Status of Heavy-Ion Physics at the LHC

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LHC Page 1



Motivation: What is the question?



What happens if you make matter

- Hotter and hotter? Denser and denser?
- Solid -> liquid -> gas -> plasma Quark-Gluon Plasma
- Heavy-ion physics: emergent properties of QCD
 - Temperature? Phase Transition? Equation of state? Speed of sound? Viscosity?

Properties of the Strong Interaction (I) Confinement

Fundamental theory is Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)

Confinement

 Quarks and gluons are not observed as free particles, they are confined in hadrons

- Meson Baryon
- If the distance between two quarks gets larger, more and more gluons contribute to the interaction between the quarks.
 - Hence the potential energy grows with increasing distance.
 - At some point, enough energy is stored in the field to produce a pair of quarks out of the vacuum.



Properties of the Strong Interaction (II) Asymptotic Freedom

Coupling α_s between color charges gets weaker for high momentum transfers, i.e. for small distances r











David J. Gross

H. David Politzer

Frank Wilczek

- Vanishing QCD coupling constant at short distances r implies that the interactions of quarks and gluons are negligible at very high temperatures
 - → Creation of practically non-interacting Quark-Gluon Plasma at extreme temperatures

The Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP)

The idea ...

→ Compression and heating of nuclear matter



- Primordial state of matter: quarks and gluons are liberated (deconfinement)
- Evolution of the early universe
- QGP may still exist in neutron stars



The Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP)

The idea ...

→ Compression and heating of nuclear matter



Phase transition to QGP T $\approx 10^{12}$ K $\approx 10^5$ x sun's core

- Primordial state of matter: quarks and gluons are liberated (deconfinement)
- Evolution of the early universe
- QGP may still exist in neutron stars

- ... and its realization
- → Relativistic collisions of heavy nuclei (Au, Pb)



Expected QCD Phase Diagram

LHC





- QCD matter at extreme conditions: high temperature and/or high density
- Deconfined strongly interacting matter with color degrees of freedom
- Restoration of chiral symmetry breaking: hadrons are much heavier than their constituents

Predictions from First Principles: Lattice QCD

HotQCD: PRD 90 (2017) 094503 $\epsilon/T^4 \sim \#$ degrees of freedom 16 non-int. limit 12 HRG Tc 8 $3p/T^4$ 3s/4T³ T [MeV] 130 170 210 250 290 330 370 T ≈ 154(9) MeV Hadron Gas to QGP phase transition many d.o.f. \rightarrow deconfined few d.o.f. \rightarrow confined

The Large Hadron Collider

CMS/		
	LHC Run 1 and 2	
	рр	0.9–13 TeV
	p-Pb	5.02 TeV 8.16 TeV
	Xe-Xe	5.44 TeV
	Pb-Pb	2.76 TeV 5.02 TeV
LHCP		
ALICE		



Example of a Heavy-Ion Experiment

<u>A</u> <u>Large</u> <u>Ion</u> <u>Collider</u> <u>Experiment</u>



Typical Event Display



Tracks of particles recorded with the Time Projection Chamber and clusters in the calorimeter for a Pb-Pb collision at $\sqrt{s}_{NN} = 5.02 \text{ TeV}$

Experimental Methodology



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Geometry Plays a Key Role in Ultra-Relativistic Heavy-Ion Physics



- Number of participants: number of nucleons in the overlap region
- Number of binary collisions: number of inelastic nucleon-nucleon collisions
- Small impact parameter b corresponds to large particle multiplicity



Global Event Observables

Multiplicity Distribution



 \rightarrow ετ ~ 15-18 GeV/fm²c (~factor 3-4 larger than RHIC)

