# Azimuthally sensitive femtoscopy with RHIC Beam Energy Scan II data from STAR 

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## Tilted emission source

- The 3D initial geometry of a non-central heavy-ion collision breaks the forwardbackward symmetry by a "tilt" of the fireball with respect to the reaction plane



## Motivation



New J.Phys. 13 (2011) 065006

- The tilt is strikingly large at low energies and drops with energy, consistent with the expectation that collisions become increasingly boost invariant (at least near midrapidity) with increasing energy
$>$ Boost-invariant models incapable of capturing physics of participant zone with large spatial tilt
- EoS strongly influences the dynamics of an expanding system
$>$ Check EoS


## Femtoscopy

- Femtoscopy measures so-called regions of homogeneity (phase space region of outgoing particles with similar velocity vector)
- We can probe different homogeneity regions by varying pairs' transverse momenta



Kinetic freeze-out

- impossible to measure directly
- Momentum (p) is accessible in experiment


Femtoscopy

- Femtoscopy allows one to explore:
$>$ Size of the emission source
$>$ Lifetime of source
$>$ Emission duration
$>$ System dynamics
$>$ Source shape
>Orientation


## Procedure: step 1

## Created medium

Radii response



- Construct correlation functions for different ranges of azimuthal angles of the particle pair with respect to the event plane


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## Procedure: step 2

Femtoscopic parameters are extracted by fitting correlation
function with Bowler-Sinyukov procedure


$$
C(q)=N\left[(1-\lambda)+\lambda K(q)\left(1+e^{-\sum_{i, j=o, s, l} q_{i} q_{j} R_{i j}^{2}}\right)\right]
$$

Phys. Lett. B 270 (1991) 69
Phys. Lett. B 432 (1998) 248
$N$ - normalization factor $\lambda$ - correlation strength parameter $K(q)$ - is a squared like-sign pion pair
Coulomb wave-function integrated over
a spherical Gaussian source
$R_{i j}$ - femtoscopic radii

- Fit correlation functions in different azimuthal angles with respect to the event plane and extract source parameters for each case


## Procedure: step 3



- Construct azimuthal angle dependence of the extracted parameters $\left(R_{i j}\right)$ and fit these oscillations


## Procedure: step 4



$$
\begin{aligned}
& \theta_{s l}=\frac{1}{2} \tan ^{-1}\left(\frac{-4 R_{s l, 1}^{2}}{R_{l, 0}^{2}-R_{s, 0}^{2}+2 R_{s, 2}^{2}}\right) \\
& \theta_{o l}=\frac{1}{2} \tan ^{-1}\left(\frac{-4 R_{o l, 1}^{2}}{R_{l, 0}^{2}-R_{s, 0}^{2}+2 R_{s, 2}^{2}}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Phys.Lett.B 489 (2000) 287-292 Phys.Rev.C 66 (2002) 044903 Phys.Rev.C 84 (2011) 014908

- Tilt calculation from extracted fit parameters


## The STAR experiment



- Time Projection Chamber (TPC) + iTPC (BES-II upgrade)
- Momentum and pion identification
- Event Plane Detector (EPD)
- Part of the BES-II upgrade
- Reconstruction of the firstorder event plane (proxy for reaction plane)
- Energies of interest (BES-II):
- Au+Au@7.7 GeV
- Au+Au@14.5 GeV
- Au+Au@27 GeV


## One-dimensional projection of correlation function



There is a slight suppression due to the Coulomb
repulsion of like-sign pion pairs


- Fit describes correlation functions reasonably well in both experiment and UrQMD
- A slight deviation from the Gaussian shape in the longitudinal direction can be attributed to a "halo" emission from resonance












## Radii oscillations example in UrQMD








- $R_{o}^{2}$ and $R_{s}^{2}$ exhibit significant, equal and opposite oscillations in $\varphi$, reflecting an almondshaped overlap region between the target and projectile spheres
- $R_{o l}^{2}$ and $R_{s l}^{2}$ exhibit oscillations of equal magnitude, aligning with the emission of pions from an ellipsoidal source tilted in coordinate space away from the beam axis


## Radii oscillations example in experiment




Statistical uncertainties only





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## Correction for event plane resolution




