## Elliptic flow, non-flow and initial-state fluctuations at RHIC

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INT-10-2A: Opening workshop May 24-28, 2010 New results from LHC and RHIC

Seattle, 28 May 2010

#### **The PHOBOS collaboration**





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- 1) System size, energy, pseudorapidity, and centrality dependence of elliptic flow, PHOBOS, PRL 98, 242302, 2007 (nucl-ex/0610037)
- 2) Cluster properties from two-particle angular correlations in p + p collisions at 200 and 410-GeV, PHOBOS, PRC 75, 054913, 2007 (arXiv:0704.0966 [nucl-ex])
- Importance of correlations and fluctuations on the initial source eccentricity in A+A collisions, PHOBOS + U.Heinz, PRC 77, 014906, 2008 (arXiv:0711.3724 [nucl-ex])
- 4) System size dependence of cluster properties from two-particle angular correlations in Cu+Cu and Au+Au collisions at 200 GeV, PRC 81, 024904, 2010 (arXiv:0812.1172 [nucl-ex])
- 5) High transverse momentum triggered correlations over a large pseudorapidity acceptance in Au+Au collisions at 200 GeV, PRL 104, 062301, 2010 (arXiv:0903.2811 [nucl-ex])
- 6) Event-by-event fluctuations of azimuthal particle anisotropy in Au + Au Collisions at 200 GeV, PRL, 104:142301, 2010 (nucl-ex/0702036)
- 7) Non-flow correlations and elliptic flow fluctuations in gold-gold collisions at 200 GeV, PRC81, 034915, 2010 (arXiv:1002.0534 [nucl-ex])
- 8) Collision geometry fluctuations and triangular flow in heavy-ion collisions,
   B. Alver, G. Roland, accepted in PRC, 2010 (arXiv:1003.0194 [nucl-th])

## Outline



#### **Correlation studies with PHOBOS**



#### Inclusive two particle correlations



$$\mathsf{R}(\Delta\phi,\Delta\eta) = \langle (\mathsf{n}-1)(\frac{\mathsf{F}_{\mathsf{n}}(\Delta\phi,\Delta\eta)}{\mathsf{B}_{\mathsf{n}}(\Delta\phi,\Delta\eta)} - 1) \rangle$$

Similar structure in p+p, Cu+Cu and Au+Au collisions, a clear signal of elliptic flow is visible in A+A collisions

Remember: No  $p_T$  cutoff (i.e.  $p_T > 7 - 35$  MeV/c)

PHOBOS, PRC 75 054913 (2007) PHOBOS, PRC 81 024904 (2010)

## Cluster model fit to correlation in $\Delta \eta$





Possible source for correlations: Production of intermediate objects which decay into particles





PHOBOS, PRC 75 054913 (2007) PHOBOS, PRC 81 024904 (2010)

#### **Cluster model fit results**

Multiplicity of the clusters is large (up to 6 charged particles - more than for known resonances)

Cluster width exceeds that for isotropic decay at rest (~1)



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NB: Extrapolated to full phase space

#### **Cluster model fit results**

Cluster

size

p+p

Cluster

width

K <sup>III<∞</sup>

<sub>∞></sub>μI<∞

1.5

0.5

0

6

4

2

Multiplicity of the clusters is large (up to 6 charged particles - more than for known resonances)

Cluster width exceeds that for isotropic decay at rest (~1)

Cluster sizes and width very similar at the same centrality, defined as the same fraction of cross section.

The shape of the interaction area seems to even determine the properties at hadronization?



Cu+Cu

Au+Au

AMPT

#### Elliptic flow measurement in PHOBOS 10

- Reaction-plane / Sub-event technique
  - Correlate reaction plane determined from azimuthal pattern of hits in one part of the detector with information from other parts a of the detector



## Elliptic flow and collision geometry



Geometry should cancel out in the  $v_2/\epsilon$  ratio





## Elliptic flow and collision geometry 12



# No scaling between Cu+Cu and Au+Au using the standard eccentricity definition

PHOBOS, Au+Au, 200,130,62.4+19.6 GeV: PRL 94 122303 (2005) PHOBOS ,Cu+Cu, 200+62.4 GeV: PRL 98 242302 (2007) PHOBOS, Cu+Cu, 22.4 GeV: prel. QM06 STAR+NA49+E877, PRC 66 034904 (2002) (data taken with no adjustments)



#### Study non-flow contribution via eta gaps 13



The large  $\eta$  separation between the subevents and the signal region suppresses the non-flow contribution in track-based (hit-based) method.

