

The Origin of Thermal Hadron Production

Helmut Satz

Universität Bielefeld, Germany

March 7, 2008

basic observation in all high energy multihadron production

thermal production pattern

Fermi, Landau, Pomeranchuk, Hagedorn

- species abundances \sim ideal resonance gas at T_H
- universal $T_H \simeq 150 - 200$ MeV for all (large) \sqrt{s}
- thermal transverse momentum spectra with same T_H

basic observation in all high energy multihadron production

thermal production pattern

Fermi, Landau, Pomeranchuk, Hagedorn

- species abundances \sim ideal resonance gas at T_H
- universal $T_H \simeq 150 - 200$ MeV for all (large) \sqrt{s}
- thermal transverse momentum spectra with same T_H

caveat: strangeness suppression

basic observation in all high energy multihadron production

thermal production pattern

Fermi, Landau, Pomeranchuk, Hagedorn

- species abundances \sim ideal resonance gas at T_H
- universal $T_H \simeq 150 - 200$ MeV for all (large) \sqrt{s}
- thermal transverse momentum spectra with same T_H

caveat: strangeness suppression

begin by summarizing experimental situation
in elementary collisions

1. Thermal Hadron Production

what is “thermal”?

- equal *a priori* probabilities for all states in accord with a given overall average energy \Rightarrow temperature T ;
- partition function of ideal resonance gas

$$\ln Z(T) = V \sum_i \frac{d_i}{(2\pi)^3} \phi(m_i, T)$$

Boltzmann factor $\phi(m_i, T) = 4\pi m_i^2 T K_2(m_i/T)$

- relative abundances
$$\frac{N_i}{N_j} = \frac{d_i \phi(m_i, T)}{d_j \phi(m_j, T)}$$

- transverse momenta
$$\frac{dN}{dp_T^2} \sim \exp -\frac{1}{T} \sqrt{m_i^2 + p_T^2}.$$

Abundances

e^+e^- , LEP Data [\[Becattini 1996\]](#)

Fit relative abundances to ideal resonance gas of all hadronic resonances, with $M \leq 1.7$ GeV, two parameters T and γ_s

$$T = 169.9 \pm 2.6 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\gamma_s = 0.691 \pm 0.053$$

$$\chi^2/\text{dof} = 17.2/12$$

estimate systematic error by varying resonance gas scheme, contributing resonances

$e^+e^- \sqrt{s} = 91.2 \text{ GeV}$				
species	measured			fit
π^+	8.53	\pm	0.40	8.72
π^0	9.18	\pm	0.82	9.83
K^+	1.18	\pm	0.052	1.06
K^0	1.015	\pm	0.022	1.01
η	0.934	\pm	0.13	0.908
ρ^0	1.21	\pm	0.22	1.16
K^{*+}	0.357	\pm	0.027	0.349
K^{*0}	0.372	\pm	0.027	0.343
η'	0.13	\pm	0.05	0.1070
p	0.488	\pm	0.059	0.484
ϕ	0.10	\pm	0.0090	0.167
Λ	0.185	\pm	0.0085	0.152
Ξ^-	0.0122	\pm	0.00079	0.011
Ξ^{*0}	0.0033	\pm	0.00047	0.00391
Ω	0.0014	\pm	0.00046	0.000782

$$\underline{T = 170 \pm 3 \pm 6 \text{ MeV}}$$

similar analyses carried out for

- e^+e^- at $\sqrt{s} = 14, 22, 29, 35, 43$ GeV
- pp at $\sqrt{s} = 19.4, 23.8, 26.0, 27.4$ GeV
- $p\bar{p}$ at $\sqrt{s} = 200, 500, 900$ GeV
- π^+p at $\sqrt{s} = 21.7$ GeV
- K^+p at $\sqrt{s} = 11.5, 21.7$ GeV

similar analyses carried out for

- e^+e^- at $\sqrt{s} = 14, 22, 29, 35, 43$ GeV
- pp at $\sqrt{s} = 19.4, 23.8, 26.0, 27.4$ GeV
- $p\bar{p}$ at $\sqrt{s} = 200, 500, 900$ GeV
- π^+p at $\sqrt{s} = 21.7$ GeV
- K^+p at $\sqrt{s} = 11.5, 21.7$ GeV

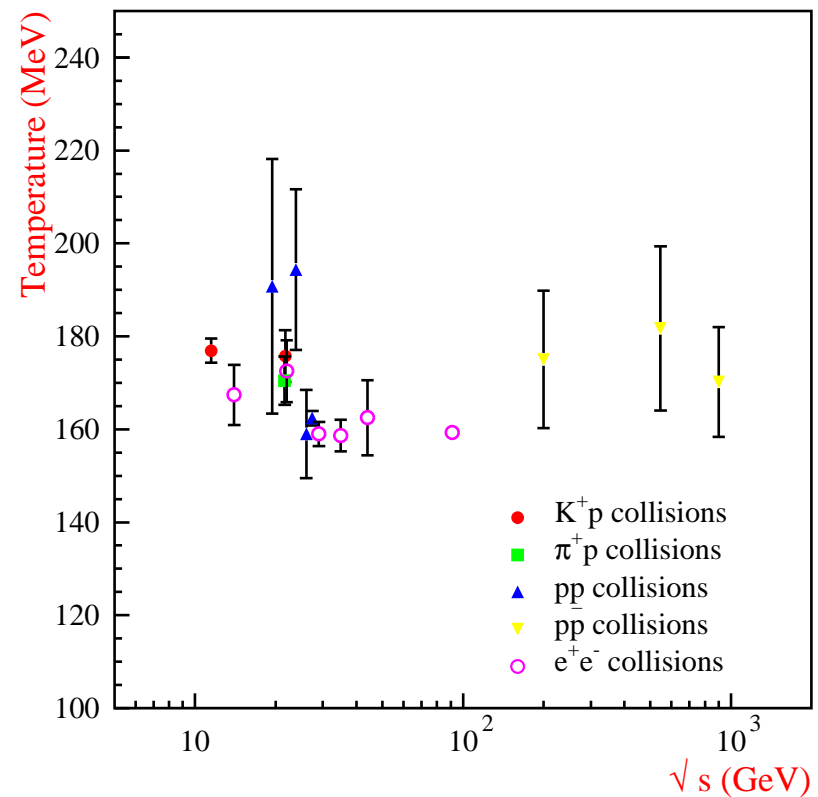
compilation [Becattini 2006](#)

