



Spin alignment of vector mesons by glasma fields



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Di-Lun Yang

Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica

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primary references :

A. Kumar, B. Müller, DY, PRD 108, 016020 (2023), arXiv:2304.04181 A. Kumar, B. Müller, DY, PRD 107, 076025 (2023), arXiv:2212.13354



Global Λ polarization in HIC

- The large AM generated in HIC could induce spin polarization of the QGP via spinorbit interaction. (relativistic Barnett effect) Z.-T. Liang and X.-N. Wang, PRL. 94, 102301 (2005)
- Global polarization of Λ hyperons :



L. Adamczyk et al. (STAR), Nature 548, 62 (2017)

Self-analyzing via the weak decay :





Spin alignment of vector mesons



M.S. Abdallah et al. (STAR), Nature 614 (2023) 7947, 244-248,



Spin polarization beyond subatomic swirls?

- Spin alignment puzzle : the deviation of ρ_{00} from 1/3 is unexpectedly large e.g. $\rho_{00} \approx \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{\omega}{T}\right)^2$, $\frac{\omega}{T} \sim 0.1\%$ at LHC energy. (from Λ polarization)
- Flavor & collision energy dep. :

	ϕ	K^{*0}
ALICE	$ \rho_{00} < 1/3 \ (p_T \le 1 \text{ GeV}) $	$ \rho_{00} < 1/3 $
STAR	$ \rho_{00} > 1/3 $	$\rho_{00}\approx 1/3$

• Spin alignment for J/ψ :

S. Acharya et al. , PRL 131,042303 (2023)

$$\lambda_{\theta} = \frac{1 - 3\rho_{00}}{1 + \rho_{00}} > 0 \implies \rho_{00} < \frac{1}{3}$$



Other sources for spin correlation (alignment) besides vorticity?



From spin correlations to spin alignment

- Spin alignment is led by spin correlations : $\langle \mathcal{P}_q^i \mathcal{P}_{\bar{q}}^i \rangle \neq \langle \mathcal{P}_q^i \rangle \langle \mathcal{P}_{\bar{q}}^i \rangle$
 - $\implies \rho_{00} \neq 1/3$ with $\langle \mathcal{P}_{q/\bar{q}}^i \rangle = 0$ is possible spin polarization of Λ could be unaffected

(the sources for spin alignment may be fluctuating)

- Spin quantization axis needs not be parallel to the spin polarization (or correlation)
- Anisotropic spin correlation is needed :

X.-L. Sheng et al., PRD 109, 036004, (2024) A. Kumar, B. Müller, DY, PRD 108, 016020 (2023)

 $\rho_{00}(q) = \frac{1 - \operatorname{Tr}_{c} \langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{q}^{y}(q/2) \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^{y}(q/2) \rangle_{q=0}}{3 - \sum_{i=x,y,z} \operatorname{Tr}_{c} \langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{q}^{i}(q/2) \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^{i}(q/2) \rangle_{q=0}} \quad \text{(quark model & kinetic equation of vector mesons in the non-relativistic limit)}}$ $\downarrow |\langle \mathcal{P}_{q}^{i} \mathcal{P}_{\bar{q}}^{i} \rangle| \ll 1 \quad \rho_{00} \approx \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9} \operatorname{Tr}_{c} \left(\langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{q}^{x} \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^{x} \rangle + \langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{q}^{z} \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^{z} \rangle - 2 \langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{q}^{y} \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^{y} \rangle \right)$ $\rho_{00} = 1/3 \quad \text{when } \langle \mathcal{P}_{q}^{j} \mathcal{P}_{\bar{q}}^{j} \rangle \neq 0 \text{ is isotropic.}$

□ Electromagnetic fields can polarize the spin. How about gluonic fields in QCD matter? $\mathcal{P}^i(\mathbf{p}) \propto c_1 B^i + c_2 \epsilon^{ijk} p_j E_k$



Color-field induced spin alignment

Small-x gluons may form a glasma state characterized by mostly longitudinal chromoelectromagnetic fields in early times of HIC from CGC.



