

Statement of Principles

Comparison of independent measurements of the same physical process is an important part of the scientific method and is one reason why two experimental collaborations and two detector facilities have been active during the past decade of the RHIC program. The compelling need for independence, at a minimum, requires that a person participating in a measurement by one collaboration cannot participate in the same measurement carried out by the other collaboration. Research groups that intend to participate in both experiments should present the case to both collaborations that their activities do not involve participating in the same measurement in both experiments. Moreover, research groups in both collaborations must be transparent in their actions and preserve the integrity of the scientific process by not sharing information between collaborations that could prevent independent verification of a particular analysis. Finally, we recognize that the RHIC program can be enriched by a shared pool of detector and software experts who contribute their expertise to both collaborations to obtain the best results, provided that these experts abide by the statements above as applied to their participation in any analyses.