# Creating droplets of the early universe in the laboratory with nuclear collisions

#### Ron Belmont University of North Carolina at Greensboro

#### East Carolina University Physics Colloquium 15 March 2024



- Introduction and motivation
- Some basics of high energy nuclear physics ("heavy ion physics")
- Small systems
- A brief look towards the future...

# The history of the universe



- The early universe (few microseconds) was a quark-gluon plasma (QGP)
- The QGP is a system of deconfined quarks and gluons
- We can recreate the QGP in the lab in collisions of nuclei at relativistic energies
- Goal of high energy nuclear physics: create, identify, and study the QGP

Key questions that are broadly applicable in physics

- At what scale do emergent phenomena become measureable?
   —E.g. how small of a system can be described by hydrodynamics?
- How do emergent phenomena arise?
  - -E.g. how do we get from the QCD Lagrangian to relativistic hydrodynamics?
- How do we understand collective motion of strongly coupled systems?
   —QGP, superconductors, topological materials, degenerate fermi gases, etc.

Cosmology and astrophysics

- Early universe was a QGP
- Light nucleus formation in collisions may be related to big bang nucleosynthesis
- Lots of cross-talk between neutron star astrophysics and high energy nuclear physics
  - -Connection between neutron star equation of state and QGP equation of state
  - -Neutron star mergers: truly gigantic nuclear collisions
  - -Quark stars: stars with QGP at center

Particle physics and fundamental symmetries

- High energy nuclear collisions can be used to search for P- and CP-violation in QCD —Distinct from but related to searches for neutron EDM
- Many applications of string theory (especially AdS/CFT) in theoretical calculations —E.g. the KSS-bound for the viscosity to entropy density ratio of the QGP

# Typical sizes and scales for heavy ion physics

 $\bullet$  Mass of proton = 938.3 MeV = 1.007 amu =  $1.673 \times 10^{-27} \mbox{ kg}$ 

• Typical energy = 1 GeV = 
$$1.602 \times 10^{-10}$$
 J

• Typical momentum = 1 GeV =  $5.344 \times 10^{-19}$  kg m/s

• Typical size = 1 fm = 
$$10^{-15}$$
 m

• Typical time = 1 fm =  $3.336 \times 10^{-24}$  s

Exact calculations are complex, but my General Physics and Stat Mech students can make good estimates of certain quantities

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• Hottest temperature in the known universe: about  $10^5$  times hotter than typical astrophysical temperatures (e.g. center of sun  $\sim 10^7$  K)

$$T\sim rac{\Lambda_{ extsf{QCD}}}{k_B}=200\,\, extsf{MeV}=2.3 imes 10^{12}\,\, extsf{K}$$

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• Largest magnetic field in known universe: about 10<sup>19</sup> to 10<sup>21</sup> times Earth's magnetic field; 10<sup>3</sup> to 10<sup>5</sup> times larger than the field of magnetars

$$B \sim rac{\gamma c \mu_0 e}{4 \pi r^2} = 4.8 imes 10^{14} \ {
m T} \ ({
m RHIC}), \ 1.4 imes 10^{16} \ {
m T} \ ({
m LHC})$$

# QCD as explained by approximate analogy to QED

	QCD		QED
coupling	color charge	$\leftrightarrow$	electric charge
matter fermions	quarks	$\leftrightarrow$	electrons
exchange bosons	gluons	$\leftrightarrow$	photons
(stable) bound states	nucleons	$\leftrightarrow$	atoms
compound states	nuclei	$\leftrightarrow$	molecules

- One kind of electric charge, three kinds of color charge
- Photons do not have electric charge, gluons do have color charge
- Only one photon, eight different gluons

# QCD bound states



- Color-charged particles (quarks and gluons) are generically called **partons**
- QCD bound states are generically called hadrons, divided into baryons and mesons
- All observables must be in color singlet state—no partons can be found in isolation in nature



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# Phases of QCD matter

F. Karsch, Lect. Notes Phys. 583, 209-249 (2002)

- Lattice QCD predicts a phase transition from nuclear matter to QGP
- $\bullet$  Large increase energy density at  $T_C\approx 155$  MeV due to large increase in number of degrees of freedom



$$arepsilon_{SB}=grac{\pi^2}{30}T^4$$

- Below T<sub>C</sub>: g = 3
   3 pions with spin 0
- Above T<sub>C</sub>: g = 37
  8 gluons with spin 1,
  2 (anti)quarks with spin 1/2

