# Study the QCD Phase Structure in High-Energy Nuclear Collisions

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#### 2013 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS



Francois Englert and Peter Higgs,



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"for the theoretical discovery of a mechanism that **contributes to our understanding of the origin of mass of subatomic particles**, and which recently was confirmed through the discovery of the predicted fundamental particle, by the ATLAS and CMS experiments at CERN's Large Hadron Collider"

#### QCD in the Twenty-First Century





#### QCD in the Twenty-First Century





#### Phase Diagram: Water





Phase diagram: A map shows that, at given degrees of freedom, how matter organize itself under external conditions.

Water: H<sub>2</sub>O

#### The QCD phase diagram:

structure of matter with quark-, gluon-degrees (color degrees) of freedom.

# The QCD Phase Diagram and High-Energy Nuclear Collisions



#### QCD Phase Diagram (1953)





#### QCD Phase Diagram (1983)





#### QCD Phase Diagram (2009)





nucl-th: 0907.4489, NPA830,709(09) L. McLerran

**NPA837**, 65(2010) nucl-th 0911.4806: A. Andronic, D. Blaschke, P. Braun-Munzinger, J. Cleymans, K. Fukushima, L.D. McLerran, H. Oeschler, R.D. Pisarski, K. Redlich, C. Sasaki, H. Satz, and J. Stachel

#### Running Coupling Constant: $\alpha_s$





 $\alpha_s$ : strong coupling constant Q: momentum transfer

QCD models provide reasonable results on the Q-dependence of the strong coupling constant, especially at high Q.

As a function of the momentum transfer, the strong coupling constant  $\alpha_s$  decreases exponentially, but never goes to zero, meaning STRONG interactions are always there!

Reference: S.Bethke, hep-ex/0004021

## QCD on Lattice





#### **QCD** Thermodynamics





## Outline



- (1) Introduction
- (2) Experimental Setup
- (3) Recent Results:
  - Collectivity
  - Criticality
  - Chirality

## (4) Summary and Outlook

#### Large Hadron Collider





## **ALICE Experiment**





#### Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider



Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), Upton, NY





#### **STAR Detector System**





#### **High-Energy Nuclear Collider Experiments**







"Quark Matter 2015 Student-Day" Kobe, Japan, 9/27 – 10/3, 2015

#### Facility for Antiproton & Ion Research



## The CBM Experiment at FAIR





#### **Exploring QCD Phase Structure**





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## Collectivity

More see talks by B. Schenke, J-Y. Ollitrault

#### Anisotropy Parameter v<sub>2</sub>



#### Initial/final conditions, EoS, degrees of freedom

#### Partonic Collectivity at RHIC



Low  $p_T (\leq 2 \text{ GeV/c})$ : hydrodynamic mass ordering High  $p_T (> 2 \text{ GeV/c})$ : *number of quarks scaling (NCQ)* 

## Partonic Collectivity, necessary for QGP! De-confinement in Au+Au collisions at RHIC!

#### Comparison with Model Results





Small value of specific viscosity over entropy η/s
 Model uncertainty dominated by *initial eccentricity* ε

Model: Song et al. PRL106, 192301(2011), arXiv:1011.2783

## Low *η*/**s** for QCD Matter at RHIC





# η/s ≥ 1/4π, 'perfect liquid' η/s(QCD matter) << η/s(QED matter)</li>

## Beam Energy Scan at RHIC





#### Study QCD Phase Structure

- Onset of sQGP
- Phase boundary and critical point
- Chiral symmetry

**BES-I:** √*s<sub>NN</sub>* = 7.7, 11.5, 14.5, 19.6, 27, 39GeV

**BES-II:** √*s*<sub>*NN*</sub> ≤ 20GeV

#### (1) Collectivity: EOS of the system

(2) Critical point\* (critical region): High order cumulants

#### **Identified Hadron Spectra**





"Quark Matter 2015 Student-Day" Kobe, Japan, 9/27 – 10/3, 2015

#### Hadron Spectra from RHIC



p+p and Au+Au collisions at 200 GeV





#### Thermal Model Fits (Blast-Wave)



Source is assumed to be:

- Locally thermal equilibrated
- Boosted in radial direction



#### Blast Wave Fits: RHIC











**Kinetic Freeze-out** at LHC similar to that from RHIC. Collective velocity parameter  $\beta$  is stronger in the most central collisions => Stronger collective expansion at LHC!

