

Quantum relaxation operator of spin density matrix in Perturbative QCD

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Reference: Phys.Rev. D100 (2019) no.5, 056022

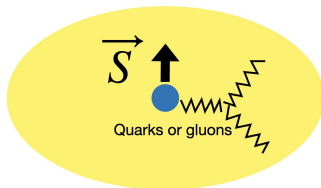
Shiyong Li and HUY

Related Works

Kapusta-Rrapaj-Rudaz, Phys.Rev.C 101 (2020) 2, 024907

Yang-Hattori-Hidaka, JHEP 07 (2020) 070

How spins of quarks and gluons evolve in QGP in weakly coupled limit of QCD?



As a start, we consider a simple case of massive quark

N.B. $\Lambda = (uds)$ spin mostly arises from the spin of the s-quark

Why density matrix for spin 1/2?

Two spin states are almost degenerate

$$\Delta E \sim \mathbf{S} \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega} + \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{B} \sim \hbar.$$

Quantum correlation time is classical

$$\tau_q \sim \frac{\hbar}{\Delta E} \sim \mathcal{O}(\hbar^0)$$

We need to keep 2×2 spin density matrix in the kinetic theory of time evolution in the classical domain $\Delta t \sim \mathcal{O}(\hbar^0)$.

quantum kinetic theory

We expect a Lindblad-type of kinetic equation

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\hat{\rho}}{dt} &= -\frac{i}{\hbar}[H_0, \hat{\rho}] - L\hat{\rho}L^\dagger + \frac{1}{2}L^\dagger L\hat{\rho} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{\rho}L^\dagger L \\ &= -\frac{i}{\hbar}[H_0, \hat{\rho}] - \Gamma \cdot \hat{\rho}\end{aligned}$$

The first term contains free streaming advective flow and background EM field, and has been worked out in

Refs: Gao-Liang, Weickgenannt-Sheng-Speranza-Wang-Rischke,
Hattori-Hidaka-Yang

The $\Gamma \cdot \hat{\rho}$ is the relaxational “collision” operator, that we aim to construct in perturbative QCD framework to leading log in QCD coupling constant g

We consider the case of dilute (Boltzmann), massive quarks (strange, bottom), interacting with the background thermal QGP

1-particle quantum mechanics of a single quark moving in QGP (Improvement: Yang-Hattori-Hidaka)

Further simplification: Spatial homogeneity limit or “local collision” limit

$$\Gamma = \Gamma_0 + \mathcal{O}(\hbar\partial_x/T), \quad \omega \sim \partial_x u$$

(Improvement: Liu-Sun-Ko,

Weickgenannt-Speranza-Sheng-Wang-Rischke)

See the talks by Yifeng Sun and Qun Wang

The equilibrium density matrix is expected to be Boltzmann $\hat{\rho}_{\text{eq}} = ze^{-\beta E_p} \mathbf{1}_{2 \times 2}$, where $E_p = \sqrt{p^2 + m^2}$.

$$\Gamma_0 \cdot \hat{\rho}_{\text{eq}} = 0$$

$\Gamma_0 \sim g^4 \log(1/g) T$ gives the relaxation of spin polarization to equilibrium

Spin density matrix

(Becattini-Chandra-Del Zanna-Grossi,
Florkowski-Friman-Jaiswal-Ryblewski-Speranza)
(See Leonardo Tinti's talk)

$$\hat{\rho} = \sum_{s,s'} \rho_{s,s'} |s\rangle \langle s'| \quad (1)$$

In the s_z basis, $\hat{\rho}$ becomes a 2×2 matrix, and the (non-relativistic) spin expectation value is

$$\langle \vec{S} \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2} \text{Tr}(\vec{\sigma} \hat{\rho}) \quad (2)$$

N.B. The relativistic “canonical” spin is

$$\langle \mathbf{S}^i \rangle_{\text{relativistic}} = \frac{\hbar}{8} \epsilon^{ijk} \bar{\psi} \gamma^0 [\gamma^j, \gamma^k] \psi = K^{ij} \langle \mathbf{S}^j \rangle \quad (3)$$

where $K^{ij} = \frac{1}{4E_p} \text{Tr}(\sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \sigma^i \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \sigma^j + \sqrt{p \cdot \bar{\sigma}} \sigma^i \sqrt{p \cdot \bar{\sigma}} \sigma^j)$
(D.-L Yang) Other spin vectors can be computed as well

