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Decomposition of flow and non flow in di-hadron correlations at RHIC

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Angular di-hadron correlation studies in Au+Au collisions at 200 GeV have revealed a nearside elongated structure in delta eta. This is often referred to as the ridge, and was found to extend to delta eta 9 units at the LHC. Using preliminary STAR data [3], we discuss methods to decompose 2D di-hadron correlations in Au+Au 200 GeV collisions on the nearside. Our analysis is performed as a function of centrality and pT. We propose a model that encompasses azimuthal flow up to 4 orders (v_1 , v_2 , v_3 , and v_4). The remainder of the correlation function is modeled via an asymmetric 2d Gaussian, which we refer to as non-flow. We find our model describes the data very well. The extracted flow parameters are compared to model predictions [4,5]. We investigate possible scalings for the Gaussian remainder, and compare it's properties to a similar structure observed in p+p 200 GeV collisions. These findings will help us shed on the production mechanism of the remainder. Finally, we will provide an estimate of the ratio of non-flow to flow as a function of centrality and pT, which will aid a variety of other flow studies at these energies.

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