



- STAR program at RHIC
- Data collection (e.g. collection of data-sets)
- Selected recent results
  - Beam energy scan
  - Jets, jet-like correlations and medium properties
  - STAR Heavy flavor program

## • Summary and outlook



### • Design goal - studies of phase structure of nuclear matter



Counter-rotating ion beams
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Maximum center-of-mass energy: 200 GeV for Au+Au 500 GeV for *pp* 



# **AA Data Collection**



# STAR Physics Program



- Polarized pp program
  - Focus on proton's intrinsic properties *(not a part of this talk)*





- Forward Physics program
  - Low-x physics, initial conditions, CGC
  - Elastic and inelastic processes in *pp2pp* (not a part of this talk)
- QCD matter under Extreme Conditions
  - sQGP Studies (EoS, Eloss in QCD medium,...)
  - Beam energy scan (QCD critical point chiral symmetry restoration,...)



# Part 1 – Beam Energy Scan



- Vary the beam energies to scan the  $(T, \mathcal{I}B)$  space
- Look for turn-on/turn-off of sQGP signatures, onset of deconfinement
- Search for QCD critical point/first order phase transition

# What are the sQGP signatures?

• From not-so-recent results:

- High density opaque medium
- Partonic collectivity
- Deconfinement



In multiple measurements,

example -v2



- Strong anisotropy in the final state, including Ω and φ!
- Low pT mass ordering, consistency with hydrodynamic calculations
- Higher pT NCQ scaling



High precision identified hadron v2 results from high statistics 200 GeV Au+Au



- Central data: baryon-meson splitting, NCQ scaling (to ~10% level)
- Peripheral data: break-down of scaling features for multi-strange hadrons
- Even high pT anisotropy related to jet attenuation (also in RAA)

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# Back to BES program

## • Disappearance of partonic DOF signals

- disappearance of NCQ scaling
- disappearance of hadron suppression
- disappearance of ridge
- Signals of Critical Point & 1st order phase transition
  - non-monotonic variations in fluctuation observables
  - divergence of correlation length (higher moments of net-proton distribution)

$$< (\delta N)^2 > \approx \xi^2, < (\delta N)^3 > \approx \xi^{4.5}, < (\delta N)^4 > -3 < (\delta N)^2 >^2 \approx \xi^7$$

• elliptic & directed flow

. . . .







- Broken trend in  $\Omega/\phi$  ratio at 11.5 GeV
- No clear baryon/meson grouping for antiparticles at 11.5 GeV & below
- New feature: Differences between baryon & anti-baryon *v2* at lower energies





Nuclear modification factor RCP

- Disappearance of baryon-meson splitting at intermediate pT
- Suppression  $\rightarrow$  (Cronin) enhancement

# Charge Separation Observable



- Motivated by search for local parity violation. Require sQGP formation.
- The splitting between correlations for like-sign and opposite sign pairs disappears at/below 11.5 GeV

# Proton Directed Flow



- The slope of proton *v1(y)* distribution is expected to be sensitive to 1st order phase transition
- Proton v1 changes slope between 7.7 and 11.5 GeV
- Net-proton v1 slope becomes negative between 7.7 and 11.5 GeV

# Higher Moments of Netproton Distribution



$$\sigma^{2} = \langle (N - \langle N \rangle)^{2} \rangle$$
  

$$S = \langle (N - \langle N \rangle)^{3} \rangle / \sigma^{3}$$
  

$$\kappa = \langle (N - \langle N \rangle)^{4} \rangle / \sigma^{4} - 3$$

Possible deviations from Poisson baseline in most central collisions at low energies

Need higher precision measurements for conclusive statement



STAR BES program

- Very successful start of the program Phase-I
- Several "QGP-signatures" are not seen at low energies
  - NCQ scaling breaks down for multistrange particles <=11.5
  - Charge separation signal vanishes
  - Change in v2 systematic between particles and antiparticles
- Critical point / 1st order phase transition
  - Proton v1 slope changes sign between 7.7 and 11.5 GeV
  - Inconclusive signs from higher moments (and monotonic behavior in second moments, e.g. ratio fluctuations)
- Stay tuned for Phase-II



### • From not-so-recent results:

- High-pT hadron suppression (factor of 5 in central events)
- Suppression/modifications of away-side azimuthal correlations
- Both due to final state effects: jet-quenching





### Di(multi)-hadron correlations



### Full jet reconstruction



### ...and their combinations



$$D_{AA}(p_T^{assoc}) = Y_{AuAu}(p_T^{assoc}) \cdot \langle p_T^{assoc} \rangle_{AuAu} -Y_{pp}(p_T^{assoc}) \cdot \langle p_T^{assoc} \rangle_{pp}$$



- Trigger jet (near-side) population is highly (surface) biased
- Recoil (away-side) jet fragmentation should be unbiased
- Away-side Energy Balance: Suppression of high-pT associated hadron yields is (mostly) balanced by low-pT enhancement



Non-zero jet v2{FTPC EP}: path-length dependence of energy loss

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# Jet-like Correlations: Ridge



### From not-so-recent results:

- Discovered first in Au+Au collisions at RHIC
- Extends to acceptance boundary and to the highest trigger pT measured
- Production mechanisms for jet and ridge differ

## The ridge open question:

manifestation of the jet quenching or coincidental nuisance?



