Photon production in the bottom-up thermalization of heavy-ion collisions



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arXiv: 1701.05064

collaboration with

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7th Workshop of the APS Topical Group on Hadronic Physics Feb. 2nd, 2017

Early times in heavy-ion collisions



In weak coupling $\alpha_s \ll 1$, classical-statistical simulations can describe such systems.

Recent classical-statistical simulations of expanding Glasma have established **the bottom-up thermalization scenario**

as the correct weak-coupling effective theory for early stage of heavy-ion collisions.

What is a phenomenological consequence?

Photon production at early times

Photons in heavy-ion collisions



Photons in heavy-ion collisions



The photon production in the pre-equilibrium stage is not included in the state-of-the-art calculations based on hydrodynamic and transport models.

Does Glasma shine brightly?

Parametric estimate of the photon yields in the Glasma and thermal QGP phases based on the bottom-up thermalization scenario.

Weak coupling effective kinetic description of thermalization in heavy-ion collisions

consistent with the use of the weak coupling formula for the photon production

1. Classical scaling regime

 $Q_s^{-1} \ll \tau \ll Q_s^{-1} \alpha_s^{-3/2}$

- 2. Formation stage of soft gluon bath $Q_s^{-1}\alpha_s^{-3/2}\ll\tau\ll Q_s^{-1}\alpha_s^{-5/2}$
- 3. Heating up stage

$$Q_s^{-1} \alpha_s^{-5/2} \ll \tau \ll Q_s^{-1} \alpha_s^{-13/5}$$



FIG. 1. Characteristic momentum scales for the "bottom-up" scenario.

from Baier, Mueller, Schiff, Son (2002)

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Bottom-up thermalization scenario

1. Classical scaling regime $Q_s^{-1} \ll \tau \ll Q_s^{-1} \alpha_s^{-3/2}$

- \blacktriangleright The system is dominated by hard gluons whose transverse mom. is $\ p_\perp \sim Q_s$.
- \blacktriangleright The occupancy of the hard gluons is much larger than one. $f_{hard} \gg 1$
- 2-2 elastic (small angle) scatterings among hard gluons dominate the dynamics.

Scaling behavior
$$f_g(\tau, p_\perp, p_z) = (Q_s \tau)^{-2/3} f_S\left(p_\perp, (Q_s \tau)^{1/3} p_z\right)$$

Confirmed by the classical-statistical simulations and the kinetic theory computations



Scaling behavior of Quarks

What about quarks?

We numerically solved the Boltzmann eqs. for 2-2 scattering among quarks and gluons.

NT, Venugopalan, arXiv:1702.xxxx



In the first stage of the bottom-up thermalization, the quark distribution show the same scaling behavior as the gluon distribution.

- 2. Formation stage of soft gluon bath $Q_s^{-1}\alpha_s^{-3/2} \ll \tau \ll Q_s^{-1}\alpha_s^{-5/2}$
 - $\succ f_{hard} < 1$
 - Soft gluons are produced by collinear splitting processes.
 - The number density is still dominated by hard gluons, but the Debye mass is dominated by soft gluons.

- 3. Heating up stage $Q_s^{-1}\alpha_s^{-5/2} \ll \tau \ll Q_s^{-1}\alpha_s^{-13/5}$
 - Soft gluons form a thermal bath, and it is heated by the remaining hard gluons.

$$T(\tau) = c_T \alpha_s^3 Q_s^2 \tau$$

thermalization time $au_{th} = c_{eq} \alpha_s^{-13/5} Q_s^{-1}$ temperature at that time $T_{th} = c_{eq} c_T \alpha_s^{2/5} Q_s$ Unknown numerical coefficients, which can be constrained by measured charged hadron multiplicity

Constraint for the coefficients

Entropy conservation after $au_{ m th}$



We treat Q_s for a fixed N_{part} as a free parameter, while adopting the N_{part} dependence from the IP-Glasma model.

RHIC and LHC values are related by $(2.76/0.2)^{0.3}$.

Constraint for the coefficients

The combination $c_{\rm eq}c_T^{3/4}$ is constrained.



The dependence on $N_{\rm part}$ is mild.

