

Spin and axial chemical potential

Matteo Buzzegoli



Dipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia & INFN, Firenze

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ECT*
EUROPEAN CENTRE
FOR THEORETICAL STUDIES
IN NUCLEAR PHYSICS AND RELATED AREAS
FONDAZIONE BRUNO KESSLER

SPIN AND HYDRODYNAMICS IN RELATIVISTIC NUCLEAR COLLISIONS

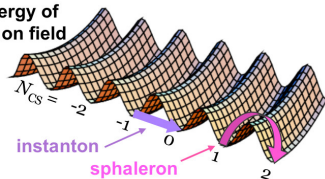
Motivations

Relativistic heavy ion collisions allow to look for

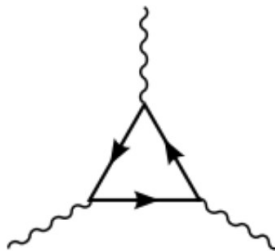
- Quantum effects on fluids (Polarization and thermal vorticity)
- Local parity violation in QCD (via the Chiral Magnetic Effect)

Measurable effects of axial chemical potential?

Energy of
gluon field



In QCD plasma, sphalerons are abundant and induce the quark chirality non-conservation



CME

$$\mathbf{j} = \frac{\mu_A}{2\pi} \mathbf{B}$$

Charge
separation

$$\partial_\mu \hat{j}_A^\mu(x) = -\frac{g^2 N_f}{16\pi^2} F_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{F}_a^{\mu\nu}$$

[K. Fukushima, D. E. Kharzeev and H. J. Warringa, 2010, Jinfeng Liao]

Main results

Based on [F. Becattini, MB, A. Palermo, G. Prokhorov 2009.13449]

Local parity violation

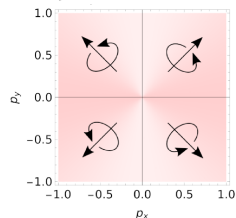
Look for axial imbalance with the polarization of hadrons independently of the magnetic field

Polarization and helicity

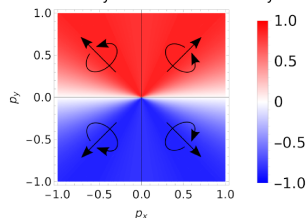
$$\mathbf{S}_{0,\chi} \simeq \frac{g_h}{2} \zeta_A \hat{\mathbf{p}} \quad h_\chi \simeq \frac{g_h}{2} \zeta_A \quad \zeta_A = \frac{\mu_A}{T}$$

Axial imbalance induces parity breaking terms in the helicity of hadrons

Helicity from axial imbalance



Helicity from thermal vorticity



Mean spin vector with axial imbalance

$$S^\mu(p) = S_\chi^\mu(p) + S_\varpi^\mu(p)$$

$$S_\chi^\mu(p) \simeq \frac{g_h}{2} \frac{\int_\Sigma d\Sigma \cdot p \, \zeta_A n_F (1 - n_F) \, \varepsilon p^\mu - m^2 \hat{t}^\mu}{\int_\Sigma d\Sigma \cdot p \, n_F} \frac{1}{m\varepsilon} \leftarrow \text{Axial imbalance}$$

$$S_\varpi^\mu(p) = \frac{1}{8m} \epsilon^{\mu\rho\sigma\tau} p_\tau \frac{\int_\Sigma d\Sigma_\lambda p^\lambda n_F (1 - n_F) \partial_\rho \beta_\sigma}{\int_\Sigma d\Sigma_\lambda p^\lambda n_F} \leftarrow \text{Thermal vorticity}$$

Mean spin vector with axial imbalance

$$S^\mu(p) = S_\chi^\mu(p) + S_\varpi^\mu(p)$$

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ζ_A changes sign event by event

Average over multiple events

$$\langle\langle S^\mu(p) \rangle\rangle = \cancel{\langle\langle S_\chi^\mu(p) \rangle\rangle} + \langle\langle S_\varpi^\mu(p) \rangle\rangle$$

$$\langle\langle \zeta_A \rangle\rangle = 0 \quad \langle\langle \zeta_A^2 \rangle\rangle \neq 0$$