# Phases of QCD matter

F. Karsch, Lect. Notes Phys. 583, 209-249 (2002)



- The confining part of gets weaker with increasing temperature
- $\bullet\,$  More or less gone at the critical temperature (  $T_C\approx 155\,\,\text{MeV})$

Basics of high energy nuclear collisions

# The Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider



R. Belmont, UNCG EC

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# The Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider

- RHIC is the only polarized proton collider in the world (Cold QCD)
- RHIC is one of two heavy ion colliders in the world (Hot QCD)

Collision Species	Collision Energies (GeV)
$p\uparrow + p\uparrow$	510, 500, 200, 62.4
p+Al	200
p+Au	200
d+Au	200, 62.4, 39, 19.6
<sup>3</sup> He+Au	200
Cu+Cu	200, 62.4, 22.5
Cu+Au	200
Ru+Ru	200
Zr+Zr	200
Au+Au	200, 130, 62.4, 56, 39, 27, 19.6, 15, 11.5, 7.7, 5,
U+U	193

And more to come!

# Centrality



Central collisions: more overlap means more participating nucleons  $(N_{part})$ —Larger volume, longer lifetime

Peripheral collisions: less overlap means fewer participating nucleons —Smaller volume, shorter lifetime



Based on developments in hydro theory over the last few years, we might replace "thermalization" with "hydrodynamization"

# Azimuthal anisotropy measurements



• Hydrodynamics translates initial shape (including fluctuations) into final state distribution

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PHOBOS Plenary, Quark Matter 2005 (see also Phys.Rev.C 77, 014906 (2008))



#### A nucleus isn't just a sphere

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#### Standard Eccentricity

A nucleus isn't just a sphere

PHOBOS Plenary, Quark Matter 2005 (see also Phys.Rev.C 77, 014906 (2008))



A nucleus isn't just a sphere

#### R. Andrade et al, Eur. Phys. J. A 29, 23-26 (2006)

# NeXSPheRIO results on elliptic flow at RHIC and connection with thermalization

 $\rm R.Andrade^1, \, \underline{F.Grassi}^1, \, Y.Hama^1, \, T.Kodama^2, \, O.Socolowski \, Jr.^3, \, and \, B.Tavares^2$ 

- <sup>1</sup> Instituto de Física, USP, C. P. 66318, 05315-970 São Paulo-SP, Brazil
- <sup>2</sup> Instituto de Física, UFRJ,
- C. P. 68528, 21945-970 Rio de Janeiro-RJ , Brazil
- $^{3}$  CTA/ITA,

Praça Marechal Eduardo Gomes 50, CEP 12228-900 São José dos Campos-SP, Brazil

Received 1 January 2004



#### Worth noting that lumpy initial conditions were predicted some time in 2003



# Data and theory for $v_n$

Gale et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 012302 (2013)



 $\frac{dN}{d\varphi} \propto 2v_1 \cos \varphi + 2v_2 \cos 2\varphi + 2v_3 \cos 3\varphi + 2v_4 \cos 4\varphi + 2v_5 \cos 5\varphi$ 

# Fluctuations in large systems

PHOBOS, Phys. Rev. C 81, 034915 (2010)



Fluctuations should also be translated, so measure  $\sigma_{v_2}/\langle v_2 \rangle$ 

 $|\eta| < 1$ 

Generally good agreement with models of initial geometry

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PHENIX (RB), Phys. Rev. C 99, 024903 (2019)



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 $1 < |\eta| < 3$ 

Central: breakdown of small-variance limit (assumed in data and solid line)

Peripheral: non-linearity in hydro response (e.g. J. Noronha-Hostler et al Phys. Rev. C 93, 014909 (2016))

# Geometry engineering and nuclear structure

STAR, Phys. Rev. C 105, 014901 (2022)



Exquisite new data from STAR shows percent-level sensitivity to nuclear structure

J. Jia, Phys. Rev. C 105, 044905 (2022) proposes to use flow and nuclear structure to inform each other

Small systems

# A brief history of heavy ion physics

- 1980s and 1990s—AGS and SPS... QGP at SPS!
- Early 2000s—QGP at RHIC! No QGP at SPS. d+Au as control.
- Mid-late 2000s—Detailed, quantitative studies of strongly coupled QGP. d+Au as control.
- 2010—Ridge in high multiplicity p+p (LHC)! Probably CGC!
- Early 2010s—QGP in p+Pb!
- Early 2010s—QGP in d+Au!
- Mid 2010s to present—QGP almost everywhere

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"Twenty years ago, the challenge in heavy ion physics was to find the QGP. Now, the challenge is to not find it." —Jürgen Schukraft, QM17