#### Participant eccentricity



Introduced at QM05, PHOBOS, PRL 98 242302 (2007)

## Elliptic flow and collision geometry 15



# Scaling between Cu+Cu and Au+Au using participant eccentricity definition

PHOBOS, Au+Au, 200,130,62.4+19.6 GeV: PRL 94 122303 (2005) PHOBOS ,Cu+Cu, 200+62.4 GeV: PRL 98 242302 (2007) PHOBOS, Cu+Cu, 22.4 GeV: prel. QM06 STAR+NA49+E877, PRC 66 034904 (2002) (data taken with no adjustments)



#### Eccentricity scaling is global



Unity of geometry, system, energy, transverse momentum and pseudorapidity for the same  $N_{part}$  (~area density)

## Robustness of eccentricity definition 17



#### Baseline parameters:

- Nucleon-nucleon cross section: σ<sub>NN</sub>=42mb
- Skin depth: a=0.535fm
- Wood-saxon radius: R<sub>A</sub>=6.38fm
- Inter-nucleon separation distance: d=0.4fm

Robust definition wrt variation of Glauber parameters and to varying assumptions about matter production (the latter not shown here, see extra slides)

## Expected relative flow fluctuations 18



If initial state fluctuations are present, expect large relative flow fluctuations:

$$rac{\sigma_{_{\mathbf{V}_2}}}{\langle \mathbf{V}_2 
angle} \sim rac{\sigma_{\epsilon_{_{\mathrm{part}}}}}{\langle \epsilon_{_{\mathrm{part}}} 
angle}$$

PHOBOS, nucl-ex/0608025

## Measuring elliptic flow fluctuations 19





Shown at QM06 as flow fluctuations, however non-flow contribution (included in sys.error) was underestimated. Now interprete as total  $v_2$  fluctuations.

#### Measure non-flow contribution

PHOBOS uses data driven analysis to measure the contribution of non-flow

- Flow is a function of  $\eta$  and correlates particles at all  $\Delta\eta$
- Non-flow ( $\delta$ ) is dominated by short range correlations (small  $\Delta \eta$ )
- Study correlations at different  $\Delta \eta$   $v_2^2(\eta_1, \eta_2) \equiv \langle \cos(2\Delta \phi) \rangle(\eta_1, \eta_2)$  $= v_2(\eta_1) * v_2(\eta_2) + \delta(\eta_1, \eta_2)$

- Assume non-flow to be zero for  $\Delta \eta > 2$
- Fit  $v_2^2(\eta_1, \eta_2) = v_2^{\text{fit}}(\eta_1) * v_2^{\text{fit}}(\eta_2)$ ,  $|\eta_2 \eta_1| > 2$

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- Subtract fit results at all  $(\eta_1, \eta_2)$
- Integrate over particle pairs to obtain  $\delta/v_2^2$
- Numerically relate  $\delta/v_2^2$  and  $\sigma_{v_2}/\langle v_2 \rangle$  to obtain  $\sigma_{\rm flow}/\langle v_2 \rangle$



PHOBOS, PRC 81 034915 (2010)

## Variation of the fit region



Non-flow ratio as a function of  $\Delta \eta$  cut used to define the fit region.

Red-point is baseline for analysis, while black points are used for systematic error Saturation is very encouraging, however does not rule out contributions with very little  $\Delta\eta$  dependence.

## Variation of non-flow strength in fit region 23



Assume non-flow in fit region to be m times non-flow in p+p (rather than 0)  $v_2^2(\eta_1,\eta_2) - m \delta_{MC}^{HIJING} = v_2^{fit}(\eta_1) * v_2^{fit}(\eta_2) |\eta_2 - \eta_1| > 2$ 

#### Measured relative flow fluctuations 24



Initial state fluctuations if indeed present seem not to be significantly enhanced in later stages of the collision.

