Estimate of nonflow baseline for the chiral magnetic effect in isobar collisions at STAR



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2 Isobar $\Delta\gamma$ nonflow baseline



The Chiral Magnetic Effect (CME)



Isobar Results



Post-blind results from STAR isobar analysis [STAR, PRC 105, 014901 (2022)].

- ► Isobar expectation: $\Delta \gamma / v_2$ in ${}^{96}_{44}$ Ru + ${}^{96}_{44}$ Ru is larger than in ${}^{96}_{40}$ Zr + ${}^{96}_{40}$ Zr.
- The main reason that the observed isobar ratio is less than unity is the multiplicity difference.
- The better quantity is $N\Delta\gamma/v_2$. Its naive background baseline is unity.
- Isobar data are all above this naive baseline. Investigate nonflow effects.

• The CME-sensitive observable $\Delta \gamma \equiv C_3/v_2^*$:

$$C_{3,\text{os}} = \langle \cos(\phi_{\alpha}^{\pm} + \phi_{\beta}^{\mp} - 2\phi_c) \rangle,$$

$$C_{3,\text{ss}} = \langle \cos(\phi_{\alpha}^{\pm} + \phi_{\beta}^{\pm} - 2\phi_c) \rangle,$$

$$C_{3} = C_{3,\text{os}} - C_{3,\text{ss}}$$

OS: opposite-sign pair SS: same-sign pair

The asterisk (*) on v_2 indicates it is the measured v_2 containing nonflow

• $\Delta\gamma$ contains CME and a major background proportional to v_2 (true v_2 flow)

Nonflow Contribution to Isobar Baseline

The naive baseline of unity would be correct if there was no nonflow. Nonflow correlations will cause the baseline to deviate from unity.

• Nonflow in
$$v_2^*$$
: $v_2^{*2} = v_2^2 + v_{2,nf}^2$, $\epsilon_{nf} \equiv v_{2,nf}^2/v_2^2$

Note: ϵ is not eccentricity

C₃ is composed of flow-induced background (major), 3p nonflow correlations (minor), and possible CME (not written out) [Y. Feng, et al., PRC 105, 024913 (2022)]:

$$C_3 = \frac{N_{2p}}{N^2} C_{2p} v_{2,2p} v_2 + \frac{N_{3p}}{2N^3} C_{3p} = \frac{v_2^2 \epsilon_2}{N} + \frac{\epsilon_3}{N^2},$$

$$\frac{N\Delta\gamma}{v_2^*} = \frac{NC_3}{{v_2^*}^2} = \frac{\epsilon_2}{1+\epsilon_{\rm nf}} + \frac{\epsilon_3}{Nv_2^2(1+\epsilon_{\rm nf})} = \frac{\epsilon_2}{1+\epsilon_{\rm nf}} \left(1 + \frac{\epsilon_3/\epsilon_2}{Nv_2^2}\right)$$

- 2-particle (2p) nonflow (e.g., resonance): $C_{2p} \equiv \langle \cos(\phi_{\alpha} + \phi_{\beta} 2\phi_{2p}) \rangle$, $\epsilon_2 \equiv \frac{N_{2p}v_{2,2p}}{Nv_2}C_{2p}$
- 3-particle (3p) nonflow (e.g., jets): $C_{3p} \equiv \langle \cos(\phi_{\alpha} + \phi_{\beta} 2\phi_c) \rangle_{3p}$, $\epsilon_3 \equiv \frac{N_{3p}}{2N}C_{3p}$
- $N \approx N_+ \approx N_-$ is POI (particle of interest) mult. N_{2p} (N_{3p}) is 2p (3p) nonflow pair (triplet) mult.

Isobar ratio:

$$\frac{(N\Delta\gamma/v_2^*)^{\mathsf{Ru}}}{(N\Delta\gamma/v_2^*)^{\mathsf{Zr}}} \equiv \frac{(NC_3/v_2^{*2})^{\mathsf{Ru}}}{(NC_3/v_2^{*2})^{\mathsf{Zr}}} = \frac{\epsilon_2^{\mathsf{Ru}}}{\epsilon_2^{\mathsf{Zr}}} \cdot \frac{(1+\epsilon_{\mathsf{nf}})^{\mathsf{Zr}}}{(1+\epsilon_{\mathsf{nf}})^{\mathsf{Ru}}} \cdot \frac{\left[1+\epsilon_3/\epsilon_2/(Nv_2^2)\right]^{\mathsf{Ru}}}{\left[1+\epsilon_3/\epsilon_2/(Nv_2^2)\right]^{\mathsf{Zr}}}$$
$$\approx 1 + \frac{\Delta\epsilon_2}{\epsilon_2} - \frac{\Delta\epsilon_{\mathsf{nf}}}{1+\epsilon_{\mathsf{nf}}} + \frac{\epsilon_3/\epsilon_2/(Nv_2^2)}{1+\epsilon_3/\epsilon_2/(Nv_2^2)} \left(\frac{\Delta\epsilon_3}{\epsilon_3} - \frac{\Delta\epsilon_2}{\epsilon_2} - \frac{\Delta N}{N} - \frac{\Delta v_2^2}{v_2^2}\right)$$

