

The Acceleration Frontier in Particle Physics

Discussion Seminar 8 March 2018, 11AM
ELI Beamlines, Dolni Brezany

The fundamental physics laws address today phenomena that occur in inertial motion. The theory of "relativity" provides a framework knowing only inertial dynamics. The critical strength acceleration materializes the "ether" invisible for inertial observers: in the presence of acceleration of unit strength we observe in relativistic heavy ion collisions copious production of entropy materializing into a high particle multiplicity. This should also occur in pulsed relativistic particle (electron) beam collisions with ultra-intense light pulses without the signals of new physics being polluted by 1000 incoming particles participating in each relativistic heavy ion collision. Pulsed particle beams required in these experiments are very likely created by ultra-intense light pulses. These secondary beams made of short lived elementary particles are of profound interest on their own merit and cannot be formed by other means.



Ernst Mach
1838-1916
In Prague
1868-1895

Acceleration & Mach's Principle

Recognition/measurement of acceleration requires a Reference frame: what was once the set of fixed stars in the sky can be today CMB photon freeze-out reference frame. However, we define acceleration locally -- the quantum vacuum allows us to know about acceleration. To be consistent with special relativity: all inertial observers form an equivalence class. Quantum vacuum transparent to inertial motion, resists acceleration: radiation friction.

In Einstein's gravity relativity the reference frame was provided by the metric. However, there is no "acceleration", a dust of gravitating particles is in free fall.

... with the new theory of electrodynamics (QED, JR) we are rather forced to have an aether. – P.A.M. Dirac, 'Is There an Aether?,' Nature, v.168, 1951, p.906.

Exchange of letters with a few, including L. Infeld shows that nobody understood Dirac and Dirac did not quite understand that he was right about QED=aether.

Einstein aether (what?)

provides us with a method to resolve
Mach's dilemma: how to know we are accelerated

Apropos Mach: by Vladimir Vanysek:

Six Centuries of Physics in Prague

“During the period 1868-1883 practically all
Czech physics students were educated by
Mach and many prominent professors...
started their careers as Mach's assistants.”

the aether

Air:=gas phase

Fire:=energy



Earth:=solid phase

Water:=liquid phase

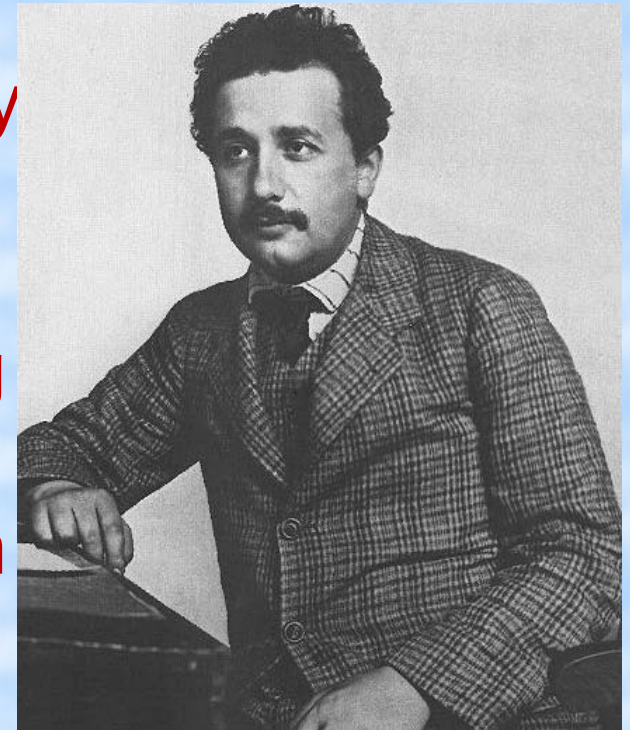
Four 'elements'

The word aether in **Homeric Greek** means “pure, fresh air” or “clear sky”, pure essence where the gods lived and which they breathed. The aether was believed in ancient and medieval science to be the substance that filled the region of the universe above the terrestrial sphere. **Aristotle** imposed aether as a fifth element filling all space. Aether was later called **quintessence** (from quinta essentia, “fifth element”). The “**luminiferous aether**” (light carrying aether) is the “substance” believed by **Maxwell, Larmor, Lorentz** to permeate all the Universe. **Einstein** flips on the topic, introduces **relativistic aether 1920**.

Aether returns 1919/20

General Relativity and Cosmology: gravity as space-time geometry, time has a beginning
Gravity metric is the new aether

Einstein 1920: “But this aether may not be thought of as endowed with the quality characteristic of ponderable media, as consisting of parts which may be tracked through time. The idea of motion may not be applied to it.”

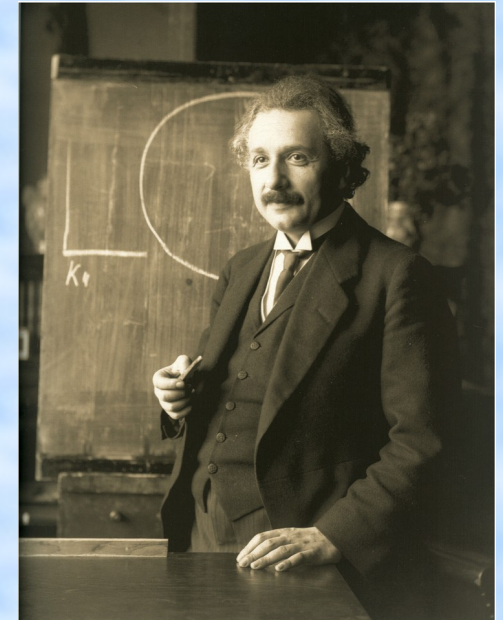


How can the laws of physics be known in all Universe?

“Recapitulating, we may say that according to the general theory of relativity space is endowed with physical qualities; in this sense, therefore, there exists an aether. **But this aether may not be thought of as endowed with the quality characteristic of ponderable media, as consisting of parts which may be tracked through time. The idea of motion may not be applied to it.**

“According to the general theory of relativity space without aether is unthinkable; for in such space there not only would be no propagation of light, but also no possibility of existence for standards of space and time (measuring-rods and clocks), nor therefore any space-time intervals in the physical sense.”

TODAY: The laws of physics are encoded in quantum vacuum structure



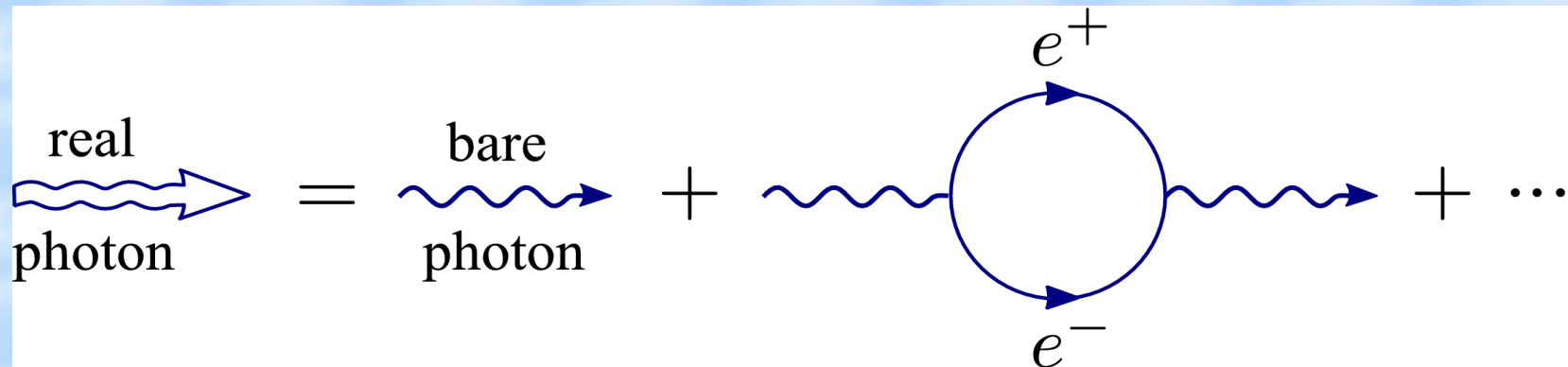
Albert Einstein,
Ather und die Relativitaetstheorie
(Berlin, 1920):

A few decades later:
Quantum vacuum structure
replaces
Aether defining inertial observers

Quantum vacuum defines structure of physical laws, clarifies meaning of inertia and allows us to recognize acceleration.
Not understood: how noninertial motion is resisted.

We remember that objects falling in material atmosphere are subject to friction. Difference to nonmaterial Einstein aether where we need acceleration

Virtual Pairs: The vacuum is a dielectric

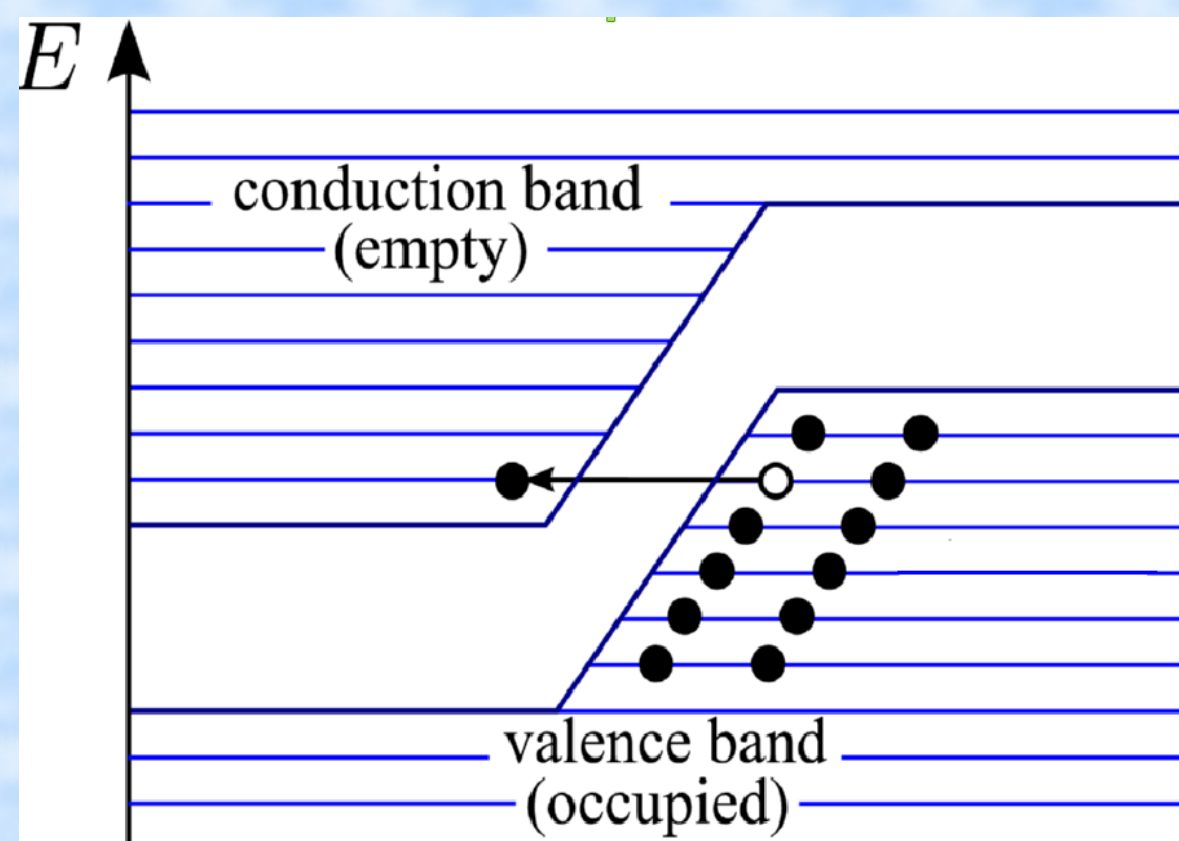


The vacuum is a dielectric medium: a charge is screened by particle-hole (pair) excitations. In Feynman language the real photon is decomposed into a bare photon and a photon turning into a “virtual” pair. **The result: renormalized electron charge smaller than bare, Coulomb interaction stronger (0.4% effect)**

This effect has been studied in depth in atomic physics, is of particular relevance for exotic atoms where a heavy charged particle replaces an electron.

Klein's non-paradox: Instability of force fields

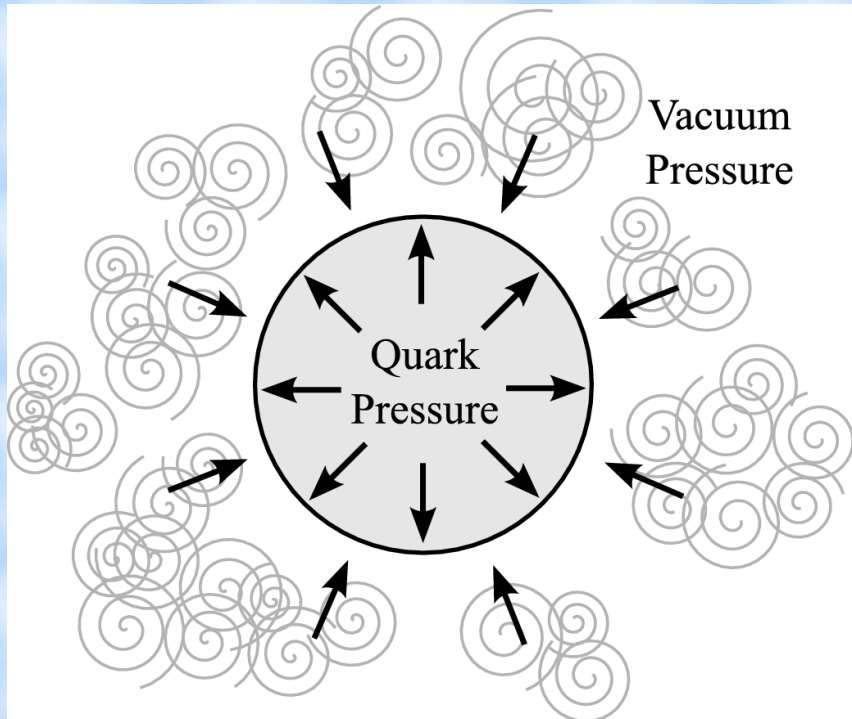
The Dirac equation uses energy, mass and momentum of special relativity $E^2 = p^2c^2 + m^2c^4$, taking root we find in quantum physics two energy (particle) bands



Relativistic Dirac quantum physics predicts antimatter and allows formation of pairs of particles and antiparticles.

