Hard Probes 2004Lisbon, Portugal

RHIC Experimental Program

-Background in preparation for meeting

Wit Busza **MIT**

Many thanks to Michael Miller for help in preparation of this talk, to Conor Henderson for making some of the transparencies, and to the four RHIC collaborations for most of the material presented in the talk.

The Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider at BNL

RHIC First Commissioned, June 2000

2000-2004 RHIC PERFORMANCE

THE DETECTORS

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 Multiplicity detector with large phase space coverage Magnets, TPCs, TOF, RICH ~40 participants

PHOBOS

"Table-top" 2-arm spectrometer full phase space multiplicity measurement Magnet, Si pad detectors, TOF+dE/dx \sim 70 participants

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

PHOBOS PID & ACCEPTANCE

Measured Quantities

Experimental Control of Centrality or Impact Parameter

Aim of Research:

Bi-product: Study of Mechanism of Particle Production See, for example, W. Busza arXiv: nucl-ex/0410035

Too good to be true!

From Harris and MuellerAnn. Rev. Nucl. Sci. 1996

But RHIC program is an incredible success RIKEN BNL Workshop May 14-15, 2004 Submitted to NPA 2004New Discoveries at RHICBRAHMS, Phenix, Phobos & STAR "White Papers": "Perspectives on Discoveries at RHIC" To be submitted to NPA November, 2004 BRAHMS arXiv: nucl-ex/0410020Phenix arXiv: nucl-ex/0410003Phobos arXiv: nucl-ex/0410022

A RIKEN BNL Research Center Workshop, May 14-15, 2004 Proceedings, Volume 62, BNL-72391-2004

Where Are We Now?

In $Au + Au$ Collisions at RHIC

1. In ≤ 1 fm/c energy density \geq 3GeV/fm³ 2. Description of the created system in terms of simple hadronic degrees of freedom is inappropriate 3. Constituents of this novel system are found to interact very strongly

In addition large body of high quality data has been collected on a broad range of topics. Much of it is not well understood.

Phenomenology is often simpler than the interpretations.

Global Properties

Data smooth as a function of energy

TOTAL CHARGED MULTIPLICITY

Elliptic Flow

Pseudorapidity plotted in rest frame of one of the nuclei

PHOBOS nucl-ex/0406021 Au+Au 0-40%

Data smooth as a function of centrality or impact parameter

SOME EXCEPTIONS:

NA49 (from Agnes Richard)

Although in the RHIC Energy Range (20-200 GeV) there are no obvious discontinuities, with very reasonable assumptions we can conclude

> Time of equilibration is short ≤ 1 *fm/c* Energy Density is very high, $\geq 3 \frac{GeV}{fm^3}$

Note: Cold Nuclear Matter Density ~ 150 MeV/fm³ Energy Density Inside Hadrons ~ 500 MeV/fm³ Not only is the energy density very high, the matter is strongly interacting at early times

> Evidence: Strong Flow Signal

K.M.O'Hara *et al*, Science, 298 (2179) 2002

Elliptic Flow at RHIC

Large v_2 - strongly interacting matter at early time

From Gyulassy DNP 2004

What is the novel medium? What is the origin of its strong interactions?

To answer these questions one needs localized penetrating probes

Such probes do exist \longrightarrow main topic of this meeting

parton (quark or gluon)

parton (quark or gluon)

HARD PROBES

For parton-parton scattering with high Pt The basic interaction is understood \rightarrow pQCD (Nobel Prize 2004)

If parton beams of known momentum where available and scattered partons could be directly detected, life would be beautiful!

The best we can hope to do is to look at jets or jet fragments. This is reasonably well understood (combination of calculation and phenomenology, eg e+eannihilation)

 $p+p \rightarrow \pi^0+X$

$Au+Au \rightarrow \pi^0+X$

"leading" *^π⁰*

More complications:

Multiple interactions and radiation before high Pt scattering (e.g.Cronin effect),

Shadowing

Saturation (e.g. Color Glass Condensate)

Appropriate normalization?

Effect of medium on fragmentation?

pA &dA helps to sort out initial state and final state effects

Correct Normalization, i.e. What is the Number of Relevant Collisions for Colliding Nuclei?

Some vocabulary:

Nuclear Modification Factors

$$
R_{AA} = \frac{\sigma_{pp}^{inel}}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle} \frac{d^2 N_{AA} / dp_T d\eta}{d^2 \sigma_{pp} / dp_T d\eta}
$$

$$
R_{AA}^{N_{part}} = \frac{\sigma_{pp}^{inel}}{\langle N_{part}/2 \rangle} \frac{d^2 N_{AA} / dp_T d\eta}{d^2 \sigma_{pp} / dp_T d\eta}
$$

$$
R_{PC}^{N_{part}} = \frac{\langle N_{part}^{0-6\%} \rangle}{\langle N_{part} \rangle} \frac{d^2 N_{AA} / dp_T d\eta}{d^2 N_{AA}^{0-6\%} / dp_T d\eta}
$$

EXAMPLES OF DATA

"Jet quenching" or Suppression of High P_T Particles

AuAu and dAu comparison ($\rm N_{coll}$ normalization):

Back-to-back jets:

STAR: Phys.Rev.Lett.91:072304, 2003

Correlation of suppression with reaction plane:

K. Filimonov: DNP 10.31.03; nucl-ex/0410009

• **Different particles may behave differently. Looking at the behavior of all charged particles together may be misleading.**

- Theorists may be pushing their luck using a high Pt approximation to a regime where it is clearly not applicable.
- Most data are for single particles and yet one speaks of them as if they are scattered partons or jets
- Inappropriate or unknown normalization can enhance or suppress an effect
- Important to ask if a "high Pt effect" is not there at low Pt

•Is there evidence that jet quenching goes approximately like density times the square of path length?

Suppression depends on produced particle type:STAR Preliminary (Au+Au @ 200 GeV) Scaling binary participant R_{CP} $\Omega + \overline{\Omega}$ $\star K^{*(\frac{0.10}{40.60})}$ $\nabla \Xi + \overline{\Xi}$
 ΔK^0 ΔK^{\pm} $\Diamond \mu^{\pm}$ $0 - 5%$ 40-60% \Diamond h^{\pm} 10^{-1} $\overline{2}$ Λ 4 6

Transverse Momentum p_T (GeV/c)

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µA inelastic cross-section consistent with $\rm\,N_{coll}$ scaling

AuAu→Direct photons consistent with N_{coll} scaling

Factorization of Energy/Centrality Dependence

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"Quenching" is seen in production of all particles in the very forward region of rapidity $(\leq 2 \text{ units})$

From E451:Barton et al Phys Rev 27 (1983) 2580

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Last Words

LISTEN WITH SOME SKEPTICISM ENJOY THE MEETING IT IS AN EXCITING ERA FOR THE FIELD