

# A novel Relaxation Time Approximation to the Relativistic Boltzmann Equation

Gabriel Soares Rocha (*[gabrielsr@id.uff.br](mailto:gabrielsr@id.uff.br)*)

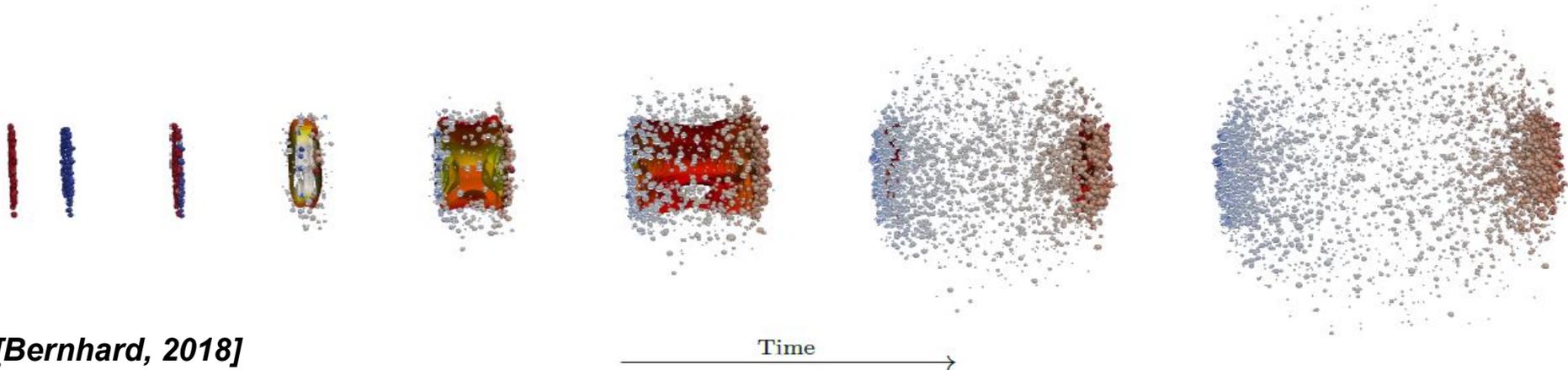
Universidade Federal Fluminense

with G. S. Denicol and J. Noronha



# Introduction

- With ultra-relativistic Heavy Ion Collisions, nuclear matter in extreme conditions can be produced and studied;
- In the last decades kinetic theory and hydrodynamics have been essential effective models to understand the evolution of this system;



# The relativistic Boltzmann equation

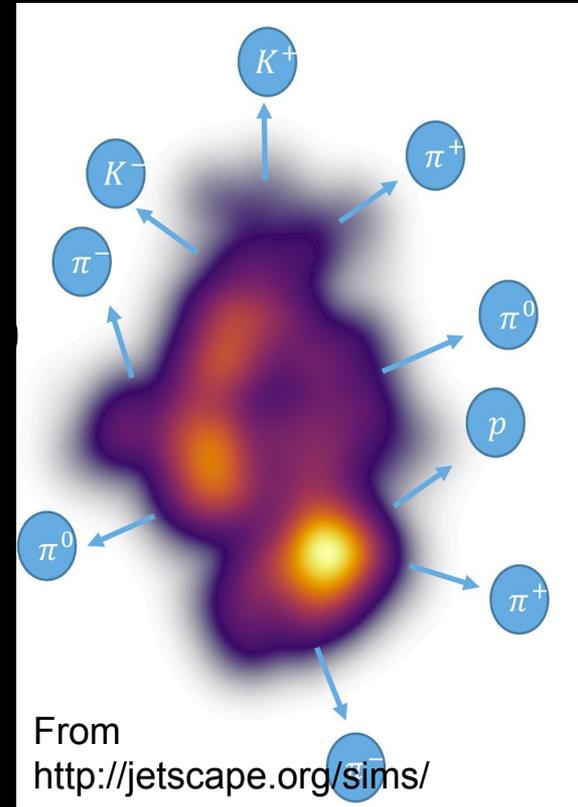
- The main equation from kinetic theory is the relativistic Boltzmann equation

$$p^\mu \partial_\mu f_p = C[f] = \int dQ dQ' dP' \tilde{W}_{pp' \leftrightarrow qq'} (f_p f_{p'} - f_q f_{q'}),$$

- Widely used simplification: Relaxation time approximation (RTA) [Anderson & Witting, 1974];

$$C[f] \approx -\frac{u_\mu p^\mu}{\tau_R} (f_p - f_{0p}) \quad f_{0p} = e^{-\beta_0 u_\mu^0 p^\mu + \alpha_0}$$

- Importance in HIC modelling: Conversion from fluid d.o.f's to particles (Cooper-Frye), hydrodynamization of QCD matter [Kamata et al, 2020], among others.



