Dilepton production from an anisotropic QGP

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Work done in collaboration with M. Strickland

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Towards thermalization of the QGP: Experimental facts



Figure adapted from M. J. Tannenbaum,

Rept.Prog.Phys.69:2005-2060,2006

- Ideal hydro seems to describe v_2 implying early isotropization time, $\tau_{iso} \sim 1$ fm/c.
- v₂ has a strong dependence of the late-time evolution (≳2-3 fm/c), initial conditions, Eq. of State, etc.

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Towards thermalization of the QGP: Theoretical advances

- Solution Bottom-up scenario: Thermalization in the framework of perturbative QCD. Soft modes isotropize and equilibrate first, then the hard modes $\tau_{iso} \sim \alpha_s^{-13/5} Q_s^{-1}$. (Baier, Mueller, Son and Schiff)
- 2 At RHIC $Q_s \sim 1.5$ -2 GeV and $\alpha_s \sim 0.3 \rightarrow \tau_{iso} \sim 2$ -3 fm/c!!!
- Solution Bottom up calculation doesn't take into account the effects of the momentum-space anisotropy in the $p_T p_L$ plane.
- Plasma instabilities become important in equilibration processes (Mrówczyński, Lenaghan, Moore, Strickland, Romatschke and others).
- Numerical evidence of plasma instabilities (Dumitru, Nara, Strickland, Venugopalan, Romatschke and others).

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Pre-equilibrium phase of the QGP



As a result of the rapid expansion along the beam axis, an anisotropy in the momentum-space is developed.

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Electromagnetic probes in heavy ion collisions



- Electromagnetic signatures give information about initial parton distributions and early time dynamics of the collision.
- Photons are more difficult for experimentalists to measure due to large backgrounds.
- Dileptons offer a better option from the experimental point of view.

Influence of non equilibrium dynamics on dilepton production?

Dilepton rate at leading order

From relativistic kinetic theory, the dilepton rate production for $q\bar{q} \rightarrow l^+ l^-$ is:

$$\frac{dN}{d^4 x d^4 p} = \frac{dR}{d^4 P} = \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p_1}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3 \mathbf{p_2}}{(2\pi)^3} f_q(p_1, T) f_{\bar{q}}(p_2, T)$$
$$\times \upsilon_{rel} \sigma_{q\bar{q} \rightarrow l^+ l^-}^{LO} \delta^4(P - p_1 - p_2)$$

The invariant distributions of dileptons as a function of invariant mass and transverse momementum are respectively:

$$\frac{dN}{dM^2dy} = \pi R^2 \int d^2 P_T \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_f} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dR}{d^4 P} \tau d\tau d\eta.$$
$$\frac{dN}{d^2 P_T dy} = \pi R^2 \int dM^2 \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_f} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dR}{d^4 P} \tau d\tau d\eta.$$

The evolution of the system is encoded in the phase space distribution f(x, p).

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Dilepton emission from an anisotropic QGP

Dilepton rate $d^4 R/d^4 P$ depends on the direction of the anisotropy and the angle of the dilepton pair with respect to the longitudinal axis.



• As an ansatz, we choose an anisotropic phase space distribution in momentum-space:

$$f^{i}\left(\mathbf{p},\mathbf{x}\right) = f^{i}_{\mathrm{iso}}\left(\mathbf{p}_{\mathsf{T}}^{2} + (1+\xi)\mathbf{p}_{\mathsf{L}}^{2}\right)$$

 ξ measures the strength of the anisotropy and it's related with the kinematic variables:

$$\xi = rac{1}{2} rac{\langle oldsymbol{p}_T^2
angle}{\langle oldsymbol{p}_L^2
angle} - 1$$

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Model for an anisotropy in momentum-space

In a free streaming plasma:

"T" = T_0

$$\xi_{FS}(\tau) = \left(\frac{\tau}{\tau_0}\right)^2 - 1$$
$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \mathcal{E}(\tau) \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_0\left(\frac{\tau_0}{\tau}\right)$$

In a hydrodynamical plasma: $\xi(\tau) = 0$ $\mathcal{E}(\tau) = \mathcal{E}_0 \left(\frac{\tau_0}{\tau}\right)^{4/3}$ $T = T_0 \left(\frac{\tau_{iso}}{\tau}\right)^{1/3}$

We propose a model that interpolates between free streaming and hydrodynamical evolution :



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Space-time evolution with anisotropies





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Dilepton production vs. M

A K factor of 1.5 was applied to account for NLO corrections.

