



Directed Flow of Identified Particles







A Few Useful Concepts





Reaction plane : Defined by the beam and the line connecting two colliding nuclei

Transverse momentum :

 $p_t = \sqrt{p_x^2 + p_y^2}$



Peripheral collisions : collisions in which two nuclei barely graze each other.



Central collisions : head-on collisions.





Anti-flow / 3rd flow component



Brachmann, Soff, Dumitru, Stocker, Maruhn, Greiner Bravina, Rischke, PRC 61 (2000) 024909. L.P. Csernai, D. Roehrich PLB 458, 454 (1999) M.Bleicher and H.Stocker, PLB 526,309(2002)

Anti-flow/ 3^{rd} flow component : Flat v_1 at midrapidity due to 1^{st} order phase transition

Caution : Seeing anti-flow does not necessarily mean that there is a QGP EoS. (refer to UrQMD). In following slides, anti-flow only means zero or negative slope at midrapidity, due to the fast expansion of a tilted source.

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R.Snellings, H.Sorge, S.Voloshin, F.Wang, N. Xu, PRL (84) 2803(2000)

Baryon stopping + positive space-momentum correlation \rightarrow v₁ wiggle. No QGP necessary







Collapse of Flow: Probing the Order of the Phase Transition

Horst Stöcker*

FIAS- Frankfurt Institute for Advanced Studies, Max-von-Laue-Str. 1, 60438 Frankfurt, Germany, Institut für Theoretische Physik, Johann Wolfgang Goethe - Universität, Max-von-Laue-Str. 1, 60438 Frankfurt, Germany Gesellschaft für Schwerionenforschung (GSI), Planckstr. 1, 64291 Darmstadt E-mail: stoecker@fias.uni-frankfurt.de

We discuss the present collective flow signals for the phase transition to the quark-gluon plasma (QGP) and the collective flow as a barometer for the equation of state (EoS). We emphasize the importance of the flow excitation function from 1 to 50A GeV: here the hydrodynamic model has predicted the collapse of the v_1 -flow at ~ 10A GeV and of the v_2 -flow at ~ 40A GeV. In the latter case, this has recently been observed by the NA49 collaboration. Since hadronic rescattering models predict much larger flow than observed at this energy, we interpret this observation as potential evidence for a first order phase transition at high baryon density ρ_B .



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Directed Flow

The Observable of Early Thermalization

- 1. Directed flow at RHIC \leftrightarrow **HYDRODYNAMICS**
 - explains anti-flow
 - right magnitude
 - system size scaling
- 2. Qualitatively explains : PID flow (and p_{\perp} dependence)

See next talk.

Longitudinal pressure appears early!

Piotr Bożek Directed flow
Directed f

Piotr Bozek, RHIC/AGS workshop 2010

Piotr Bozek and Iwona Wyskiel-Piekarska, Arxive:1009.0701



v₁ at low energies





Aihong Tang ISMD, Univ. of Antwerp, Belgium, Sept 2010



v_1 at low energies





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v₁ at RHIC, measured by Phobos

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STAR, PRL 101 252301 (2008)

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STAR Experiment

• Run7, 62 M events.

Tracks used for TPC : No. of fit hits \in [15, 50] Global DCA \in [0.0, 1.0] No. of fit hits/No.of possible hits \in [0.52, 1.05] 0.1 < pT < 12.0 GeV/c | n | < 1. PID achieved by TPC dE/dx

P_t cut for protons/anti-protons [0.4,1 GeV/c]

Pion v₁ at **RHIC**

Hydro+tilted source describes the data the best

PID v₁ at **RHIC**

Anti-proton slope has the same sign of pions – consistent with anti-flow

Kaon suffers less shadowing effect due to smaller k/p cross section, yet we found negative v_1 slope for Kshort – consistent with anti-flow

PID v₁ at **RHIC**

Difference seen between v_1 of protons and anti-protons in 5-30% central collisions.

Centrality dependence of v₁ slope BROOKHAVEN

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Negative v_1 slope for protons is observed in 30-80% centralities. Large difference seen between v_1 of protons and anti-protons in 5-30% centralities.

Considering antiproton/proton ratio is almost flat as a function of centrality, what is observed does not match expectations.

Proton v₁ Excitation Function

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- Negative slope of pions, antiprotons, protons and $k_s^0 v_1$ is observed
- In mid-central collisions (5-30%), proton v_1 slope becomes small (~-0.1%), and sizable difference is seen between v_1 of protons and anti-protons.
- Anti-flow can explain the negative v₁(y) slope but it has difficulties in explaining the centrality dependence of the difference between the v₁(y) slope of protons and anti-protons.