Lecture 26 Small systems (part I)



So far, we have studied the QGP in nucleus-nucleus collision. But is it possible to create it in p+A or p+p? What is the size of smallest QGP droplet created?

Two-particle correlations in $\Delta \phi$ and $\Delta \eta$

• In lectures 15 and 16, we saw that the momentum distribution can be written

$$\begin{aligned} E \frac{d^{3}N}{dp^{3}} &= \frac{d^{3}N}{dyd^{2}p_{\perp}} = \\ \frac{d^{2}N}{2\pi dyp_{\perp} dp_{\perp}} \left[1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2v_{n}(p_{\perp}, y) \cos(n(\phi_{p} - \psi_{n}(p_{\perp}, y)))\right] \\ \text{so that } v_{m}(p_{\perp}, y) &= \frac{\int d\phi_{p} \cos(m(\phi_{p} - \psi_{m})) \frac{d^{3}N}{m_{\perp} dm_{\perp} d\phi_{p} dy}}{\int d\phi_{p} \frac{d^{3}N}{m_{\perp} dm_{\perp} d\phi_{p} dy}} \\ \text{and } \psi_{m}(p_{\perp}, y) &= (1/m) \arctan \frac{\int d\phi_{p} \sin(m\phi_{p}) \frac{d^{3}N}{m_{\perp} dm_{\perp} d\phi_{p} dy}}{\int d\phi_{p} \cos(m\phi_{p}) \frac{d^{3}N}{m_{\perp} dm_{\perp} d\phi_{p} dy}} \end{aligned}$$

• Similarly, one can measure the two-particle correlation and plot it for exemple as function of $\Delta \phi$ and $\Delta \eta$, or just $\Delta \phi$, and write a Fourier expansion.



• These two-particle correlations were in fact fundamental to establish the importance of initial fluctations (NeXSPheRIO PRL 103 (2009) 242301) and higher order flow harmonics (Alver and Roland PRC 81 (2010) 054905)

• This is a modern exemple of what is seen in a centrality bin:



- The general angular shape (red curve) is due largely to elliptic flow
- The peak is attributed to jet fragmentaiton, Bose-Einstein correlation.
- The away-side ridge could come from away-side jet
- How about the near-side ridge (long-range correlation)?

• The long-range correlations are due to the longitudinal extent of the fluctuations (color tubes) in the initial conditions + hydro expansion:



Even though particles are independent they are correlated by the fluid expansion

• How does one compute two-particle correlations? For a given event, the number of pairs with momentum \vec{p}_a, \vec{p}_b is:

 $\frac{dN_{pairs}}{d^3p_a d^3p_b} \stackrel{hydro}{=} \frac{dN}{d^3p_a} \frac{dN}{d^3p_b}$

We assumed that particles were independent, no jets, decays, etc

Selecting pairs in a certain $\Delta \phi - \Delta \eta$ interval and averaging on all events in a centrality class:

 $rac{dN_{pairs}}{d\Delta\phi d\Delta\eta}|_{centr} \propto 1 + 2\sum V_{n\Delta}(p_{\perp a}, \eta_a, p_{\perp b}, \eta_b)\cos(n\Delta\phi)$ where

$$V_{n\Delta}(\boldsymbol{p}_{\perp a}, \eta_{a}, \boldsymbol{p}_{\perp b}, \eta_{b}) = << \cos n(\phi_{a} - \phi_{b}) >_{pairs/1ev.} >_{events}$$
$$= < v_{n}^{a} v_{n}^{b} \cos \left[n(\psi_{n}^{a} - \psi_{n}^{b}) \right] >_{events}$$

 $V_{n\Delta}$ is related to what happens to the particles individually. It reflects initial conditions and hydro expansion.

The surprise

The same ridge structure is seen in **high multiplicity** p+p and p+A collisions



Does hydro apply to these as well?

Anisotropic flow

• To answer this, we can look at the single particle angular distribution and check if there is anisotropic flow



All systems exhibit collective flow (at high multiplicity for p+p and p+A)

 If there is a collective motion, one expects that groups of particles should be flowing together, not just pairs
→ One can study multiparticle correlations generalizing slide 5

 $<< \cos(n_1\phi_1^{a_1} + n_2\phi_2^{a_2} + ... + n_m\phi_m^{a_m}) >_{m-part/1ev.} >_{events} = < v_{n_1}^{a_1}v_{n_2}^{a_2}...v_{n_m}^{a_m}\cos(n_1\psi_{n_1}^{a_1} + n_2\psi_n^{a_2} + n_m\psi_{n_m}^{a_m}) >_{events}$ with $\sum n_i = 0$ and a_i represents a bin in phase space.

It is possible to suppress non-flow correlations by considering particular combinations of correlations also called cumulants:

Borghini, Dinh and Ollitrault nucl-th/0007063

For exemple, the first momentum integrated cumulants satisfy:

$$egin{aligned} &v_n\{2\}^2 \stackrel{\textit{flow}}{\sim} < v_n^2 > \ &v_n\{4\}^4 \stackrel{\textit{flow}}{\sim} 2 < v_n^2 >^2 - < v_n^4 > \end{aligned}$$

For a review, see e.g. Luzum and Petersen 1312.5503



• Mass ordering (lecture 15) is also satisfied in high multiplicity p+p and p+A collisions

Heavier particles get a larger momentum boost from the common fluid velocity and so shifted toward higher p_{\perp}



Challenge



Show that (cf. slide 5) $\cos n(\phi_a - \phi_b) >_{pairs/1ev.} = v_n^a v_n^b \cos \left[n(\psi_n^a - \psi_n^b) \right]$

Homework

Can you interpret the behavior of the green and red points? (at low $\rho_{\perp})$



Other references on this topic

- J.L.Nagle and W.A.Zajc "Small System Collectivity in Relativistic Hadronic and Nuclear Collisions" Annual Review of Nuclear and Particle Science 68 (2018) 211) (very clear and interesting)
- W.Busza, K. Rajagopal and W.van der Schee "Heavy Ion Collisions: The Big Picture, and the Big Questions" Annual Review Nuclear and Particle Science 68 (2018) 211 (somewhat of a complement to above reference)
- S. Schlichting and D. Teaney "The First fm/c of Heavy-Ion Collisions" Annual Review Nuclear Particle Science 69 (2019) 447
- C. Loizides "Experimental overview on small collision systems at the LHC" Nuclear Physics A 956 (2016) 200 (a little obsolete, but interesting)