



Illinois Center for Advanced Studies of the Universe

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



The Grainger College of Engineering  
Physics

# A new approach to stochastic relativistic fluid dynamics from information flow

Nicki Mullins, Mauricio Hippert, Jorge Noronha

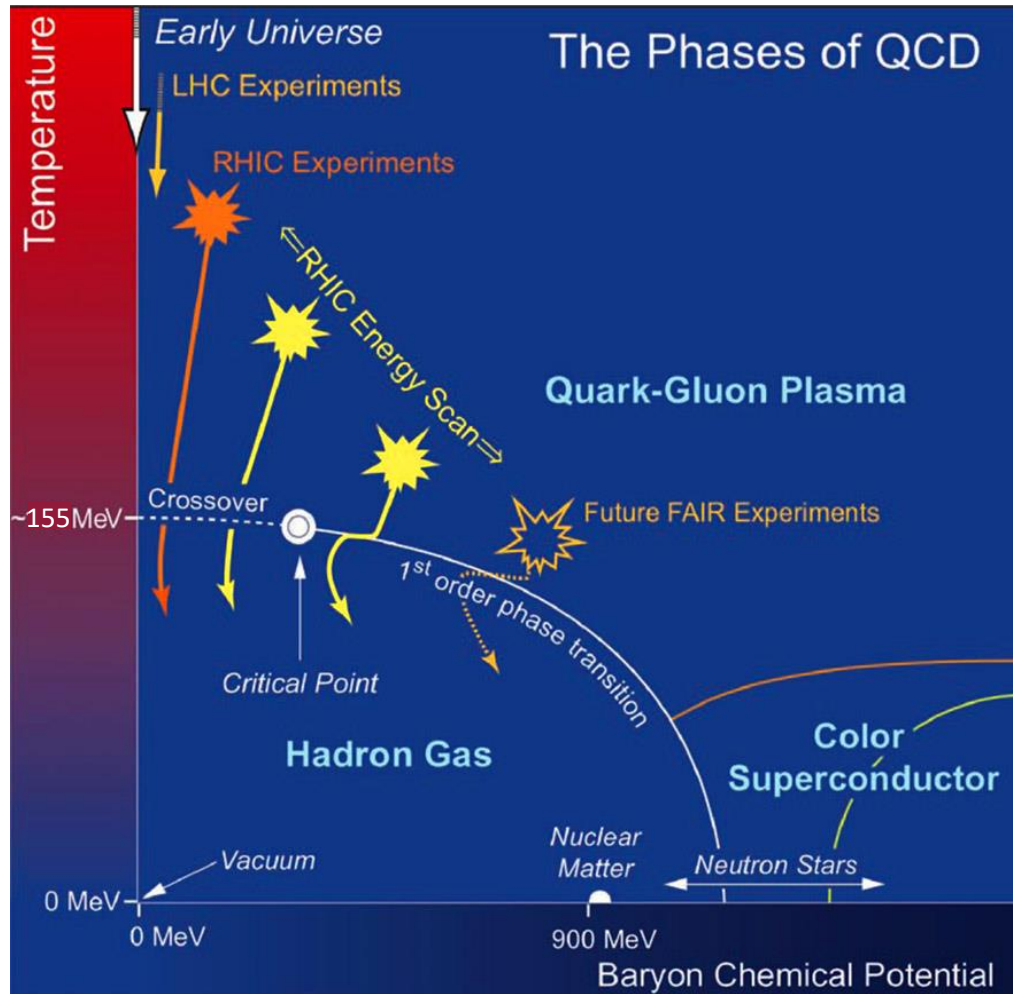
[arXiv:2306.08635](https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.08635), [arXiv:2309.00512](https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.00512)



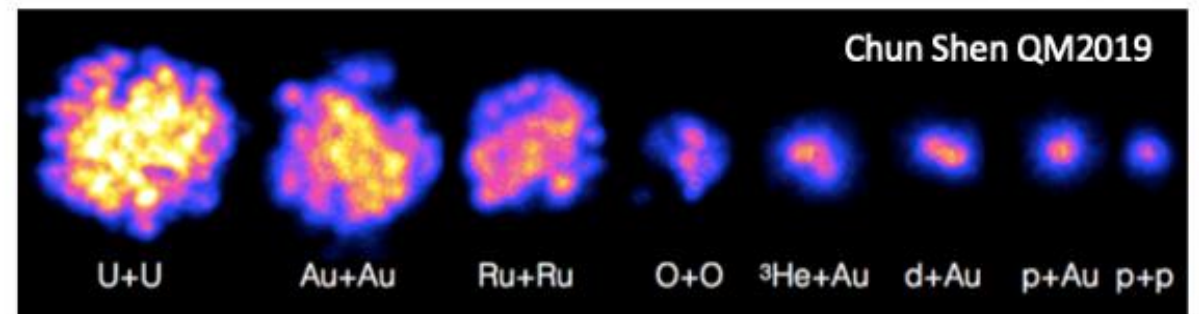
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