Polarization formula for a fermion

Given the density matrix $\hat{\rho}$

- Wigner function

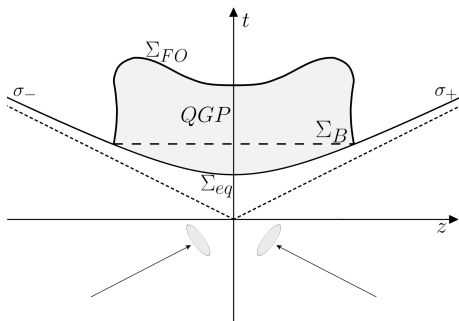
$$W_+(x, p)_{AB} = \theta(p^0)\theta(p^2) \int \frac{d^4y}{(2\pi)^4} e^{-ip \cdot y} \text{tr} [\hat{\rho} : \bar{\Psi}_B(x + y/2) \Psi_A(x - y/2) :]$$

- Spin vector

$$S^\mu(p) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\int_\Sigma d\Sigma \cdot p \text{tr} [\gamma^\mu \gamma^5 W_+(x, p)]}{\int_\Sigma d\Sigma \cdot p \text{tr} [W_+(x, p)]}$$

In a nuclear collision Σ is the freeze-out hypersurface

Local thermodynamic equilibrium



$$\beta^\nu = \frac{u^\nu}{T}$$

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left[- \int_{\Sigma_{eq}} d\Sigma_\mu \left(\hat{T}^{\mu\nu} \beta_\nu - \zeta_A \hat{j}_A^\mu \right) \right]$$

$$\int_{\Sigma_{eq}} d\Sigma_\mu \left(\hat{T}^{\mu\nu} \beta_\nu - \zeta_A \hat{j}_A^\mu \right) = \int_\Sigma d\Sigma_\mu \left(\hat{T}^{\mu\nu} \beta_\nu - \zeta_A \hat{j}_A^\mu \right) + \int_\Omega d\Omega \left(\hat{T}^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \beta_\nu - \hat{j}_A^\mu \partial_\mu \zeta_A - \zeta_A \partial_\mu \hat{j}_A^\mu \right)$$

$$\hat{\rho} \simeq \hat{\rho}_{LE} = \frac{1}{Z_{LE}} \exp \left[- \int_\Sigma d\Sigma_\mu \left(\hat{T}^{\mu\nu} \beta_\nu - \zeta_A \hat{j}_A^\mu \right) \right]$$

[Becattini, MB, Grossi, Particles 2 (2019) 2, 197-207]

Hydrodynamic limit

At Local therm. eq. and by neglecting dissipative terms:

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{LE}} = \frac{1}{Z_{\text{LE}}} \exp \left[- \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\mu}(y) \left(\hat{T}^{\mu\nu}(y) \beta_{\nu}(y) - \zeta_A(y) \hat{j}_A^{\mu}(y) \right) \right]$$
$$W(x, p) = \text{tr} \left[\hat{\rho} \hat{W}(x, p) \right]$$

Slowly varying $\beta \Rightarrow$ Taylor expansion

$$\beta_{\nu}(y) = \beta_{\nu}(x) + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} [\partial_{\mu} \beta_{\nu}(x) - \partial_{\nu} \beta_{\mu}(x)] (y - x)^{\mu}}_{\text{Thermal vorticity } \varpi} + \dots$$

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{LE}} \simeq \frac{1}{Z_{\text{LE}}} \exp \left[-\beta(x) \cdot \hat{P} + \frac{1}{2} \varpi_{\mu\nu}(x) \hat{J}_x^{\mu\nu} + \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\rho} \zeta_A \hat{j}_A^{\rho} \right]$$

$\hat{P}$ is the total four-momentum

Linear response theory

In nuclear collisions ζ_A is supposed to be small

$$e^{\hat{A}+\hat{B}} = e^{\hat{A}} + \int_0^1 dz e^{z\hat{A}} \hat{B} e^{-z\hat{A}} e^{\hat{A}} + \dots,$$

$$\hat{A} = -\beta(x) \cdot \hat{P}, \quad \hat{B} = \frac{1}{2} \varpi_{\mu\nu}(x) \hat{J}_x^{\mu\nu} + \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\rho}(y) \zeta_A(y) \hat{j}_A^{\rho}(y).$$

Wigner function

$$\langle \widehat{W}_+(x, p) \rangle_{\text{LE}} \simeq \langle \widehat{W}_+(x, p) \rangle_{\beta(x)} + \Delta W_+(x, p)$$

$$\Delta W_+(x, p) = \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\rho} \zeta_A \int_0^1 dz \langle \widehat{W}_+(x, p) \hat{j}_A^{\rho}(y + iz\beta) \rangle_{c, \beta(x)}$$

