

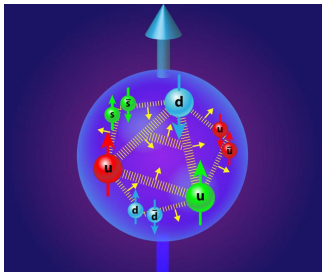
Quantum kinetic theory and the Wigner-function formalism

Enrico Speranza

Workshop on QGP Phenomenology - IPM

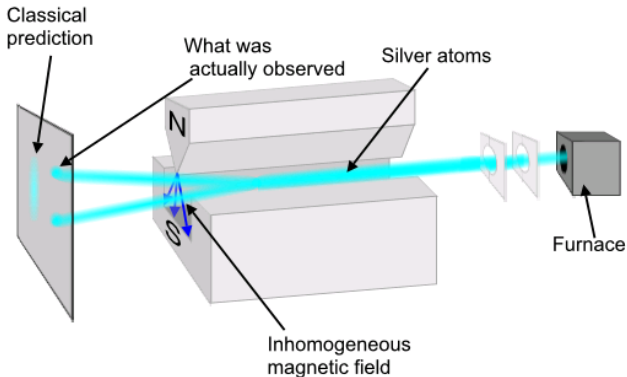
May 28, 2021

Quantum \leftrightarrow Classical



Quantum spin

▶ Stern-Gerlach Experiment (1922)

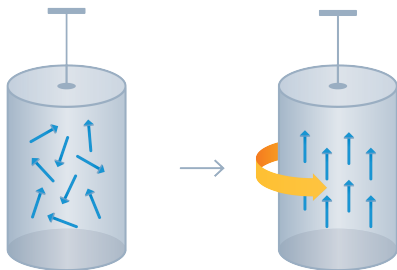


<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=563880>

- ▶ Two states: $|\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle$
- ▶ Spin operator: $\vec{S} = \frac{\hbar}{2}\vec{\sigma}$

Rotation and polarization

- ▶ Condensed matter: **Barnett effect**

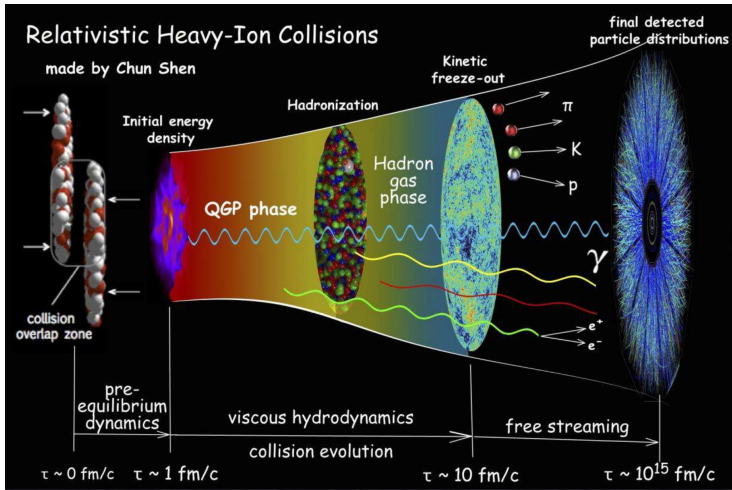


Ferromagnet gets magnetized when it rotates

Polarization effects through rotation in heavy-ion collisions? **Yes!**

Vorticity and spin physics in heavy-ion collisions

Relativistic heavy-ion collisions

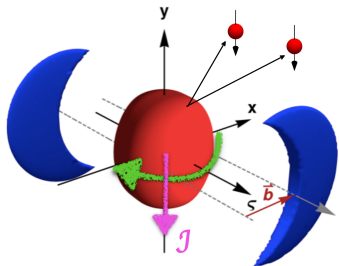


Picture by Chun Shen

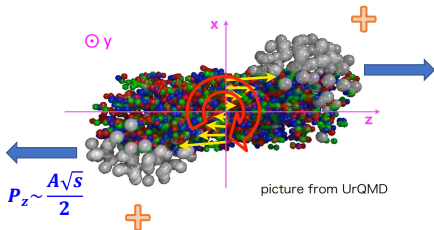
- ▶ Quark-gluon plasma \implies Early universe (up to $10 \mu\text{s}$ after Big Bang)
- ▶ Relativistic hydrodynamics is a powerful effective theory: $\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0$