# The ridge is a signature of flow



Extended structure away from near-side jet peak interpreted as collective effect due to presence of QGP

- Discovered by STAR in Au+Au in 2004 (PRC 73, 064907 (2006) and PRL 95, 152301 (2005))
- Realized by STAR to be flow in 2009 (PRL 105, 022301 (2010))
- First found in small systems by CMS (JHEP 1009, 091 (2010) and PLB 718, 795 (2013))
## First results at RHIC



#### PHENIX, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 212301 (2013)



Right around the same time as the p+Pb ridge:
—First paper measuring v<sub>2</sub> in d+Au at RHIC
—Measurement of baryon enhancement in d+Au (RB PhD thesis)

# PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

## Exploiting Intrinsic Triangular Geometry in Relativistic $^{3}\mathrm{He}+\mathrm{Au}$ Collisions to Disentangle Medium Properties

J. L. Nagle, A. Adare, S. Beckman, T. Koblesky, J. Orjuela Koop, D. McGlinchey, P. Romatschke, J. Carlson, J. E. Lynn, and M. McCumber Phys. Rev. Lett. **113**, 112301 – Published 12 September 2014

- Collective motion translates initial geometry into final state distributions
- To determine whether small systems exhibit collectivity, we can adjust the geometry and compare across systems
- We can also test predictions of hydrodynamics with a QGP phase

Press

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## nature physics

Letter | Published: 10 December 2018

# Creation of quark-gluon plasma droplets with three distinct geometries

**PHENIX Collaboration** 

Nature Physics 15, 214–220(2019) | Cite this article

nature MARCH 1000 MOL 15 MO. CS The geometry of a quark-gluon plasma REACK HOLES Analogue horizone TOPOLOGICAL INSULATORS A local marker Energy of preformed pairs



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v<sub>2</sub> and v<sub>3</sub> ordering matches ε<sub>2</sub> and ε<sub>3</sub> ordering in all three systems
—Collective motion of system translates the initial geometry into the final state

PHENIX (RB), Nat. Phys. 15, 214-220 (2019)



v<sub>2</sub> and v<sub>3</sub> vs p<sub>T</sub> predicted or described very well by hydrodynamics in all three systems
 —All predicted (except v<sub>2</sub> in d+Au) in J.L. Nagle et al, PRL 113, 112301 (2014)
 —v<sub>3</sub> in p+Au and d+Au predicted in C. Shen et al, PRC 95, 014906 (2017)

#### Can initial state effects explain the data?



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#### Initial state effects cannot explain the data

PHENIX (RB), Nat. Phys. 15, 214-220 (2019)



 Initial state effects (CGC/Glasma) alone do not describe the data —M. Mace et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 039901 (Erratum) (2019) B. Schenke et al, Phys. Lett. B 803, 135322 (2020)



- Initial state effects important for theory, but make little contribution for central collisions
- Overestimation of data assumed to be related to fluid choice parameters and/or longitudinal dynamics

#### How important are initial state effects?

B. Schenke et al, Phys. Lett. B 803, 135322 (2020)



- For central p+Au, modest correlation between  $\varepsilon_p$  and  $v_2$
- For central d+Au and <sup>3</sup>He+Au, no correlation between  $\varepsilon_p$  and  $v_2$

#### How important are initial state effects?

B. Schenke et al, Phys. Rev. D 105, 094023 (2022)



• The CGC/Glasma correlations appear to be too narrow in (pseudo)rapidity to have any significant impact on the data

—The PHENIX data are measured with three detectors spanning  $-3.9 < \eta < +0.35$ 

• We'll talk more about the importance of the pseudorapidity acceptance of experiments soon

## Comparisons with STAR



#### STAR, Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 242301 (2023)

Good agreement between STAR and PHENIX for  $\ensuremath{\textit{v}}_2$ 

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#### STAR, Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 242301 (2023)

Good agreement between STAR and PHENIX for  $\ensuremath{\textit{v}}_2$ 

Large difference between STAR and PHENIX for  $v_3$  in p+Au and d+Au

Large subnucleonic fluctuations can overwhelm the intrinsic geometry in some models, leading to similar  $\varepsilon_3$  for all systems

## PHENIX data update

#### PHENIX (RB), Phys. Rev. C 105, 024901 (2022)



• PHENIX has completed a new analysis confirming the results published in Nature Physics

- All new analysis using two-particle correlations with event mixing instead of event plane method —Completely new and separate code base
  - -Very different sensitivity to key experimental effects (beam position, detector alignment)