Short-range ( $\Delta\eta$ <2) non-flow contribution are removed

PHOBOS, PRC 81 034915 (2010)

## Which moment of $v_2$ is measured? 25



For PHOBOS standard event-plane method  $V_2 \{EP\} = \sqrt{\langle V_2^2 \rangle}$ 

(For the observed fluctuations this implies up to about 10% difference)

PHOBOS+Heinz, PRC 77 014906 (2008)

#### Correction for non-flow and fluctuations 26



Derive analytic correction for non-flow and fluctuations in leading order of  $\delta$  and  $\sigma_{v_2}^2$ 

$$\mathbf{v}_{2}\{\mathbf{2}\}^{2} = \langle \mathbf{v}_{2} \rangle^{2} + \sigma_{\mathbf{v}_{2}}^{2} + \delta$$

$$v{4}^{2} = \langle v \rangle^{2} - \sigma_{v_{2}}^{2}$$
$$v{subEP}^{2} = \langle v \rangle^{2} + (1 - f(R))\sigma_{v_{2}}^{2} + (1 - 2f(R))\delta_{v_{2}}^{2}$$

Differences between methods proportional to

$$\sigma_{\rm tot} = \delta + 2 \sigma_{\rm v_2}^2$$

Need additional assumption or information to separate between non-flow and fluctuations

Ollitrault, Poskanzer, Voloshin PRC 80 80 014904 (2009)

#### Correction for non-flow and fluctuations 27



Corrected mean values agree in participant frame. Reduces errors on  $v_2$  measurements by about 20%.

Eccentricity values are calculated for standard Glauber and a mix of 30:70 CGC (not shown)

Ollitrault, Poskanzer, Voloshin PRC 80 80 014904 (2009)

#### Measured relative flow fluctuations 28



Results based on analytic model tuned to STAR data applied to total measured fluctuations are consistent with PHOBOS data.

#### **Correlations wrt trigger particle**



NB: PYTHIA agrees with STAR at mid-rapidity for a similar set of  $p_T$  cuts

#### Ridge extent in $\Delta \eta$ (near-side)



In 0-30% most central Au+Au, there is a relatively flat correlated yield of about 0.25 particles per trigger particle (per unit  $\eta$ )

#### Projected correlation along $\Delta \phi$



PHOBOS, PRL 104 062301 (2010)



## Summary

- Strong short-range correlations are observed in A+A collisions. Large sizes of clusters cannot be attributed to low mass resonances.
  - Cluster size and width scales with the fractional cross section
- Understanding of flow, non-flow correlations, flow and eccentricity fluctuations has converged
  - Short-range non-flow correlations contribute about ~10% (absolute) to  $v_2$  fluctuations measurement

See next slides
– Remaining caveat is role of long-range non-flow contribution

- Initial state eccentricity fluctuations (if present) are consistent with the data, but do not leave much room for increase of fluctuations in later stages of the collision evolution
- Near-side correlations of associated particles with high  $p_T>2.5$  GeV/c particle extend 4 units in pseudo-rapidity and diminish for a system with  $N_{part}$ ~80.

#### Correlations at large $\Delta \eta$ 34



Long range correlations are well described by 3 Fourier components

Alver, Roland, arXiv:1003.0194 [nucl-th]

#### Flow vs non-flow

Standard picture:

- Flow = global ("collective")
  - Second Fourier coefficient
- Non-flow = local ("clusters")
  - All Fourier coefficients

Why is Second Fourier special?

- It is a large effect
- It is present at large  $\Delta \eta$
- It is a function of  $\boldsymbol{\eta}$
- ν<sub>2</sub>/ε, ν<sub>2</sub>(p<sub>T</sub>), ν<sub>2</sub>(RP), ν<sub>2</sub>{4}, fluctuations, etc., make "sense"



#### **Closer look at "non-flow"**

Remove first and second Fourier contribution and suppress short-range peak ( $|\Delta\eta| < 1$ )

Is Third Fourier special?

- It is a large effect
- It is there at large  $\Delta \eta$
- Can it be linked to initial state?
- Is it a function of  $\eta$  (?)
- Measure centrality +  $p_T$  dependence, 3 particle correlations, non-flow, etc.



