

Institut für Theoretische Physik



Observables from heavy-ion collisions in the NICA energy regime

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H-QM Helmholtz Research School Quark Matter Studies

Motivation



Motivation



Which observables are suitable for the study of the chiral symmetry restoration and of the quark gluon plasma in the NICA energy regime?

Outline

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- 2 Chiral Symmetry Restoration (CSR) in PHSD
- 3 Observables of CSR and QGP in heavy-ion collisions
 - Rapidity and transverse mass spectra
 - Particle ratios and abundances
 - Sensitivity to the system size
 - Centrality dependence

4 Directed flow

- Proton and pion flow
- Excitation functions of the directed flow slopes

5 Summary

Parton-Hadron-String Dynamics (PHSD)

- Dynamical many-body transport approach.
- Consistently describes the full time evolution of a heavy-ion collision.
- Explicit parton-parton interactions, explicit phase transition from hadronic to partonic degrees of freedom.



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 Transport theory: off-shell transport equations in phase-space representation based on Kadanoff-Baym equations for the partonic and hadronic phase.

W.Cassing, E.Bratkovskaya, PRC 78 (2008) 034919; NPA831 (2009) 215; W.Cassing, EPJ ST 168 (2009) 3.



Dynamical Quasi-Particle Model (DQPM)

The QGP phase is described in terms of interacting quasi-particles with Lorentzian spectral functions:

$$ho_i(\omega,T) = rac{4\omega\Gamma_i(T)}{(\omega^2 - \mathbf{p}^2 - M_i^2(T))^2 + 4\omega^2\Gamma_i^2(T)}\,,\quad(i=q,ar{q},g)$$

Properties of quasi-particles are fitted to the lattice QCD results:



Masses and widths of partons depend on the temperature T and chemical potential μ_a of the medium:

 ρ [GeV²]

0.1 10⁻² 10⁻¹ 10⁻¹ light guark

4 % [GeV]

 $T=2T_c$



Peshier, Cassing, PRL 94 (2005) 172301; Cassing, NPA 791 (2007) 365: NPA 793 (2007) .

Stages of Parton Hadron String Dynamics (PHSD)

Initial A+A collision Partonic phase

Hadronization





- String formation in primary NN Collisions.
- String decays to pre-hadrons (baryons and mesons).



- Formation of a **QGP state** if $\epsilon > \epsilon_C \approx 0.5 \,\text{GeV fm}^{-3}$.
- Dissolution of newly produced secondary hadrons into massive colored quarks/antiquarks and mean-field energy U_q:

 $B o q q q \left(ar{q} ar{q} ar{q}
ight) \qquad M o q ar{q} \qquad + \quad U_q.$

- DQPM defines the properties (masses and widths) of partons and mean-field potential at a given local energy density *ε*.
- Hadronization through a local covariant off-shell transition rate which conserves 4-momentum and quantum numbers.
- Hadron-string interactions **off-shell HSD**.

Chiral Symmetry Restoration (CSR)

Lattice QCD predicts two transitions of the strong matter at high temperature:



The scalar quark condensate $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle$ is viewed as an order parameter for the restoration of chiral symmetry.

$$\langle \bar{q}q \rangle = \begin{cases} \neq 0 & \text{chiral non-symmetric phase;} \\ = 0 & \text{chiral symmetric phase.} \end{cases}$$

In PHSD the flavor chemistry of the final hadrons is defined by the LUND string model.



A color flux connects the rapidly receding string-ends.



Production of virtual $q\bar{q}$ or $qq\bar{q}\bar{q}$ pairs which break the color field tube.

Creation of mesons or baryon-antibaryon pairs with $\tau_f \approx 0.8 \ fm/c.$

• Chemistry determined by the Schwinger formula:

$$\frac{P(s\bar{s})}{P(u\bar{u})} = \frac{P(s\bar{s})}{P(d\bar{d})} = \gamma_s = \exp\Bigl(-\pi \frac{m_s^2 - m_{u,d}^2}{2\kappa}\Bigr)$$

with $\kappa \approx 0.176 GeV^2$ and $m_{u,d,s}$ as constituent masses.