 $\Delta X = X^{\rm Ru} - X^{\rm Zr}$

Need ϵ_{nf} , ϵ_2 , ϵ_3 for background estimate

$$\begin{array}{l} \bullet \ \ \epsilon_{\rm nf} \equiv \frac{v_{2,\rm nf}^2}{v_2^2} = \frac{v_2^{*\,2} - v_2^2}{v_2^2} \\ \bullet \ \ \ \epsilon_2 \equiv \frac{C_{2\rm p}N_{2\rm p}v_{2,\rm 2\rm p}}{Nv_2} = \frac{N_{2\rm p}v_{2,\rm 2\rm p}}{Nv_2} \langle \cos(\phi_{\alpha} + \phi_{\beta} - 2\phi_{\rm 2\rm p}) \rangle \\ \bullet \ \ \ \ \epsilon_3 \equiv \frac{C_{3\rm p}N_{3\rm p}}{2N} = \frac{N_{3\rm p}}{2N} \langle \cos(\phi_{\alpha} + \phi_{\beta} - 2\phi_c) \rangle_{\rm 3p} \end{array}$$

Nonflow Estimates (a) Nonflow to v_2^* : measurement of ϵ_{nf}



- $0.2 < p_T < 2.0 \text{ GeV}$
- |n| < 1
- Centrality 20 50% defined by POI multiplicity
- Mixed-event acceptance corrected

Fit function:

Nearside $f(\Delta\eta,\Delta\phi) = A_1 G_{\rm NS \ W}(\Delta\eta) G_{\rm NS \ W}(\Delta\phi) + A_2 G_{\rm NS \ N}(\Delta\eta) G_{\rm NS \ N}(\Delta\phi) + A_3 G_{\rm NS \ D}(\Delta\eta) G_{\rm NS \ D}(\Delta\phi)$ $+ \frac{B}{2-|\Delta\eta|} \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{2-|\Delta\eta|}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_{\Delta\eta,\mathrm{AS}}}\right) G_{\mathrm{AS}}(\Delta\phi\pm\pi) + \frac{DG_{\mathrm{RG}}(\Delta\eta)}{\mathrm{Awayside}} + \frac{C[1+2V_1\cos(\Delta\phi)+2V_2\cos(2\Delta\phi)+2V_3\cos(3\Delta\phi)]}{\mathrm{Ridge}}$

 $G_s(x)$ Gaussian function, $V_n = v_n^2$ assumed to be η -independent. NS-nearside, AS-awayside, RG-ridge; W-wide, N-narrow, D-dip.

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Flow

| STAR preliminary | | Ru+Ru | Zr+Zr | |
|------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| \mathbf{SS} | fit parameter C | 381.651 ± 0.011 | 351.988 ± 0.009 | |
| | fit parameter $V_2=v_2^2$ | 0.0029716 ± 0.0000029 | 0.0028668 ± 0.0000025 | |
| | $\langle \cos(2\Delta\phi) \rangle_{\rm ss} \ (\Delta\eta > 0.05)$ | 0.0035968 ± 0.0000010 | 0.0034930 ± 0.0000010 | |
| inclusive | $\left<\cos(2\Delta\phi)\right> = v_2^{*2} \ (\Delta\eta > 0.05)$ | 0.0037161 ± 0.0000007 | 0.0036088 ± 0.0000007 | |
| | nonflow $U = \langle \cos(2\Delta\phi) angle - V_2$ | 0.0007446 ± 0.0000030 | 0.0007420 ± 0.0000026 | |
| | $\epsilon_{\sf nf} = U/V_2$ | $(25.06 \pm 0.10)\%$ | $(25.88 \pm 0.09)\%$ | |

• Nonflow in v_2^{*2} is $\sim 25\%/(1+25\%) = 20\%$.

