RHIC: a new regime



7-200 GeV/A Au+Au, d+Au, Cu+Cu 32-500 GeV p+p, ...

STAR





Hard Scattering in p-p Collisions





From Collins, Soper, Sterman Phys. Lett. B438:184-192, 1998



$$\sigma_{AB} = \sum_{ab} \int dx_a dx_b \,\phi_{a/A}(x_a,\mu^2) \,\phi_{b/B}(x_b,\mu^2) \,\hat{\sigma}_{ab} \left(\frac{Q^2}{x_a x_b s},\frac{Q}{\mu},\alpha_s(\mu)\right) \,\left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{Q^P}\right)\right)$$

Factorization: separation of σ into

 Short-distance physics: σ̂
 Long-distance physics: φ's (universal)

Single High-pt Hadron Production



$$E\frac{d^{3}\sigma}{dp^{3}} = \sum_{abc} \int dx_{a} dx_{b} \phi_{a/A}(x_{a},Q^{2},\mu) \phi_{b/B}(x_{a},Q^{2},\mu)$$
$$\times \frac{D_{\pi^{0}/c}(z,Q^{2},\mu)}{z\pi} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{dt}$$

• NLO calculation agrees well with PHENIX π^0 spectrum (!?)

- BUT, FF dependence ?
- Lore: KKP better for gluons

Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 241803 (2003



Hard Photon Production in pQCD

@ LO in pQCD, photon production is simple. Two contributions:

- "partonic" photons: direct from hard scattering
- "Fragmentation" photons from fragmentation of jet(s)



But, @ NLO things are much more complicated

- Distinction between partonic & fragmentation contributions becomes ambiguous.
- In principle, "isolation" cuts possible but matching those cuts with pQCD is difficult (infrared sensitivity). 4

PHENIX Prompt γ: Comparison to pQCD



INCNLO (1.4): NLO pQCD + NLL photon frag. func.

- No K factors, no fudge factors, absolute comparison
- Completely independent calculation.
 - Good control over pQCD prompt photon calculation @ RHIC.

p-p Prompt Photon – Comparison w/ QCD

Aurenche et al., PRD73, 094007(2007)



PHENIX prompt photon spectra consistent
 w/ other collider data (vs x_T) and QCD 6

Jet Quenching: RHIC perspective



Key question: How quarks (and gluons) lose energy in the quark gluon plasma?



One diagram in a calculation of QGP induced radiative energy loss

The early days of jet quenching

PHENIX, Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 241803 (2003)



Geometry, again

 For "partonic" scattering or production processes, rates are determined by T_{AB}

$$T_{AB}(b) = \int dec{r} \ T_A(ec{r}ec{}) \ T_B(ec{b}-ec{r}ec{})$$

- -t-integrated A-A parton luminosity
- Normalized relative to p-p
- If factorization holds, then

$$\frac{dn_{hard}^{AB}}{dp_{\perp}^{2}} = \frac{d\sigma_{hard}^{NN}}{dp_{\perp}^{2}}T_{AB}(b)$$

- Define R_{AA}
 - Degree to which factorization is violated



 ∞

 $T(r_t) = \int dz \, \rho_A^{nucleon}(z, r_t)$

PHENIX: "jet" quenching @ 130, 200 GeV



Limited reach in pT compared to what we are used to in the LHC era.

 Qualitative features of single hadron suppression already established in 2003.
 ⇒In particular, apparent weak p_T variation

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Single/di-hadron suppression w/ control



PHENIX Au+Au π⁰ Spectra



• Control over systematic errors w/ two measurements using different electromagnetic calorimeter

PHENIX Au+Au π⁰ R_{AA}



 Factor of ~ 5 violation of factorization in central Au +Au
 Smooth evolution of high-p_T π⁰

suppression with centrality.

 • constant for p_T > 4 GeV/c (mores)

STAR charged hadron suppression

STAR, PRL 91 (2003) 172302



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Prompt Photon Production



Prompt photons provide an independent control measurement for jet quenching.
 Produced in hard scattering processes
 But, no final-state effects (naively)

Au+Au photon vs hadron R_{AA}



 Prompt photons in Au+Au consistent with TAB scaling of p+p (factorization)
 Important test of understanding of hard processes in A+A.

Photons @ RHIC: more recent



•@RHIC (so far) direct photons measured by subtracting decay photons from π^0 , η decay from total photons.