The relative production factors in PHSD/HSD are:

$$u: d: s: uu = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1: 1: 0.3: 0.07 & \text{at SPS to RHIC;} \\ 1: 1: 0.4: 0.07 & \text{at AGS energies.} \end{array} \right.$$

■ **Kinematics** determined by the Fragmentation Function *f*(*x*, *m*_T)

$$f(x,m_T) \approx \frac{1}{x}(1-x^a)exp(-bm_T^2/x).$$

In the **Schwinger-formula**, $m_{u,d,s}$ are the constituent ('dressed') masses due to the coupling to the scalar quark condensate.

$$\gamma_s = \exp\left(-\pi \frac{\mathbf{m}_s^2 - \mathbf{m}_{u,d}^2}{2\kappa}\right)$$

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$$\gamma_s = exp\left(-\pi \frac{\mathbf{m}_s^2 - \mathbf{m}_{u,d}^2}{2\kappa}\right)$$

In vacuum (e.g. p+p collisions) the dressing of the bare quark masses follows: $m_q^V = m_q^0 - g_s \langle \bar{q}q \rangle_V$, with $m_{u,d}^0 \approx 7 \text{ MeV}$, $m_s^0 \approx 100 \text{ MeV}$ and $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle_V \approx -3.2 \text{ fm}^{-3}$.



For $m_{u,d} = 0.33 \text{ GeV}$ and $m_s = 0.5 \text{ GeV}$:

$$\gamma_s = \exp\left(-\pi \frac{m_s^2 - m_{u,d}^2}{2\kappa}\right) = 0.3.$$

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In **medium** (e.g. A+A collisions) the dressing of the bare quark masses follows:

$$egin{aligned} m_q^* &= m_q^0 - g_s \langle \mathbf{ar{q}q}
angle, \ &= m_q^0 + (m_q^V - m_q^0) rac{\langle \mathbf{ar{q}q}
angle}{\langle \mathbf{ar{q}q}
angle u} \end{aligned}$$

We need to evaluate the scalar quark condensate in the medium!

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Chiral Symmetry restoration in PHSD

An estimate for $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle$ is given by Friman et al., Eur. Phys. J. A **3**, 165, 1998:

$$\frac{\langle \bar{\mathbf{q}} \mathbf{q} \rangle}{\langle \bar{\mathbf{q}} \mathbf{q} \rangle_{\mathsf{V}}} = 1 - \frac{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{\pi}}}{f_{\pi}^2 m_{\pi}^2} \boldsymbol{\rho}_{\mathsf{S}} - \sum_{h} \frac{\sigma_h \rho_h^h}{f_{\pi}^2 m_{\pi}^2}$$

with Σ_{π} as the pion-nucleon Σ -term, σ_h as the σ -commutator of the meson h, ρ_s as scalar density which can be obtained within the non-linear $\sigma - \omega$ model and f_{π} and m_{π} are the pion decay constant and pion mass, given by the Gell-Mann-Oakes-Renner relation.

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We adopt $\Sigma_{\pi} = 45$ MeV. Modifications on the value of Σ_{π} have no essential effect on our results.



Yi-Bo Yang et al., Phys. Rev. D 94, 054503 (2016).

The scalar density $\rho_{\rm s}$ is obtained within the non-linear $\sigma - \omega$ model solving locally the gap equation for the σ -field.



We investigate different parametrizations for the hadronic EoS to estimate the uncertainty on our results.

	NL1	NL3
g _s	6.91	9.50
K (MeV)	380	380
m* / m	0.83	0.70

CSR: Dependence on the Hadronic EoS (at T = 0)



Chiral Symmetry restoration in PHSD



Chiral Symmetry restoration in PHSD

Considering effective quark masses $m_{q,s}^*$ in the Schwinger formula. 1.0 1 /m 0.8 :aa>/<aa> ratios 0.6 0.4 0.2 0.0 0.0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 ε [GeV/fm³]

In the **QGP phase**, the string decay doesn't occur anymore and this effect is therefore suppressed.

