How hot glue becomes a perfect fluid: the problem of thermalization in heavy-ion collisions

> Raju Venugopalan BNL / Heidelberg Univ.

DESY Seminar, April 2016



Matter in unusual conditions



h406223 [RM] © www.visualphotos.com

E. Fermi: "Notes on Thermodynamics and Statistics " (1953)

70 - Hatter in unusual conditions 70 a 20 12 Electron proton gas 10 Non deg. electron gas Relatio Degenerate degenera electron gas electron Atomic gas Condensed state 8 10 12 7 64 10 to 14 12 to 26 28 30 32 kg /0 Start from ordinary condended matter with " chemical forces. a) Increase pressure at 721000 Mutil deg. electron energies exceeds 20 eV -Condition $\overline{w} = \frac{3}{40} \left(\frac{6}{\pi}\right)^2 \frac{h^2 n^{2/3}}{2^{2/3} m} \quad p = \frac{2}{3} \overline{w} n$ W= 3.5×10-27 n2/3= 3.2×10-11 $n \approx 32 10^{29}$ $p = \frac{2}{3} 3.2 \times 10^{-11} \times 329 10^{24} \approx 2 \times 10^{13}$ As pressure increases beyond this point $p = 3.6 \times 10^{-27} n^{2/3} n \times \frac{2}{3} = 2.4 \times 10^{-27} n^{5/3}$ $n = 6 \times 10^{23} \frac{\rho}{A} Z$ $p = 10^{13.01} \left(\frac{\rho Z}{A}\right)^{5/3} \approx 3.2 \times 10^{12} \frac{5/3}{2}$ ~ 2×10 atu - 171

On heating strongly interacting matter

A limiting temperature for hadron matter?

The apparent exponential increase in the density of hadron states suggested that the pressure of strongly interacting matter diverged at a limiting "Hagedorn" temperature

> *Thus, our ignorance of microscopic physics stands as a veil, obscuring our view of the very beginning.*

> > Steven Weinberg, The First Three Minutes (1973)



Les composants des noyaux atomiques contiennent deu types de particules fondamentales : des quarks et des gl ons sont des bosons (particules de spin entier). Les mentaux (colonne de droite), hormis le boson lent les forces fondamentales. Les pluons nt l'interaction forte, qui lie les quarks au seir ons et des neutrons. Les autres parti fondamente des inclutins (cas autor particulas (particulas de spin demi-entier) et se divisent en leptons (tel l'électron) et en quarks. Il existe six types de quarks, parmi lesquels les types u et d sont prépondérants (ils ent les protons et les neutrons

1 225

173 5

POUR LA SC

Septembre 2015 - n° 455

Édition française de Scientific American

A la recherche des états extrêmes de la matière

nte des fermi

LES AUTEURS



directeur adjoint pour la physique nucléaire expérimentale à l'accélérateur américain Thomas Jefferson de Newport News.

Rolf ENT est



Thomas ULL RICH est chercheur au Laboratoire américain de Brookhaven et à l'université Yale.



Raju VENUGOPALAN dirige le groupe de théorie nucléaire au Laboratoire

américain de Brookhaven.

Also,Spektrum der Wissenshaft. December 2015

Alemacen : 320 C - Debinister : 720 C - Canada /S : 10;55 CAD - Gelen /S : 7;00 C - Guadekuspe/S1Martin /S : 7;00 C - Guyeren /S : 7;20 C - Itale : 7;20 C - Laternitosurg : 7;20 C Marce: 60 MAD - Martinigue /5 : 7,20 E - Min Califebraie Walls /5 : 980 XXV - Polynicole transplore /5 : 980 XXV - Portagal : 7,20 E - Ritanien /A : 9,30 E - Subon : 12 CM



GLUONS

La colle des

particules

QCD: structure & consequences



Asymptotic freedom:

S: Coupling strength of quarks and gluons weaker at short separation C: Super-dense & super-hot QCD matter is weakly coupled gas of quarks & gluons Collins-Perry (1975); Cabibo-Parisi (1975)

