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## Quark production, Bose-Einstein condensates and thermalization of the quark-gluon plasma

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In this talk, I would like to report the results of our recent work on the thermalization of gluons and  $N_f$  flavors of massless quarks and antiquarks in a spatially homogeneous system. First, we give two coupled transport equations for gluons and quarks (and antiquarks), which are derived within the diffusion approximation of the Boltzmann equation with only  $2 \leftrightarrow 2$  processes included in the collision term. These transport equations are solved

numerically in order to study the thermalization of the quark-gluon plasma. Next, we discuss three different patterns of the thermalization of the quark-gluon system. At initial time, we assume that no quarks or antiquarks are present

and we choose the gluon distribution in the form  $f = f_0 \theta \left(1 - \frac{p}{Q_s}\right)$  with  $Q_s$  the saturation momentum and  $f_0$  a constant. The subsequent evolution of systems

may, or may not, lead to the formation of a (transient) Bose condensate, depending on the value of  $f_0$ . The three patterns of thermalization are as follows: (a) thermalization without gluon Bose-Einstein condensates (BEC) for  $f_0 \leq f_{0t}$ ,

(b) thermalization with transient BEC for  $f_{0t} < f_0 \leq f_{0c}$  and (c) thermalization with BEC for  $f_{0c} < f_0$ . Here, the values of  $f_{0t}$  and  $f_{0c}$  depend on  $N_f$ . When  $f_0 \geq 1 > f_{0c}$ , the formation of BEC starts at a finite

time  $t_c \sim \frac{1}{(\alpha_s f_0)^2} \frac{1}{Q_s}$ . We also find that the equilibration time for  $N_f = 3$  is typically about 5 to 6 times longer than that for  $N_f = 0$  at the same  $Q_s$ .

### On behalf of collaboration:

None

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