



Heavy-ion collisions at the LHC with ALICE



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Briefly about me...



Working at CERN from 2003 until 2010

Senior scientist at Nikhef, Amsterdam,

Assistant professor at UU, subatomic physics institute



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Briefly about me...











Standard Model of FUNDAMENTAL PARTICLES AND INTERACTIONS





Teaching

bachelor)

(MSc)

6

6





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Subatomic physics (3rd year

Particle physics 2: QCD



Scientific question to be answered:







Fundamental questions in physics





- What is dark matter?
- What is the nature of dark energy?
- How did the Universe begin and evolve?
- Can we incorporate quantum effects in a general gravitational theory?
- What are the neutrino masses and what is their role in the evolution of the universe?
- How do Cosmic Accelerators work and what are they accelerating?
- Are protons unstable?
- What are the new states of matter at exceedingly high density and temperature?
- Are there additional space-time dimensions?
- How were the elements from iron to uranium made?
- Is a new theory of matter and light needed at the highest energies?

Connecting Quarks with the COSMOS Eleven Science Questions for the New Century

RESEARCH COUNCI

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There is evidence that during its <u>earliest moments the</u> <u>universe</u> underwent a tremendous burst of expansion, known as <u>inflation</u>, so that the largest objects in the universe had their origins in subatomic quantum fuzz. The underlying physical cause of this inflation is a mystery. In addition, <u>the universe evolved passing</u> <u>through the EW and the strong phase transition</u>, through <u>a state of extreme conditions</u> which are too of a complete mystery.

The theory of how protons and neutrons form the atomic nuclei of the chemical elements is well developed. At <u>higher densities</u>, <u>neutrons and</u> <u>protons</u> may <u>dissolve</u> into an undifferentiated "<u>soup</u> <u>of quarks and gluons</u>", which can be probed in <u>heavy-ion accelerators</u>. Densities beyond nuclear densities occur and can be probed in <u>neutron stars</u>, and still higher densities and temperatures <u>existed in</u> <u>the early universe</u>.













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Source: Symmetry magazine

<u>Fun fact</u>

- Written by Thomas Gutierrez (assistant professor of Physics at CalPoly (California Polytechnic State University)
- He derived it from Diagrammatica, a theoretical physics reference written by Nobel Laureate <u>Martinus Veltman</u>
- In Gutierrez's dissemination of the transcript, <u>he noted a</u> <u>sign error he made</u> <u>somewhere in the</u> <u>equation</u>

Good luck finding it!













VOLUME 30, NUMBER 26

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

25 June 1973

Ultraviolet Behavior of Non-Abelian Gauge Theories*

David J. Gross† and Frank Wilczek Joseph Henry Laboratories, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08540 (Received 27 April 1973)

It is shown that a wide class of non-Abelian gauge theories have, up to calculable logarithmic corrections, free-field-theory asymptotic behavior. It is suggested that Bjorken scaling may be obtained from strong-interaction dynamics based on non-Abelian gauge symmetry.

Non-Abelian gauge theories have received much attention recently as a means of constructing unified and renormalizable theories of the weak and electromagnetic interactions.¹ In this note we report on an investigation of the ultraviolet (UV) asymptotic behavior of such theories. We have found that they possess the remarkable feature, perhaps unique among renormalizable theories, of asymptotically approaching free-field theory. Such asymptotically free theories will exhibit, for matrix elements of currents between on-mass-shell states, Bjorken scaling. We therefore suggest that one should look to a non-Abelian gauge theory of the strong interactions to provide the explanation for Bjorken scaling, which has so far eluded field-theoretic understanding.

The UV behavior of renormalizable field theories can be discussed using the renormalization-group equations,^{2,3} which for a theory involving one field (say $g\varphi^4$) are

 $[m\vartheta/\vartheta m + \beta(g)\vartheta/\vartheta g - n\gamma(g)]\Gamma_{asy}^{(n)}(g; P_1, \dots, P_n) = 0.$

(1)

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2004 David J. Gross, H. David Politzer, Frank Wilczek

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2004



David I.

Gross



H. David Politzer Frank Wilczek



Volume 30, Number 26

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

25 June 1973

¹⁴Y. Nambu and G. Jona-Lasino, Phys. Rev. <u>122</u>, 345 (1961); S. Coleman and E. Weinberg, Phys. Rev. D <u>7</u>, 1888 (1973).

 $^{15}\mathrm{K}$. Symanzik (to be published) has recently suggested that one consider a $\lambda \, \phi^4$ theory with a negative λ to achieve UV stability at $\lambda=0$. However, one can show, using the renormalization-group equations, that in such theory the ground-state energy is unbounded from below (S. Coleman, private communication).

¹⁶W. A. Bardeen, H. Fritzsch, and M. Gell-Mann, CERN Report No. CERN-TH-1538, 1972 (to be published). ¹⁷H. Georgi and S. L. Glashow, Phys. Rev. Lett. <u>28</u>,

1494 (1972); S. Weinberg, Phys. Rev. D 5, 1962 (1972). ¹⁸For a review of this program, see S. L. Adler, in Proceedings of the Sixteenth International Conference on High Energy Physics, National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, Illinois, 1972 (to be published).

Reliable Perturbative Results for Strong Interactions?*

H. David Politzer Jefferson Physical Laboratories, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138 (Received 3 May 1973)

An explicit calculation shows perturbation theory to be arbitrarily good for the deep Euclidean Green's functions of any Yang-Mills theory and of many Yang-Mills theories with fermions. Under the hypothesis that spontaneous symmetry breakdown is of dynamical origin, these symmetric Green's functions are the asymptotic forms of the physically significant spontaneously broken solution, whose coupling could be strong.