- The nearside wide Gaussian $(A_1 \text{ term})$ is dominant.
- ▶ We take half of it as systematics:

 $\Delta \epsilon_{\mathsf{nf}} = (-0.82 \pm 0.13 \mp 0.30)\%, \ -\Delta \epsilon_{\mathsf{nf}} / (1 + \epsilon_{\mathsf{nf}}) = (0.65 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.22)\%.$ $\Delta v_2^2 / v_2^2 = \Delta V_2 / V_2 = (3.7 \pm 0.1 \mp 0.3)\%.$

- ► ϵ_2 can be obtained from ZDC measurement (no nonflow, assuming negligible CME) [STAR, PRC 105, 014901 (2022)] $\epsilon_2 = \frac{N\Delta\gamma\{\text{ZDC}\}}{n_0\{\text{ZDC}\}} \approx 0.57 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.02$ (tracking efficiency ~ 80%)
- ▶ The $\Delta \epsilon_2$ precision from ZDC is too poor: $\Delta \epsilon_2 / \epsilon_2 \approx (2.3 \pm 9.2)\%$, but we can estimate it as follows:
 - Assuming $C_{2p}^{Ru} = C_{2p}^{Zr}$, then $\epsilon_2 \propto Nr$, where the pair multiplicity difference $r \equiv \frac{N_{0s} N_{ss}}{N_{os}}$ is precisely measured [STAR, PRC 105, 014901 (2022)] $\Delta \epsilon_2 / \epsilon_2 = \Delta r / r + \Delta N / N = (-2.95 \pm 0.08)\% + 4.4\% = (1.45 \pm 0.08)\%$
 - For a point of reference, AMPT simulation w.r.t. RP gives $\Delta\epsilon_2/\epsilon_2\approx(3.5\pm1.4)\%$

- 3p nonflow study in real data is difficult (work ongoing)
- ▶ We use HIJING simulation (which has no flow) to obtain $\epsilon_3 \approx (1.84 \pm 0.04)\%$, and $\Delta \epsilon_3 / \epsilon_3 = (0.5 \pm 2.7)\%$ (~ 8.6 × 10⁸ events for each isobar).
- ► HIJING without jet quenching gives $\epsilon_3 = (2.24 \pm 0.05)\%$, differing by 22%.
- We assign 50% systematic uncertainty for ε₃ (±0.92%), and assume Δε₃/ε₃ is presently dominated by statistics.



Estimated Background Level for Isobar $N\Delta\gamma/v_2$ Ratio



Summary

- v₂ nonflow and 2p nonflow in C₃ are measured. 3p nonflow in C₃ is estimated by HIJING. Large degree of cancellation between 2p and 3p nonflow.
- ▶ New preliminary isobar background estimate $\frac{(N\Delta\gamma/v_2^*)^{\mathsf{Ru}}}{(N\Delta\gamma/v_2^*)^{\mathsf{Zr}}} \approx (1.013 \pm 0.003 \pm 0.005)$ for full-event, $(1.011 \pm 0.005 \pm 0.005)$ for sub-event.



Backup

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Estimate of nonflow baseline for the chiral magnetic effect in isobar collisions at STAR

Table: fit results on slide 8

| STAR preliminary | Ru+Ru | Zr+Zr | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| 4. | 2.967 ± 0.009 | 2.1 ± 0.007 | |
| A1 | 2.307 ± 0.009 | 2.801 ± 0.007 | |
| $\sigma_{\Delta\eta, { m NS}, W}$ | 0.9878 ± 0.0030 | 0.9550 ± 0.0025 | |
| $\sigma_{\Delta\phi, { m NS}, W}$ | 0.6329 ± 0.0009 | 0.6364 ± 0.0008 | |
| A_2 | 15.615 ± 0.011 | 14.515 ± 0.009 | |
| $\sigma_{\Delta\eta, { m NS}, N}$ | 0.12668 ± 0.00008 | 0.12839 ± 0.00008 | |
| $\sigma_{\Delta\phi, { m NS}, N}$ | 0.12889 ± 0.00006 | 0.12977 ± 0.00006 | |
| A_3 | -72.522 ± 0.018 | -66.943 ± 0.016 | |
| $\sigma_{\Delta\eta, { m NS}, D}$ | 0.022288 ± 0.000006 | 0.022314 ± 0.000005 | |
| $\sigma_{\Delta\phi, \text{NS}, D}$ | 0.102971 ± 0.000029 | 0.102619 ± 0.000027 | |
| B | 0.2140 ± 0.0037 | 0.1943 ± 0.0031 | |
| $\sigma_{\Delta\eta, { m AS}}$ | 0.591 ± 0.005 | 0.589 ± 0.005 | |
| $\sigma_{\Delta\phi, { m AS}}$ | $1.1 \times 10^5 \pm 18.3 \times 10^5$ | $1.4 \times 10^5 \pm 11.7 \times 10^5$ | |
| D | 0.2759 ± 0.0032 | 0.2660 ± 0.0026 | |
| $\sigma_{\Delta\eta, \mathrm{RG}}$ | 0.2600 ± 0.0018 | 0.2524 ± 0.0015 | |
| Ċ | 381.651 ± 0.011 | 351.988 ± 0.009 | |
| V_1 | -0.001916 ± 0.000006 | -0.001943 ± 0.000005 | |
| V_2 | 0.0029716 ± 0.0000029 | 0.0028668 ± 0.0000025 | |
| V_3 | 0.0001766 ± 0.0000012 | 0.0001842 ± 0.0000011 | |
| χ^2/NDF | 1018458.1/159982 = 6.4 | 1136361.1/159982 = 7.1 | |