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle_{\beta(x)} = \frac{1}{Z} \text{tr} \left[\exp[-\beta(x) \cdot \hat{P}] \hat{O} \right] \quad \langle \hat{O}_1 \hat{O}_2 \rangle_c \equiv \langle \hat{O}_1 \hat{O}_2 \rangle - \langle \hat{O}_1 \rangle \langle \hat{O}_2 \rangle$$

Hadronic axial current

- $\hat{j}_A^\mu$ is the color singlet axial current
- Decompose it on the multi-hadronic Hilbert space

[S. Weinberg, The Quantum theory of fields. Vol. 1]

$$\hat{j}_A^\mu(x) = \sum_{\substack{N=0 \\ M=0}}^{\infty} \sum_{\substack{j_1, \dots, j_N \\ k_1, \dots, k_M}} \int \frac{d^3 q'_1}{2\varepsilon'_1} \cdots \int \frac{d^3 q'_N}{2\varepsilon'_N} \int \frac{d^3 q_1}{2\varepsilon_1} \cdots \int \frac{d^3 q_M}{2\varepsilon_M} \\ \hat{a}_{j_1}^\dagger(q'_1) \cdots \hat{a}_{j_N}^\dagger(q'_N) \hat{a}_{k_1}(q_1) \cdots \hat{a}_{k_M}(q_M) J^\mu(q', q, x)^{j_1, \dots, j_N, k_1, \dots, k_M}$$

- $\langle \widehat{W}_+^h \hat{j}_A^\rho \rangle_{c, \beta} \rightarrow$ contribution from the same species h
- predominant contribution: $N = M = 1, j_1 = k_1 = h$

$$J^\mu(q', q, x)^{hh} = \langle 0 | \hat{a}_{h, \sigma'}(q') \hat{j}_A^\mu(x) \hat{a}_{h, \sigma}^\dagger(q) | 0 \rangle = \langle q', \sigma' | \hat{j}_A^\mu(x) | q, \sigma \rangle \\ = \frac{e^{it \cdot x}}{(2\pi)^3} \bar{u}_{\sigma'}(q') \left[G_{A1}(t^2) \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 + \frac{t^\mu}{2m_h} G_{A2}(t^2) \gamma^5 \right] u_\sigma(q) \\ t = q' - q$$

Form factors G_{A1} and G_{A2} depend on the flavour-space transformation properties of the axial current

Wigner function

First order correction on axial imbalance

$$\langle \widehat{W}_+(x, p) \rangle_{\text{LE}} \simeq \langle \widehat{W}_+(x, p) \rangle_{\beta(x)} + \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\rho} \zeta_A \int_0^1 dz \langle \widehat{W}_+(x, p) \widehat{j}_A^{\rho}(y + iz\beta) \rangle_{c, \beta(x)}$$

using the normal mode expansion of the Dirac field and standard thermal field theory techniques

$$\langle \widehat{W}_+(x, p) \rangle_{\beta(x)} = \frac{m + \gamma^{\mu} p_{\mu}}{(2\pi)^3} \delta(p^2 - m^2) \theta(p_0) n_{\text{F}}(p)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta W_{+ab}(x, p) = & \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\rho} \zeta_A \int_0^1 \frac{dz}{(2\pi)^6} \int \frac{d^3k d^3k'}{4\varepsilon_k \varepsilon_{k'}} \delta^4 \left(p - \frac{k + k'}{2} \right) n_{\text{F}}(k) (1 - n_{\text{F}}(k')) \\ & \times e^{i(k-k')(x-y)} e^{z(k-k')\beta} \mathcal{A}^{\rho}(k, k')_{ab} \end{aligned}$$

$$n_{\text{F}}(k) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(x) \cdot k} + 1}$$

$$\mathcal{A}^{\rho}(k, k')_{ab} \equiv (\not{k}' + m) \left[G_{A1}(t^2) \gamma^{\rho} \gamma^5 + \frac{k'^{\rho} - k^{\rho}}{2m} G_{A2}(t^2) \gamma^5 \right] (\not{k} + m)$$

First order correction on axial imbalance

$$S_{\chi}^{\mu}(p) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma \cdot p \operatorname{tr} [\gamma^{\mu} \gamma^5 \Delta W_{+}]}{\int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma \cdot p \operatorname{tr} [\widehat{W}_{+}]_{\beta}}$$

First order correction on axial imbalance

$$S_{\chi}^{\mu}(p) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma \cdot p \operatorname{tr} [\gamma^{\mu} \gamma^5 \Delta W_+]}{\int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma \cdot p \operatorname{tr} [\langle \widehat{W}_+ \rangle_{\beta}]}$$