A "Horn" feature emerges in the energy dependence of the s/u ratio!



Scalar quark condensate in HIC



Time evolution of the ratio $\frac{\langle \bar{\mathbf{q}} \mathbf{q} \rangle}{\langle \bar{\mathbf{q}} \mathbf{q} \rangle_{\mathbf{V}}}$ for Au+Au @ 30 AGeV.

 $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle = \begin{cases} \neq 0 & \text{chiral non-symmetric phase;} \\ = 0 & \text{chiral symmetric phase.} \end{cases}$

The scalar quark condensate $\langle \bar{q}q\rangle$ is not a direct observable.

Can we find manifestations of the chiral symmetry restoration indirectly in hadronic observables?

Rapidity spectra I

120 15 HSD w/o CSR w/o CSR NL3 NL1 --Au+Au @ 8AGeV 5% central $\Lambda + \Sigma^0$ p dN/dy 80 10 40 5 0 0 π^{\dagger} π⁻ 60 60 dN/dy 40 40 20 20 0 0 \mathbf{K}^+ Ξ 8 0.4 dN/dy 0.3 6 0.2 10 0.1 2 A 0 -2 2 -3 -2 2 3 -3 -1 1 -1 0 V 1 0 ÿ

Au+Au @ 8 AGeV

HIC at low NICA energies are suited to isolate the role of CSR in the hadronic medium.

Vanishing contribution from QGP.

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Rapidity spectra II

Pb+Pb @ 30 AGeV in comparison to data at SPS



Rapidity spectra III



→ NICA energy scan is optimal to study the "interplay" between CSR and QGP.

Transverse mass spectra I



Transverse mass spectra II



"Horn" in the K^+/π^+ ratio





What is the sensitivity to the equation of state?

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Strange to non-strange particle ratios



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Strangeness production



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Strangeness production



- The increase of $\overline{\mathbf{K}}$ due to CSR is $\approx 10\%$.
- The increase of Λ and Σ due to CSR is $\approx 32\%$.
- The increase of **K** due to CSR is $\approx 28\%$.



Hyperon abundances

Excitation function of the hyperons Λ and Ξ^- .



A. P. et al., Phys. Rev. C94 (2016) 044912.

They show **analogous peaks** as the K^+/π^+ and $(\Lambda + \Sigma_0)/\pi$ ratios due to CSR. There is a small sensitivity on the parametrizations for the hadronic EoS.

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Sensitivity to the system size: A+A collisions



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Observables from heavy-ion collisions in the NICA energy regime

Sensitivity to the system size: p+A collisions

In **p+A collisions** strange to non-strange particle ratios show **no peaks**.



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Centrality dependence

Particles abundances and ratios as a function of the number of participants in Au+Au @ 7.7 GeV



A. P. et al., Phys. Rev. C94 (2016) 044912.

CSR occurs in central collisions as well as in moderately peripheral collisions.

Centrality dependence

Strangeness enhancement in relation to the strange particle production in p+p collisions:

$$\left(\frac{\text{yield}}{\langle N_{\text{part}} \rangle}\right)_{A+A} / \left(\frac{\text{yield}}{\langle N_{\text{part}} \rangle}\right)_{p+p}.$$
 (1)



The enhancement in A+A collisions with respect to the p+p collisions is larger for the Ξ^- than for $(\Lambda + \Sigma^0)$.

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Directed flow v_1

First type of collective motion to be identified among fragments of HIC. It represents the deflection of the produced particles in the reaction plane.

$$\frac{dN}{d\varphi} \propto \left(1 + 2\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \nu_n \cos[n(\varphi - \psi_n)]\right)$$

with $\nu_n = \langle cos[n(\varphi - \psi_n)] \rangle$ for n = 1, 2, 3...



$$v_1 = \langle rac{p_x}{p_T}
angle$$



Directed flow v_1 : slope F and time evolution



0.15 Au+Au, √s_{NN}=3.6GeV, b=6fm, |y|=0.75 0.1 0.05 cpx> [GeV] 0 -0.05 -0.1 _[₽] — -0.15 -0.2 5 10 15 25 30 35 40 0 20 t-t_{coll} [fm/c]

The directed flow is approximately linear at midrapidity: $v_1 \approx F \cdot y$ F > 0 normal flow F < 0 antiflow

Protons:

 v_1 is established in the early stage of the collision and marginally distorted during the evolution.

