

Photon production in high energy collisions - expectations, lessons and questions

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Content

Being penetrating probes, direct photons are faithful historians of the system evolution in high energy collisions, but their message is notoriously hard to decypher. In this talk we will overview what has been learned in the past, then turn to recent results and controversies, like the “direct photon puzzle” or the discrepancy between the PHENIX and STAR direct photon measurements. Significant time will be spent on explaining experimental aspects, techniques and limitations that theorists should know about when interpreting and modeling experimental data, in the spirit of and updating the review paper Rept.Prog.Phys. 83 (2020) 4, 046301.

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