# Stochastic fluctuations in the QGP



- Fluctuation-dissipation theorem implies thermal fluctuations in dissipative hydro.
- Correlation length of fluctuations diverges near critical point.
- Thermal fluctuations should become more important for small systems.

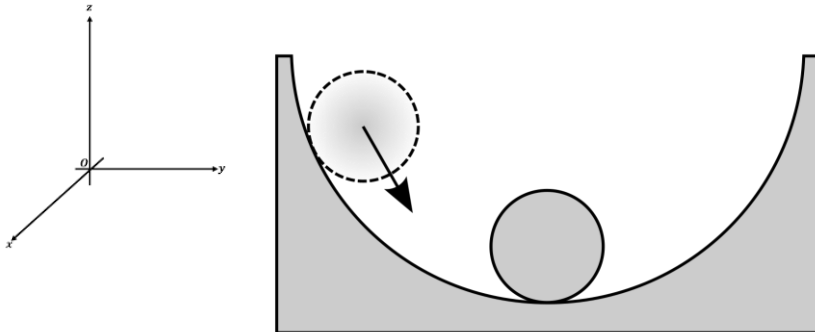
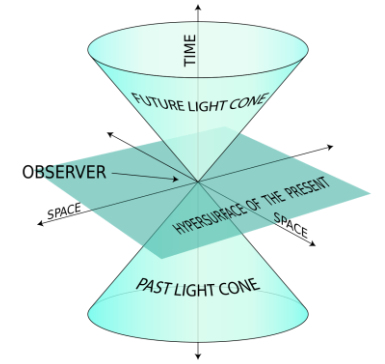


# Approaches to fluctuating dynamics

- Many different approaches for including fluctuations, e.g.:
- Obtain noise correlators from Green's functions.  
H.B. Callen, T. A. Welton PR 83 (1951); R. Kubo, J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. 12 (1957); P. Kovtun, J. Phys. A 45 (2012)
- Hydro-kinetics: derive equations of motion for correlation functions.  
Y. Akamatsu, A. Mazeliauskas, D. Teaney PRC 95 (2017); M. Martinez, T. Schafer PRC 99 (2019); X. An, G. Basar, M. Stephanov, H.U. Yee, PRC 100 (2019)
- Schwinger-Keldysh: construct effective field theory, use KMS symmetry to fix noise in action.  
L. M. Sieberer, A. Chiochetta, A. Gambassi, U. C. Tauber, S. Diehl, PRB 92 (2015); M. Crossley, P. Glorioso, H. Liu, JHEP 09 (2017); H. Liu, P. Glorioso, TASI (2017)
- What is missing?

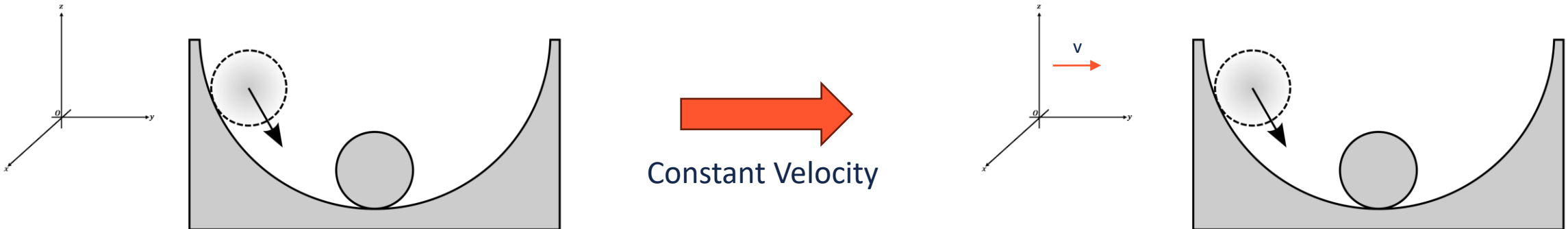
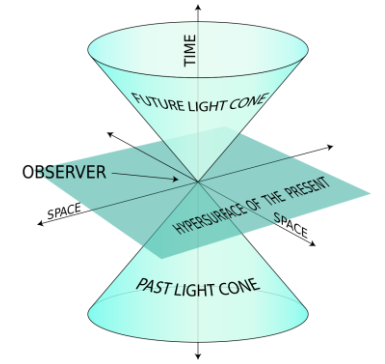
# The missing piece

- **Causality**: information should remain within light-cone.
- **Stability**: fluctuations around equilibrium should not grow out of control.
- Causality is necessary for covariant stability.
- Previous formulations do not enforce these in a covariant manner.