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  - -Very different sensitivity to key experimental effects (beam position, detector alignment)
- It's essential to understand the two experiments have very different acceptance in pseudorapidity —STAR-PHENIX difference actually reveals interesting physics

## STAR and PHENIX detector comparison



- The PHENIX Nature Physics paper uses the BBCS-FVTXS-CNT detector combination —This is very different from the STAR analysis (TPC only)
- We can try to use FVTXS-CNT-FVTXN detector combination to better match STAR —Closer, and "balanced" between forward and backward, *but still different*

PHENIX (RB), Phys. Rev. C 105, 024901 (2022)



PHENIX (RB), Phys. Rev. C 105, 024901 (2022)



• Good agreement with STAR for  $v_2$ 

-Similar physics for the two different pseudorapidity acceptances

PHENIX (RB), Phys. Rev. C 105, 024901 (2022)



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-Similar physics for the two different pseudorapidity acceptances

- Strikingly different results for  $v_3$ 
  - -Rather different physics for the two different pseudorapidity acceptances
  - —Longitudinal effects apparently much stronger for  $v_3$  than  $v_2$

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J.L. Nagle et al (RB), Phys. Rev. C 105, 024906 (2022)



- $dN_{ch}/d\eta$  from AMPT,  $v_3(\eta)$  from (super)SONIC
- The likely much stronger pseudorapidity dependence of  $v_3$  compared to  $v_2$  is an essential ingredient in understanding different measurements



• Flow vectors become decorrelated with increasing pseudorapidity separation —The effect is much stronger for  $v_3$  than for  $v_2$ 

• The hierarchy of the measured  $v_n$  depends on that of the geometry and decorrelations —Interesting that the decorrelation hierarchy matches that of the geometry...

#### W. Zhao et al, Phys. Rev. C 107, 014904 (2023)



• Flow decorrelations lead to larger  $v_3$  for STAR, explaining  $\sim$ 50% of the difference between the experiments in this particular model

B. Schenke et al, Phys. Rev. D 105, 094023 (2022)



- Intrinsic geometry likely persists over all pseudorapidity ranges
- Fluctuations in the geometry vary as a function of rapidity (*p* from a *p*+Pb collision shown)
- PHENIX data follow intrinsic geometry, STAR data follow subnucleonic fluctuations

- Long established role of geometry and hydrodynamics in large systems
- Role of geometry and hydrodynamics in small systems also now established
- Understanding the pseudorapidity dependence is an essential part of understanding the overall dynamics
  - -Longitudinal decorrelation leads to major differences between measurements
  - -The intrinsic geometry likely persists over long ranges in pseudorapidity
  - --Fluctuations in the geometry vary over pseudorapidity
- Initial state effects, though important from a theoretical standpoint, have minimal impact on the measured  $v_n$

-This is in part due to their rather small range in pseudorapidity

• We've learned a lot from 2+1D hydro, but we have ever-increasing need for 3+1D hydro

- Unfortunately, UNCG has decided there is no future
  - -Astronomy courses discontinued starting Fall 2024
  - -Program and department to be dissolved by the end of Spring 2029 (or sooner)



R. Belmont, UNCG ECU Colloquium, 15 March 2024 - Slide 49

- Academic Portfolio Review is a tool—like any tool it is not inherently good or bad; it can be used for good or bad aims
- The UNCG administration has used APR to make destructive curriculum changes (and violated numerous principles of shared governance in the course of doing so)
- No explanations or justifications have been given for any program discontinuations, including a strong Anthropology department and a thriving Computational Math PhD program
- Despite numerous claims of budget and enrollment issues, no financial analysis justifying the cuts has been given, and program discontinuations often lead to further enrollment decline
- The Math & Stats department has produced a detailed review, indicating huge losses
- Astronomy courses bring in \$1 million in revenue per academic year, which fully covers the cost of our department; they also fulfill key general education requirements for non-science majors, and there isn't infinite capacity to just shift those students around

- There's bad news and good news
  - Academic Portfolio Review is going to become a permanent fixture in the UNC system, and it will not be used for good
  - But you-we-can fight back when they try to hurt our universities
  - Donors have the biggest impact; votes of no confidence and negative press coverage can be very helpful
- Some friendly suggestions for you to consider
  - Read local news, especially alts, and become familiar certain reporters and their work—they can be great allies
  - Pay careful attention to administrative actions, especially regarding faculty contracts and curriculum changes; take and keep notes for yourself
  - Join your local AAUP chapter, it's cheap (\$20/yr at UNCG), it's fun, it's people you know and care about

