

Far-from-equilibrium attractor in non-conformal plasmas

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Motivation

- What is the domain of applicability of hydrodynamics?
- Textbooks: Close to local equilibrium, $\lambda_{\text{mfp}} \ll L$ or $|\nabla^\mu u^\nu|/T \ll 1$. Hence, hydrodynamics is formulated as an expansion in velocity gradients.
Eckart, Phys. Rev. 58 (1940), Landau and Lifshitz, “Fluid mechanics” (1987)
- The issue: Navier-Stokes equations, i.e., 1st-order equations in Landau or Eckart frame, imposes instantaneous response of dissipative fluxes to dissipative forces \implies **acausality**. Hiscock and Lindblom (1983, 1985)
- Two possible resolutions:
 - 1) ‘Modern’ hydrodynamic theories: Israel-Stewart like theories.
Muller, Z. Phys. 198, 329 (1967), Israel and Stewart, Ann. Phys. 100, 310 (1976)
 - 2) 1st-order theory with a different choice of hydrodynamic frame.
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'Modern' hydrodynamic theories

- Promote dissipative fluxes to independent degrees of freedom.

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$$\tau_{\pi} \dot{\pi}^{\mu\nu} + \pi^{\mu\nu} = 2\eta\sigma^{\mu\nu} + \dots$$

so that it relaxes to Navier-Stokes over a time scale $\sim \tau_{\pi}$.

- This introduces 'non-hydrodynamic' modes ($\omega \neq 0$ as $k \rightarrow 0$).

- This approach has led to development of variety of theories:

Denicol-Niemi-Molnar-Rischke Denicol et.al., 1202.4551 (2012)

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and more..

- Are 'modern' formulations of hydrodynamics applicable over a broader domain than traditional hydrodynamics?

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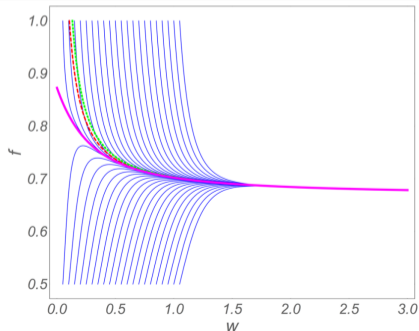
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Attractor in ‘Modern’ hydrodynamics

Bjorken flow J. D. Bjorken, PRD 27, 140 (1983)

- Boost-invariant longitudinal expansion, $v^z = \frac{z}{t}$, $v^x = v^y = 0$.
- Switch to Milne coordinate system $(\tau, x_\perp, \phi, \eta_s)$.
 - Fluid appears static, $u^\mu = (1, 0, 0, 0)$, However, finite expansion rate, $\partial_\mu u^\mu = 1/\tau$.
 - Shear tensor is diagonal, $\pi^{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(0, \pi/2, \pi/2, -\pi/\tau^2)$.

Hydrodynamic attractor Heller and Spalinski, 1503.07514 (2015)

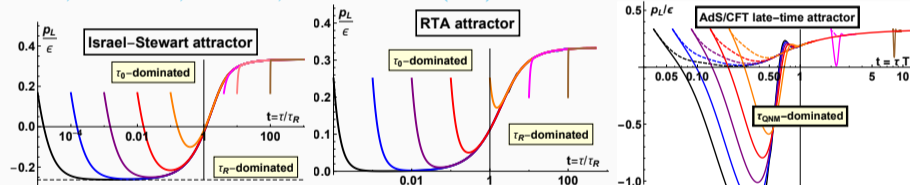


- Consider Muller-Israel-Stewart hydrodynamics.
- $f \equiv \frac{2}{3} + \frac{\pi}{4\epsilon}$; $w \equiv \tau T \propto \tau/\tau_\pi$
- **Navier-Stokes** : $f_{\text{NS}} = \frac{2}{3} + \frac{4C_\eta}{9w}$
- **Second-order** : $f_2 = f_{\text{NS}} + \frac{8C_{\tau\pi}C_\eta}{27w^2}$
- **Attractor** : Stable FP : $f_0 = \frac{2}{3} + \frac{\sqrt{C_\eta}}{3\sqrt{C_{\tau\pi}}}$ at $w \approx 0$

Early and late time attractors

- Late-time or near equilibrium attractor: Navier Stokes limit.
 - Expected. Not interesting.
- Early-time attractor: **Universality far-from-equilibrium.**

Kurkela, van der Schee, Wiedemann, and Wu 1907.08101 (2019)



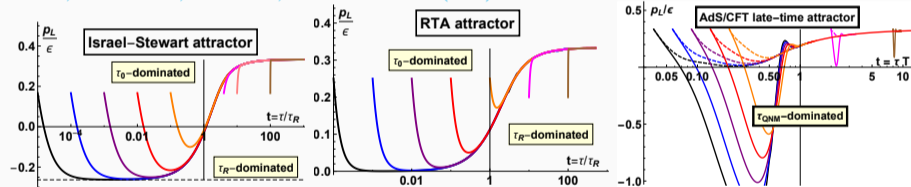
Power law decay of different initializations on attractor in $\tau/\tau_R \ll 1$ regime.