# Severe limitation of RTA

- RTA is inconsistent with the macroscopic conservation laws;

$$N^\mu = \int dP p^\mu f_p \quad T^{\mu\nu} = \int dP p^\mu p^\nu f_p,$$

$$\partial_\mu N^\mu = - \int dP \frac{E_p}{\tau_R} \delta f \quad \partial_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = - \int dP \frac{E_p}{\tau_R} p^\nu \delta f,$$

Traditionally, it is assumed that  $\tau_R = \text{cte}$  and one defines  $(T, u^\mu, \alpha)$  so that the right-hand sides zero

- This happens because an essential property of the collision term was lost:

$$C[Q_p] = 0.$$

$Q_p$  : Microscopically Conserved Quantity

In the present case:  $1, p^\mu$

# Our proposal

- To recover the lost properties, we propose schematically

L. E. Reichl, *A Modern Course in Statistical Physics*.  
American Association of  
Physics Teachers, 1999.

$$C[f] \propto -\mathbb{1} + \sum_n |\mathcal{Q}_{n,p}\rangle \langle \mathcal{Q}_{n,p}|,$$

Traditional RTA  

Projector in the subspace of conserved quantities in an orthogonal basis

- Our approximation to the rBE reads

$$p^\mu \partial_\mu f_p = -\frac{E_p}{\tau_R} f_{0p} \left\{ \phi_p - \frac{\langle \phi_p, \mathbf{1} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1} \rangle} \mathbf{1} - \frac{\langle \phi_p, P_1^{(0)} \rangle}{\langle P_1^{(0)}, P_1^{(0)} \rangle} P_1^{(0)} - \frac{\langle \phi_p, p^{\langle \mu \rangle}}{\frac{1}{3} \langle p^{\langle \nu \rangle}, p^{\langle \nu \rangle} \rangle} p^{\langle \mu \rangle} \right\}$$

Notation:  $p^{\langle \mu \rangle} = \Delta^{\mu\nu} p_\nu$   $\Delta^{\mu\nu} = \eta^{\mu\nu} - u^\mu u^\nu$   $\langle \psi_p, \phi_p \rangle = \int dP \frac{E_p}{\tau_R} \psi_p \phi_p f_{0p}$

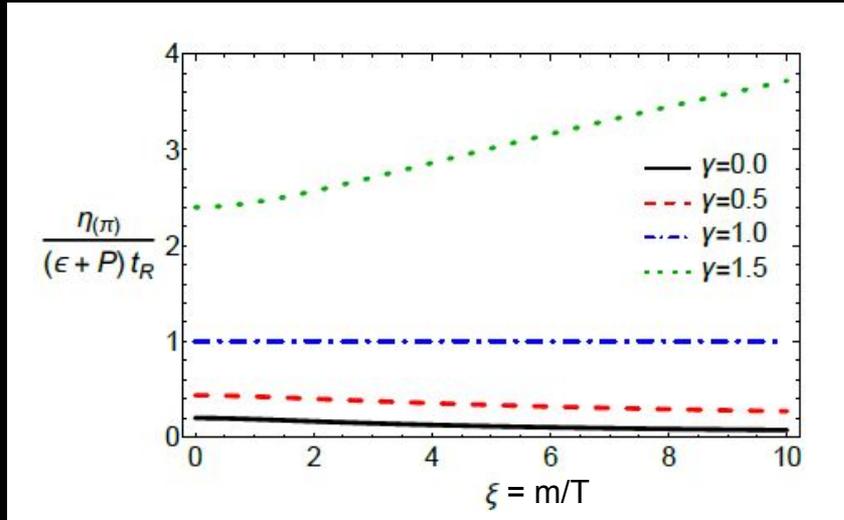
$$\tau_R = t_R \left( \frac{E_p}{T} \right)^\gamma, \quad P_1^{(0)}(E_p) = L_1^{(2-\gamma)}(\beta E_p) \quad (\text{Massless limit})$$

