

Quantum fluctuation of energy and its pseudo-gauge dependence in subsystems of hot relativistic gas

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Motivation

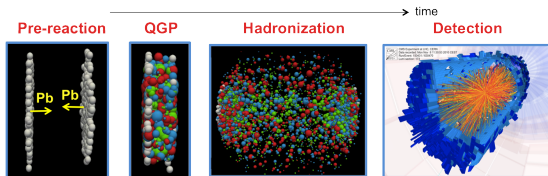


Figure: Simplified picture of heavy ion collisions ¹

- Heavy ion collision experiments: **AGS** at BNL:- 2 A GeV-10 A GeV, **SPS** at CERN:-20 A GeV-158 A GeV, **RHIC** at BNL:- 200 A GeV and **LHC** at CERN:-5.5 A TeV.
- At high temperature and/ densities the hadronic matter should under go a transition to a state of free quarks and gluons (QGP) ².
- $(2-3)\text{GeV}/\text{fm}^3$ ϵ_0 $(5 \quad 6)\text{GeV}/\text{fm}^3$ for SPS to RHIC energies³.

¹<http://w133.web.rice.edu/research.html>

²E.V.Shuryak, Phys. Lett. B 78 (1978) 150

³J. D . Bjorken, Phys . Rev. D 27 (1983) 140.

- Standard model of the heavy ion collision ^{4; 5; 6}
 - 1 Modeling of the early stage.
 - 2 Hydrodynamic description of the space-time evolution of strongly interacting matter.
 - 3 Freeze-out of hadrons.
- **Relativistic viscous hydrodynamics** has become nowadays the basic theoretical tool for modeling relativistic heavy-ion collisions.
- Concepts used in hydrodynamics: energy density and pressure, both are defined locally – formally, the fluid cell has zero size.
- Interestingly, hydro models which are successful in explaining the experimental data can be used to conclude about the energy density attained in the collision processes.
- Is the energy density is a well defined concept for fluid cell of arbitrary size? classically?
- Does quantum fluctuation play any role?
- For fermionic systems energy momentum tensor calculated from Noether's theorem is not unique ! possible pseudo gauge dependence??

⁴P. Romatschke and U. Romatschke, PRL 99, 172301 (2007)

⁵C. Gale, S. Jeon, B. Schenke, Int.J.Mod.Phys.A 28 (2013) 1340011

⁶S. Jeon, U. Heinz, Int.J.Mod.Phys.E 24 (2015) 10, 1530010.

Variance of energy-momentum tensor

- For a real scalar field the canonical energy-momentum tensor is :

$$\hat{T}^{00} = \pi \dot{\phi}^2 - \mathcal{L} = H. \quad (1)$$

In the Natural units, $\hbar = c = 1$, $[\hat{T}^{00}] = [L] = [M^d] = [H]$.

- We define a smeared operator,

$$A(a) = \left(\int d^d \mathbf{x} H(0, \mathbf{x}) e^{-\mathbf{x}^2/a^2} \right)^2. \quad (2)$$

- Variance of the operator $A(a)$,

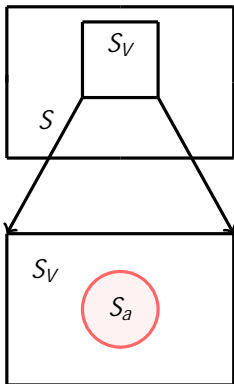
$$\text{var } A = \langle A^2 \rangle - \langle A \rangle^2 = [A]^2 = [H]^2 = [M]^{2d}. \quad (3)$$

- If we set,

$$\text{var } A(a) \propto a^{-\beta} \quad \beta = 2d \quad (4)$$

- Therefore the fluctuations of the energy density grow rapidly at small distances ⁷.

⁷Quantum Field Theory: Lectures of Sidney Coleman



- S is closed/isolated system described by microcanonical ensemble.
- S_V is a sub system of the closed system in equilibrium, described by the canonical ensemble. Fluctuation in energy in S_V (large volume limit):

$$\sigma_H^2 = \frac{hH^2 i}{hHi^2} = \frac{T^2 C_V}{V\varepsilon^2} \neq 0. \quad (5)$$

H is the Hamiltonian, T is temperature, ε is energy density, C_V is specific heat.

- S_a is a subsystem of S_V which is described by the "Gaussian box": $(a^3/\pi)^{3/2} \exp(-\mathbf{x}^2/a^2)$.