Heinz, Snellings, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 63, 123-151 (2013)

Noncentral heavy-ion collisions



picture from Florkowski, Ryblewski, Kumar,
Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 108, 103709 (2019)



Large global angular momentum

$$J \sim \frac{A\sqrt{s}}{2} b \sim 10^5 \hbar$$

⇒ Vorticity of hot and dense matter ⇒ particle polarization along vorticity

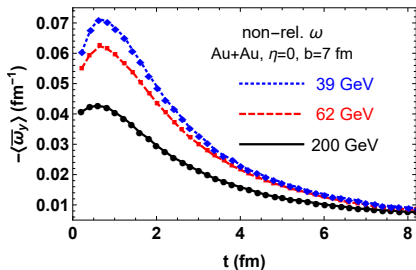
Vorticity



$$\vec{\omega} = \frac{1}{2} \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v}$$

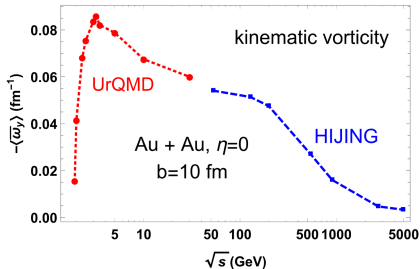
Vorticity in heavy-ion collisions

Time dependence



Jiang, Lin, Liao, PRC 94, 044910

Energy dependence



Deng, Huang, Ma, Zhang, PRC 101 064908

Deng, Huang, PRC 93 064907

see also, e.g., Huang, Liao, Wang, Xia, 2010.08937; Huang, 2002.07549; Becattini et al EPJC 75, 406; Csernai, Magas, Wang, PRC 87, 034906; Csernai, Wang, Bleicher, Stoecker, PRC 90, 021904; Ivanov, Soldatov, PRC 95 054915

- ▶ Vorticity decreases at high energies
- ▶ Extremely high vorticity: $\omega_y \sim 10^{-2} \text{fm}^{-1} \sim 10^{21} \text{s}^{-1}$

Spin-vorticity coupling

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Effective interaction} &\sim -\hbar \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\omega} \\ &\sim \text{Quantum} \cdot \text{Classical} \end{aligned}$$

$\vec{\sigma}$ - Particle spin, $\vec{\omega}$ - Medium rotation

- ▶ Thermodynamic equilibrium statistical operator $\rho = \exp\left(-\frac{\hbar \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\omega}}{k_B T}\right)$
 T - Temperature, k_B - Boltzmann constant

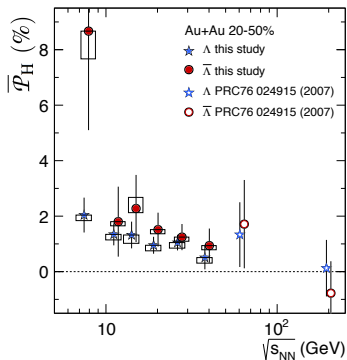
$$\vec{P} = \text{Tr}(\rho \vec{\sigma}) \sim \frac{\hbar}{k_B T} \vec{\omega}$$

- ▶ \implies Λ -baryon polarization, ϕ and K^{*0} -mesons polarization (?)

Voloshin, 0410089; Liang, Wang, PRL 94, 102301; Betz, Gyulassy, Torrieri PRC 76, 044901;
Becattini, Piccinini, Rizzo, PRC 77, 024906

Experimental observation - Global Λ polarization

- ▶ Polarization along global angular momentum



L. Adamczyk et al. (STAR), Nature 548 62-65 (2017)

- ▶ Weak decay: $\Lambda \rightarrow p + \pi^-$ angular distr.: $dN/d \cos \theta = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \alpha |\vec{P}_H| \cos \theta)$
- ▶ Quark-gluon plasma is the "most vortical fluid ever observed"

$$\omega = (P_\Lambda + P_{\bar{\Lambda}})k_B T/\hbar \sim 10^{21} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

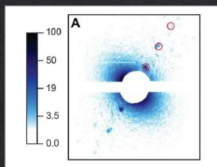
The most vortical fluid ever observed



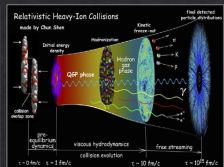
tornado cores
 $\sim 10^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$