ALICE: B. Abelev et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 109, (12) 252301; Phys. Rev. C88, (13) 044910

#### **Statistical Model Fits**



- Assume thermally (constant T<sub>ch</sub>) and chemically (constant n<sub>i</sub>) equilibrated system at chemical freeze-out
- System composed of non-interacting hadrons and resonances
- Given  $T_{ch}$  and  $\mu_i$  's (+ system size),  $n_i$ 's can be calculated in a grand canonical ensemble

$$n_{i} = \frac{g}{2\pi^{2}} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{p^{2} dp}{e^{(E_{i}(p) - \mu_{i})/T} \pm 1}, \quad E_{i} = \sqrt{p^{2} + m_{i}^{2}}$$

- T<sub>ch</sub> and μ<sub>i</sub> *i=B, Q, S*
- Obey conservation laws: Baryon Number, Strangeness, Isospin
- Short-lived particles and resonances need to be taken into account

#### **Bulk Properties at Freeze-out**





#### Chemical Freeze-out: (GCE)

- Central collisions.
- Centrality dependence, not shown, of  $T_{ch}$  and  $\mu_B$ !

#### Kinetic Freeze-out:

- Central collisions => lower value of
   *T<sub>kin</sub>* and larger collectivity β
- Stronger collectivity at higher energy

## Charged and PID Hadron v<sub>2</sub> Results





- Normalized to 200 GeV results
- **Stronger collectivity** at higher collision energy
- Particle and antiparticle display different behavior as a function of collision energy

## Collectivity v<sub>2</sub> Measurements



- Number of constituent quark (NCQ) scaling in v<sub>2</sub> => partonic collectivity => deconfinement in high-energy nuclear collisions
- 2) At  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  < 11.5 GeV, the universal v<sub>2</sub> NCQ scaling is broken, consistent with hadronic interactions becoming dominant.

#### BES v<sub>2</sub> and Model Comparison



Baryonic Chemical Potential  $\mu_B$  (MeV)

(a) Hydro + Transport: [J. Steinheimer, et al. PRC86, 44902(13).]

- (b) NJL model: Hadron splitting consistent. Sensitive to vector-coupling, **CME**, **net-baryon density** driven. [J. Xu, et al., arXiv:1308.1753/PRL112.012301]
- (c) Pure Hydro solution with  $\mu_B$ , viscosity: [Hatta et al. arXiv:1502.05894//1505.04226// 1507.04690 // ]. Chemical potential  $\mu_B$  and viscosity  $\eta/s$  driven!

## Summary I



- At high energy-nuclear collisions liquid-like quark-gluon plasma formed, η/s small
- 2) Current experiments, RHIC BES, cover 0  $<\mu_B < 420$  MeV
- 3) The v<sub>2</sub> show strong dependence on  $\mu_B$ ! At high baryon (low energy) region, NCQ-scaling in v<sub>2</sub> disappeared and v<sub>2</sub>(particle) > v<sub>2</sub>(anti-particle).

## Criticality

More see talk by K. Fukushima

#### Susceptibilities and Moments



Thermodynamic function:

$$\frac{p}{T^4} = \frac{1}{\pi^2} \sum_i d_i (m_i / T)^2 K_2(m_i / T) \cosh[(B_i \mu_B + S_i \mu_S + Q_i \mu_Q) / T]$$
The susceptibility:  $T^{n-4} \chi_q^{(n)} = \frac{1}{T^4} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial (\mu_q / T)^n} P\left(\frac{T}{T_c}, \frac{\mu_q}{T}\right)|_{T/T_c}, \quad q = B, Q, S$ 

$$\chi_q^{(1)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \langle \delta N_q \rangle$$

$$\chi_q^{(2)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \langle (\delta N_q)^2 \rangle$$

$$\chi_q^{(3)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \langle (\delta N_q)^3 \rangle$$

$$\chi_q^{(4)} = \frac{1}{VT^3} \left( \langle \delta N_q \rangle^4 \right) - 3 \langle (\delta N_q)^2 \rangle^2 \rangle$$