Ridge and broad away side: Even without trigger particle and at large  $\Delta \eta$ 

#### Participant triangularity



Generalize from participant eccentricity to participant triangularity



## **Triangular flow**



#### **Triangular flow in AMPT**



Participant triangularity leads to triangular flow in AMPT

Alver, Roland, arXiv:1003.0194 [nucl-th]



The ratio of triangular to elliptic flow qualitatively agrees in data and AMPT

0

(a)

300

200

N<sub>part</sub>

STAR arXiv:0806.0513 PHOBOS PRC 81, 024904 (2010) PHOBOS PRL 104, 06230 (2010)

100

0

Alver, Roland, arXiv:1003.0194 [nucl-th]

200

N<sub>part</sub>

100

## Summary/Outlook

- Triangular flow (caused by initial state fluctuations) is a natural explanation for the ridge effects.
  - Need to (experimentally) characterize its properties
    - Centrality and  $\eta$  (and  $p_{_{T}})$  dependence
    - Understand non-flow contribution
- If collective property, then it must be treated as background to all our two (and three) particle correlation measurements, ie taken out as we do for second Fourier component
- What about higher moments? Yes, all moments are there in the initial state, but the question is: Are (or how often are) they dominating the initial pressure gradients
- Theory side is already working on establishing the connection between hydro and triangularity

#### Extra

#### Triangular flow in hydro



Triangular flow may be a new handle on the initial geometry and the hydrodynamic expansion of the medium

Luzum, Ollitrault (work in progress)

#### **Generalized** eccentricity



Some work in progress figures

#### **Example for "Pentagrularity"**



Some work in progress figures

#### **Eccentricity and triangularity**



Some work in progress figures

#### **Cluster model**

Possible source for correlations: Production of intermediate objects which decay into particles





#### **Centrality** determination

- Makeup of nuclei
  - Made up of nucleons drawn from Wood-Saxon distribution
  - Separate by b (with dN/db~b)
- Collision of nuclei
  - Assume: Nucleons travel along z on straight-line paths and interact when their centers are within  $\sqrt{\sigma_{inel}^{NN}}/\pi$
  - #Participants is number of nucleons that interact at least once (N<sub>part</sub>~A)
  - #NN-collisions is total number of collisions (N<sub>coll</sub>~A<sup>4/3</sup>)
- Relate to data via Glauber MC based detector simulations



PHOBOS, NPA 757 28 (2005)

## Assumptions of particle production



#### Flow methods

Two-particle cumulant

$$v{2}=\sqrt{\langle \cos(\phi_1-\phi_2)\rangle}$$

Measures:

$$\mathbf{v}\{\mathbf{2}\}^2 = \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle^2 + \sigma_{\mathbf{v}_2}^2 + \delta$$
$$\mathbf{v} \gg \mathbf{1}/\sqrt{\mathsf{M}}$$

Four-particle cumulant V $v{4}=(2\langle \cos(\phi_1-\phi_2)\rangle^2-\langle \cos(\phi_1+\phi_2-\phi_3-\phi_4)\rangle)^{1/4}$  V

Measures:  $v{4}^2 = \langle v \rangle^2 - \sigma_{v_2}^2$  $v \gg 1/M^{3/4}$ 

$$v\{subEP\} = \frac{\langle cos(\phi - \psi_A) \rangle}{R}$$
$$R = \sqrt{\langle cos(\psi_A - \psi_B) \rangle}$$

Measures:  $v\{subEP\}^2 = \langle v \rangle^2 + (1 - f(R))\sigma_{v_2}^2 + (1 - 2f(R))\delta$ 

> Ollitrault, Poskanzer, Voloshin PRC 80 80 014904 (2009)

NB: For simplicity, n (as index and in cos terms) dropped

## Challenges of event-by-event v<sub>2</sub><sup>obs</sup>

- PHOBOS Multiplicity Array
  - -5.4<η<5.4 coverage</li>
  - Holes and granularity differences
- Usage of all available information in event to determine event-by-event a single value for v<sup>obs</sup><sub>2</sub>





#### PHOBOS, PRL 104 142301 (2010)

## Deal with acceptance effects

- Use all available hit information
- Probability distribution function for hit positions:

Event-by-event measurement of 
$$v_2^{obs}$$
 Probability distribution function

$$d_{0}$$

n

$$P(\eta,\phi; v_2^{obs},\phi_0) = p(\eta) [1 + 2v_2(\eta) \cos(2\phi - 2\phi_0)]$$
  
Normalization
incl. acceptance
Probability of hit in ( $\phi,\eta$ )

• Maximize the likelihood function to obtain  $v_2^{obs}$  and  $\phi^0$  (event plane angle)

$$L(v_2^{obs}, \phi_0) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} P(\eta_i, \phi_i; v_2^{obs}, \phi_0)$$

#### Event-by-event measurement of $v_2^{obs}$ 52

#### **Event-by-event measurement of v\_2^{obs}**



Analysis is run on triangular and trapezoidal shape. Results are averaged at the end.