BMSS estimate $c_T \simeq 0.18$ to logarithmic accuracy. We vary between $c_T = 0.1$ and 0.4

Thermalization time vs. Hadronization time



Thermalization time

$$\tau_{\rm th} = c_{\rm eq} \alpha_s^{-13/5} Q_s^{-1}$$

Hadronization time

$$\tau_{c} = \frac{45}{74\pi^{2}} k \, \frac{1}{S_{\perp}} \frac{dN_{\rm ch}}{d\eta} \frac{1}{T_{c}^{3}} \qquad T_{c} = 154 \, {\rm MeV}$$

Thermalization time vs. Hadronization time



Hadronization time

 $\tau_{c} = \frac{45}{74\pi^{2}} k \frac{1}{S_{\perp}} \frac{dN_{\rm ch}}{d\eta} \frac{1}{T_{c}^{3}} \qquad T_{c} = 154 \,\mathrm{MeV}$

QGP life time is much longer for the LHC than RHIC.

Estimation of the photon yields

Production rate via the annihilation and Compton processes

$$E\frac{dN}{d^4Xd^3p} = \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^3} \int_{p_1,p_2,p_3} |\mathcal{M}|^2 (2\pi)^4 \delta^4 (P_1 + P_2 - P_3 - P) f_1(p_1) f_2(p_2) \left[1 \pm f_3(p_3)\right]$$

Thermal phase

$$E\frac{dN^{\text{th}}}{d^4xd^3p} = \frac{5}{9}C\frac{\alpha\alpha_s}{2\pi^2}T^2e^{-E/T} \qquad C \sim \log\left(1/\alpha_s\right) \qquad \text{Kapsta, Lichard, Seibert (1991)}$$

Ideal 1+1d expansion
$$T(\tau) = T_{\text{th}}\left(\frac{\tau_{\text{th}}}{\tau}\right)^{1/3}$$

Glasma phase

small-angle approximation

$$E\frac{dN}{d^4Xd^3p} = \frac{40}{9\pi^2}\alpha\alpha_s \mathcal{L} f_q(\boldsymbol{p}) \int \frac{d^3p'}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{p'} \left[f_g(\boldsymbol{p}') + f_q(\boldsymbol{p}') \right] \qquad \mathcal{L} \sim \log\left(1/\alpha_s\right)$$

- We integrate these rates over the expanding space-time.
- We consider the total photon yield by integrating over pT.

Photon production rate



Thermal vs. Glasma photon yields



• For lower collision energy,

the Glasma contribution is relatively more important.

• For less central collisions,

Bottom-up scenario vs. Early-hydro scenario



Bottom-up thermalization scenario:
Glasma (i), (ii), (iii) + Thermal ($\tau_{th} < \tau$)

Hydro scenario that assumes early-thermalization:
Early-hydro ($au_0 < au < au_{
m th}$) + Thermal ($au_{
m th} < au$)

Bottom-up scenario vs. Early-hydro scenario



For this value of the saturation scale ($Q_s = 1.4 \text{ GeV}$ for the RHIC most central collision), the two scenarios give the comparable photon yields.

For larger value of the saturation scale...

Bottom-up scenario vs. Early-hydro scenario



For a larger value of the saturation scale ($Q_s = 2 \text{ GeV}$ for the RHIC most central collision), the bottom-up thermalization scenario gives more photons.

Summary and outlook

- Parametric estimates of the photon yields in the Glasma and the thermal QGP phases based on the bottom-up thermalization scenario.
- The Glasma contribution is not negligible although the space-time volume is small at early times.
- For lower collision energy or less central collisions, the Glasma contribution is relatively more important.
- In comparison between the bottom-up scenario and the early-hydro scenario, the former can give more photons for a large value of the saturation scale.

Mini-jet photon?

Ab-initio calculations (kinetic theory, classical-statistical simulations) are necessary to compute the photon spectrum and address v2.

backup slides

Initial temperature at the thermalization time



Initial temperature for the QGP phase $T_{
m th} = c_{
m eq} c_T lpha_s^{2/5} Q_s$

Critical temperature $T_c = 154 \,\mathrm{MeV}$

Qs-dependence

For given hadron multiplicities, we vary the value of the saturation scale.



- \succ The thermal and early-hydro contributions are not strongly dependent of Q_s .
- \blacktriangleright The Glasma photon yield is nearly proportional to Q_s^2 .
- \succ For larger Q_s , the Glasma contribution dominates.