

The 2nd Workshop on Ultra-Peripheral Collision Physics

Strong Electromagnetic Fields in Heavy ion Collisions

Xu-Guang Huang
Fudan University, Shanghai

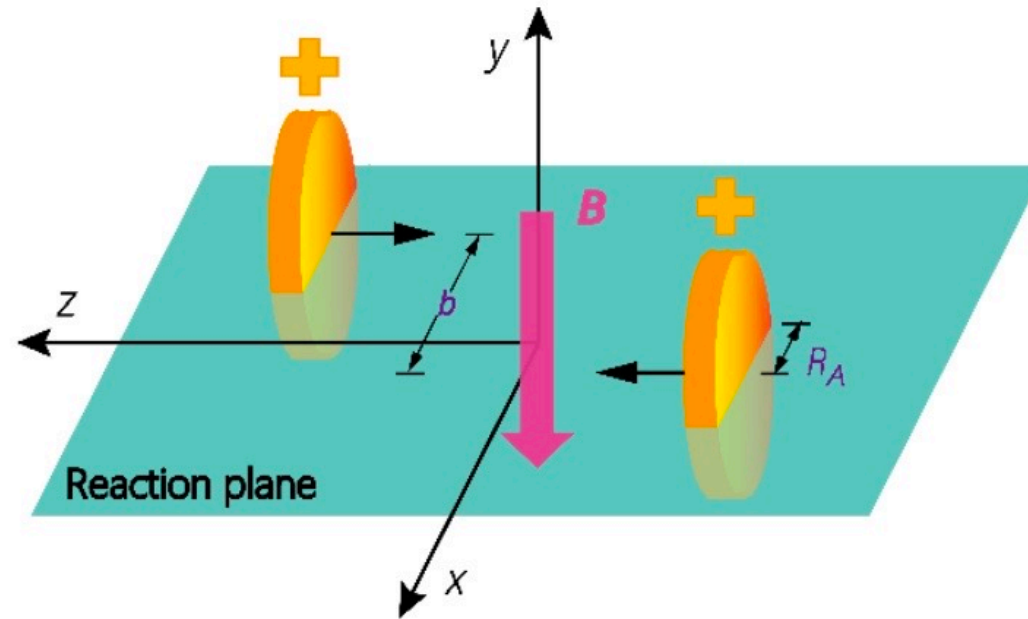
April 13, 2024 @ USTC, Hefei

Content

- Introduction
- Strong electromagnetic (EM) fields in matter
- Strong EM fields in vacuum (i.e., in UPC)
- Summary

Introduction

Magnetic fields in HICs

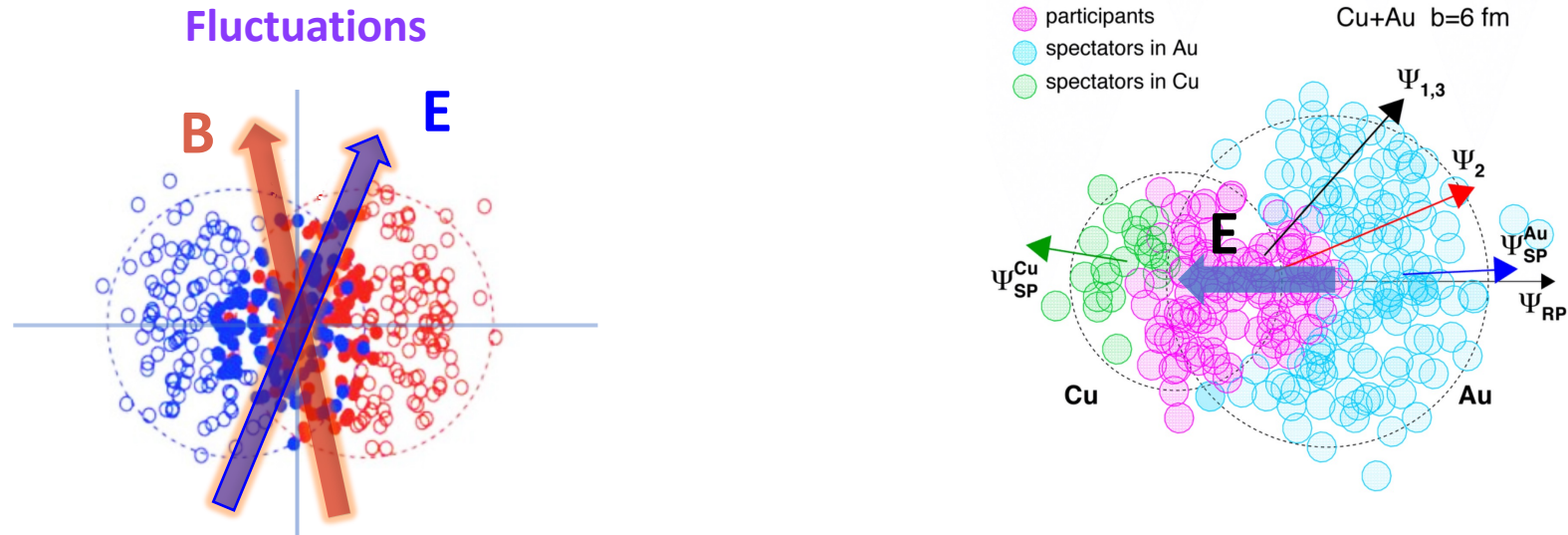


Smallness (fm level) + relativistic enhancement = very strong B field

$$eB \sim \gamma \alpha_{\text{EM}} \frac{Z}{b^2} \sim 10^{18} \text{ G}$$

(RHIC Au+Au 200 GeV, b=10 fm)