#### Thermodynamic function ⇔ Susceptibility ⇔ Moments Model calculations, e.g. LGT, HRG ⇔ Measurements

#### **Higher Moments**



- Higher moments of conserved quantum numbers:
   Q, S, B, in high-energy nuclear collisions
- 2) Sensitive to critical point ( $\xi$  correlation length):

$$\left\langle \left( \delta N \right)^2 \right\rangle \approx \xi^2, \ \left\langle \left( \delta N \right)^3 \right\rangle \approx \xi^{4.5}, \ \left\langle \left( \delta N \right)^4 \right\rangle \approx \xi^7$$

3) Direct comparison with calculations at any order:

$$S\sigma \approx \frac{\chi_B^3}{\chi_B^2}, \qquad \kappa\sigma^2 \approx \frac{\chi_B^4}{\chi_B^2}$$

 Extract susceptibilities and freeze-out temperature. An independent/important test of thermal equilibrium in heavy ion collisions.

#### References:

- STAR: PRL105, 22303(10); ibid, 032302(14)
- M. Stephanov: *PRL*102, 032301(09) // R.V. Gavai and S. Gupta, *PLB696*, 459(11) // F. Karsch et al, *PLB695*, 136(11) // S.Ejiri et al, PLB633, 275(06)
- A. Bazavov et al., PRL109, 192302(12) // S. Borsanyi et al., PRL111, 062005(13) // V. Skokov et al., PRC88, 034901(13)

## **Higher Moments Results**





#### Net-proton results:

- 1) All data show deviations below Poisson for  $\kappa\sigma^2$  at all energies. Larger deviation at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ ~20GeV
- 2) UrQMD model shows monotonic behavior in the moment products STAR: PRL112, 32302(14)

#### Net-charge results:

- No non-monotonic behavior
- More affected by the resonance decays

STAR: PRL113, 92301(14) P. Garg et al, PLB726, 691(13)

#### **BES-II**:

Higher statistics needed for collisions at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} < 20 \text{ GeV}$ 

#### Extend Proton Identification with TOF



**Published net-proton results**: Only TPC used for proton/anti-proton PID. TOF PID extends the phase space coverage.



#### Efficiencies for (anti-)Protons





#### Net-proton Higher Moment



**Net-proton results:** All data show deviations below Poisson for  $\kappa\sigma^2$  at all energies. Larger deviation at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 20$  GeV. **Non-monotonic behavior in central collision!** *X.F. Luo. CPOD2014* 

Question: What will happen at even lower collision energy?

#### **Expectation from Calculations**





#### "Oscillating pattern" around the reference is expected.

#### **Net-proton Higher Moment**



## Summary II



RHIC BES-I preliminary results show properties of matter changes around  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 20$  GeV *i.e.*  $\mu_B \sim 250$  MeV: non-monotonic energy dependence in net-proton high moments =>

Hint of QCD criticality!

Need high statistics data at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \le 20$  GeV!

## Outlook

More see talk by B. Jacak

## Baryon Density Peaks at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 8 \text{GeV}$





#### Fix-Target Experiments for Critical Point



#### Exploring QCD Phase Structure





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## Summary



- At high energy-nuclear collisions liquid-like quark-gluon plasma formed, η/s small
- 2) Current experiments cover  $0 < \mu_B < 420$  MeV. Fix-target experiments will extend to much higher baryon region
- 3) RHIC BES-I results show properties of matter changes around  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  = 20 GeV. *Hint of QCD criticality*
- 4) Need high statistics data at √s<sub>NN</sub> ≤ 20 GeV: RHIC BES-II and fix-target experiments at √s<sub>NN</sub> ≤ 8 GeV!

# Thank you!

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