Let's see the effects of the proposal on transport coefficients of Relativistic Navier Stokes

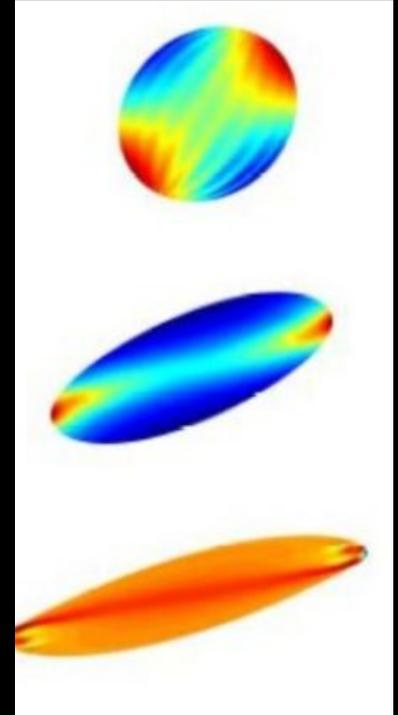
# Effects on transport coefficients

- Shear viscosity: resistance to deformation

$$\pi^{\mu\nu} \equiv 2\eta(\pi)\sigma^{\mu\nu} \quad \sigma^{\mu\nu} = \Delta^{\mu\nu}_{\alpha\beta}\partial^\alpha u^\beta \quad \tau_R = t_R \left(\frac{E_p}{T}\right)^\gamma,$$



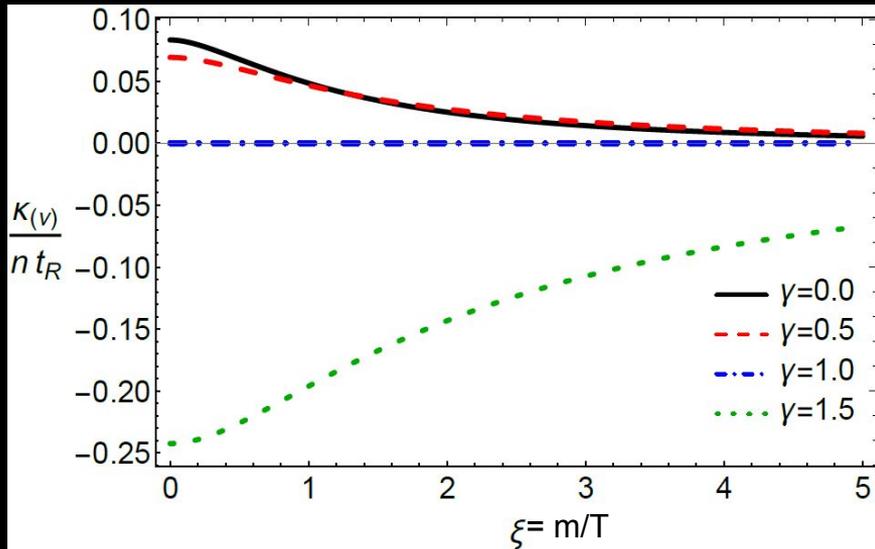
Nothing changes in comparison to traditional RTA besides the energy dependence



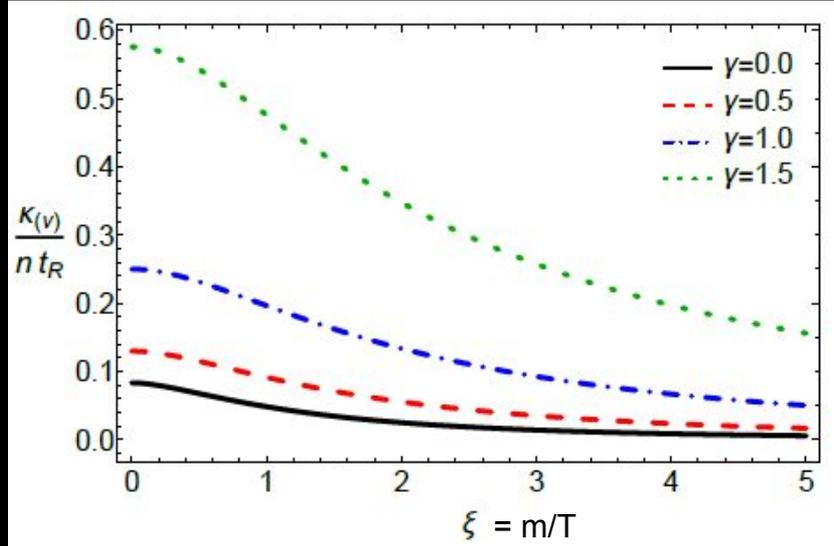
# Effects on transport coefficients

- Particle diffusion viscosity

$$\nu^\mu \equiv \kappa(\nu) \nabla^\mu \alpha \quad \nabla^\mu = \Delta^{\mu\nu} \partial_\nu; \quad \tau_R = t_R \left( \frac{E_p}{T} \right)^\gamma,$$