Reviews : F. Gelis et al., Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci.60:463-489,2010 J. Berges et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 93 (2021) 3, 035003

- Why glasma fields :
 - (1) intrinsic saturation scale $Q_s \gg \omega$
 - (2) fluctuating
 - (3) intrinsic anisotropy



- An order of magnitude estimate for the glasma effect ?
- How to track the spin evolution of massive quarks in phase space? quantum kinetic theory from Wigner functions

Review : Y. Hidaka S. Pu, Q, Wang, DY, PPNP 127, 103989 (2022)



Axial kinetic theory

- Axial kinetic theory : scalar/axial-vector kinetic eqs. (SKE/AKE)
- K. Hattori, Y. Hidaka, DY, PRD 100, 096011 (2019) > SKE: $p \cdot \Delta f_V = \mathcal{C}[f_V], \quad \Delta_\mu = \partial_\mu + eF_{\nu\mu}\partial_p^{\nu}.$ DY, K. Hattori, Y. Hidaka, JHEP 20, 070 (2020) لے۔ EM fields Z. Wang, X. Guo, P. Zhuang, Eur. Phys. J. C 81, 799 (2021) standard Vlasov eq. $\succ \text{ AKE: } p \cdot \Delta \tilde{a}^{\mu} + eF^{\nu\mu}\tilde{a}_{\nu} - \frac{e}{2}\hbar\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}p_{\rho}(\partial_{\sigma}F_{\beta\nu})\partial_{p}^{\beta}f_{V} = \hat{L}^{\mu\nu}\tilde{a}_{\nu} + \hbar\hat{H}^{\mu\nu}\partial_{\nu}f_{V}.$ ($\tilde{a}^{\mu}(p, x)$: effective spin four vector) (entangled $f_V \& \tilde{a}^{\mu}$) spin relaxation dynamical spin pol. (\hbar : gradient correction in phase space) from spin-orbit int. Axial Wigner $\mathcal{A}^{\mu}(\boldsymbol{p}, x) = \frac{1}{2\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{n}}} \left[\tilde{\boldsymbol{a}}^{\mu} - \frac{\hbar}{2} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu} \left(\partial_{p\nu} f_{V} - \frac{\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{p}}}{2} \partial_{p_{\perp}\nu} (f_{V}/\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{p}}) \right) \right]_{p_{0} = \epsilon_{\boldsymbol{p}} = \sqrt{|\boldsymbol{p}|^{2} + m^{2}}}.$ functions : dynamical (w/ memory effect) non-dynamical (w/o memory effect) $\implies \mathcal{P}^{\mu}(\boldsymbol{p}) = \frac{\int d\Sigma \cdot \boldsymbol{p} \,\mathcal{A}^{\mu}(\boldsymbol{p}, \boldsymbol{x})}{2m \int d\Sigma \cdot \boldsymbol{p} \,(2\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{p}})^{-1} f_{V}(\boldsymbol{p}, \boldsymbol{x})}.$
 - Relaxation-time approx. & weak coupling :

$$p \cdot \partial \tilde{a}^{\mu} - \frac{e}{2} \hbar \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} p_{\rho} (\partial_{\sigma} F_{\beta\nu}) \partial_{p}^{\beta} f_{V} = -\frac{p_{0} \delta \tilde{a}^{\mu}}{\tau_{\mathrm{R}}}, \quad \delta \tilde{a}^{\mu} = \tilde{a}^{\mu} - \tilde{a}_{\mathrm{eq}}^{\mu}.$$
$$\implies \quad \delta \tilde{a}^{\mu} (\boldsymbol{p}, \boldsymbol{x}) = \frac{\hbar e}{2} \int_{t_{\mathrm{i}}}^{t_{\mathrm{f}}} d\boldsymbol{x}_{0}' e^{-(\boldsymbol{x}_{0} - \boldsymbol{x}_{0}')/\tau_{\mathrm{R}}} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \hat{p}_{\rho} (\partial_{\boldsymbol{x}'\sigma} F_{\beta\nu}(\boldsymbol{x}')) \partial_{p}^{\beta} f_{V}(\boldsymbol{p}, \boldsymbol{x}')$$