# The missing piece

- **Causality**: information should remain within light-cone.
- **Stability**: fluctuations around equilibrium should not grow out of control.
- Causality is necessary for covariant stability.
- Previous formulations do not enforce these in a covariant manner.



# The information current

- Covariant fluctuations from maximum entropy principle.

L. D. Landau, E. M. Lifshitz, Statistical Physics (1980)

- Encoded in information current

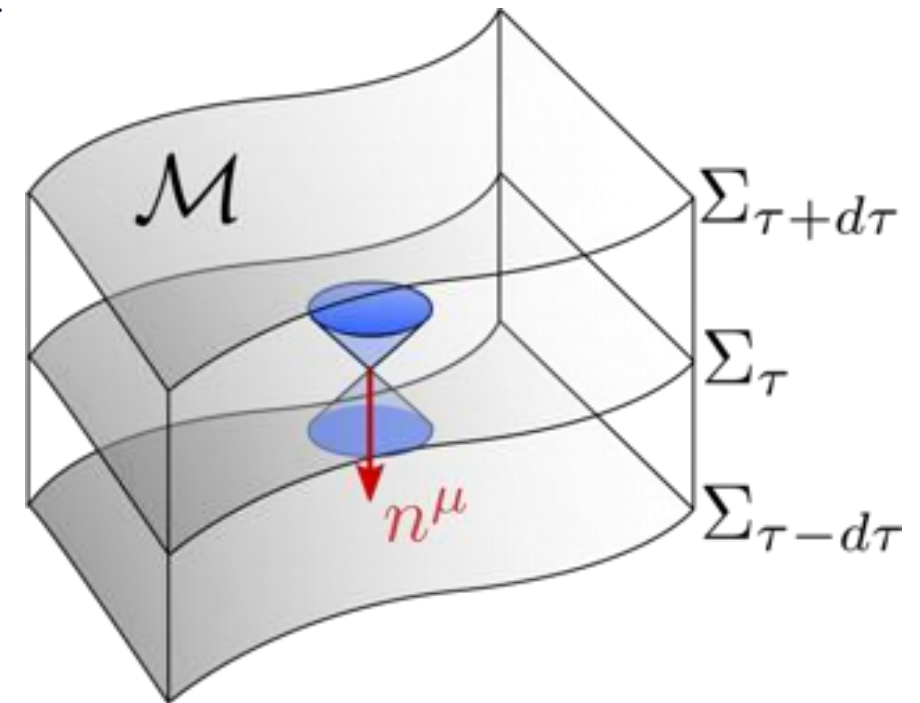
L. Gavassino, M. Antonelli, B. Haskell, PRL 128 (2022)

$$E^\mu = -\delta s^\mu - \beta_\nu \delta T^{\mu\nu} - \alpha_i \delta J_i^\mu$$

- Related to free energy by

$$\frac{\Omega}{T} = \int d\Sigma n_\mu E^\mu$$

$$\rightarrow p[\delta\phi] \sim e^{-\int d\Sigma n_\mu E^\mu}$$



[NM, M. Hippert, J. Noronha 2306.08635](#)

# The information current

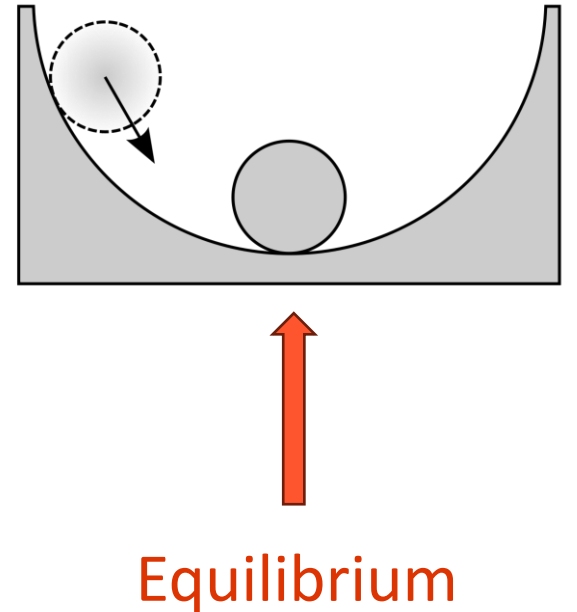
L. Gavassino, M. Antonelli, B.  
Haskell, PRL 128 (2022)

