

# Strong Fields in Quantum Chromodynamics

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Strong gauge fields, which play an essential role in the field in extreme light sources, are also a crucial ingredient in the theoretical description of ultrarelativistic heavy-ion collisions. The main common point is the prevalence of the Schwinger mechanism in the discussion of particle production. In addition, a novel question that arises because of the strength of the strong interactions is that of the thermalization of the produced gluons. In this talk, I will give an overview of the strong-field aspects relevant to the study of heavy-ion collisions.