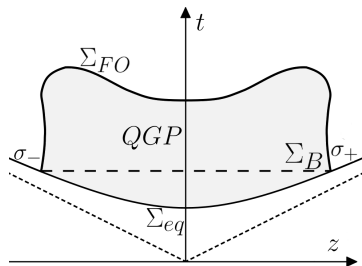
$$S_{\chi}^{\mu}(p) = - \frac{2}{\mathcal{D}} \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\lambda}(x) \cdot p \int_0^1 \frac{dz}{(2\pi)^6} \int \frac{d^3 k}{2\epsilon_k} \int \frac{d^3 k'}{2\epsilon_{k'}} \delta^4 \left(p - \frac{k + k'}{2} \right) \\ \times \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\rho}(y) \zeta_A(y) e^{i(k-k')(x-y)} n_F(k) (1 - n_F(k')) e^{z(k-k')\beta} \mathcal{B}^{\mu\rho}(k, k')$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{4m}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma \cdot p \delta(p^2 - m^2) \theta(p_0) n_F(p)$$

$$\mathcal{B}^{\mu\rho}(k, k') = G_{A1}(t^2) [\eta^{\mu\rho}(m^2 + k \cdot k') - k^{\rho} k'^{\mu} - k^{\mu} k'^{\rho}] \\ + \frac{1}{2} G_{A2}(t^2) (k'^{\mu} - k^{\mu})(k'^{\rho} - k^{\rho})$$

Hydrodynamic approximation

- Integral in $S_\chi^\mu(p)$ decays on microscopic length scales
- ζ_A varies on longer length scales, in the hydrodynamic picture



$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\rho}(y) \zeta_A(y) e^{i(k-k')(x-y)} &\simeq \zeta_A(x) \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_{\rho}(y) e^{i(k-k')(x-y)} \\
 &= \zeta_A(x) \int_{\sigma_{\pm}} d\Sigma_{\rho}(y) e^{i(k-k')(x-y)} + \zeta_A(x) \int_{\Sigma_B} d\Sigma_{\rho}(y) e^{i(k-k')(x-y)} \\
 &\quad - i(k-k')_{\rho} \zeta_A(x) \int_{\Omega_B} d^4y e^{i(k-k')(x-y)} \\
 &\simeq \zeta_A(x) \hat{t}_{\rho} (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}')
 \end{aligned}$$

in the center-of-mass frame: $\hat{t}_{\rho} = \delta_{\rho}^0$

Final result

$$S_{\chi}^{\mu}(p) \simeq \frac{g_h}{2} \frac{\int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma \cdot p \zeta_A n_F (1 - n_F)}{\int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma \cdot p n_F} \frac{\varepsilon p^{\mu} - m^2 \hat{t}^{\mu}}{m\varepsilon}$$
$$g_h = G_{A1}(0)$$

$$\mathbf{S}_0 = \mathbf{S} - \frac{\mathbf{p}}{\varepsilon(\varepsilon + m)} \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{p}$$

In the rest frame of the hadron

$$\mathbf{S}_{0,\chi} = \frac{g_h}{2} \frac{\int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma \cdot p \zeta_A n_F (1 - n_F)}{\int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma \cdot p n_F} \hat{\mathbf{p}} \equiv F_{\chi}(\mathbf{p}) \hat{\mathbf{p}}$$

Helicity

$$\text{Helicity: } h(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{S}_0(\mathbf{p}) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}$$

Induced by axial imbalance

$$h_\chi = \frac{g_h}{2} \frac{\int_\Sigma d\Sigma \cdot p \zeta_A n_F (1 - n_F)}{\int_\Sigma d\Sigma \cdot p n_F} \equiv F_\chi(\mathbf{p})$$

A special case:

- ζ_A is almost constant
- $(1 - n_F) \simeq 1$

$$\mathbf{S}_{0,\chi} \simeq \frac{g_h}{2} \zeta_A \hat{\mathbf{p}} \quad h_\chi \simeq \frac{g_h}{2} \zeta_A$$

Search for local parity violation

Signature of axial imbalance

$$\text{Linear effect: } \mathbf{S}_{0,\chi} = F_\chi(\mathbf{p})\hat{\mathbf{p}} \quad h_\chi = F_\chi(\mathbf{p})$$

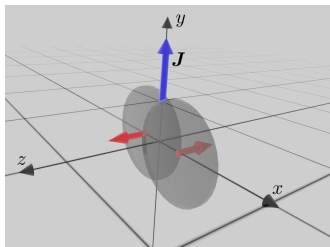
Mediation of magnetic field is not required