Position and momentum

Density matrix in the momentum basis

$$\hat{\rho} = \int_{\mathbf{p}_1} \int_{\mathbf{p}_2} \rho_{s,s'}(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2) |\mathbf{p}_1, s\rangle \langle \mathbf{p}_2, s'| \quad (4)$$

Going to the position basis,

$$\hat{\rho} = \int_{\mathbf{p}_1} \int_{\mathbf{p}_2} \int_{\mathbf{x}_1} \int_{\mathbf{x}_2} e^{i(\mathbf{p}_1 \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{p}_2 \mathbf{x}_2)} \rho_{s,s'}(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2) |\mathbf{x}_1, s\rangle \langle \mathbf{x}_2, s'| \quad (5)$$

Write $\mathbf{p}_1 \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{p}_2 \mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{p}_a \mathbf{x}_r + \mathbf{p}_r \mathbf{x}_a$ where

$$\mathbf{x}_r = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2), \mathbf{p}_r = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{p}_1 + \mathbf{p}_2), \mathbf{x}_a = \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{p}_a = \mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_2$$

i.e. $[\mathbf{x}_r, \mathbf{p}_a] = i\hbar$ and $[\mathbf{x}_a, \mathbf{p}_r] = i\hbar$, and $(\mathbf{x}_r, \mathbf{p}_r)$ are simultaneously diagonalizable

We map $\langle \mathbf{p}_2 |$ to $|\mathbf{p}_2\rangle^* \in \mathcal{H}^*$ in the conjugate space, i.e., the time-reversed (T) space (**Thermo-Field Theory**).

The \mathcal{H} and \mathcal{H}^* are naturally described by the Schwinger-Keldysh contours, labeled by 1 and 2 respectively,

$$[x_1, p_1] = i\hbar, \quad [x_2, p_2] = -i\hbar$$

from which we have

$$[x_r, p_a] = i\hbar, \quad [x_a, p_r] = i\hbar, \quad [x_r, p_r] = 0$$

This means we can have the basis of simultaneous eigenstates of (x_r, p_r) in $\mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}^*$, and we introduce the Wigner function $\rho(\mathbf{x}_r, \mathbf{p}_r)$,

$$\hat{\rho} = \int_{\mathbf{x}_r} \int_{\mathbf{p}_r} \rho(\mathbf{x}_r, \mathbf{p}_r) |\mathbf{x}_r, \mathbf{p}_r\rangle$$

Since $[x_r, p_a] = i\hbar$, they are conjugate to each other

$$\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{x}_r, \mathbf{p}_r) = \int_{\mathbf{p}_a} e^{i\mathbf{x}_r \cdot \mathbf{p}_a} \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2)$$

We consider the cases where $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_r} \sim p_a \ll p_r \sim T$, that is, x_r -gradients can be neglected \rightarrow homogeneous limit

This means that the density matrix in momentum space is approximately diagonal, $p_a = 0$,

$$\hat{\rho} = \int_{\mathbf{p}} \rho_{s,s'}(\mathbf{p}) |\mathbf{p}, s\rangle \langle \mathbf{p}, s'|$$

Relativistic massive fermion

Field quantization

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathbf{p}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E_p}} \sum_s u(\mathbf{p}, s) e^{i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} a_{\mathbf{p},s} + \text{anti quark}$$

1-quark states: $|\mathbf{p}, s\rangle = a_{\mathbf{p},s}^\dagger |0\rangle$, $[a, a^\dagger] = 1$

It is most convenient to use the helicity basis,

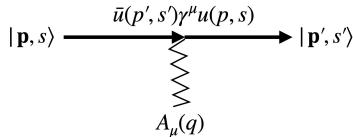
$$u(\mathbf{p}, s) \sim \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{E_p - s|\mathbf{p}|} \xi_s(\mathbf{p}) \\ \sqrt{E_p + s|\mathbf{p}|} \xi_s(\mathbf{p}) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p}) \xi_s(\mathbf{p}) = s|\mathbf{p}| \xi_s(\mathbf{p})$$

For 1-quark states, this is the usual QM of spin 1/2 particle, where $|\mathbf{p}, s\rangle \sim \xi_s(\mathbf{p})$. **The only modification from relativity is that the interaction matrix elements are given by the overlap of spinors $\psi^*(x)$, i.e. $u(\mathbf{p}, s)$**

The interaction vertices with the background gluon fields A_μ^a , through the relativistic spinors $u(\mathbf{p}, s)$

$$H_I(t) = g \int d\mathbf{x} \bar{\psi}(\mathbf{x}) \gamma^\mu t^a \psi(\mathbf{x}) A_\mu^a(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

$$\sim \int_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}', \mathbf{q}} \bar{u}(\mathbf{p}', s') \gamma^\mu u(\mathbf{p}, s) A_\mu(\mathbf{q}) a_{\mathbf{p}', s'}^\dagger a_{\mathbf{p}, s} \delta_{\mathbf{p}' - \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}}$$



The amplitudes $\bar{u}(\mathbf{p}', s') \gamma^\mu u(\mathbf{p}, s) A_\mu(\mathbf{q})$ give the matrix elements of H_I in the QM of 1-quark Hilbert space of spin 1/2.