Traditional RTA

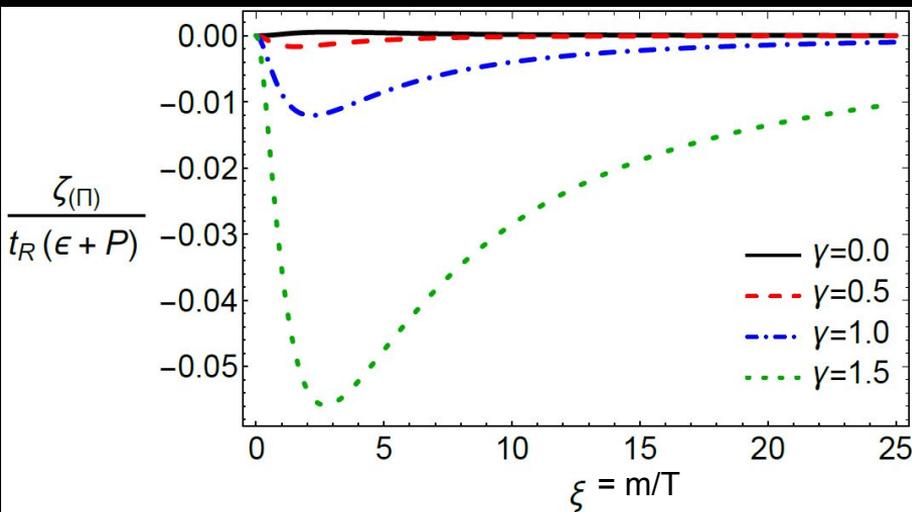


New RTA

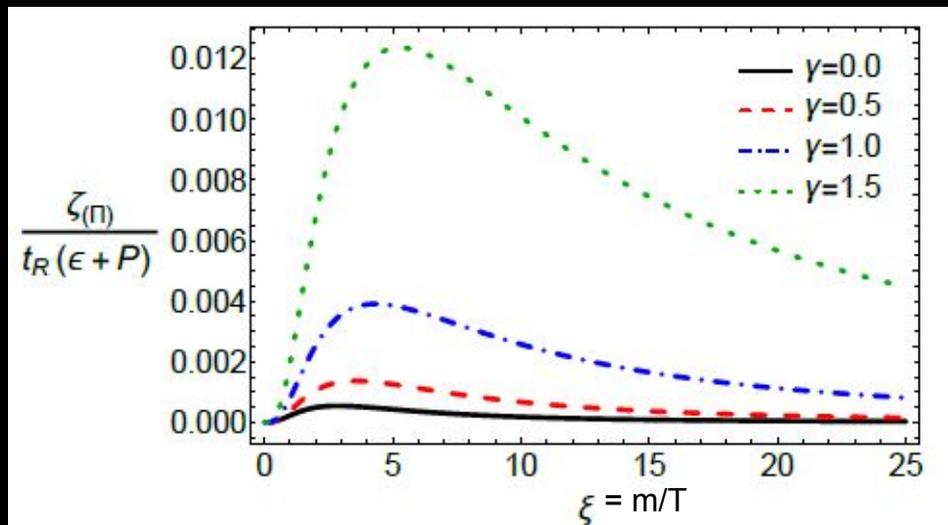
# Effects on transport coefficients

- Bulk viscosity: resistance to expansion

$$\Pi \equiv -\zeta(\Pi)\theta \quad \theta \equiv \partial_\mu U^\mu; \quad \tau_R = t_R \left( \frac{E_p}{T} \right)^\gamma,$$



Traditional RTA



New RTA

# Final remarks and perspectives

- RTA is an extremely important approximation to rBE, however it has some severe limitations that require its reformulation;
- We propose a new RTA which ensures the conservation laws, is consistent with the 2nd law of thermodynamics (see extra slides) and makes it possible to use alternative matching conditions;
- Transport coefficients are computed and they depend drastically on the energy dependence of  $\tau_R$ ;
- The new RTA can be used in particlization models;
- Prospective works include: generalizations for mixtures; transient dynamics etc.

