## **The Physics of RHIC** (4) d+Au Collisions HUGS 2007

### Carl A. Gagliardi Texas A&M University

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### d+Au collisions at RHIC

- A control experiment to identify novel effects in Au+Au
  - Is jet quenching an initial-state effect or a final-state effect?
  - Shadowing in a new kinematic domain
  - Gluon shadowing is not well constrained by fixed-target data
- Has evidence been found for gluon saturation?

### Phys Rev Lett 91, 072302/3/4/5

#### PHYSICAL Review Letters

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### Mid-rapidity vs. forward rapidity



- Gluon density can't grow forever.
- Saturation should set in when gluons overlap.
- Where does this happen?

### Geometric scaling in $\gamma^*$ +p at HERA



- Scaling of the  $\gamma^*$ +p cross section for x < 0.01 may indicate the saturation scale is playing an important role
- Ambiguity with ep and pp measurements: What is the proper reference?

### Glauber vs Color Glass Condensate

#### Hirano et al, PLB 636, 299



- Do we have Glauber matter distribution + perfect liquid, or Color Glass Condensate distribution + viscous matter?
- Is the gluon field in the Au nucleus saturated?
- Forward d+Au collisions provide information about the gluon density in Au at low gluon momentum fractions

#### Forward $\pi^0$ production at a hadron collider



• Large rapidity  $\pi$  production ( $\eta$ ~4) probes asymmetric partonic collisions

- Mostly high-x quark + low-x gluon
  - $0.3 < x_{\rm q} < 0.7$
  - $0.001 < x_q < 0.1$
- <z> nearly constant and high ~ 0.7-0.8
- A probe of low-x gluons



### Gluon density in nuclei

e.g., see M. Hirai, S. Kumano, T.-H. Nagai, PRC 70, 044905



World data on nuclear DIS only constrain nuclear modifications to gluon density for  $x_{qluon} > 0.02$ 

### Models for the gluon distribution in Pb



- In the region without experimental constraints, the model predictions vary by large factors
- Can be explored at RHIC, LHC, EIC

### Forward particle production in d+Au collisions



- Sizable suppression of charged hadron yield in forward d+Au
- Evidence for a saturated gluon field in the Au nucleus?

#### PHENIX and STAR report similar effects



- Charged particles and  $\pi^0$  are suppressed in the forward direction
- pQCD+shadowing calculations overpredict  $R_{dAu}$  at  $\eta = 4$

### Expectations for a color glass condensate



Are the forward d+Au results evidence for gluon saturation at RHIC energies?

#### Recent saturation model calculation

(Dumitru, Hayashigaki, and Jalilian-Marian, NP A765, 464)



Good description of the  $p_T$  dependence for negatively charged hadrons at  $\eta$  = 3.2 and identified  $\pi^0$  at  $\eta$  = 4.0, but the data prefer different K factors (K=0.8 gives best fit for STAR data)

#### $p+p \rightarrow \pi^0+X \text{ at } 200 \text{ GeV}$



- In p+p, the forward inclusive  $\pi^0$  cross section is consistent with NLO pQCD for  $p_T > \sim 1.7$  GeV/c
- At lower p<sub>T</sub>, data trend from KKP fragmentation prediction to Kretzer fragmentation, as occurs at mid-rapidity.
- CGC calculation that treats the "target" in the extended scaling region gives a very good description of the data for all  $p_T$ .

### Is saturation really the explanation?



Difficult to explain BRAHMS results with standard shadowing, but in NLO pQCD calculations  $\langle x_g \rangle \sim 0.02$  is not that small (Guzey, Strikman, and Vogelsang, PL B603, 173)

In contrast, <**x**<sub>g</sub>> <~ 0.001 in CGC calculations (Dumitru, Hayashigaki, and Jalilian-Marian, NP A765, 464 )





#### Back-to-back correlations with the color glass



The evolution between the jets makes the correlations disappear.

(Kharzeev, Levin, and McLerran, NP A748, 627)

#### Forward-midrapidity correlations in d+Au



• STAR might see suppression for  $\langle x_g \rangle \sim 0.006$ 

### **Alternative explanations**

- Saturation is not the only proposed explanation
- Alternative explanations for suppression of forward yields and/or correlations:
  - Multiple scattering
  - Factorization breaking
  - Shadowing
  - Parton recombination
  - Black-disk limit
  - Incident parton energy loss
  - ....
  - Others that I've forgotten off hand

#### New detectors for the next d+Au run

# STAR Forward Meson Spectrometer $2.5 < \eta < 4$

PHENIX Muon Piston Calorimeter  $3.1 < \eta < 3.9$ 





- Significant improvements in forward detection capabilities
- Crucial for small-*x* physics (important for spin physics, too!)

#### p+p and d+Au $\rightarrow \pi^0 + \pi^0 + X$ correlations with forward $\pi^0$



Conventional shadowing will change yield, but not angular correlation. Saturation will change yield and modify the angular correlation.

Sensitive down to  $x_q \sim 10^{-3}$  in pQCD scenario; few x 10<sup>-4</sup> in CGC scenario.

#### p+p and d+Au $\rightarrow \pi^0 + \pi^0 + X$ correlations with forward $\pi^0$



Alternative analysis: Fix  $\eta_{\pi,2}$  and vary  $\eta_{\pi,1}$  over the range 2.75 <  $\eta_{\pi,1}$  < 3.75; this spans 0.25 <~  $x_q$  <~ 0.65 while keeping  $x_q$  ~ constant.

Tests for incident parton energy loss effects.

#### The next generation: RHIC-II and LHC



- Two possibilities:
  - RHIC-II explores the onset of saturation; LHC looks deep in the saturation domain
  - RHIC-II is dominated by other effects; LHC observes those other effects in combination with saturation
- In either case, RHIC-II and LHC will be complementary

- EM probes will provide important new observables (no fragmentation uncertainties):
  - Direct photons
  - Intermediate mass di-leptons
  - Drell-Yan
  - Will need RHIC II luminosities

### Conclusions

- What is the nature of glue at high density?
  - How do strong fields appear in hadronic or nuclear wave functions at high energies?
  - What are the appropriate degrees of freedom?
  - How do they respond to external probes or scattering?
  - Is this response universal (ep, pp, eA, pA, AA)?
- Detailed understanding will require complementary high-precision measurements at RHIC-II, LHC, and EIC.

#### Do we understand forward $\pi^0$ production in p + p?



Bourrely and Soffer, EPJ C36, 371:

NLO pQCD calculations underpredict the data at low  $\sqrt{s}$  from ISR Ratio appears to be a function of angle and  $\sqrt{s}$ , in addition to  $p_T$ 



#### Forward + mid-rapidity di-hadron correlations

• HIJING predicts similar correlations in d+Au as PYTHIA predicts for p+p.

- -- Sizable increase in the combinatorial background.
- -- Small reduction in the coincidence signal.