Quantum scalar field

- We describe our system by a quantum scalar field in thermal equilibrium⁹.

$$\phi(t, \mathbf{x}) = \int \frac{d^3 k}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^3 2\omega_k}} \left(a_k e^{-ik \cdot x} + a_k^\dagger e^{ik \cdot x} \right); \quad [a_k, a_{k'}^\dagger] = \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}') \quad (6)$$

Single particle energy: $\omega_k = \sqrt{k^2 + m^2}$, $a^\dagger b = a b^\dagger$ $a b = a^\dagger b^\dagger$

- Hamiltonian density:


$$H = \frac{1}{2} \left(\dot{\phi}^2 + (\nabla \phi)^2 + m^2 \phi^2 \right). \quad (7)$$

- We define an operator H_a for a *finite* subsystem S_a placed at the origin of the coordinate system,

$$H_a = \frac{1}{(a^3/\pi)^3} \int d^3 \mathbf{x} H(\mathbf{x}) \exp \left(-\frac{\mathbf{x}^2}{a^2} \right). \quad (8)$$

- Our objective:**

$$\sigma^2(a, m, T) = \hbar H_a H_a^\dagger \quad \hbar H_a i^2, \quad \sigma_n(a, m, T) = \frac{(\hbar H_a H_a^\dagger \quad \hbar H_a i^2)^{1=2}}{\hbar H_a i} \quad (9)$$

⁹S. Coleman, Lectures of Sidney Coleman on Quantum Field Theory. WSP, Hackensack, NJ, 2018. 

- **Normal ordering:** Composite QFT operators ! Some "Normal ordering" prescription required.

$$H_a ! : H_a : \quad (10)$$

$$H_a H_a ! : H_a :: H_a : \quad (11)$$

- **Alternative definition of normal ordering:** $H_a H_a ! : H_a H_a :$
- To perform thermal averaging, it is sufficient to know the expectation values of the products of two and four creation and/or annihilation operators ^{10; 11; 12}

$$\langle a_k^\dagger a_{k^0} \rangle = \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}^0) f(\omega_k), \quad (12)$$

$$\langle a_k^\dagger a_{k^0}^\dagger a_p a_{p^0} \rangle = \left(\delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p}) \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k}^0 - \mathbf{p}^0) + \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p}^0) \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k}^0 - \mathbf{p}) \right) f(\omega_k) f(\omega_{k^0})$$

The Bose–Einstein distribution function, $f(\omega_k) = 1/(\exp[\beta \omega_k] + 1)$.

- Any other combinations of two and four creation and/or annihilation operators can be obtained through the commutation relation between a_k and a_k^\dagger .

¹⁰C. Cohen-Tannoudji, B. Diu, F. Laloë, and S. R. Hemley, Quantum mechanics: Vol. 3, Wiley, New York, 1977.

¹¹T. Evans and D. A. Steer, Nucl. Phys. B 474 (1996) 481.

¹²C. Itzykson and J. Zuber, Quantum Field Theory. International Series In Pure and Applied Physics. McGraw-Hill, New York, 1980.

- The thermal expectation value of the operator H_a is

$$\hbar: H_a :i = \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \omega_k f(\omega_k) \quad \varepsilon(T) \quad \text{well known result} \quad (13)$$

- Important new result:** Fluctuation,

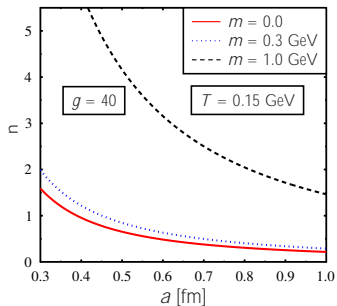
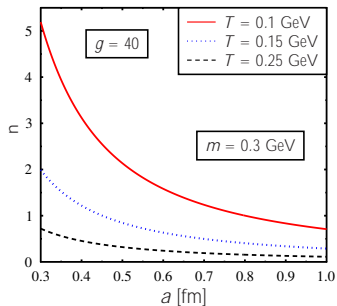
$$\sigma^2(a, m, T) = \int dK dK^0 f(\omega_k)(1 + f(\omega_{k^0}))$$

$$\left[(\omega_k \omega_{k^0} + \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k}^0 + m^2)^2 e^{-\frac{\hbar}{2}(\omega_k + \omega_{k^0})} + (\omega_k \omega_{k^0} + \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k}^0 - m^2)^2 e^{-\frac{\hbar}{2}(\omega_k - \omega_{k^0})} \right]. \quad (14)$$

here $dK = d^3 k / ((2\pi)^3 2\omega_k)$.