Relation to the field theory Wigner function

$\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{x}_r, \mathbf{p}_r)$ is the Wigner transform of $a_s(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathbf{p}} e^{i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} a_{\mathbf{p},s}$

$$\hat{\rho}_{2\times 2}(\mathbf{x}_r, \mathbf{p}_r) = \int_{\mathbf{x}_a} e^{-i\mathbf{x}_a\cdot\mathbf{p}_r} \langle a_s(\mathbf{x}_r - \mathbf{x}_a/2) a_{s'}^\dagger(\mathbf{x}_r + \mathbf{x}_a/2) \rangle_{\hat{\rho}}$$

Recall $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathbf{p}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E_{\mathbf{p}}}} e^{i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} u(\mathbf{p}) a_{\mathbf{p}}$, so $\psi(\mathbf{x})$ and $a(\mathbf{x})$ are non-locally related, and $\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{x}_r, \mathbf{p}_r)$ is not equal to the Wigner transform of $\psi(\mathbf{x})$ field. **However, for the spatially homogeneous case, they are related by**

$$\begin{aligned} W_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{p}) &= \int d\mathbf{x}_a \langle \psi_\alpha(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_a/2) \psi_\beta^\dagger(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}_a/2) \rangle e^{i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}_a} \\ &= \sum_{s,s'} \frac{1}{2E_{\mathbf{p}}} u_\alpha(\mathbf{p}, s) u_\beta^\dagger(\mathbf{p}, s') \rho_{s,s'}(\mathbf{p}) \end{aligned}$$

The explicit 2×2 spin density matrix in momentum space in the helicity basis

$$\hat{\rho}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{s,s'} \xi_{\mathbf{p},s} \rho_{s,s'}(\mathbf{p}) \xi_{\mathbf{p},s'}^\dagger \equiv \frac{1}{2} f(\mathbf{p}) + \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{p})$$

and

$$\langle \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{p}) \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2} \text{Tr}(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{p})) = \hbar \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{p})$$

This object is unambiguous under a phase redefinition of $\xi_{\mathbf{p},s}$, since $\hat{\rho}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbf{p})$ is physical. Note that $u(\mathbf{p}, s)$ and $\xi_{\mathbf{p},s}$ share the same phase.

We are going to derive the evolution equation for this physical object

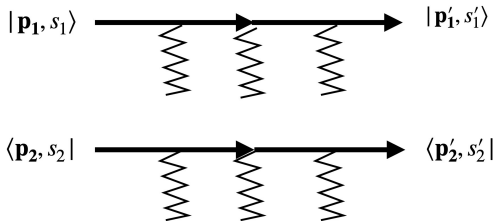
N.B. : The spin-traced object $f(\mathbf{p}) = \text{Tr}(\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{p}))$ is the usual number distribution in momentum space

Time evolution of density matrix

$$\hat{\rho}(t + \Delta t) = U_1(\Delta t)\hat{\rho}(t)U_2^\dagger(\Delta t)$$

where $U_{1,2}$ are unitary evolution operators with QCD gluons in Schwinger-Keldysh contours 1 or 2, with the Hamiltonians

$$H_{1,2} = H_{\text{kinetic}} + g \int d\mathbf{x} \bar{\psi}(\mathbf{x}) \gamma^\mu \psi(\mathbf{x}) A_\mu^{(1)/(2)}$$



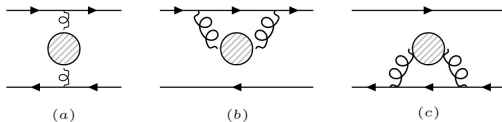
Time evolution of density matrix

$A_\mu^{(i)}$ are the gluon fields on the Schwinger-Keldysh contour $i = 1, 2$. **Note** $U_1 \neq U_2$, and $H_{1,2}$ are time-dependent due to time-dependent gluon fields.