The relativistic gap in energy reminiscent of insulators, where conductive band is above the valence (occupied) electron band

A “naive” vacuum structure model of quark confinement in hadrons



Quarks live inside a domain where the (perturbative) vacuum is without gluon fluctuations. This outside structure wants to enter, but is kept away by quarks trying to escape.

- The model assumes that the energy density $E/V=0$ of the true vacuum is lower than the inside of a hadron.

TODAY: Quantum Vacuum is the Origin of Forces and Nature of Mass, Stability of Matter

- “Elementary” masses are generated by the vacuum. Two dominant mechanisms:
- Higgs vacuum: $\langle H \rangle = 246 \text{ GeV}$; scale of mass for W, Z; contributes to matter particle mass, all of heavy quark mass
- QCD vacuum latent heat at the level of $\langle EV_p \rangle = 0.3 \text{ GeV} =$: nuclear mass scale, quarks get mass and are confined.

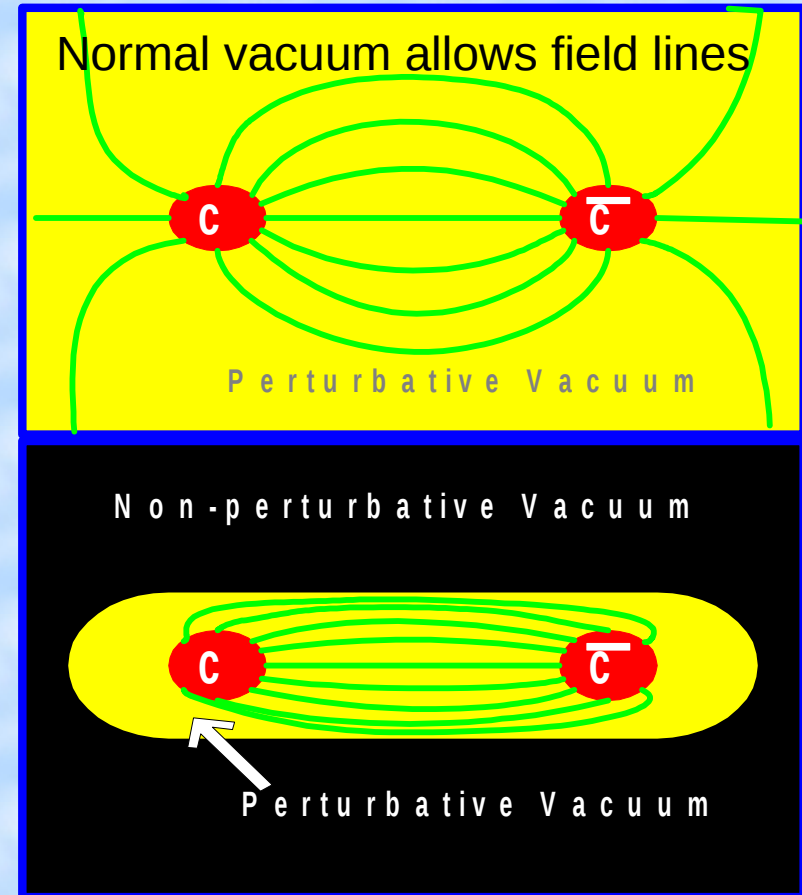
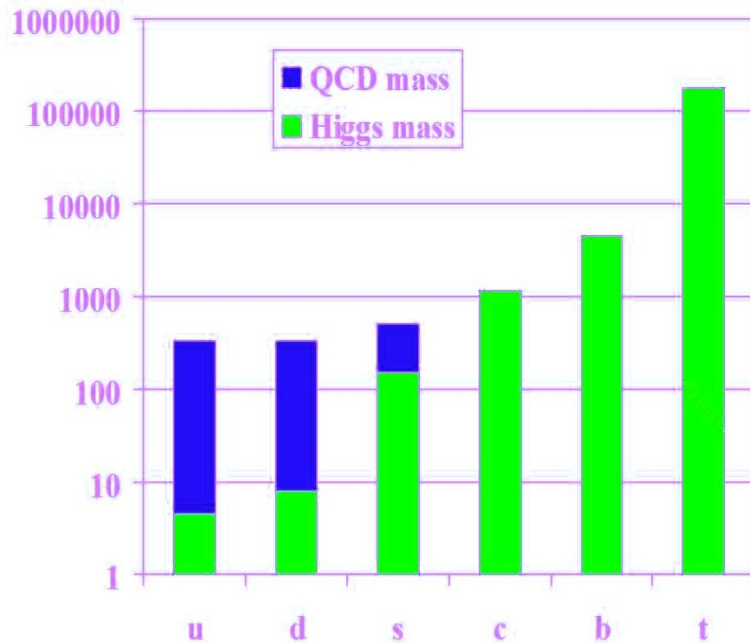
$$m_e c^2 = 0.511 \text{ MeV}$$

$$m_N c^2 = 0.940 \text{ GeV}$$

Units are G=giga, M=mega e=electron charge, V=Volt,

Quantum Chromo-Dynamics(QCD): Quark colour field lines confined

Most of the mass of visible matter is due to QCD -



Why we do not need to recognize acceleration as a key factor in particle dynamics?

The macroscopic and microscopic dynamics occurs in context of nano-acceleration. Too small to notice. NEXT – define scales.

Vacuum friction: when relevant?

Fix scales next, for

**Current experiments in the regime of
critical acceleration:**

- a) Relativistic nuclear (heavy ion) collision**
- b) Electron-laser pulse collisions**

Critical Fields=

Critical Acceleration

An electron in presence of the critical 'Schwinger' (Vacuum Instability) field strength of magnitude:

$$E_s = \frac{m_e^2 c^3}{e \hbar} = 1.323 \times 10^{18} \text{ V/m}$$

is subject to critical natural unit = 1 acceleration:

$$a_c = \frac{m_e c^3}{\hbar} \rightarrow 2.331 \times 10^{29} \text{ m/s}^2$$

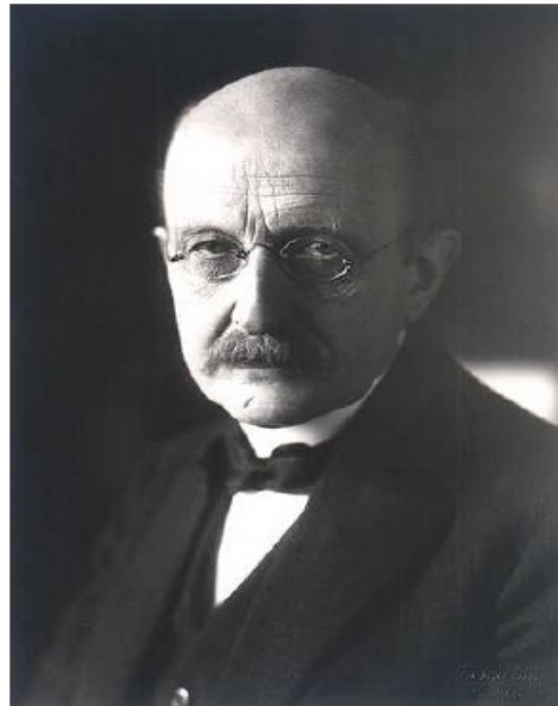
Truly dimensionless unit acceleration arises when we introduce specific acceleration

$$- \quad \aleph = \frac{a_c}{mc^2} = \frac{c}{\hbar}$$

Specific unit acceleration arises in Newton gravity at Planck length distance: $\aleph_G \equiv G/L_p^2 = c/\hbar$ at $L_p = \sqrt{\hbar G/c}$.

In the presence of sufficiently strong electric field E_s by virtue of the equivalence principle, electrons are subject to Planck 'critical' force.

Planck units



$$h/k_B = a = 0.4818 \cdot 10^{-10} [\text{sec} \times \text{Celsiusgrad}]$$

$$h = b = 6.885 \cdot 10^{-27} \left[\frac{\text{cm}^2 \text{gr}}{\text{sec}} \right]$$

$$c = c = 3.00 \cdot 10^{10} \left[\frac{\text{cm}}{\text{sec}} \right]$$

$$G = f = 6.685 \cdot 10^{-8} \left[\frac{\text{cm}^3}{\text{gr} \cdot \text{sec}^2} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Wählt man nun die »natürlichen Einheiten« so, dass in dem neuen Maasssystem jede der vorstehenden vier Constanten den Werth 1 annimmt, so erhält man als Einheit der Länge die Grösse:

$$\sqrt{2\pi} L_{\text{Pl}} = \sqrt{\frac{b f}{c^3}} = 4.13 \cdot 10^{-33} \text{ cm}, \mapsto \sqrt{2\pi} 1.62 \times 10^{-33} \text{ cm}$$

als Einheit der Masse:

$$\sqrt{2\pi} M_{\text{Pl}} = \sqrt{\frac{b c}{f}} = 5.56 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ gr}, \mapsto \sqrt{2\pi} 2.18 \times 10^{-5} \text{ g}$$

als Einheit der Zeit:

$$\sqrt{2\pi} t_{\text{Pl}} = \sqrt{\frac{b f}{c^3}} = 1.38 \cdot 10^{-43} \text{ sec}, \mapsto \sqrt{2\pi} 5.40 \times 10^{-44} \text{ s}$$

als Einheit der Temperatur:

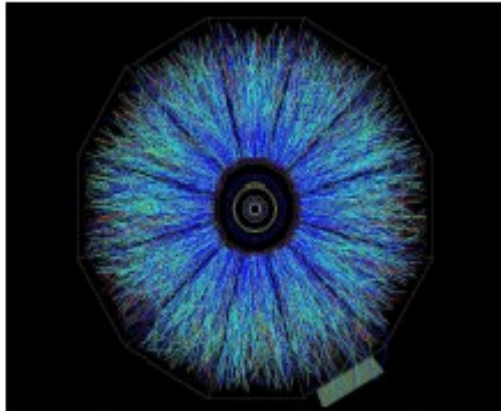
$$\sqrt{2\pi} T_{\text{Pl}} = a \sqrt{\frac{c^3}{b f}} = 3.50 \cdot 10^{32} \text{ Cels.} \mapsto \sqrt{2\pi} 1.42 \times 10^{32} \text{ K}$$

* Diese Grössen behalten ihre natürliche Bedeutung so lange bei, als die Gesetze der Gravitation, der Lichtfortpflanzung im Vacuum und die beiden Hauptsätze der Wärmetheorie in Gültigkeit bleiben, sie müssen also, von den verschiedensten Intelligenzen nach den verschiedensten Methoden gemessen, sich immer wieder als die nämlichen ergeben.

"These scales retain their natural meaning as long as the law of gravitation, the velocity of light in vacuum and the central equations of thermodynamics remain valid, and therefore they must always arise, among different intelligences employing different means of measuring."

M. Planck, "Über irreversible Strahlungsvorgänge." Sitzungsberichte der Königlich Preussischen Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin 5, 440-480 (1899), (last page)

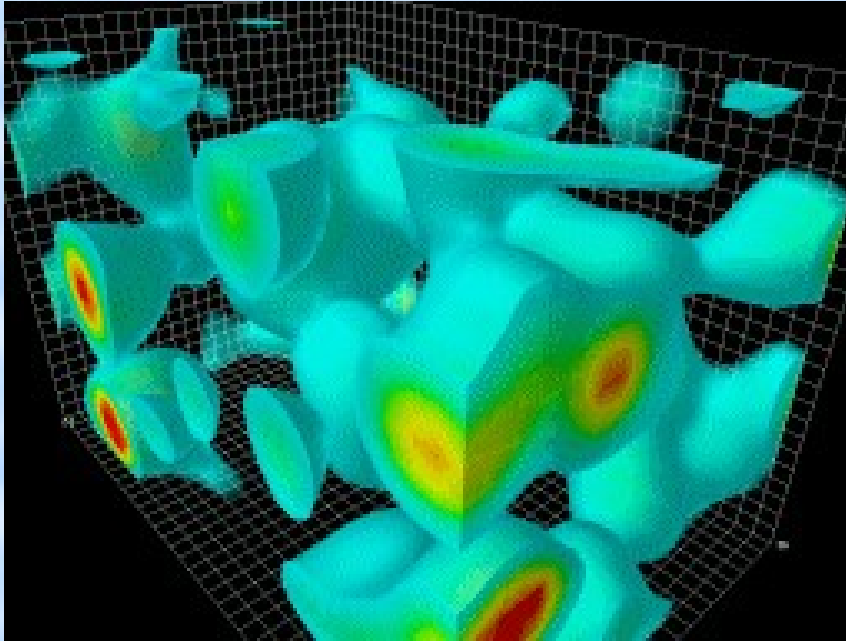
Critical acceleration probably achieved at RHIC



Two nuclei smashed into each other from two sides: components 'partons' can be stopped in CM frame within $\Delta\tau \simeq 1$ fm/c. Tracks show multitude of particles produced, as observed at RHIC (BNL).

