

Electric field fluctuations in a self interacting scalar theory

Melanie Martínez Villarreal*

Ph D. (c) Theoretical Physics

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Advisors : Ph.D. Enrique Muñoz (PUC)
Ph.D. Marcelo Loewe (USS)

December 2, 2025
WONPAQCD flash-talks

*mimartinez1@uc.cl

- Our task is to study the impact and effects of electromagnetic (EM) fields and temperature in hadronic matter.
- Particularly, in this project, we study the effects of a weak, noisy electric field on the physical parameters of complex scalar fields ($\lambda\phi^4$ theory).
- We want to compare the effects of the self interaction with the effects of electric field fluctuations on the system, through the RGE for couplings (here are the non perturbative aspects!).

- In **asymmetric heavy-ion collisions** (nuclei with different sizes) a dipole-like electric field is induced on the collision plane.
- These electric fields are very strong ($\sim 10m_\pi^2$) with a short life time ($\sim 10^{-15}$)¹²³.

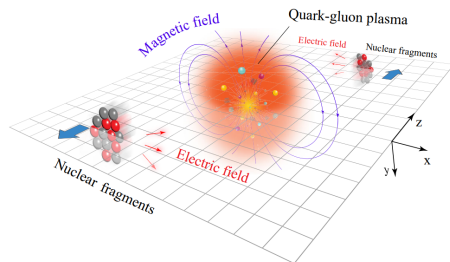


Fig. 1: Sketch of a heavy-ion collision at the lab frame (STAR collaboration, 2024).

¹Wei-Tian Deng and Xu-Guang Huang. "Electric fields and chiral magnetic effect in Cu + Au collisions". In: *Physics Letters B* 742 (2015)

²V. Toneev, O. Rogachevsky, and V. Voronyuk. "Evidence for creation of strong electromagnetic fields in relativistic heavy-ion collisions". In: *The European Physical Journal A* 52.8 (Aug. 2016)

³V. V. Skokov, A. Yu. Illarionov, and V. D. Toneev. "Estimate of the magnetic field strength in heavy-ion collisions". In: *International Journal of Modern Physics A* 31 (2009)

- We use Schwinger's propagator⁴ as the background propagator (as the “free” propagator in perturbation theory).
- We introduce the fluctuations through the covariant derivative, modeled as white noise, following a Gaussian distribution⁵.
- We use the replica method⁶ to find $\overline{\ln(Z)}$.

⁴Julian Schwinger. “On gauge invariance and vacuum polarization”. In: *Physical Review* 82.5 (1951), p. 664

⁵Jorge David Castaño-Yepes et al. “QED fermions in a noisy magnetic field background”. In: *Physical Review D* 107.9 (May 2023). DOI: 10.1103/physrevd.107.096014

⁶Marc Mézard et al. *Spin Glass Theory and Beyond*. 1987

- We find the two point (self energy) and four point functions (vertex correction), dressed by the noisy electric field.
- We study the spectral density of the dressed propagator.
- We study the β functions of the couplings.

From the two point function

- We found that the self interaction shifts the pole mass of the field.
- We found that quasi-particle states emerge from the electric field fluctuations.

From the four point function

- We found that the noise works as a damping factor for the self interaction strength.

♡ Come see my poster ♡