- System is causal and stable against fluctuations if
  1.  $n_\mu E^\mu \geq 0$  for all past-directed, timelike  $n^\mu$ . Equilibrium minimizes the free energy.
  2.  $n_\mu E^\mu = 0$  iff the system is in equilibrium. Equilibrium is unique.
  3.  $\partial_\mu E^\mu \leq 0$ , which is the second law of thermodynamics.

# The information current

L. Gavassino, M. Antonelli, B.  
Haskell, PRL 128 (2022)

- System is causal and stable against fluctuations if
  1.  $n_\mu E^\mu \geq 0$  for all past-directed, timelike  $n^\mu$ . Equilibrium minimizes the free energy.
  2.  $n_\mu E^\mu = 0$  iff the system is in equilibrium. Equilibrium is unique.
  3.  $\partial_\mu E^\mu \leq 0$ , which is the second law of thermodynamics.





# The information current

L. Gavassino, M. Antonelli, B.  
Haskell, PRL 128 (2022)

- System is causal and stable against fluctuations if
  1.  $n_\mu E^\mu \geq 0$  for all past-directed, timelike  $n^\mu$ . Equilibrium minimizes the free energy.
  2.  $n_\mu E^\mu = 0$  iff the system is in equilibrium. Equilibrium is unique.
  3.  $\partial_\mu E^\mu \leq 0$ , which is the second law of thermodynamics.



# The information current

L. Gavassino, M. Antonelli, B.  
Haskell, PRL 128 (2022)

- System is causal and stable against fluctuations if
  1.  $n_\mu E^\mu \geq 0$  for all past-directed, timelike  $n^\mu$ . Equilibrium minimizes the free energy.
  2.  $n_\mu E^\mu = 0$  iff the system is in equilibrium. Equilibrium is unique.
  3.  $\partial_\mu E^\mu \leq 0$ , which is the second law of thermodynamics.



# Information current determines fluctuations

[NM, M. Hippert, J. Noronha 2306.08635](#)

- Using the information current, we constructed a new theory of fluctuations.

Construct EoM from information current.



Write probability distribution using EoM



Compare to thermodynamic probability distribution.



Solve for noise correlator, note that foliation dependence drops out.

$$(E_{AB}^{\mu} \partial_{\mu} + \sigma_{AB}) \delta \phi^B = \xi_A \quad E^{\mu} = \frac{1}{2} \delta \phi^A E_{AB}^{\mu} \delta \phi^B$$

$$p[\delta \phi] \sim \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma_1 d\Sigma_2 \delta \phi_A(x_1) (\langle \delta \phi^A(x_1) \delta \phi_B(x_2) \rangle)^{-1} \delta \phi^B(x_2) \right]$$

$$p[\delta \phi] \sim e^{-\int_{\Sigma} d\Sigma n_{\mu} E^{\mu}}$$

$$\langle \xi_A(x) \xi_B(x') \rangle = 2\sigma_{AB} \delta^{(4)}(x - x')$$

# An example: diffusion

[NM, M. Hippert, J. Noronha 2306.08635](#)

- Non-relativistic diffusion defined by

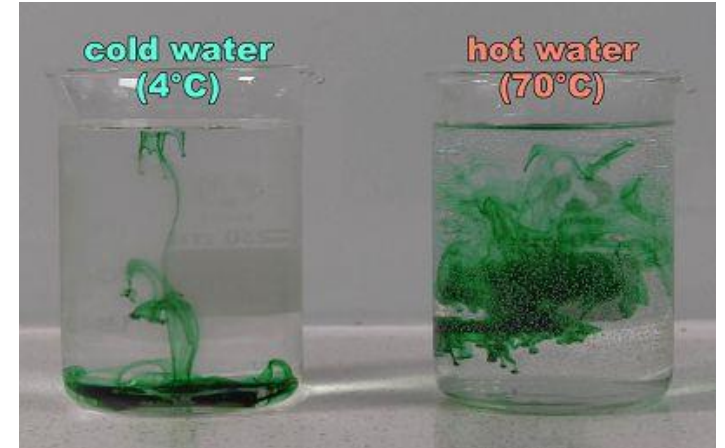
$$\partial_t \delta n - D \nabla^2 \delta n = \xi$$

