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Fluctuations of conserved charges in strong magnetic fields

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We present results on the second-order fluctuations of and correlations among net baryon number, electric charge, and strangeness in (2+1)-flavor lattice QCD in the presence of a background magnetic field. We extended our previous simulations with pion mass $m_\pi=220$ MeV [1] to physical pion mass $m_\pi=140$ MeV. Simulations are performed on $32^3\times 8$ lattices using the highly improved staggered fermions with different values of lattice spacing corresponding to temperatures ranging from 144 MeV to 166 MeV. The magnetic field strength eB is simulated with 9 different values up to $\sim\!40m_\pi^2$ at each temperature. We discuss the temperature and eB dependences of the second-order fluctuations of and correlations among net baryon number, electric charge, and strangeness. We find that these fluctuations and correlations are substantially affected by the magnetic field at eB $\sim\!15m_\pi^2$, which is around the strength produced in the initial stage of non-central heavy-ion collisions at the LHC energy. We propose that these fluctuations and correlations could be useful for probing the existence of a magnetic field in heavy-ion collision experiments.

Presenter: Dr LIU, Junhong (C)
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