- The acceleration a achieved to stop some/any of the components of the colliding nuclei in CM: $a \simeq \frac{\Delta y}{M_i \Delta\tau}$. Full stopping: $\Delta y_{\text{SPS}} = 2.9$, and $\Delta y_{\text{RHIC}} = 5.4$. Considering constituent quark masses $M_i \simeq M_N/3 \simeq 310$ MeV we need $\Delta\tau_{\text{SPS}} < 1.8$ fm/c and $\Delta\tau_{\text{RHIC}} < 3.4$ fm/c to exceed a_c .
- Observed unexplained soft electromagnetic radiation in hadron reactions *A. Belognni et al. [WA91 Collaboration], "Confirmation of a soft photon signal in excess of QED expectations in π -p interactions at 280-GeV/c," Phys. Lett. B **408**, 487 (1997)*

Color confinement due to gluon fluctuations

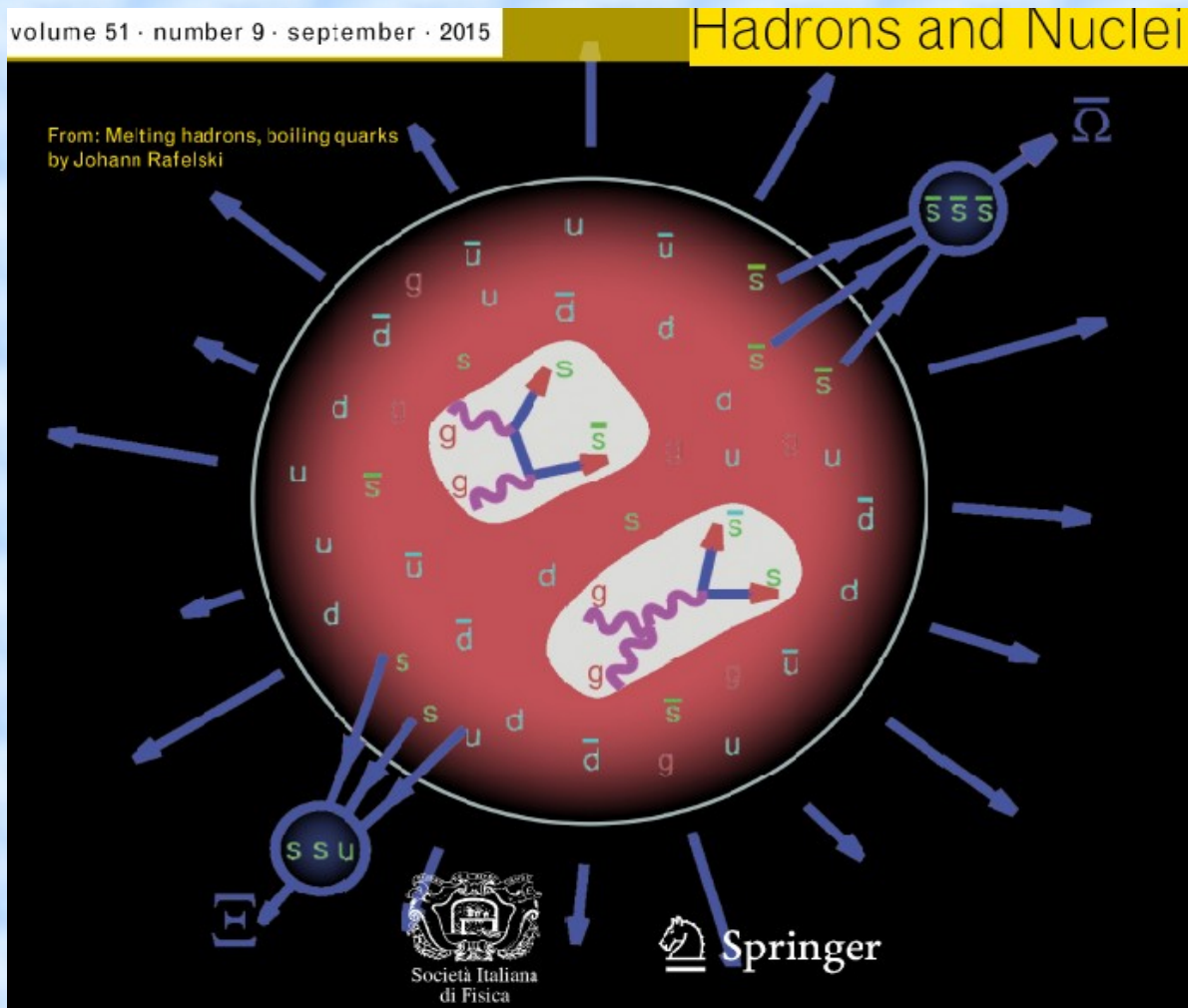


- QCD induces chromo-electric and chromo-magnetic fields throughout space-time – the vacuum is in its lowest energy state, yet it is strongly structured. Fields must vanish exactly everywhere $\langle \mathbf{H} \rangle = 0$
- This is an actual computation of the four-d (time +3-dimensions) structure of the gluon-field configuration. The volume of the box is 2.4 by 2.4 by 3.6 fm, big enough to hold a couple of protons.
- Derek B. Leinweber's group (U Adelaide)

Numerical Method used: **Square of fields does not average out: “condensates”**
lattice in space time

$$\langle \bar{q}q \rangle = (235 \text{ MeV})^3, \left\langle \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} G_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu} \right\rangle = (335 \text{ MeV})^4$$

Addvert of anothre talk: Strangeness Signature of QGP

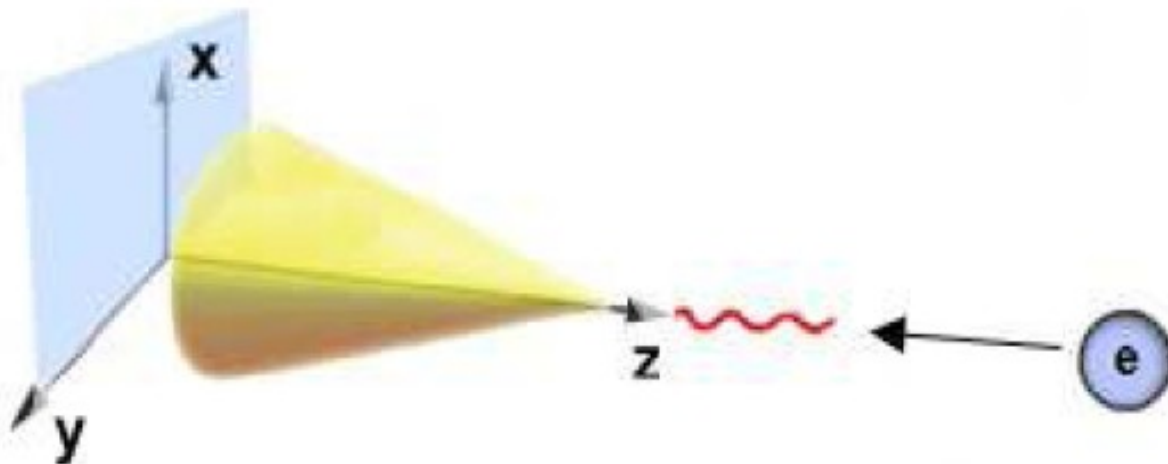


Probing super-critical (Planck) acceleration

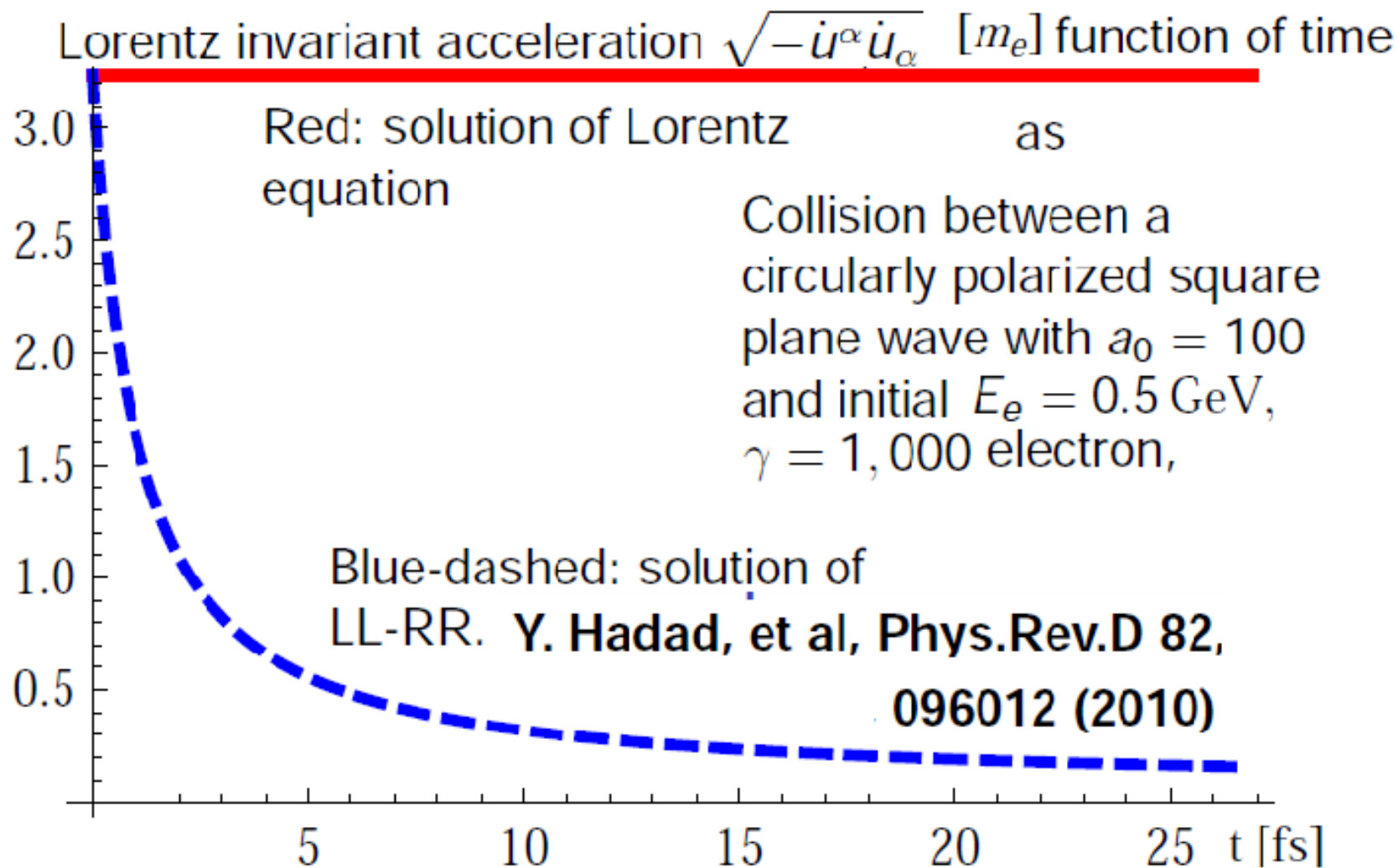
$$a_c = 1 (\rightarrow m_e c^3 / \hbar = 2.331 \times 10^{29} \text{ m/s}^2)$$

Plan A: Directly laser accelerate electrons from rest, requires Schwinger scale field and may not be realizable – backreaction and far beyond today's laser pulse intensity technology.

Plan B: Ultra-relativistic Lorentz-boost: we collide counter-propagating electron and laser pulse.