- Question: How general is this emergent ‘early-time attractor’?

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Non-conformal systems

Chattopadhyay, SJ, Du, Heinz, Pal, 2107.05500 (2021)

SJ, Chattopadhyay, Du, Heinz, Pal, 2107.10248 (2021)

- Consider Boltzmann equation in relaxation-time approximation (RTA):

$$p^\mu \partial_\mu f = -\frac{(u \cdot p)}{\tau_R} (f - f_{\text{eq}})$$

- Exact solution for Bjorken:

G. Baym, Phys. Lett. B138, 18 (1984), Florkowski, Maksymiuk, Ryblewski, Strickland, 1402.7348 (2014)

$$f(\tau; p_T, w) = D(\tau, \tau_0) f_{\text{in}}(\tau_0; p_T, w) + \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau} \frac{d\tau'}{\tau_R(\tau')} D(\tau, \tau') f_{\text{eq}}(\tau'; p_T, w)$$

$$\text{Relaxation time: } \tau_R(\tau) = \frac{5C}{T(\tau)} \quad \left| \quad \text{Damping function: } D(\tau_2, \tau_1) = \exp\left(-\int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} \frac{d\tau'}{\tau_R(\tau')}\right)$$

- Initial distribution: $f_{\text{in}} \equiv \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{m^2 + p_T^2 + (1 + \xi_0)(w/\tau_0)^2}}{\Lambda_0}\right)$

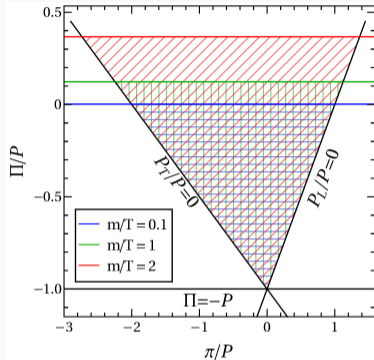
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- Three parameters: $\alpha_0, \Lambda_0, \xi_0$. Can be tuned for initial ϵ, P_L, P_T .
- Allows to create a system with large initial bulk and/or shear stress.

Kinetic bounds on viscous stresses

- Since $f(x, p) \geq 0 \implies$
 - (i) $\epsilon = \langle p_0^2 \rangle \geq 0$
 - (ii) $P_L = \langle w^2 \rangle / \tau^2 \geq 0$
 - (iii) $P_T = \frac{1}{2} \langle p_T^2 \rangle \geq 0$
 - (iv) $P + \Pi \equiv \frac{1}{3} \langle p_T^2 + (w/\tau)^2 \rangle \geq 0$
 - (v) $T_\mu^\mu \equiv m^2 \langle (1) \rangle = \epsilon - 3(P + \Pi) \geq 0$

Here, $\langle (\dots) \rangle \equiv \int d^2 p_T dw / [(2\pi)^3 \tau p^\tau] (\dots) f$
 $w \equiv p_\eta \equiv t p^z - z E_p$



- Therefore, bound on shear and bulk stress: $\{\bar{\Pi} \equiv \Pi/P, \bar{\pi} \equiv \pi/P\}$

$$\bar{\Pi} + \frac{1}{2}\bar{\pi} \geq -1, \quad \bar{\Pi} - \bar{\pi} \geq -1, \quad \bar{\Pi} \geq -1, \quad \bar{\Pi} \leq \frac{\epsilon}{3P} - 1.$$

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For conformal gas of massless particles ($\Pi = 0$), allowed region shrinks to $\Pi/P = 0$;
 discontinues jump in allowed region for arbitrary small mass.

Collisionless regime: Free streaming

- Initial conditions:

$$m = 50 \text{ MeV}. T_0 = 500 \text{ MeV at } \tau_0 = 0.1 \text{ fm}/c.$$

- Free streaming evolution:

$$f_{\text{fs}}(\tau; p_T, p^z) = f_{\text{in}}(p_T, p^z(\tau/\tau_0))$$

become sharply peaked in p_z as time evolves.

- Attractive fixed line* : $P_L = 0$

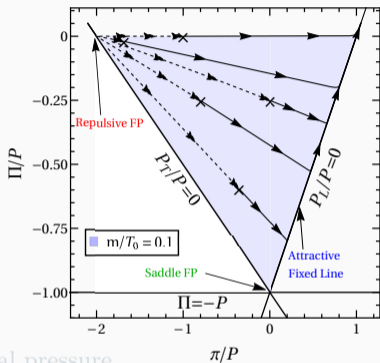
All curves approach this line of vanishing longitudinal pressure.