Jupiter's spot
 $\sim 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$



He nanodroplets
 $\sim 10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}$



urHICs
 $\sim 10^{22} - 10^{23} \text{ s}^{-1}$

Polarization observable in heavy-ion collisions

► Assumptions:

- 1 Local thermodynamic equilibrium of spin degrees of freedom
- 2 Polarization determined at **freeze-out** - No spin dynamics during medium evolution

Becattini, Chandra, Del Zanna, Grossi, *Annals. Phys.* 338, 32 (2013)

► Relativistic spin vector at **local equilibrium**

$$\langle \hat{\Pi}_\mu(p) \rangle = -\frac{\hbar^2}{8m} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} p^\nu \frac{\int d\Sigma_\lambda p^\lambda f(1-f) \varpi^{\alpha\beta}}{\int d\Sigma_\lambda p^\lambda f}$$

$\varpi^{\alpha\beta} = -\frac{1}{2}(\partial^\alpha \beta^\beta - \partial^\beta \beta^\alpha)$ - Thermal vorticity

$\beta^\mu = u^\mu / T$, u^μ - Fluid velocity, T - Temperature

p^μ - particle momentum

f - Fermi-Dirac distribution function

Σ_λ - Space-time hypersurface (Freeze-out)

► Note: Recently, extra terms at local equilibrium have been found

Liu, Yin, 2103.09200 (2021); Fu, Liu, Pang, Song, Yin, 2103.10403 (2021); Becattini, Buzzegoli, Palermo, 2103.10917, (2021); Becattini, Buzzegoli, Palermo, Inghirami, Karpenko, 2103.14621 (2021)

What happens if **spin** is included as a dynamical variable in **kinetic theory** and **hydrodynamics**?

Spin as a dynamical variable

Goal: Relativistic hydrodynamics (classical) with spin (quantum) as dynamical variable

Florkowski, Friman, Jaiswal, ES, PRC 97, no. 4, 041901 (2018)

Florkowski, Friman, Jaiswal, Ryblewski, ES, PRD 97, no. 11, 116017 (2018)

Florkowski, Becattini, ES, Acta Phys. Polon. B 49, 1409 (2018)

Becattini, Florkowski, ES, PLB 789, 419 (2019)

Bhadury, Florkowski, Jaiswal, Kumar, Ryblewski, 2002.03937, 2008.10976 (2020)

Singh, Sophys, Ryblewski, PRD 103, no.7, 074024 (2021)

ES, Weickgenannt, EPJA, 57, 155 (2021)

Starting point: Kinetic theory from quantum field theory

Weickgenannt, Sheng, ES, Wang, Rischke, PRD 100, no. 5, 056018 (2019)

Weickgenannt, ES, Sheng, Wang, Rischke, PRL, 2005.01506 (2020), 2103.04896 (2021)

Sheng, Weickgenannt, ES, Rischke, Wang, 2103.10636 (2021)

▶ **Alternative approaches: Lagrangian formulation, entropy current, ...**

Montenegro, Tinti, Torrieri, PRD 96, 056012 (2017)

Montenegro, Torrieri, 2004.10195 (2020)

Hattori, Hongo, Huang, Matsuo, Taya, PLB795, 100 (2019)

Garbiso, Kaminski, JHEP 12, 112 (2020)

Fukushima, Pu, 2010.01608 (2020)

Li, Stephanov, Yee, 2011.12318 (2020)

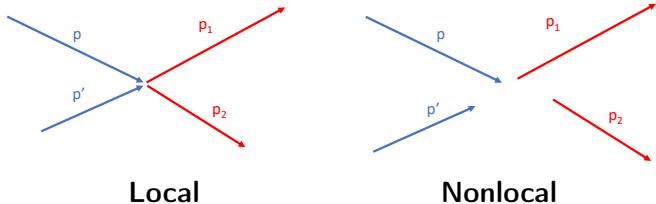
Gallegos, Gürsoy, Yarom, arXiv:2101.04759 (2020)

Our results

Weickgenannt, ES, Sheng, Wang, Rischke, PRL, 2005.01506 (2020), 2103.04896 (2021)

- ▶ How do we describe the orbital-to-spin angular momentum conversion in kinetic theory?