Example: Electron de-acceleration by a pulse

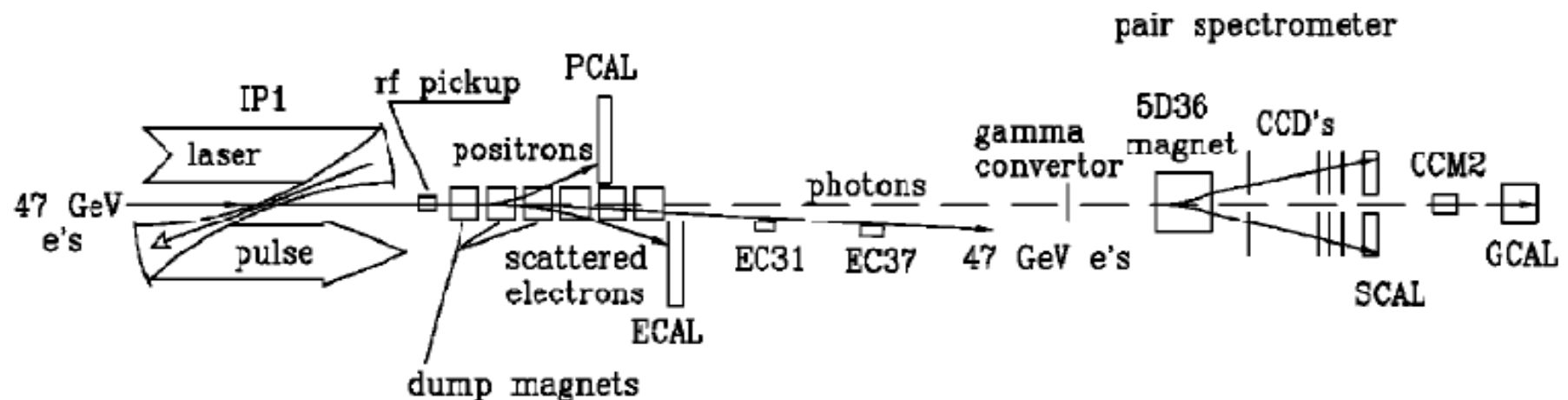


SLAC'95 experiment below critical acceleration

$$p_e^0 = 46.6 \text{ GeV}; \text{ in } 1996/7 \ a_0 = 0.4, \quad \left| \frac{du^\alpha}{d\tau} \right| = .073[m_e] \text{ (Peak)}$$

Multi-photon processes observed:

- Nonlinear Compton scattering
- Breit-Wheeler electron-positron pairs

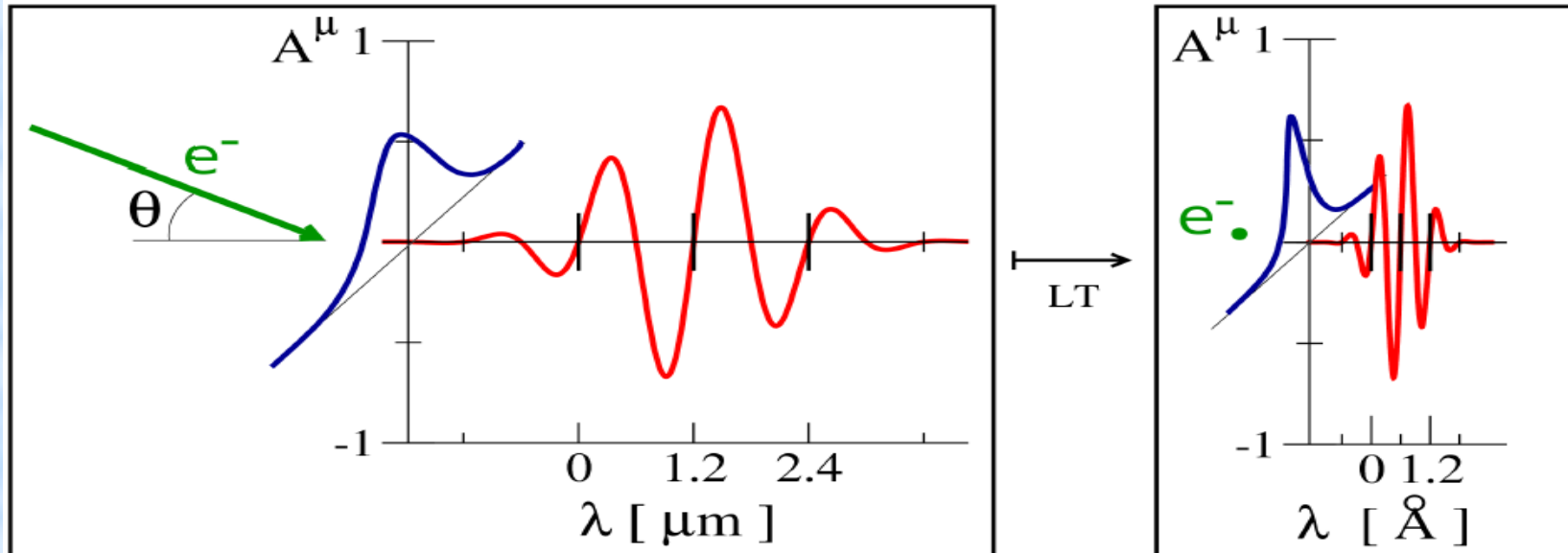


- **D. L. Burke** *et al.*, "Positron production in multiphoton light-by-light scattering," *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **79**, 1626 (1997)
- **C. Bamber** *et al.*, "Studies of nonlinear QED in collisions of 46.6 GeV electrons with intense laser pulses" *Phys. Rev. D* **60**, 092004 (1999).

Puls Lorentz Transform (LT)

Relativistic electron-laser pulse collision

$u^\beta = \gamma(1, \vec{v}) \rightarrow$ In electron's rest frame: $u'_\beta = (1, \vec{0})$



Doppler shift: $\omega' = \gamma(1 + \vec{n} \cdot \vec{v})\omega$

Unit acceleration condition: $a_0 \frac{\omega'}{m_e} \simeq 2\gamma a_0 \frac{\omega}{m_e} \rightarrow 1$

What signals our present theory of essentially “inertial motion” wanting?

The inertial motion defines mass.
Accelerated motion requires introduction of

“Holy Grail: Lorentz Force”

Incomplete in two independent ways:

a)Magnetic Dipole Force

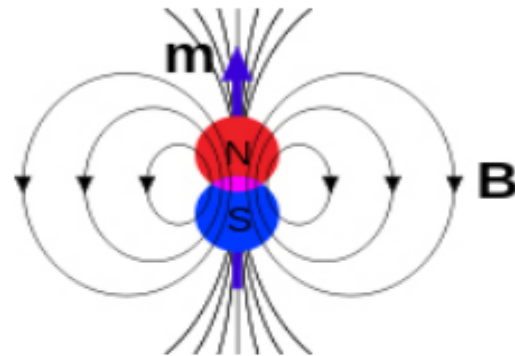
b)Radiation Reaction Force

***Both hard to accommodate by action principle:
Evidence that new theoretical ideas will be needed***

Magnetic Force

EPJ C Highlight - Relativity Matters: Two opposing views of the magnetic force reconciled

Published on Friday, 26 January 2018 17:10



How magnetic force acts on charged subatomic particles near the speed of light

Current textbooks often refer to the Lorentz-Maxwell force governed by the electric charge. But they rarely refer to the extension of that theory required to explain the magnetic force on a point particle. For elementary particles, such as muons or neutrinos, the magnetic force applied to such charges is unique and immutable. However, unlike the electric charge, the magnetic force strength is not quantised. For the magnetic force to act on them, the magnetic field has to be inhomogeneous. Hence this force is more difficult to understand in the context of particles whose speed is near the speed of light. Moreover, our understanding of how a point-particle carrying a charge moves in presence of an inhomogeneous magnetic field relied until now on two theories that were believed to differ. The first stems from William Gilbert's study of elementary magnetism in 16th century, while the second relies on André-Marie Ampère electric currents. In a new study just published in *EPJ C*, ...

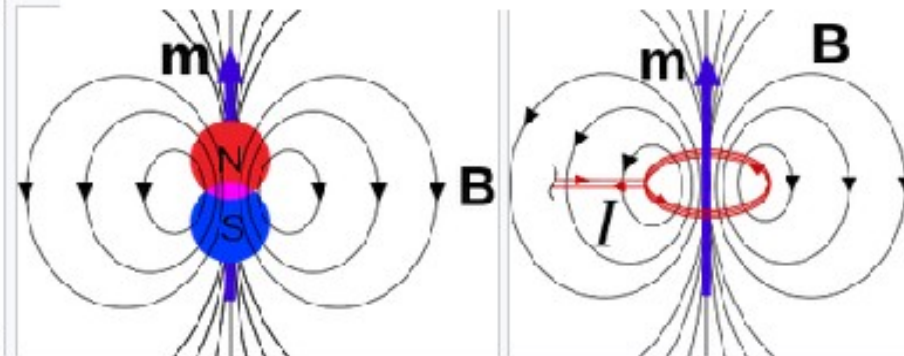
Relativistic dynamics of point magnetic moment

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Abstract The covariant motion of a classical point particle with magnetic moment in the presence of (external) electromagnetic fields is revisited. We are interested in understanding extensions to the Lorentz force involving point particle magnetic moment (Stern–Gerlach force) and how the spin precession dynamics is modified for consistency. We introduce spin as a classical particle property inherent to Poincaré symmetry of space-time. We propose a covariant formulation of the magnetic force based on a ‘magnetic’ 4-potential and show how the point particle magnetic moment



Dipole moment $\mathbf{m}$

Electric current I

The **magnetic field** and **magnetic moment**, due to natural magnetic dipoles (left), or an **electric current** (right). Either generates the same field profile.

1. The magnetic moment μ has an interaction energy with a magnetic field $\mathbf{B}$

$$E_m = -\mu \cdot \mathbf{B}. \quad (1)$$

The corresponding Stern–Gerlach force $\mathcal{F}_{SG}$ has been written in two formats

$$\mathcal{F}_{SG} \equiv \begin{cases} \nabla(\mu \cdot \mathbf{B}), & \text{Amperian Model,} \\ (\mu \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B}, & \text{Gilbertian Model.} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Relativistic 'magnetic potential'

Since $E_{\text{mag}} = -\boldsymbol{\mu} \cdot \boldsymbol{\mathcal{B}} \equiv U_{\text{mag}}^0$ In the rest frame of the particle

Need magnetic 'charge' d

$$U_{\text{mag}}^0 = B^0 c d = -\boldsymbol{\mu} \cdot \boldsymbol{\mathcal{B}}, \quad s \, dc = \boldsymbol{\mu}$$

We look at a magnetic 4-potential B^μ akin to e-4-potential A^μ

$$B_\mu \equiv F_{\mu\nu}^* s^\nu, \quad F_{\mu\nu}^* \equiv \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta}, \quad F^{\mu\nu} \equiv \partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu$$

since s_μ is axial, B^μ is a polar 4-vector.

B^μ generates additional magnetic force

$$m \frac{du^\mu}{d\tau} \equiv F_{\text{ASG}}^\mu = (e F^{\mu\nu} + G^{\mu\nu} d) u_\nu, \quad G^{\mu\nu} \equiv \partial^\mu B^\nu - \partial^\nu B^\mu.$$

Equivalence of point particle magnetic moment forces

Based on this we can write two equivalent generalizations of the Lorentz force

ASG, GSG: two ways to write one and the same thing

$$F^\mu = F_{\text{ASG}}^\mu = eF^{\mu\nu}u_\nu - u \cdot \partial F^{\star\mu\nu}s_\nu d + \partial^\mu(u \cdot F^\star \cdot s d)$$

$$F^\mu = F_{\text{GSG}}^\mu = (eF^{\mu\nu} - s \cdot \partial F^{\star\mu\nu} d) u_\nu - \mu_0 j^\gamma \epsilon_{\gamma\alpha\beta\nu} u^\alpha s^\beta g^{\nu\mu} d$$

$\nabla(\boldsymbol{\mu} \cdot \boldsymbol{\mathcal{B}}) - (\boldsymbol{\mu} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{\mathcal{B}} = \boldsymbol{\mu} \times (\nabla \times \boldsymbol{\mathcal{B}})$ with this we obtain

In rest frame

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= [\boldsymbol{F}_{\text{ASG}} - \boldsymbol{F}_{\text{GSG}}]_{\text{RF}} \\ &= \boldsymbol{\mu} \times \left(-\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{E}}{\partial t} + \nabla \times \boldsymbol{B} - \mu_0 \boldsymbol{j} \right) = 0 . \end{aligned}$$

We recognize Maxwell equation in parenthesis

How the modified force generates new spin dynamics (torque)

J. S. Schwinger, "*Spin precession: A dynamical discussion*", *AJ Phys* **42** (1974) 510
Schwinger shows how the TMBT spin dynamics relates to EM force:
given $u \cdot s = 0$ he takes proper time τ derivative $\dot{u} \cdot s + u \cdot \dot{s} = 0$ and
substituting force for $\dot{u}$ for the case of Lorentz dynamics he argues:

$$u_\mu \left(\frac{ds^\mu}{d\tau} - \frac{e}{m} F^{\mu\nu} s_\nu \right) = 0 .$$

The general solution satisfying this equation is

$$\frac{ds^\mu}{d\tau} = \frac{e}{m} F^{\mu\nu} s_\nu + \frac{\tilde{a}e}{m} \left(F^{\mu\nu} s_\nu - \frac{u^\mu}{c^2} (u \cdot F \cdot s) \right)$$

We repeat the same for our generalized Lorentz force: each
component $F^{\mu\nu}$ and $G^{\mu\nu}$ induces two independent integration
constants ($\tilde{a}$ and $\tilde{b}$ below)

Radiation Reaction and Vacuum Friction

Strong Field Unsolved Problem Radiation-Acceleration-Reaction

Conventional Lorentz-Electromagnetic force is **incomplete**: accelerated charged particles can radiate: “radiation friction” instability – some acceleration produces friction slowdown, produces more slowdown etc. Need acceleration that is not negligible to explore the physics of radiation friction. Problem known for 115 years.

Microscopic justification in current theory (LAD)

- 1) **Inertial Force = Lorentz-force with friction** - > get world line of particles=source of fields
- 2) **Source of Fields = Maxwell fields** - > get fields, and **omit** radiated fields
- 3) **Fields fix Lorentz force with friction** -> **go to 1.**

So long as the radiated fields are small, we can modify the Lorentz Force to account for radiated field back reaction. The “Lorentz-Abraham-Dirac (LAD)” patch is fundamentally inconsistent, and does not follow from an action principle. Many other patches exist, some modifying inertia, others field part of Lorentz force - it introduces a nonlinear and partially nonlocal Lorentz-type force. **No action principle is known**

Radiation-Acceleration Vacuum Friction

Conventional SR+Electromagnetic theory is **incomplete**: radiation emitted needs to be incorporated as a back-reaction “patch”:

- 1) **Inertial Force = Lorentz-force**-->get world line of particles=source of fields
- 2) **Source of Fields = Maxwell fields** --> get fields, and **omit** radiated fields
- 3) **Fields fix Lorentz force** --> go to 1.