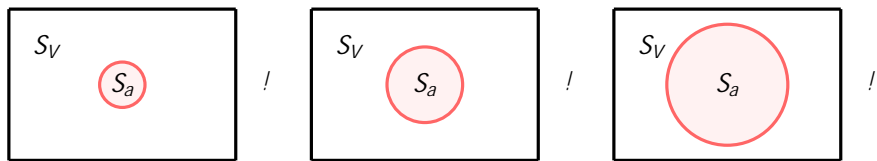
- All the vacuum energy term coming from the composite operator may not be removed by "Normal ordering".
- $\hbar: H_a :i$ is independent of the scale a , but the fluctuation $\sigma^2(a, m, T)$ depends on the scale.
- Degeneracy factor: $\varepsilon \propto g\varepsilon$, $\sigma^2 \propto g\sigma^2$.

Temperature and mass dependence of σ_n



- With a possible interpretation of heavy-ion data in mind, we consider temperatures in the range $0.1 \text{ GeV} < T < 0.25 \text{ GeV}$, and particle masses: $m = 0, 0.3$ and 1.0 GeV .
- The value of g varies between 37 (for two quark flavor QGP) and 47.5 (for three quark flavor QGP). $g = 400$ for Hadron gas, but high mass hadronic contribution is thermally suppressed.
- For high T and m , σ_n is small, but the fluctuation σ is large.

Thermodynamic limit



- $S_V : V = L^3$, S_a is characterised by scale a , $a < L$. L is large. Thermodynamic limit corresponds to $a \rightarrow 1$ limit.
- Gaussian representation of the three dimensional Dirac delta function

$$\delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p}) = \lim_{a \rightarrow 1} \frac{a^3}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} e^{-\frac{a^2}{2}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p})^2}. \quad (15)$$

- This leads us to the formula valid in the large a limit

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{g}{(2\pi)^{3/2} a^3} \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \omega_k^2 f(\omega_k) (1 + f(\omega_k)) \quad T^5 / a^3 (\text{Massless limit}).$$

- For $a \ll 1$ limit σ^2 can be expressed in terms of the specific heat at constant volume,

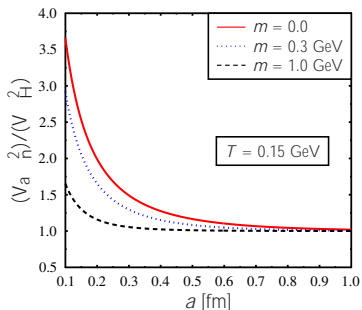
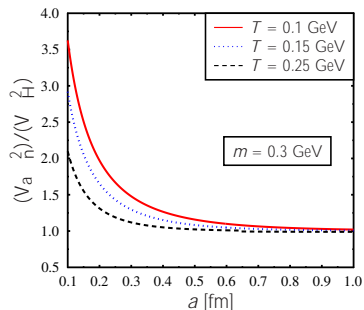
$$c_V = \frac{d\varepsilon}{dT} = \frac{g}{T^2} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \omega_k^2 f(\omega_k)(1 + f(\omega_k)). \quad (16)$$

- One obtains,

$$V_a \sigma_n^2 = \frac{T^2 c_V}{\varepsilon^2} = V \frac{\hbar H^2 i}{\hbar H i^2} V \sigma_H^2, \quad (17)$$

- $V_a = a^3 (2\pi)^{3=2}$ can be considered as the volume of the subsystem S_a — a nontrivial factor of $(2\pi)^{3=2}$ is an artifact of using the “Gaussian” box.
- $V \sigma_H^2$ can be identified as the normalized energy fluctuation in the system S_V .
- This result can also be shown analytically but for mass less case and for Boltzmann statistics.

Approach to the thermodynamic limit



- Variation of $V_a \sigma_n^2 / V \sigma_H^2$ with the size of the subsystem S_a in the case where particles have a non vanishing mass and they obey Bose-Einstein statistics.
- One expects that in the thermodynamic limit $V_a \sigma_n^2 / V \sigma_H^2$ should approach unity.
- Quantum fluctuations agree with the thermodynamic ones already for $a > 1$ fm.
- Quantum fluctuations become very important at the scale of 0.1 fm.

