



H-QM Helmholtz Research School Quark Matter Studies

Fluctuations and Correlations in Nucleus-Nucleus Collisions within Transport Approaches

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'Little Bangs' in the Laboratory



How can we proove that an equilibrium QGP has been created in central Au+Au collisions ?!

The QGP in Lattice QCD



Critical conditions $-\epsilon_c \sim 1 \text{ GeV/fm}^3$, $T_c \sim 170 \text{ MeV} - \text{ can be reached in heavy-ion experiments}$ at bombarding energies > 5 AGeV

The Phase Diagram of QCD



Lattice QCD: Critical Point

Allton et al., Phys. Rev. D68, 014507 (2003)

Fluctuations of the quark number density (susceptibility) at μ_q >0



Many factors lead to the "background" fluctuations that can mask the signal of the critical point and therefore have to be carefully studied and accounted for:

- limited size of colliding system
- fluctuations of initial condition of heavy-ion collisions
- event-by-event fluctuations of the collision geometry
- experimental acceptance
- statistical fluctuations

• ...

In order to understand the "background" fluctuations we apply models, where no phase transition is implemented

- wounded nucleon model
- statistical model of hadron-resonance gas
- transport models HSD and UrQMD

• ...



Basic Concept of HSD Transport Approaches

HSD – Hadron-String-Dynamics transport approach

Ehehalt, Cassing, Nucl.Phys. A602 (1996) 449; Cassing, Bratkovskaya, Phys. Rep.308 (1999) 65.

the phase-space density f_i follows the transport equations

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \left(\nabla_{\vec{p}}H\right)\nabla_{\vec{r}} - \left(\nabla_{\vec{r}}H\right)\nabla_{\vec{p}}\right)f_i(\vec{r},\vec{p},t) = I_{coll}(f_1,f_2,...,f_M)$$

with collision terms I_{coll} describing:

elastic and inelastic hadronic reactions:

baryon-baryon, meson-baryon, meson-meson

- formation and decay of baryonic and mesonic resonances
- string formation and decay

(for inclusive particle production: BB -> X , mB -> X, X =many particles)

• implementation of detailed balance on the level of 1<->2

and 2<->2 reactions (+ 2<->n multi-particle reactions in HSD !)

• no explicit phase transition from hadronic to partonic degrees of freedom (implemented in PHSD: Cassing, Bratkovskaya Phys. Rev. C78 (2008) 034919)

HSD – a microscopic model for heavy-ion reactions

- very good description of particle production in pp, pA, AA reactions
- unique description of nuclear dynamics from low (~100 MeV) to ultrarelativistic (~20 TeV) energies



Beyond the Average Quantities: Fluctuations and Correlations

While average values of distributions can coincide, the higher moments of distributions can be different

$$\langle X^n \rangle \equiv \sum_X X^n P(X)$$

(where X – is an observable e.g. multiplicity)



One can construct measures to study fluctuations and correlations:

Multiplicity fluctuations in some acceptance (charge, strangeness, etc.)

$$\omega = \frac{\langle (\Delta N)^2 \rangle}{\langle N \rangle} = \frac{\langle N^2 \rangle - \langle N \rangle^2}{\langle N \rangle}$$

Ratio fluctuations in the acceptance (ratio of different species)

$$\sigma_{dyn}, \nu, etc.$$

Correlations between different species in the acceptance

$$\rho_{AB} \equiv \frac{\langle \Delta N_A \Delta N_B \rangle}{\left[\langle (\Delta N_A)^2 \rangle \langle (\Delta N_B)^2 \rangle \right]^{1/2}}$$

- Correlations between multiplicities in different acceptance intervals
- Skewness and kurtosis

Geometry of a collision



Fixed-target experiment (NA49, NA61, WA98)

- Projectile spectators can be measured precisely
- Centrality can be fixed by participants number
- Acceptance differs with energy

Collider type experiment (STAR, PHENIX)

- Spectators are fixed from both nuclei, but only neutrons (not p and fragments)
 Centrality determines in different ways (multiplicity, veto&TPC, E_T, etc.)
- The same acceptance for all energies

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Fluctuations in the number of participants

VK, Haussler, Gorenstein, Bratkovskaya, Bleicher, Stoecker, Phys. Rev. C73 (2006) 034902; C78 (2008) 024906

 Even with fixed number of projectile participants N_p^{proj} the full number of participants N_p can fluctuate due to participant fluctuation in the target N_p^{targ}.
 Participants number fluctuations reflect in the observable fluctuations (e. g. multiplicity fluctuations)



To get rid of the fluctuations in the participant number one needs to consider only the most central collisions!