# **Ultra-central Events**



Motivation for "vn fit"

FIG. 2: (Color online) Azimuthal anisotropies of hadron spectra  $v_n(p_T)$  (n = 1 - 6) in central (b = 0) Au + Au collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 200$  GeV from AMPT model calculation.

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# Long Range Correlation – Fourier fits



- Long range correlations near- and away from the trigger are tested via Fourier decomposition
- Could be simultaneously described via higher order vn terms
- vn fit results are consistent with flow expectations



• 2+1 to study di-jets

"pin" the jet axis selecting back-to-back triggers. TAR Preliminary Preliminary TAR Ν-αΔφαδη 6 **ν-d**∆φdΔη ЧP Second 3 trigger **T2 Primary** 0.5 0.5 Associated hadrons trigger <sup>0</sup> <sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup> <sup>0</sup> <sup>-0.5</sup> 0 √γ-0.5 **T1** -0.5

- Central Au+Au  $\sim$  d+Au. No away-side suppression 0
- Shapes of near- and away-sides are similar 0
  - no significant shape/yield modifications
  - no apparent ridge

-1.5 -1



# Part 2: Summary

## STAR jet-medium interaction studies

- Consistent picture from jet-h and h-h correlation
  - Triggered jets and leading hadrons>4GeV/c select unmodified jet sample ("surface bias")
  - Jet-h and 2+1 correlation results suggest softening of fragmentation for selected di-jets

• Jet v2

- Azimuthal anisotropy of jets is indicative of path-length dependence of energy loss
- The origins of "ridge"
  - Could be flow...



- Expected to be less affected by strong interactions in the medium →early-time probes
- Sensitive tool to access gluon distribution
- Test medium properties on different levels (color screening effects, coalescence contributions)





### D0 Spectra and RAA in 200 GeV Au+Au collisions



• Suppression at high pT in central and mid-central collisions

- Enhancement at intermediate pT
- Early freeze-out/smaller radial flow compared to light-quark hadrons

# Charm Cross-section



Run2009 p+p: D0 + D\* ,Runs 2010, 2011 Au+Au: D0

The charm total cross-section at mid-rapidity\*:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma_{cc}}{\mathrm{d}y}\Big|_{y=0}^{\mu\nu} = 170 \pm 45(\mathrm{stat.})^{+38}_{-59}(\mathrm{sys.}) \ \mu\mathrm{b}$$
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma_{cc}}{\mathrm{d}y}\Big|_{y=0}^{AuAu} = 175 \pm 13(\mathrm{stat.}) \pm 23(\mathrm{sys.}) \ \mu\mathrm{b}$$

Charm cross-section follows Nbin – scaling  $\rightarrow$  production dominated by initial (gluon) hard scatterings

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DGLV: Djordjevic, PLB632, 81 (2006)
T-Matrix: Van Hees et al., PRL100,192301(2008).
Coll. Dissoc. R. Sharma et al., PRC 80, 054902(2009).

Aus/CFT: W. Horowitz Ph.D thesis.

# Quarkonia Measurements

### $J/\psi$ Spectra in 200 GeV Au+Au collisions



- J/ $\psi$  spectra significantly softer than light hadrons:
  - smaller radial flow?
  - Significant regeneration contributions?
- Let's look at J/ψ v2: if charm quark flows, so will J/ψ from recombination! But will need a combination of open/closed HF measurement to disentangle different scenarios



• Finite J/ $\psi$  v2 at low pT : charm coalescence?

# Upsilon Measurements







- A cleaner probe than  $J/\psi$ :
  - Negligible recombination contributions
  - Low co-mover absorption
- Quarkonia melting is sensitive to the medium temperature
- Significant #suppression in central collisions
- Consistent with melting of 2S and 3S states



## STAR Heavy Flavor program:

### • Charm flows

- Significant v2 for NPE, D0 flow
- Early freeze-out/smaller radial flow than light hadrons
- From J/ψ studies coalescence dominance is disfavored at high pT
- Charm energy loss
  - Significant suppression of NPE and D0 at high pT

## • Upsilon suppression

Consistent with full S3 and strong S2 melting





Direct reconstruction of heavy flavor decays

- B-tagging via  $J/\psi$  displaced vertex
- Muon identification and trigger  $(B \rightarrow J/\psi \rightarrow \mu\mu + X, B$ -jet tagging)
- Measurement of Upsilon states
- QGP thermal radiation (background constraints through e-µ correlations)