Problem: ζ_A fluctuates over multiple event: $\langle\langle\zeta_A\rangle\rangle = 0$

Search for parity breaking terms

- Average of the square: $\langle\langle\zeta_A^2\rangle\rangle \neq 0$
- Look for parity breaking terms in the helicity

Helicity and Parity breaking



NO AXIAL CHARGE

$\hat{\rho}$ is P invariant, then
Helicity is a pseudoscalar h_P

$$h(-\mathbf{p}) = -h(\mathbf{p})$$

Symmetries: Parity P and Rotation $R_J(\pi)$
 $\rightarrow$ also sym. of freeze-out surface
P in momentum space: $\mathbf{p} \rightarrow -\mathbf{p}$

AXIAL CHARGE

$\hat{\rho}$ is **not** P invariant, then
Helicity has a scalar part: h_S

$$h_S(-\mathbf{p}) = h_S(\mathbf{p})$$

$h_\chi = F_\chi(\mathbf{p})$ is a scalar

$$h = h_P + h_S$$

Model independent analysis

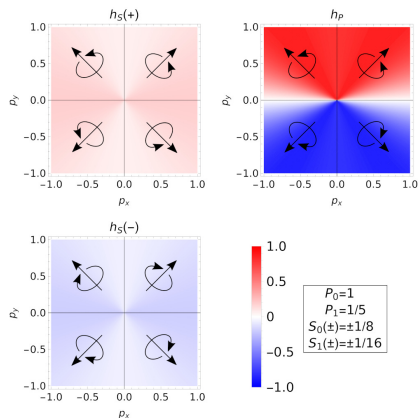
Consider particles emitted at midrapidity,
i.e. transverse momentum ($p_z = 0$): $\mathbf{p} \rightarrow (p_T, \phi)$

$$h = h_P + h_S$$

From rotational symmetry $\phi \rightarrow \pi - \phi$
and reflection properties $\phi \rightarrow \pi + \phi$:

$$h_P(p_T, \phi) = \sum_k P_k(p_T) \sin[(2k+1)\phi]$$

$$h_S(p_T, \phi) = \sum_k S_k(p_T) \cos[2k\phi]$$

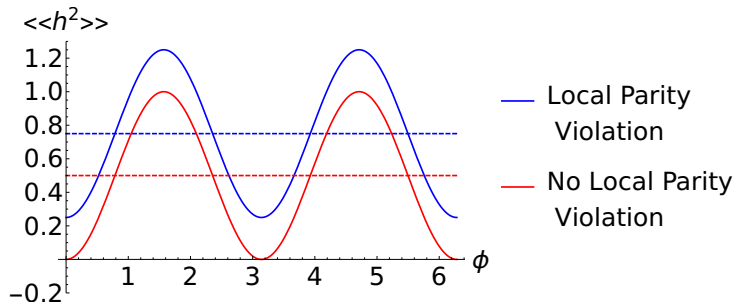


Local parity violation $S_k(p_T) \neq 0$
Global parity conservation $\langle\langle S_k(p_T) \rangle\rangle = 0$

Helicity square

$$h^2(\mathbf{p}_T) = (S_0 + P_0 \sin \phi + \dots)^2 = S_0^2 + P_0^2 \sin^2 \phi + 2S_0P_0 \sin \phi + \dots$$

$$\langle\langle h^2 \rangle\rangle = \langle\langle S_0^2 \rangle\rangle + \langle\langle P_0^2 \rangle\rangle \sin^2 \phi + \dots$$



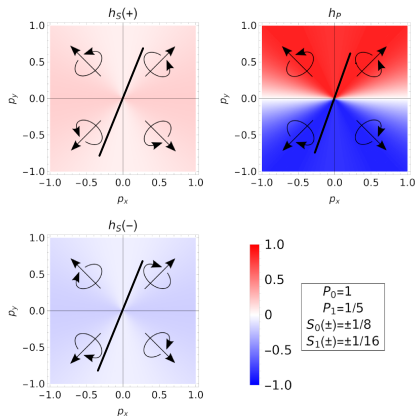
$$\lim_{\phi \rightarrow 0, \pi} h^2 = h_S^2$$

$$\lim_{\phi \rightarrow 0, \pi} \langle\langle h^2 \rangle\rangle \neq 0 \Rightarrow \text{local parity violation}$$