Extra material

Understanding the non-flow contributions

#### Understanding the nonflow contribution: $v_2$ in p+Au as a case study



- The large difference between the PHENIX published and STAR preliminary in this case is nonflow
- PHENIX suppresses nonflow via kinematic selection

#### Understanding the nonflow contribution: $v_2$ in p+Au as a case study



- The large difference between the PHENIX published and STAR preliminary in this case is nonflow
- PHENIX suppresses nonflow via kinematic selection
- STAR applies non-flow subtraction procedure
- One needs to be careful about the risk of over-subtraction methods—S. Lim, et al (RB), Phys. Rev. C 100, 024908 (2019)

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- STAR applies non-flow subtraction procedure
- Considerable improvement in nonflow subtraction in STAR 2019 preliminary, reasonable agreement with PHENIX

 To enable additional study, the new PHENIX (RB) publication (arXiv:2017.06634, sub'd to PRC) includes the complete set of Δφ correlations and extracted coefficients c<sub>1</sub>, c<sub>2</sub>, c<sub>3</sub>, c<sub>4</sub>

# Checking Non-Flow Assumptions and Results via PHENIX Published Correlations in p+p, p+Au, d+Au, $^{3}He+Au$ at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$

J.L. Nagle,<sup>1</sup> R. Belmont,<sup>2</sup> S.H. Lim,<sup>3</sup> and B. Seidlitz<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado 80309, USA
<sup>2</sup> University of North Carolina, Greensboro, North Carolina 27413, USA
<sup>3</sup> Pusan National University, Busan, 46241, South Korea
(Dated: July 16, 2021)

https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.07287

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- A new paper uses these data tables to explore non-flow subtraction of these data as well as to assess the degree of (non-)closure of non-flow subtraction methods



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- That the three different combinations all line up after non-flow subtraction seems to lend some credence thereto, but one must be careful...



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J.L. Nagle et al (RB), arXiv:2107.07287 (submitted to PRC)



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J.L. Nagle et al (RB), arXiv:2107.07287 (submitted to PRC)



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• Closure is considerably violated in AMPT and PYTHIA/Angantyr



- Closure is considerably violated in AMPT and PYTHIA/Angantyr
- Since AMPT has too much non-flow and PYTHIA doesn't have any flow, the degree of overcorrection in real data is likely not as bad as it is with these generators

J.L. Nagle et al (RB), arXiv:2107.07287 (submitted to PRC)



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 The ratio is expected to be lower for lower collision energies in almost all physics scenarios

 Lower energy, shorter lifetime, more damping of higher harmonics



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- The ratio is expected to be lower for lower collision energies in almost all physics scenarios —Lower energy, shorter lifetime, more damping of higher harmonics
- The STAR  $v_3/v_2$  is very similar to the non-flow corrected PHENIX ratio



- Since the template method over-corrects the raw BBCS-FVTXS-CNT  $v_3$ , the truth is likely in between
- A firm understanding of this could shed a lot of light on various physics scenarios...

Extremely small systems



## Extremely small systems in AMPT

J.L. Nagle et al, Phys. Rev. C 97, 024909 (2018)



• A single color string  $(e^++e^- \text{ collisions})$  shows no sign of collectivity

• Two color strings shows collectivity —In AMPT, p+p has two strings and  $p/d/^{3}$ He+Au have more

## Extremely small systems at LEP

Badea et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 212002 (2019)



No apparent collectivity in ALEPH  $e^++e^-$  data

- Brought up as a possibility in e.g. P. Romatschke, EPJC 77, 21 (2017)
- Not expected in parton escape picture (see previous slide)
- Not expected (below  $\sqrt{s} \approx 7$  TeV) in e.g. P. Castorina et al, EPJA 57, 111 (2021)

## Extremely small systems at HERA and the EIC

Abt et al, JHEP 04, 070 (2020)



"The correlations observed here do not indicate the kind of collective behaviour recently observed at the highest RHIC and LHC energies in high-multiplicity hadronic collisions."

No collectivity in e+p collisions at HERA  $\rightarrow$ Not likely to find collectivity in e+p collisions at EIC But what about e+A collisions?

Considerable interest in this topic within EIC community (see talks by R. Milner, E. Ferreiro, others...)