Result:

$$\underline{T \simeq 170 \pm 20 \text{ MeV}}$$

independent of

- collision energy
- collision configuration



Heavy ion collisions \Rightarrow baryon density

- resonance gas at T, μ_B ; $\mu_B \downarrow$ for $\sqrt{s} \uparrow$
- elementary high energy collisions $\mu_B \simeq 0$
- species abundances in high energy heavy ion collisions
(peak SPS, RHIC)

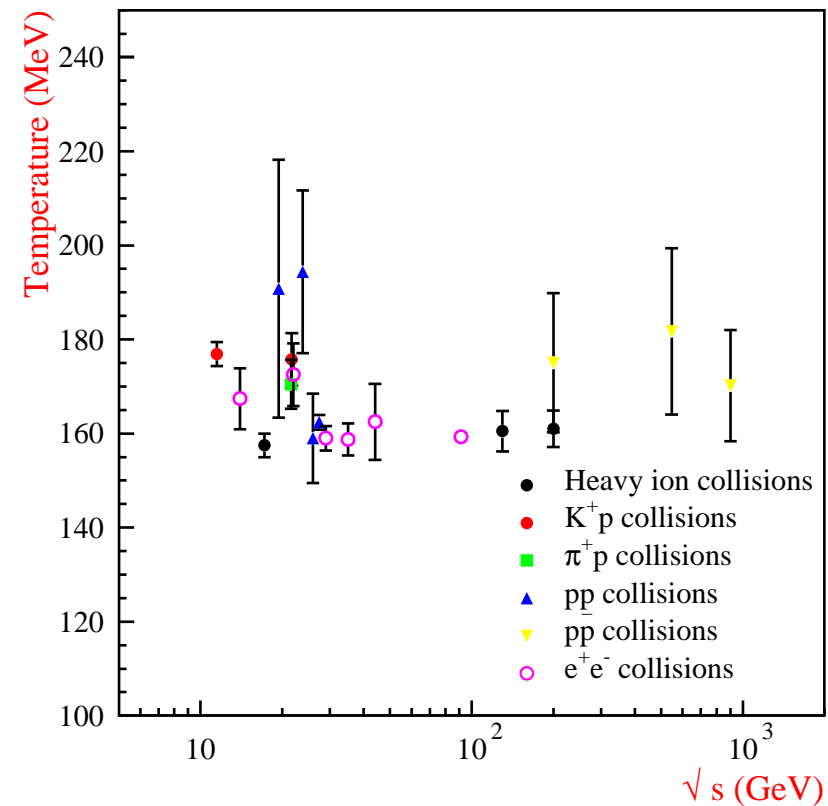
Heavy ion collisions \Rightarrow baryon density

- resonance gas at T, μ_B ; $\mu_B \downarrow$ for $\sqrt{s} \uparrow$
- elementary high energy collisions $\mu_B \simeq 0$
- species abundances in high energy heavy ion collisions (peak SPS, RHIC)

compilation [Becattini 2006](#)

Result:

same hadronization temperature
for high energy heavy ion and
elementary collisions,
independent of collision energy



Conclude:

Hadron abundances in all high energy collisions (e^+e^- annihilation, hadron-hadron interactions and heavy ion collisions) are those of an ideal resonance gas at a universal temperature

$$T_H \simeq 170 \pm 20 \text{ MeV.}$$

NB: **Strangeness production** in elementary collisions uniformly **suppressed** by $\gamma_s \simeq 0.5 - 0.6$
suppression weakened/removed in heavy ion collisions

Conclude:

Hadron abundances in all high energy collisions (e^+e^- annihilation, hadron-hadron interactions and heavy ion collisions) are those of an ideal resonance gas at a universal temperature

$$T_H \simeq 170 \pm 20 \text{ MeV.}$$

NB: **Strangeness production** in elementary collisions uniformly **suppressed** by $\gamma_s \simeq 0.5 - 0.6$
suppression weakened/removed in heavy ion collisions

WHY?

Why should **high energy collisions** produce a **thermal medium**?

Multiple parton interactions \rightarrow kinetic thermalization?

nucleus-nucleus maybe; e^+e^- , hadron-hadron not

Is there another “non-kinetic” thermalization mechanism?

Is there a common origin of thermal production
in all high energy collisions?

Why should **high energy collisions** produce a **thermal medium**?

Multiple parton interactions \rightarrow kinetic thermalization?

nucleus-nucleus maybe; e^+e^- , hadron-hadron not

Is there another “non-kinetic” thermalization mechanism?

Is there a common origin of thermal production
in all high energy collisions?

Passing colour charge **disturbs vacuum**, vacuum recovers
by hadron production according to maximum entropy

What does that mean?

Why should **high energy collisions** produce a **thermal medium**?

Multiple parton interactions \rightarrow kinetic thermalization?

nucleus-nucleus maybe; e^+e^- , hadron-hadron not

Is there another “non-kinetic” thermalization mechanism?

Is there a common origin of thermal production
in all high energy collisions?

