Chirality Retreat @ UCLA.

Dec. 3, 2022

Perspectives & Discussions on the CME Search





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Plan of the Talk

- Some recent progress
- Discussions on current status
- Discussions on what's next

Chiral Magnetic Effect (CME): Macroscopic Chiral Anomaly



Two key ingredients: Macroscopic chirality, i.e. RH/LH imbalance; Strong magnetic field.

Looking for CME Signals in Nuclear Collisions CME transport induces a charge dipole distribution along magnetic field direction in the QGP fluid.



A specific emission pattern of charged particles along B field: Same-sign hadrons emitted preferably side-by-side; Opposite-sign hadrons emitted preferably back-to-back.

Have We Seen the CME?

- First measurement ~ 2009 by STAR;
- Efforts in past decades by STAR, ALICE, CMS @ RHIC and LHC
- Search from ~10GeV to ~5020GeV beam energies
- Various colliding systems pA, dA, CuCu, AuAu, UU, PbPb

It proves to be a very difficult search: Very small signal contaminated by very strong background correlations!

Major charge-dependent backgrounds have been identified: Resonance decay; local charge conservation (LCC)



Roughly scaling ~ v2 / N

Redefining the question: extracting / constraining the fraction of CME signal within the measured correlations

$$\gamma = \gamma^{CME} + \gamma^{bkg}$$

Fighting with Backgrounds

We are not alone!

Think about many other famous searches, e.g. for Higgs, gravitational wave, temperature fluctuations of CMB, EDM, WIMP, 2-beta decay, ...

Two-component decomposition/competition: CME signal driven by B field; Backgrounds driven by bulk elliptic flow. [Bzdak, Koch, JL: arXiv:1207.7327]

Various new approaches, especially contrast methods:

- vary bulk flow for fixed B, e.g. event shape analysis
- vary B for fixed bulk flow, e.g. isobar collisions
- vary B and bulk flow in opposite way, e.g. EP versus SP

Need theoretical tool for quantitatively and realistically understanding both signals and backgrounds!

CME Working Group @ BEST Collaboration



[Shuzhe Shi, JL, ..., arXiv:1611.04586; 1711.02496; 1910.14010] [BEST Collaboration publication: Nucl. Phys. A 1017(2022)122343]

Hydrodynamic Realization of CME in HIC











[Shi, JL, ..., arXiv:1611.04586; 1711.02496; 1910.14010]

EBE-AVFD as a Key Theoretical Tool

EBE-AVFD has now become a very useful tool for developing CME observables, calibrating sensitivity to signals and backgrounds, as well as interpreting data.

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Investigation of experimental observables in search of the chiral magnetic effect in heavy-ion collisions in the STAR experiment*

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[STAR CME & Shuzhe Shi & JL, CPC46(2022)4,014101, arXiv:2105.06044]

Axial Charge Dynamics Axial charge from initial gluon topological fluctuations; Stochastic dynamics during dynamical evolution



[A. Huang, S. Shi, S. Lin, X. Guo, JL, arXiv:2106.10847]

Axial Charge Dynamics

Initial axial charge profile:



$$n_{5,i}(\tau_0, x, y) = (\pm) \cdot \lambda \frac{Q_s^2}{8\pi^2} \tau_0 \left[\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \right]$$

[Hirono, Hirano, Kharzeev, arXiv:1412.0311]

Stochastic evolution:

$$\partial_{\mu}J^{\mu}_{f,5} = -\frac{N_c Q_f^2}{2\pi^2} E \cdot B - \frac{n_{f,5}}{\tau_{cs}}$$
$$\tau_{cs} = \frac{\chi T}{2N_f^2 \Gamma_{cs}} \quad \Gamma_{cs} \approx 30(\alpha_s T)^4$$

[latrakis, Lin, Yin, arXiv:1411.2863;1506.01384]

Axial Charge Dynamics



[A. Huang, S. Shi, S. Lin, X. Guo, JL, arXiv:2106.10847]

Dynamical Magnetic Fields

Need a framework for describing dynamical evolution of magnetic fields that is as realistic as possible

Dynamical magnetic fields in heavy-ion collisions

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[A. Huang, et al, to appear soon]

Dynamical Magnetic Fields

Numerically solving Maxwell's equations on top of bulk hydro evolution; weak field method;

Medium response via spacetime dependent conductivity



Dynamical Magnetic Fields



Main takeaways:

Medium effect at hydro stage too late; Effective medium response at early stage crucial; Longitudinal expansion important while transverse expansion details not so important.



Late-time magnetic field could explain the polarization difference;

 $\tau_B \simeq \frac{115 \text{GeV} \cdot \text{fm/c}}{\sqrt{s_{NN}}}$

16

[Guo, Shi, Feng, JL, arXiv:1905.12613, PLB2019; Mueller, Schaefer, 1806.10907]

Charged rotating fluid contributes to late-time B field via Barnett-like mechanism.

