Probing Magnetic Fields During the Pre-Equilibrium Dynamics of Heavy-Ion Collisions

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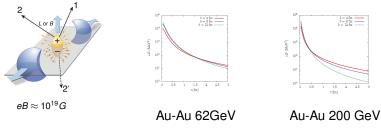
II Latin American Workshop on Electromagnetics Effects in QCD -Nov 2025





Magnetic fields in heavy-ion collisions

Non-central collisions: the strongest magnetic fields estimated in the laboratory (4 order higher than the strongest magnetic field observed in nature - magnetars).



[Kharzeev, McLerran and Warringa, NPA 803, 227 (2008).]

$$eB_s \approx Z\alpha_{EM} exp(-2Y_0) rac{4b}{ au^3}$$
 $eB_p \approx cZ_{EM} exp(-Y_0/2) rac{1}{R^{1/2} au^{3/2}} f(b/R)$

Other estimates

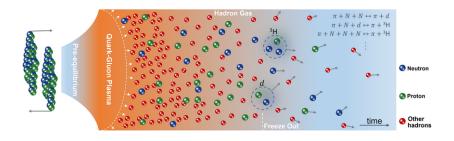
- Time and space dependence of the electromagnetic field in relativistic heavy-ion collisions, K. Tuchin, Phys.Rev.C 88 (2013) 2, 024911;
- Initial value problem for magnetic field in heavy ion collisions, K. Tuchin, Phys.Rev.C 93 (2016) 1, 014905;
- Magnetic field in expanding quark-gluon plasma, K. Tuchin and E. Stewart, Phys.Rev.C 97 (2018) 4, 044906
- Estimate of the magnetic field strength in heavy-ion collisions, V. Skokov, A. Illar-ionov, V. Toneev, Int.J.Mod.Phys.A 24 (2009) 5925-5932;
- Centrality dependence of photon yield and elliptic flow from gluon fusion and splitting induced by magnetic fields in relativistic heavy-ion collisions, A. Ayala, J. D. Castaño-Yepes,1, I. Dominguez, J. Salinas and M. E. Tejeda-Yeomans, Eur.Phys.J.A 56 (2020) 2, 53.
- Incomplete electromagnetic response of hot QCD matter, Z.Wang, J.Zhao, C.Greiner, Z.Xu, and P.Zhuang1, Phys. Rev. C 105, L041901 (2022).

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Magnetic field relevant during the first instants after the collision

QGP evolution

Evolution of the system formed after a heavy-ion collision



Pre-equilibrium must be affected by the magnetic field

Influence of magnetic fields during pre-equilibrium

We detected three processes that may be significantly affected by the magnetic field during pre-equilibrium.

Photon production by gluon fusion (photon puzzle)
 Talk by Santiago Bernal

[Phys.Rev.C 106 (2022) 6, 064905, Phys.Rev.D 110 (2024) 7, 076021]



Anisotropy of the pressure of gluons



ightharpoonup Decay of the Z^0 boson into dileptons



Anisotropy of the pressure in pre-equilibrium

Calculating the pressure: effective kinetic theory

An appropriate set of Boltzmann equations which will, on sufficiently long time and distance scales, correctly describe the dynamics of typical ultrarelativistic excitations,

$$(\partial_t + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}) f = -C[f]$$

where $f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, t)$ is the phase space density of (quasi-)particles and C[f] is a spatially-local collision term that represents the rate at which particles get scattered out of the momentum state p minus the rate at which they get scattered into this state. To leading order

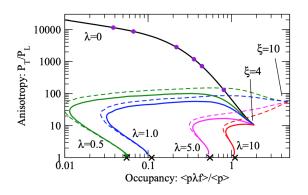
$$-\frac{df_{\mathbf{p}}}{d\tau} = \mathcal{C}_{1\leftrightarrow 2}[f_{\mathbf{p}}] + \mathcal{C}_{2\leftrightarrow 2}[f_{\mathbf{p}}] + \mathcal{C}_{exp}[f_{\mathbf{p}}]$$

Initial conditions,

$$\begin{split} f(\rho_z,\rho_t) &= \frac{2}{\lambda} A f_0(\rho_z \xi/\langle \rho_T) \rangle, \rho_\perp/\langle \rho_T \rangle) \\ f_0(\hat{\rho}_z,\hat{\rho}_\perp) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\hat{\rho}_\perp^2 + \hat{\rho}_z^2}} e^{-2(\hat{\rho}_\perp^2 + \hat{\rho}_z^2)/3} \end{split}$$

