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Recent flow results from STAR experiment at RHIC

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Azimuthal anisotropic flow



- Anisotropy of initial spacial geometry transfers to anisotropy of particles in momentum space via medium created in collisions
 - sensitive to early stages of the collisions
 - useful probe to study initial state, viscosity, equation of state (EoS), etc.



S. Voloshin, Y. Zhang, Z.Phys.C 70 (1996) 665

 Fourier series decomposition of azimuthal distribution of emitted particles:

$$\frac{dN}{d(\phi - \Psi_n)} \propto 1 + 2\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \cos\left[n(\phi - \Psi_n)\right]$$

$$v_n = \langle \cos\left[n(\phi - \Psi_n)\right] \rangle$$

- Ψ_n event plane (EP)
- v_n flow coefficients
 - \bullet v_1 directed flow
 - \bullet v_2 elliptic flow
 - v_3 triangle flow

STAR detector



- Beam energy scan II (BES-II) upgrades
 - iTPC (2019+): extended η acceptance and improved tracking, dE/dxresolution
 - eTOF (2019+): extended PID coverage
 - ► EPD (2018+): EP determination away from mid-rapidity, improved EP resolution compared to BBC





• Fixed-target (FXT) setup

Access to energies $\sqrt{s_{\rm NN}} < 7.7 \,\,{\rm GeV}$

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Colliding systems and energies at STAR

- BES-II and FXT program: Au+Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{\rm NN}}$ = 3.0 54.4 GeV
- Top RHIC energy $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ = 200 GeV:, Au+Au, Zr+Zr, Ru+Ru, p+Au, d+Au, t+Au, O+O etc.









Hypernuclei v_1 at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3$ GeV







- Midrapidity v_1 slope of $^3_\Lambda H$ and $^4_\Lambda H$ follow baryon number scaling
 - Coalescence is the dominant mechanism for hypernuclei production

v_1 at forward and backward pseudorapidity



- $v_1(\eta)$ changes sign near beam rapidity at all centralities
- UrQMD fails to describe the measurements
- Can be used to constrain Tdependence of medium viscosity

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Test of limiting fragmentation: v_1 collapse to a common curve with other energies in a region of $\eta - y_{\text{beam}}$









Number-of-constituent-quark (NCQ) scaling



• At $\sqrt{s_{\rm NN}}$ = 19.6 GeV (BES-II), NCQ scaling holds within 10% for $(m_{\rm T} - m_0)/n_q > 0.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

Dominance of partonic interactions

• At $\sqrt{s_{\rm NN}}$ = 3 GeV, the NCQ scaling is absent Dominance of baryonic interactions







Flow in small systems



STAR, PRL 130 (2023) 242301



(E³)

ratio

ð

d+Au

.5

		<u> </u>
	Nucleon Glauber	Sub-Nucleon Glauber
	$arepsilon_2(arepsilon_3)$	$arepsilon_2(arepsilon_3)$
0-5% pAu	0.23(0.16)	0.38(0.30)
0-5% dAu	0.54(0.18)	0.51(0.31)
0-5% 3 He+Au	0.50(0.28)	0.52(0.35)
	· •	

Nucleon Glauber: J. L. Nagle, et. al., PRL 113 (2014) 112301 Sub-nucleon: K. Welsh, et. al., PRC 94 (2016) 024919

•
$$v_2^{\text{He}+\text{Au}} \approx v_2^{d+\text{Au}} > v_2^{p+\text{Au}}$$

•
$$v_3^{\text{He}+\text{Au}} \thickapprox v_3^{d+\text{Au}} \thickapprox v_3^{p+\text{Au}}$$

- Suggests significant influence of sub-nucleonic fluctuations
- Need to study pre-flow



Nuclear deformation from isobar collision



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- Assuming a Gaussian distribution of v_2
 - $v_2\{2\} \approx \langle v_2 \rangle + \sigma^2/(2 \langle v_2 \rangle)$
 - $v_2{4} \approx v_2{6} \approx \langle v_2 \rangle \sigma^2/(2 \langle v_2 \rangle)$
 - $v_2\{4\}/v_2\{2\}$ ratio serves as a metric for v_2 fluctuations



 $v_2\{k\}$ increasing with increasing colliding energy

- $v_2\{4\}/v_2\{2\}$ show a weak colliding energy dependence
 - Weak energy dependence of flow fluctuations

• $v_2{6}/v_2{4}$ are consistent with unity within uncertainties

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Constraints on initial conditions



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	Hydro-I	Hydro-II
η/s	0.12	0.05
Initial conditions	IP-Glasma	TRENTO
Contributions	Hydro + Hadronic cascade	Hydro + Direct decays

• Both models describe $v_2\{k\}$ well

• $\varepsilon_2\{4\}/\varepsilon_2\{2\} \approx v_2\{4\}/v_2\{2\}$ for central collisions

Initial-state eccentricity fluctuations dominate v_2 fluctuations

• $v_2\{4\}/v_2\{2\}$ from Hydro-I agrees well with the data

Feasible constraints on the initial stages

 $v_3{\{\Psi_1\}}$ at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3 \text{ GeV}$



• $v_3{\Psi_1}$ measured at 3 GeV with STAR is much weaker than one observed at 2.4 GeV*, further decreases at

 $\sqrt{s_{\rm NN}} = 3.2 - 3.9 \,{\rm GeV^{**}}$

- Signal could only be reproduced with including mean field potential
- Can be used to constrain EoS

*HADES, PRL 125 (2020) 262301

**Sharang Rav Sharma, Mon. 10:20





Summary

- v_1 of ${}^3_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^4_{\Lambda}$ H
 - Measured for the first time
 - \triangleright v_1 slope follows baryon number scaling
- $v_1^{\text{EPD}}(\eta)$
 - Limited fragmentation check
 - Useful to constrain T-dependent shear viscosity
- Number-of-constituent-quark scaling
 - Holds at $\sqrt{s_{\rm NN}} = 19.6 \, {\rm GeV}$
 - Absent at $\sqrt{s_{\rm NN}} = 3 \,{\rm GeV}$



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- v_2 , v_3 in He+Au, d+Au, p+Au collisions
 - Suggests significant influence of subnucleonic fluctuations
- Strange hadron v_2 from isobar collisions
 - Give access to nuclei deformation
- $v_2\{4\}/v_2\{2\}$
 - Flow fluctuations show weak energy dependence
 - Provide constraints for initial conditions
- $v_3{\Psi_1}$ at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3 \text{ GeV}$
 - Useful to constrain EoS
- Stay tuned for more flow results from BES-11 and FXT programs!

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Back-up

System size dependence



• v_2 at high p_T incresases with atomic mass number of colliding nuclei

Indicating a nuclear size dependence



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