Nonlocal particle scatterings (finite impact parameter)



- ▶ And in hydrodynamics?

Antisymmetric part of energy-momentum tensor

Kinetic theory



Classical kinetic theory

- ▶ Distribution function

$$f(x, p)$$

- ▶ Boltzmann equation

$$p_\mu \partial^\mu f(x, p) = C[f(x, p)]$$

$C[f(x, p)]$ - Collision term

- ▶ Hydrodynamics from kinetic theory

$$T^{\mu\nu}(x) = \int d^4 p p^\mu p^\nu f(x, p)$$

$$\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu}(x) = \int d^4 p p^\nu C[f(x, p)] = 0$$

How to formulate kinetic theory from quantum mechanics?

Wigner function - Quantum mechanics

"Quantum extension" of classical distribution function

$$W(x, p) = \int \frac{dy}{2\pi\hbar} e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}p \cdot y} \psi^* \left(x + \frac{y}{2}\right) \psi \left(x - \frac{y}{2}\right)$$

Properties: $\int dp W(x, p) = |\psi(x)|^2, \quad \int dx W(x, p) = |\psi(p)|^2$

Connected to probability!

- ▶ Expectation value of any operator \hat{A}

$$\langle \hat{A} \rangle = \int dx dp W(x, p) a(x, p)$$

- ▶ Schroedinger equation \Rightarrow Eqs. of motion = Boltzmann eq.

$$\frac{\partial W(x, p)}{\partial t} + \frac{p}{m} \frac{\partial W(x, p)}{\partial x} = C$$

Wigner function - Quantum field theory

$$W_{\chi\sigma}(x, p) = \int \frac{d^4 y}{(2\pi\hbar)^4} e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} p \cdot y} \left\langle : \bar{\Psi}_\sigma \left(x + \frac{y}{2} \right) \Psi_\chi \left(x - \frac{y}{2} \right) : \right\rangle$$

- ▶ Dirac equation \implies Equations of motion for Wigner function

Elze, Gyulassy, Vasak, Ann. Phys. 173 (1987) 462

de Groot, van Leeuwen, van Weert, Relativistic Kinetic Theory. Principles and Applications

$$\left[\gamma \cdot \left(p + i \frac{\hbar}{2} \partial \right) - m \right] W(x, p) = \hbar \int \frac{d^4 y}{(2\pi\hbar)^4} e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} p \cdot y} \left\langle : \rho \left(x - \frac{y}{2} \right) \bar{\psi} \left(x + \frac{y}{2} \right) : \right\rangle$$

$\rho = -(1/\hbar) \partial \mathcal{L}_I / \partial \bar{\psi}$, $\mathcal{L}_I =$ interaction Lagrangian

\implies Boltzmann equation \implies Kinetic theory

$$p_\mu \partial^\mu W_{\chi\sigma}(x, p) = C_{\chi\sigma}$$

\hbar -expansion

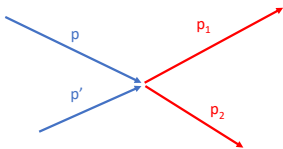
Weickgenannt, ES, Sheng, Wang, Rischke, PRL, 2005.01506 (2020), 2103.04896 (2021)

- ▶ Semiclassical expansion of Wigner function

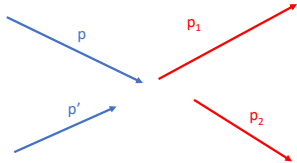
$$W = W^{(0)} + \hbar W^{(1)} + \mathcal{O}(\hbar^2)$$

- ▶ Semiclassical and **nonlocal** expansion of collision kernel

$$C = C_{\text{local}}^{(0)} + \hbar C_{\text{local}}^{(1)} + \hbar C_{\text{nonlocal}}^{(1)} + \mathcal{O}(\hbar^2)$$



Local



Nonlocal

Spin in phase space

Weickgenannt, ES, Sheng, Wang, Rischke, PRL, 2005.01506 (2020), 2103.04896 (2021)

- ▶ Account for spin dynamics **enlarge phase space**

J. Zamanian, M. Marklund, and G. Brodin, NJP 12, 043019 (2010)

W. Florkowski, R. Ryblewski, and A. Kumar, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 108, 103709 (2019)

- ▶ Introduce new phase-space variable \mathfrak{s}^μ

$$W_{\chi\sigma}(x, p) \rightarrow f(x, p, \mathfrak{s})$$

- ▶ Boltzmann equation

$$p \cdot \partial f(x, p, \mathfrak{s}) = m \mathcal{E}[f]$$

All dynamics in one scalar equation!