Fit function

 $A_1 G_{\text{NS},W}(\Delta \eta) G_{\text{NS},W}(\Delta \phi)$ $+A_2G_{NSN}(\Delta \eta)G_{NSN}(\Delta \phi)$ $+A_3G_{\text{NS},D}(\Delta\eta)G_{\text{NS},D}(\Delta\phi)$ $+\frac{B}{2-|\Delta\eta|} \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{2-|\Delta\eta|}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_{\Delta\eta+2}}\right)$ $\times G_{\rm AS}(\Delta \phi \pm \pi)$ $+DG_{\rm RG}(\Delta n)$ $+ C [1 + 2V_1 \cos(\Delta \phi)]$ $+2V_2\cos(2\Delta\phi)+2V_3\cos(3\Delta\phi)$

Large $\sigma_{\Delta\phi,{\rm AS}}$ turns $G_{{\rm AS}}$ into a flat line.

Awayside $\Delta \eta$ correlation

Suppose two particles (1, 2) correlated in η by momentum conservation or other nonflow effect. We let

$$\begin{cases} \Delta \eta = \eta_1 - \eta_2 \\ \delta = \eta_1 + \eta_2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \eta_1 = \frac{\delta + \Delta \eta}{2} \\ \eta_2 = \frac{\delta - \Delta \eta}{2} \end{cases}$$
(1)

where $\eta_1 = -\eta_2 + \delta$. For momentum conservation, the two particles tend to be back-to-back in η direction ($\eta_1 \sim -\eta_2$). δ serves as fluctuations, and the correlation could be a function of δ .

Since $|\eta_1| < 1$ and $|\eta_2| < 1$, the range of δ is

$$\begin{cases} \left| \frac{\delta + \Delta \eta}{2} \right| < 1 \\ \left| \frac{\delta - \Delta \eta}{2} \right| < 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow |\delta| < 2 - |\Delta \eta| \tag{2}$$

Suppose the correlation function between two particles is $f(\eta_1,\eta_2)=g(\Delta\eta,\delta).$

$$f(\eta_1, \eta_2) d\eta_1 d\eta_2 = g(\Delta \eta, \delta) \frac{\partial(\eta_1, \eta_2)}{\partial(\Delta \eta, \delta)} d\Delta \eta d\delta$$

= $g(\Delta \eta, \delta) \begin{vmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 \\ -1/2 & 1/2 \end{vmatrix} d\Delta \eta d\delta = \frac{1}{2} g(\Delta \eta, \delta) d\Delta \eta d\delta$ (3)

Integral over δ to get the marginal distribution of $\Delta\eta$

$$h(\Delta \eta) = \int_{-2+|\Delta \eta|}^{2-|\Delta \eta|} \frac{1}{2} g(\Delta \eta, \delta) \mathrm{d}\delta \tag{4}$$

If there is no correlation, then 2) $g(\Delta \eta, \delta) = f(\eta_1, \eta_2) = f(\eta_1)f(\eta_2) = \frac{1}{4}$, and the integral becomes $h(\Delta \eta) = \frac{1}{4}(2 - |\Delta \eta|)$, the acceptance triangle.