Photons RAA RHIC: more recent

With improved systematics, extend photon RAA to higher pT
 ⇒Consistent with factorization

 But, expect deviations at high p_T

- -Isospin
- -Nuclear PDFs
- -other

⇒Unable to test experimentally





Single hadron and quenching "theory"



 suggests qhat values >> larger than ones we currently think are appropriate (~ 1

Jet tomography

- How to probe geometry?
 - -Use spatial asymmetry of medium @ non-zero impact parameter
 - Measure orientation
 (ψ) event-by event
- Measure R_{AA} vs $\Delta \phi = \phi - \psi$
- Characterize by amplitude of Δφ modulation:







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Single hadron suppression



Calculations: • Wicks *et al.*, NPA784, 426 • Marquet, Renk, PLB685, 270 • Drees, Feng, Jia, PRC71, 034909 • Jia, Wei, arXiv: 1005.0645

Two calculations: weak, strong coupling
 – N_{part} dependence same for both
 – But v₂ (modulation vs Δφ) prefers strong

Fast forward ... hadron v₂ @ LHC



- Charged hadron v₂(p_T) from ATLAS
 - Compared to PHENIX π^0 results (beware)

⇒Surprising agreement

- Compared to energy loss calculation
 - Reasonable agreement for $p_T > 10$ GeV

⇒Likely contamination of v₂(p_T) from strong elliptic flow in underlying event for lower p_T

PHENIX v₂(p_T)



• PHENIX "strong coupling" result dominated by yield at 6 GeV/c.

⇒ Likely from p_T region contaminated by flow



Single hadron RAA, PID

STAR, PRL 108 (2012) 072302



 Indications that the yield ratios at high p_T are approaching "vacuum" values

-In contrast to earlier results.

⇒But, important to evaluate hadron species composition within jets at low pT

STAR Experiment: "Jet" Observations

proton-proton jet event

Analyze by measuring (azimuthal) angle between pairs of particles



In Au-Au collisions we see one "jet" at a time
 Strong jet quenching
 Enhanced by surface bias



Two-particle correlations



Indirect dijet measurement via dihadron correlations



STAR, Phys. Rev. C82 (2010) 024912

 Through very detailed measurements from STAR and PHENIX we've learned that most of this has little to do with high-p_T physics, though it is very interesting 26

Most differential measurement @ RHIC?





 Detailed, time consuming (~ 4 man-years) analysis. No theoretical comparisons.
 Why?

Theoretical problems (e.g.)



 Gluon emission kernel used in many energy loss calculations (from collinear approximation)

 But application violates approximation
 Collinear approximation not unique
 ⇒ Different versions yield very different results





First step towards jets: γ-hadron



 Measure jet fragmentation using γ-jet events but measuring "jet" via single hadrons

 Compare to measurements from TASSO
 ⇒Good agreement

First step towards jets: γ-hadron (2)



Observe suppression in yield of large z (small ξ) fragments in (central) Au+Au collisions
 – Red curve shows medium-modified MLLA calculations by Borghini and Wiedemann.

PHENIX: Heavy Quark Quenching

- •Measure via semileptonic decays
 - -Single e⁺ + e⁻ spectrum
- 2 methods to estimate (large) backgrounds
 - Direct estimate of backgrounds (cocktail)
 - Data taken with extra converter material
 ⇒Directly measure



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Heavy quark suppression



 Measure heavy quark production via semi-leptonic decays (B+D) to electrons
 See suppression comparable to light mesons
 Unexpected due to mass suppression of radiative contributions, especially for b quark.

Heavy quark suppression



 Heavy quarks provide a valuable test of our understanding of energy loss

 Large mass changes contribution of collisional and radiative energy loss

⇒But RHIC semi-leptonic decay data proved challenging to describe theoretically.

Heavy quark suppression



 Recent calculations by Aichelin et al are able to describe RHIC results

 But only by scaling up the collisional interaction rates by a factor of 1.5-2

RHIC – Where We Stand

- Unequivocal observation of substantial quark/gluon energy loss in plasma.
 - -Significant theoretical uncertainties
 - \Rightarrow Role of collisional energy loss.
 - \Rightarrow Differences in approximations.
 - ⇒Choice of strong coupling constant.
 - ⇒Description of medium

 \Rightarrow ...

 •13 years after start of RHIC operation, we still do not have unique, complete understanding of energy loss physics.
 ⇒Need more complete empirical understanding of quenched jets.