Electric fields in HICs



Nucleon distribution fluctuations or asymmetric collisions (e.g., Cu + Au) or Faraday induction by B-field decay or
= very strong E fields (comparable to B fields)

EM effects in heavy-ion collisions

- EM effects in matter (off-central collisions)
 - Chiral magnetic/separation effect
 - Chiral electric separation effect
 - (Inverse) Magnetic catalysis of chiral symmetry breaking
 - Anisotropic pressure and viscosities
 - de Haas – van Alphen effect
 - Einstein – de Haas effect
 -
- EM effects in vacuum (UPCs)
 - Schwinger pair production
 - Vacuum birefringence
 - Breit – Wheeler process
 - Photon scattering
 - Vacuum instability
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EM fields + matter coupled evolution and distribution?

- EM effects in vacuum (UPCs)

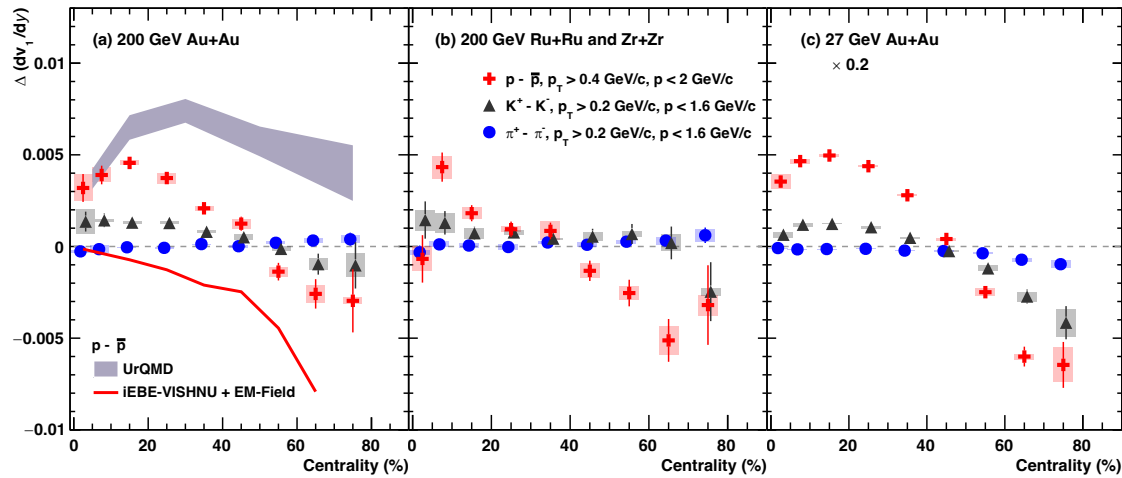
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- Photon scattering
- Vacuum instability
-

Non-perturbative strong-field physics?

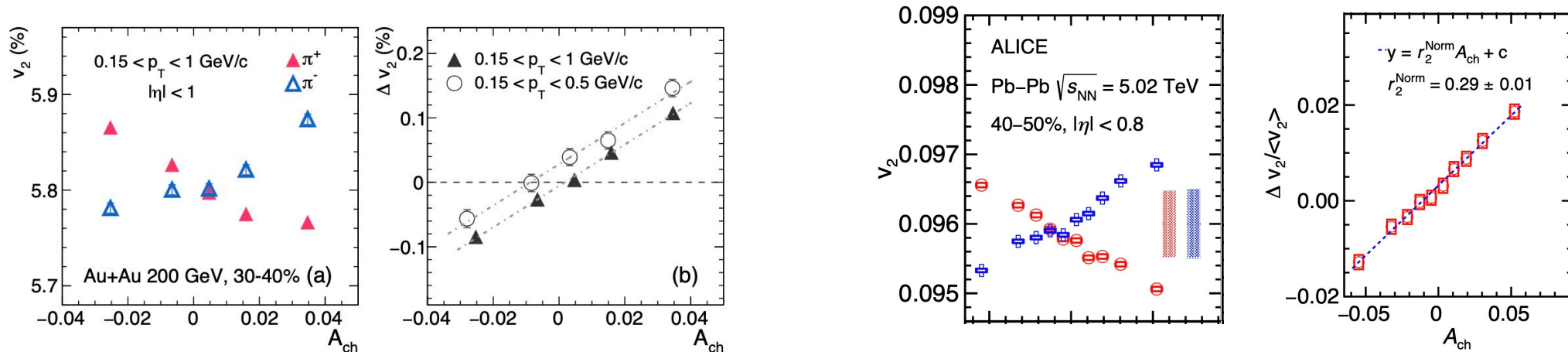
EM fields in matter: 1. Anisotropic viscosities

Strong indication of EM fields in HICs

- v1 splitting of charged light flavors measurement by STAR (STAR 2023)