## Extremely small systems at the LHC



- Observation of collectivity in photonuclear collisions
- Collective picture: photon fluctuates into a vector meson (e.g.  $\rho$ ), not so different from p+Pb
- Initial state picture: CGC calculation in good agreement, further investigation needed

Pseudorapidity dependence in small systems as a prelude to the geometry scan

PHENIX (RB), Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 222301 (2018)



p+Al, p+Au, d+Au, <sup>3</sup>He+Au

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Good agreement with 3D hydro (P. Bozek et al, Phys. Lett. B 739, 308 (2014))

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- $dN_{ch}/d\eta$  from AMPT,  $v_3(\eta)$  from (super)SONIC
- The likely much stronger rapidity dependence of  $v_3$  compared to  $v_2$  is an essential ingredient in understanding different measurements

Small systems geometry scan
#### Small systems geometry scan



- Identified particle  $v_2$  vs  $p_T$  in p+Au, d+Au, and <sup>3</sup>He+Au
  - —Low  $p_T$  mass ordering well-described by hydro
  - -Hydro doesn't have enough splitting at mid- $p_T$  (hadronization by Cooper-Frye)

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  - —Hydro doesn't have enough splitting at mid- $p_T$  (hadronization by Cooper-Frye)
- AMPT gets mid- $p_T$  separation because of the more realistic hadronization (coalescence)

#### How important are initial state effects?



- For central p+Au, modest correlation between  $\varepsilon_p$  and  $v_2$  but fairly strong correlation between  $\psi_2^p$  and  $\psi_2^{v_2}$
- For central d+Au and <sup>3</sup>He+Au, no correlation between  $\varepsilon_p$  and  $v_2$ , modest correlation between  $\psi_2^p$  and  $\psi_2^{v_2}$

Event characterization

# Centrality

- b (impact parameter)—separation between the centers of the two nuclei
- N<sub>part</sub>—number of nucleons in the overlap region
- N<sub>coll</sub>—number of nucleon-nucleon collisions

		Au+Au		
Perinheral	Central	0-10%	960.2	325.8
	Central Lower b Higher Npart Higher Ncoll	10-20%	609.5	236.1
		20-40%	300.8	141.5
		40-60%	94.2	61.6
		60-92%	14.8	14.7
		d+Au		
l link en k		0-20%	15.1	15.3
Higher b	Lower b	20-40%	10.2	11.1
Lower Npart	Higher Npart Higher Ncoll	0-100%	7.6	8.5
Lower Ncoll		40-60%	6.6	7.8
		60-88%	3.1	4.3
		p+p	$\equiv 1$	≡ 2

Centrality

 $\langle N_{coll} \rangle$ 

 $\langle N_{part} \rangle$ 

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Multiparticle correlations

Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 062302 (2018)

$$v_2{4} = (-c_2{4})^{1/4}$$

Negative  $c_2$ {4} means real  $v_2$ {4}



Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 062302 (2018)



Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 062302 (2018)



 $c_2$ {4} is positive in p+Au

Can we blame this on nonflow?

Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 062302 (2018)



Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 062302 (2018)

Use of subevents further suppresses nonflow

Positive  $c_2$ {4} in *p*+Au doesn't seem to be related to nonflow



#### Cumulants in p+Au and d+Au at 200 GeV



#### p+p collisions at the LHC

#### Weller & Romatschke, PLB 774, 351 (2017)

superSONIC for p+p,  $\sqrt{s}$ =5.02 TeV, 0-1%



• Hydro does a good job of  $v_n\{2\}...$ 

# p+p collisions at the LHC



- Hydro does a good job of  $v_n\{2\}...$
- ...but hydro cannot even get the correct sign of  $c_2{4}$

Initial eccentricities

#### Initial eccentricities

#### Table compiled by J.L. Nagle

System	Nagle Nucleons w/o NBD fluctuations	Welsh Nucleons w/ NBD fluctuations	Welsh Quarks w/ NBD and Gluon fluctuations	IPGlasma w/ Nucleons t=0	IP-Glasma w/ 3 Quarks t=0
$\epsilon_2 p+Au$	0.23	0.32	0.38	0.10	0.50
$\epsilon_2 d+Au$	0.54	0.48	0.51	0.58	0.73
$\epsilon_2^{3}$ He+Au	0.50	0.50	0.52	0.55	0.64
$\epsilon_3 p+Au$	0.16	0.24	0.30	0.09	0.32
$\epsilon_3 d$ +Au	0.18	0.28	0.31	0.28	0.40
$\epsilon_3$ <sup>3</sup> He+Au	0.28	0.32	0.35	0.34	0.46

• Nagle et al: https://journals.aps.org/prl/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevLett.113.112301