We average over quantum/thermal fluctuating Schwinger-Keldysh gluon fields $A_\mu^{(i)}$, given by equilibrium two-point functions of $\langle A_\mu^{(i)}(\mathbf{p}) A_\nu^{(j)}(\mathbf{p}) \rangle = G_{\mu\nu}^{(ij)}(\mathbf{p})$, satisfying the thermal KMS relations $G^{(12)}(q^0) = n_B(q^0)/(n_B(q^0) + 1) G^{(21)}(q^0)$

N.B: The 1-point average is zero, $\langle A_\mu^{(i)} \rangle = 0$, and we need to do the second order perturbation theory in the interaction $H_I \propto A_\mu$

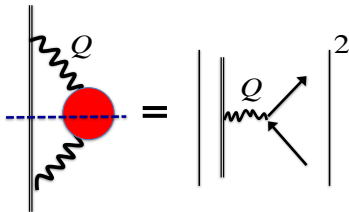
Do the second order perturbation theory in the interaction picture



$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{\rho}(\Delta t) &= U_0(\Delta t) \hat{\rho}(0) U_0^\dagger(\Delta t) \\
 &+ \int_0^{\Delta t} dt_1 \int_0^{\Delta t} dt_2 U_0(\Delta t) \langle H_I^{\text{int}(1)}(t_1) \hat{\rho}(0) H_I^{\text{int}(2)}(t_2) \rangle_A U_0^\dagger(\Delta t) \\
 &+ (-i)^2 U_0(\Delta t) \int_0^{\Delta t} dt_1 \int_0^{t_1} dt'_1 \langle H_I^{\text{int}(1)}(t_1) H_I^{\text{int}(1)}(t'_1) \rangle_A \hat{\rho}(0) U_0^\dagger(\Delta t) \\
 &+ (+i)^2 U_0(\Delta t) \hat{\rho}(0) \int_0^{\Delta t} dt_2 \int_0^{t_2} dt'_2 \langle H_I^{\text{int}(2)}(t'_2) H_I^{\text{int}(2)}(t_2) \rangle_A U_0^\dagger(\Delta t)
 \end{aligned}$$

N.B. Compare this with the Lindblad form

The thermal average $\langle H_I^{(i)} H_I^{(j)} \rangle$ contains the gluon two-point functions $G_{\mu\nu}^{(ij)}(Q)$ that include the Hard Thermal Loop (HTL) self-energy. These contributions represent interactions with background hard thermal particles with t-channel gluon exchange.



$G^{12}(q^0) = n_B(q^0)\rho(q^0)$, where $\rho(q^0)$ is the HTL spectral density

$G^{(ij)}(t, t')$ have correlation time of $\tau_c \sim (gT)^{-1}$ because the leading log contribution comes from soft t-channel momentum exchange $gT \ll q \ll T$. When $\Delta t \gg \tau_c$ (but $\Delta t \ll 1/\Gamma \sim 1/(g^4 \log(1/g)T)$ to neglect multi-interactions within Δt), we have linear terms in Δt

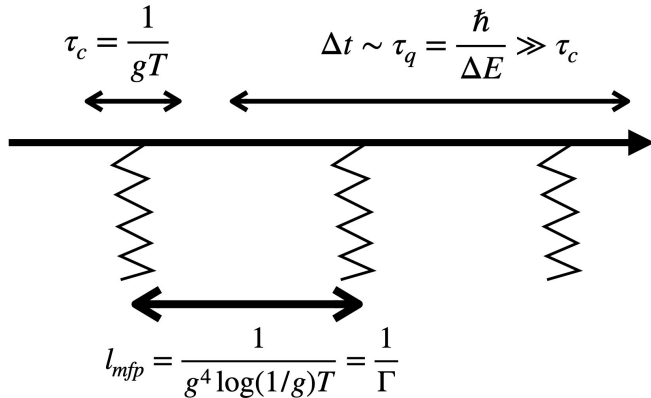
$$\int_0^{\Delta t} dt \int_0^{\Delta t} dt' G_{\mu\nu}^{(ij)}(t - t') e^{i\omega(t-t')} \sim G^{(ij)}(\omega) \Delta t + \dots$$

that gives the evolution equation first order in time.