Passing colour charge **disturbs vacuum**, vacuum recovers
by hadron production according to maximum entropy

What does that mean?

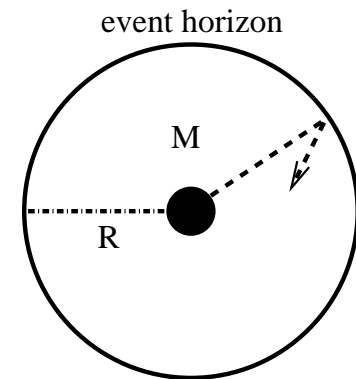
Conjecture: Colour confinement \sim black hole physics

[Paolo Castorina, Dmitri Kharzeev, HS 2007]

2. Black Holes and Event Horizons

- black hole

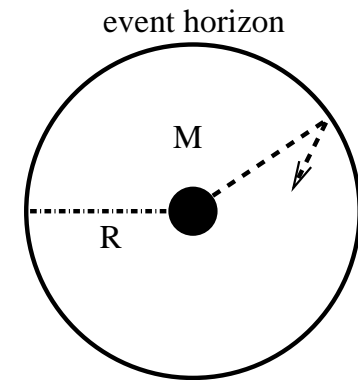
neutron star after gravitational collapse
large mass M and compact size
gravitation so strong that matter &
light are confined \Rightarrow event horizon R
no communication with outside, but...



2. Black Holes and Event Horizons

- black hole

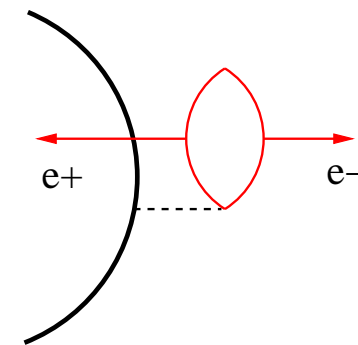
neutron star after gravitational collapse
large mass M and compact size
gravitation so strong that matter &
light are confined \Rightarrow event horizon R
no communication with outside, but...



[Hawking 1975]

- Hawking radiation

quantum effect \sim uncertainty principle
vacuum fluctuation e^+e^- outside event
horizon, with $\Delta E \Delta t \sim 1$
if in Δt , e^+ falls into black hole,
then e^- can escape; equivalent:
 e^- tunnels through event horizon



- Quantum Causality

no information about state of system beyond event horizon; e^+ on one side, e^- on the other: EPR

\Rightarrow Hawking radiation must be thermal

$$\frac{dN}{dk} \sim \exp\left\{-\frac{k}{T_{BH}}\right\}$$

with black hole temperature $T_{BH} = \frac{\hbar}{8\pi c G M}$

relativistic quantum effect: disappears for $\hbar \rightarrow 0$ or $c \rightarrow \infty$

\Rightarrow tunnelling through event horizon \rightarrow thermal radiation

- Quantum Causality

no information about state of system beyond event horizon; e^+ on one side, e^- on the other: EPR

\Rightarrow Hawking radiation must be thermal

$$\frac{dN}{dk} \sim \exp\left\{-\frac{k}{T_{BH}}\right\}$$

with black hole temperature $T_{BH} = \frac{\hbar}{8\pi c G M}$

relativistic quantum effect: disappears for $\hbar \rightarrow 0$ or $c \rightarrow \infty$

\Rightarrow tunnelling through event horizon \rightarrow thermal radiation

- Unruh relation

[Unruh 1976]

event horizon arises for systems in uniform acceleration

mass m in uniform acceleration a

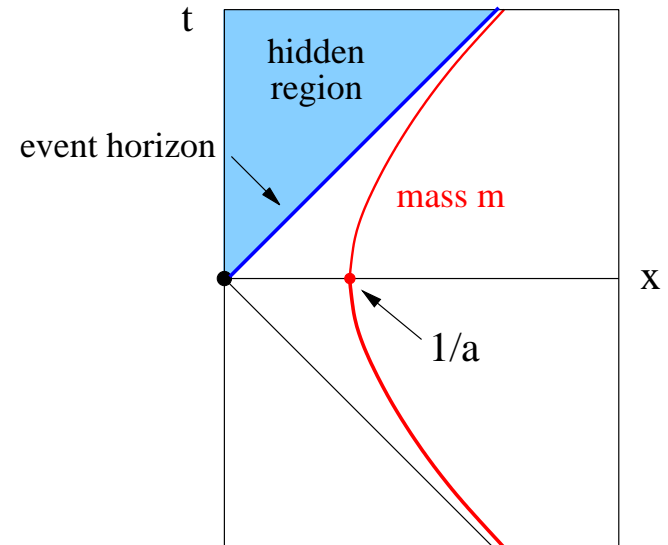
$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{mv}{\sqrt{1-v^2}} = F$$

$$v = dx/dt, F = ma, c = 1$$

solution: hyperbolic motion

$$x = \frac{1}{a} \cosh a\tau$$

$$t = \frac{1}{a} \sinh a\tau$$

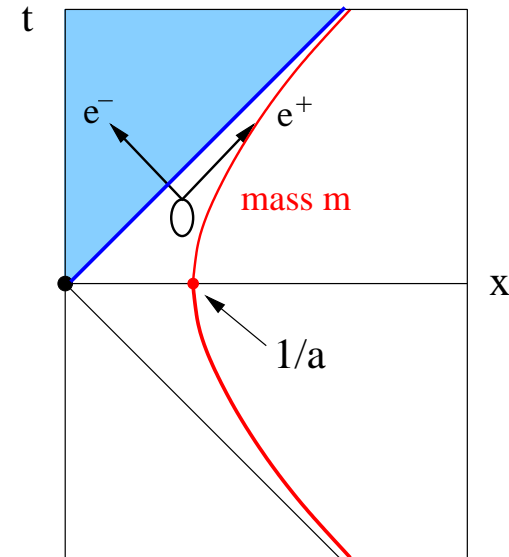


\exists event horizon: m cannot reach hidden region
observer in hidden region cannot communicate with m