Awayside $\Delta \eta$ correlation

An intuitive assumption of the correlation from momentum conservation is δ obeys a Gaussian distribution centering at 0, which is $\delta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma)$.

$$g(\Delta\eta,\delta) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{\delta^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$
(5)

(may differ by a constant factor). And the marginal distribution becomes

$$h(\Delta \eta) = \frac{1}{2} \text{erf}\left(\frac{2 - |\Delta \eta|}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right) \tag{6}$$

After the acceptance correction, the function form should be

$$\frac{1}{2 - |\Delta\eta|} \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{2 - |\Delta\eta|}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right) \tag{7}$$

If we set $\sigma=1,$ then the function looks like below, which seems similar to the STAR data shape at awayside (large $|\Delta\phi|).$



Nonflow Estimates (a) Nonflow to v_2^* : measurement of ϵ_{nf}

Ru+Ru



- Data: markers in black.
- Flow: flow component in fit.
- Flow+Awayside
- Flow+Awayside+Ridge: the $\Delta \phi$ ridge is a 1D Gaussian centering at $\Delta \eta = 0$, which is small and independent from $\Delta \phi$.
- Flow+Awayside+Ridge+ Nearside: the total fit function, where the nearside includes 3 2D Gaussians centering at $\Delta \eta = 0$ $\Delta \phi = 0$, which are the wide, the narrow, and the dip.

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7r+7r

Estimated Background Components for Isobar $N\Delta\gamma/v_2$ Ratio

| Quantity | | Method | Systematic uncertainty | Full-event value | Sub-event value |
|--|-------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Multiplicity $\Delta N/N$ | Measured | | Negligible | 4.4% | 4.4% |
| Flow $\Delta v_2^2/v_2^2$ | Measured | Nonflow subtracted as per below | From nonflow syst. | $\Delta v_2^2/v_2^2 = (3.7\pm 0.1\pm 0.3)\%$ | $\Delta v_2^2/v_2^2 = (3.7\pm 0.1\pm 0.3)\%$ |
| v_2 nonflow | Measured | $(\Delta\eta,\Delta\phi)$ correlations, experimentally measured | Nonflow~ 25% (full event), dominated by NS wide Gaus; consider $\pm 1/2$ WG as syst. uncertainty | $\begin{split} -\Delta\epsilon_{\rm nf} &= (0.82\pm 0.13\pm 0.30)\%\\ \frac{-\Delta\epsilon_{\rm nf}}{1+\epsilon_{\rm nf}} &= (0.65\pm 0.11\pm 0.22)\% \end{split}$ | $\begin{split} -\Delta\epsilon_{\rm nf} &= (0.59\pm 0.15\pm 0.27)\%\\ \frac{-\Delta\epsilon_{\rm nf}}{1+\epsilon_{\rm nf}} &= (0.48\pm 0.12\pm 0.22)\% \end{split}$ |
| v_2 -induced bkgd: $\epsilon_2 = N\Delta\gamma/v_2$ | Measured | Measured by ZDC (assume negligible CME) | Small | $\epsilon_2 = (0.57 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.02)\%$ | $\epsilon_2 = (0.79 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.01)\%$ |
| v_2 -induced bkgd difference: $\frac{\Delta \epsilon_2}{\epsilon_2} \sim \frac{\Delta (N_{2p}/N)}{(N_{2p}/N)} = \frac{\Delta (rN)}{rN}$ | Measured | $r = (N_{ m os} - N_{ m ss})/N_{ m os}$ experimentally measured | Negligible | $\frac{\Delta \epsilon_2}{\epsilon_2} = (1.45 \pm 0.08)\%$ | $\frac{\Delta \epsilon_2}{\epsilon_2} = (1.45 \pm 0.08)\%$ |
| $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{3p contribution to } C_3:\\ \epsilon_3=C_{\rm 3p}N_{\rm 3p}/(2N) \end{array}$ | Model estimate | HIJING simulations quenching-on | Quenching-on and off difference $\sim 20\%$. Take $\pm 50\%$ as syst. uncertainty | $\epsilon_3 = (1.84 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.92)\%$ | $\epsilon_3 = (1.91 \pm 0.09 \pm 0.95)\%$ |
| 3p contribution difference: $\Delta\epsilon_3/\epsilon_3$ | Model estimate | HIJING simulation quenching-on | Assumed negligible relative to the large stat. uncertainty | $\frac{\Delta \epsilon_3}{\epsilon_3} = (0.5 \pm 2.7)\%$ $\frac{\epsilon_3/\epsilon_2}{Nv_2^2} = 0.104 \pm 0.008 \pm 0.053$ | $\frac{\Delta \epsilon_3}{\epsilon_3} = (-1.8 \pm 6.3)\%$ $\frac{\epsilon_3/\epsilon_2}{Nv_2^2} = 0.079 \pm 0.006 \pm 0.040$ |
| background estimate | | | | $1.013 \pm 0.003 \pm 0.005$ | $1.011 \pm 0.005 \pm 0.005$ |

- lmprove the ϵ_3 estimate.
- ▶ Improve the $(\Delta \eta, \Delta \phi)$ 2D fittings.
- Background estimates for each centrality bin separately.