# EXTRA SLIDES

# Non-equilibrium corrections

- Hydrodynamics: long wavelength/ long timescale effective theory.

- Implementation: Chapman-Enskog expansion  
*[Chapman, 1916], [Enskog, 1921]*

$$\epsilon \sim \frac{\ell_{micro}}{L_{macro}} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{mean free path} \\ \text{typical macro} \\ \text{scale of the fluid} \end{array}$$

$$\epsilon p^\mu \partial_\mu f_p = -\frac{E_p}{\tau_R} f_{0p} \left\{ \phi_p - \frac{\langle \phi_p, 1 \rangle}{\langle 1, 1 \rangle} 1 - \frac{\langle \phi_p, P_1^{(0)} \rangle}{\langle P_1^{(0)}, P_1^{(0)} \rangle} P_1^{(0)} - \frac{\langle \phi_p, p^{\langle \mu \rangle}}{\frac{1}{3} \langle p^{\langle \nu \rangle}, p^{\langle \nu \rangle} \rangle} P^{\langle \mu \rangle} \right\}$$

$$f_p = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \epsilon^i f_p^{(i)}.$$

$\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0) : f_p^{(0)} = f_{eq,p}$  Ideal hydro

*We stop here*  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^1) : f_p^{(1)}$  Relativistic Navier Stokes

- This method has its formalization in the theory of asymptotics;
- A similar method is used for WKB semiclassical expansion;

# Solution to Chapman-Enskog expansion

$$\phi_p^{(1)} \equiv \frac{f_p^{(1)} - f_{eq,p}}{f_{eq,p}} = F_p^{(0)}\theta + F_p^{(1)}\rho^{\langle\mu\rangle}\nabla_\mu\alpha + F_p^{(2)}\rho^{\langle\mu}p^{\nu\rangle}\sigma_{\mu\nu},$$

$$\theta \equiv \partial_\mu u^\mu;$$

$$\nabla^\mu = \Delta^{\mu\nu}\partial_\nu;$$

$$F_p^{(0)} = \frac{\tau_R}{E_p} Q_p^{(0)} + \left\langle \tau_R E_p^{r-1} Q_p^{(0)} \right\rangle_0 \frac{\langle E_p^{s+1} \rangle_0 - \langle E_p^s \rangle_0 E_p}{\langle E_p^r \rangle_0 \langle E_p^{s+1} \rangle_0 - \langle E_p^s \rangle_0 \langle E_p^{r+1} \rangle_0}$$

$$\sigma^{\mu\nu} = \Delta^{\mu\nu}_{\alpha\beta} \partial^\alpha u^\beta$$

$$+ \left\langle \tau_R E_p^{s-1} Q_p^{(0)} \right\rangle_0 \frac{\langle E_p^r \rangle_0 E_p - \langle E_p^{r+1} \rangle_0}{\langle E_p^r \rangle_0 \langle E_p^{s+1} \rangle_0 - \langle E_p^s \rangle_0 \langle E_p^{r+1} \rangle_0}$$

$$Q_p^{(0)} = E_p \Gamma_{(\alpha)} - E_p^2 \Gamma_{(\beta)} - \frac{\beta}{3} \Delta^{\lambda\sigma} p_\lambda p_\sigma$$

$$F_p^{(1)} = \frac{\tau_R}{E_p} Q_p^{(1)} + \frac{\langle (\Delta_{\lambda\sigma} p^\lambda p^\sigma) \tau_R E_p^{z-1} Q_p^{(1)} \rangle_0}{\langle E_p^z (\Delta_{\lambda\sigma} p^\lambda p^\sigma) \rangle_0}$$

$$Q_p^{(1)} = 1 - \frac{nE_p}{\varepsilon + P}$$

$$Q_p^{(2)} = -\beta$$

$$F_p^{(2)} = \beta \frac{\tau_R}{E_p}$$

**Traditional RTA**

$$\Gamma_{(\alpha)}(m, \beta) = -1 + \frac{P\varepsilon}{n\langle E_p^3 \rangle_0 - \varepsilon^2}$$

$$\Gamma_{(\beta)}(m, \beta) = \frac{nP}{n\langle E_p^3 \rangle_0 - \varepsilon^2}.$$

$$\langle \dots \rangle_0 = \int dP(\dots) f_{0p}.$$

# The irreducible basis

- The basis  $\{P_n^{(\ell)}(E_p)p^{\langle\mu_1 \dots \mu_\ell\rangle}\}_{\ell,n}$  is irreducible with respect to the little group;