Excitation Function of Multiplicity Fluctuations in N+N and central A+A

VK, Gorenstein, Bratkovskaya, Phys. Lett. B 651, 114 (2007)

- Fluctuations in p+p and central A+A are very close within HSD.
- Statistical model shows very small and energy independent fluctuations and contradicts to the transport calculations where ω reaches significant values for large energies.



• NA49 cannot clearly distinguish between statistical and transport models because of small acceptance and small differences between the model predictions in this range of energy !

SM: Begun at al, PRC, 044903 (2006)

Fluctuations Program of NA61/SHINE Collaboration



Fluctuations and CP: Stephanov, Rajagopal, Shuryak, Phys. Rev. D 60, 114028 Freeze-out points: Becattini et al., Phys. Rev. C 73, 044905

Multiplicity Fluctuations in HSD: 1%MC

VK, Lungwitz, Gorenstein, Bratkovskaya, Phys. Rev. C78 (2008) 024906



• HSD shows a plateau on the top of which the SHINE Collaboration expects to find increasing multiplicity fluctuations as a "signal" for the critical point.

Charge fluctuations

sensitive to the EoS at the early stage of the collision and to its changes in the deconfinement phase transition region



The decay of resonances strongly modifies the initial QGP fluctuations!

Statistical and HSD Model Results for Ratio Fluctuations

Gorenstein, Hauer, VK, Bratkovskaya, Phys. Rev. C 79(2009) 024907



Difference in SM and the transport model predictions for ω increases with energy!

For ratio fluctuations the measure

$$\sigma^2 \equiv \frac{\langle \Delta (N_A/N_B)^2 \rangle}{\langle N_A/N_B \rangle^2}$$

is used. In assumption $|\Delta N_A| \ll \langle N_A \rangle$, $|\Delta N_B| \ll \langle N_B \rangle$ it can be rewritten as:

$$\sigma^2 \cong \frac{\omega_A}{\langle N_A \rangle} + \frac{\omega_B}{\langle N_B \rangle} - 2\rho_{AB} \left[\frac{\omega_A \omega_B}{\langle N_A \rangle \langle N_B \rangle} \right]^{1/2}$$

After subtraction of σ for mixed events one gets:

$$\sigma_{dyn} \equiv \pm |\sigma^2 - \sigma_{mix}^2|^{1/2} \times 100\%$$

• For σ_{dyn} SM and HSD differ for small energies in contrast to $\omega!$

K/ π Ratio Fluctuations: Transport vs Data



• Exp. data show a plateau from top SPS up to RHIC energies and an increase towards lower SPS energies.

evidence for a critical point at low SPS energies ?

• But the HSD results shows the same behavior.

• K/ π ratio fluctuations are driven by hadronic sources. No evidence for a critical point in the K/ π ratio ?

HSD: Phys. Rev. C 79 (2009) 024907 UrQMD: J. Phys. G 30 (2004) S1381, PoS CFRNC2006,017 NA49: 0808.1237 STAR: 0901.1795

Forward-Backward Correlations in Nucleus-Nucleus Collisions: Baseline Contributions from Geometrical Fluctuations?





Au+Au $\sqrt{s} = 200 \text{ GeV}$

STAR:

More central collision -> higher correlations.

Interpretation:

- Dual Partonic Model?
- CGC?
- Geometrical fluctuations?

Forward-Backward Correlations: Au+Au 200 GeV



small centrality bins!