m passes through vacuum, can use part of acceleration energy to excite vacuum fluctuations on-shell

e^+ absorbed in detector on m
 e^- disappears beyond event horizon

“quantum entanglement”
 \sim Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen effect



observer on m as well as observer in hidden region have
incomplete information: \Rightarrow each sees thermal radiation

observer on m :
physical vacuum = thermal medium of temperature T_U

Unruh temperature $T_U = \frac{\hbar a}{2\pi c}$ again relativistic quantum effect

for observer in hidden region, Unruh radiation:

passage of $m \Rightarrow$ thermal radiation of temperature T_U

Black hole event horizon $R = 2GM$ (Schwarzschild radius)

$$F = ma = G \frac{Mm}{R^2} \Rightarrow a = \frac{GM}{R^2} = \frac{1}{4GM}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_U = \frac{a}{2\pi} = \frac{1}{8\pi GM} = T_{BH}$$

recover Hawking result

for observer in hidden region, Unruh radiation:

passage of $m \Rightarrow$ thermal radiation of temperature T_U

Black hole event horizon $R = 2GM$ (Schwarzschild radius)

$$F = ma = G \frac{Mm}{R^2} \Rightarrow a = \frac{GM}{R^2} = \frac{1}{4GM}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_U = \frac{a}{2\pi} = \frac{1}{8\pi GM} = T_{BH}$$

recover Hawking result

In general:

[T. D. Lee 1986, Parikh & Wilczek 2000]

event horizon \sim information transfer forbidden

\Rightarrow quantum tunnelling \sim thermal radiation

Relation to QCD?

Gravitation:

matter and light are confined to restricted region of space
(“black hole”)

QCD:

coloured quarks and gluons are confined to restricted region
of space, colourless from the outside (“colour singlet”)

Hadrons as black hole analogue in strong interaction physics?

[Recami & Castorina 1976, Salam & Strathdee 1978]

Schwarzschild radius of nucleon

$$R_g^n = 2 G m \simeq 1.3 \times 10^{-38} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \simeq 3 \times 10^{-39} \text{ fm}$$

Volume of nucleon too big by 10^{100} to be a gravitational
black hole

But gravitation \rightarrow strong interaction: $Gm^2 \rightarrow \alpha_s$, hence

$$R_s^n = \frac{2\alpha_s}{m} \simeq 1 \text{ fm}$$

if $\alpha_s \simeq 2 - 3$.

Hadron radius \sim “strong” Schwarzschild radius

Hadrons \sim “strong” black holes
coloured inside, colourless outside

But gravitation \rightarrow strong interaction: $Gm^2 \rightarrow \alpha_s$, hence

$$R_s^n = \frac{2\alpha_s}{m} \simeq 1 \text{ fm}$$

if $\alpha_s \simeq 2 - 3$.

Hadron radius \sim “strong” Schwarzschild radius

Hadrons \sim “strong” black holes
coloured inside, colourless outside

More generally:

consider interacting hadrons, multihadron production, in
the framework of black hole physics concepts

Black hole: event horizon for **all** interactions

Strong black hole: event horizon for **strong** interactions

3. Pair Production and String Breaking

Basic process: two-jet e^+e^- annihilation, cms energy \sqrt{s} :

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^* \rightarrow q\bar{q} \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$$

$q\bar{q}$ separate subject to constant confining force $F = \sigma$

initial quark velocity $v_0 = \frac{p}{\sqrt{p^2 + m^2}}$, $p \simeq \sqrt{s}/2$

Solve $ma = \sigma$ (hyperbolic motion): [Hosoya 1979, Horibe 1979]

$$\tilde{x} = [1 - \sqrt{1 - v_0\tilde{t} + \tilde{t}^2}] , \quad \tilde{x} = x/x_0 , \quad \tilde{t} = t/x_0$$

with

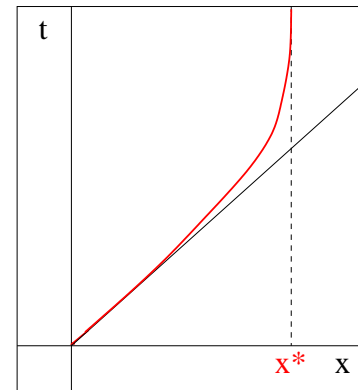
$$x_0 = \frac{m}{\sigma} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v_0^2}} = \frac{m}{\sigma} \gamma = \frac{1}{a} \gamma$$

classical turning point $v(t^*) = 0$ at

$$x^* = x(t^*) = \frac{m}{\sigma} \gamma [1 - \sqrt{1 - (v_0/2)^2}] \simeq \frac{\sqrt{s}}{2\sigma}$$

$q\bar{q}$ can separate arbitrarily far
if \sqrt{s} is large enough

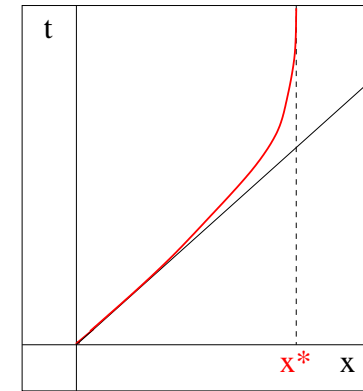
What's wrong?



classical turning point $v(t^*) = 0$ at

$$x^* = x(t^*) = \frac{m}{\sigma} \gamma [1 - \sqrt{1 - (v_0/2)^2}] \simeq \frac{\sqrt{s}}{2\sigma}$$