ALICE: PRL 116 (2016) 222302

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Global Observables

Hanbury Brown-Twiss Interferometry and Space-Time Extent of Fireball

Technique of intensity interferometry developed by Hanbury Brown and Twiss in astrophysics as a means to determine size of distant objects routward γ(π) J. Stachel > longitudiual ∆р, Е articles Δr, $\gamma(\pi)$ Side ward fireball coherence volume $V = (2\pi)^{3/2} R_{side}^2 R_{long}$ τ_f (fm/c) E895 2.7, 3.3, 3.8, 4.3 GeV NA49 8.7, 12.5, 17.3 GeV Phys. Lett. B 696 (2011) 328 (values scaled) 6000 CERES 17.3 GeV $(2\pi)^{3/2} R_{out} R_{side} R_{long} (fm^3)$ 10 STAR 62.4, 200 GeV E895 2.7, 3.3, 3.8, 4.3 GeV PHOBOS 62.4, 200 GeV п NA49 8.7, 12.5, 17.3 GeV 5000 ALICE 2760 GeV CERES 17.3 GeV Я STAR 62.4, 200 GeV 4000 PHOBOS 62.4, 200 GeV ALICE 2760 GeV 3000 $R_{long} = \tau_f \sqrt{T/m_t}$ 2000 Freeze-out volume 1000 12 2 8 10 4 6 huge growth at LHC 0 $\langle dN / d\eta \rangle^{1/3}$ 500 1000 1500 2000 From R_{tope}: expansion at LHC 10 fm/c $\langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle$

Thermal Statistical Model: T, V and μ_{R}

A. Kalweit QM2018







- Yields of light flavour hadrons well described by equilibrium model over 7 orders of magnitude
- Particle/anti-particle ratios at 1

$$\rightarrow$$
 T_{ch} = 153 MeV
 \rightarrow µ_B = 0

Phenomenological phase diagram of strongly interacting matter

A. Andronic, P. Braun-Munzinger, K. Redlich, J. Stachel, Nature 561 (2018) no.7723, 321-330



Chemical freeze-out points resulting from statistical hadronization analysis of hadron yields for central collisions at different energies

Global Observables Collective Effects



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Collective Behaviour



Good agreement with hydrodynamical calculations

- Strongly-coupled medium with very low shear viscosity (→ η/s = 1/4π; perfect liquid)
- Mass ordering for $p_T < 2$ GeV/*c* interpreted as an interplay of radial and elliptic flow
- Interesting difference for mesons and baryons at intermediate $p_{\rm T}$
 - Hadronization via recombination?



Hard Probes



Hard Probes

Hard Probes: Jets, open heavy-flavour hadrons (charm and beauty)

- Produced at the very early stage of the collision in partonic processes with large Q²
- Sensitive to the full history of the collision
- Study the properties of the deconfined medium produced in Pb-Pb collisions
 - Energy loss different for quarks and gluons (colour factor, dead cone effect) **Expected behaviour:** $\Delta E_{a} > \Delta E_{charm} > \Delta E_{beauty}$
 - Parton energy loss depends on medium properties, transport coefficients etc.



Nuclear Modification Factor R_{AA}







Cold nuclear matter effects + hot nuclear matter effects (related to the Quark-Gluon Plasma) Elementary collision No nuclear matter effects Cold nuclear matter effects - without Quark-Gluon Plasma

$$R_{AA}(p_{T}) = \frac{1}{N_{coll}} \cdot \frac{d^{2} N^{AA}/dp_{T} dy}{d^{2} N^{pp}/dp_{T} dy}$$

Needs pp reference at same \sqrt{s} !



At high $p_T: R_{AA} = 1$ if no nuclear modification!

Electromagnetic Probes



CMS: JHEP03 (2015) 022, PLB715 (2012) 66, PLB710 (2012) 256, CMS-HIN-11-002 ATLAS: PRL110 (2013) 022301, EPJC75 (2015) 23, PRC93 (2016) 034914

- Photons, W and Z bosons
 - Do not carry colour charge $\rightarrow R_{AA} = 1$
 - \rightarrow Scale with N_{coll} independent of centrality
 - → Compatible with NLO QCD calculations



High- p_{τ} hadrons (I)





■ In Pb-Pb collision: at high p_{T} charged hadrons suppressed → final state effect ghat = 1.2 GeV²/fm

qhat = $1.2 \text{ GeV}^2/\text{fm}$ at T = 370 MeVqhat = $1.9 \text{ GeV}^2/\text{fm}$ at T = 470 MeV

In p-Pb collisions: $R_{AA} = 1 \rightarrow$ confirms final state effect in Pb-Pb