Gross, Wilczek, Politzer (1973)





- Infrared slavery:Wilson (1974), Polyakov, ...S: Linear growth of static quark-anti-quark potential
at large separation-intuitive picture of confinement
- C: QCD matter is strongly interacting at lower temp. & density- Rich QCD Phase Diagram



(Broken) Chiral symmetry

S: spontaneously generated Chiral condensate C: Chiral symmetry restored at finite T





QCD phase diagram



Heavy Ion Experiments

Facility	Location	System	Energy (CMS)
AGS	BNL, New York	Au+Au	2.6-4.3 GeV
SPS	CERN, Geneva	Pb+Pb	8.6-17.2 GeV
RHIC	BNL, New York	Au+Au	200 GeV
LHC	CERN, Geneva	Pb+Pb	5.5 TeV

A contemporary view

CERN seminar, Dec. 2nd, 2010



the universe a micro-second after the Big Bang was similar stuff and had the same temperature



A perfect fluid at RHIC



⁶Li

sQGP

 H_2O

⁴He

A perfect fluid at RHIC (and LHC)

"Bjorken Hydrodynamics" $\frac{d\varepsilon}{d\tau} = -\frac{(\varepsilon + P - \frac{4}{3}\frac{\eta}{\tau})}{\varepsilon + P \tau}$ Viscous term smaller than ideal term for $\frac{\eta}{\varepsilon + P}\frac{1}{\tau} = \frac{\eta}{s}\frac{1}{\tau T} <<1$ From kinetic theory η \hbar

 $rac{\eta}{s}\sim rac{\hbar}{k_B} \, rac{ au_{
m relax.}}{ au_{
m quant.}}$

Fluid	T [K]	$\eta \; [Pa \cdot s]$	$\eta/n~[\hbar]$	$\eta/s \; [\hbar/k_B]$
H ₂ 0	370	$2.9 imes10^{-4}$	85	8.2
⁴ He	2	$1.2 imes10^{-6}$	0.5	1.9
⁶ Li ($ a_s \simeq \infty$)	$23 imes 10^{-6}$	$\leq 1.7 imes 10^{-15}$	≤ 1	≤ 0.5
QGP	$2 imes 10^{12}$	$\leq 5 imes 10^{11}$	-	≤ 0.4

A perfect fluid at RHIC (and LHC)

"Bjorken Hydrodynamics"

 $\frac{d\varepsilon}{d\tau} = -\frac{\left(\varepsilon + P - \frac{4}{3}\frac{\eta}{\tau}\right)}{\tau}$ $\frac{\eta}{\varepsilon + P}\frac{1}{\tau} \equiv \frac{\eta}{s}\frac{1}{\tau T} << 1$

Viscous term smaller than ideal term for

From kinetic theory

$$rac{\eta}{s} \sim rac{\hbar}{k_B} \, rac{ au_{
m relax.}}{ au_{
m quant.}}$$



QGP is ~ 10^4 times more viscous than pitch tar...

Viscosity of strongly coupled relativistic fluids

AdS/CFT conjecture:

Duality between strongly coupled N=4 supersymmetric Yang-Mills theory at large coupling and Nc & classical 10 dimensional gravity in the background of D3 branes



J.Maldacena, Nature 2003

KSS bound: Conjectured lower bound for a ``perfect fluid" Kovtun,Son,Starinets (2006)

$$\frac{\eta}{s} = \frac{\hbar}{k_B} \frac{1}{4\pi}$$

Derived using classical absorption cross-section of a graviton with energy ω on a black brane and Bekenstein's formula relating its Entropy to its area

$$\sigma(\omega) = \frac{8\pi G}{\omega} \int dt d\mathbf{x} \, e^{i\omega t} \langle [T_{xy}(t, \mathbf{x}), T_{xy}(0, 0)] \rangle$$

Deconstructing lumpiness











$$\frac{dN}{d\phi} = \frac{N}{2\pi} \left(1 + 2(\mathbf{v}_1 \cos(\phi) + \mathbf{v}_2 \cos(2\phi)) \right)$$