[Guo, JL, Wang, arXiv:1904.04704, Scientific Reports 2020]

Constraining B Field Lifetime



Net proton fluctuations (cumulants) could be sensitive to late magnetic field effect

[Y. Guo, et al, to appear soon]

Discussions on CME Search: Current Status



The Isobar Blind Analysis

Search for the Chiral Magnetic Effect with Isobar Collisions at $\sqrt{s_{_{\rm NN}}} = 200$ GeV by the STAR Collaboration at RHIC

[STAR paper: 2109.00131. Phys.Rev.C 105 (2022) 1, 014901]

VII. CONCLUSION

We report an experimental test of the Chiral Magnetic Effect by a blind analysis of a large statistics data set of isobar ${}^{96}_{44}\text{Ru} + {}^{96}_{44}\text{Ru}$ and ${}^{96}_{40}\text{Zr} + {}^{96}_{40}\text{Zr}$ collisions at nucleon-nucleon center-of-mass energy of 200 GeV, taken in 2018 by the STAR Collaboration at RHIC. The backgrounds are reduced using the difference in observables between the two isobar collision systems. The criteria for a positive CME observation are predefined, prior to the blind analysis, as a significant excess of the CME-sensitive observables in Ru+Ru collisions over those in Zr+Zr collisions. Consistent results are obtained by the five independent groups in this blind analysis. Significant differences in the multiplicity and flow harmonics are observed between the two systems in a given centrality, indicating that the magnitude of the CME background is different between the two species. A precision down to 0.4% is achieved in the relative magnitudes of pertinent observables between the two isobar systems. No CME signature that satisfies the predefined criteria has been observed in isobar collisions in this blind analysis.

A translation that does not create confusion:

"The predefined criteria is not applicable as its assumption is invalided by the same dataset. No real conclusion could be reached yet."

Isobar Comparison Strategy Key for success: identical bulk between RuRu & ZrZr. There may be worries owing to uncertainty in nuclear geometry. S. Shi, H. Zhang, D. Hou, JL, arXiv:1807.05604; H.J. Xu, et al, PRL2018; H. Elfner & collaborators, arXiv: 1908.10231

Strategies to overcome the issue: — apply joint multiplicity ellipticity cut for event samples — stay at the relatively peripheral region



Fig. 1. (Color online) The relative difference in eccentricity $\Delta \langle \epsilon_2 \rangle$ (left) and projected magnetic-field-strength-squared $\Delta (B_{sq})$ (right) between RuRu and ZrZr, with conventional centrality event selection.



Fig. 2. (Color online) The relative difference in eccentricity $\Delta \langle \epsilon_2 \rangle$ (left) and projected magnetic-field-strength-squared $\Delta (B_{sq})$ (right) between RuRu and ZrZr, with the proposed joint (multiplicity + elliptic-flow) event selection.

Theoretical Predictions from EBE-AVFD

Quantitative predictions of CME signal with proper multiplicity-v2 joint selections that suppress background difference.



Where is the Baseline ?!



There appears room for potential CME signal above the 1/N line! Need accurate calibration of the true baseline!

< 1

$$\gamma_{bkg} \propto \frac{1}{N_{ch}}$$
 $N_{ch}^{Ru} > N_{ch}^{Zr}$ $\frac{\gamma_{bkg}^{Ru}}{\gamma_{bkg}^{Zr}}$

Implications of the Isobar Results $\gamma = \gamma^{CME} + \gamma^{bkg}$

Original (naive) expectation: Identical background; Different signal

The real world situation: [Khazeev, JL, Shi, arXiv:2205.00120]



See more in-depth discussions in talks by F. Wang and by S. Shi

CME Search at LHC Energies



More sophisticated (model-dep.) assumption of B dependence on v2 within a given centrality Upper limit 26%

0.06

0.08

0.1

Assume CME does not depend on v_2 within a given centrality Upper limit 7%

0.15)

Cent. 50-60%

 $v_2(|\eta| < 2.4)$

0.05

Cent. 60-70%

0.15

 $v_2(|\eta| < 2.4)$

0.05

[From: F. Wang talk @QM22]

0.12

 V_2

 $\langle \cos(\varphi_{a} + \varphi_{b} - 2\Psi_{2}) \rangle^{*} dN/d\eta \text{ (opp - same)}$

0.05

0

0

0.02

0.04

Azimuthally Fluctuating Magnetic Fields

Bloczynski, et al, arXiv:1209.6594[PLB]

Two very important points in this paper: * azimuthal correlation/de-correlation between B fiend and geometry * finite size of proton must be taken into account



B field has different angular (de-)correlation with RP and with EP, and is NOT correlated with triangular-EP — a valuable feature for validating B-field induced signal !!

25

Event-Plane/Spectator-Plane Contrast

H.-j. Xu, FW, et al., CPC 42 (2018) 084103, arXiv:1710.07265 S.A. Voloshin, PRC 98 (2018) 054911, arXiv:1805.05300



CME signal in 20~50% AuAu at RHIC 200GeV at 1~3 sigma level

[From: F. Wang talk @QM22]



[STAR PRL128,092301(2022)]

Discussions on CME Search: Current Status

- LHC: stringent limits; likely not detectable
- RHIC AuAu: Nonzero signal @ 200GeV, 1~3 sigma level
- Isobar: high precision data revealing bulk property (and thus background) variation; baseline in need of calibration; room for a signal fraction at few percent

Discussions on CME Search: What's Next

- Isobar: post-blind analysis, informed baseline, alternative approach (e.g. multiplicity selection), extracting signal fraction or at least a reliable upper limit
- RHIC AuAu: upcoming large data set 2023~2025, pushing measurements toward high sigma level for a decisive conclusion
- Beam energy scan: mapping the full range beam energy dependence of CME phenomenon from BES energies to LHC energies