Initial state effects small

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High-p₊ hadrons (II)



LHC vs RHIC

- $R_{AA}(LHC) < R_{AA}(RHIC)$ for $p_{T} < 10 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Intermediate p_{τ} similar $R_{\Delta\Delta}$ despite harder p_{τ} spectrum at LHC → larger ΔE
- Increase vs p_{\perp} indicates $\Delta E/E$ decreases with E
- Expected: energy loss depends on transport coefficients and $E \rightarrow$ in high energy limit $E >> \Delta E$

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Jet Modification



Jet Modification



R_{AA}: **D- and B-mesons**



- Expected behaviour: $\Delta E_g > \Delta E_{charm} > \Delta E_{beauty} \rightarrow R_{AA}$ (light hadrons) $< R_{AA}$ (D) $< R_{AA}$ (B) ■ D-meson R_{AA} strongly suppressed
- **D**-meson and pion R_{AA} compatible within uncertainties at high p_{T}

Djordjevic, PRL112 (2014), 042302

- Described by models including (energy loss hierarchy; different p_{τ} shapes and fragmentation fct)
- Strange-D hadron measurements hint for a larger R_{AA}
- All R_{AA} merge at high p_{T}

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R_{AA} : D mesons vs J/ ψ from B



Expected behaviour:

 $\Delta E_{g} > \Delta E_{charm} > \Delta E_{beauty} \rightarrow R_{AA}$ (light hadrons) $< R_{AA}$ (D) $< R_{AA}$ (B)

- Clear indication for R_{AA} (B) > R_{AA} (D)
- Consistent with the expectation $\Delta E_c > \Delta E_h$
- Described by models including quark-mass dependent energy loss

Quarkonia

Quarkonia



- Original idea (1986): quarkonium production suppressed due to colour screening in the QGP
- Sequential melting: differences in quarkonium binding energies lead to a sequential melting with increasing temperature
- New idea (2000): enhanced quarkonium producion via (re)generation during the QGP phase or at hadronisation





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Quarkonia Bottomonium Suppression

CMS: arXiv:1805.09215



Suppression of Y(1S), Y(2S) and Y(3S) compatible with Debye screening

 $N_{_{part}}$ dependence very well reproduced by models which include a fluid with $\eta/s=2/4\pi$

Quarkonia J/ψ low p_T enhancement



- Less suppression at LHC than at RHIC
- Difference at low p_T, where (re)generation is expected to play an important role
- At high- p_{T} : similar suppression at RHIC and LHC
- Re(generated) J/ ψ from the combination of random c and \overline{c} ?
 - → charm flow

Does charm participate in the collective motion?



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Does charm participate in the collective motion?



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Photons

Photons → **Temperature**



- Subtract decay photon contribution
- Emission at all stages of the collision
- But: blue shifted

Summary

Entered the era of quantitative characterisation of the QGP

- Global observables \rightarrow energy density, decoupling time, ...
- Chemical composition of the fireball as predicted by thermal models
- Evidence for radial and anisotropic flow $\rightarrow \eta/s \approx 0.2$
- Jet quenching observed; first estimate of transport parameters $\approx 2 \text{ GeV}^2/\text{fm}$
- Expectation $\Delta E_{\text{lightquark}} > \Delta E_{\text{charm}} > \Delta E_{\text{beauty}}$ verified
- Bottomonium thermometer of the medium $\rightarrow \eta/s = 2/4\pi$
- Clear hints for J/ψ (re)generation

Outlook Run3/Run4

- LHC Run 3 and 4 (50 kHz Pb-Pb collisions) until 2030
- Yellow report in preparation
- Detector upgrade for ALICE and LHCb
 - ALICE continuous readout, new ITS, new online/offline computing system
 - \rightarrow measurements down to zero p_{τ}
 - \rightarrow large data samples
 - → unprecedented precision measurements possible





Back-up

Small Systems -How small can a droplet of QGP matter be?

pp and p-Pb Collisions



Elliptic flow

- Qualitatively similar to Pb-Pb and consistent with hydrodynamic calculations
 - → similar physics (collectivity?) at place?

Strangeness enhancement

Production driven by final state rather than collision system or energy?

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