#### PHOBOS, PRL 104 142301 (2010)

## **Determining the kernel**

- "Measure" and record the  $v_2^{obs}$ distribution in bins of  $v_2$  and multiplicity (n) from large MC samples
  - 1.5-10<sup>6</sup> HIJING events
  - Modified φ to include triangular or trapezoidal flow
- Fit response function (ideal case)



(J.-Y.Ollitrault, PRD (1992) 46, 226)

Changed to account for detector effects

$$v_2 \rightarrow (An+B)v_2$$
  $\sigma = \frac{C}{\sqrt{n}} + D$   
(suppression) (finite resolution)



PHOBOS, PRL 104 142301 (2010)

## Extracting dynamical fluctuations



Maximum-Likelihood fit  $\rightarrow <v_2 >$  and  $\sigma_{v_2}$ 

#### Elliptic flow fluctuations: $\langle v_2 \rangle$ and $\sigma_{v_2}$ 56



#### Event-by-event v<sub>2</sub> vs published results 57



Very good agreement of the event-by-event measured mean  $v_2$  with the hit- and tracked-based, event averaged, published results

#### Numerical subtraction

$$K(v_{2}^{obs}, v_{2}, n) = BG(v_{2}^{obs}, v_{2}, \sigma_{n}), \quad \sigma_{n} = 1/\sqrt{2n}$$

$$K_{\delta}(v_{2}^{obs}, v_{2}, n) = BG(v_{2}^{obs}, v_{2}, \sqrt{\sigma_{n}^{2} + \sigma_{\delta}^{2}}), \quad \sigma_{n} = 1/\sqrt{2n}, \sigma_{\delta} = \sqrt{\delta/2}$$

$$g(v_{2}^{obs}) = \int K_{\delta}(v_{2}^{obs}, v_{2}, n) f_{flow}(v_{2}) dv_{2}$$

$$g(v_{2}^{obs}) = \int K(v_{2}^{obs}, v_{2}, n) f(v_{2}) dv_{2}$$
Generate g(v\_2^{obs}) using this

Do a fit using this

- Keep results as lookup table
- Results slightly depend on  $\sigma_n$ 
  - Use  $\sigma_n = 0.4, 0.6 \text{ and } 0.8$



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PHOBOS, PRC 81 034915 (2010)

#### Construction of correlated yield

$$\frac{1}{N_{trig}} \frac{d^2 N_{ch}}{d\Delta \phi \ d\Delta \eta} = \mathbf{B}(\Delta \eta) \left\{ \frac{\mathbf{s}(\Delta \phi, \Delta \eta)}{\mathbf{b}(\Delta \phi, \Delta \eta)} - \mathbf{a}(\Delta \eta) \left[ 1 + 2\mathbf{V}(\Delta \eta) \cos(2\Delta \phi) \right] \right\}$$

 $\frac{\mathbf{s}(\Delta\phi,\Delta\eta)}{\mathbf{b}(\Delta\phi,\Delta\eta)}$ 

1 + 2V( $\Delta\eta$ ) cos(2 $\Delta\phi$ )

a(Δη)

**Β(Δη)** 

**Raw correlation**: ratio of per-trigger same event pairs to mixed event pairs

**Elliptic flow**:

 $V(\Delta \eta) = \langle v_2^{\text{trig}} \rangle \langle v_2^{\text{assoc}} \rangle$ 

PHOBOS Phys. Rev. C 72, 051901(R) (2005)

**Scale factor**: accounts for small multiplicity difference between signal and mixed events

**Normalization term:** relates flow-subtracted correlation to correlated yield

#### Subtraction of elliptic flow



## **ZYAM** implementation



- Constant term: bias of the  $p_T$ -triggered signal distribution to higher multiplicity
- Gaussian term:  $\Delta \eta$  correlation structure underneath v<sub>2</sub>-subtracted  $\Delta \phi$  correlations. Width/amplitude/N<sub>part</sub>-dependence same as inclusive correlations

#### **STAR vs PYTHIA**



PHOBOS is limited by staticstics in p+p, therefore take PYTHIA as a reference, which matches the STAR measurement well.



#### **AMPT Model**

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AMPT model: Glauber initial conditions, collective flow



#### AMPT produces similar structures correlation structures

Lin et. al. PRC72, 064901 (2005) Ma et. Al. PLB641 362 (2006)