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Evidence for electromagnetic fields in the initial stages



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27/06/19

Introduction

In non-central heavy-ion collisions an enormous magnetic field (10¹⁸ G)
 is generated by the movement of the spectator protons



Several anomalous chiral effects have been predicted to be created in the QGP

- Chiral Magnetic Effect
- Chiral Magnetic Wave
- Chiral Vortical Effect

and are expected to bring information on possible local CP violation in strong interactions and on the non-trivial topologies of QCD

ALICE, CMS and STAR experiments have been put efforts into such studies for more than a decade

Snapshot timeline



CME - how do we measure it

the experimental observable: charge separation across the reaction plane



It can be measured with charge dependent 2- and 3-particle correlators:

$$\delta_{+,-} = \langle \cos(\phi_{+} - \phi_{-}) \rangle$$

$$\gamma_{+,-} = \langle \cos(\phi_{+} + \phi_{-} - 2\Psi_{RP}) \rangle$$

Voloshin: Phys. Rev. C 70, 057901 (2004)



CME correlators

 \Rightarrow significant difference in $\gamma_{a,b}$ same vs opp.

⇒ sign of the difference correct, but **background largely present!**



STAR: Phys. Rev. Lett. 103, 251601 (2009) ALICE: Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 012301 (2013) CMS: Phys. Rev. Lett. 118, 122301 (2017)

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$$\gamma_{+,-} = \langle \cos(\phi_+ + \phi_- - 2\Psi_{RP}) \rangle$$

Main background sources:

- transverse momentum conservation
- flow fluctuations
- local charge conservation

CME - upper limits

ALICE: Physics Letters B 777, 151 (2018) CMS: Phys. Rev. C 97, 044912 (2018).



CME correlators with Event-Shape-Engineering in Pb-Pb collisions at the LHC by ALICE and CMS

Assumption:

CME is v₂-independent, background is not (scale linearly)

Results: compatible with background-only hypothesis

Upper limits (3.8% CMS, 26-33% ALICE) strongly depend on assumptions on signal and background: more studies are needed!



magnetic field in heavy-ion collision is expected to lead to several novel phenomena e.g. Chiral Magnetic Effect (CME)

 → hard to decouple signal (charge separation across reaction plane) from background (local charge conservation + flow)
 → very few constraints from theory: difficult phenomena to model + uncertainties in estimating the magnetic field

proposal: charge-dependent directed flow measure a simpler and cleaner observable (not related to the chiral imbalance), use it to calibrate the strength and lifetime of the electromagnetic field



The idea*

- → very few ingredients needed: charged and conductive QGP



presence of a conducting QGP substantially delays the decay of the magnetic field

- assumption: constant conductivity as a function of temperature $\sigma = 0.023 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

H.-T. Ding, et al, Phys. Rev. D 83, 034504 B. B. Brandt et al, JHEP 1303, 100 (2013) A. Amato, et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 172001 (2013)



- → varying magnetic field will influence moving charges (quarks)
- very few ingredients needed: charged and conductive QGP
- ⇒ the result: charge-dependent **directed flow**, asymmetric in rapidity





*first proposed by Gursoy *et al:* Phys. Rev. C 89, 054905 (2014)



The idea*

- very few ingredients needed: charged and conductive QGP
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The idea*

- very few ingredients needed: charged and conductive QGP
- ⇒ the result: charge-dependent **directed flow**, asymmetric in rapidity





Charge-dependent v₁

⇒ prediction for Pb-Pb collisions at 2.76 TeV: ~10-5



- the rapidity slope varies with p_T , different contribution of Faraday and Lorentz



How do we measure the directed flow



$$v_{1}(A,C) = \frac{\left\langle \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{Q}^{A,C} \right\rangle}{\sqrt{\left| \left\langle \mathbf{Q}^{A} \cdot \mathbf{Q}^{C} \right\rangle \right|}} = \frac{\left\langle u_{x} \cdot Q_{x}^{A,C} + u_{y} \cdot Q_{y}^{A,C} \right\rangle}{\sqrt{\left| \left\langle Q_{x}^{A} \cdot Q_{x}^{C} + Q_{y}^{A} \cdot Q_{y}^{C} \right\rangle \right|}},$$

N.B. the convention is to choose $v_1 > 0$ for spectators at $\eta > 0$

- - we use the **spectator neutrons** that fly at beam rapidity (ZDCs)
 - therefore, we call it spectator plane (~reaction plane)

v1 energy dependence

 v_1^{odd} : compressibility \rightarrow initial tilt / rotation of the system

$$v_1^{\text{odd}} = \frac{1}{2}(v_1\{\Psi_A\} - v_1\{\Psi_C\}).$$

- dv₁odd/dη decreases by a factor ~1.3
 between 2.76 and 5.02 TeV
- qualitatively consistent with energy dependence observed from RHIC to LHC
 decreased rotation of initial system
- Caveat: different centrality ranges, but no significant centrality dependence observed

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Charge-dependent v₁



 \Rightarrow hint of a charge difference: Δv₁ odd = v₁ odd(+) - v₁ odd(-) ≠ 0 (**2.6σ significance**)

I order of magnitude bigger: long-lived magnetic field? early thermalization?
 opposite sign: dominance of Lorentz force?

