

The Physics Potential of the PHENIX Silicon Trackers

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The PHENIX experiment located at the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) at Brookhaven National Laboratory has completed the upgrading of its tracking abilities with the installation of 2 silicon tracking detectors, a central barrel tracker, the VTX, and a forward tracker, the FVTX. Both detectors are designed to do precision tracking to allow for the separation of the decays of particles containing charm and bottom quarks in heavy ion collisions. These capabilities will allow for improved measurements of the nucleon spin-structure and heavy quark propagation in the hot dense medium created in heavy ion collisions at RHIC. In this talk, I will give an overview and performance update, and discuss the physics potential of the PHENIX silicon trackers.