Isotropization in EKT

Ratio of the transverse and parallel pressure from EKT

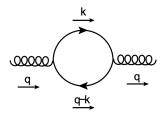


A. Kurkela and Y. Zhu, Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 182301 (2015)

The gluon polarization tensor

Influence of a magnetic background in pre-equilibrium [A.M. and A. Ayala Phys.Rev.D 110 (2024) 11, L111501]

The medium in pre-equilibrium is saturated by gluons \rightarrow indirect effect of the magnetic field



$$i\Pi_{ab}^{\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{2}\int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} Tr\{igt_b\gamma^{\nu}iS^{(n)}(k)igt_a\gamma^{\mu}iS^{(m)}(q)\} + C.C.$$

Schwinger proper time method

The scalar propagator can be written as

$$D = \int_0^\infty \frac{ds}{\cosh(qBs)} e^{-s\left[(\omega_n - i\mu)^2 + p_z^2 + m^2 + p_\perp^2 \frac{\tanh(qBs)}{qBs}\right]}$$

and the fermionic propagator

$$S_B = \int \frac{ds}{\cosh(qBs)} e^{s\left(k^2 - k_\perp^2 \frac{\tanh(qBs)}{qBs} - m^2\right)} \left[(m_f + k) e^{iqBs\sigma_3} - \frac{k_\perp}{\cosh(qBs)} \right]$$

The dispersion relations are:

$$E_s = \sqrt{k^2 + m^2 + (2l + 1)eB};$$
 $E_f = \sqrt{k^2 + m^2 + (2l + 1 + s)eB}$

Landau levels: energy quantization in the direction perpendicular to the field.

The gluon polarization tensor

The Schwinger propagator

$$iS(p) = ie^{-p_{\perp}^2/|q_fB|} \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} (-1)^n \frac{D_n(q_fB,p)}{p_{||}^2 - m_f^2 - 2n|q_fB|},$$

where D_n is a function of Laguerre polynomials.

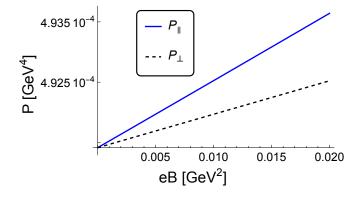
For the strong field limit the lowest Landau level dominates, [K. Fukushima, Phys. Rev. D 83, 111501 (2011)]

$$\Pi^{\mu
u} = g^2 \left(g_{\parallel}^{\mu
u} - rac{q_{\parallel}^{\mu} q_{\parallel}^{
u}}{q_{\parallel}^2}
ight) \sum_f rac{|q_f B|}{8 \pi^2} e^{-q_{\perp}^2/(2|q_f B|)}.$$

- ► The pressure is given by P = -V;
- lacktriangle We regularize separately the integral in q_{\parallel} and q_{\perp} ;
- The perpendicular pressure is given by $P_{\perp}=P_{\parallel}+Mx_{i}\partial|eB|\partial x_{i}$ and $M=-\frac{\partial V}{\partial eB}$.

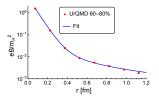
Parallel and transverse pressure

Parallel and transverse pressure as a function of eB.

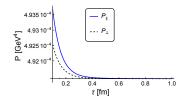


Magnetic field profile

We adopt the magnetic field profile calculated using UrQMD, including participants and spectators in Au+Au semi-central collisions, 60-80% centrality, at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=$ 200 GeV .



Eur.Phys.J.A 56 (2020) 2, 53

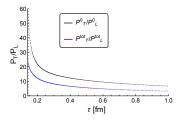


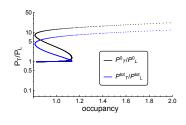
Phys.Rev.D 110 (2024) 11, L111501

Magnetic field as a catalyst of isotropy

[A.Ayala and A.M.Phys.Rev.D 110 (2024) 11, L111501]

The magnetic field fastens the isotropization of the medium. This is essential for a hydrodynamical approach.





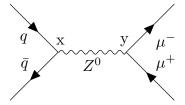
The ratio of P_T/P_L is also lower for all the values of occupancy along the evolution of the system and it reaches 1 for a value slightly higher than in the case of pure EKT. The results for EKT were taken considering $\epsilon=10$ and the coupling $\lambda=10$.