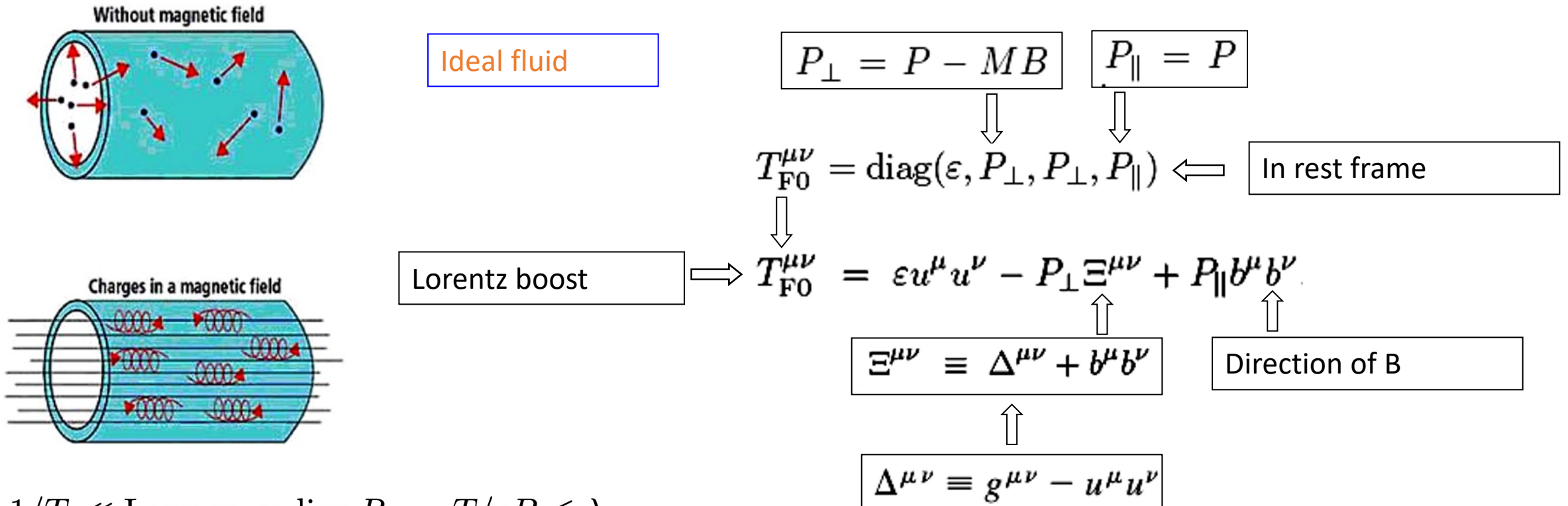


- v2 splitting of charged light flavors measurement by STAR and ALICE (STAR 2022, ALICE 2023)



Strong-field magnetohydrodynamics

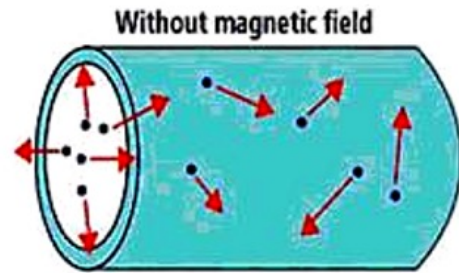
- Though there may be non-hydro contribution, MHD may provide a benchmark for understanding v_1, v_2 splitting of light flavors
- What are special for strong-field MHD? **Anisotropic pressure and viscosities**



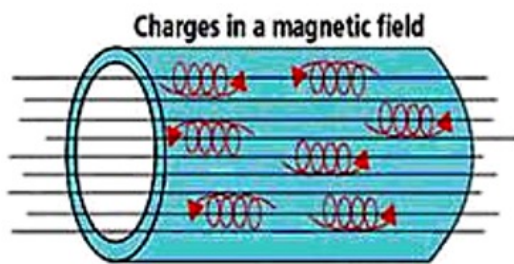
$1/T \ll \text{Larmor radius } R_T = T/eB \leq \lambda_{\text{mfp}}$

Strong-field magnetohydrodynamics

- Though there may be non-hydro contribution, MHD may provide a benchmark for understanding v_1, v_2 splitting of light flavors
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Viscous fluid: seven viscosities



$$\tau^{\mu\nu} = 2\eta_0 (w^{\mu\nu} - \Delta^{\mu\nu} \theta / 3) + \eta_1 \left(\Delta^{\mu\nu} - \frac{3}{2} \Xi^{\mu\nu} \right) \left(\theta - \frac{3}{2} \phi \right) - 2\eta_2 (b^\mu \Xi^{\nu\alpha} b^\beta + b^\nu \Xi^{\mu\alpha} b^\beta) w_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$- 2\eta_3 (\Xi^{\mu\alpha} b^{\nu\beta} + \Xi^{\nu\alpha} b^{\mu\beta}) w_{\alpha\beta} + 2\eta_4 (b^{\mu\alpha} b^\nu b^\beta + b^{\nu\alpha} b^\mu b^\beta) w_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{3}{2} \zeta_\perp \Xi^{\mu\nu} \phi + 3\zeta_\parallel b^\mu b^\nu \varphi,$$

$w^{\mu\nu} \equiv \frac{1}{2} (\nabla^\mu u^\nu + \nabla^\nu u^\mu).$

$\theta \equiv \partial_\mu u^\mu$

$\phi \equiv \Xi^{\mu\nu} w_{\mu\nu}$

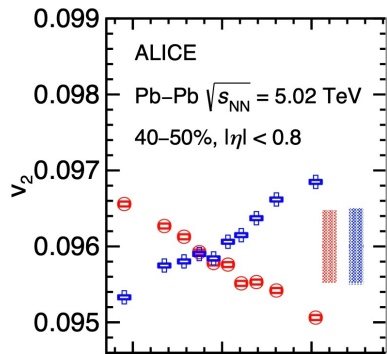
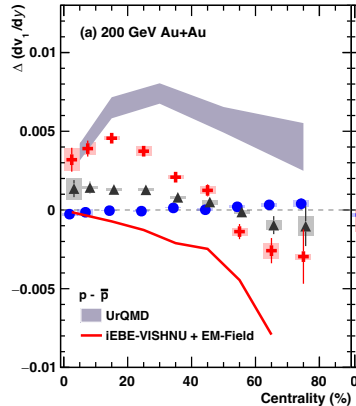
$\varphi \equiv b^\mu b^\nu w_{\mu\nu}$