- Maxwell-Cattaneo model (compatible with relativity)

$$\tau \partial_t^2 \delta n + \partial_t \delta n - D \nabla^2 \delta n = \xi$$

- Perform order reduction by introducing new vector degree of freedom

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\chi T} (\partial_t \delta n + \partial_i \delta q^i) &= \xi_n \\ \frac{1}{\chi T} \partial_i \delta n + \frac{\beta_q}{T} \partial^t \delta q_i + \frac{1}{\kappa T} \delta q^i &= \xi_q^i \end{aligned} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} J^\nu &= n u^\nu + q^\nu \\ \frac{q^\nu}{\kappa T} &= - \frac{\beta_J}{T} u^\lambda \partial_\lambda q^\nu - \underbrace{\Delta^{\lambda\nu}}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{Spacelike projector}}} \partial_\lambda (\mu/T) \end{aligned}$$



# An example: diffusion

[NM, M. Hippert, J. Noronha 2306.08635](#)

- Information current and entropy production are

$$E_{AB}^{\mu} = \frac{1}{\chi T} \begin{pmatrix} u^{\mu} & \Delta^{\mu}_{\nu} \\ \Delta^{\mu\rho} & \beta_J \chi u^{\mu} \Delta^{\rho}_{\nu} \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma_{AB} = \frac{1}{\kappa T} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta^{\rho}_{\nu} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Fluctuation-dissipation theorem gives

$$\langle \xi_n(x) \xi_n(x') \rangle = 0, \quad \langle \xi_q^{\mu}(x) \xi_q^{\nu}(x') \rangle = \frac{1}{\kappa T} \Delta^{\mu\nu} \delta^{(4)}(x - x')$$

- Construction in terms of on-shell objects.
- Symmetrized Green's function obtained from EoM.

# Effective Action Approach



# The Martin-Siggia-Rose (MSR) action

- Action approaches useful for e.g., calculating Green's functions and non-linear extensions.
- MSR approach allows stochastic differential equation to be written as path integral over an effective action.

P. C. Martin, E. D. Siggia, H. A. Rose, PRA 8 (1973)

- Working from the information current, we find [NM, M. Hippert, L. Gavassino, J. Noronha, 2309.00512](#)

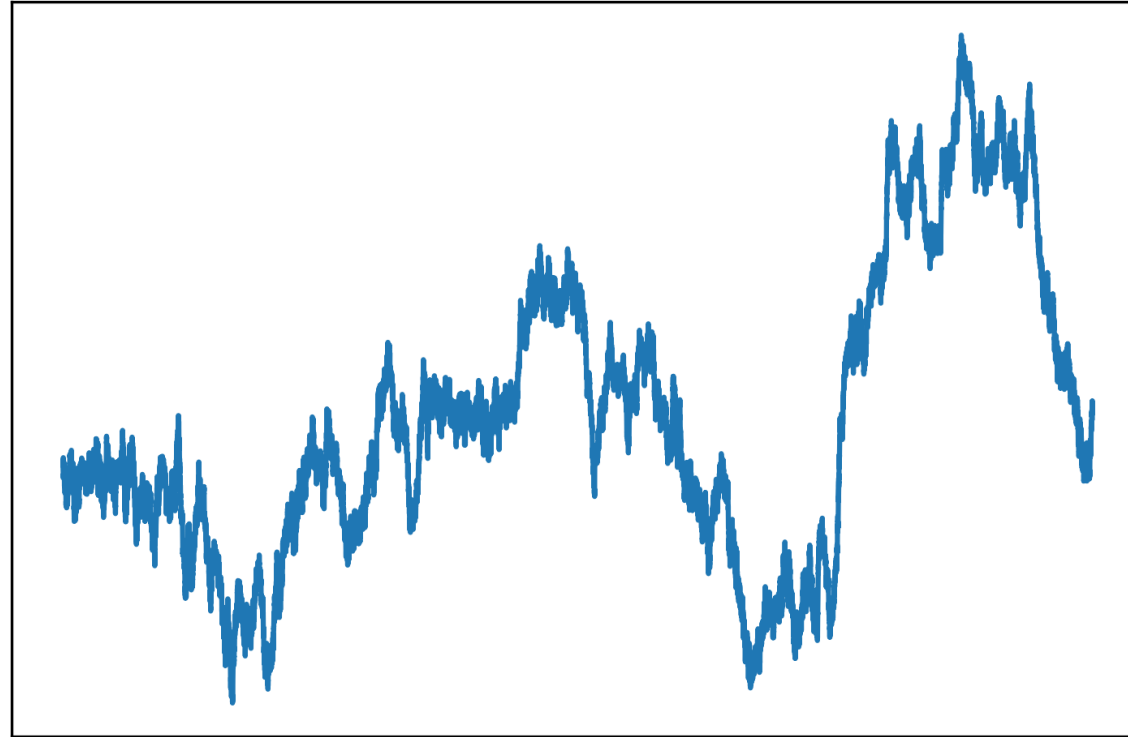
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{MSR}} = -\delta\bar{\phi}^A(x) (E_{AB}^\mu \partial_\mu + \sigma_{AB}) \delta\phi^B(x) + \frac{i}{2} \int d^4x' \delta\bar{\phi}^A(x) \langle \xi_A(x) \xi_B(x') \rangle \delta\bar{\phi}^B(x')$$