Our calculation is independent from EKT approach. Work in progress: magnetic effects in the Boltzman equation with G.Denicol and K.Kushwah.

Decay of the Z⁰ boson in dileptons

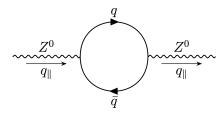
$q - \bar{q}$ annihilation in a strong magnetic background

arXiv:2506.11370



- ▶ Decay of the Z^0 in dileptons: weak force has a preferred chirality.
- Correlation between spin and momentum.
- Dileptons are considered hard probes: they do not interact with the medium.

Hadron tensor



- To compute the hadron tensor, we can resort to the optical theorem, which amounts to computing the **imaginary part** of the magnetic field modified Z^0 propagator, which in turn can be obtained from the Z^0 polarization tensor in the presence of the magnetic field, $\Pi^{\mu\nu}$.
- ▶ We work at one-loop order and in the lowest Landau-level (LLL) approximation for the quark propagators in the presence of a constant magnetic field pointing along the 2-direction, relevant scenario in the case the magnetic field is much larger than the quark mass squared.

The electroweak interaction

Chirality and helicity (for small mass particles)



Weak interaction couples to left handed

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{Fermi}} \,=\, -rac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \left(ar{\psi} \gamma^\mu (1-\gamma^5) \psi
ight) \left(ar{\psi} \gamma_\mu (1-\gamma^5) \psi
ight)$$

Electroweak couples differently to right and left

$$\mathcal{L}_{Z} = \frac{g}{\cos \theta_{W}} \, \bar{\Psi} \gamma^{\mu} \Big(c_{V} - c_{A} \gamma^{5} \Big) \Psi \, Z_{\mu}$$

$$c_L = c_V^f - c_A = T_3^f - Q_f \sin^2 \theta_W$$

$$c_R = c_V^f + c_A = -Q_f \sin^2 \theta_W$$

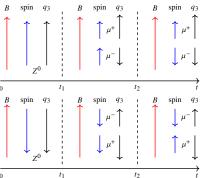
Lepton tensor

- In a magnetic field, charged fermions are not described by plane waves but instead by **Ritus functions**.
- Anticipating the dominance of the axial coupling of the Z^0 to leptons, \tilde{C}_A , the Lepton tensor can be expressed as

$$\begin{array}{lcl} L_{\mu\nu} & \sim & \tilde{C}_A^2 \left[\rho_{\parallel\mu}^- \rho_{\parallel\nu}^+ + \rho_{\parallel\nu}^- \rho_{\parallel\mu}^+ - g_{\parallel\mu\nu} [(\rho^- \cdot \rho^+)_{\parallel} - m^2] \right] \\ & \times & (2\pi)^2 \delta(q_0 - E^- - E^+) \delta(q_3 - \rho_3^- - \rho_3^+) \end{array}$$

where $p_{||\mu}^{\pm}$ and E^{\pm} are the parallel components of the muon (-) and antimuon (+) four-momenta and their corresponding energies, respectively, and m is the muon mass.

Physical interpretation



- \triangleright Z^0 is preferably polarized along its direction of motion.
- μ^{\pm} are produced by the electroweak interaction. Given the large mass difference between M_Z and m, μ^{\pm} behave as if they were massless.
- \blacktriangleright μ^- are preferably left-handed whereas μ^+ are preferably right-handed.
- ▶ Together, this means that μ^+ are emitted with a larger ρ_T than μ^- .

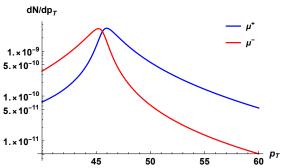
μ^{\pm} distributions

▶ To illustrate the expected individual μ^{\pm} distributions, we parametrize the p_T distribution of produced Z^0 in $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=5.02$ TeV Pb+Pb collisions as

$$\frac{dN}{d^2p_Tdy} \propto 10^{-cp_T^n} e^{-\frac{y^2}{2\Delta^2}}, \quad c = 0.6896, \quad n = 0.4283, \quad \Delta = 3.3034$$

Y. Sun, V. Greco, and X.-N. Wang, Phys. Lett. B 827, 136962 (2022)

μ^{\pm} distributions



- The μ^+ peak is displaced towards larger values of p_T compared to the μ^- peak.
- The separation between the two peaks is determined by the inverse of the parameter c, which is related to the width of the Z^0 p_T -distribution and is of the order of 2 GeV.
- The ratio of the μ^+ to the μ^- distribution is greater than 1 for p_T larger than the position of the μ^+ peak.