 $\frac{dN}{d\phi} = \frac{N}{2\pi} \left(1 + 2(\mathbf{v}_1 \cos(\phi) + \mathbf{v}_2 \cos(2\phi) + \mathbf{v}_3 \cos(3\phi)) \right)$



 $\frac{dN}{d\phi} = \frac{N}{2\pi} \left(1 + 2(v_1 \cos(\phi) + v_2 \cos(2\phi) + v_3 \cos(3\phi) + v_4 \cos(4\phi) + \ldots) \right)$

Flow moments: analogy with the Early Universe Mishra et al; Mocsy- Sorensen;





WMAP





Flow driven by initial geometry: relativistic viscous hydrodynamics



B. Schenke, S. Jeon, C. Gale, Phys.Rev.C85, 024901 (2012)

High harmonics of angular distribution very sensitive to viscosity ... and to details of the initial state

The nuclear wavefunction at high energies



For Lorentz factors $Y \rightarrow \infty$ dominant configurations are valence quarks of longitudinal size 2 R/Y, surrounded by a fuzz of "wee" gluons and sea quarks



The nuclear wavefunction at high energies



- At high energies, interaction time scales of fluctuations are dilated well beyond typical hadronic time scales
- Lots of short lived (gluon) fluctuations now seen by probe -- proton/nucleus -- dense many body system of (primarily) gluons
- Fluctuations with lifetimes much longer than interaction time for the probe function as static color sources for more short lived fluctuations

Nuclear wave function at high energies is a Color Glass Condensate

Multi-particle production: saturated wave-functions



Incoming nuclei are Color Glass Condensates: Highly occupied gluon states with maximal occupancy in QCD.

Idea! high occupancy of gluons at small x (high energy) admits a classical EFT description McLerran, Venugopalan (1994)

Computations in this framework becoming available at next-leading-log accuracy

Forming a Glasma in the little Bang



Matching Yang-Mills glue to viscous hydro

State of the art phenomenology: Solve relativistic viscous hydrodynamic equations with Glasma (Yang-Mills) initial conditions



Schenke, Tribedy, RV, PRL 108 (2012) 252301, PRC 86 (2012) 034908 Gale, Jeon, Schenke, Tribedy, RV, PRL 110 (2013) 1, 012302

VISCOUS FLOW AT LHC

C.GALE, S.JEON, B.SCHENKE, P.TRIBEDY, R.VENUGOPALAN, PHYS.REV.LETT.110, 012302 (2013)



EXPERIMENTAL DATA: ATLAS COLLABORATION, PHYS. REV. C86, 014907 (2012)

GEOMETRY AND FLUCTUATIONS DRIVE FLOW

C.GALE, S.JEON, B.SCHENKE, P.TRIBEDY, R.VENUGOPALAN, PHYS.REV.LETT.110, 012302 (2013)



EXPERIMENTAL DATA: ALICE COLLABORATION, PHYS. REV. LETT. 107, 032301 (2011)

Event-by-Event Flow Distributions



Gale, Jeon, Schenke, Tribedy, Venugopalan, PRL 110, 012302 (2013)

VISCOSITY AT RHIC AND LHC

RHIC



Hints at increasing viscosity η /s with increasing temperature

Viscosity/entropy density very close to conjectured lower bound. The hottest fluids on earth are nearly perfect !

Narrowing down dissipation in the QGP



Eskola, Niemi, Paatelainen, ar Xiv: 1509.02767

centrality [%]

450

ALICE $v_n \{2\}$

60

70

80

500

From the violence of a nuclear collision ...to the calm of a quark-gluon fluid



Initial state: Far from equilibrium

Non-equilibrium dynamics Final state: Thermal equilibrium

How is thermal equilibrium achieved?

