Quark-gluon plasma in magnetic fields

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The quark-gluon plasma (QGP)



Extremely hot (~300 MeV ≈ 3.5 · 10¹² K)

 Phase of matter consisting of deconfined quarks and gluons



- Asymptotic freedom the strong force between quarks and gluons decreases with increasing relative momentum
- Colour confinement colour-charged particles cannot be isolated

The quark-gluon plasma (QGP)



- The QGP existed in nature only soon after the Big Bang (10⁻¹² to 10⁻⁶ s)
- We are able to study the QGP in the laboratory through heavy-ion collision experiments



• Extremely hot (~300 MeV $\approx 3.5 \cdot 10^{12}$ K)

Units: *t* **[fm**/*c*], *c* = 1, \hbar = 1

- Measuring time in fm/*c* is convenient for describing the motion of high-speed particles in a laboratory setting.
- We understand it as time in which the light traveled a femtometer.
- In 1 second the light will travel $3 \cdot 10^8$ m (1 s $\cdot c = 3 \cdot 10^8$ m)
- The light will travel a 1 meter in $3.3 \cdot 10^{-9}$ s (1 m/c = 1/(3 \cdot 10^8) \approx 3.3 \cdot 10^{-9} s)
- The light will travel a 1 femtometer in $3.3 \cdot 10^{-24}$ s (1 fm/c = 10^{-15} m/c = $10^{-15}/(3 \cdot 10^8) \approx 3.3 \cdot 10^{-24}$ s)
- A femtometer is a size characteristic for the problem of nuclei collision
- Nucleon size $\approx 10^{-15}$ m = 1 fm

Magnetic field in the presence of strong interactions

- Quarks interact with each other via the strong interactions (100 times stronger than the electromagnetic force)
- We cannot neglect the magnetic field when it is of a great magnitude

• We estimate the magnetic field in heavy-ion collisions using the Biot-Savart law (equation describing the magnetic field generated by a constant electric current).



Magnetic field in heavy-ion collisions



K. Tuchin, *Particle production in strong electromagnetic fields in relativistic heavy-ion collisions,* Adv. High Energy Phys. 2013, 490495

 $eB \sim 10^{18} \,\mathrm{G} \approx m_{\pi}^2$

Heavy-ion collision geometry as seen along the collision axis z

Biot-Savart law:
$$B \sim \gamma Z e \frac{b}{R^3}$$

- *R* the radius of two ions
- *Ze* electric charge of the ions
- *b* impact parameter
- $\gamma = \sqrt{s_{NN}}/2m_N$ Lorentz factor.

• At RHIC heavy ions are collided at 200 GeV per nucleon, hence
$$\gamma = 100$$
. Using $Z = 79$ for gold and $b \sim R_A \approx 7$ fm.

Magnetic field in heavy-ion collisions

$$eB \sim 10^{18} \,\mathrm{G} \ \approx m_{\pi}^2 \approx 1.96 \cdot 10^4 \,\mathrm{MeV^2}$$

- The influence of electromagnetic field is especially noticeable when it is of a size characteristic for strong interactions. For the magnetic field it's when it's proportional to the square of pion mass.
- the strongest magnetic field created on earth in a form of electromagnetic shock wave: $\sim 10^7 \,\text{G}$
- magnetic field of a neutron star: $10^{10} 10^{13}$ G,
- magnetic field of a magnetar: up to 10^{15} G.

The magnetic field in a vacuum - the point of reference -

• Two identical nuclei collide at *t* = 0 with an impact parameter *b*

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{r}_{01} = (b/2, 0, 0), \\ \mathbf{v}_{1} = (0, 0, v), \\ \mathbf{R}_{1} = (x - b/2, y, z - vt), \end{cases} \begin{cases} \mathbf{r}_{02} = (-b/2, 0, 0), \\ \mathbf{v}_{2} = (0, 0, -v), \\ \mathbf{R}_{2} = (x + b/2, y, z + vt), \end{cases}$$

 $\mathbf{R} \equiv \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0 - \mathbf{v}t$

• The problem was already studied and the magnetic field can be calculated using the Li'enard-Wiechert potentials



$$\mathbf{B}(t,\mathbf{r}) = \frac{q(1-\mathbf{v}_1^2)\mathbf{v}_1 \times \mathbf{R}_1}{\left(\mathbf{R}_1^2 - (\mathbf{R}_1 \times \mathbf{v}_1)^2\right)^{3/2}} + \frac{q(1-\mathbf{v}_2^2)\mathbf{v}_2 \times \mathbf{R}_2}{\left(\mathbf{R}_2^2 - (\mathbf{R}_2 \times \mathbf{v}_2)^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