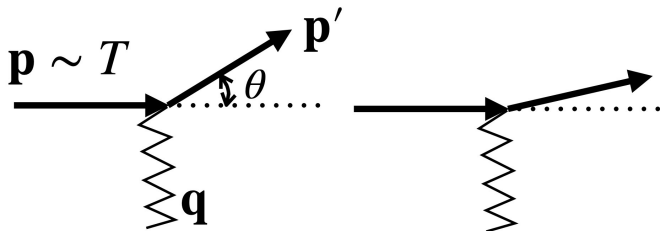
N.B. In diagrammatic language, this corresponds to the ladder approximation, which is justified because of the scale separation

$$\tau_c \sim 1/gT \ll 1/\Gamma \sim 1/g^4 \log(1/g)T$$

Times scales of perturbative QCD in finite T plasma



Small angles versus large angles



$$g < \theta \lesssim 1$$
$$(gT < \mathbf{q} \lesssim T)$$

$$g^2 < \theta < g$$
$$(g^2 T < \mathbf{q} \lesssim gT)$$

Small angle scatterings ($\Gamma \sim g^2 \log(1/g) T$):

Total damping rates, Color transports

Large angle scatterings ($\Gamma \sim g^4 \log(1/g) T$):
Conserved charge transports, Spin transports

Why small angle scatterings are suppressed for spin transports?

(From discussions with K. Hattori and D.-L. Yang in Kyoto, Dec. 2019)

Spin flipping interactions are magnetic moment interactions $\mu \cdot \mathbf{B} \sim \sigma \cdot \mathbf{B}$

The Gordon identity

$$\bar{u}(p')\gamma^\mu u(p) = \frac{1}{2m} ((p + p')^\mu + i\sigma^{\mu\nu}(p' - p)_\nu) \quad (6)$$

The second part flips spin, and vanishes when $q = p' - p \rightarrow 0$

Explicitly

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho_{s,s'}(\mathbf{p}, t) = g^2 C_2(F)(\Gamma_{\text{cross}} + \Gamma_{\text{self energy}})$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{cross}} = \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}'}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{4E_p E_{p'}} \sum_{s'', s'''} [\bar{u}(\mathbf{p}, s)\gamma^\mu u(\mathbf{p}', s'')]\rho_{s'', s'''}(\mathbf{p}') [\bar{u}(\mathbf{p}', s''')\gamma^\nu u(\mathbf{p}, s')] G_{\mu\nu}^{(1)}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{self energy}} = -\gamma \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{p})$$

where

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{4E_p E_{p'}} \sum_{s, s''} [\bar{u}(\mathbf{p}, s)\gamma^\mu u(\mathbf{p}', s'')][\bar{u}(\mathbf{p}', s'')\gamma^\nu u(\mathbf{p}, s)] G_{\mu\nu}^{(21)}(E_p - E_{p'}, \mathbf{q})$$

The spin sum is challenging, but can be done with great effort

Expanding in soft momentum exchange

$q \sim gT \ll p \sim T$, i.e. $\theta \sim q/p \sim g \ll 1$ ("**momentum diffusion approximation**")

we need to compute typically

$$J_n^{L/T} = \int_{q_{\min}^0}^{q_{\max}^0} \frac{dq^0}{(2\pi)} (q^0)^{2n-1} \rho_{L/T}(q^0, q)$$

$j_0^L = \frac{p}{E_p}$	$j_0^T = \frac{\eta p}{2}$
$j_{1/2}^L = -\frac{p}{2E_p}$	$j_{1/2}^T = -\frac{pE_p}{4m^2}$
$j_1^L = \frac{p^3}{3E_p^3}$	$j_1^T = \frac{\eta p}{2} - \frac{p}{2E_p}$
$j_{3/2}^L = -\frac{2p^3}{E_p^3}$	$j_{3/2}^T = -\frac{p^3}{4m^2E_p}$
$j_2^L = \frac{p^5}{5E_p^5}$	$j_2^T = \frac{\eta p}{2} - \frac{p}{2E_p} - \frac{p^3}{6E_p^3}$

$$J_n^{L/T} = \frac{m_D^2}{q^{(4-2n)}} j_n^{L/T} \quad (n = \text{integer}), \quad J_n^{L/T} = \frac{m_D^2}{q^{(3-2n)}} \frac{m^2}{E_p^3} j_n^{L/T} \quad (n = \text{half integer})$$

