPC's, Si-vertex tracking RICH, TOF, large EM Cal ~420 participants

PHENIX

Axial field, high resolution & rates 2 central arms, 2 forward muon arms TEC, RICH, EM Cal, Si, TOF, μ-ID ~450 participants





The Two Small Detectors

BRAHMS

2 "conventional" spectrometers full phase space coverage Magnets, TPCs, TOF, RICH ~40 participants

PHOBOS

"Table-top" 2-arm spectrometer full phase space multiplicity measurement Magnet, Si μ-strips, Si multiplicity rings, TOF ~80 participants



STAR High Multiplicity Au+Au Collision at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=130 \text{ GeV}$



Particle Identification in Heavy Ion Events



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High Density Matter at RHIC

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Geometry of Heavy Ion Collisions

Non-central Collisions



Number of participants: number of incoming nucleons (participants) in the overlap region Number of binary collisions: number of equivalent inelastic nucleonnucleon collisions

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Experimental Determination of Geometry



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Kinematics for Inclusive Reactions

Rapidity:
$$y = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{E + p_{\parallel}}{E - p_{\parallel}} \right)$$

Boost invariance: $\delta y \sim \frac{\delta p_{\parallel}}{E} \Rightarrow \frac{dN/dy}{y}$
Invariant cross section: $E \frac{d^3 \sigma}{d^3 p} = \frac{d^2 \sigma}{2\pi p_T dy dp_T}$
Pseudo-rapidity: $y \rightarrow \eta = -\ln[\tan(\theta/2)]$ for m/p << 1

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Elliptic Flow in Non-central Collisions



Asymmetry generated early in collision, quenched by expansion
 ⇒ observed asymmetry emphasizes early time

Second Fourier coefficient v₂: $v_2 = \langle \cos 2\phi \rangle$ $\phi = a$

$$\phi = \operatorname{atan} \frac{p_y}{p_x}$$

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Charged Particle and E_T Production



- Central collisions at 130 GeV: 4200 charged particles (!)
- mid-rapidity: ~ boost invariance
- Energy density: boost invariant hydrodynamics (Bjorken)

$$\varepsilon = \frac{1}{\pi R^2 \tau} \frac{dE_T}{dy} \approx \frac{1}{\pi R^2 \tau} \langle p_T \rangle \frac{3}{2} \frac{dN_{ch}}{d\eta} \qquad (R \sim A^{1/3}, \tau = 1 \text{ fm/c})$$

PHENIX (Central Au+Au at 130 GeV): $\varepsilon = 4.6 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$ (nucl-ex/0104015)

Chemical equilibrium?



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p_T< 2 GeV/c: Summary

- Baryon/antibaryon ratios at midrapidity $\sim 0.6-1$
 - close to baryon-free ~ early universe
 - but not quite (net proton dN/dy~10): baryon transport Δy ~5.5
- High apparent energy density ~5 GeV/fm³ (lattice phase transition ~1 GeV/fm³, cold matter ~ 0.16 GeV/fm³)
- Chemical equilibrium: T~170 MeV, μ_b <50 MeV \Rightarrow near Hagedorn temperature and lattice phase boundary
- Hydrodynamics works very well
- Bose-Einstein correlations: rapid hadronization, no long-lived mixed phase (e.g. from strong 1st order transition)
- Dynamical fluctuations and correlations: in progress
- Gluon saturation effects in A+A?

Overall picture: system appears to be in equilibrium but explodes and hadronizes rapidly \Rightarrow high initial pressure



FERMILAB-Pub-82/59-THY August, 1982

Energy Loss of Energetic Partons in Quark-Gluon Plasma: Possible Extinction of High p_r Jets in Hadron-Hadron Collisions.

> J. D. BJORKEN Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory P.O. Box 500, Batavia, Illinois 60510

Abstract

High energy quarks and gluons propagating through quark-gluon plasma suffer differential energy loss via elastic scattering from quanta in the plasma. This mechanism is very similar in structure to ionization loss of charged particles in ordinary matter. The dE/dx is roughly proportional to the square of the plasma temperature. For

Jets in heavy ion collisions



p+p →jet+jet (STAR@RHIC) Au+Au \rightarrow ??? (STAR@RHIC)



Hopeless task? No, but a bit tricky...