System of fermions

- We describe our system by a spin-1/2 field in thermal equilibrium. The field operator has the standard form ¹³

$$\psi(t, \mathbf{x}) = \sum_r \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2\omega_{\mathbf{k}}} \left(U_r(\mathbf{k}) a_r(\mathbf{k}) e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}} + V_r(\mathbf{k}) b_r^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}} \right), \quad (18)$$

- The canonical anti-commutation relations,

$$[a_r(\mathbf{k}), a_s^\dagger(\mathbf{k}')] = (2\pi)^3 \delta_{rs} \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}') \quad (19)$$

$$[b_r(\mathbf{k}), b_s^\dagger(\mathbf{k}')] = (2\pi)^3 \delta_{rs} \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}') \quad (20)$$

- Normalization of Dirac spinors,

$$U_r(\mathbf{k}) U_s(\mathbf{k}) = 2m \delta_{rs} \quad (21)$$

$$V_r(\mathbf{k}) V_s(\mathbf{k}) = 2m \delta_{rs} \quad (22)$$

¹³L. Tinti and W. Florkowski, arXiv:2007.04029

- To perform thermal averaging:

$$h a_r^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) a_s(\mathbf{k}^\dagger) i = (2\pi)^3 \delta_{rs} \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}^\dagger) f(\omega_{\mathbf{k}}), \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} h a_r^\dagger(\mathbf{k}) a_s^\dagger(\mathbf{k}^\dagger) a_{r^0}(\mathbf{p}) a_{s^0}(\mathbf{p}^\dagger) i \\ = (2\pi)^6 \left(\delta_{rs^0} \delta_{r^0s} \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p}^\dagger) \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k}^\dagger - \mathbf{p}) \right. \\ \left. \delta_{rr^0} \delta_{ss^0} \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p}) \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{k}^\dagger - \mathbf{p}^\dagger) \right) f(\omega_{\mathbf{k}}) f(\omega_{\mathbf{k}^\dagger}). \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

Here $f(\omega_{\mathbf{k}}) = 1/(\exp[\beta(\omega_{\mathbf{k}} - \mu)] + 1)$ is the Fermi–Dirac distribution function for particles.

- Anti particle operators also satisfies similar relation.
- For antiparticles, the Fermi–Dirac distribution function differs by the sign of the chemical potential μ , i.e. $f(\omega_{\mathbf{k}}) = 1/(\exp[\beta(\omega_{\mathbf{k}} + \mu)] + 1)$
- We consider a case with zero baryon chemical potential.

- Contrary to the real scalar field, the canonical energy momentum tensor operator is not symmetric,

$$\hat{T}_{\text{Can}} = \frac{i}{2} \psi \gamma^{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_{\nu} \psi - g^{\mu\nu} L_D = \frac{i}{2} \psi \gamma^{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_{\nu} \psi, \quad \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_{\nu} = \overrightarrow{\partial}_{\nu} - \overleftarrow{\partial}_{\nu} \quad (25)$$

Here L_D denotes the Lagrangian density of a spin-1/2 field, which can be expressed as

$$L_D = \frac{i}{2} \psi \gamma^{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_{\nu} \psi - m \bar{\psi} \psi, \quad (26)$$

- Mathematically, for any original energy-momentum tensor $\hat{T}^{\mu\nu}$ satisfying $\partial_{\mu} \hat{T}^{\mu\nu} = 0$ we can construct a different one by adding the divergence of an antisymmetric object, namely ¹⁴

$$\hat{T}'^{\mu\nu} = \hat{T}^{\mu\nu} + \partial_{\lambda} \hat{A}^{\lambda\mu\nu} ; \quad \hat{A}^{\lambda\mu\nu} = -\hat{A}^{\lambda\nu\mu} \quad (27)$$

- By construction, the new tensor is also conserved, i.e., $\partial_{\mu} \hat{T}'^{\mu\nu} = 0$.
- For spin 1/2 field the energy momentum tensor is "Pseudo-gauge" dependent.

¹⁴E. Speranza and N. Weickgenannt, "Spin tensor and pseudo-gauges: from nuclear collisions to gravitational physics," arXiv:2007.00138 [nucl-th].