VK, Hauer, Torrieri, Gorenstein, Bratkovskaya, Phys.Rev.C79 (2009)

150

100

200

Np

300

400

Summary

- The systematic study of fluctuations and correlations in microscopic transport approaches has been performed as a function of centrality, energy, experimental acceptance and system size. The results can be used as a baseline for the experimental and theoretical study of deconfinement and the critical point.
- The fluctuations in the number of target participants for fixed projectile participants strongly influence all observable fluctuations.
- Statistical and transport models show different results in central A+A collisions for multiplicity fluctuations versus energy. To distinguish between models new measurements at higher energies and with larger acceptance are needed!
- Transport models show a smooth energy and atomic number dependence for the multiplicity fluctuations. Thus, the hadron-string model (without explicit phase transition!) demonstrates that the expected enhanced fluctuations - attributed to the critical point and phase transition - can be observed experimentally on top of a monotonic and smooth 'background'.
- HSD results for the K/ π ratio fluctuations show that it grows at low SPS energies, the same as in the data! The results of transport models for K/p and p/ π ratio fluctuations do not fully reproduce experimental data and are inconclusive.
- Forward-backward correlations show a large sensitivity on the initial collisional geometry and centrality bin definition!

The results are published in:

- 1. VK, S. Haussler, M.I. Gorenstein, E.L. Bratkovskaya, M. Bleicher and H. Stoecker. PRC73,034902(2006).
- 2. VK, M.I. Gorenstein, and E.L. Bratkovskaya. Phys. Rev. C76, 031901 (2007).
- 3. VK, M.I. Gorenstein, E.L. Bratkovskaya, and H. Stoecker. Phys. Rev. C74, 064911 (2006).
- 4. V.V. Begun, M. Gazdzicki, M.I. Gorenstein, M. Hauer, VK and B. Lungwitz. Phys. Rev. C76,024902 (2007).
- 5. VK, M.I. Gorenstein, and E.L. Bratkovskaya. Phys.Lett.B651, 114 (2007).
- 6. VK, B. Lungwitz, M.I. Gorenstein, and E.L. Bratkovskaya. Phys. Rev. C78, 024906 (2008).
- 7. M.I. Gorenstein, M. Hauer, VK, and E.L. Bratkovskaya. Phys. Rev. C79, 024907 (2009).
- 8. VK, M. Hauer, M.I. Gorenstein and E.L. Bratkovskaya. Jphys.G36, 125106 (2009).
- 9. VK, M. Hauer, G. Torrieri, M.I. Gorenstein and E.L. Bratkovskaya. Phys. Rev. C79, 034910 (2009).
- 10. VK. **PoS CFRNC2006**, 010 (2006).
- 11. VK. "New trends in high-energy physics", 207 (2007).
- 12. VK. **PoS CPOD07**, 021 (2007).
- 13. M. Hauer, V.V. Begun, M. Gazdzicki, M.I. Gorenstein, VK and B. Lungwitz. J. Phys.G35, 044064 (2008).
- 14. VK. "Progress in High Energy Physics and Nuclear Safety", 139 (2008).
- 15. VK, M. Hauer, M.I. Gorenstein and E.L. Bratkovskaya. PoS CPOD2009, 030 (2009).
- 16. VK. J.Phys.G in print, arXiv: 0912.5157.
- 17. VK, M.I. Gorenstein, E.L. Bratkovskaya, W. Greiner. J. Phys. G37, 073101 (2010) review article.

Jet quenching and angular correlations in A+A

Jet Energy Loss



Jet suppression: dN/dφ (HSD)



New exp. data: $\phi - \eta$ angular correlations



Fig. 1. (Color on-line) Preliminary associated particle distributions in $\Delta \eta$ and $\Delta \phi$ with respect to the trigger hadron for associated particles with 2 GeV/ $c < p_T^{assoc} < p_T^{trig}$ in 0-12% central Au+Au collisions. Two different trigger p_T selections are shown: $3 < p_T^{trig} < 4$ GeV/c (upper panel) and $4 < p_T^{trig} < 6$ GeV/c (lower panel). No background was subtracted.

FIG. 2: (color online) Per-trigger correlated yield with $p_T^{trig} > 2.5 \text{ GeV}/\text{c}$ as a function of $\Delta \eta$ and $\Delta \phi$ for \sqrt{s} and $\sqrt{s_{_{NN}}}=200 \text{ GeV}$ (a) PYTHIA p+p and (b) PHOBOS 0-30% central Au+Au collisions. (c) Near-side yield integrated

near

High p, particle correlations in HSD (preliminary)