(XGH, Sedrakian, Rischke 2011; Hernandez, Kovtun 2017; Grozdanov, Hofman, Iqbal 2017; Hattori-Hongo-XGH 2022)

$$1/T \ll \text{Larmor radius } R_T = T/eB \leq \lambda_{\text{mfp}}$$

Strong-field magnetohydrodynamics

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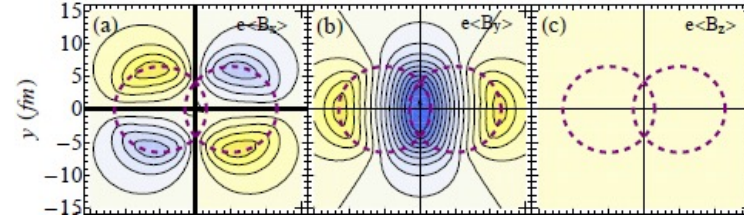
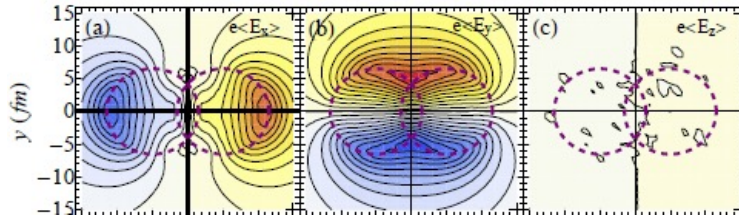
Test strong-field MHD?
 Measure anisotropic viscosities?

EM fields in matter: 2. Time-varying fields

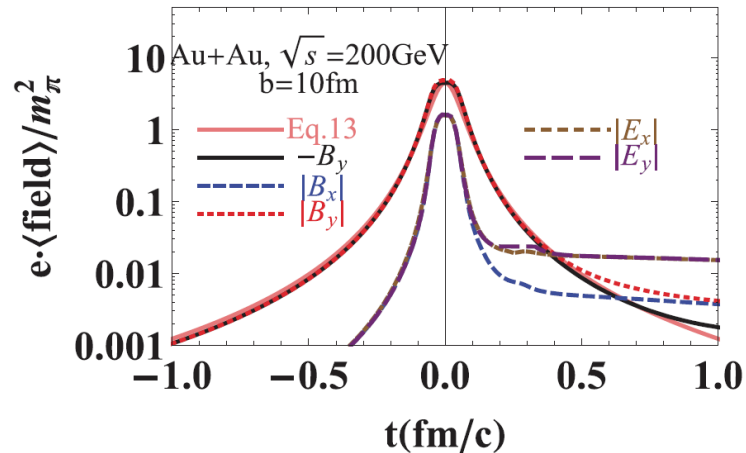
Spacetime dependence of EM fields

- The EM fields are inhomogeneous

(Deng, XGH 2012; and many others)



- The EM fields are rapidly decaying if the matter is insulating



Well fitted by

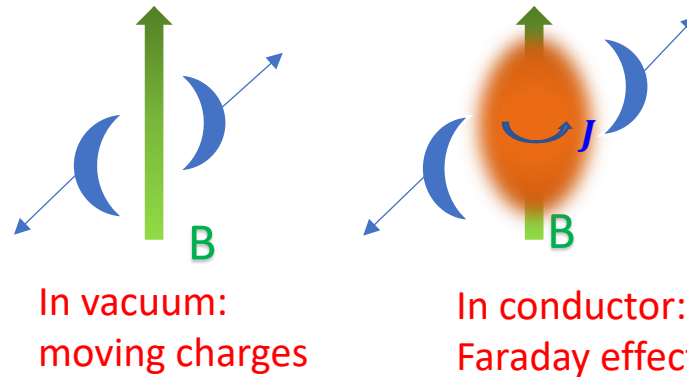
$$\langle eB_y(t) \rangle \approx \frac{\langle eB_y(0) \rangle}{(1 + t^2/t_B^2)^{3/2}}$$