Approaches to thermalization

Two ``clean" theoretical limits:

♦ Holographic thermalization (based on duality of strongly coupled (g² N_c → ∞; N_c → ∞)
 N=4 SUSY YM to classical gravity in AdS₅×S₅)

♦ Highly occupied QCD at weak coupling
 (g² → 0; g² f ~ 1)

Our focus: non-equilibrium strongly correlated gluodynamics at weak coupling

The Glasma at NLO: plasma instabilities

At LO: collision of gluon shock waves gives boost invariant gauge fields $A_{cl}^{\mu,a}(x_{\tau},\tau) \sim 1/g$ NLO: $A^{\mu,a}(xT,\tau,\eta) = A_{cl}^{\mu,a}(x_{\tau},\tau) + a^{\mu,a}(\eta)$ a^{μ,a}(η)= O(1) 0.001 0.0001 1e-05 $max \, \tau \, P_L(\tau,\nu)/g^4 \mu^3 L_\eta$ 1e-06 1e-07 1e-08 increasina 1e-09 seed size 1e-10 1e-11 1e-12 Q_1000 1500 2 500 2500

Small fluctuations grow exponentially as ~ $e^{\sqrt{Q_S \tau}}$

Same order of classical field at $\tau = \frac{1}{O_S} \ln^2 \frac{1}{\alpha_S}$

Romatschke, Venugopalan Dusling, Gelis, Venugopalan

Gelis, Epelbaum

Resum such contributions to all orders $(g \ e^{\sqrt{Q_S \tau}})^n$

Leading quantum corrections can be expressed as average over a classical-statistical ensemble of initial conditions
Initial conditions in the overpopulated QGP

Overpopulation occurs...*even starting from the "first principles CGC"* initial conditions



Classical-statistical real time numerical lattice simulations of an expanding gauge theory Berges, Schenke, Schlichting, RV, NPA 931 (2014) 348

Initial conditions in the Glasma



 There is a natural *competition* between *interactions* and the *longitudinal expansion* which renders the system *anisotropic* on large time scales



Longitudinal Expansion:

- Red-shift of longitudinal momenta p_z
- \rightarrow increase of anisotropy
- Dilution of the system

Interactions:

Isotropize the system

Temporal evolution in the overpopulated QGP

Berges,Boguslavski,Schlichting,Venugopalan arXiv: 1303.5650, 1311.3005



Solve Hamilton's equation for 3+1-D SU(2) gauge theory in Fock-Schwinger gauge

Fix residual gauge freedom imposing Coloumb gauge at each readout time

$$\partial_i A_i + t^{-2} \partial_\eta A_\eta = 0$$

◆ Largest classical-statistical numerical simulations of expanding Yang-Mills to date: 256² × 4096 lattices

Temporal evolution in the overpopulated QGP

Berges,Boguslavski,Schlichting,Venugopalan arXiv: 1303.5650, 1311.3005



Solve Hamilton's equation for 3+1-D SU(2) gauge theory in Fock-Schwinger gauge

Fix residual gauge freedom imposing Coloumb gauge at each readout time

$$\partial_i A_i + t^{-2} \partial_\eta A_\eta = 0$$

• Classical-statistical computations performed at weak coupling... $\alpha_s = 10^{-5}$ for "classical dominance" at all times in simulation: -- corresponds to $Q\tau_0 \approx Ln^2(1/\alpha_s) \approx 100$

Result: Pressure becomes increasingly anisotropic



 P_L/P_T approaches universal $\tau^{-2/3}$ behavior

Kinetic theory in the overoccupied regime

For $1 < f < 1/\alpha_s$ a dual description is feasible either in terms of kinetic theory or classical-statistical dynamics ...



Result: universal non-thermal fixed point

Conjecture: $f(p_{\perp}, p_z, t) = t^{\alpha} f_S(t^{\beta} p_T, t^{\gamma} p_z)$



Moments of distribution extracted over range of time slices lie on universal curves

Distribution as function of p_{T} displays 2-D thermal behavior

Non-thermal fixed point in overpopulated QGP

Berges, Boguslavski, Schlichting, Venugopalan. PRD89 (2014) 114007



BMSS: Baier,Mueller,Schiff,Son BD: Bodeker KM: Kurkela, Moore BGLMV: Blaizot,Gelis,Liao,McLerran,Venugopalan

Universal non-thermal attractor in QCD



"Big whorls have little whorls, which feed on their velocity, And little whorls have lesser whorls, and so on to viscosity."