 T_0 = 845 MeV, τ_0 = 0.088 fm/c, T_c = 160 MeV.





M. Martinez and M. Strickland, Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 102301 (2008), arXiv:0709.3576 [hep-ph].

Dilepton production vs. P_T

A K factor of 6 was applied to account for NLO corrections.

 T_0 = 845 MeV, τ_0 = 0.088 fm/c, T_c = 160 MeV.

Cuts: M > 2 GeV.



M. Martinez and M. Strickland, Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 102301 (2008), arXiv:0709.3576 [hep-ph].

Produced fraction of Medium Dileptons in time

 T_0 = 845 MeV, τ_0 = 0.088 fm/c, T_c = 160 MeV, $\tau_{\rm iso}$ = 0.5 fm/c.



M. Martinez and M. Strickland, Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 102301 (2008), arXiv:0709.3576 [hep-ph].

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- We construct a model that interpolates between free streaming and hydrodynamics evolution. The model takes into account the time dependence of the anisotropy in the momentum-space.
- Dilepton production in the kinematic range 3< P_T <8 GeV provides an estimate of the momentum-space anisotropy and a possible measure of the isotropization time, τ_{iso}.

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- Our chief uncertainty is the NLO order corrections to dilepton production incorporating anisotropies. In principle, NLO order corrections has to be included (work in progress).
- Naively chemical potentials should affect isotropic and anisotropic plasmas equally so one expects that although the total yields could change one would still see a sensitivity to the assumed isotropization/thermalization time.

Backup slides

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Some details about the interpolating model

Time-dependence of \mathcal{E} , p_{hard} and ξ

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{E}(\tau) &= \mathcal{E}_{\text{FS}}(\tau) \left[\mathcal{U}(\tau) / \mathcal{U}(\tau_0) \right]^{4/3} ,\\ \mathcal{P}_{\text{hard}}(\tau) &= T_0 \left[\mathcal{U}(\tau) / \mathcal{U}(\tau_0) \right]^{1/3} ,\\ \xi(\tau) &= a^{2(1-\lambda(\tau))} - 1 , \end{split}$$

$$\mathcal{U}(\tau) = \left[\mathcal{R}\left(\left(\frac{\tau_{\rm iso}}{\tau}\right)^2 - 1 \right) \right]^{\frac{3\lambda(\tau)}{4}} \left(\frac{\tau_{\rm iso}}{\tau}\right)^{\lambda(\tau)}$$
$$\mathcal{R}(\xi(\tau)) = \left(\frac{1}{1 + \xi(\tau)} + \frac{\arctan(\sqrt{\xi(\tau)})}{\sqrt{\xi(\tau)}} \right)$$

$$\lim_{\tau_{iso}\gg\tau} \mathcal{E}(\tau) \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_0\left(\frac{\tau_0}{\tau}\right) \qquad \text{Free streaming limit}$$
$$\lim_{\tau\gg\tau_{iso}} \mathcal{E}(\tau) \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_0\left(\frac{\tau_{iso}}{\tau}\right)^{4/3} \qquad \text{Hydrodynamical limit}$$

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Smeared step function $\lambda_{\gamma}(\tau - \tau_{iso})$ $\tau_{hvdro}/\tau_0 = 5, \gamma = 2$

6 8 10

 τ/τ_0

1 0.8 0.6 0.4 0.2 0 2

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Dependence on the model parameter γ

A K factor of 6 was applied to account for NLO corrections.

 T_0 = 845 MeV, τ_0 = 0.088 fm/c, T_c = 160 MeV.



M. Martinez and M. Strickland, Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 102301 (2008), arXiv:0709.3576 [hep-ph].

Fixing multiplicities

We could modify the model for the non equilibrium region fixing the final multiplicities. For doing so, we demand that after a given τ_{iso} , the hard momentum scale is the same.



As a consequence, the initial conditions will change and will depend on τ_{iso} .

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Fixing multiplicities: dilepton spectrum vs. P_T



Dilepton production will be smaller compared with the case when the initial conditions are fixed but the effect from an anisotropy remains.

A K factor of 6 was applied to account for NLO corrections.

 T_0 = 845 MeV, τ_0 = 0.088 fm/c, T_c = 160 MeV, $\tau_0 \le \tau_{iso} \le$ 1 fm/c. Cuts: M > 2 GeV.