Life time of B field

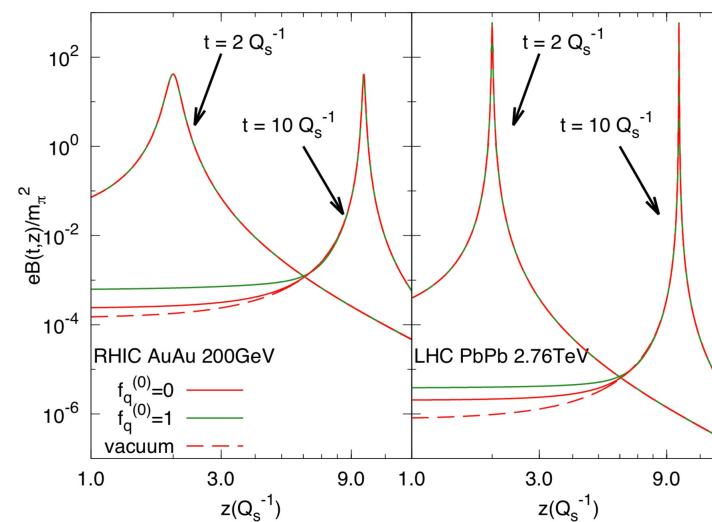
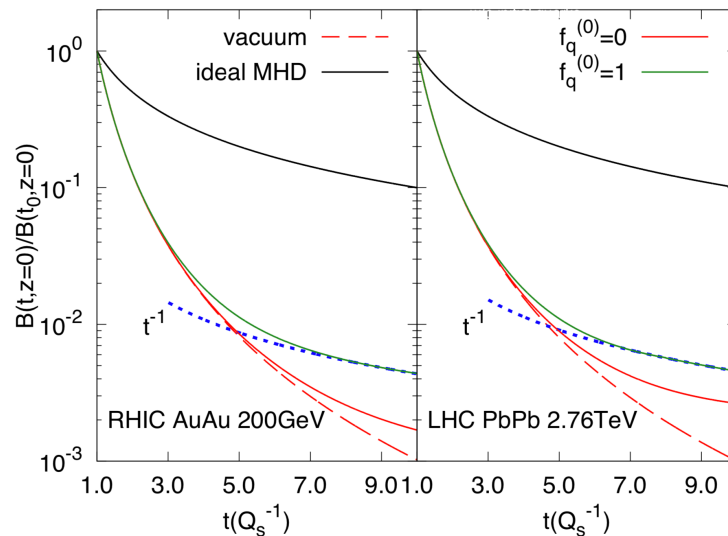
$$t_B \approx R_A / (\gamma v_z) \approx \frac{2m_N}{\sqrt{s}} R_A$$

Realistic evolution of B fields

- If the matter is conducting



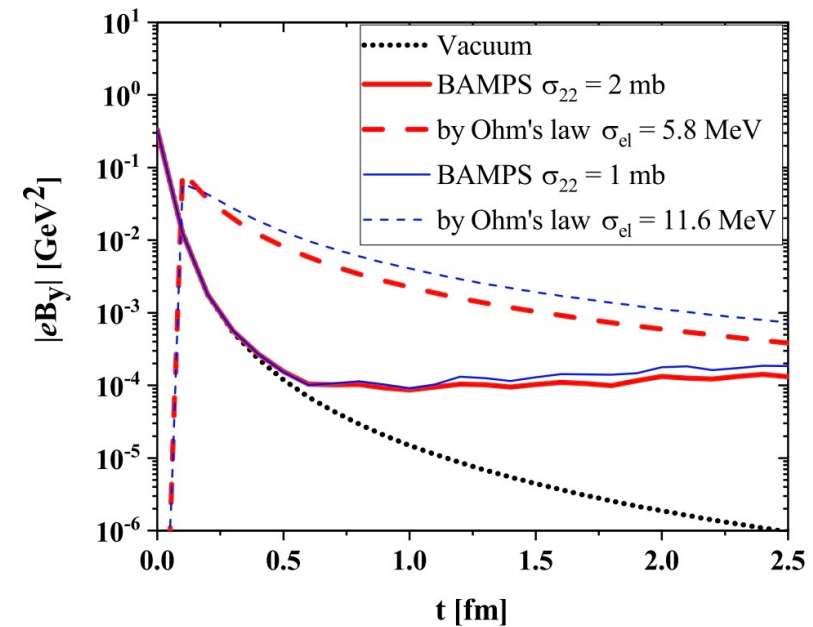
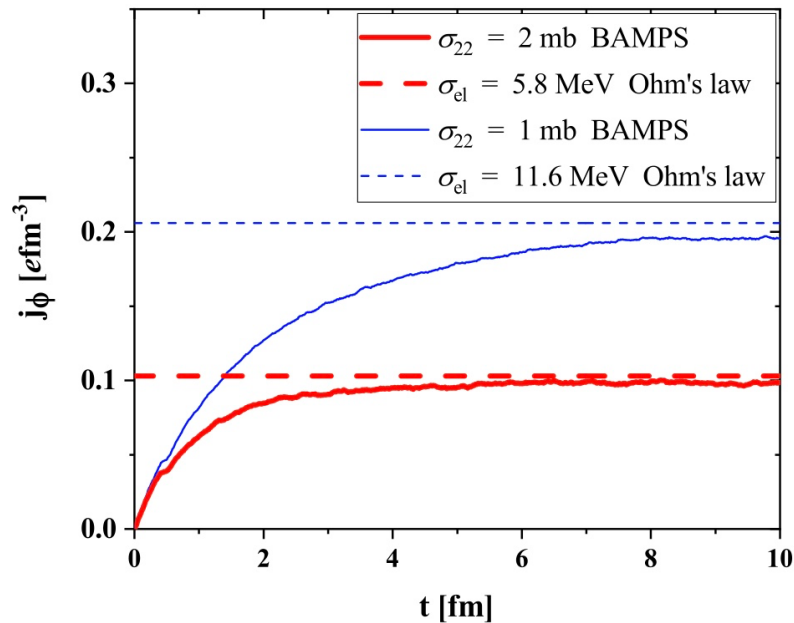
- Solve coupled kinetic equation of partons and Maxwell equations:



(Yan, XGH 2021)

Realistic evolution of B field

- Similar results from BAMPS with binary collisions (Wang, Zhao, Greiner, Xu, Zhuang 2021)
- Electric current: incomplete Ohm's law
- B field