Spin alignment from glasma

- Generalized AKT with color fields : $\tilde{a}^{\mu}(\boldsymbol{p}, x) = \tilde{a}^{\mu}(\boldsymbol{p}, x)I + [\tilde{a}^{a\mu}(\boldsymbol{p}, x)t^{a}] t^{a}$. DY, JHEP 06, 140 (2022) B. Müller, DY, PRD 105, L011901 (2022) (more dominant in the perturbative approach)
- Dynamical spin polarization from glasma fields : A. Kumar, B. Müller, DY, PRD 108, 016020 (2023) suppressed

$$\tilde{a}^{a\mu}(\boldsymbol{p}, \boldsymbol{x}) \approx -\frac{\hbar g}{2} e^{-(t_{\rm f} - t_{\rm i})/\tau_{\rm R}^{\rm o}} \left(B^{a\mu}(t_{\rm i}) \partial_{\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{p}}} f_{\rm V}^{\rm s}(\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{p}}, t_{\rm i}) - B^{a\mu}(t_{\rm f}) \partial_{\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{p}}} f_{\rm V}^{\rm s}(\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{p}}, t_{\rm f}) \right)$$

• Correlation of initial color magnetic fields : $g^2 \langle B^{az}(x) B^{az}(x) \rangle_{x_0=t_i} \sim \frac{Q_s^4 (N_c^2 - 1)}{2N_c}$

K. J. Golec-Biernat and M. Wusthoff, Phys. Rev. D 59, 014017 (1998) P. Guerrero-Rodr´iguez and T. Lappi, Phys. Rev. D 104, 014011 (2021)

- Initial quark distribution function : $f_V^s(\epsilon_{p}, t_i) = 1/(e^{\epsilon_{p}/Q_s} + 1)$
- spin correlation : $\langle \mathcal{P}_q^z \mathcal{P}_{\bar{q}}^z \rangle \sim \frac{Q_s^2}{m_q m_{\bar{q}}} e^{-2(t_{\rm f} t_{\rm i})/\tau_{\rm R}^{\rm o}}$

♦ Order-of-magnitude estimation (for ϕ): $\rho_{00} \sim \frac{1}{3 + 10 e^{-2(t_{\rm f} - t_{\rm i})/\tau_{\rm R}^{\rm o}}} < \frac{1}{3}$ Q_s ≈ 1 ~ 2 GeV
I a glasma effect relaxation effect

• Heavy-quark approx. : $\tau_{\rm R}^{\rm o} \approx \left(\frac{g^2 C_2(F) m_D^2 T}{6\pi m^2} \ln g\right)^{-1} \approx 5 \, {\rm fm/c} \implies \rho_{00} \approx 0.24$ M. Hongo et al., JHEP 08, 263 (2022) (model dependent)



Spin alignment with momentum dependent

- How to retrieve the momentum dep.? boosting the color fields to the lab frame $B_{\rm r}^{ai} = \gamma (B^{ai} + \epsilon^{ijk} v_j E_k^a) - (\gamma - 1) B^a \cdot \hat{v} \hat{v}^i, \quad v^i = q^i / \sqrt{|q|^2 + M^2} \text{ and } \hat{v}^i = v^i / |v|.$
- Momentum-dep. analysis (qualitative) : mid-rapidity, small-momentum region

glasma :
$$\rho_{00} - \frac{1}{3} \propto (v_x^2 - 2v_y^2 - 1) \int d\Sigma_X \cdot q \langle B^{az}(0, \boldsymbol{x}) B^{az}(0, \boldsymbol{x}) \rangle$$

isotropic BFs : $\rho_{00} - \frac{1}{3} \propto (v_x^2 - 2v_y^2) \int d\Sigma_X \cdot q \langle F^a(x) F^a(x) \rangle, \quad B^{ai} = E^{ai} = F^a.$