## Correction of magnitudes

$$
R_{\mu, n}^{2 \text { true }}=\frac{R_{\mu, n}^{2 o b s}}{\left\langle\cos \left(n\left(\Psi_{n}-\Psi_{R P}\right)\right)\right\rangle}
$$

Phys.Lett.B 496 (2000) 1-8
Phys.Rev.C 92 (2015) 1, 014904 Phys.Lett.B 785 (2018) 320-331


## Energy dependence of the tilt

- In trend with AGS data
- Drops with energy, consistent with the expectation that collisions become increasingly boost invariant
- Good agreement with UrQMD 3.4 ("cascade" mode)
- Slight difference between $\theta_{S L}$ and $\theta_{O L}$ tilts


Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci. 55 (2005) 357-402


## $k_{T}$ dependence of the tilt in the experiment and UrQMD

- Larger $k_{T}$ pairs are emitted from smaller emission regions at earlier times with less correspondence to the size and shape of the entire fireball


## Low $\mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{T}}$



High $\mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{T}}$


## $k_{T}$ dependence of the tilt in the experiment and UrQMD

- Discrepancy between "outlong" and "side-long" tilt in UrQMD might be attributed to model limitations to describe system evolution
- "side" radius reflects the spatial extent of the pionemitting source, while "out" combines both spatial extent and the emission duration of the fireball
- Better agreement between experiment and UrQMD at $30-50 \%$ centrality


## What is the correspondence of the femtoscopy tilt and tilt of the freeze-out distribution?



## The simplistic model with unique spatial tilt

New J.Phys. 13 (2011) 065006 Phys.Rev.C 84 (2011) 014908 Phys.Rev.C 89 (2014) 1, 014903


$$
f(x, y, z) \sim \exp \left(-\frac{\left(x \cos \theta_{S}-z \sin \theta_{S}\right)^{2}}{2 \sigma_{x^{\prime}}^{2}}-\frac{y^{2}}{2 \sigma_{y}^{2}}-\frac{\left(x \sin \theta_{S}+z \cos \theta_{S}\right)^{2}}{2 \sigma_{z^{\prime}}^{2}}\right)
$$

## Freeze-out coordinates in UrQMD

$x$ vs. $y$ vs. $z$ freeze-out $x y$ projection

$x$ vs. $y$ vs. $z$ freeze-out $x z$ projection

$x$ vs. $y$ vs. $z$ freeze-out yz projection


$$
f(x, y, z) \sim \exp \left(-\frac{\left(x \cos \theta_{S}-z \sin \theta_{S}\right)^{2}}{2 \sigma_{x^{\prime}}^{2}}-\frac{y^{2}}{2 \sigma_{y}^{2}}-\frac{\left(x \sin \theta_{S}+z \cos \theta_{S}\right)^{2}}{2 \sigma_{z^{\prime}}^{2}}\right)
$$

- Realistic picture is more complicated than just tilted ellipsoid


## Complicated structure of the freeze-out distribution

$\mathrm{UrQMD} \mathrm{Pb}+\mathrm{Pb}$ at $E_{\text {lab }}=8 \mathrm{GeV}, \mathrm{b}=3.4-6.8 \mathrm{fm},|\mathrm{y}|<0.5$, and $p_{\perp}<0.4 \mathrm{GeV}$


- Realistic picture reveals complex geometry and affected by non-Gaussianity of the source, collective flow...
- Extracted tilt strongly depends on the fit range in $\vec{r}[f m]$
$x$ vs. $y$ vs. $z$ freeze-out xz projection



## Range of freezeout distribution fitting

- Extracted tilt strongly depends on the spatial scale



## Correspondence between femtoscopy tilt and freeze-out distribution tilt

$x$ vs. $y$ vs. $z$ freeze-out xz projection



## Correspondence between femtoscopy tilt and freeze-out distribution tilt

## Low $\mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{T}}$



High $\mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{T}}$

> Extrapolation to $k_{T}=0$ will give the best possible comparison between tilt of homogeneity region and freeze-out distribution tilt of the "whole source"

Statistical uncertainties only


## Summary

- First measurements of the spatial tilt at the RHIC energies was done
- Tilt dependence on energy
- Obtained results in trend with AGS data
- Collision geometry becomes increasingly boost invariant at higher energies





## Freeze-out distribution pions

No difference for tilt
Freeze-out distribution of pairs of pions

Freeze-out distribution of pairs of pions (delta of coordinates of the pair)

