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The Rise and Fall of the Ridge PAUL SORENSEN, BNL — Recent data from Au+Au collisions at RHIC show unexpectedly large near-angle correlations that broaden longitudinally with centrality. It's been shown that for both 62.4 GeV and 200 GeV collisions, the amplitude of this ridge-like correlation rises rapidly with centrality, reaches a maximum, and then falls in the most central collisions. In this talk we explain how the rise and fall of the ridge can be easily understood in a picture where final momentum-space correlations are driven by initial coordinate space density fluctuations. We devise a model based on v_n fluctuations from participant eccentricity fluctuations and use multiplicity and v_2 measurements from ALICE to predict the amplitude of the ridge at the LHC.

Paul Sorensen BNL

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