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Development of a Polarized He3 Ion Source for RHIC¹ CHARLES EPSTEIN, Laboratory for Nuclear Science, MIT, J. ALESSI, E. BEEBE, Collider-Accelerator Division, Brookhaven National Laboratory, W. HEIL, S. KARPUK, Institut für Physik, Universität Mainz, R. MILNER, Laboratory for Nuclear Science, MIT, E. OTTEN, Institut für Physik, Universität Mainz, A. PIKIN, A. ZELENSKI, Collider-Accelerator Division, Brookhaven National Laboratory — A polarized ³He beam in RHIC would enable new, unique, high-energy QCD studies of neutron structure with existing polarized proton beams, as well as important tests of the standard model in a future electron-ion collider (eRHIC). A new polarized ³He ion source using the Electron Beam Ionization Source (EBIS) at BNL is under development. ³He atoms are first polarized using metastability exchange optical pumping (MEOP) and then transferred to EBIS. Fully stripped ³He++ ions would be extracted from EBIS and their polarization measured at low energies before acceleration in RHIC.

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Charles Epstein Laboratory for Nuclear Science, MIT

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