Nonlocal collisions

Weickgenannt, ES, Sheng, Wang, Rischke, PRL, 2005.01506 (2020), 2103.04896 (2021)

$$\mathfrak{C}[f] = \mathfrak{C}_{\text{local}}[f] + \hbar \mathfrak{C}_{\text{nonlocal}}[f]$$

- ▶ Long calculation \implies Intuitive result in low-density approximation:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{C}[f] = & \int d\Gamma_1 d\Gamma_2 d\Gamma' \mathcal{W} [f(x + \Delta_1, p_1, s_1) f(x + \Delta_2, p_2, s_2) - f(x + \Delta, p, s) f(x + \Delta', p', s')] \\ & + \int d\Gamma_2 dS_1(p) \mathfrak{W} f(x + \Delta_1, p, s_1) f(x + \Delta_2, p_2, s_2) \end{aligned}$$

$$d\Gamma \equiv d^4 p dS(p)$$

- ▶ Structure: Momentum and spin exchange + Spin exchange only
- ▶ Nonlocal Collisions \implies Displacement $\Delta \sim \mathcal{O}(\hbar) \sim \mathcal{O}(\partial)$
- ▶ $\mathcal{W}, \mathfrak{W}$ vacuum transition probabilities, depend on phase-space spins

Equilibrium distribution function

Weickgenannt, ES, Sheng, Wang, Rischke, PRL, 2005.01506 (2020), 2103.04896 (2021)

▶ **Equilibrium condition:** $\mathcal{C}[f] = 0$

▶ **Ansatz for distribution function**

F. Becattini, V. Chandra, L. Del Zanna, and E. Grossi, AP. 338, 32 (2013)

W. Florkowski, R. Ryblewski, and A. Kumar, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 108, 103709 (2019)

$$f_{\text{eq}}(x, p, \mathfrak{s}) \propto \exp \left[\underbrace{-\beta(x) \cdot p}_{\text{Energy-momentum}} + \underbrace{\frac{\hbar}{4} \Omega_{\mu\nu}(x) \Sigma_{\mathfrak{s}}^{\mu\nu}}_{\text{Total angular momentum}} \right] \delta(p^2 - M^2)$$

▶ M - mass (possibly modified by interactions)

▶ $\beta^\mu = u^\mu / T$, Spin potential $\Omega^{\mu\nu}$

▶ Spin-dipole-moment tensor $\Sigma_{\mathfrak{s}}^{\mu\nu} \equiv -\frac{1}{m} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} p_\alpha \mathfrak{s}_\beta$

▶ Insert into $\mathcal{C}[f]$ and expand up to $\mathcal{O}(\hbar)$

Condition for $\mathcal{C}[f] = 0 \implies$ Global equilibrium

$$\partial_\mu \beta_\nu + \partial_\nu \beta_\mu = 0 \quad \Omega_{\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \beta_\nu - \partial_\nu \beta_\mu) = \text{const.}$$

System gets polarized through rotations!

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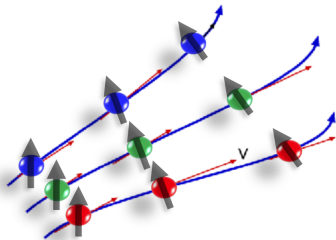
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System gets polarized through rotations!

