Energy and Baryon Emission Surfaces in Relativistic Heavy-Ion Collisions via HBT Correlations

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Introduction

- Under normal conditions, quarks and gluons are confined in hadrons.
- Under extreme conditions, quarks and gluons are deconfined to form QGP.





Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP) created microseconds after the Big Bang, can be recreated in high energy heavy-ion collisions experiments like LHC (CERN, Switzerland) & RHIC (BNL, USA).



Hybrid Model

Consists of four components:

- 1. **GICG** (Glauber Initial Condition Generator) Models the initial energy density distribution using geometry of nuclei.
- 2. **MUSIC** (Modular Unified Solver for the Initial Condition of heavy- ion collisions) Simulates QGP evolution with relativistic hydrodynamics.
- 3. **ISS** (Isochronous Spectra Sampler) Samples particles from the freeze-out hypersurface using the Cooper-Frye formula.
- 4. **URQMD** (Ultra-Relativistic Quantum Molecular Dynamics) Tracks hadronic interactions in the final phase.



Common Bulk Observables



Studying HBT Radii via HBT Interferometry





HBT Interferometry (or Femtoscopy)

In high-energy heavy-ion collisions, HBT interferometry (or Femtoscopy) provides key insights into the geometry and dynamics of particle-emitting sources by measuring two-particle correlations.

The two-particle correlation function is defined as:

$$C(p_1, p_2) = \frac{W_2(p_1, p_2)}{W_1(p_1)W_1(p_2)}$$

where,

$$W_{1}(p) = E_{p} \frac{dN}{d^{3}p} = \int d^{4}x S(x,p)$$

$$W_{2}(p_{1},p_{2}) = E_{p_{1}} E_{p_{2}} \frac{dN}{d^{3}p_{1}d^{3}p_{2}} = \int d^{4}x_{1}d^{4}x_{2}S(x_{1},x_{2},p_{1},p_{2})$$

$$S(x,p) = \sum E_{p} \frac{dN}{d^{3}pd^{4}x}$$



- ➢ Longitudinally Co-Moving System (LCMS) frame of reference − Net $p_z = 0$.
- Bertsch-Pratt Parameterization: out-side-long axes.



Extracting the HBT Radii

- The three Hanbury Brown-Twiss radii are represented as : R_{out}, R_{side} & R_{long} along the three out-side-long axes.
- To extract the three HBT radii from the correlation function $C(q, k_T)$, where $q = (p_1 - p_2) \& k_T = \frac{1}{2} (p_1 + p_2)$, we assume that the single particle emission function S(x, p) is a three-dimensional ellipsoid with a Gaussian density profile. Using this form of definition, we obtain the correlation function as:

$$C(q,k_T) = 1 + \lambda exp \left[-R_{out}^2(k_T)q_{out}^2 - R_{side}^2(k_T)q_{side}^2 - R_{long}^2(k_T)q_{long}^2 \right]$$



Correlation Function Plots for Pions & Kaons



Fig: The 3-D C(q) vs q plots for 0-10% centrality Au-Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \ GeV$. $0.1 \ GeV/c < k_T < 1.0 \ GeV/c$; |y| < 1.0(a) For $\pi^+\pi^+$ pairs, (b) For $\pi^-\pi^-$ pairs; (c) For $\kappa^+\kappa^+$ pairs; (d) For $\kappa^-\kappa^-$ pairs



Correlation Function Plots for Protons & Anti-Protons



Fig: The 3-D C(q) vs q plots for 0-10% centrality Au-Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$. $0.1 \text{ GeV/c} < k_T < 1.0 \text{ GeV/c}$; |y| < 1.0(a) For pp pairs, (b) For pp pairs



Correlation Function Plots for Protons & Anti-Protons



HBT Radii Distribution for Pions & Kaons



Fig: The three HBT Radii vs k_T plots for 0-10% centrality Au-Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$. $0.02 \text{ GeV/c} < k_T < 2.0 \text{ GeV/c}$; |y| < 1.0(a) For $\pi^+\pi^+$ pairs, (b) For $\pi^-\pi^-$ pairs; (c) For $\kappa^+\kappa^+$ pairs; (d) For $\kappa^-\kappa^-$ pairs



HBT Radii Distribution for Protons & Anti-Protons



Fig: The three HBT radii vs k_T plots for 0-10% centrality Au-Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}$. $0.02 \text{ GeV/c} < k_T < 2.0 \text{ GeV/c}$; |y| < 1.0(a) For pp pairs, (b) For pp pairs



Summary

- Calculated 3-D correlation functions for various meson, baryon and anti-baryon pairs.
- Extracted the three HBT Radii and visualized its trend with k_T for different particle pairs.
- Significant Baryon-antibaryon splitting in HBT radii observed at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200 \text{ GeV}.$

Upcoming Work:

- Calculate the HBT Radii at lower collision energies.
- Study centrality dependence of HBT Radii.
- Explore azimuthally-sensitive HBT Radii [arXiv:2410.15134(2024)].







