Effect of weak magnetic field in QGP



Li Yan

Institute of Modern Physics, Fudan Univerity

West lake workshop on nuclear physics, October, 2024

with Jing-An Sun, Minghua Wei, arXiv: 2302.07696, 2311.03929, 2401.07458, 2406.10041

Electromagnetic field in heavy-ion collisions



• Initially the field is strong,

$$eB/m_{\pi}^2 \sim \begin{cases} O(1) & \text{RHIC} \\ O(10) & \text{LHC} \end{cases}$$

[Skokov and Bzdak 2012, Deng and Huang 2012, Kharzeev 2008, Tuchin 2010, Skokov and Mclerann 2013, ...]

[T. Bowman and J. Abramowitz/Brookhaven National Laboratory]

- Generated from the relativistic motion of nucleus (spectators).
- From fluctuations of nucleons inside nucleus -- finite in central (small) collision.

Decay of B and thermalization of QGP



[Mclerran and Skokov, 1305.0774, A. Huang et al, 2212.08579, J-J. Zhang et al, 2201.06171, U. Gursoy et al, 1401.3805, L Yan and X. Huang, 2104.00831, K. Hattori and X. Huang, 1609.00747, and many others]

• EM fields become weak as QGP starts to evolve hydrodynamically,

$$eB(\tau > \tau_{\rm hyd})/m_{\pi}^2 \sim (0.01, 0.1)$$

Weak field in terms of QCD scales, but still quite strong in nature!

• effect of eB in a charged medium, e.g., QGP



[see Huang, Zhao and Zhuang, 2208.01407, for weak field vs. temperature]

Weak magnetic field corrects quark distribution

$$p^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}f + qF^{\mu\nu}p_{\mu}\frac{\partial}{\partial p^{\nu}}f = C[f] \sim \frac{f - n_{\rm eq}}{\tau_R}$$

• Solving Boltzmann-Vlasov transport eq. using Chapman-Enskog method,

$$f = n_{\rm eq} + \delta f_{\rm EM}$$

• At leading order in $|eB|/T^2$ one finds solution (scalar),

$$\delta f_{\rm EM} \sim \tau_R Q F^{\mu\nu} p_\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial p^\nu} n_{\rm eq} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \Delta j^\mu = \sigma_{\rm el} E^\mu = \sum Q_f \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}}{p^0} p^\mu \delta f_{\rm EM}$$

• Concerning quark spin dof, it is similar but one needs to generalize n_{eq} to \mathcal{F}_{eq} (tensor),

$$\delta \mathscr{F}_{\rm EM} = -\frac{\bar{\tau}}{T} Q F^{\mu\nu} p_{\mu} \frac{\partial}{\partial p^{\nu}} \mathscr{F}_{\rm eq} \qquad \Delta j^{\mu} = \sigma_{\rm el} E^{\mu} = \sum Q_f \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p}}{p^0} p^{\mu} \mathrm{tr}_2 [\delta \mathscr{F}_{\rm EM} - \delta \overline{\mathscr{F}}_{\rm EM}] \,,$$

• dissipation due to shear force

$$T^{\mu\nu} = T^{\mu\nu}_{\rm ideal} + \pi^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\pi_{\mu\nu} \sim 2\eta \nabla_{\langle \mu} u_{\nu\rangle}$$

$$\delta f_{\pi} \sim \frac{n_{\rm eq}'}{\chi_e} p^{\mu} p^{\nu} \pi_{\mu\nu}$$

• dissipation due to EM force

$$J^{\mu} = n_c u^{\mu} + \Delta J^{\mu}$$

$$\Delta J^{\mu} = \sigma_{\rm el} F^{\mu\nu} u_{\nu} = \sigma_{\rm el} E^{\mu}$$

$$\delta f_{\rm EM} \sim \frac{n_{\rm eq}'}{\chi_n} p^{\mu} \Delta J_{\mu}$$

- 1. Direct photon production: postdiction
- 2. Lambda hyperon local polarization: postdiction
- 3. Virtual photon polarization: prediction

Direct photons in heavy-ion collisions

Produced during the whole system evolution (exclude hadron decay)



• Direct photons = prompt + pre-equ.+ thermal from QGP and HG + jet etc.

Direct photon elliptic flow (theory)



• Experimental observation: $v_2^{\gamma} \approx v_2^{\text{hadron}}$



- QGP with elastic and inelastic processes
- NNLO pQCD for prompt photons
- LO thermal AMY rate
- Hadron gas photon productions
- Dissipative corrections from shear and bulk
- Chemical equilibration in QGP
- There is no EM field!

Direct photon puzzle



[C. Gale et al, 2016.00216, G. David, 1907.08893]

Weak magnetic photon emission from QGP (pQCD)



Correct production rate from kinetic theory (pQCD calculation)

$$R^{\gamma} \propto \sum_{i} \int d\Phi |\mathcal{M}_{i}|^{2} f_{q/g} f_{q/g} (1 \pm f_{q/g}) \propto \alpha \alpha_{s} I_{c} f_{q}$$

NB: small angle approximation is not a necessary step, but good for illustration

Weak magnetic photon emission from QGP (pQCD)



Include all dissipative corrections, including correction by EM field

$$f_q \to \bar{f}_q + \delta f_{\rm EM} \quad \Rightarrow \quad R^{\gamma} = \bar{R}^{\gamma} + R^{\gamma}_{\rm EM}$$

the background rate quark distribution contains viscous corrections.



EbE hydro results: RHIC direct photon v2



- Numerical EbE hydro simulations: Trento3D + MUSIC + LEOS.
- Experimental data can be reproduced, with a proper parameter $\rho \equiv \frac{\sigma_{\rm el}}{T} \frac{\overline{eB_y}}{m_{\pi}^2}$
- There is a systematic increase of the parameter according to photon v2.