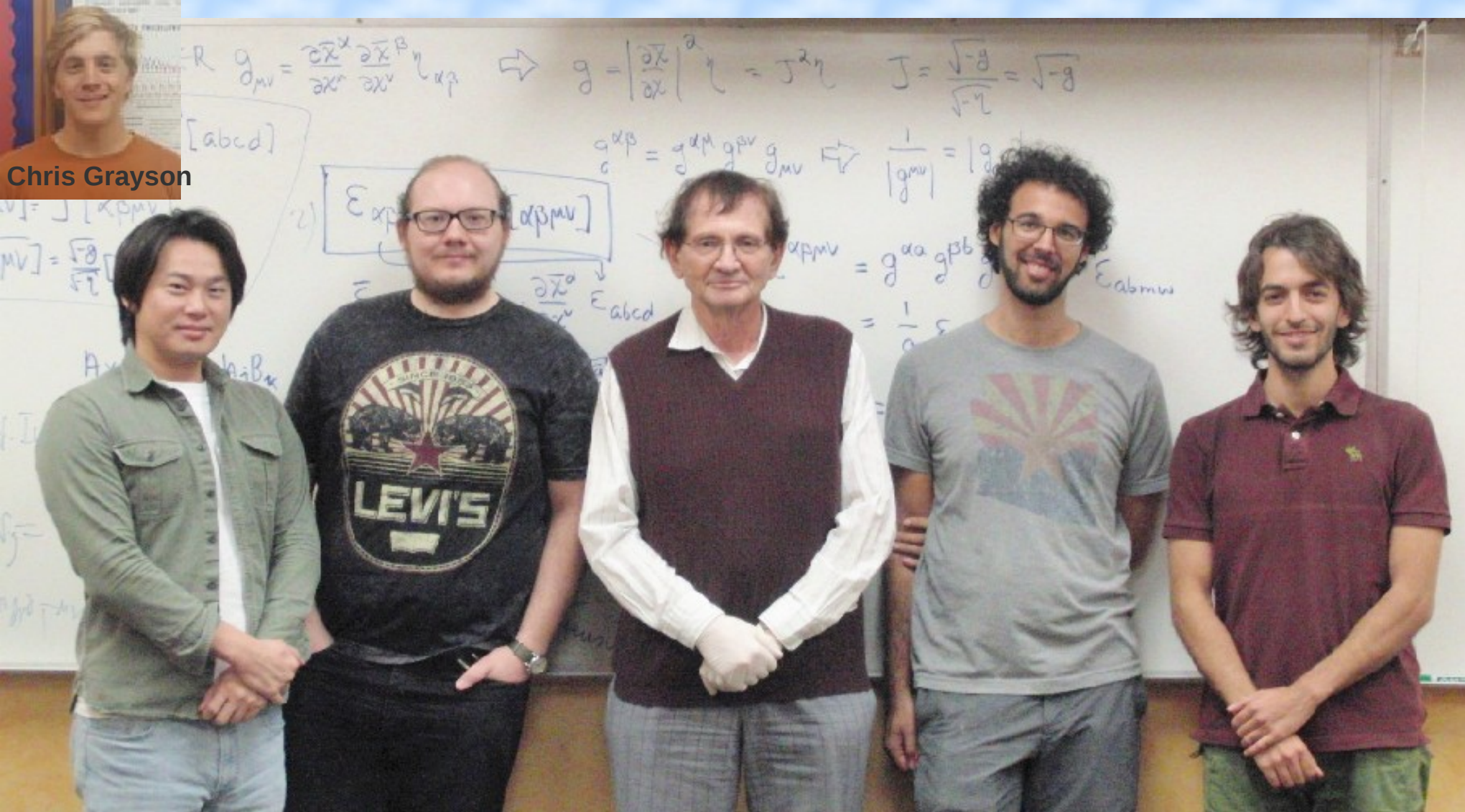
So long as radiated fields are small, we can modify the Lorentz Force to account for radiated field back reaction approximately

458	29 Afterword: Acceleration
Table 29.1 Models of radiation reaction extensions of the Lorentz force	
Maxwell-Lorentz	$m\dot{u}^\mu = eF^{\mu\nu}u_\nu$
LAD ³³	$m\dot{u}^\mu = eF^{\mu\nu}u_\nu + m\tau_0 \left[g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{u^\mu u^\nu}{c^2} \right] \ddot{u}_\nu, \quad \tau_0 = \frac{2}{3} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 mc^3}$
Landau-Lifshitz ³⁵	$m\dot{u}^\mu = eF^{\mu\nu}u_\nu + e\tau_0 \left\{ u^\gamma \partial_\gamma F^{\mu\delta} u_\delta + \frac{e}{m} \left(g^{\mu\gamma} - \frac{u^\mu u^\gamma}{c^2} \right) F_{\gamma\beta} F_\delta^\beta u^\delta \right\}$
Caldirola ³⁶	$0 = eF^{\mu\nu}(\tau)u_\nu(\tau) - m \left[g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{u^\mu(\tau)u^\nu(\tau)}{c^2} \right] \frac{u_\nu(\tau) - u_\nu(\tau - 2\tau_0)}{2\tau_0}$

Concluding Comments



Chris Grayson



Cheng Tao Young, Andrew Steinmetz, Jan R, Martin Formanek, Stefan Evans

To resolve inconsistencies: we need to formulate a NEW “large acceleration” theory of electro-magnetism, comprising Mach’s principle, and challenging understanding of inertia.

THEORY Question: How to achieve that charged particles when accelerated radiate in self-consistent field – and we need EM theory with Mach principle accounted for (gravity, quantum physics=zero acceleration theories)!

EXPERIMENT: strong acceleration required. What is strong: unit acceleration=Heisenberg-Schwinger Field

Is there a limit to how fast we can accelerate electrons to ultra high energy? Example of early Model: Born-Infeld electromagnetism/

Can the empty space remain transparent to a plane wave of arbitrary intensity? And why? **Perfect translational symmetry required.**

Relativity Matters: From Einstein's EMC2 to Laser Particle Acceleration and Quark-Gluon Plasma

By Johann Rafelski

Springer

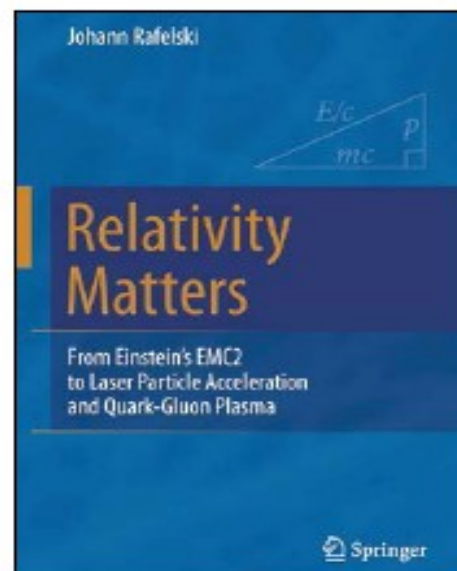
Also available at the CERN bookshop

This monograph on special relativity (SR) is presented in a form accessible to a broad readership, from pre-university level to undergraduate and graduate students. At the same time, it will also be of great interest to professional physicists.

Relativity Matters has all the hallmarks of becoming a classic with further editions, and appears to have no counterpart in the literature. It is particularly useful because at present SR has become a basic part not only of particle and space physics, but also of many other branches of physics and technology, such as lasers. The book has 29 chapters organised in 11 parts, which cover topics from the basics of four-vectors, space-time, Lorentz transformations, mass, energy and momentum, to particle collisions and decay, the motion of charged particles, covariance and dynamics.

An interesting afterword concluding the book discusses how very strong acceleration becomes a modern limiting frontier, beyond which SR in classical physics becomes invalid. The magnitude of the critical accelerations and critical electric and magnetic fields are qualitatively discussed. It also briefly analyses attempts by well-known physicists to side-step the problems that arise as a consequence.

Bookshelf

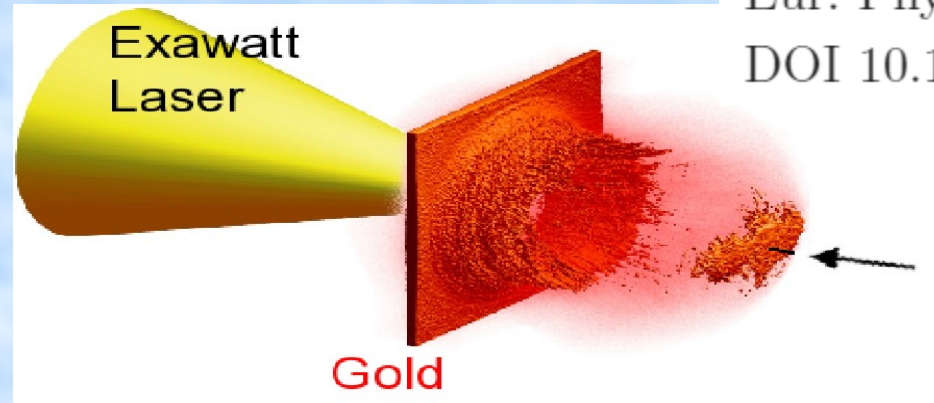


Relativity Matters is excellent as an undergraduate and graduate textbook, and should be a useful reference for professional physicists and technical engineers. The many non-specialist sections will also be enjoyed by the general, science-interested public.

• Toralf Ericson, CERN

All of SR tested but body contraction

Idea: use reflection from relativistic electron mirror



Eur. Phys. J. A (2018) 54: 29
DOI 10.1140/epja/i2018-12370-4

The moving electron cloud mirror is body compressed.

Johann Rafelski: Measurement of the Lorentz-FitzGerald Body Contraction

Body contraction experiment. — To accomplish our goal to build a laboratory-sized experiment we consider an ultra-intense ultra-short laser pulse shot at a thin (micron) foil. Such a pulse in its focal point can act as a micron-sized hammer pushing out of the foil an electron cloud accelerated to ultrarelativistic motion with a high value of Lorentz-factor γ_e . The emerging electron cloud compared to the original foil thickness will be Lorentz-FitzGerald compressed by γ_e .

A moving electron cloud acts as a relativistic mirror for a low intensity laser light bounce. The capability of the ultrarelativistic mirror to function depends on the electron cloud density; laser light can scatter coherently from a sufficiently high density cloud – what is low and high density is determined by comparing mean electron separation to the light wavelength.

two Lorentz transforms, first into the rest-frame of the mirror and upon reversal of the propagation direction of the light motion, transform back to the laboratory frame.

[arXiv.org > physics > arXiv:1708.05670](https://arxiv.org/abs/1708.05670) EPJA, dedicated to memory of Walter Greiner

EXTRA SLIDES

High-Energy Beam Facility, responsible for development and application of ultra-short pulses of high-energy particles and radiation stemming from relativistic and later ultrarelativistic interaction



(Special) Relativity evolves

Book 2017

link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-3-319-51231-0

Relativity Matters

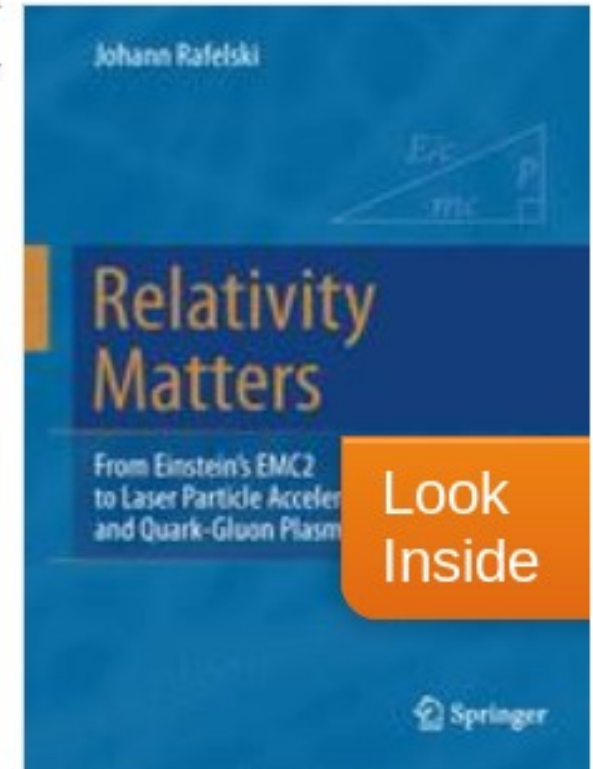
From Einstein's EMC2 to Laser Particle Acceleration and Quark-Gluon Plasma

Authors: Johann Rafelski

ISBN: 978-3-319-51230-3 (Print) 978-3-319-51231-0
(Online)