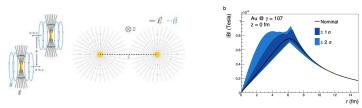
Summarizing

- Evidence that an uterly itense magetic field is generated in noncentral heavy-ion collisions.
- Effects of the field must be more intense in pre-equilibrium.
- We propose three different processes that may capture the presence of the field.
- The magnetic field acts as a catalist for isotropy.
- Z⁰ decay in dileptons constitutes a promissing magnetometer, exploring the preferred coupling with left handed particles in the electroweak interaction: correlation between specie and dynamics.

Gracias!

Backup slides

The Breit-Wheeler process in ultraperipheral relativistic heavy-ion collisions



D. Brandenburg et al, Eur. Phys. J. A, 57, 299 (2021).

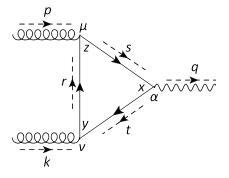
An ultraperipheral heavy-ion collision: The electromagnetic fields are highly Lorentz-contracted with a radial electric component and a circular magnetic component. Because both are perpendicular to each other and to the direction of motion, the resulting photons are linearly polarized.

New channels for photon production at pre-equilibrium

Two-gluon one-photon on shell vertex

[A.Ayala, J.Castaño-Yepes, L.A. Hernández, A.M., M.E. Tejeda-Yeomans Phys.Rev.C 106 (2022) 6, 064905

A.Ayala, S.Bernal-Langarica, J.Jaber-Urquiza, J. J. Medina-Serna, Phys.Rev.D 110 (2024) 7, 076021]



Furry's theorem: if a Feynman diagram consists of a closed loop of fermion lines with an odd number of vertices, its contribution to the amplitude vanishes.

Two-gluon one-photon vertex: General structure

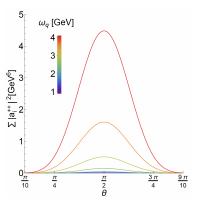
- ► From gauge invariance, the vertex must be transverse when contracted with the gluons and photons momenta
- ► The vertex must be symmetric under gluon exchange
- The vertex is invariant under CP
- ► The basis will be expressed as a set of polarization vectors and the photon's momentum

In the end of the day, the task is to calculate three coefficients. But...