• Weak magnetic contribution to direct photon yields is marginal.

Estimate of the time averaged eB



• This is only a rough estimate of the upper bound of realistic eB.

Lambda hyperon polarization

[Liang and Wang, PRL 2006, The STAR collaboration, 2303.09074] Local polarization along beam axis: spin of particles records rotating properties of QGP



- In thermal equilibrium: spin ~ thermal vorticity generated owing to initial geometry.
- Sign observed against naive hydro expectation using thermal vorticity: sign problem

Motivation with eB: centrality dependence



• Consistent entrality dependence between Pz and eB(b), at least qualitatively.

Polarized particle from QGP due to weak B

[F. Becattini et al., Annals of Physics 338 (2013) 32–49] Spin of particles emitted from fluid: converted from thermal vorticity, SIP, etc.

• In equilibrium solution:

$$P^{\mu}(p) = \frac{p_{\tau}}{2m} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \frac{\int d\Sigma \cdot p \ n_{\rm eq} \bar{\omega}^{\rho\sigma}}{\int d\Sigma \cdot p \ n_{\rm eq}}$$

• With also SIP contribution: (LY and BBP) [S. Y. F. Liu and Y. Yin, JHEP 07, 188 (2021) F. Becattini, et al, Plb 820, 136519 (2021), arXiv:2103.10917]

$$\bar{\omega}^{\rho\sigma} \to \bar{\omega}^{\rho\sigma} + \mathrm{SIP}$$

• With weak EM dissipative contribution:

$$P^{\mu}(\mathbf{p}) = -\frac{1}{8m} \epsilon^{\mu\alpha\beta\sigma} p_{\sigma} \frac{\int d\Sigma \cdot p \left[n_F (1 - n_F) + (1 - 2n_F) \delta f_{\rm EM} \right] \omega_{\alpha\beta}}{\int d\Sigma \cdot p \left(n_F + \delta f_{\rm EM} \right)}$$

• Global polarization merely affected!

Local polarization and weak B field (fixed centrality)



- Geometry does play a role, without eB (or other corrections): negative, and |n=2|>|n=3|.
- Sign problem can be solved by a weak B field, in addition to SIP.
- Flip of ordering between n=2 and n=3 can only be found with a finite B field.

Confront experimental data:



strangeness quark mass = 0.8 GeV

strangeness quark mass = 0.5 GeV

• s-quark mass is effectively a parameter due to Chiral symmetry breaking in Lambda.

Estimate of eB from Lambda polarization



• quantitatively consistency comparing to the values from direct photon elliptic flow.



• Thermal dileptons from QGP:

$$q\bar{q} \to \gamma^* \to l\bar{l}$$

• Dominant source of dilepton at intermediate invariant mass.

• Could the dilepton (virtual photon) be polarized?

Thermal dilepton (in QGP virtual photon) polarization



- Virtual photon approximates a intermediate massive spin-1 particle state.
- Polarization states of virtual photon determined by qqbar annihiliation in QGP.

$$\frac{dR}{d^4Qd\Omega_l} \sim \mathcal{N}(1+\lambda_\theta\cos^2\theta+\lambda_\phi\sin^2\theta_l\cos 2\phi_l+\ldots) \qquad \lambda_\theta = \frac{\rho_{++}+\rho_{--}-2\rho_{00}}{\rho_{++}+\rho_{--}+2\rho_{00}}$$

[cf. E. Speranza et al. PLB 782 (2018) 395-400]



• Exp. measured dilepton polarization from NA60

QGP dilepton in the presence of an external eB



• The external eB induces extra polarization of the quark pair in QGP.

Numerical results for $M_{\gamma} = 2$ GeV (Bjorken flow)

• Effect is remarkable wrt. finite eB, and B field life time:



 $\lambda_{\theta} < 0$ longitudinal polar.

 $\lambda_{\theta} > 0$ transverse polar.

Numerical results for $M_{\gamma} = 2$ GeV (Bjorken flow)

• Effect is remarkable wrt. finite eB, and B field life time:



- There must be (at least) weak EM fields in QGP.
- Weak EM fields result in dissipative corrections in QGP fluid.
- Consequences:
- 1. A weak magnetic field can leads to significant direct photon v_2 .
- 2. Change sign of local Lambda polarization
- 3. Extra polarization of virtual photons.
- 4. Expect: Splittings among charged v1, but needs to be verified.

Back-up slides

- 1. Weak EM field does not change background (neutrual) medium evolution.
- 2. Weak EM field leads to dissipative correction in conserved current,

$$J_{\rm el}^{\mu} = n_c U^{\mu} + \sigma_{\rm el} F^{\mu\nu} U_{\nu}$$

3. Charged components evolve slightly differently in weak EM field,

$$\partial_{\mu}\Delta T^{\mu\nu} = J_{\mu}F^{\mu\nu} \to (e+P)D\Delta U^{\mu} = \frac{1}{2}Q_{+}E^{\mu}(n_{+}+n_{-}) + O(\nabla^{2})$$

=> QGP bulk evolution is not affected, but charge dependent components feel the presence of the weak EM field, e.g., charged dependent flow

[The STAR collaboration, 2304,03430. U. Gursoy, D. Kharzeev, and K. Rajagopal, PRC 89, 054905 (2014)]

Photon elliptic flow and hadron v_1

- Elliptic flow of photon then requires in the background QGP a v_1 component. [P. Bozek et al., 1101.3354]
- Exp. measured photons in even rapidity window => one needs a rapidity-odd v₁ in the background.
- Theory: EbE 3+1D hydro + weak B field to solve the direct photon puzzle.



[STAR collaboration, PRL 101, 252301 (2008)]



Dilepton yields