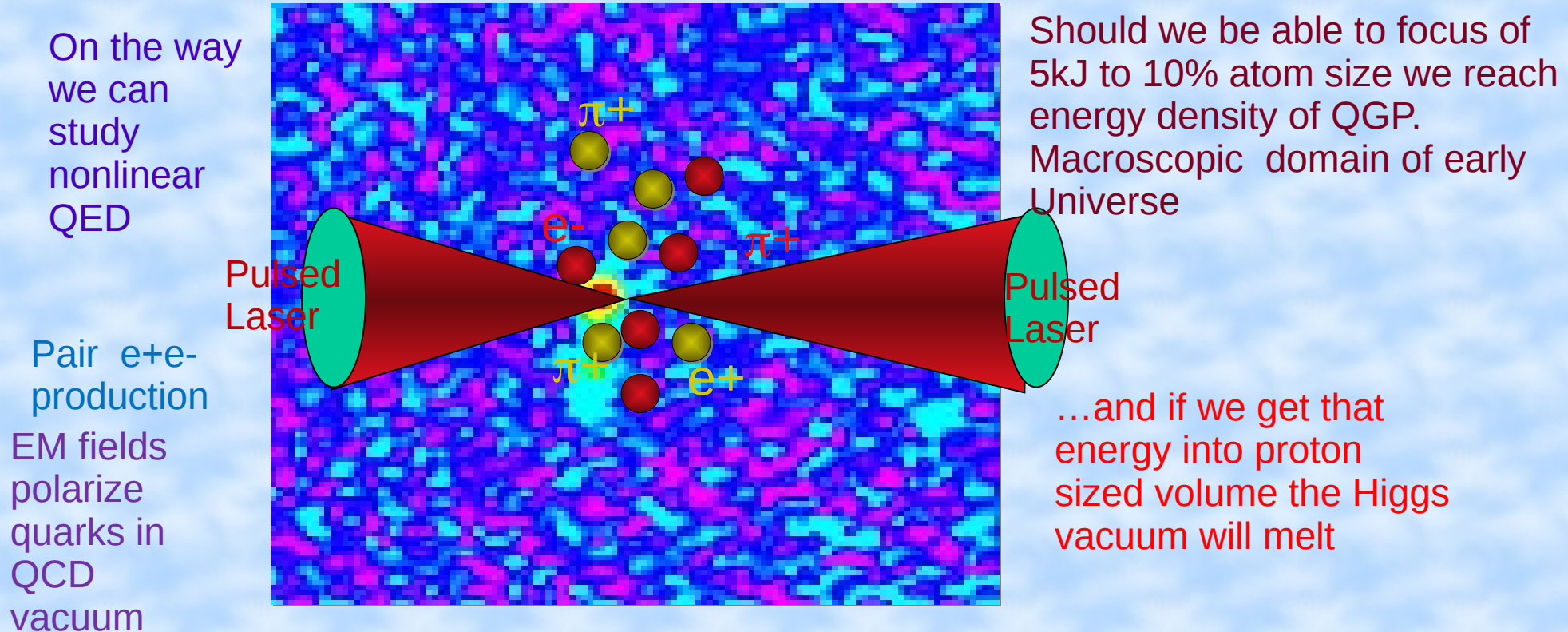
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Springer Physics**

A new path to probing space time

The new idea is to collide kJ pulses with themselves or with particles, with light intense enough to crack the vacuum





W Heisenberg

Pair production in constant fields

The sparking of the QED dielectric
O. Klein, Sauter, Euler



J Schwinger

Effect large for Field
 $E_s = 1.3 \cdot 10^{16} \text{ V/cm}$

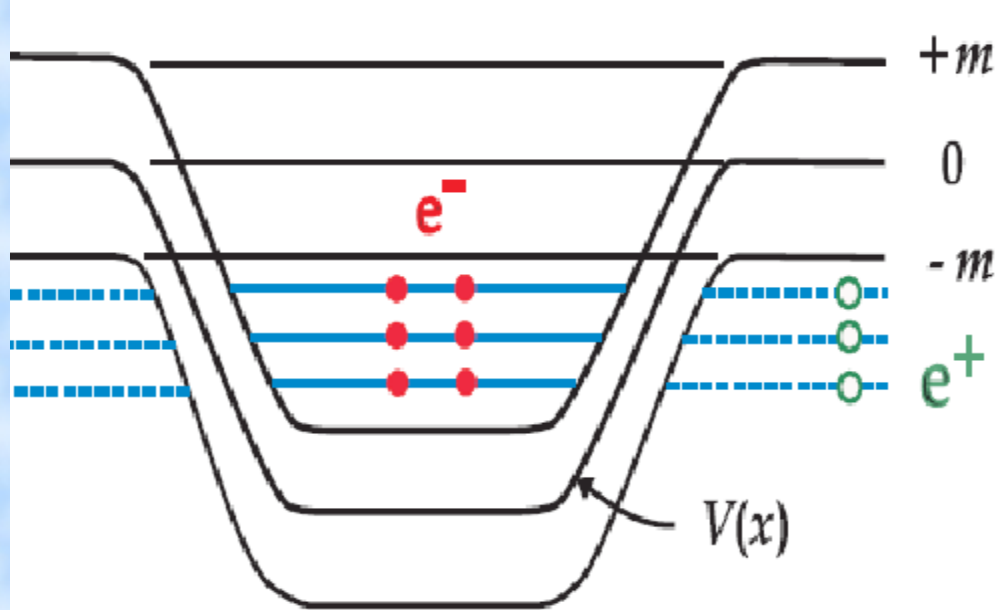
$$E_s = \frac{2m_0 c^2}{eD_c} \quad \text{with} \quad D_c = \frac{h}{m_0 c^2}$$

Tomorrow: In laser focus this corresponds to $I_s = 2.3 \cdot 10^{29} \text{ W/cm}^2$

Probability of vacuum pair production can be evaluated in WKB description of barrier tunneling: All E-fields are unstable and can decay to particles – footnoted by Heisenberg around 1935, added into Schwinger's article as a visibly after finish-point.

A new structured stable local vacuum state

New Stable Ground State: The Charged Vacuum

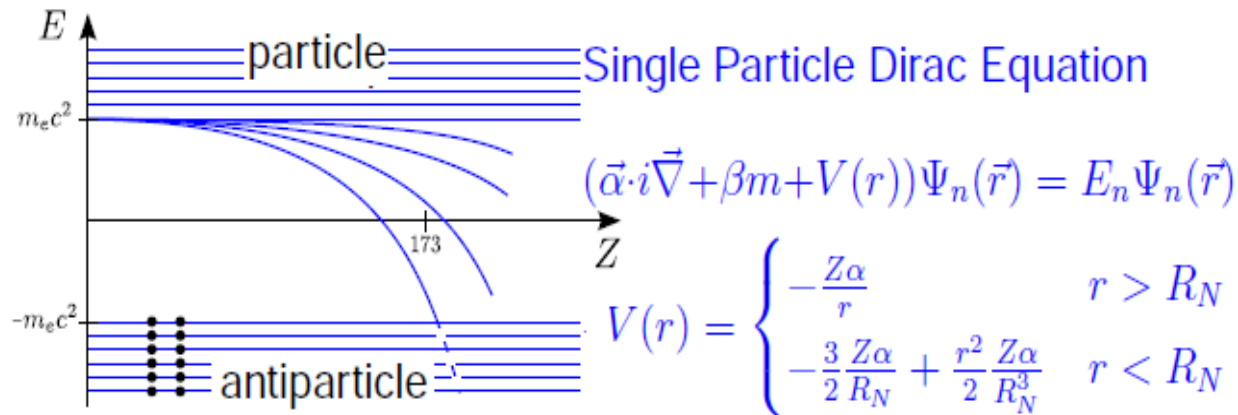


There is localized charge density in the vacuum, not a particle of sharp energy. Formation of the charged vacuum ground state observable by positron emission: which fills any vacancies among 'dived' states in the localized domain.

Speed of decay of false vacuum controlled by (Heisenberg-Schwinger) field strength.

Seeking tests: positrons from (quasi-)superheavy elements 1971-91

(quasi)Atoms beyond $Z \simeq 100$

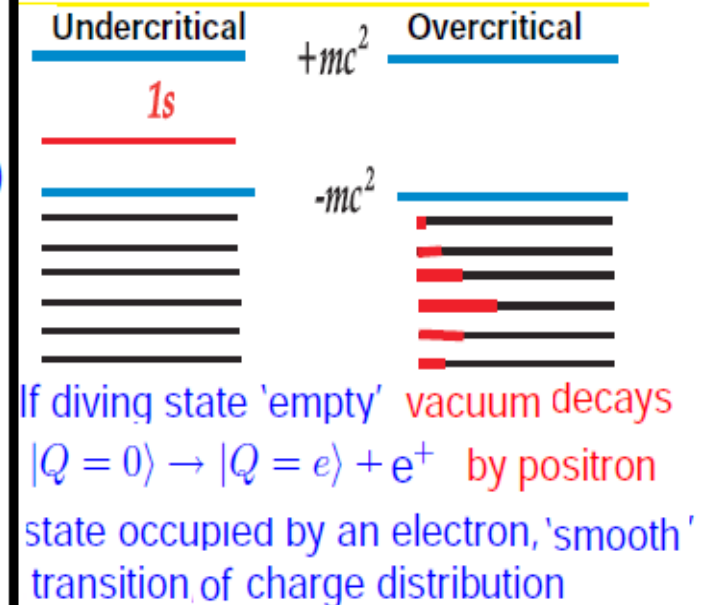


Supercritical fields

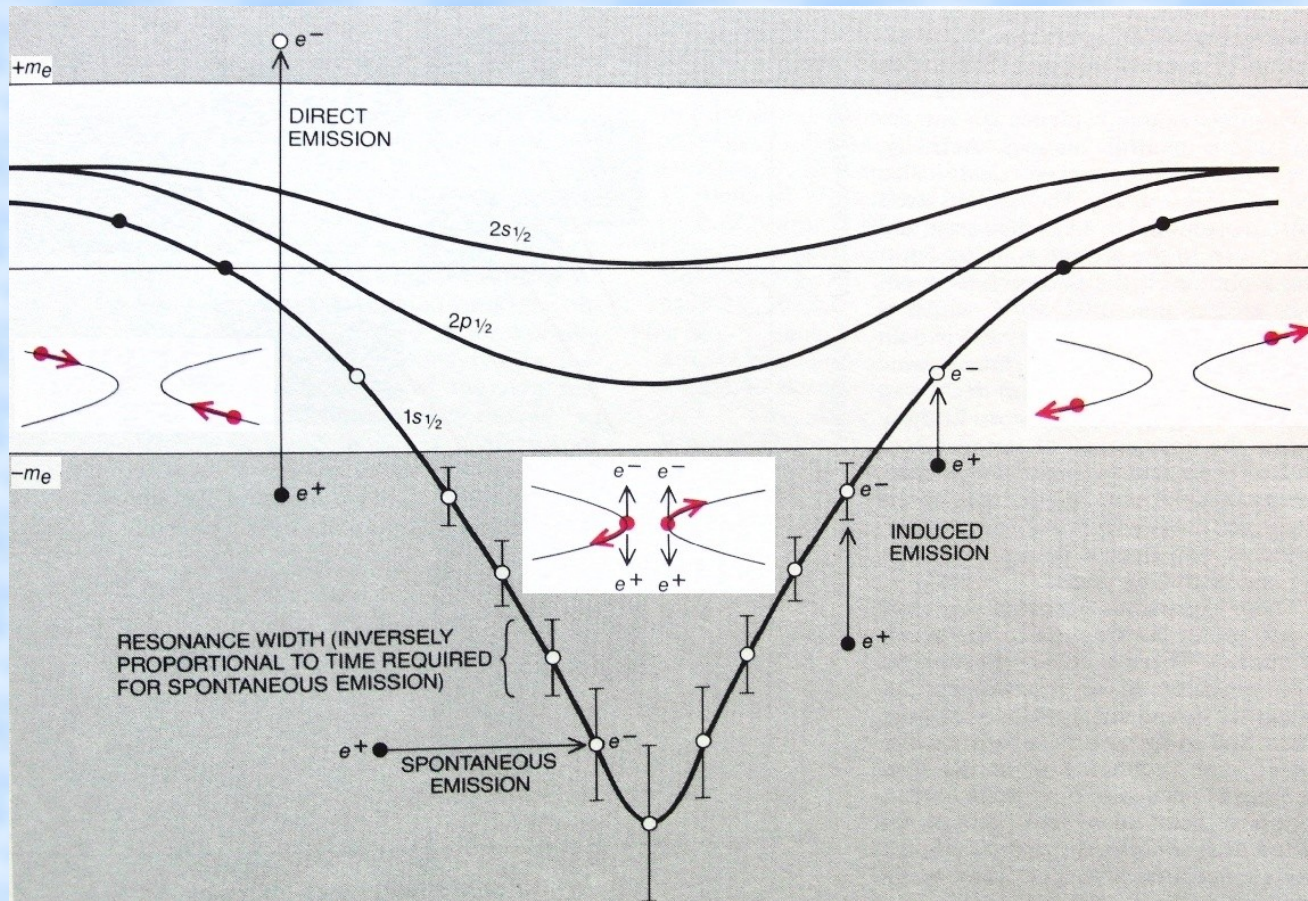
The bound states drawn from one continuum move as function of Z across into the other continuum. Mix-up of particle/antiparticle states

Reference: W. Greiner, B. Müller and JR ISBN 3-540-13404-2.
"Quantum Electrodynamics of Strong Fields,"
(Springer Texts and Monographs in Physics, 1985),

Decay of the Vacuum



Experimental Realization: Heavy Ion collision

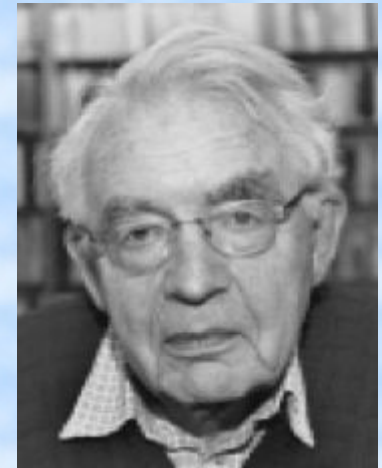
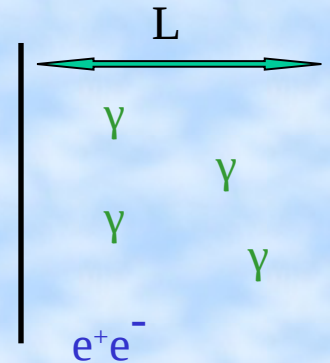