Studying QCD matter













The Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP):

- a state of matter where the quarks and gluons behave as quasi free particles
- existed few µs after the Big-Bang (the universe crossed this phase after expanding and cooling down): Studying the strong phase transition → study primordial matter
- ✓ QCD: Phase transition beyond a critical temperature (~155 MeV) and energy density (~0.5 GeV/fm³) → accessible in the laboratory → heavy-ion collisions



From the Big-Bang to the Little-Bangs...





What are the degrees of freedom? Can we constrain the equation of state and the transport properties of QGP?











- Heavy ions are not point-like objects
- Collisions can create systems with different properties depending on whether they are head-on (i.e. large overlap region) or if the nuclei graze each other (i.e. small overlap region)
- Centrality defined geometrically by the impact parameter b
 - O Distance between the centres of the two nuclei
 - Perpendicular to the beam axis
- Centrality related to the fraction of the geometrical cross-section that overlaps
 - **\bigcirc** proportional to $\pi b^2/\pi (2R_A)^2$
- Experimentally centrality defined from particle multiplicity or energy deposited in (forward) detectors



































ALICE Collaboration, Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 252301 (2010)



~1600 (~2000 at 5 TeV) particles in the central region (not the whole phase space) in central Pb-Pb collisions at 2.76 TeV!!!













Fixed target experiments (event display courtesy of NA49)



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Heavy-ion physics: RHIC (BNL) (~2000)





Collider experiments (event displays courtesy of PHENIX and STAR)







Heavy-ion physics: LHC (CERN) (2010)

























Experimental setup







Revealing the nature of the QGP





- Heavy-ion physics is an experimentally driven field
- Strong guidance from theory (IQCD, pQCD) but...
 - No smoking gun signature e.g. invariant mass peak (Higgs discovery)
- Need for new, creative ideas with robust and as less biased as possible observables



Probing the properties of the QGP







QGP imaging through hard probes: control experiment





- Hard process scale: $Q >> \Lambda_{QCD}$ (~200 MeV)
- High p_{T} parton with Q ~ p_{T}
- These partons are formed early during the evolution of the system
 - They fragment and create jets and high transverse momentum hadrons
 - These processes can be calculated in perturbative QCD





QGP imaging through hard probes: jet quenching





In heavy ion collisions, in the presence of a hot and dense medium (QGP), during the propagation through the QGP, these objects interact with the medium and lose energy either via collisional or radiative energy loss

The medium is very dense!!!



Nik hef The other 99.9%...aka bulk particle production (and observables)













Bulk observables: Anisotropic flow







Bulk observables: Anisotropic flow







Bulk observables: Anisotropic flow







Asymmetric pressure gradients (larger in-plane than out-ofplane) push bulk out → flow



More and faster particles inplane than out-of-plane









The "perfect liquid" @ RHIC







Shear viscosity acting in momentum space







Large v_n values at the LHC





The medium behaves as an almost perfect liquid!!!







New State of Matter created at CERN

10 Feb 2000



Geneva, 10 February 2000. At a special seminar on 10 February, spokespersons from the experiments on CERN¹'s Heavy Ion programme presented compelling evidence for the existence of a new state of matter in which quarks, instead of being bound up into more complex particles such as protons and neutrons, are liberated to roam freely.



M. Roirdan and W. Zajc, Scientific American 34A May (2006)

EVIDENCE FOR A DENSE LIQUID

Two phenomena in particular point to the quark-gluon medium being a dense liquid state of matter: jet quenching and elliptic flow. Jet quenching implies the quarks and gluons are closely packed, and elliptic flow would not occur if the medium were a gas.













S.Pratt et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, (2015) 202301



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ALICE physics program covers all systems!!!











Ηράκλειτος (Heraclitus) ~535 - 475 BC



Not only in A-A it seems but also for smaller systems!







We are leading the field with a number of interesting physics projects that could lead to an advanced stage (e.g. publication)

Feel free to pass by my office @ <u>Nikhef (room N327)</u> or @ <u>Ornsteinlaboratorium</u> (room 259) if you are interested to learn more!!!



Thank you for your attention!









Backup



Fermi's notes: 2000+ physics discussed in ~1950









HotQCD Collaboration: Phys.Rev. D90, (2014) 094503







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- 6
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Focus on...

















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System	Year	√ <i>s</i> _{NN} (TeV)	Lint
рр	2009-2010	0.9	~0.15 nb⁻¹
рр	2010-2011	7	~4.8 pb⁻¹
рр	2011	2.76	~1.1 pb ⁻¹
рр	2012	8	~9.7 pb ⁻¹
p-Pb	2013	5.02	~30 nb⁻¹
Pb-Pb	2010-2011	2.76	~0.1 nb ⁻¹

(Alice Collaboration) Phys. Rev. Lett. 110 (2013) 082302







CMS Collaboration, EPJC 72 (2012) 1945



Particles not interacting with the coloured medium (e.g. γ, Z⁰, W) do not show any in medium effects





(STAR Collaboration) Phys. Rev. Lett. 86 (2001) 402











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And there is more...: higher (odd) harmonics!





Higher harmonics represent modulations in smaller spatial scales

- More sensitive probes of the QGP transport properties
- Output tool to constrain initial state fluctuations



Higher harmonics @ LHC







B. Abelev et al. (ALICE Collaboration), JHEP 09 (2016) 164



ALICE-NL

contribution

Higher harmonics @ LHC (ultra-central events)





Same features for different v_n (up to v_5 !) even for ultra-central collisions