Pions:

mesons are sensitive to rescattering of hadrons; v_1 is positive at small values of time and becomes negative later on.

Directed flow v_1 : baryon potentials

The particles propagating in a medium are sensitive to mean-field potentials. The nucleon potential is defined in terms of the Schrödinger-equivalent potential:

$$U_{sep}(E_{kin}) = U_{S} + U_{0} + rac{1}{2M}(U_{S}^{2} - U_{0}^{2}) + rac{U_{0}}{M}E_{kin}.$$

An explicit-momentum dependence is included for the potential components U_S and U_0 :

$$f_S = rac{1}{1+p_{rel}}, \qquad f_V = rac{1}{1+p_{rel}^2/1.7},$$

in agreement with previous transport calculations (e.g. P. K. Sahu et al., NPA 712 (2002) 357.) and with Dirac-Brueckner calculations (e.g. T. Gross-Boelting et al, NPA 648 (1999) 105.).



Each line refers to a fixed baryon density, from $\rho_0/2$ (lowest line) to $3\rho_0$ (highest line) with steps of $\rho_0/2$.

In PHSD the potentials are incorporated in the baryonic sector (weighted according to the light quark content of the baryon).

What is the sensitivity of v_1 to the baryon potentials?

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Proton flow in Au+Au collisions at RHIC energies in comparison to STAR data

The proton v_1 has a normal flow behavior at small energies and an antiflow behavior at high energies. The PHSD (CSR included) results show the same trend as the data, though there is not a perfect agreement.



Data from: L. Adamczyk et al. (STAR Collaboration), Phys. Rev. Lett. 112 (2014) 162301.

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Pion flow in Au+Au collisions at RHIC energies in comparison to STAR data

The pions are characterized by an **antiflow** behavior in the **whole investigated energy range**. The PHSD (CSR included) results are in good agreement with the data at high energies, while at small energies the PHSD antiflow is too large.



Data from: L. Adamczyk et al. (STAR Collaboration), Phys. Rev. Lett. 112 (2014) 162301.

 π

Excitation functions of the directed flow slopes



UrQMD and data from: L. Adamczyk et al. (STAR Coll.), Phys. Rev. Lett. 112 (2004) 162301; Y. Pandit (STAR Coll.), J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 636 (2015) 012001; V. P. Konchakovski et al., Phys. Rev. C 90 (2014) 014903.

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Summary

The NICA energy scan is optimal to study CSR in the hadronic medium and its "interplay" with the QGP phase.

- Particle abundances and rapidity spectra are suitable probes to extract information about CSR.
- The 'horn'-structure in the strange to non-strange particle ratios is due to CSR and QGP.
- The 'horn'-structure disappears in the K⁺/π⁺ ratio as the system size decreases, while it remains in the (Λ + Σ⁰)/π ratio.
- CSR occurs in central collisions and in moderately peripheral collisions.
- The directed flow of protons is sensitive to baryon potentials at low energies.
- PHSD reproduces the experimental trend of the proton and pion flows with some discrepancy for p at high energies and for π at small energies.

Thank you for your attention!





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Barcelona University: Laura Tolos Angel Ramos







BACK-UP SLIDES

A production rate in Pb+Pb collision at 30AGeV



K^+ production rate in Pb+Pb collision at 30AGeV



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K^- production rate in Pb+Pb collision at 30AGeV



Chiral Symmetry Restoration (CSR) in PHSD

In a hot and dense medium, the hadrons undergo modifications of their properties, e.g. the mass!

$$m_N^*(x) = m_N^V - g_s \sigma(x),$$

where the scalar field $\sigma(x)$ mediates the scalar interaction with the surrounding medium through the coupling g_s .