Matter Influences quantum Vacuum

Photons fluctuations altered by matter, Casimir effect can be measured:

Attractive force between two adjacent metal plates
(Casimir force, 1948)

$$F = \frac{\pi^2}{240} \frac{\hbar c}{L^4} A$$



Hendrik B.G. Casimir

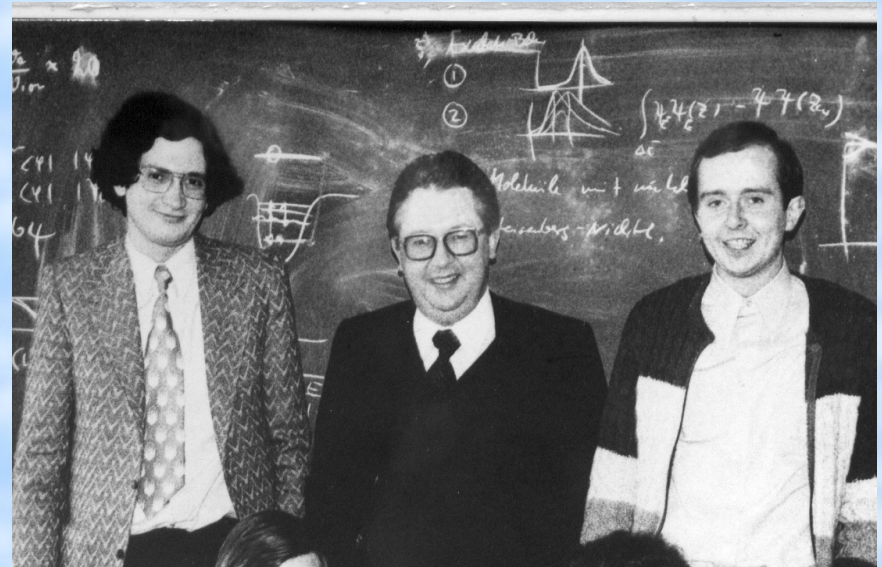
More fluctuations outside the plates compared to the space between: outside pressure, plates attract

NOTE: Each 'elementary' particle, each interaction adds a new element to vacuum structure.

50 years of “vacuum” physics

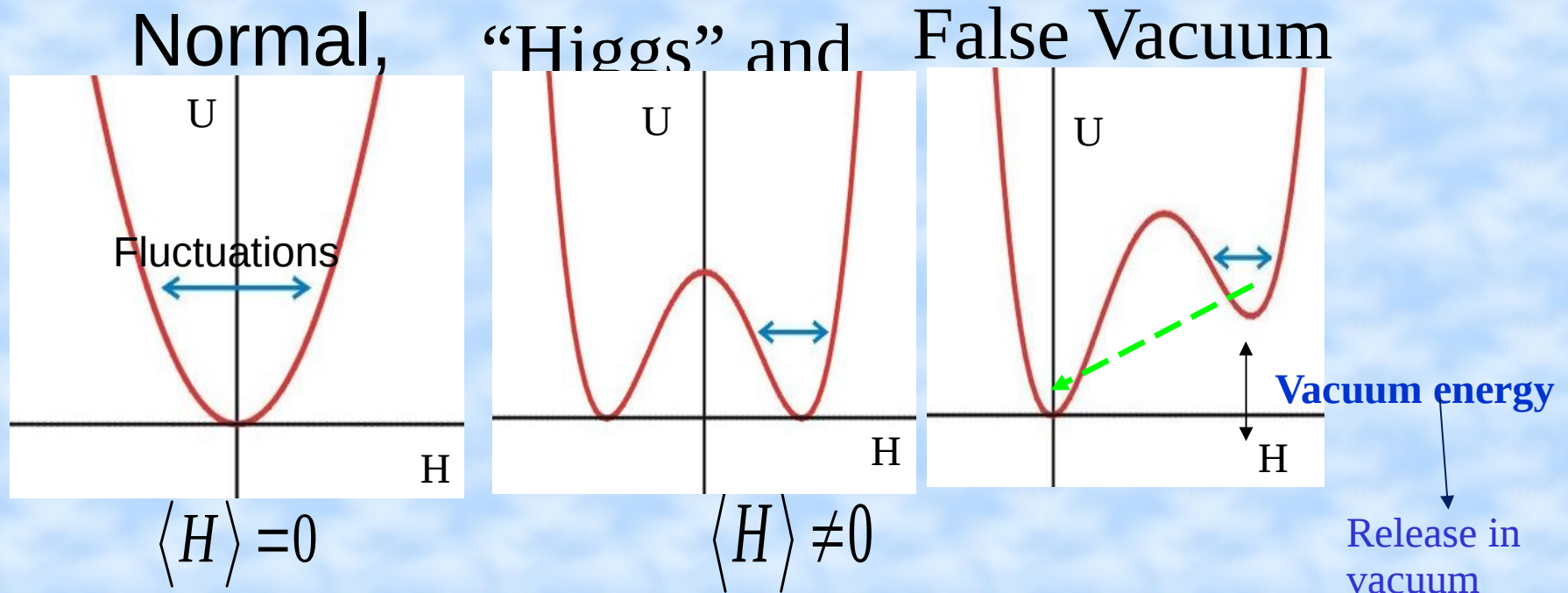
- Since 1969

Work on vacuum structure was carried out over many years and in particular my thesis advisor **Prof. Walter Greiner** of Frankfurt University and my first peer collaborator **Prof. Berndt Mueller** of Duke University (*now at BNL managing particle and nuclear programs*) influenced my development and my current thinking.



1970: JR, Walter Greiner, Berndt Muller

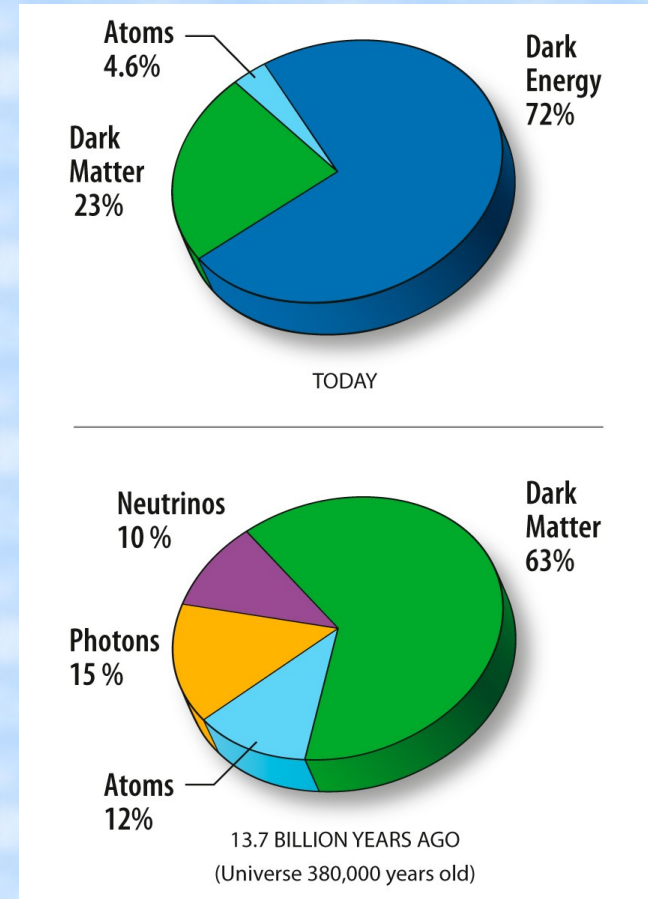
The Higgs vacuum and symmetry breaking



Higgs field in the vacuum makes weak interactions weak and 2nd and 3rd particle generation heavy

Do we live in False vacuum?

Dark Energy: (unlike dark matter) a property of the vacuum indicating we are not in ground state in the Universe (could be the case near to matter).



We do.

Journal of **C**osmology and **A**stroparticle **P**hysics
An IOP and SISSA journal

JCAP11(2015)035

Dynamical emergence of the Universe into the false vacuum

Johann Rafelski and Jeremiah Birrell

Abstract. We study how the hot Universe evolves and acquires the prevailing vacuum state, demonstrating that in specific conditions which are believed to apply, the Universe becomes frozen into the state with the smallest value of Higgs vacuum field $v = \langle h \rangle$, even if this is not the state of lowest energy. This supports the false vacuum dark energy Λ -model. Under several likely hypotheses we determine the temperature in the evolution of the Universe at which two vacua v_1, v_2 can swap between being true and false. We evaluate the dynamical surface pressure on domain walls between low and high mass vacua due to the presence of matter and show that the low mass state remains the preferred vacuum of the Universe.

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doi:10.1088/1475-7516/2015/11/035

1 Introduction

This work presents relatively simple arguments for why the cosmological evolution selects the vacuum with smallest Higgs VEV $v = \langle h \rangle$ which, in general, could be and likely is the ‘false’ vacuum. Our argument relies on the Standard Model (SM) *minimal coupling*: $m \rightarrow gh$, or similar generalizations in ‘beyond’ SM (BSM), so that the vacuum with the smallest Higgs VEV also has the smallest particle masses. In anticipation of the model with multiple vacua, we call the vacuum state with lowest free energy at temperature T ‘the true vacuum’ and all others ‘the false vacua’. Note that this is a temperature dependent statement: we live today in the false vacuum which as we will show was once the true vacuum.

In the presence of pairs of particles and antiparticles at high temperature the vacuum state with smallest v is energetically preferred, even if it has a large vacuum energy. This is so because smaller v implies smaller particle masses and hence less energy, and free energy, in the particle distributions. By the time the Universe cools sufficiently for the larger vacuum energy to dominate the smaller particle free energies, the probability of swap to the large mass true vacuum is vanishingly small in general.

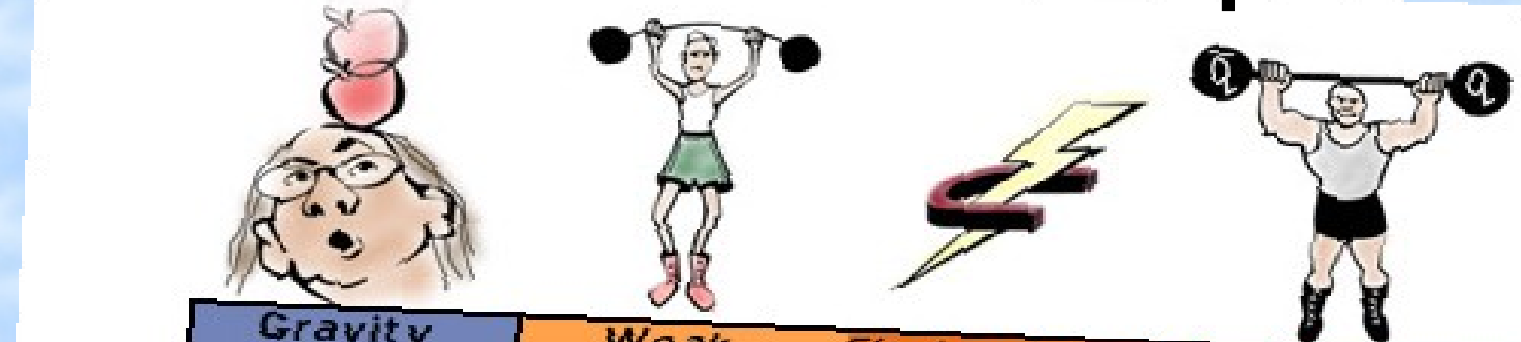
Therefore, the Higgs minimum with the lowest value of the Higgs field v , and thus *not necessarily* the lowest value of the effective potential $W(v) = \langle V(h) \rangle$, emerges as the prevalent vacuum in our Universe. The difference, $\rho_\Lambda = \Delta W$, between the prevalent vacuum state today and the true minimum is a natural candidate to explain the observed dark energy density,

$$\rho_\Lambda = 25.6 \text{ meV}^4. \quad (1.1)$$

Do we live in False vacuum?