$q\bar{q}$ can separate arbitrarily far
if \sqrt{s} is large enough

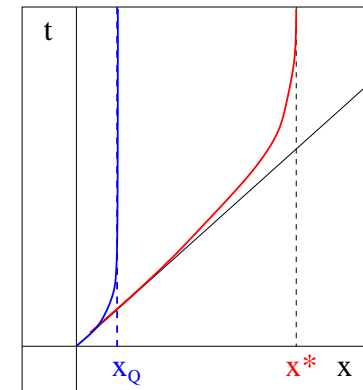


What's wrong?

classical event horizon

Strong field \Rightarrow vacuum unstable
against pair production [Schwinger 1951]

when $\sigma x > \sigma x_Q \equiv 2m$
string connecting $q\bar{q}$ breaks



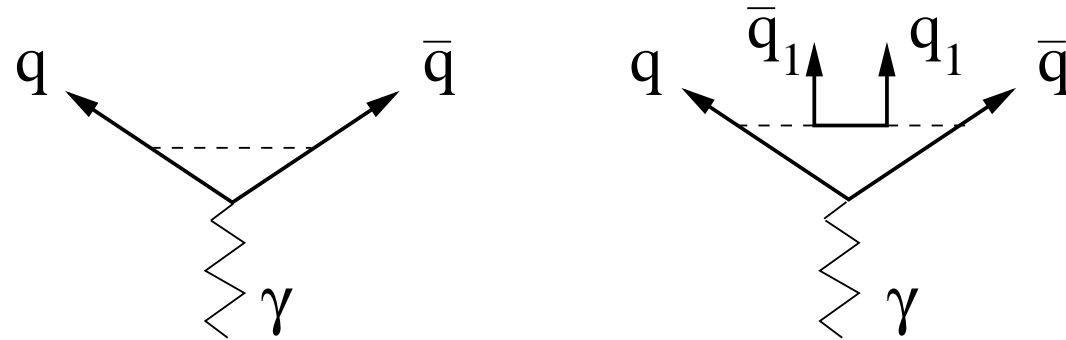
Result:

quantum event horizon

Hadron production in e^+e^- annihilation:

“inside-outside cascade”

[Bjorken 1976]



$q\bar{q}$ flux tube has thickness

$$r_T \simeq \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi\sigma}}$$

$q_1\bar{q}_1$ at rest in cms, but

$$k_T \simeq \frac{1}{r_T} \simeq \sqrt{\frac{\pi\sigma}{2}}$$

$q\bar{q}$ separation at $q_1\bar{q}_1$ production

$$\sigma x(q\bar{q}) = 2\sqrt{m^2 + k_T^2}$$

q_1 screens \bar{q} from q , hence string breaking at

$$x_q \simeq \frac{2}{\sigma} \sqrt{m^2 + (\pi\sigma/2)} \simeq \sqrt{2\pi/\sigma} \simeq 1 \text{ fm}$$

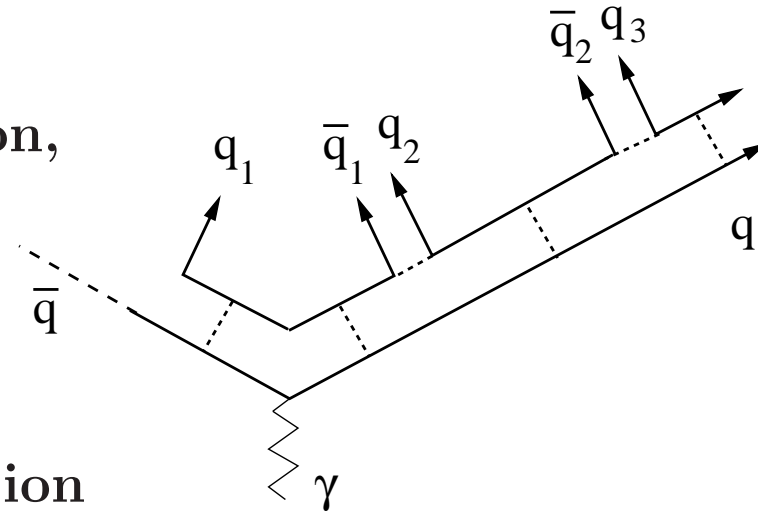
new flux tubes $q\bar{q}_1$ and $\bar{q}q_1$
stretch $q_1\bar{q}_1$
to form new pair $q_2\bar{q}_2$

$$\sigma x(q_1\bar{q}_1) = 2\sqrt{m^2 + k_T^2}$$

equivalent:

\bar{q}_1 reaches $q_1\bar{q}_1$ event horizon,
tunnels to become \bar{q}_2

emission of hadron \bar{q}_1q_2
as Hawking radiation



self-similar pattern:

screening

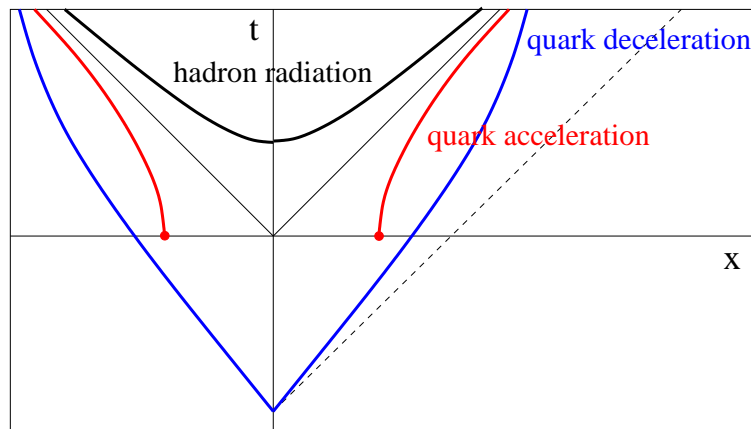
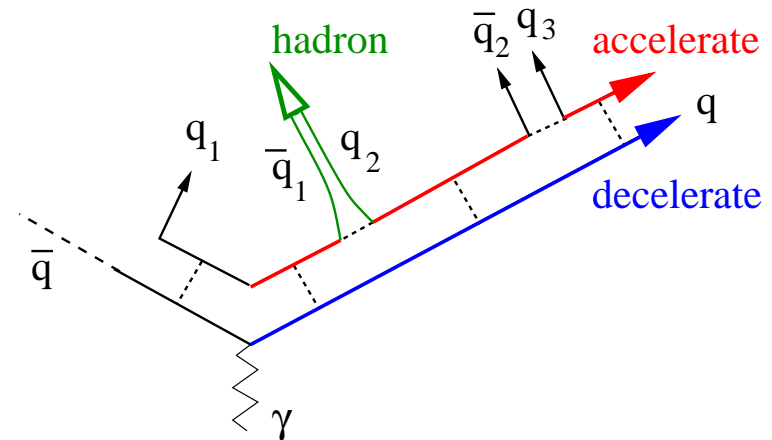
string breaking

tunnelling

quark acceleration

/deceleration

Hawking radiation



temperature of Hawking radiation: what acceleration?
 $(\bar{q}_1 \rightarrow \bar{q}_2 \rightarrow \bar{q}_3 \rightarrow \dots)$

$$a = F/m \Rightarrow a_q = \frac{\sigma}{w_q} = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{m_q^2 + k_q^2}}$$

string breaking & thickness determine $k_q \simeq \sqrt{\pi\sigma/2}$

$$\Rightarrow a_q \simeq \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{m_q^2 + (\sigma/2\pi)}}$$

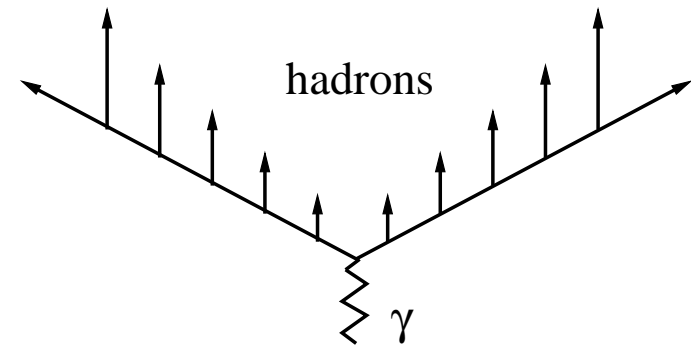
for light quarks, $m_q \ll \sqrt{\sigma} \simeq 420$ MeV, hence

$$T = \frac{a}{2\pi} \simeq \sqrt{\frac{\sigma}{2\pi}} \simeq 170 \text{ MeV}$$

temperature of hadronic Hawking-Unruh radiation in QCD

hadronization pattern:

hadron multiplicity?



thickness of classical “overstretched” string:

$$R_T^2 = \frac{2}{\pi\sigma} \sum_{k=0}^K \frac{1}{2k+1} \simeq \frac{2}{\pi\sigma} \ln 2K \simeq \frac{2}{\pi\sigma} \ln \sqrt{s}$$

quantum breaking at $x_q \sim r_T$, hence hadron multiplicity

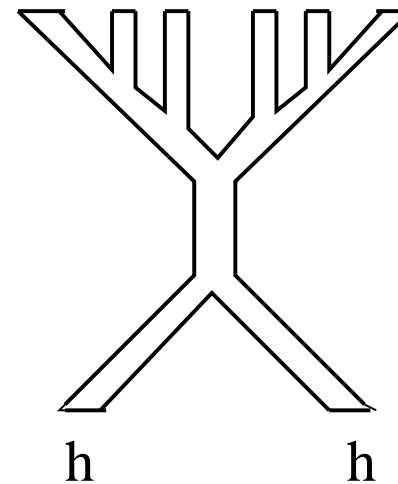
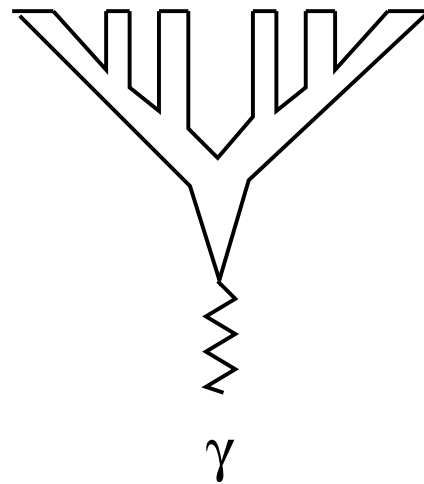
$$\nu(s) \simeq \frac{R_T^2}{r_T^2} \simeq \ln \sqrt{s}$$

NB: parton evolution (minijets), multiple jets lead to stronger increase

generalize:

e^+e^- annihilation
“black hole” creation

hadron-hadron collision
“black hole” fusion



both \rightarrow self-similar cascades

Heavy ion collisions: interference between emitted hadrons

4. Strangeness Production

[Becattini, Castorina, Manninen, HS 2008]