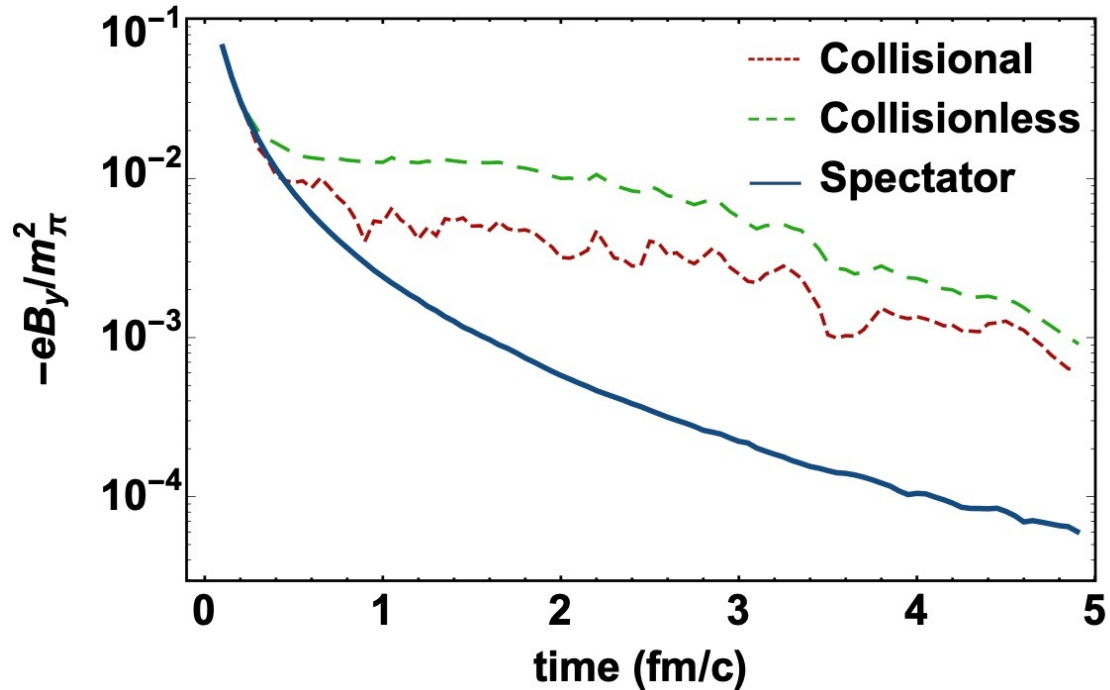


“The relaxation time is larger than the lifetime of the external magnetic field for the QCD matter in relativistic heavy-ion collisions”

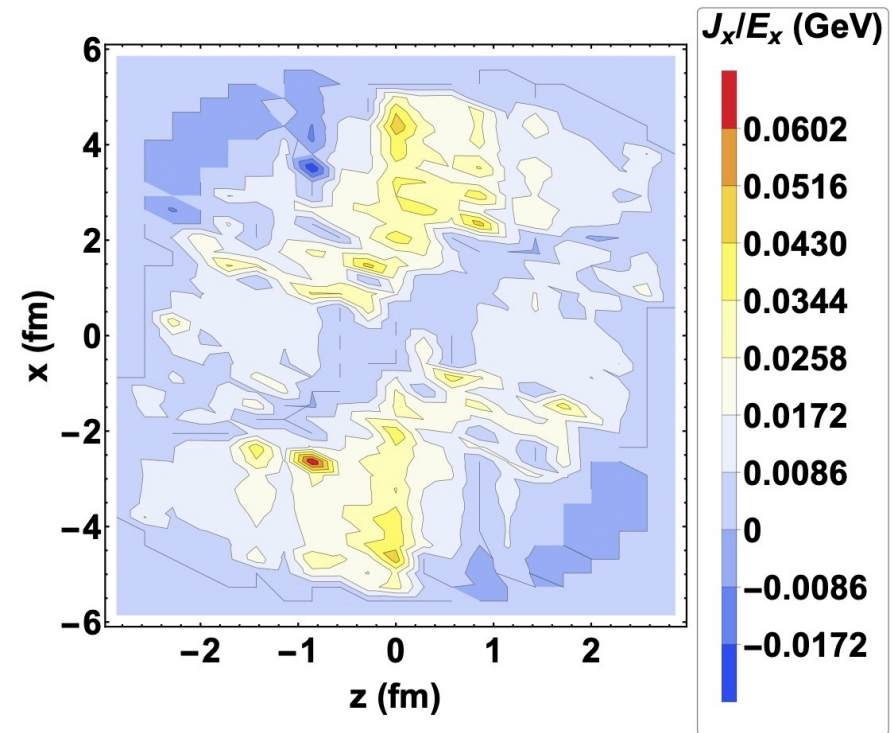
“Our results show a strong suppression by two orders of magnitude in the magnetic field, relatively to calculations assuming the validity of Ohm's law.”