- Does this have a symmetry that implements FDT to all orders?

# Detailed balance

J. Guo, P. Glorioso, A. Lucas, PRL 129 (2022); G. Torrieri, JHEP 02 (2022)

Thermal Noise around Equilibrium



- Is this going forwards in time, or backwards?



# New symmetry from detailed balance

J. Guo, P. Glorioso, A. Lucas, PRL 129 (2022); G. Torrieri, JHEP 02 (2022)

- Detailed balance allows comparison to other approaches

$$P[\delta\phi_f^A(x \in \Sigma_f) | \delta\phi_0^A(x \in \Sigma_0)] w[\delta\phi_0^A] = P[\Theta\delta\phi_0^A(x \in \Sigma_0) | \Theta\delta\phi_f^A(x \in \Sigma_f)] w[\delta\phi_f^A]$$

- Writing probability distributions as path integrals over the action gives,

$$\mathcal{L}_\theta = \mathcal{L} + i\delta\phi^A E_{AB}^\mu \partial_\mu \delta\phi^B$$

- Used to derive a symmetry of the effective action with the form

$$\phi^A \rightarrow \Theta\phi^A, \quad \bar{\phi}^A \rightarrow -\Theta\delta\bar{\phi}^A - i\Theta\delta\phi^A$$

[NM, M. Hippert, L. Gavassino, J. Noronha 2309.00512](#)

Symmetry can be mapped to KMS symmetry.

- Detailed balance holds nonlinearly.

