

Vorticity and polarization in baryon-rich matter

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We study the structure of vorticity and hydrodynamic helicity fields in peripheral heavy ion collisions using the kinetic Quark-Gluon String and Hadron-String Dynamics models. We observe the formation of specific toroidal structures of vorticity field (vortex sheets). Their existence is mirrored in the polarization of hyperons of the percent order. Its rapid decrease with energy was predicted and recently confirmed by STAR collaboration. The energy dependence is sensitive to the temperature dependent term derived and discussed in various theoretical approaches. The antihyperon polarization is of the same sign and larger magnitude. The crucial role of strange vector mesons is also discussed.

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