The 20th International Conference on QCD in Extreme Conditions (XQCD 2024)

Contribution ID: 52

Type: not specified

Mixing, moats and modulations in dense QCD matter

Wednesday 17 July 2024 09:00 (45 minutes)

nteractions in the hot and dense QCD medium give rise to extensive mixing between hadronic and gluonic degrees of freedom. The resulting mass matrix is non-Hermitian, which can lead to moat regimes with spatial modulations and instabilities towards inhomogeneous phases. I will discuss the underlying physics, implications for the QCD phase diagram and experimental opportunities.

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