# Conclusions

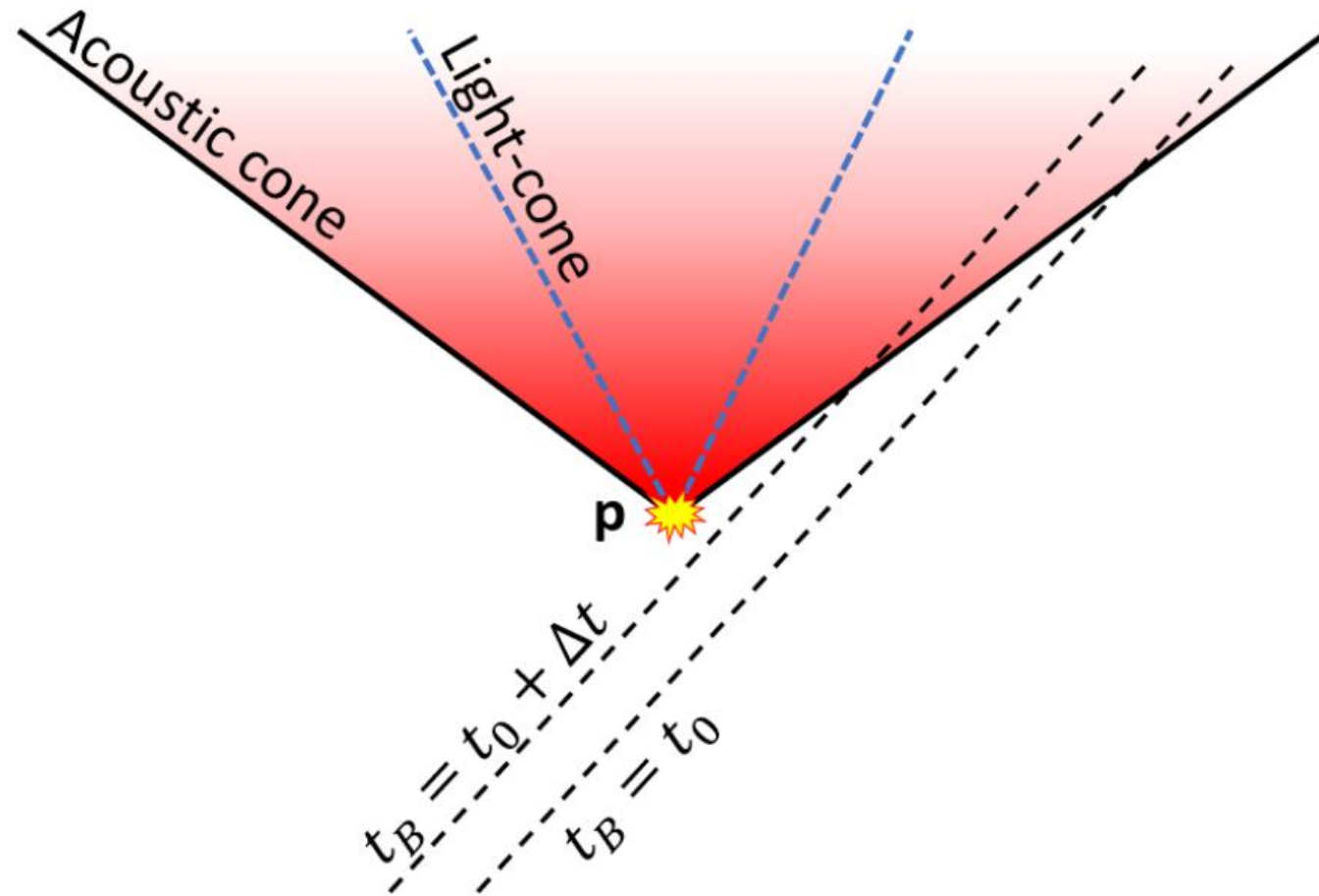
- Causality and stability are essential for fluctuations in relativistic fluids.
- New covariant approach for causal and stable stochastic hydrodynamics.
- Action formulation based on new (modified KMS) symmetry implementing detailed balance/FDT to all orders.
- Outlook: critical dynamics, nonlinear/non-Gaussian fluctuations.

# Bonus Slides



# Causality is necessary for covariant stability

L. Gavassino PRX 12 (2022)



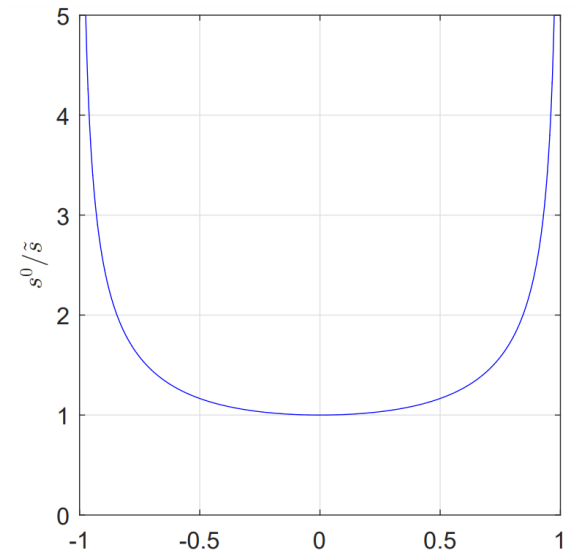
# The Problem with Fluctuating Relativistic Navier-Stokes

[NM, M. Hippert, J. Noronha 2306.08635](#)

- Information current is given by

$$E^\mu \sim A u^\mu \delta u^2 + B \Delta_{\alpha\beta}^{\mu\nu} \delta u_\nu \partial^\alpha \delta u^\beta$$

- Demanding that  $n_\mu E^\mu = 0$  yields a PDE with homogenous solutions, this violated stability and causality conditions.
- Working in local rest frame hides the issue, doesn't fix issue.
- Most probable state have large gradients.