Helicity-helicity correlator

$\langle h_1 h_2(\Delta\phi) \rangle =$ correlator between two hyperons emitted in the same event with angles ϕ and $\phi + \Delta\phi$

$$\langle h_1 h_2(\Delta\phi) \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \int d^2\mathbf{p}_{T1} d^2\mathbf{p}_{T2} n(\mathbf{p}_{T1}, \mathbf{p}_{T2}) \delta(\phi_2 - \phi_1 - \Delta\phi) \times h_1(\mathbf{p}_{T1}) h_2(\mathbf{p}_{T2})$$



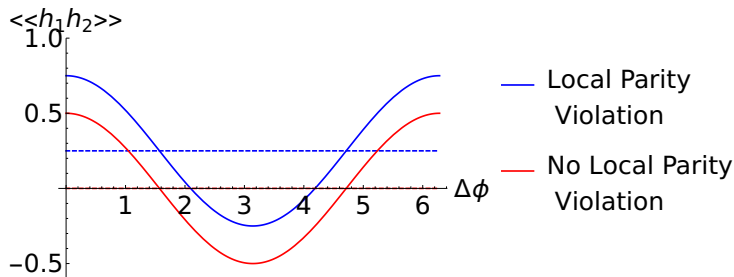
Local parity violation $\rightarrow$ Positive correlation at large angles

E.g. at $\Delta\phi = \pi$ same sign of h_1 and h_2

Helicity-helicity correlator

From leading harmonics $\rightarrow \bar{S}_0, \bar{P}_0 =$ transverse momentum average

$$\langle h_1 h_2(\Delta\phi) \rangle \simeq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi (\bar{S}_0^2 + \bar{P}_0^2 \sin^2 \phi \cos \Delta\phi) = \bar{S}_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \bar{P}_0^2 \cos \Delta\phi$$



Signature of local parity violation

A constant term in $\langle \langle h_1 h_2(\Delta\phi) \rangle \rangle$

Conclusions

- Local parity violation in relativistic nuclear collisions can be detected by measuring polarization of e.g. Λ hyperons
- Search for parity breaking terms in the helicity azimuthal dependence
- Spin as a probe of axial chemical potential

Thanks for the attention!

Backup

Local parity violation - Signature by CME

Probe for chirality: charge separation

$$\text{Chirality} + \text{Magnetic Field} = \text{Chiral Magnetic Current} \quad \mathbf{j} = \frac{\mu_A}{2\pi^2} \mathbf{B}$$

An evidence for Chiral Magnetic Effect in relativistic heavy ion collisions is yet to be confirmed.

Ambiguity of experimental results

- Possible background of correlations $\rightarrow$ Isobars [Voloshin PRL (2010)]

Theoretical uncertainties

- Evolution of the magnetic field
- Axial transport

Global thermal equilibrium



$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left[-\beta \cdot \hat{P} + \frac{1}{2} \varpi_{\mu\nu} \hat{J}^{\mu\nu} + \zeta \hat{Q} + \zeta_A \hat{Q}_A \right]$$

u^μ fluid velocity

Temperature: $\beta^\mu = \frac{1}{T} u^\mu$

Rotation inside $\varpi_{\mu\nu} = -\partial_\mu \beta_\nu$

Electric chemical potential $\zeta = \frac{\mu}{T}$

Chiral chemical potential $\zeta_A = \frac{\mu_A}{T}$

Electric and Magnetic field are inside the stress-energy tensor

$$\hat{T}^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \hat{P}^\mu, \hat{J}^{\mu\nu}$$

Equilibrium configurations

$$\partial_\mu \hat{T}^{\mu\nu} = 0, \quad \partial_\mu \hat{j}^\mu = 0, \quad \partial_\mu \hat{j}_A^\mu = 0$$

$$\text{Max Entropy} \rightarrow \hat{\rho}_{\text{LTE}} = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left[- \int_\Sigma d\Sigma_\mu \left(\hat{T}^{\mu\nu} \beta_\nu - \zeta \hat{j}^\mu - \zeta_A \hat{j}_A^\mu \right) \right]$$

Global equilibrium is reached only if

$$\partial_\mu \beta_\nu + \partial_\nu \beta_\mu = 0, \quad \partial^\mu \zeta = 0, \quad \partial_\mu \zeta_A = 0$$

Solution: $\beta_\mu = b_\mu + \varpi_{\mu\nu} x^\nu$ $b_\mu, \varpi_{\mu\nu}, \zeta, \zeta_A$ are const.

ϖ contains local acceleration $\mathbf{a}$ and rotation $\mathbf{\Omega}$