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Jet energy loss via leading hadrons



Wang and Gyulassy: partonic energy loss \Rightarrow effective softening of fragmentation \Rightarrow suppression of leading hadron yield

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Partonic energy loss: theory

• Elastic scattering (Bjorken):

$$-\frac{dE}{dz} \sim \alpha_s^2 \sqrt{\varepsilon} \propto T_{plasma}^2$$

- Gluon radiation is factor ~10 larger:
 - Thick plasma (Baier et al.):

• Thin plasma (Gyulassy et al.):

$$\Delta E_{BDMS} = \frac{C_R \alpha_s}{4} \hat{q} L^2 \tilde{v}$$
$$\hat{q} = \frac{\mu_{Debye}^2}{\lambda_{glue}} \propto \alpha_s \rho_{glue}$$

$$\Delta E_{GLV} = C_R \alpha_S^3 \int d\tau \tau \rho_{glue}(\tau, r(\tau)) Log\left(\frac{2E_{jet}}{\mu^2 L}\right)$$

Linear dependence on gluon density ρ_{glue} :

- ΔE measures gluon density
- ΔE is continuous function of energy density \Rightarrow not a direct signature of deconfinement

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Energy loss in cold matter



Modification of fragmentation fn in e-Nucleus scattering: $dE/dx \sim 0.5 \text{ GeV/fm}$ for 10 GeV quark

F. Arleo, hep-ph/0201066



Drell-Yan production in π -Nucleus: dE/dx <0.2 GeV/fm for 50 GeV quark

High p_T hadrons: Au+Au at RHIC



Measuring hadron suppression

- Nuclear Geometry: number of binary collisions <N_{binary}> (Glauber model)
- compare to nucleon-nucleon cross sections:



• Au+Au central/peripheral scaled by <N_{binary}>

Leading Hadrons in Fixed Target Experiments



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Hadron suppresion:Au+Au at 130 GeV



Hadron suppression: Au+Au at 200 GeV



Quark Matter 2002 preliminary data: suppression of factor 4-5 persists to $p_T=12 \text{ GeV/c}$

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π^0 suppression: comparison to theory

- --- Wang dE/dx = 0--- dE/dx = 0.25 GeV/fm
- Wang: X.N. Wang, Phys. Rev. C61, 064910 (2000).
- --- Levai $L/\lambda = 0$
- ---- $L/\lambda = 4$
- Gyulassy, Levai, Vitev: P.Levai, Nuclear Physics A698 (2002) 631.
- --- Vitev $dN^g/dy = 900$
- GLV, Nucl. Phys. B 594, p. 371 (2001) + work in preparation.



Particle composition at $p_T \sim 2-4$ GeV/c



Elliptic flow at high p_T: theory

Jet propagation through anisotropic matter (non-central collisions)

Snellings; Gyulassy, Vitev and Wang (nucl-th/00012092)



• Finite v_2 : high p_T hadron correlated with reaction plane from "soft" part of event ($p_T \le 2 \text{ GeV/c}$)

• Finite asymmetry at high p_T sensitive to energy density

Elliptic flow at high p_T: data



p_T<2 GeV: detailed agreement with hydrodynamics
p_T>4 GeV: finite v₂ in qualitative agreement with jet quenching predictions

\sqrt{s} dependence at high p_T (200/130)



- Inclusive spectra follow pQCD prediction (XN Wang)
- minbias v_2 has no energy dependence at $p_T > 2 \text{ GeV}$
- \Rightarrow surface emission at high p_T ? (i.e. strong absorption)

Two-particle correlations at high p_T : direct evidence for jets?