L. Gavassino, M. Antonelli, B. Haskell, PRD 102 (2020)

# The Problem with Fluctuating BDNK theory

[NM, M. Hippert, L. Gavassino, J. Noronha 2309.00512](#)

F. Bemfica, M. Disconzi, J. Noronha, PRD 98 (2018); F. Bemfica, M. Disconzi, J. Noronha, PRD 100 2019; P. Kovtun, JHEP 10 (2019)

- Consider BDNK theory for conserved current, EoM is

$$T u^\nu u^\alpha \partial_\nu (\lambda \partial_\alpha (\mu/T)) + T \chi u^\nu \partial_\nu (\mu/T) - T \Delta^{\nu\alpha} \partial_\nu (\kappa \partial_\alpha (\mu/T)) = 0$$

- Causality and stability require  $0 < \lambda/\kappa \leq 1$ , parameters must have same sign.
- Schwinger-Keldysh effective action is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SK}} = J^\mu B_{a\mu} + i T (\kappa \Delta^{\mu\nu} - \lambda u^\mu u^\nu) B_{a\mu} B_{a\nu}$$

- Path integral diverges in stable and causal regime, inherent in first-order theories.



- Consider conformal Israel-Stewart in a general hydrodynamic frame

J. Noronha, M. Spalinski, E. Speranza, PRL 128 (2022)

- Information current:

$$E^\mu = \frac{c_s^2 u^\mu}{2(\epsilon+P)T} \delta\epsilon^2 + \frac{(\epsilon+P)u^\mu}{2T} \delta u^\nu \delta u_\nu + \frac{\delta P \delta u^\mu}{T} + \frac{\delta \mathcal{A} \delta u^\mu}{3T} + \frac{u^\mu}{T} \delta u^\nu \delta Q_\nu + \frac{\delta u_\nu \delta \pi^{\mu\nu}}{T} + \frac{u^\mu}{T^2} \delta \mathcal{A} \delta T + \frac{\delta T \delta Q^\mu}{T^2} + \frac{u^\mu}{2T} \left[ \frac{\tau_A}{4\epsilon\tau_\phi} \delta \mathcal{A}^2 + \frac{\tau_Q}{4\epsilon\tau_\psi} \delta Q^2 + \frac{\tau_\pi}{\eta} \delta \pi^2 \right]$$

- Entropy production:

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{2T} \left( \frac{\delta \mathcal{A}^2}{4\epsilon\tau_\phi} + \frac{\delta Q^2}{4\epsilon\tau_\psi} + \frac{\delta \pi^2}{\eta} \right)$$



# Fluctuations in Israel-Stewart

[NM, M. Hippert, J. Noronha 2306.08635](#)

- Energy-momentum correlator can be decomposed as P. K. Kovtun, A. O. Starinets, PRD 72 (2005)

$$\langle T^{\mu\nu} T^{\alpha\beta} \rangle = G_1(k) S^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} + G_2(k) Q^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} + G_3(k) L^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}$$

- In Landau frame, there is only one structure  $\Delta^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}$ .
- General frame is distinct from Landau frame, important for describing the most general possible fluctuations.





- For the example of diffusion, considered, the MSR action is

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{MSR}} = -\frac{\delta\bar{n}}{\chi T} (u^\mu \partial_\mu \delta n + \partial_\mu \delta q^\mu) - \frac{\delta\bar{q}^\mu}{\chi T} \left( \partial_\mu \delta n + \beta_J \chi u^\nu \partial_\nu \delta q_\mu + \frac{\chi}{\kappa} \delta q_\mu \right) + \frac{i}{\kappa T} \delta\bar{q}^2$$

- This couples to a source through terms of the form

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{source}} = \bar{A}_\mu J^\mu - A_\mu \mathcal{L}_\beta \bar{J}^\mu$$

- Allows for advanced, retarded, and symmetrized Green's functions to be obtained by evaluating the path integral.



# Comparison to Schwinger-Keldysh approach

[NM, M. Hippert, L. Gavassino, J. Noronha 2309.00512](#)

- In linear limit, new effective symmetry derived from detailed balance

$$\phi^A \rightarrow \Theta \phi^A, \quad \bar{\phi}^A \rightarrow -\Theta \delta \bar{\phi}^A - i\Theta \delta \phi^A$$

- Can compare to KMS symmetry of SK theory.

$$\phi_r \rightarrow \Theta \phi_r, \quad \phi_a \rightarrow \Theta \phi_a + i\Theta \mathcal{L}_\beta \phi_r$$

- Provides mapping between variables

$$\phi_r = \delta \phi, \quad \phi_a = \mathcal{L}_\beta \delta \bar{\phi}$$

- Can use SK procedure to compute Green's functions.