- Welsh et al: https://journals.aps.org/prc/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevC.94.024919
- IP-Glasma run by S. Lim using publicly available code (thanks to B. Schenke)

Small systems beam energy scan

#### Testing hydro by controlling system size and life time



Geometry in d+Au collisions dominated by deuteron shape, thus largely independent of collision energy

Spacetime volume of system in QGP phase decreases with decreasing collision energy

PHENIX (RB), Phys. Rev. C 96, 064905 (2017)



- Hydro theory agrees with higher energies very well, underpredicts lower energies
- Likely need different EOS for lower energies; influence of conserved charges likely more important at lower energies (see e.g. J. Noronha-Hostler et al, 1911.10272, 1911.12454)
- Nonflow likelier to be an issue due to lower multiplicity at lower energies

PHENIX (RB), Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 062302 (2018)



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PHENIX (RB), Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 062302 (2018)



• Multiparticle correlations can be a good indicator of collectivity, but beware caveats

A marquee result of the RHIC program

Major interest in and out of field—174 citations

# Creation of quark-gluon plasma droplets with three distinct geometries

**PHENIX Collaboration** 

Nature Physics 15, 214–220(2019) | Cite this article







v<sub>2</sub> and v<sub>3</sub> ordering matches ε<sub>2</sub> and ε<sub>3</sub> ordering in all three systems
—Collective motion of system translates the initial geometry into the final state

PHENIX (RB), Nat. Phys. 15, 214-220 (2019)



v<sub>2</sub> and v<sub>3</sub> vs p<sub>T</sub> predicted or described very well by hydrodynamics in all three systems
 —All predicted (except v<sub>2</sub> in d+Au) in J.L. Nagle et al, PRL 113, 112301 (2014)
 —v<sub>3</sub> in p+Au and d+Au predicted in C. Shen et al, PRC 95, 014906 (2017)

PHENIX (RB), Nat. Phys. 15, 214-220 (2019)



 Initial state effects alone do not describe the data —Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 039901 (Erratum) (2019)

PHENIX (RB), Nat. Phys. 15, 214-220 (2019)



 Inclusion of initial state effects is important, but not a big contribution for central collisions —B. Schenke et al, Phys. Lett. B 803, 135322 (2020)

# Comparisons with STAR

#### STAR, Quark Matter 2019



# Good agreement between STAR and PHENIX for $\ensuremath{\textit{v}}_2$

# Comparisons with STAR

#### STAR, Quark Matter 2019



#### PHENIX data update

#### PHENIX (RB), arXiv:2107.06634 (accepted by Phys. Rev. C)



• PHENIX has completed a new analysis confirming the results published in Nature Physics

- All new analysis using two-particle correlations with event mixing instead of event plane method —Completely new and separate code base
  - -Very different sensitivity to key experimental effects (beam position, detector alignment)

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  - -Very different sensitivity to key experimental effects (beam position, detector alignment)
- It's essential to understand the two experiments have very different detector acceptances —STAR-PHENIX discrepancy may actually reveal interesting physics

#### STAR and PHENIX detector comparison



- The PHENIX Nature Physics paper uses the BBCS-FVTXS-CNT detector combination —Very different kinematic acceptance compared to STAR
- We can try to use FVTXS-CNT-FVTXN detector combination to better match STAR —Closer, and "balanced" between forward and backward
PHENIX (RB), arXiv:2107.06634 (accepted by Phys. Rev. C)

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• Good agreement with STAR for  $v_2$ 

-Similar physics for the two different pseudorapidity acceptances

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- Good agreement with STAR for  $v_2$ 
  - -Similar physics for the two different pseudorapidity acceptances
- Strikingly different results for  $v_3$ 
  - -Rather different physics for the two different pseudorapidity acceptances
  - —Longitudinal effects much stronger for  $v_3$  than  $v_2$

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#### Longitudinal dynamics in small systems

J.L. Nagle et al (RB), arXiv:2107.07287 (submitted to PRC)



- $dN_{ch}/d\eta$  from AMPT,  $v_3(\eta)$  from (super)SONIC
- The likely much stronger pseudorapidity dependence of  $v_3$  compared to  $v_2$  is an essential ingredient in understanding different measurements

#### Additional non-flow studies using published data tables

J.L. Nagle et al (RB), arXiv:2107.07287 (submitted to PRC)



•  $v_3/v_2$  expected be lower for lower collision energy due to shorter lifetime —STAR data may have unphysically large  $v_3/v_2$ 

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- $v_3/v_2$  expected be lower for lower collision energy due to shorter lifetime —STAR data may have unphysically large  $v_3/v_2$
- Application of "non-flow subtraction" to remove contamination can lead to significant over-correction; see also S. Lim, et al (RB), Phys. Rev. C 100, 024908 (2019)

#### sPHENIX: QGP microscope



From the 2015 DOE Nuclear Physics Long Range Plan: [The goal is to] probe the inner workings of QGP by resolving its properties at shorter and shorter length scales.... essential to this goal... is a state-of-the-art jet detector at RHIC, called sPHENIX.