The magnetic field in a vacuum - the point of reference -



Fig. 2. Magnetic field as a function of time for Au-Au collision - reference

Electromagnetic field in heavy-ion collisions

• The Maxwell's equations

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{D}(t, \mathbf{r}) = 4\pi \rho_{ext}(t, \mathbf{r}), & - \text{ Gauss'} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}(t, \mathbf{r}) = 0, & - \text{ Gauss'} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{r}) = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}(t, \mathbf{r})}{\partial t}, & - \text{ Farada} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{B}(t, \mathbf{r}) = 4\pi \mathbf{j}_{ext}(t, \mathbf{r}) + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}(t, \mathbf{r})}{\partial t}. & - \text{ Modified} \end{cases}$$

- law
- law for magnetism
- y's law
- ed Ampère's law

- **D** the electric displacement field
- $\frac{\partial \mathbf{D}(t, \mathbf{r})}{\partial t}$ the displacement current an additional source of the magnetic field. It is not an electric current of moving charges, but a time-varying electric field.

Dielectric permittivity tensor

• The electric displacement field **D**

 $\mathbf{D}(\boldsymbol{\omega}, \mathbf{k}) = \hat{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}, \mathbf{k}) \mathbf{E}(\boldsymbol{\omega}, \mathbf{k})$

- $\hat{\varepsilon}(\omega, \mathbf{k})$ the dielectric permittivity tensor provides information about the medium in which the heavy-nuclei collide
- The medium properties are described with (ω, k). It requires us to transform the Maxwell equations from (*t*, **r**) to (ω, k) dependance. We do that using the Fourier transformations.

$$f(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \int d^3 r e^{i(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} f(t, \mathbf{r})$$

$$f(t, \mathbf{r}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} f(\omega, \mathbf{k})$$

- Assumes that the medium in which the collision happens doesn't undergo any changes from time $t = -\infty$ to $t = +\infty$.
- In reality the production of quark-gluon plasma at t = 0 modifies the electromagnetic field due to the quark currents.
- The use of the two-sided Fourier transformation implies that those currents exist even before the plasma is present.
- The two-sided Fourier transformation is not sufficient for the initial condition problem.

Magnetic field in reality

- Before the collision (t < 0) there is no plasma. Only the approaching nuclei generate the magnetic field.
- The additional fields generated due to the plasma appear at t = 0
- At *t* > 0 we see the effects of the quark-gluon plasma on the electromagnetic field.

$$f(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \equiv \int_0^\infty dt \int d^3 r e^{i(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} f(t, \mathbf{r})$$

$$f(t, \mathbf{r}) = \int_{-\infty+i\sigma}^{\infty+i\sigma} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} f(\omega, \mathbf{k})$$

The real parameter $\sigma > 0$ is chosen is such a way that the integral over ω is taken along a straight line in the complex ω -plane, parallel to the real axis, above all singularities of $f(\omega, \mathbf{k})$.

The magnetic field in heavy-ion collisions The two-sided Fourier transformation

- The Maxwell's equations
- $\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{D}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 4\pi \rho_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k}),$ $\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 0,$ $\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \omega \mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}),$ $\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = -\omega \mathbf{D}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) - 4\pi i \mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k}).$
- The displacement field **D**
 - $\mathbf{D}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \hat{\varepsilon}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \mathbf{E}(\omega, \mathbf{k})$

$$\mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = -4\pi i \frac{\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k})}{\omega^2 \varepsilon_T(\omega, \mathbf{k}) - \mathbf{k}^2}$$

$$f(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \int d^3 r e^{i(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} f(t, \mathbf{r})$$
$$f(t, \mathbf{r}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} f(\omega, \mathbf{k})$$

- Gauss' law
- Gauss' law for magnetism
- Faraday's law
- Modified Ampère's law
- The current density \mathbf{j}_{ext}

$$\mathbf{j}_{ext}(t,\mathbf{r}) = q\mathbf{v}\delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0 - \mathbf{v}t)$$

$$\mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 2\pi q \mathbf{v} \,\delta(\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}) \, e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{0}}$$

Magnetic field in the vacuum

$$\varepsilon_T = 1$$

 $\mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = -4\pi i \frac{\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k})}{\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2}$

$$\mathbf{B}(t,\mathbf{k}) = -4\pi i Z e \frac{\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{v}}{(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v})^2 - \mathbf{k}^2} e^{-i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}t + \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_0)}$$



Magnetic field in the medium - collisionless plasma -



Magnetic field in the medium - collisional plasma -

$$\varepsilon_T = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega(\omega + i\nu)}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = -4\pi i \frac{\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k})}{\omega^2 - \frac{\omega \omega_p^2}{\omega + i\nu} - \mathbf{k}^2}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(t,\mathbf{k}) = -4\pi i Ze \ e^{-i(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v}t+\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}_0)} \left[\frac{(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^2 ((\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^2 - \mathbf{k}^2 - \omega_p^2) + \nu^2 ((\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^2 - \mathbf{k}^2)}{(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^2 ((\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^2 - \mathbf{k}^2 - \omega_p^2)^2 + \nu^2 ((\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^2 - \mathbf{k}^2)^2} - i\frac{\nu(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})\omega_p^2}{(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^2 - \mathbf{k}^2 - \omega_p^2)^2 + \nu^2 ((\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^2 - \mathbf{k}^2)^2} \right] \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{v}$$

