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Real-time chiral dynamics from a digital quantum simulation¹ YUTA KIKUCHI, DMITRI KHARZEEV, Brookhaven National Laboratory — The chiral magnetic effect in a strong magnetic field can be described using the chiral anomaly in the (1+1)-dimensional massive Schwinger model with a time-dependent θ -term. We perform a digital quantum simulation of the model at finite θ -angle and vanishing gauge coupling using an IBM-Q digital quantum simulator, and observe the corresponding vector current induced in a system of relativistic fermions by a global *chiral quench* – a sudden change in the chiral chemical potential or θ -angle. At finite fermion mass, there appears an additional contribution to this current that stems from the non-anomalous relaxation of chirality. Our results are relevant for the real-time dynamics of chiral magnetic effect in heavy ion collisions and in chiral materials, as well as for modeling high-energy processes at hadron colliders.

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