Result

Write $\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{2}f(\mathbf{p})\mathbf{1}_{2\times 2} + \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{p})$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{p}, t)}{\partial t} &= C_2(F) \frac{m_D^2 g^2 \log(1/g)}{(4\pi)} \frac{1}{2pE_p} \Gamma_f \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{p}, t)}{\partial t} &= C_2(F) \frac{m_D^2 g^2 \log(1/g)}{(4\pi)} \frac{1}{2pE_p} \Gamma_S\end{aligned}$$

where

$$m_D^2 = \frac{g^2 T^2}{6} (2N_c + N_F)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\Gamma_f}{2pE_p} &= \nabla_{p^j} \left(T \left(\frac{3}{4} - \frac{E_p^2}{4p^2} + \frac{\eta_p m^4}{4p^3 E_p} \right) \nabla_{p^j} f(\mathbf{p}) + \frac{\mathbf{p}^j}{2p^2} (E_p - \frac{\eta_p m^2}{p}) f(\mathbf{p}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \mathbf{p}^j \frac{Tm^2}{4p^3 E_p} \left(\eta_p + \frac{3E_p}{p} - \frac{3\eta_p E_p^2}{p^2} \right) \mathbf{p} \cdot \nabla_p f(\mathbf{p}) \right)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_S^i &= \left(2p + \frac{TE_p}{p} - \frac{\eta_p m^2 T}{p^2} \right) \mathbf{S}^i(p) + \left(pTE_p - \frac{m^2 TE_p}{2p} + \frac{\eta_p m^4 T}{2p^2} \right) \nabla_p^2 \mathbf{S}^i(p) \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{\eta_p m^2 T}{2p^2} \left(1 - \frac{3E_p^2}{p^2} \right) + \frac{3m^2 TE_p}{2p^3} \right) (\mathbf{p} \cdot \nabla_p)^2 \mathbf{S}^i(p) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{p^2} \left(pE_p^2 - \frac{3m^2 TE_p}{2p} + \eta_p m^2 \left(-E_p - \frac{T}{2} + \frac{3TE_p^2}{2p^2} \right) \right) (\mathbf{p} \cdot \nabla_p) \mathbf{S}^i(p) \\ &\quad + 2T \left(\eta_p \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{E_p^2}{p^2} + \frac{mE_p}{2p^2} + \frac{E_p^3}{2p^2(E_p + m)} \right) + \frac{E_p}{p} - \frac{m}{2p} - \frac{m^2}{2p(E_p + m)} \right) \mathbf{p}^i \\ &\quad - 2T \left(\eta_p \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{E_p^2}{p^2} + \frac{mE_p}{2p^2} + \frac{E_p^3}{2p^2(E_p + m)} \right) + \frac{E_p}{p} - \frac{m}{2p} - \frac{m^2}{2p(E_p + m)} \right) \nabla^i \\ &\quad - \frac{T}{p^2} \left(\frac{E_p(E_p + 2m)}{p(E_p + m)} + \frac{\eta_p m E_p}{E_p + m} \left(-\frac{3E_p}{p^2} + \frac{1}{E_p + m} \right) \right) \mathbf{p}^i (\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{S}(p))\end{aligned}$$

These results pass very non-trivial tests of

- 1) **Detailed balance:** $f(\mathbf{p}) = ze^{-E_p/T}$ is equilibrium, that is, $\Gamma_f = 0$ for this
- 2) **Chirality in massless limit:** When **formally** $m = 0$, the density matrix factorizes as

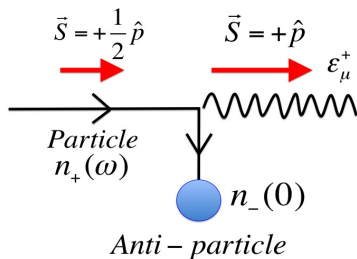
$$\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{p}) = f_+(\mathbf{p})\mathcal{P}_+(\mathbf{p}) + f_-(\mathbf{p})\mathcal{P}_-(\mathbf{p})$$

where $\mathcal{P}_\pm(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \hat{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})$ are the chirality projection operators, and $f_\pm(\mathbf{p})$ satisfy the same equation in parity-even background. This means that it should admit the consistent Ansatz $S(\mathbf{p}) = f_s(\mathbf{p})\hat{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}$, and moreover $f(\mathbf{p})$ and $f_s(\mathbf{p})$ should satisfy the same evolution equation. Also, $f_s(\mathbf{p}) = ze^{-|p|/T}$ should be the equilibrium solution of $\Gamma_S = 0$.

All these are true in the above result

Thank you very much !

We consider a hard scale quark mass $m \gg gT$. This justifies neglecting quark-gluon conversion process (Compton scattering) in our leading log computation, since the t-channel fermion exchange momentum becomes hard $q \gtrsim m \gg gT$, and leading log is absent



For light quarks, we need to consider both quark spins and gluon spins in leading log

It should be doable with fermion/boson statistics:
A nice future problem!