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T_{A1}^{\mu\nu\alpha} + T_{R1}^{\mu\nu\alpha} = \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}A_{\alpha}\gamma^{\alpha}A_{b}\gamma^{\nu}A_{c}] + \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}B_{c}\gamma^{\nu}B_{b}\gamma^{\alpha}B_{a}],
    T_{A2}^{\mu\nu\alpha} + T_{B2}^{\mu\nu\alpha} = m_f^2 \{ Tr[\gamma^{\mu}e_1\gamma^{\alpha}e_2\gamma^{\nu}A_c] + Tr[\gamma^{\mu}B_c\gamma^{\nu}e_2\gamma^{\alpha}e_1] \},
    T_{A3}^{\mu\nu\alpha} + T_{B3}^{\mu\nu\alpha} = m_f^2 \{ \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}e_1\gamma^{\alpha}A_b\gamma^{\nu}e_3] + \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}e_3\gamma^{\nu}B_b\gamma^{\alpha}e_1] \},
    T^{\mu\nu\alpha}_{i,i} + T^{\mu\nu\alpha}_{\nu\nu} = m^2 \{ Tr[\gamma^{\mu}A_{\nu}\gamma^{\alpha}e_{\gamma}\gamma^{\nu}e_{\gamma}] + Tr[\gamma^{\mu}e_{\gamma}\gamma^{\nu}e_{\gamma}\gamma^{\alpha}B_{\nu}] \}
    T_{A5}^{\mu\nu\alpha} + T_{BS}^{\mu\nu\alpha} = \frac{i}{2} \{ \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}A_{\alpha}\gamma^{\alpha}e_{2}\gamma^{\nu}_{\parallel}e_{3}] + \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}e_{3}\gamma^{\nu}_{\parallel}e_{2}\gamma^{\alpha}B_{\alpha}] \},
    T_{A6}^{\mu\nu\alpha} + T_{B6}^{\mu\nu\alpha} = \frac{i}{2} \{ \text{Tr}[\gamma_{\parallel}^{\mu} e_1 \gamma^{\alpha} A_b \gamma^{\nu} e_3] + \text{Tr}[\gamma_{\parallel}^{\mu} e_3 \gamma^{\nu} B_b \gamma^{\alpha} e_1] \},
   T_{A7}^{\mu\alpha} + T_{B7}^{\mu\alpha} = \frac{i}{-} \{ \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}e_1\gamma^{\alpha}_+e_2\gamma^{\nu}A_c] + \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}B_c\gamma^{\nu}e_2\gamma^{\alpha}_+e_1] \},
    T_{i\alpha}^{i\alpha} + T_{i\alpha}^{i\alpha} = -\frac{i}{4} \{ Tr[\gamma^{\mu}A_{\alpha}\gamma^{\alpha}e_{\gamma}\gamma^{\nu}e_{\gamma}] + Tr[\gamma^{\mu}e_{\gamma}\gamma^{\nu}e_{\gamma}\gamma^{\alpha}B_{\alpha}] \},
   T_{A9}^{\mu\nu\alpha} + T_{B9}^{\mu\nu\alpha} = -\frac{i}{e} \{ \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}e_1\gamma^{\alpha}A_b\gamma^{\nu}e_3] + \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}e_3\gamma^{\nu}B_b\gamma^{\alpha}e_1] \},
 T^{\mu\nu\alpha}_{A10} + T^{\mu\nu\alpha}_{R10} = -\frac{i}{\{}Tr[\gamma^{\mu}e_1\gamma^{\alpha}e_2\gamma^{\nu}A_c] + Tr[\gamma^{\mu}B_c\gamma^{\nu}e_2\gamma^{\alpha}e_1]\},
 T_{A11}^{\mu\nu\alpha}+T_{B11}^{\mu\nu\alpha}=\frac{iq_fB}{(t_1t_2t_3-t_1-t_2-t_3)}\{\mathrm{Tr}[\gamma^\mu\mathcal{A}_a\gamma^a\gamma^\nu]+\mathrm{Tr}[\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu\gamma^\alpha\mathcal{B}_a]\},
T_{A12}^{\mu\nu\sigma}+T_{B12}^{\mu\nu\sigma}=\frac{iq_fB}{(t_1t_2t_3-t_1-t_2-t_3)}\{\mathrm{Tr}[\gamma^\mu\gamma^\sigma\mathcal{A}_b\gamma^\nu]+\mathrm{Tr}[\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu\mathcal{B}_b\gamma^\sigma]\},
T_{A13}^{\mu\nu\alpha}+T_{B13}^{\mu\nu\alpha}=\frac{iq_fB}{(t_1t_2t_3-t_1-t_2-t_3)}\left\{\mathrm{Tr}[p^\mu\gamma^\alpha\gamma^\nu\mathcal{A}_c]+\mathrm{Tr}[p^\nu\mathcal{B}_c\gamma^\nu\gamma^\alpha]\right\},
T^{\mu\nu\alpha}_{A|A}+T^{\mu\nu\alpha}_{B|A}=-\frac{iq_fB}{(t_1t_2t_2-t_1-t_2-t_3)}\left\{\mathrm{Tr}[p^\mu\mathcal{A}_ap^\alpha p^\nu_\perp]+\mathrm{Tr}[p^\mu p^\nu_\perp p^\alpha\mathcal{B}_a]\right\},
T_{\mathcal{A}15}^{m\sigma} + T_{\mathcal{B}15}^{m\sigma} = -\frac{iq_fB}{(t_1t_2t_3-t_1-t_2-t_1)} \{ \mathrm{Tr}[\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{\perp}^{\mu}\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{\alpha}\boldsymbol{\mathcal{A}}_{b}\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{\nu}] + \mathrm{Tr}[\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{\perp}^{\mu}\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{\nu}\boldsymbol{\mathcal{B}}_{b}\boldsymbol{\gamma}^{\alpha}] \},