#### sPHENIX: QGP microscope



Resolving po	ower $d\propto\lambda$				
de Broglie w	vavelength $\lambda=h/p$				
р	$\lambda$				
2.5 eV	500 nm				
100 keV	12 pm				
200 MeV	6.2 fm				
1 GeV	1.2 fm				
10 GeV	0.12 fm				
50 GeV	0.025 fm				

## sPHENIX: timeline

Past and present

• [	Magnet purchase	July 2013
• [	Magnet delivery	April 2015
• [	DOE OPA CD-0	September 2016
• (	Order for Outer HCal steel	March 2018
• [	DOE OPA CD-1/CD-3a	August 2018
• [	DOE OPA PD-2/PD-3 Review	May 2019
• /	Authorization for PD-2/PD-3	September 2019
• F	Fabrication orders	September 2019 (ongoing)
• /	Assembly and installation begins	April 2021 (ongoing)
utur	e	
• (	Completion of assembly and installation, initial commissioning	September 2022

• First collisions

F

January 2023

# sPHENIX: magnet

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SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory         Display Location         Display Location           2575 Stand Hill Road, MS S3         Bit Lo arrange for shipping         Bit Lo arrange for shipping           250 928-3643 racine@galac.stanford.edu         Bit Lo arrange for shipping         Bit Lo arrange for shipping           2         ORGERNIA GASEXY APPROVAL         Is. APPE OPERATION STINDL AND THLE           2         ORGERNIA GASEXY APPROVAL         Is. APPE OPERATION STINDL AND THLE           2         ORGERNIA GASEXY APPROVAL         Is. APPE OPERATION STINDL AND THLE           2         ORGERNIA GASEXY APPROVAL         Is. APPE OPERATION STINDL AND THLE           2         ORGERNIA GASEXY APPROVAL         Is. APPE OPERATION STINDL AND THLE           2         ORGERNIA GASEXY APPROVAL         Is. APPE OPERATION STINDL AND THLE           2         ORGERNIA GASEXY APPROVAL         Is. APPE OPERATION STINDL AND THLE           3         TTL         TL         TL           3         DESCRIPTION         Is. ANOTHERT         Is. ACOUSTION COST           3         MILLION AND THLE TRANSFER         DESCRIPTION         Is. ANOTHERT           4         MILLION AND THLE TRANSFER         Is. ANOTHERT         Is. ACOUSTION COST           4         MILLION AND THLE TRANSFER         Is. ALOTINENT         Is. ACOUSTION COST	7. LOCATION OF PROPERTY				Same as block 4				
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22/7 S all of Hill R080, NRS 53           Memb Park, CA 94025         BNL to arrange for shipping           9         ORDERING AGENCY APPROVAL         10. APPROPRIATION SYMBOL AND TITLE           9         ORDERING AGENCY APPROVAL         10. APPROPRIATION SYMBOL AND TITLE           10. APPROPRIATION SYMBOL AND TITLE         Transfer from DE-AC02-76SF00515           11. ALLOTMENT         12. GOVERNMENT BA. NO.           13         PROPERTY ONDERED           13         DESCRIPTION (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and able North No.         ACQUISITION DOST           13         DESCRIPTION (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and able of Mfr: 1996 (see atlached list)         Acquisition code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case, Costilion Code and (reduce nown mann, #50 Group and Case,	C/O Mike Racine								
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(See attached list)			Date of Mfr: 1996						
			(See attached list)						

# sPHENIX: magnet



## sPHENIX: magnet



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#### sPHENIX: beam tests



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#### sPHENIX: beam tests



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#### sPHENIX: beam tests



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## sPHENIX: event plane detector as day one "upgrade"



- Lots of core sPHENIX measurements need flow expertise
- RB co-I on NSF MRI for event plane detector
  - -Funds disbursed August 2021, construction ongoing (at Lehigh U)

## sPHENIX: projections



- Multi-particle correlations are very sensitive to the underlying distribution
- Heavy quark flow provides major insights into transport coefficients