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The magnetic field in heavy-ion collisions The one-sided Fourier transformation

Magnetic field in reality

- Before the collision (*t* < 0) there is no plasma. Only the approaching nuclei generate the magnetic field.
- The additional fields generated due to the plasma appear at t = 0
- At t > 0 we see the effects of the quark-gluon plasma on the electromagnetic field.

$$f(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \equiv \int_0^\infty dt \int d^3 r e^{i(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} f(t, \mathbf{r})$$

$$f(t, \mathbf{r}) = \int_{-\infty+i\sigma}^{\infty+i\sigma} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} f(\omega, \mathbf{k})$$

• The Maxwell's equations

$$\begin{cases} i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{D}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 4\pi \rho_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k}), \\ i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 0, \\ i\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = i\omega \mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) + \mathbf{B}_0(\mathbf{k}), \\ i\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 4\pi \mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) - i\omega \mathbf{D}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) - \mathbf{D}_0(\mathbf{k}). \end{cases}$$

The magnetic field and the initial fields

$$\mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = -\frac{i}{\omega^2 \varepsilon_T(\omega, \mathbf{k}) - \mathbf{k}^2} \left[\mathbf{k} \times \left(4\pi \mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) - \mathbf{E}_0(\mathbf{k}) \right) - \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{\omega} \mathbf{B}_0(\mathbf{k}) \right] + \frac{i}{\omega} \mathbf{B}_0(\mathbf{k})$$
$$\mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = i \frac{Ze \mathbf{v} e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_0}}{\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v} + i0^4}$$

• The initial fields generated at t = 0

$$\mathbf{E}_{0}(\mathbf{k}) = -4\pi i \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \left[\frac{\mathbf{k} \left(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \right)}{\omega(\omega^{2} - \mathbf{k}^{2})} + \frac{\omega \mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k})}{\omega^{2} - \mathbf{k}^{2}} \right]$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{0}(\mathbf{k}) = -4\pi i \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \frac{\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k})}{\omega^{2} - \mathbf{k}^{2}} \qquad \qquad \mathbf{j}_{ext}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 2\pi Z e \mathbf{v} \delta(\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}) e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{0}}$$

• We use the one-sided Fourier transformation for the magnetic field, but the two-sided transformation for the initial fields! (The same for their current densities)

Magnetic field in the vacuum

$$\varepsilon_T = 1$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 4\pi Ze \, e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}_0} \frac{\mathbf{k}\times\mathbf{v}}{(\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2)(\omega - \mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v} + i0^+)} + i\frac{\mathbf{k}\times\mathbf{E}_0(\mathbf{k})}{\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2} + i\frac{\mathbf{k}^2 \,\mathbf{B}_0(\mathbf{k})}{\omega(\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2)} + \frac{i}{\omega} \mathbf{B}_0(\mathbf{k})$$



Magnetic field in the medium

$$\varepsilon_T = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 4\pi Ze \, e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}_0} \frac{\mathbf{k}\times\mathbf{v}}{(\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2 - \omega_p^2)(\omega - \mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v} + i0^+)} + i\frac{\mathbf{k}\times\mathbf{E}_0(\mathbf{k})}{\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2 - \omega_p^2} + i\frac{i}{\omega}\mathbf{B}_0(\mathbf{k}) + i\frac{\mathbf{k}^2\mathbf{B}_0(\mathbf{k})}{\omega(\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2 - \omega_p^2)} + \frac{i}{\omega}\mathbf{B}_0(\mathbf{k})$$

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{B}(t,\mathbf{k}) &= -i4\pi Ze \ e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}_{0}} \bigg[\frac{e^{-i\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}t}}}{2\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}}\left(\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}}-\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v}\right)} + \frac{e^{i\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}}t}}{2\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}}\left(\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}}+\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v}\right)} \\ &+ \frac{e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v}t}}{(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^{2}-\mathbf{k}^{2}-\omega_{p}^{2}} + \frac{e^{-i\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}t}}-e^{i\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}t}}}{2\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}}} \frac{\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v}}{(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^{2}-\mathbf{k}^{2}} \\ &+ \bigg(-\frac{1}{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}} + \frac{e^{-i\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}t}}+e^{i\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2}t}}}{2(\mathbf{k}^{2}+\omega_{p}^{2})}\bigg) \frac{\mathbf{k}^{2}}{(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^{2}-\mathbf{k}^{2}} + \frac{1}{(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v})^{2}-\mathbf{k}^{2}}\bigg]\mathbf{k}\times\mathbf{v} \end{split}$$

Future plans

- Finding a method to integrate highly oscillatory functions
- Calculating the magnetic field for the model more complex than that using point-like charges