Realistic evolution of B field

- Similar results from USTC group (Zhang-Sheng-Pu-Wang et al 2022)
- B fields:



- Effective conductivity



Note that the effective conductivity can be negative

CME under time-varying B field

- All these simulations show strong time-dependence of B field, and thus indicating **incomplete chiral magnetic response**

$$J_V(t) \neq \frac{e^2 \mu_A}{2\pi^2} \mathbf{B}(t)$$

- In momentum space (Son-Yamamoto 2012; Satow 2014)

$$J_V^i(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = G_R^{ij,-}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) A^j(\omega, \mathbf{k})$$

$$G_R^{ij,-} = ie^2 \frac{\mu}{4\pi^2} \epsilon^{ijk} k^k - e^2 \frac{\mu\omega}{4\pi^2} \int \frac{d\Omega_{\hat{\mathbf{p}}}}{(4\pi)} \frac{\epsilon^{ilk} \hat{p}^j - \epsilon^{jlk} \hat{p}^i}{-i\omega + i\hat{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \mathbf{k} + \tau^{-1}} \hat{p}^l k^k$$

- This could modify the chiral anomalous hydrodynamics, e.g., AVFD (Shi, Jiang, Liao 2018)

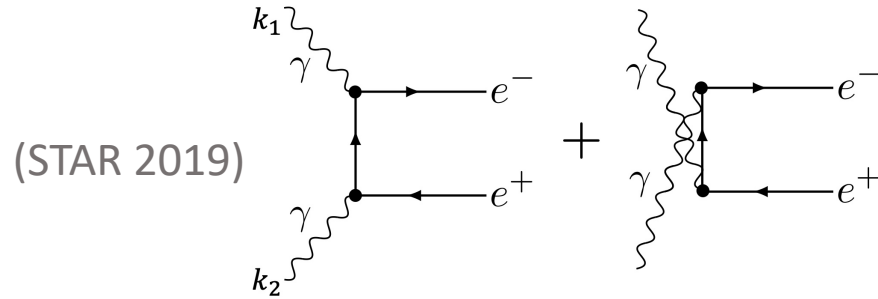


Provide a more reliable theoretical basis for understanding CME-sensitive observables?

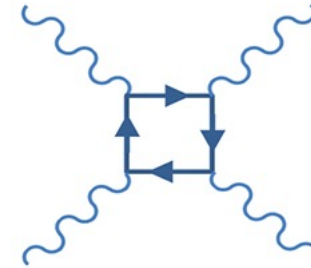
EM fields in vacuum: UPC

Non-perturbative QED effects in UPC?

- Two typical processes in UPC



Breit-Wheeler process



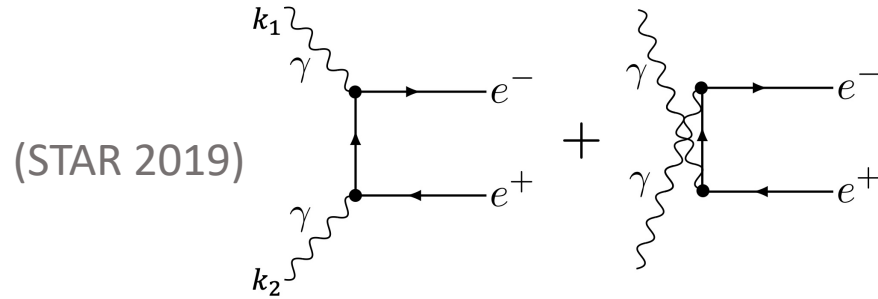
Photon-photon scattering

(ATLAS 2016)

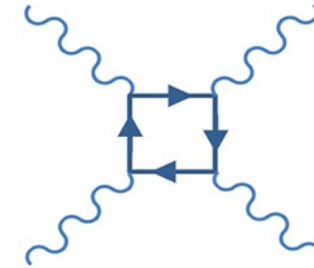
- Why perturbative treatment is sufficient even when $eE/m^2 \gg 1$?

Non-perturbative QED effects in UPC?

- Two typical processes in UPC



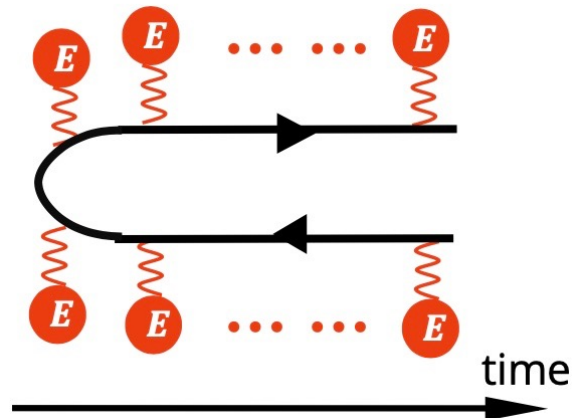
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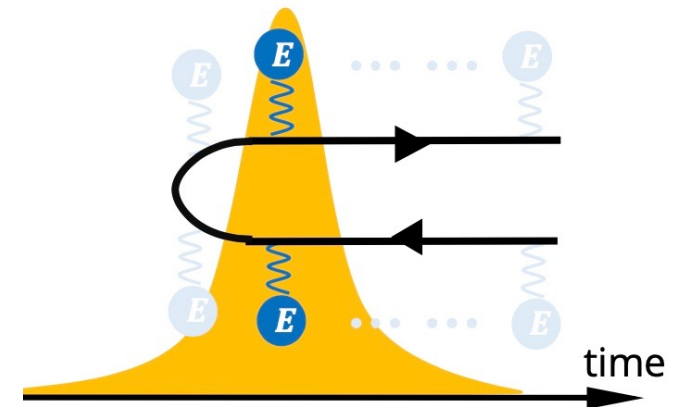
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Photon-photon scattering