The value of $\sigma(x)$ for nucleons is determined locally by the non-linear gap equation:

$$m_{\sigma}^{2}\sigma(x) + B\sigma^{2}(x) + C\sigma^{3}(x) = g_{s}\rho_{S} = g_{s}d\int \frac{d^{3}p}{(2\pi)^{3}} \frac{m_{N}^{*}(x)}{\sqrt{p^{2} + m_{N}^{*2}}} f_{N}(x,\mathbf{p})$$

Within the non-linear σ – π model for nuclear matter, the parameters g_s, m_σ, B, C can be fixed in order to reproduce the values of the main nuclear matter quantities at saturation,

i.e. saturation density, binding energy per nucleon, compression modulus and the effective nucleon mass.

(Actually there are different sets for the values of the parameters, due to the large experimental uncertainties on their values.)

Chiral Symmetry restoration in PHSD

An estimate for the quark scalar condensate is given by Friman et al., Eur. Phys. J. A **3**, 165, 1998:

$$rac{\langlear{q}q
angle}{\langlear{q}q
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ho_S - \sum_h rac{\sigma_h
ho_S^h}{f_\pi^2 m_\pi^2},$$

with $\Sigma_{\pi} \approx 45 MeV$ (reduced in case of hyperons according to the light quark content), σ_h as the σ -commutator of the meson h (= $m_{\pi}/2$ for mesons made of light quarks, = $m_{\pi}/4$ for mesons composed of (anti-)strange quarks).

• The vacuum scalar condensate $\langle q\bar{q} \rangle_V$ is fixed by the Gell-Mann-Oakes-Renner relation:

$$f_{\pi}^2 m_{\pi}^2 = -\frac{1}{2} (m_u^0 + m_d^0) \langle \bar{q}q \rangle_V \quad \Rightarrow \quad \langle \bar{q}q \rangle_V \approx -3.2 \text{ fm}^{-3}$$

for the bare quark masses $m_u^0 = m_d^0 \approx 7 MeV$.

• The nucleon scalar density ρ_s is obtained after solving the gap equation for the field $\sigma(x)$.

CSR: Dependence on the Hadronic EoS



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Chiral Symmetry restoration: Basic Principles

The QCD Lagrangian for massless quarks is chirally symmetric, i.e. invariant under a transformation of the symmetry group SU(2)_L × SU(2)_R. The associated transformation for the quark field is:

$$\varphi \to \varphi' = e^{-irac{ au_a}{2}\Theta_a P_L} e^{-irac{ au_b}{2}\Theta_b P_R} \varphi, \qquad ext{with} \quad P_{L,R} = rac{1}{2}(1 \mp \gamma_5).$$

This transformation can be rewritten in terms of transformation Λ_V × Λ_A of the group SU(2)_V × SU(2)_A:

$$e^{-i\frac{\tau_a}{2}\Theta_a P_L}e^{-i\frac{\tau_b}{2}\Theta_b P_R}\varphi \to e^{-i\frac{\tau}{2}\vec{\Theta}_V}e^{-i\gamma_5\frac{\tau}{2}\vec{\Theta}_A}\varphi.$$

If the Chiral Symmetry holds, the vector and axial currents are equal.

In case of massive quarks, the Chiral Symmetry is explicitly broken:

$$\Lambda_A: m(\bar{\varphi}\varphi) \to m(\bar{\varphi}\varphi) - 2im\vec{\Theta} \cdot (\bar{\varphi}\frac{\vec{\tau}}{2}\gamma_5\varphi).$$

For energies larger than the particle masses, Λ_A may be treated as an approximate symmetry.

The chiral condensate is adopted as an order parameter of the transition between the chiral non-symmetric and the chiral symmetric phase:

$$\langle \bar{\varphi} \varphi \rangle = -\frac{T}{V} \frac{\partial}{\partial m_q} log Z = \begin{cases} \neq 0 & \text{for } T < T_{ch} \text{ (chiral non-symmetric phase)} \\ = 0 & \text{for } T \ge T_{ch} \text{ (chiral symmetric phase)}. \end{cases}$$