Charge-dependent v₁ with **BES**



STAR: Phys.Rev.Lett. 112 (2014) no.16, 162301



- ⇒ proton stopping seems important at low RHIC energies
 and the importance decrease with increasing energy
- Is the effect observed at LHC related to possible baryon stopping?
 - At LHC $\mu_B \sim 0$, look at identified particle!

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Can we do something more?





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Can we do something more?







Why open heavy-flavour?

→ formation time ~ 0.1 fm/c → comparable to the time scale
 when B is maximum



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Why open heavy-flavour?

→ formation time ~ 0.1 fm/c → comparable to the time scale
 when B is maximum

resultant effects entail a significantly large directed flow v₁ of charm quarks compared to light quarks



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EM field + tilting of the system

⇒ Charm quark is produced early, shifted from the bulk
→ larger directed flow of heavy-flavour mesons.

Heavy-flavour can be used as a probe of initial state longitudinal profile of matter distribution



EM field + tilting of the system

Electromagnetic field introduce a separation between charm and anti-charm

⇒ Beam energy dependence:

 \rightarrow constant v_1^{diff} and decreasing v_1^{avg} due to decreasing tilting with increasing energy

arXiv:1804.04893 Phys.Rev.Lett. 120 (2018) no.19, 192301

$$v_1^{
m avg}
eq 0$$
, $v_1^{
m diff}
eq 0$





STAR results in Au-Au



Observed negative slopes for both D⁰ and anti-D⁰ - Tilt imprinting

⇒ Charge-integrated v₁ for charmed hadrons is 25 times larger than kaons (3.4σ significance)

predicted signal of the charge-dependent v₁ of D meson is smaller than precision achieved



ALICE results



⇒ Despite the large uncertainties
 → hint of a positive slope for D⁰
 and negative for anti-D⁰

⇒ Hint: signal factor 10 higher then prediction: Phys. Let B 768, 2017, 260-264
 → long-lived magnetic field?
 → early thermalisation?

 ⇔ Opposite trend of D⁰ and anti-D⁰ w.r.t prediction: Phys. Let B 768, 2017, 260-264 → dominance of Lorentz force?

⇒ Do we see the effect of the electro-magnetic field only?

ALICE results

$$\Delta v_1^{odd}(\eta) = k \times \eta$$



⇒ rapidity dependence of the charge difference Δv₁ is fitted using a linear function with slope k

k = 0.52 +/- 0.18 (stat) +/- 0.06 (syst)

A Not yet high significance of the measurements (2.7σ)

⇒ Hint of an opposite slope w.r.t theory calculations

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Charged partivle vs heavy-flavour



The 3 orders of magnitude difference between charged-particle and heavy-flavour predicted by theory will be experimentally accessible 20

New from theory!



Simulate the evolution of the expanding QGP hydro-dynamically, using the iEBE-VISHNU framework, and add the magnetic and electric fields as well as the generated currents

New from theory!



- ⇒ Similar order of magnitude w.r.t to measurements (~10-3)
- ⇒ Found a charge-odd v₃ also odd in rapidity and that has a similar physical origin
- $\Rightarrow The electric field produced by the net charge density of the plasma drives rapidity-even charge-dependent < p_T > and elliptic flow v_2$ 22

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1) **Charge-integrated** directed flow gives **unique insight into the initial tilt** of the produced matter. Probe of initial state longitudinal profile of matter distribution

From RHIC to LHC a decrease of the v1 as a function of rapidity
 suggest a smaller tilt of the system at higher energies

⇒ charm is produced early

- shifted from the bulk and a larger v1 w.r.t light quark is measured

2) Charge-dependent directed flow used to investigate the magnetic field created in the initial stages of heavy-ion collisions

At RHIC: predicted signal of the charge-dependent v₁ of D meson is smaller than precision achieved

 \Rightarrow At LHC: Not yet high significance of the measurements (2.7 σ) - Hint for a signal factor 10 higher and with an opposite trend then prediction







Analysis strategy

SP in which the Q vector is reconstructed from the spectator at beam rapidity

Analysis performed as a function of the invariant mass

$$v_1(M) = \frac{S(M)}{S(M) + B(M)} * v_1^S + \frac{B(M)}{S(M) + B(M)} * v_B^1(M).$$

Assumption of directed flow for the background

$$v_1^{bg}$$
 (M_{INV}) = $p_0 + p_1 \times M_{INV}$



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Projection for Run3/4



ALI-SIMUL-140060

Extremely good significance is expected in Run3/4 Simulations done according to the values predicted by theory