Quo vadis, thermal QGP?



Matching to hydrodynamics



Good matching of quantitative implementation of kinetic theory to hydrodynamics at times ~ 1 fm ... when extrapolated to realistic couplings

Glasma to Plasma: from nuts to soup



Engineering the world's smallest fluid?



Long-range rapidity correlations in p+p, p+A and A+A collisions





Long-range rapidity correlations in p+p, p+A and A+A collisions



Highly precise data on multiplicity triggered 2 & 4 particle correlations from RHIC and LHC will test onset of hydrodynamic behavior within a system and across systems

Universality: hotness is also cool



Wolfgang Ketterle, Nobel Prize (2001)

For the achievement of Bose-Einstein condensation in dilute gases of alkali atoms, and for early fundamental studies of the properties of the condensates

Over-occupied self-interacting scalars

$$S = \int d\tau d^2 x_T d\eta \ \tau \left(\frac{g^{\mu\nu}}{2} (\partial_\mu \varphi_a) (\partial_\nu \varphi_a) - \frac{\lambda}{4!N} (\varphi_a \varphi_a)^2 \right)$$

In a non-relativistic limit, can be used to model cold atomic gases



Berges, Sexty PRL 108 (2012) 161601 Berges, Boguslavski, Orioli, PRD 92, 025041 (2015) Berges, Boguslavskii, Schlichting, Venugopalan, JHEP 1405 (2014) 054

What about longitudinally expanding scalars?



A remarkable universality



Normalized fixed-point distribution



Berges,Boguslavski,Schenke,Venugopalan, PRL 114 (2015) 061601, Editor's suggestion

In a wide inertial range, scalars and gauge fields have identical scaling exponents and scaling functions

Very surprising from a kinetic theory perspective

Topological in heavy-ion collisions: The Chiral Magnetic Effect





Overoccupied initial conditions:

Mace, Schlichting, Venugopalan, arXiv:1601.07342

Mace, Schlichting, Venugopalan, arXiv:1601.07342

Soft electric and magnetic scales develop:



Mace, Schlichting, Venugopalan, arXiv:1601.07342

"Cooled" soft Glue configurations are topological—peak around integer valued transitions in Chern-Simons number



Mace, Schlichting, Venugopalan, arXiv:1601.07342

Non-equilibrium sphaleron transition rate:

$$\Gamma_{sph}^{neq}(t) = \left(\frac{(N_{CS}(t+\delta t) - N_{CS}(t))^2}{V \ \delta t}\right)_{Q_s \delta t < 10}$$



Mace, Schlichting, Venugopalan, arXiv:1601.07342



Scaling with string tension precisely as if topological transitions are controlled entirely by the color-magnetic screening scale

Mace, Schlichting, Venugopalan, arXiv:1601.07342



Sphaleron transitions are large in the Glasma-can couple with fermions and external E&M fields to simulate the Chiral Magnetic Effect

Gelfand, Hebenstriet, Berges, arXiv:1601.03576

Outlook

- We are beginning to explore the non-equilibrium dynamics of strongly correlated gluon matter in QCD
- Early studies reveal striking features such as non-thermal fixed points, possible transient BEC formation, sphaleron transitions...
- Can we uncover these in experiment...promising experimental signatures exist. Significant challenges for theory and phenomenology



Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)

- QCD "nearly perfect" fundamental quantum theory of quark and gluon fields (F.Wilczek, hep-ph/9907340)
- Theory is rich in symmetries:



- i) Gauge "color" symmetry: unbroken but confined
- ii) Global "chiral" symmetry: exact for massless quarks
- iii) Baryon number and axial charge (m=0) are conserved
- iv) Scale invariance of quark (m=0) and gluon fields
- v) Discrete C,P & T symmetries
- Chiral, Axial, Scale and (in principle) P &T broken by vacuum/quantum effects "emergent" phenomena
- What happens at finite temperature & density ?