	$\mathrm{small}\text{-}\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{T}}$	$large-P_T$	central	non-central
glasma	$ ho_{00}^{\phi,J/\psi} < 1/3$	$\rho_{00}^{\phi,J/\psi} \lesssim 1/3$	$ ho_{00}^{\phi,J/\psi} < 1/3$	$\rho_{00}^{\phi,J/\psi} \lesssim 1/3$
effective potential	$ \rho_{00}^{\phi,J/\psi}-1/3 \gtrsim 0$	$ \rho_{00}^{\phi,J/\psi} - 1/3 > 0$	$\rho_{00}^{\phi,J/\psi} < 1/3$	$\rho_{00}^{\phi,J/\psi} > 1/3$

• Other proposals :

X.-L. Sheng et al., PRD 109, 036004, (2024)
PRL 131, 042304 (2023)
B. Müller, DY, PRD 105, L011901 (2022)
DY, JHEP 06, 140 (2022)







Summary

□ Take-home messages :

- In general, spin alignment may be a useful probe for strong interaction forces led by gluons in QCD matter.
- ✓ Fluctuating glasma fields provide intrinsic anisotropy, especially for $\rho_{00} < 1/3$, and the required energy scale much larger than vorticity (or hydrodynamic gradients).
- However, the order-of-magnitude estimate (qualitatively consistent with LHC data) is sensitive to the initial distribution function of quarks, subject to the perturbative color fields, and the spin relaxation in the QGP.

Outlook :

- ✓ Spin alignment of the quarkonium like J/ψ may be a better probe for glamsa or other color-field effects.
- Heavy quarkonium or heavy quarks are more applicable for the kinetic theory and more reliably described by effective field theories with systematic power counting.

E.g., DL & X. Yao, "Quarkonium Polarization in Medium from Open Quantum Systems and Chromomagnetic Correlators", arXiv: 2405.20280



Thank you!



More experimental data

Centrality dependence :





Axial kinetic theory with color fields

Incorporation of background color fields into Wigner functions and kinetic equations.

$$\begin{array}{lll} & \mbox{Color decomposition}: \end{Decomposition}: \end{Decomposition} Oergeneration of the symptotic stress of the$$



Spin correlations from color fields

- Spin density matrix can be directly related to Wigner functions of the coalesced quark and antiquark through the quark-meson interaction.
- Kinetic theory of vector mesons :

$$q \cdot \partial f_{\lambda}^{\phi} = \epsilon_{\mu}^{*}(\lambda, \boldsymbol{q}) \epsilon_{\nu}(\lambda, \boldsymbol{q}) \left[\mathcal{C}_{\text{coal}}^{\mu\nu}(q, x)(1 + f_{\lambda}^{\phi}) - \mathcal{C}_{\text{diss}}^{\mu\nu}(q, x) f_{\lambda}^{\phi} \right] \approx \boxed{\epsilon_{\mu}^{*}(\lambda, \boldsymbol{q}) \epsilon_{\nu}(\lambda, \boldsymbol{q}) \mathcal{C}_{\text{coal}}^{\mu\nu}(q, x)}$$

$$\rho_{00}(q) = \frac{\int d\Sigma_X \cdot q f_0^{\phi}(q, X)}{\int d\Sigma_X \cdot q \left(f_0^{\phi}(q, X) + f_{+1}^{\phi}(q, X) + f_{-1}^{\phi}(q, X) \right)}$$

$$= \frac{1 - \operatorname{Tr}_c \langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_q^y(q/2) \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^y(q/2) \rangle_{q=0}}{3 - \sum_{i=x,y,z} \operatorname{Tr}_c \langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_q^i(q/2) \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^i(q/2) \rangle_{q=0}}$$

quark-meson int. :