- Jet core: $\Delta \phi \propto \Delta \eta \sim 0.5 \propto 0.5$ \Rightarrow look at near-side correlations ($\Delta \phi \sim 0$) of high p_T hadron pairs
- Complication: elliptic flow
 - high p_T hadrons correlated with the reaction plane orientation also correlated with each other ($\sim v_2^2$)
 - but elliptic flow has long range correlation ($\Delta \eta >> 0.5$)
- Solution: compare azimuthal correlation functions for $\Delta\eta{<}0.5$ and $\Delta\eta{>}0.5$

$$C_{2} (\Delta \phi) = \frac{1}{N_{trigger}} \frac{1}{efficiency} \int d(\Delta \eta) N(\Delta \phi, \Delta \eta)$$

Near-side correlations II

$$C_{2} (\Delta \phi) = \frac{1}{N_{trigger}} \frac{1}{efficiency} \int d(\Delta \eta) N(\Delta \phi, \Delta \eta)$$



Near-side correlation shows jet-like signal in central Au+Au

Near-side correlations III



Similar effect seen by PHENIX:

- strong near side correlation
- correlation shape in Au+Au fit by PYTHIA+elliptic flow

Reality check: charge-sign dependence

- Compare same-sign (++, --) and opposite-sign (+-) pairs
- Known jet physics: charge ordering in fragmentation



Two particle correlations at high p_T: back-to-back jets?

- away-side (back-to-back) jet can be "anywhere" ($\Delta\eta \sim 2.5$)
- p+p measured in RHIC detectors \Rightarrow assume correlation fn:

high p_T -triggered Au+Au event = high p_T -triggered p+p event + elliptic flow

$$C_2(Au + Au) = C_2(p + p) + A^*(1 + 2v_2^2 \cos(2\Delta\phi))$$

- A from fit to "non-jet" region $\Delta \phi \sim \pi/2$
- v_2 from reaction plane analysis

Suppression of back-to-back pairs



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produced in its local environment. High energy hadron jet experiments

be analysed as function of associated multiplicity to search for should

An interesting signature may be events in which the hard this effect. collision occurs near the edge of the overlap region, with one jet escaping without absorption and the other fully absorbed.

High p_T phenomena: suppression of inclusive rates, finite elliptic flow, suppression of back-to-back pairs \Rightarrow compatible with extreme absorption and surface emission

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Summary of Au+Au Collisions at RHIC

Soft physics:

- Low baryon density
- System appears to be in equilibrium (hydrodynamic behaviour)
- Explosive expansion, rapid hadronization

Hard physics:

- Jet fragmentation observed, agreement with pQCD
- Strong suppression of inclusive yields
- Azimuthal anisotropy at high p_T
- Suppression of back-to-back hadron pairs ⇒large parton energy loss and surface emission?

No strong suppression of open charm (PHENIX): "dead cone" effect?



Some Coming Attractions

Heavy ions in coming runs:

- d+Au: disentangle initial state effects in jet production (shadowing, Cronin enhancement) ⇒ resolution of jet quenching picture
- J/ψ and open charm: direct signature of deconfinement?
 (Charm via single electrons: PHENIX, PRL 88, 192303 (2002))

Heavy ions with detector upgrades:

– Low mass dilepton pairs: chiral symmetry restoration

Polarized protons:

 $-\Delta G$ (gluon contribution to proton spin)

....Surprises

Extra slides...

Order of the Deconfinement Phase Transition

- Only partially understood:
 - Three massless flavours: first order
 - Two massless flavours: second order
 - Two light and one heavy: probably second order
 - $-\mu_B=0$, physical strange quark mass: rapid cross over?
- So what? Early universe (t~10⁻⁵ sec): strong first order transition may have generated:
 - primordial black holes
 - strange quark nuggets
 - baryon asymmetries \Rightarrow implications for nucleosynthesis



p_T<2 GeV/c: strong evidence for kinetic equilibrium Mass dependence of elliptic flow described by hydrodynamics \Rightarrow kinetic equilibrium at early time

Digression: ultra-peripheral collisions



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Gluon saturation in A+A?



• vary impact parameter \Rightarrow vary $(Q_s^2) \Rightarrow$ visible in total multiplicity?



Data agree with both simple Glauber (hard/soft eikonal calculation) and high density QCD \Rightarrow no clear evidence for/against saturation

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Forward rapidity: limiting fragmentation



Limiting fragmentation at high rapidity: common features in all hadronic interactions (and $e^+e^-\rightarrow jets$)

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Phase Diagram at Chemical Freezeout



PHENIX: Charm in Au+Au via single electrons



PYTHIA 6.152 with CTEQ5L PDF and binary collision scaling assumption shows good agreement with minimum bias and central electron distributions.

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