

Three-particle correlations at RHIC

Content:

Correlations among the produced particles provide a powerful tool to study the properties of the medium created in ultrarelativistic heavy-ion collisions.

The near-side "ridge" and the away-side "cone" structures observed in the central

Au+Au collision data has inspired various theoretical models to explain the particle production mechanism. Qualitatively most of the models give similar results when compared with the di-hadron correlations.

Three-particle correlation analysis will allow us to distinguish among these models having different physics mechanisms for particle production.

In this talk, we will present the 3-particle correlation data

for \$d\$+Au and Au+Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ =200 GeV from Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC). The away-side conical emission of the associated particles

in azimuth (ϕ) with respect to a high transverse momentum (ϕ) trigger particle in the data are found to be consistent with the

"mach cone" scenario[1]. The cone angle is independent of \$p_{\perp}\$ of the associated particles.

On the other hand, it is observed that the 3-particle pseudorapidity (\$\eta\$) correlations of the near-side ridge particles are uniform not only with respect to

the trigger particle but also between themselves event-by-event. In addition, the production of the ridge appears to be uncorrelated to the presence

of the narrow jet-like component [2].

The wealth of the 3-particle correlation data will provide further constraints on

the theoretical model calculations for the production mechanism of the cone and the ridge.

References:

- [1] B.~I.~Abelev {\it et al.}, (STAR collaboration) Phys. Rev. Lett. {\bf 102}, 052302 (2009).
- [2] B.~I.~Abelev {\it et al.}, (STAR collaboration) Phys. Rev. Lett. {\bf 105}, 022301 (2010).

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