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**The Future of High Energy Density Nuclear Physics at RHIC**

SAMUEL ARONSON, Brookhaven National Laboratory

Brookhaven's Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) is the world's premier machine for the study of nuclear matter at extremely high energy density. RHIC has been in operation for five years and its experimental program has made discoveries that transform our understanding of strongly interacting matter at high energy density. From this new understanding compelling questions can be asked about the nature of QCD (e.g., confinement, chiral symmetry breaking, hadronization, etc.). I will discuss the plans to address these questions in the context of the future development of RHIC.