“We conclude that there are no credible mechanisms for catastrophic scenarios (with heavy ion collisions at RHIC)” (Jaffe, R.L., Busza, W., Sandweiss, J., and Wilczek, F, 2000, *Rev. Mod. Phys.* 72, 1125-1140)

More forces between matter particles



	Gravity	Weak (Electroweak)	Electromagnetic	Strong
Carried By	Graviton (not yet observed)	$W^+ W^- Z^0$	Photon	Gluon
Acts on	All	Quarks and Leptons	Quarks and Charged Leptons and $W^+ W^-$	Quarks and Gluons

Gravity is an effective force which we do not understand, **conflict with quantum physics**

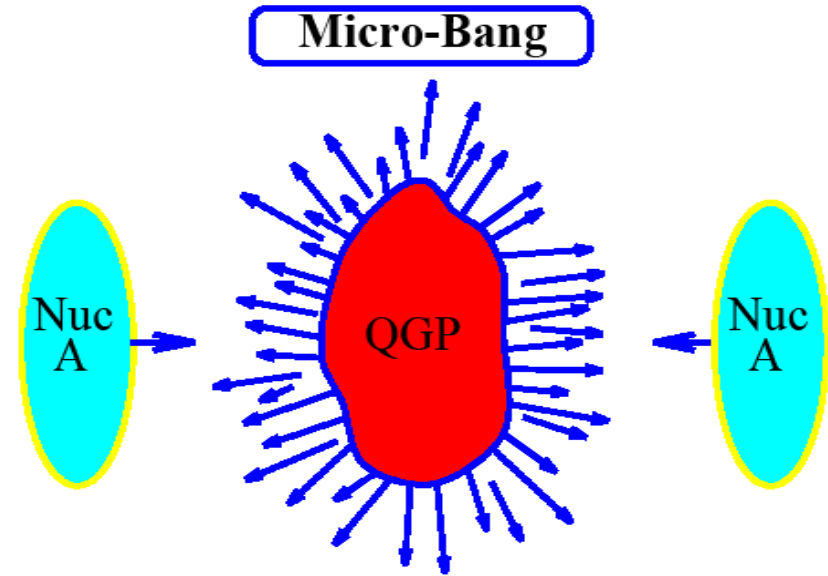
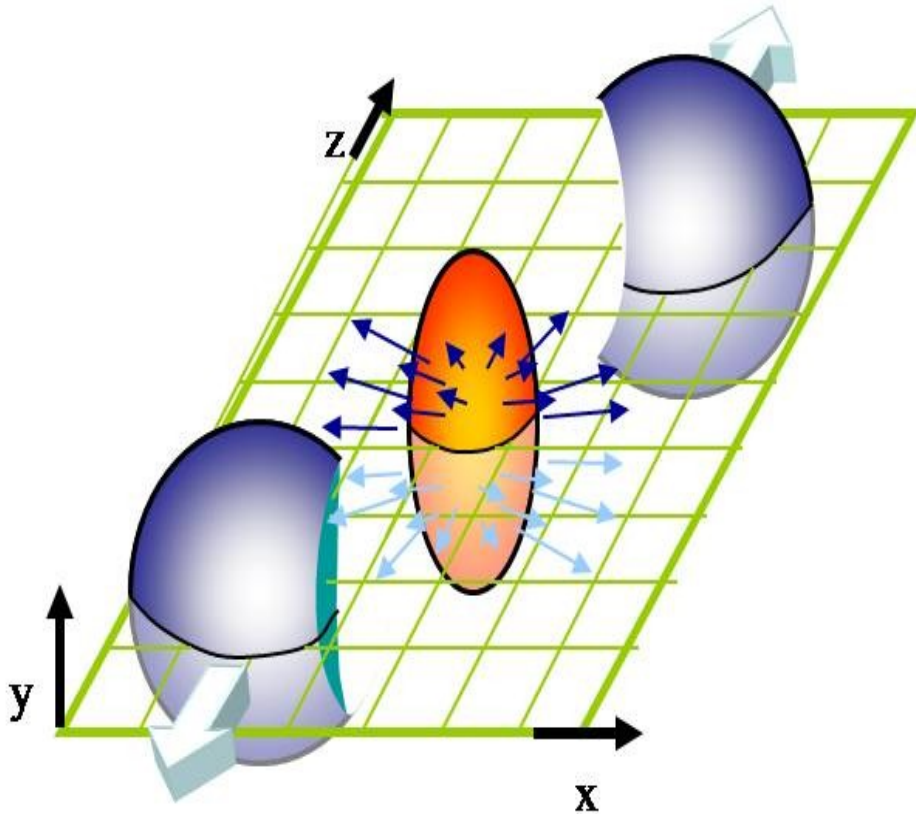
'Higgs' vacuum structure breaks the electro-weak symmetry: W, Z turn very massive, weak interactions.

Quantum Chromo-Dynamics (QCD): theory of strong interactions with a confining dynamical vacuum structure

QCD: a world in which "photons" have a "color magnetic moment": vacuum consists of a ferromagnetic alignment of glue fluctuations

Melting the QCD vacuum

Nuclear Collisions at
Relativistic energy $E \gg Mc^2$



Big-Bang	Micro-Bang
$\tau \simeq 10\mu\text{s}$	$\tau \simeq 4 \cdot 10^{-23}\text{s}$
$N_b / N \simeq 10^{-10}$	$N_b / N \simeq 0.1$

Melt the quantum vacuum

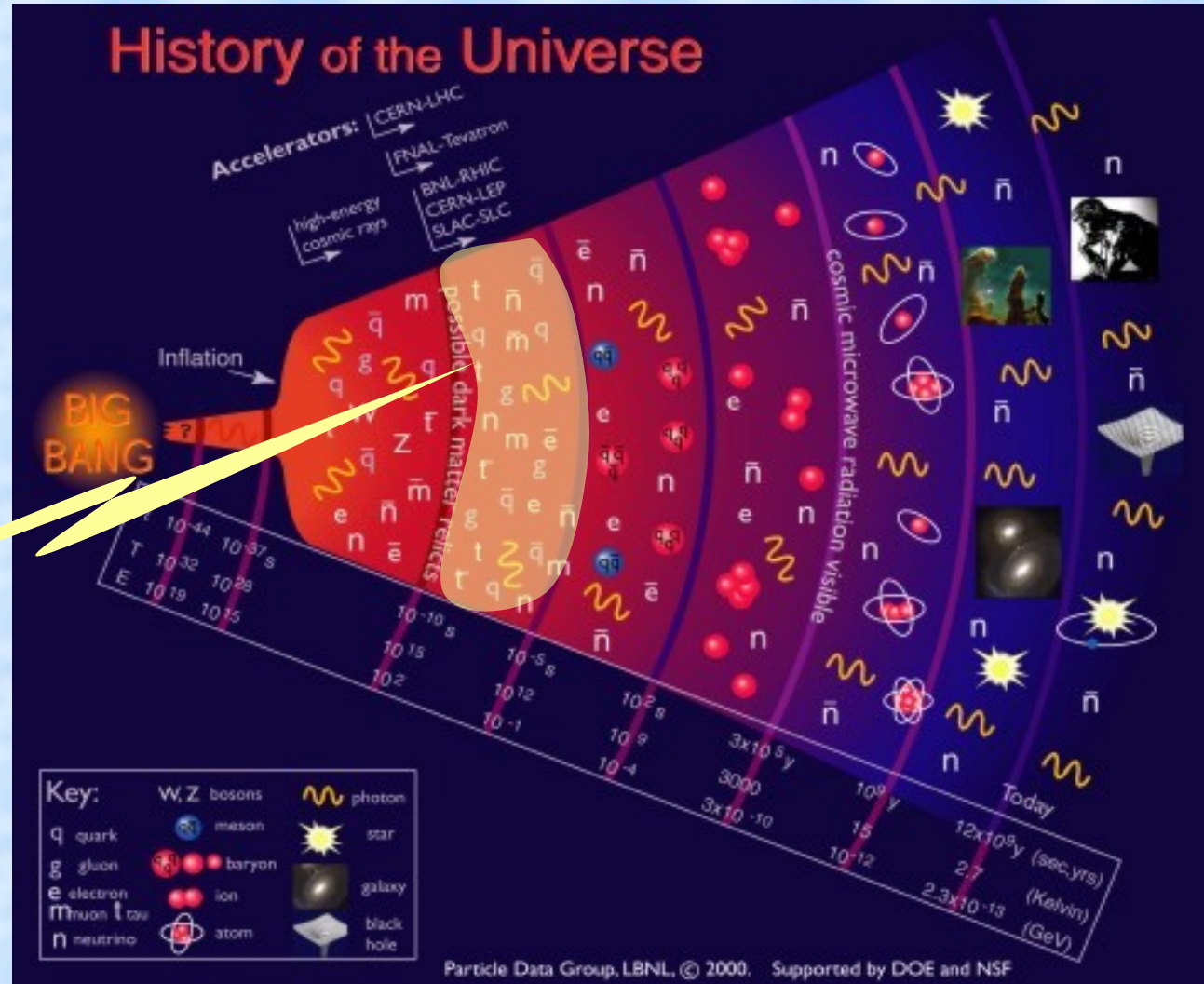
- $T < \sim 10^3 \text{ K}$ → molecules intact
 $T > \sim 10^3 \text{ K}$ (0.1 eV) → molecular dissociation
- $T < \sim 10^4 \text{ K}$ → atoms intact
 $T > \sim 10^4 \text{ K}$ (1 eV) → atomic ionization, plasma formation
- $T < \sim 10^9 \text{ K}$ → nuclei intact
 $T > \sim 10^9 \text{ K}$ (0.1 MeV) → nuclear reactions
- $T < \sim 10^{12} \text{ K}$ → protons intact
 $T > \sim 10^{12} \text{ K}$ (160 MeV) → vacuum melts, quarks free
- $T < \sim 10^{15} \text{ K}$ → electromagnetic and weak interactions separate
 $T > \sim 10^{15} \text{ K}$ (160 GeV) → Higgs vacuum melts, all quarks massless

How was matter created?

Matter emerges from quark-gluon plasma

After the Big-Bang the “vacuum” was **different** till about at $30 \mu\text{s}$ – expansion cooled the temperature T to a value at which vacuum changed and our matter “froze out”. At that time the density of matter was about $\sim 10^{16} \text{ gm / cm}^3$ (energy density $\sim 10 \text{ GeV / fm}^3$, well above that of the center of neutron stars, that is ~ 60 times nuclear energy density), and temperature was $T \sim 160 \text{ MeV}$, that is $\sim 2 \times 10^{12} \text{ K}$.

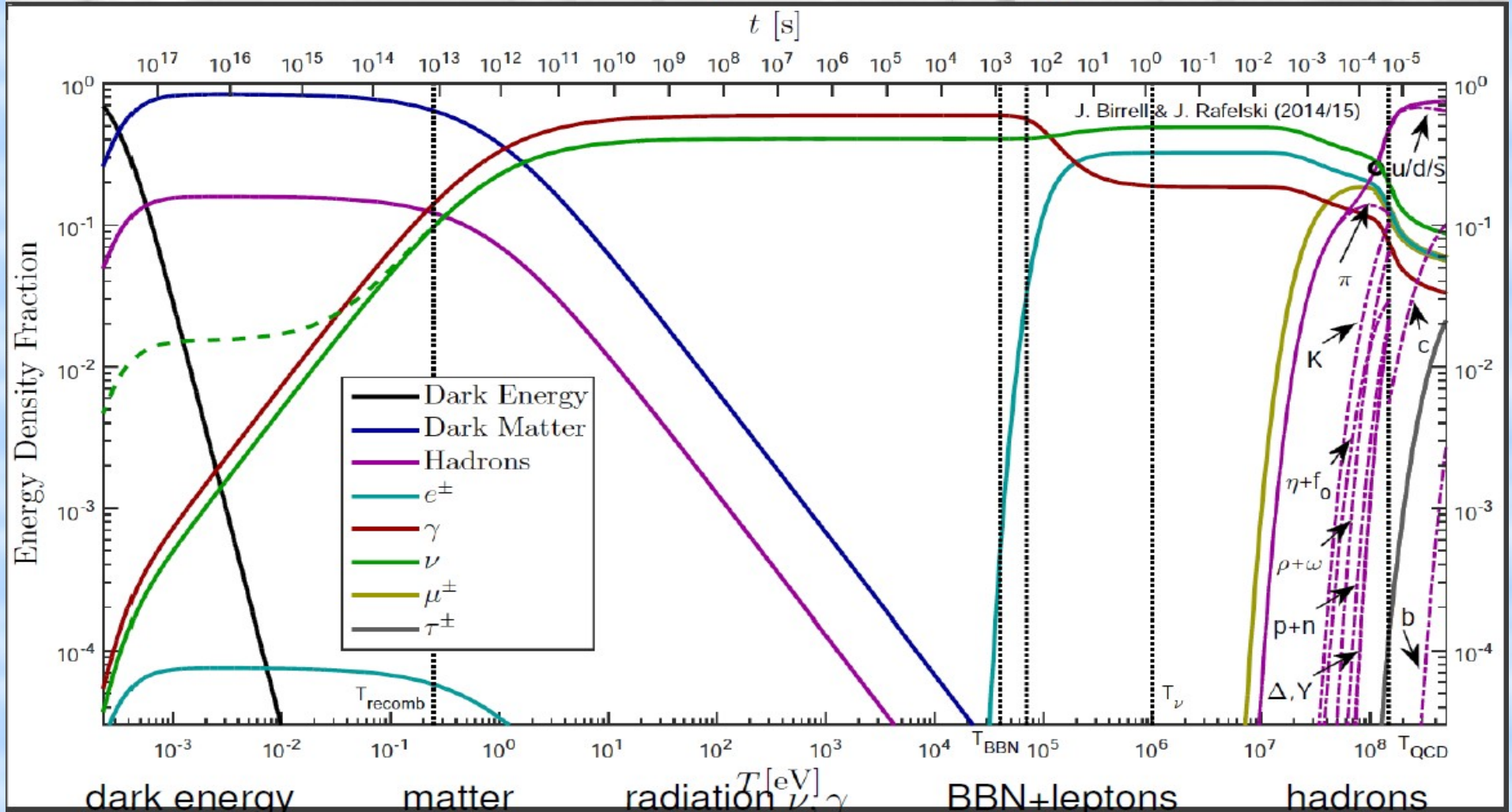
ELI-BL 8.3.18



Johann Rafelski, Arizona

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The Universe Composition in Single View



Different dominance eras: Temperature grows to right