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For transient EM fields

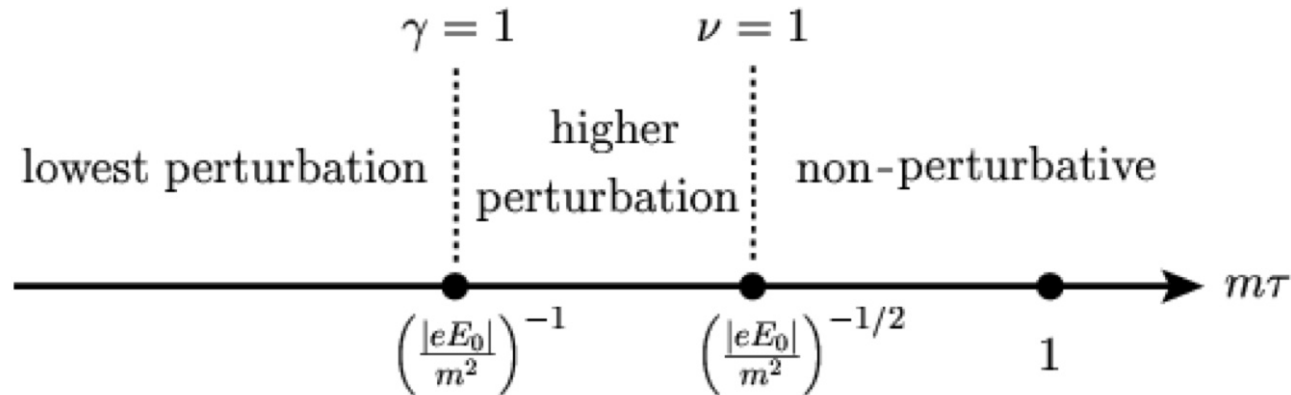


Non-perturbative QED effects in UPC?

- For time varying fields, not only the Schwinger parameter $\theta = eF/m^2$ but also $\gamma = m/(eF t_B)$ and $\nu = eF t_B^2$ important

supercritical $\frac{|eE_0|}{m^2} > 1$

(Brezin, Itzykson 1970; Popov 1971;
Taya, Fujii, Itakura 2014; Taya, Nishimura, Ohnishi 2024)



- The life-time of EM field

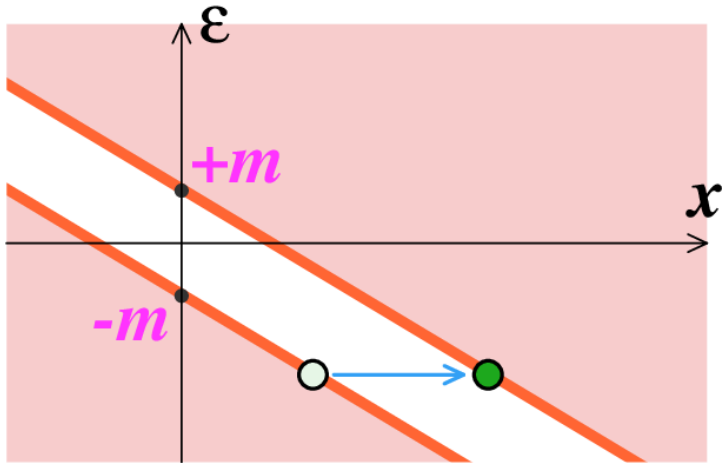
$$t_B \approx R_A / (\gamma v_z) \approx \frac{2m_N}{\sqrt{s}} R_A \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Non-perturbativeness}} \quad \sqrt{s} \leq \alpha_{\text{EM}} \frac{2Zm_N}{b^2} R_A^2 \sim O(\text{GeV})$$



Lower-energy UPC makes non-perturbativeness more favored

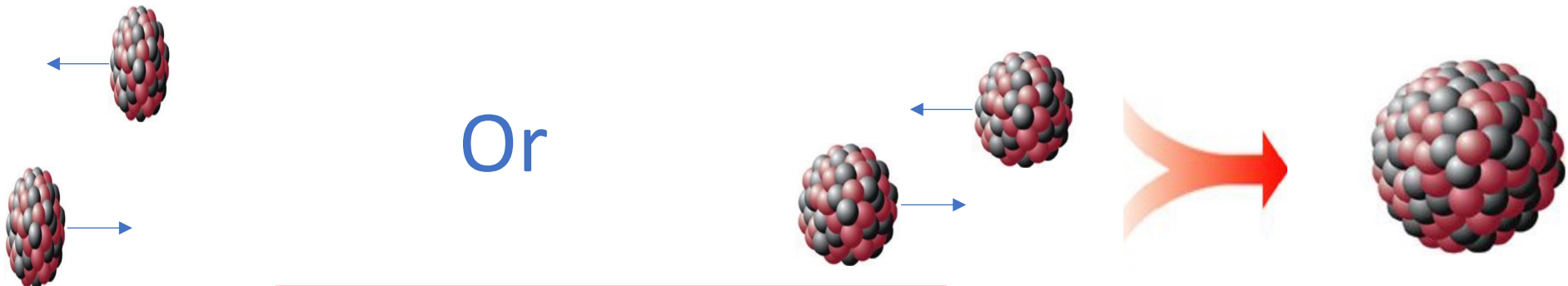
Non-perturbative QED effects in UPC?

- Schwinger pair production



$$N_{e^\pm} = \frac{(eE)^2 VT}{(2\pi)^3} \times \exp \left[-\pi \frac{m^2}{eE} \right]$$

- Is UPC (or non-UPC) at lower and lower energies good place for Schwinger pair?



HIAF, NICA, FAIR, BES@RHIC?

Summary

Summary

- Strong EM fields in HICs
- Can charge-dependent v_1, v_2, v_3 be used to extract anisotropic viscosities?
- Time-varying EM fields lead to new contribution to CME, CMW, etc?
- Low-energy UPC to detect non-perturbative QED phenomena?

Thank you