- Belinfante-Rosenfeld framework (BR):

$$\hat{T}_{BR} = \frac{i}{2} \psi \gamma \overleftrightarrow{\partial} \psi - \frac{i}{16} \partial \left(\psi \left\{ \gamma, [\gamma, \gamma] \right\} \psi \right). \quad (28)$$

- de Groot-van Leeuwen-van Weert framework (GLW)¹⁵:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{T}_{GLW} &= \frac{1}{4m} \psi \overleftrightarrow{\partial} \overleftrightarrow{\partial} \psi - g L_D \\ &= \frac{1}{4m} \left[\psi (\partial \overleftrightarrow{\partial} \psi) + (\partial \psi) (\partial \psi) + (\partial \psi) (\partial \psi) \right. \\ &\quad \left. (\partial \overleftrightarrow{\partial} \psi) \psi \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

- Hilgevoord-Wouthuysen framework (HW)¹⁶:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{T}_{HW} &= \hat{T}_{Can} + \frac{i}{2m} (\partial \psi \sigma \overleftrightarrow{\partial} \psi + \partial \psi \sigma \overleftrightarrow{\partial} \psi) \\ &\quad - \frac{i}{4m} g \overleftrightarrow{\partial} (\psi \sigma \overleftrightarrow{\partial} \psi), \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

¹⁵S. R. De Groot, Relativistic Kinetic Theory. Principles and Applications. 1980.

¹⁶ Hilgevoord and S. Wouthuysen, Nucl. Phys. 40 (1963) 1-12; J. Hilgevoord and E. De Kerf, Physica 31 No.7 (1965) 1002-1016

Energy density is pseudo-gauge independent

- We define an operator, $\hat{\gamma}_a^{00}$:

$$\hat{\gamma}_a^{00} = \frac{1}{(a^3 \pi)^3} \int d^3 \mathbf{x} \hat{\gamma}^{00}(\mathbf{x}) \exp\left(-\frac{\mathbf{x}^2}{a^2}\right). \quad (31)$$

- We consider the variance

$$\sigma^2(a, m, T) = \hbar : \hat{\gamma}_a^{00} :: \hat{\gamma}_a^{00} : i \quad \hbar : \hat{\gamma}_a^{00} : i^2 \quad (32)$$

and the normalized standard deviation

$$\sigma_n(a, m, T) = \frac{(\hbar : \hat{\gamma}_a^{00} :: \hat{\gamma}_a^{00} : i \quad \hbar : \hat{\gamma}_a^{00} : i^2)^{1/2}}{\hbar : \hat{\gamma}_a^{00} : i}. \quad (33)$$

- Mean/thermal averaged $\hat{\gamma}_a^{00}$:

$$\hbar : \hat{\gamma}_{\text{Can};a}^{00} : i = 4 \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \omega_k f(\omega_k) \quad \varepsilon_{\text{Can}}(T) \quad (34)$$

$$= \hbar : \hat{\gamma}_{\text{BR};a}^{00} : i = \hbar : \hat{\gamma}_{\text{GLW};a}^{00} : i = \hbar : \hat{\gamma}_{\text{HW};a}^{00} : i \quad (35)$$

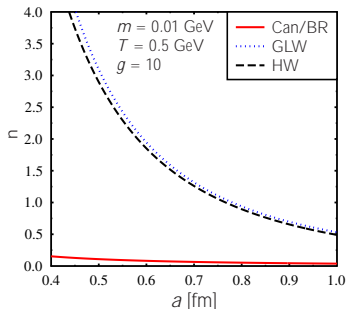
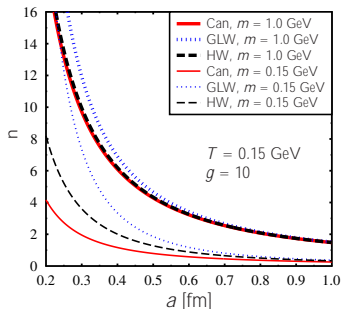
Energy density fluctuation– pseudo-gauge dependent

- Contrary to energy density the energy density fluctuation is pseudo-gauge dependent, e.g.
- For the Canonical framework:

$$\sigma_{\text{Can}}^2(a, m, T) = 2 \int dK dK^0 f(\omega_k) (1 - f(\omega_{k^0})) \left[(\omega_k + \omega_{k^0})^2 (\omega_k \omega_{k^0} + k \cdot k^0 + m^2) e^{-\frac{\beta}{2} (k \cdot k^0)^2} (\omega_k - \omega_{k^0})^2 (\omega_k \omega_{k^0} - k \cdot k^0 - m^2) e^{-\frac{\beta}{2} (k+k^0)^2} \right], \quad (36)$$