Matching boost invariant Yang-Mills to hydrodynamics



$$T_{\mu\nu}(\tau=0) = \frac{1}{2}(B_z^2 + E_z^2) \times \text{diag}(1,1,1,-1)$$

Initial longitudinal pressure is negative: Goes to $P_L = 0$ from below with time evolution

Factorization of quantum fluctuations



CGC Classical EFT:

Separation of long-lived (large x sources) and short-lived (small x dynamical fields):

LO ~ $1/\alpha_s$ (all orders: $(g \rho)^n$)

NLO: O(1) (all orders: $(g \rho)^n$) but of same size of LO for large Ln(1/x) – resummation

Factorization of quantum fluctuations



 $W_{Y_1}[\rho_1]$

 $W_{Y_2}[\rho_2]$



Separation of long-lived (large x sources) and short-lived (small x dynamical fields):

LO ~ $1/\alpha_s$ (all orders: $(g \rho)^n$)

NLO: O(1) (all orders: $(g \rho)^n$) but of same size of LO for large Ln(1/x) – resummation

Large quantum corrections/strong field insertions absorbed in RG evolution of W's (JIMWLK eqns.)

$$T^{\mu\nu}(\tau,\underline{\eta},x_{\perp})\rangle_{\mathrm{LLog}} = \int [D\rho_1 d\rho_2] W_{Y_1}[\rho_1] W_{Y_2}[\rho_2] T^{\mu\nu}_{\mathrm{LO}}(\tau,x_{\perp})$$

$$\begin{split} T_{LO}^{\mu\nu} &= \frac{1}{4} g^{\mu\nu} F^{\lambda\delta} F_{\lambda\delta} - F^{\mu\lambda} F_{\lambda}^{\nu} \\ Y_1 &= Y_{\text{beam}} - \eta \, ; \, Y_2 = Y_{\text{beam}} + \eta \end{split}$$

"Standard model" of heavy ion collisions

RV, ICHEP plenary, arXiv:1012.4699



Unifying paradigm: relativistic viscous hydrodynamics

Event-engineering of correlations in p+p, p+A and A+A collisions

S.Schlichting, Quark Matter 2015



Multiplicity triggered 2 & 4 particle correlations from RHIC and LHC will test onset of hydrodynamic behavior within a system and across systems

A remarkable universality



Initial conditions in the overpopulated QGP

Choose for the initial classical-statistic ensemble of gauge fields

$$\begin{split} A^{a}_{\mu}(\tau_{0},\mathbf{x}_{\perp},\eta) &= \sum_{\lambda=1,2} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^{2}\mathbf{k}_{\perp}}{(2\pi)^{2}} \frac{\mathrm{d}\nu}{2\pi} \sqrt{f(\mathbf{k}_{\perp},\nu,\tau_{0})} \times \begin{bmatrix} c^{\mathbf{k}_{\perp}\nu}_{\lambda,a} \, \xi^{(\lambda)\mathbf{k}_{\perp}\nu+}(\tau_{0}) \, e^{i\mathbf{k}_{\perp}\mathbf{x}_{\perp}} \, e^{i\nu\eta} + c.c. \end{bmatrix} \\ \\ \text{Stochastic random} \\ \text{variables} \quad \begin{aligned} \langle c^{(\lambda)\mathbf{k}_{\perp}\nu}c^{(\lambda')\mathbf{k}'_{\perp}\nu'} \rangle &= 0 \ , \\ \langle c^{(\lambda)\mathbf{k}_{\perp}\nu}c^{*(\lambda')\mathbf{k}'_{\perp}\nu'} \rangle &= (2\pi)^{3}\delta^{\lambda\lambda'}\delta(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}')\delta(\nu-\nu') \\ \langle c^{*(\lambda)\mathbf{k}_{\perp}\nu}c^{*(\lambda')\mathbf{k}'_{\perp}\nu'} \rangle &= 0. \end{split}$$

Polarization vectors ξ expressed in terms of Hankel functions in Fock-Schwinger gauge A^{τ} =0


