

Note for electron-positron plasma

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I. ENERGY DENSITY RATIO BETWEEN ELECTRON/POSITRON AND BARYONS

Considering the energy density between nonrelativistic e^\pm and baryon, it can be written as

$$\frac{\rho_e + \rho_{\bar{e}}}{\rho_p + \rho_\alpha} = \frac{m_e(n_e + n_{\bar{e}})}{m_p n_p + m_\alpha n_\alpha} = \frac{m_e(n_e + n_{\bar{e}})}{n_B(m_p X_p + m_\alpha X_\alpha)} = \left(\frac{n_e + n_{\bar{e}}}{n_B}\right) \left(\frac{m_e}{m_p X_p + m_\alpha X_\alpha}\right) \quad (1)$$

where from particle data group $X_p = n_p/n_B$ and $X_\alpha = n_\alpha/n_B$ are given by

$$X_p = 0.878, \quad X_\alpha = 0.245 \quad (2)$$

and masses are given by

$$m_e = 0.511 \text{ MeV}, \quad m_p = 938.272 \text{ MeV}, \quad m_\alpha = 2m_p + 2m_n = 3755.67 \text{ MeV} \quad (3)$$

In Fig.(1) we plot the energy density ratio Eq.(1) as a function of temperature $10 \text{ keV} \leq T \leq 200 \text{ keV}$. It shows that the energy density of electron and positron is dominated until $T = 30.2 \text{ keV}$, i.e., we have $\rho_e \gg \rho_B$. After $T = 30.2 \text{ keV}$, we have $\rho_e \ll \rho_B$ and ratio becomes constant when is around $T = 20 \text{ keV}$ because of the positron annihilation and charge neutrality.

To estimate the energy density ratio for the low temperature limit $T \ll 20 \text{ keV}$, we can consider that all positrons disappear because of the annihilation. Then the energy density ratio becomes:

$$\frac{\rho_e + \rho_{\bar{e}}}{\rho_p + \rho_\alpha} = \left(\frac{n_e}{n_B}\right) \left(\frac{m_e}{m_p X_p + m_\alpha X_\alpha}\right) = \left(\frac{n_p}{n_B}\right) \left(\frac{m_e}{m_p X_p + m_\alpha X_\alpha}\right) \quad (4)$$

$$= X_p \left(\frac{m_e}{m_p X_p + m_\alpha X_\alpha}\right) \approx 2.5 \times 10^{-4} \quad (5)$$

where we use the charge neutrality $n_e = n_p$ to replace the electron density by proton density and we can calculate the ratio by giving the X_p and X_α from observation.

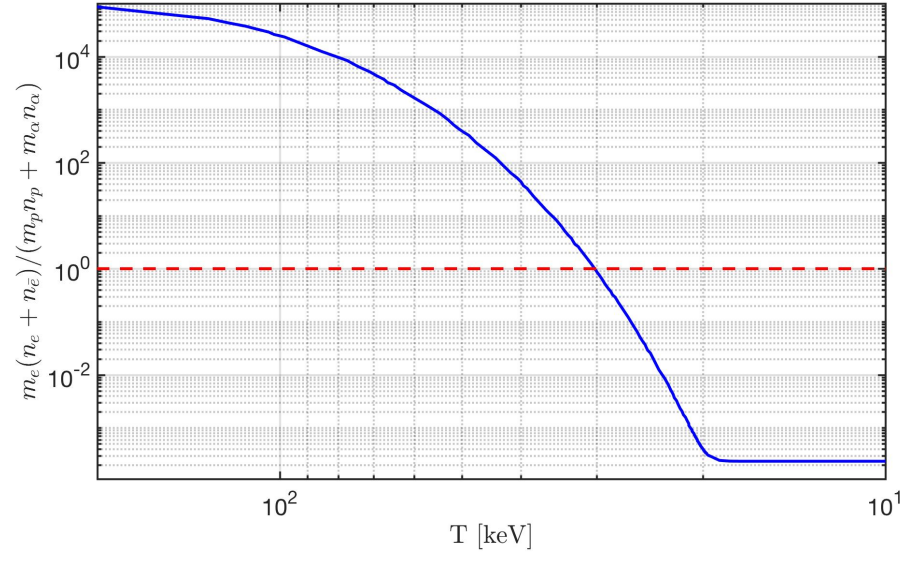


FIG. 1: The energy density ratio Eq.(1) as a function of temperature $10 \text{ keV} \leq T \leq 200 \text{ keV}$. It shows that the energy density of electron and positron is dominated until $T = 30.2 \text{ keV}$, i.e., we have $\rho_e \gg \rho_B$.