- For the de Groot-van Leeuwen-van Weert framework:

$$\sigma_{\text{GLW}}^2(a, m, T) = \frac{1}{2m^2} \int dK dK^0 f(\omega_k) (1 - f(\omega_{k^0})) \left[(\omega_k + \omega_{k^0})^4 (\omega_k \omega_{k^0} - k \cdot k^0 + m^2) e^{-\frac{\beta}{2} (k \cdot k^0)^2} (\omega_k - \omega_{k^0})^4 (\omega_k \omega_{k^0} + k \cdot k^0 - m^2) e^{-\frac{\beta}{2} (k+k^0)^2} \right]. \quad (37)$$



- A comparison of the normalized standard deviation of fluctuations obtained for three different pseudo-gauges (Can=BR, GLW, HW).
- For $a < 0.5$ fm, we observe that the results obtained with various pseudo-gauges differ, with differences growing as a decreases.
- Irrespective of the choice of pseudo-gauges with growing system size the normalized standard deviation of fluctuations (σ_n) decreases.

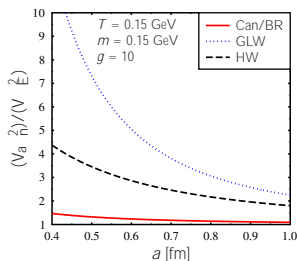
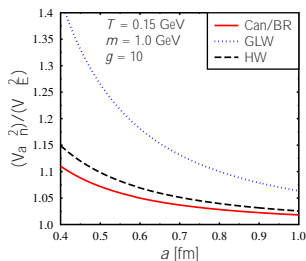
What about thermodynamic limit??

- Using the Gaussian representation of the Dirac delta function it can be shown that, in the large a limit,

$$\sigma_{\text{Can}}^2 = \frac{4g}{(2\pi)^{3=2} a^3} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \omega_k^2 f(\omega_k) \quad (1) \quad f(\omega_k) = \sigma_{\text{BR}}^2 = \sigma_{\text{GLW}}^2 = \sigma_{\text{HW}}^2. \quad (38)$$

- In the large a limit we find,

$$V_a \sigma_n^2 = \frac{T^2 c_V}{\epsilon^2} = V \frac{\hbar E^2 i}{\hbar E i^2} \quad V \sigma_E^2; \quad V_a = a^3 (2\pi)^{3=2}. \quad (39)$$



Conclusions

- We have derived the formula characterizing the quantum fluctuation of energy in subsystems of a hot relativistic gas.
- It agrees with the expression for thermodynamic fluctuations, if the size of the subsystem is sufficiently large.
- For smaller sizes the effects of quantum fluctuations become relevant and the classical description with “well defined energy density” makes sense only after coarse graining over sufficiently large scale.
- For fermions quantum fluctuation of energy density does depend on the choice of the pseudo-gauge.
- On the practical side, the results of our calculations can be used to determine a scale of coarse graining for which the choice of the pseudo-gauge becomes irrelevant.
- This may be useful, in particular, in the context of hydrodynamic modeling of high-energy collisions.
- These results might be relevant for small systems.

Thank You!

Normal ordering: alternative approach

- For a composite operator we considered the following normal ordering method:
 $H_a H_a ! : H_a :: H_a ::$
- Therefore we are first normal ordering first then then multiplying to construct the composite operator.
- Alternatively one can also argue about different method of normal ordering:

PHYSICAL REVIEW D

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Semiclassical gravity theory and quantum fluctuations

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$$\Delta(x) \equiv \left| \frac{\langle : T_{00}^2(x) : \rangle - \langle : T_{00}(x) : \rangle^2}{\langle : T_{00}^2(x) : \rangle} \right|.$$

- If we consider such a normal ordering then:

$$\sigma^2(a, m, T) = \hbar : H_a H_a : i \quad \hbar : H_a : i^2 = \int dK dK^0 f(\omega_K) f(\omega_{K^0})$$

$$\left[(\omega_K \omega_{K^0} + k \cdot k^0 + m^2)^2 e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{2}(k \cdot k^0)^2} + (\omega_K \omega_{K^0} + k \cdot k^0 - m^2)^2 e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{2}(k + k^0)^2} \right].$$

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