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm int} = g_{\phi} \bar{\psi} \gamma^{\mu} V_{\mu} \psi$$

$$\operatorname{Tr}_{c}\langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{q}^{i}(\boldsymbol{p}) \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^{i}(\boldsymbol{p}) \rangle \approx \frac{4 \int d\Sigma_{X} \cdot p\left(\langle \mathcal{A}_{q}^{si}(\boldsymbol{p}, X) \mathcal{A}_{\bar{q}}^{si}(\boldsymbol{p}, X) \rangle + \langle \mathcal{A}_{q}^{ai}(\boldsymbol{p}, X) \mathcal{A}_{\bar{q}}^{ai}(\boldsymbol{p}, X) \rangle / (2N_{c})\right)}{\int d\Sigma_{X} \cdot pf_{Vq}^{s}(\boldsymbol{p}, X) f_{V\bar{q}}^{s}(\boldsymbol{p}, X)}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & \text{Weak coupling :} & & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & &$$

A. Kumar, B. Müller, DY, PRD 107, 076025 (2023)



Color fields from the glasma

Solving linearized Yang-Mills eqs. : $[D_{\mu}, F^{\mu\nu}] = J^{\nu}$

P. Guerrero-Rodrguez, T. Lappi, PRD 104, 014011 (2021)

- $\begin{array}{ll} \label{eq:color-field correlators in the glasma : evolution in time } \\ \mbox{e.g.} & \langle E_T^{ai}(X')E_T^{aj}(X'')\rangle \ = \ -\bar{N}_c\epsilon^{in}\epsilon^{jm}\int_{\perp;q,u}^{X'}\int_{\perp;l,v}^{X''}\Omega_-(u_{\perp},v_{\perp})\frac{q^nl^m}{ql}\times J_1(qX_0')J_1(lX_0''), \\ & \langle B_T^{ai}(X')B_T^{aj}(X'')\rangle \ = \ -\bar{N}_c\epsilon^{in}\epsilon^{jm}\int_{\perp;q,u}^{X'}\int_{\perp;l,v}^{X''}\Omega_+(u_{\perp},v_{\perp})\frac{q^nl^m}{ql}\times J_1(qX_0')J_1(lX_0''), \\ & \bar{N}_c \equiv \frac{1}{2}g^2N_c(N_c^2-1), \\ & \Omega_{\mp}(u_{\perp},v_{\perp}) = [G_1(u_{\perp},v_{\perp})G_2(u_{\perp},v_{\perp})\mp h_1(u_{\perp},v_{\perp})h_2(u_{\perp},v_{\perp})], \\ & \int_{\perp;q,u}^{X'} \equiv \int \frac{d^2q_{\perp}}{(2\pi)^2}\int d^2u_{\perp}e^{iq_{\perp}(X'-u)_{\perp}}. \end{array} \right. \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{evolution in time} \\ & \text{evo$
- Golec-Biernat Wusthoff (GBW) distribution : K. J. Golec-Biernat and M. Wustho, PRD 59, 014017 (1998)

$$\Omega_{\pm}(u_{\perp}, v_{\perp}) = \Omega(u_{\perp}, v_{\perp}) = \frac{Q_s^4}{g^4 N_c^2} \left(\frac{1 - e^{-Q_s^2 |u_{\perp} - v_{\perp}|^2/4}}{Q_s^2 |u_{\perp} - v_{\perp}|^2/4}\right)^2$$



Singlet v.s. octet

• More sophisticated analysis : $\text{Tr}_{c}\langle \hat{\mathcal{P}}_{q}^{i}(\boldsymbol{q}/2)\hat{\mathcal{P}}_{\bar{q}}^{i}(\boldsymbol{q}/2)\rangle = \Pi_{\text{oct}}^{ii} + \Pi_{\text{sin}}^{ii} + \Pi_{\text{EM}}^{ii}$



 $\Rightarrow Q_s = 2 \text{ GeV } \& X_0^{\text{th}} = 0.2 \text{ fm for } |\Pi_{\text{oct}}^{zz}| > |\Pi_{\text{sin}}^{ii}|$