Spin hydrodynamics



Relativistic hydrodynamics

- ▶ Energy-momentum tensor: $T^{\mu\nu} = \langle \hat{T}^{\mu\nu} \rangle$

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{T^{00}} & T^{01} & T^{02} & T^{03} \\ T^{10} & \boxed{T^{11}} & T^{12} & T^{13} \\ T^{20} & T^{21} & \boxed{T^{22}} & T^{23} \\ T^{30} & T^{31} & T^{32} & \boxed{T^{33}} \end{pmatrix}$$

energy density (above T^{00}) *energy flux* (above T^{01})

momentum density (below T^{10}) *momentum flux* (below T^{11}) *isotropic pressure* (below T^{33})

picture from Rezzolla, Zanotti, Relativistic Hydrodynamics

$$\partial_{\mu} T^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

Canonical energy-momentum and spin tensor

Action \Rightarrow Poincaré symmetry \Rightarrow Noether's th. \Rightarrow Conservation laws

▶ **Conservation of energy and momentum:**

Canonical energy-momentum tensor $\hat{T}_C^{\mu\nu}(x)$

$$\partial_\mu \hat{T}_C^{\mu\nu}(x) = 0$$

▶ **Conservation of total angular momentum:**

Canonical total angular momentum tensor ("orbital" + "spin")

$$\hat{J}_C^{\lambda,\mu\nu}(x) = x^\mu \hat{T}_C^{\lambda\nu}(x) - x^\nu \hat{T}_C^{\lambda\mu}(x) + \hat{S}_C^{\lambda,\mu\nu}(x)$$

$$\partial_\lambda \hat{J}_C^{\lambda,\mu\nu}(x) = 0 \implies \partial_\lambda \hat{S}_C^{\lambda,\mu\nu}(x) = \hat{T}_C^{\nu\mu}(x) - \hat{T}_C^{\mu\nu}(x)$$

Pseudo-gauge transformations

ES, Weickgenannt, EPJA, 57, 155 (2021) (Review)

Densities are not uniquely defined \implies Relocalization

F. W. Hehl, Rep. Mat. Phys. 9, 55 (1976)

$$\hat{T}'^{\mu\nu}(x) = \hat{T}_C^{\mu\nu}(x) + \frac{1}{2}\partial_\lambda \left[\hat{\Phi}^{\lambda, \mu\nu}(x) + \hat{\Phi}^{\mu, \nu\lambda}(x) + \hat{\Phi}^{\nu, \mu\lambda}(x) \right]$$
$$\hat{S}'^{\lambda, \mu\nu} = \hat{S}_C^{\lambda, \mu\nu}(x) - \hat{\Phi}^{\lambda, \mu\nu}(x) + \partial_\rho \hat{Z}^{\mu\nu, \lambda\rho}(x)$$

$$\hat{\Phi}^{\lambda, \mu\nu} = -\hat{\Phi}^{\lambda, \nu\mu}, \quad \hat{Z}^{\mu\nu, \lambda\rho} = -\hat{Z}^{\nu\mu, \lambda\rho} = -\hat{Z}^{\mu\nu, \rho\lambda}$$

- ▶ Global charges are left invariant
- ▶ Conservation laws $\partial_\mu \hat{T}'^{\mu\nu} = 0$, $\partial_\lambda \hat{S}'^{\lambda, \mu\nu} = \hat{T}'^{\nu\mu} - \hat{T}'^{\mu\nu}$

See Nora Weickgenannt's talk

Spin hydrodynamics

ES, Weickgenannt, EPJA, 57, 155 (2021) (Review)

- ▶ Hydrodynamic densities from quantum field theory

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \langle \hat{T}^{\mu\nu} \rangle \quad S^{\lambda,\mu\nu} = \langle \hat{S}^{\lambda,\mu\nu} \rangle$$

- ▶ 10 hydro eqs.: 4 Energy-momentum + 6 Total angular momentum

$$\partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \hbar \partial_\lambda S^{\lambda,\mu\nu} = T^{\nu\mu} - T^{\mu\nu}$$

- ▶ 10 unknowns: $\beta^\mu = u^\mu/T$ and $\Omega^{\mu\nu}$
- ▶ $T^{\mu\nu}$ and $S^{\lambda,\mu\nu}$ are NOT uniquely defined
⇒ Pseudo-gauge transformations
 - ▶ Canonical - **Problem**: Total spin is not a tensor for free fields
 - ▶ **Solution**: Hilgevoord, Wouthuysen, NP 40 (1963) 1

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Spin hydro with Hilgevoord-Wouthuysen currents

Weickgenannt, ES, Sheng, Wang, Rischke, PRL, 2005.01506 (2020), 2103.04896 (2021);
ES, Weickgenannt, EPJA, 57, 155 (2021) (Review)