Unruh temperature $\sim 1 / \text{mass of secondary}$; e.g. :
spontaneous production in strong field \mathcal{E} (Schwinger)

$$P(m, \mathcal{E}) \sim \exp\{-\pi m^2 / e\mathcal{E}\}, \quad a = \frac{e\mathcal{E}}{m}$$

so that

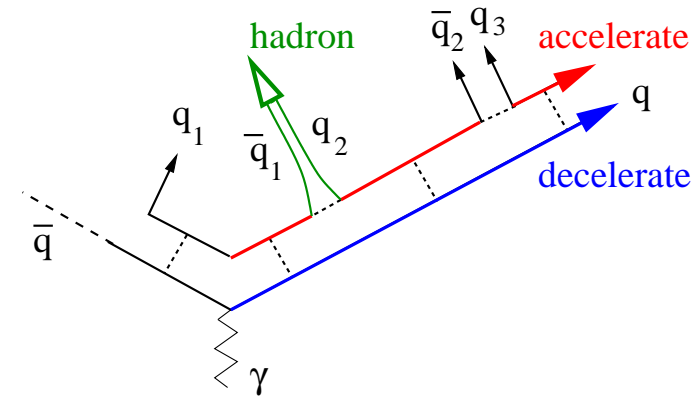
$$P(m, \mathcal{E}) \sim \exp\{-m/T_U\}, \quad T_U = \frac{a_e}{2\pi} = \frac{e\mathcal{E}}{2\pi m}$$

we had for finite quark mass m_q

$$a_q \simeq \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{m_q^2 + (\sigma/2\pi)}}$$

produced meson consists
of quarks \bar{q}_1 and q_2

meson containing two
different quark masses
will have average acceleration



$$\bar{a}_{12} = \frac{w_1 a_1 + w_2 a_2}{w_1 + w_2} = \frac{2\sigma}{w_1 + w_2}; \quad w_i \simeq \sqrt{m_i^2 + (\sigma/2\pi)}$$

leading to

$$T(12) \simeq \frac{a_{12}}{2\pi}$$

easily extended to baryons; result: five temperatures

$$T(00) = T(000); \quad T(s0); \quad T(ss) = T(sss); \quad T(00s); \quad T(0ss)$$

fully determined by σ and m_s

for $\sigma \simeq 0.17 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $m_s \simeq 0.08 \text{ GeV}$

obtain temperatures:

does this work?

analyse all existing high energy e^+e^- data

T	[GeV]
$T(00)$	0.164
$T(0s)$	0.156
$T(ss)$	0.148
$T(000)$	0.164
$T(00s)$	0.158
$T(0ss)$	0.153
$T(sss)$	0.148

hadron production data in e^+e^- annihilation exist at

$$\sqrt{s} = 14, 22, 29, 35, 43, 91, 180 \text{ GeV}$$

(PETRA, PEP, LEP)

example:

long-lived hadrons produced at LEP for $\sqrt{s} = 91.25 \text{ GeV}$

fit data in terms
of σ and m_s

result:

$$\sigma = 0.169 \pm 0.002 \text{ GeV}^2$$

$$m_s = 0.083 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\chi^2/\text{dof} = 22/12$$

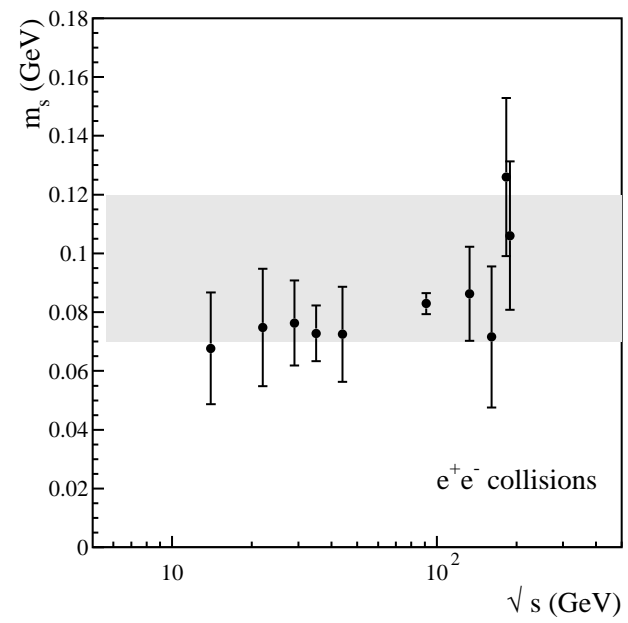
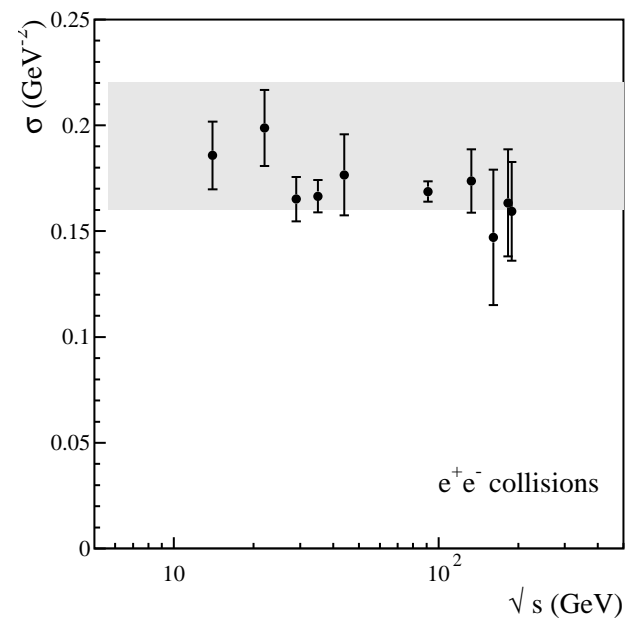
standard values:

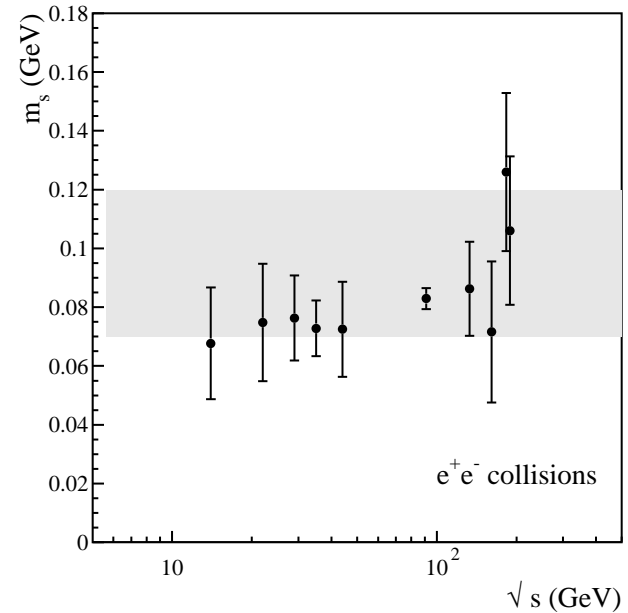
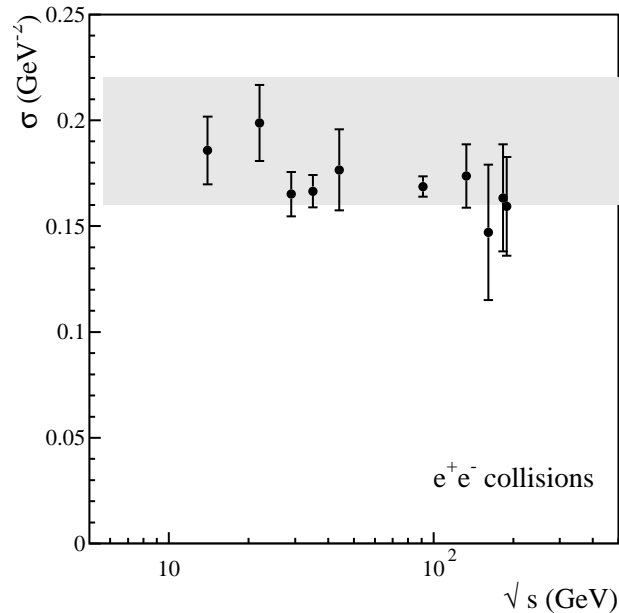
$$\sigma = 0.195 \pm 0.030 \text{ GeV}^2$$

$$m_s = 0.095 \pm 0.025 \text{ GeV}$$

perform analyses for all data

$e^+e^- \sqrt{s} = 91.2 \text{ GeV}$				
species	measured			fit
π^+	8.50	\pm	0.10	8.44
π^0	9.61	\pm	0.29	9.81
K^+	1.127	\pm	0.026	1.055
K^0	1.038	\pm	0.001	1.015
η	1.059	\pm	0.996	0.910
ω	1.024	\pm	0.059	0.996
p	0.519	\pm	0.018	0.570
η'	0.166	\pm	0.047	0.108
ϕ	0.0977	\pm	0.0058	0.1164
Λ	0.1943	\pm	0.0038	0.1846
Σ^+	0.0535	\pm	0.0052	0.0428
Σ^0	0.0389	\pm	0.0041	0.0435
Σ^-	0.0410	\pm	0.0037	0.0390
Ξ^-	0.01319	\pm	0.0005	0.0126
Ω	0.00062	\pm	0.0001	0.0009





Conclude

thermal hadron production in e^+e^- annihilation, includ'g strangeness suppression, is reproduced parameter-free as

Hawking-Unruh radiation of QCD

$\Rightarrow pp/p\bar{p}$ (straight-forward); heavy ions (interesting)

5. Kinetic vs. Stochastic Thermalization

Kinetic thermalization:

time evolution of given non-equilibrium configuration
(two parallel colliding parton beams)
through multiple collisions
to a time-independent equilibrium state
(quark-gluon plasma)

requires

- many constituents
- sufficiently large interaction cross sections
- sufficiently long time

thermal hadron production in e^+e^- , $pp/p\bar{p}$?

Hagedorn: *the emitted hadrons are “born into equilibrium”*

Hawking radiation:

- final state produced at random from the set of all states
corresponding to temperature T_H
determined by confining field
- this set of all final states is same as that
produced by kinetic thermalization
- measurements cannot tell if the equilibrium was reached
by thermal evolution or by throwing dice:

\Rightarrow Ergodic Equivalence Principle \Leftarrow

gravitation \sim acceleration

kinetic \sim stochastic

6. Summary

- The physical vacuum is an event horizon for coloured quarks and gluons; thermal hadrons are Hawking-Unruh radiation produced by quark tunnelling through event horizon.

6. Summary

- The physical vacuum is an event horizon for coloured quarks and gluons; thermal hadrons are Hawking-Unruh radiation produced by quark tunnelling through event horizon.
- The corresponding hadronization temperature T_H is determined by quark acceleration and deceleration in the colour field at the (quantum) horizon.

6. Summary

- The physical vacuum is an event horizon for coloured quarks and gluons; thermal hadrons are Hawking-Unruh radiation produced by quark tunnelling through event horizon.
- The corresponding hadronization temperature T_H is determined by quark acceleration and deceleration in the colour field at the (quantum) horizon.
- Strangeness suppression is provided by the modification of the Unruh temperature due to the strange quark mass.

6. Summary

- The physical vacuum is an event horizon for coloured quarks and gluons; thermal hadrons are Hawking-Unruh radiation produced by quark tunnelling through event horizon.
- The corresponding hadronization temperature T_H is determined by quark acceleration and deceleration in the colour field at the (quantum) horizon.
- Strangeness suppression is provided by the modification of the Unruh temperature due to the strange quark mass.
- Given string tension σ and strange quark mass m_s , the resulting scenario provides a parameter-free description of thermal hadron production in elementary high energy interactions.

God does play dice, but He sometimes throws them where they can't be seen.

Stephen Hawking