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## RHIC physics

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### Abstract content

The Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) at Brookhaven National laboratory has been in operation for almost a decade. It was designed to create the Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP), the primordial state of matter which must have existed immediately after the Big Bang. I will give an overview of the physics explored at RHIC, focusing on the pre-collision stage and the early times right after the collision before the system of produced partons form a QGP.

### Summary

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