 T_{A16}^{\mu\nu\alpha} + T_{B16}^{\mu\nu\alpha} = -\frac{iq_f B}{(t, t_2 t_3 - t_1 - t_2 - t_3)} \{ \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}\gamma^{\alpha}_{\perp}\gamma^{\nu}A_c] + \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu}B_c\gamma^{\nu}\gamma^{\alpha}_{\perp}] \},
T_{A17}^{soa} + T_{B17}^{soa} = \frac{iq_f Bt_1}{2(t_1t_2t_3 - t_1 - t_2 - t_3)} \left\{ \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu} \mathcal{A}_{\alpha} \gamma^{\alpha} \gamma^{\beta}_{\perp} \gamma^{\nu} \gamma^{\alpha}_{\perp}] \hat{F}_{\beta\sigma} + \text{Tr}[\gamma^{\mu} \gamma^{\alpha}_{\perp} \gamma^{\beta}_{\perp} \gamma^{\alpha} \mathcal{B}_{\alpha}] \hat{F}_{\alpha\beta} \right\},
 T_{A18}^{\mu\nu\sigma} + T_{B18}^{\mu\nu\sigma} = -\frac{iq_fBt_2}{2(t_1t_2t_3-t_1-t_2-t_3)} \left\{ \text{Tr}[\gamma^\mu\gamma^\rho_\perp\gamma^\sigma A_b\gamma^\nu\gamma^\rho_\perp] \hat{F}_{\beta\sigma} + \text{Tr}[\gamma^\mu\gamma^\rho_\perp\gamma^\nu B_b\gamma^\alpha\gamma^\rho_\perp] \hat{F}_{\sigma\beta} \right\},
T_{A19}^{soc} + T_{B19}^{soc} = \frac{iq_fBt_3}{2(t_1t_2t_3 - t_1 - t_2 - t_3)} \{ \text{Tr}[p^sp_\perp^\beta p^a p^c_\perp p^s A_c] \hat{F}_{\beta\sigma} + \text{Tr}[p^s\mathcal{B}_c p^s p^c_\perp p^a p^a p^c_\perp] \hat{F}_{\sigma\beta} \},
                              \mathcal{A}_{q} = - \left( \frac{s_3 \omega_{\rho_1} + s_2 \omega_q}{s \omega_q} \right) \mathbf{f}_{\parallel} e_1 + \frac{(t_3 \omega_{\rho_1} + t_2 \omega_q) \mathbf{f}_{\perp} - t_2 t_3 \omega_{\rho_2} \gamma^{\rho} \tilde{F}_{\rho \rho} q_{\perp}^{\beta}}{(t_1 t_2 t_3 - t_1 - t_2 - t_3) \omega_{-}}
                              \mathcal{A}_b = \left(\frac{s_1\omega_q + s_3\omega_{p_2}}{s\omega_q}\right)_{\P} \|e_2 - \frac{(t_3\omega_{p_2} + t_1\omega_q)_{\P} + t_1t_3\omega_{p_1}\gamma^{\sigma}\hat{F}_{\sigma\beta}q_{\perp}^{\rho}}{(t_1t_2t_3 - t_1 - t_2 - t_3)\omega_{\sigma}}
                                A_c = \left(\frac{s_1 \omega_{p_1} - s_2 \omega_{p_2}}{s \omega_{-}}\right) \not q_{\parallel} e_3 + \frac{(-t_1 \omega_{p_1} + t_2 \omega_{p_2}) \not q_{\perp} + t_1 t_3 \omega_q \gamma^{\alpha} \hat{F}_{\alpha \beta} q_{\perp}^{\beta}}{(t_1 t_1 t_2 - t_1 - t_2 - t_2) \omega_{-}}
                                  (s_3\omega_{p_1} + s_2\omega_q) (t_3\omega_{p_1} + t_2\omega_q) f_{\perp} + t_2t_3\omega_{p_2}\gamma^{\sigma}\hat{F}_{\sigma\beta}q^{\beta}_{\perp}
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Intermediate field regime

The square of the amplitude peaks at $\pi/2$. This means that besides incrementing the photon production it favors the v_2 of the photons (photon puzzle).



These are real photons that reach the detector. Is it possible to disentangle them from regular direct photons?

Lepton tensor

- Recall that in a magnetic field, charged fermions are not described by plane waves but instead by Ritus functions.
- ▶ The amplitude for dimuon emission is obtained by integration at the lepton vertex in the space-time point *y* and amounts to computing the overlap integral of the muon-antimuon pair wave functions which in turn produces energy-momentum conservation factors except in the direction of the confining oscillation around the magnetic field lines.
- ► This oscillation can be described using different gauge choices for the vector potential associated to the magnetic field. We work in the Landau gauge 2. The result is, of course, gauge-choice invariant.