QUARKS ET GLUONS : LA STRUCTURE DE LA MATIÈRE EN QUESTION

Chacun des protons et des neutrons qui constituent les noyaux des atomes contient trois quarks primaires liés par des gluons. Outre ces trois quarks principaux, des paires supplémentaires de quarks et de leurs homologues d'antimatière apparaissent et disparaissent en permanence, de même que des gluons à l'existence éphémère. Il en résulte ce qu'on nomme une mousse quantique, qui modifie à chaque instant le paysage à l'intérieur des protons et des neutrons. Cette effervescence est difficile à prendre en compte lorsqu'il s'agit d'étudier la façon dont les quarks et les gluons contribuent à la masse et au spin des protons, neutrons ou autres hadrons. De même, on cherche à comprendre comment les gluons maintiennent les quarks dans une configuration stable. Les physiciens explorent plusieurs approches pour répontre à ces questions. L'une d'elles consiste à développer une théorie précise de ces interactions, de la tester auprès des accélérateurs de particules mais aussi d'en tester les limites en étudiant des configurations inhabituelles de gluons et de quarks.

STRUCTURE ATOMIQUE: DEUX VISIONS

Le schéma classique d'un atome présenté ci-dessous comprend des électrons en orbite autour d'un noyau de protons et de neutrons constitués de trois quarks chacun (les dimensions ne sont pas respectées). Plus proche de la réalité, l'image ci-contre représente la mousse quantique du proton ou du neutron, avec d'éphémères paires guark-antiguark et gluons.

Noyau Proton Quark

À l'intérieur d'un nucléon (proton ou neutron), la structure des particules est dynamique. Outre le trio fondamental de guarks, on a une « mer » de guarks et d'antiquarks, ainsi que des gluons, qui surgissent en continu du néant pour y replonger aussitöt.

Nousse

Le spin total du nucléon (flèche) dépend du spin individuel de ses constituants ainsi que du mouvement orbital de ces derniers.

ÉTATS EXOTIQUES DE LA MATIÈRE

Les physiciens ont imaginé, et dans certains cas créé, des combinaisons inhabituelles de quarks et de gluons se démarquant des protons et des neutrons familiers. Ces états exotiques offrent de nouvelles possibilités pour étudier les interactions susceptibles de se produire entre quarks et gluons.

Boules de gluons et autres édifices Des simulations théoriques suggérent que les quarks et les gluons peuvent se combiner pour créer, par exemple, des etboules de gluons » (a) constituées exclusivement de gluons, ou des particules « hybrides » formant un assemblage quark-antiquark-gluon (b), ou encore des « tétraquarks », états liés de deux antiquarks et de deux quarks (c). Plusieurs indices expérimentaux suggérent que des tétraquarks ont été observés. Les boules de gluons et les états hybrides restent à découvrir.



État saturé

Quand le proton (ou le neutron) est accéléré à des vitesses extrêmes, la théorie prévoit que ses gluons se multiplient. À mesure que son énergie augmente, le proton atteint un état d'occupation maximale qui ne peur plus loger davantage de gluons, un état théorique nommé « condensat de verre de couleur ». Des indices obtenus auprès des accélérateurs de particules suggèrent que ces condensats existent, mais une preuve décisive manque.



Reproduire l'Univers des débuts

Neptodure rouvers des debots Quand le cosmos étai jeune, il était trop chaud pour que des protons et des neutrons stables se forment. Les quarks et les gluons s'agitaient librement, en tous sens, dans ce qu'on nomme un plasma de quarks et de gluons (vue d'orriste ci-dessous à gouche). Sur Terre, des accélérateurs reproduisent cet état en fracassam des noyaux atomiques les uns contre les autres à des vitesses proches de celle de la lumière. En étudiant le plasma qui se refnoidit, les physiciens glament des informations sur le comportement des quarks et des gluons, mais aussi sur l'évolution de l'Univers juste après sa formation.



30 Physique des particules

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Physique des particules 31

Where to study QCD matter ?

Peter Steinberg



Traditional picture of heavy ion collisions





Well known particle physicist (circa early 1990s)