High-p_T Triggered Correlations over a Broad Range in Δη

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The PHOBOS Collaboration





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Motivation

One of the most fundamental discoveries at RHIC is that partons strongly interact as they traverse the produced medium

- single-particle spectra (R_{AA})
- high-p_T azimuthal correlations













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Lower pT Associated Particles

Existing triggered correlation measurements show novel features in heavy-ion collisions

- ✓ broadening in $\Delta \phi$ of away-side compared to p+p
- ✓ enhanced correlation ("ridge") at $\Delta \phi$ =0 and large $\Delta \eta$





Theoretical Interpretations of Ridge

Very different proposed mechanisms qualitatively describe "ridge" at $|\Delta\eta|\!<\!2$

- Coupling of induced radiation to longitudinal flow Armesto et al., PRL 93, 242301
- Recombination of shower + thermal partons Hwa, arXiv:nucl-th/0609017v1
- Anisotropic plasma Romatschke, PRC 75, 014901
- Turbulent color fields Majumder, Muller, Bass, arXiv:hep-ph/0611135v2
- Bremsstrahlung + transverse flow + jet-quenching Shuryak, arXiv:0706.3531v1
- Splashback from away-side shock Pantuev, arXiv:0710.1882v1
- Momentum kick imparted on medium partons Wong, arXiv:0707.2385v2







- Use the uniquely broad acceptance of the PHOBOS multiplicity detectors to measure the ridge at large $\Delta\eta$
- Constrain the possible explanations for correlated particle production far in rapidity from a high-p_T trigger





Experimental Setup

High p_⊤ trigger tracks

 p_T > 2.5 GeV/c 0 < η_{trig} < 1.5

Associated hits

Full φ coverage Broad η coverage (-3<η<3)

Single layer of silicon No p_T information $p_T > 4 (\eta=3) - 35 \text{ MeV/c} (\eta=0)$ **Octagon** holes are filled using hits from the first layers of the **Spectrometer** and

Vertex detectors





Constructing the Correlation

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





1. Normalized Background

- $|\mathbf{B}(\Delta \eta)|$ is the per trigger mixed-event pair distribution corrected for the pair acceptance
- In other words, it is the corrected single-particle distribution (dN/d\eta) convoluted with η_{trig}



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2. Signal and Mixed Events





3. Estimating Flow Term

• Parameterize published PHOBOS measurements as $v_2(N_{part}, p_T, \eta) = A(N_{part}) B(p_T) C(\eta)$



 Correct v₂(N_{part}, <p_T^{trig}>, η_{trig}) for occupancy and v₂(N_{part}, <p_T^{assoc}>, η_{assoc}) for secondaries

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

 $V = \langle v_2^{trig} \rangle \langle v_2^{assoc} \rangle$



Flow subtraction



The scale factor, **a** , is calculated such that the yield after subtraction is zero at its minimum (ZYAM) Ajitanand et al. PRC 72,011902(R) (2005)



Systematics

- The dominant systematic error in this analysis is the uncertainty on the magnitude of $v_2^{trig} v_2^{assoc}$
 - ~14% error on $v_2^{trig} v_2^{assoc} (\eta=0)$
 - ~20% error on $v_2^{trig} v_2^{assoc} (\eta=3)$
 - In the most central collision -where flow is small compared to the correlation -- the error on v₂^{trig} v₂^{assoc} can exceed 50%.





PYTHIA p+p reference

- PHOBOS is limited by statistics in p+p
- We will compare our Au+Au results to PYTHIA, which reasonably reproduces STAR p+p data





Results

 $p_T^{trig} > 2.5 \text{ GeV/c}$ $p_T^{assoc} \ge 20 \text{ MeV/c}$







A Closer Look

Correlated yield at short-range ($|\Delta \eta| < 1$):





The Ridge Continues...

Correlated yield at long-range (-4 < $\Delta \eta$ < -2):





Short-Range Centrality Dependence





Long-Range Centrality Dependence





Integrated Ridge Yield







Integrated Ridge Yield





Ridge Extent in $\Delta \eta$

Correlated yield on near-side $(|\Delta \phi| < 1)$:





Comparison to Predictions



C.Y. Wong, PRC 76, 054908 (2007)



Comparison to Predictions





Conclusions

- Broadening of the away-side correlation in Δφ relative to p+p persists over the complete Δη range
- Correlation at $\Delta \phi = 0$ and large $\Delta \eta$ (ridge) persists to $\Delta \eta = 4$
- Ridge yield at large Δη disappears as one goes from central to peripheral Au+Au collisions





Backup slides

PHOBOS Detector Acceptance

 $\begin{array}{l} 15\text{-}20\% \text{ central} \\ 3mm < v_z < 4mm \end{array}$







$-4 < \Delta \eta < -2$

ZYAM vs. ZYA1





Long-Range Correlation



0-10% 10-20% 20-30%





η_{trig} versus z-vertex