- $p^{\langle\mu_1 \dots \mu_\ell\rangle} = \Delta^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_\ell}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_\ell} p^{\nu_1} \dots p^{\nu_\ell}$   $\Delta^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_\ell}_{\nu_1 \dots \nu_\ell}$ : Symmetric and traceless projector

$$\Delta^{\mu\nu} = \eta^{\mu\nu} - u^\mu u^\nu$$

$$\Delta^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} (\Delta^{\mu\alpha} \Delta^{\nu\beta} + \Delta^{\mu\beta} \Delta^{\nu\alpha}) - \frac{1}{3} \Delta^{\mu\nu} \Delta^{\alpha\beta}$$

$$\int dP \frac{E_p}{\tau_{R,p}} (\Delta_{\mu\nu} p^\mu p^\nu)^\ell P_n^{(\ell)} P_m^{(\ell)} f_{0p} = A_n^{(\ell)} \delta_{mn}.$$

- Basis of microscopically conserved quantities

$$\{Q_{n,p}^0\} = \{1, P_1^{(0)}(E_p), p^{\langle\mu\rangle}\} \subset \{P_n^{(\ell)}(E_p)p^{\langle\mu_1 \dots \mu_\ell\rangle}\}_{\ell,n}$$

# Matching and frame conditions

- In hydro the QCD EM-tensor/currents are effectively represented in terms of hydro fields  $(T, u^\mu, \alpha)$  which must be defined out of equilibrium;
- However, out of equilibrium, many different definitions of hydro fields can give the same EM-tensor, which is the physical object [Kovtun, 2012];

- *EX.: Landau matching and frame conditions* [Landau, 1959]:

$$\int dP E_p f_p = n_0, \quad \int dP E_p^2 f_p = \varepsilon_0, \quad T^\mu_\nu u^\nu = \varepsilon u^\mu$$

- Moreover, recent studies on uniqueness and causality of first order hydro, e.g. [Bemfica et al, 2018; Bemfica et al 2019] lead to the use of alternative matching conditions

$$\begin{aligned}
 N^\mu &= (n_0 + \underline{\delta n}) u^\mu + \underline{\nu}^\mu && \text{Non-eql. corrections} \\
 T^{\mu\nu} &= (\varepsilon_0 + \underline{\delta\varepsilon}) u^\mu u^\nu - (P_0 + \underline{\Pi}) \Delta^{\mu\nu} + \underline{h}^\mu u^\nu + \underline{h}^\nu u^\mu + \underline{\pi}^{\mu\nu}, && \text{General irreducible decomposition}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Entropy production

- We have shown that

$$\partial_\mu S^\mu = \beta \zeta_s \theta^2 - \kappa_s \nabla^\mu \alpha \nabla_\mu \alpha + 2\eta_s \beta \sigma_{\mu\nu} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \geq 0$$

$$\beta \zeta_s = \beta \zeta_{(\Pi)} + \Gamma_{(\beta)} \zeta_{(\delta\varepsilon)} + \Gamma_{(\alpha)} \zeta_{(\delta n)} \quad \zeta_s = \left\langle \frac{\tau_R}{E_p} [Q_p^{(0)}]^2 \right\rangle_0 \quad \langle \dots \rangle_0 = \int dP(\dots) f_{0p}.$$

$$\kappa_s = \kappa_{(\nu)} + \frac{n}{\varepsilon + P} \kappa_{(h)}, \quad \kappa_s = -\frac{1}{3} \left\langle (\Delta^{\mu\nu} p_\mu p_\nu) \frac{\tau_R}{E_p} [Q_p^{(1)}]^2 \right\rangle_0$$

- It does not matter if one coefficient is negative, the sum will always be non-negative
- For usual (Landau) matching conditions,  $\zeta(\delta n) = \zeta(\delta\varepsilon) = \kappa(h) = 0$

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[slide 2 picture] <https://www.lavision.de/en/products/fluidmaster/mixing-fluids/index.phpd>

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