- ▶ Equations of motion from kinetic theory

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_\mu T_{\text{HW}}^{\mu\nu} &= \int d\Gamma p^\nu \mathfrak{C}[f] = 0 \\ \hbar \partial_\lambda S_{\text{HW}}^{\lambda, \mu\nu} &= \int d\Gamma \frac{\hbar}{2} \Sigma_{\mathfrak{s}}^{\mu\nu} \mathfrak{C}[f] = T_{\text{HW}}^{[\nu\mu]}\end{aligned}$$

$$\Sigma_{\mathfrak{s}}^{\mu\nu} \equiv -\frac{1}{m} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} p_\alpha \mathfrak{s}_\beta$$

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- ▶ Energy-momentum conserved in a collision

Spin-dipole $\Sigma_s^{\mu\nu}$ not conserved in **nonlocal collisions** $\implies T_{\text{HW}}^{[\nu\mu]} \neq 0$
 \implies Conversion between spin and orbital angular momentum

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- ▶ $T_{\text{HW}}^{[\nu\mu]} = 0$: (i) for **local collisions** (**spin** is collisional invariant)
(ii) in global equilibrium ($\mathfrak{C}[f] = 0$)
- ▶ **Nonlocal collisions** away from global equilibrium \implies Dissipative dynamics

Fluid gets polarized through rotation!

Spin hydro with Hilgevoord-Wouthuysen currents

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- ▶ Equations of motion from kinetic theory

$$\partial_\mu T_{\text{HW}}^{\mu\nu} = \int d\Gamma p^\nu \mathfrak{C}[f] = 0$$
$$\hbar \partial_\lambda S_{\text{HW}}^{\lambda,\mu\nu} = \int d\Gamma \frac{\hbar}{2} \Sigma_s^{\mu\nu} \mathfrak{C}[f] = T_{\text{HW}}^{[\nu\mu]}$$

$$\Sigma_s^{\mu\nu} \equiv -\frac{1}{m} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} p_\alpha s_\beta$$

- ▶ Energy-momentum conserved in a collision

Spin-dipole $\Sigma_s^{\mu\nu}$ not conserved in **nonlocal collisions** $\implies T_{\text{HW}}^{[\nu\mu]} \neq 0$
 \implies Conversion between spin and orbital angular momentum

- ▶ $T_{\text{HW}}^{[\nu\mu]} = 0$: (i) for **local collisions** (**spin** is collisional invariant)
(ii) in global equilibrium ($\mathfrak{C}[f] = 0$)
- ▶ **Nonlocal collisions** away from global equilibrium \implies Dissipative dynamics

Fluid gets polarized through rotation!

- ▶ What is the meaning of local equilibrium with nonlocal collisions?

Scales

- ▶ Knudsen number

$$\text{Kn} \equiv \frac{\ell_{\text{mfp}}}{L_{\text{hydro}}} \ll 1$$

- ▶ Deviations from equilibrium \implies Dissipative effects

$$\frac{\delta f}{f_{\text{eq}}} \sim \mathcal{O}(\text{Kn})$$

- ▶ Δ - New scale associated to spin effects and nonlocality

$$\kappa \equiv \frac{\Delta}{L_{\text{hydro}}} \sim \frac{\hbar f^{(1)}}{f^{(0)}}$$

- ▶ If $\Delta \lesssim \ell_{\text{mfp}}$

$$\kappa \lesssim \text{Kn}$$

Spin effects \implies No standard notion of local equilibrium!

Outlook - Corrections to polarization formula

$$\langle \hat{\Pi}_\mu(\mathbf{p}) \rangle = -\frac{\hbar^2}{8m} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} p^\nu \frac{\int d\Sigma_\lambda p^\lambda f(1-f) \varpi^{\alpha\beta}}{\int d\Sigma_\lambda p^\lambda f} + ???$$

- ▶ Use quantum kinetic theory + spin hydrodynamics to find **nonequilibrium** corrections

Conclusions

- ▶ Vorticity and spin polarization are inherently connected
- ▶ New era where spin degrees of freedom must be taken into account in kinetic theory/hydrodynamics - New experimental observables in heavy-ion collisions
- ▶ Quantum field theory calculations suggest that spin hydrodynamics is always dissipative in the presence of nonlocal particle collisions
- ▶ Spin brings new conceptual problems for the emergence of hydrodynamics