- Repulsive fixed point* : $\{P_T/P = 0, \Pi/P = 0\}$

Backward evolution of all curves approach this point.

- Saddle point* : $\{P_T/P = 0, P_L/P = 0\}$

Spherically symmetric distribution: $f \propto \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{p}) \propto \delta(|\mathbf{p}|)/|\mathbf{p}|^2$.



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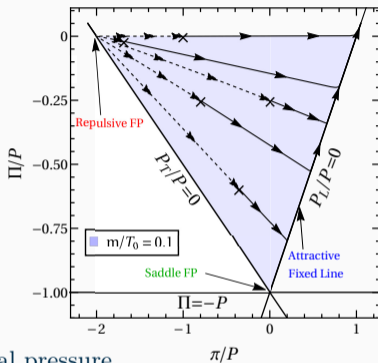
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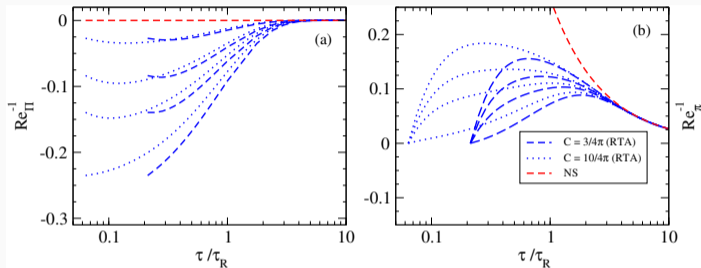
With interactions : Large Bulk, small shear

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- Absence of early-time attractor in **KT** in both bulk and shear inverse Reynolds number.
 - Convergence of trajectories seen only at $(\tau/\tau_R) \gtrsim 3$ with the **Navier-Stokes** attractor.

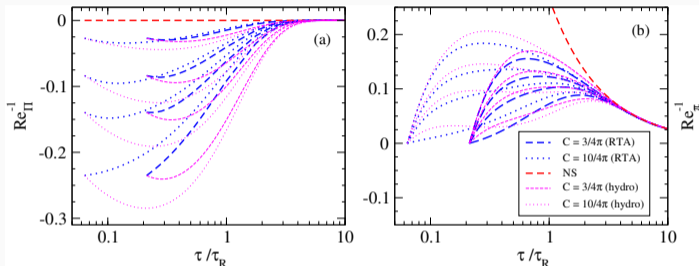
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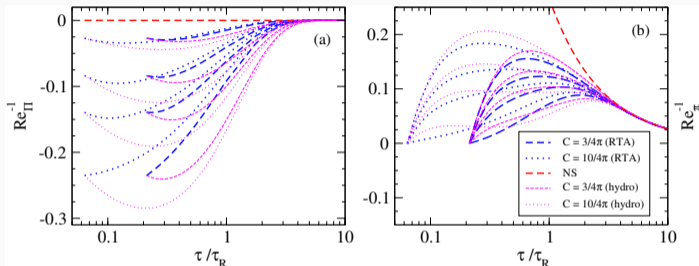
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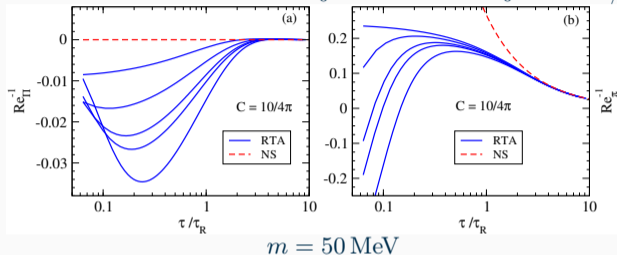
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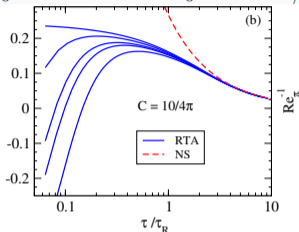
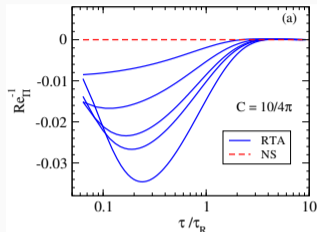
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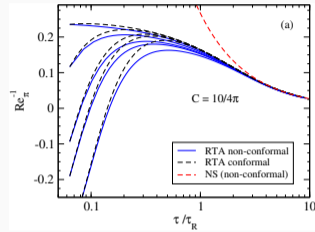
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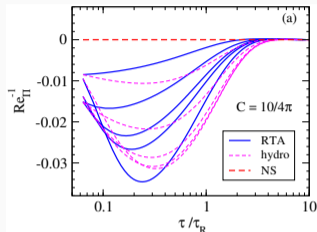


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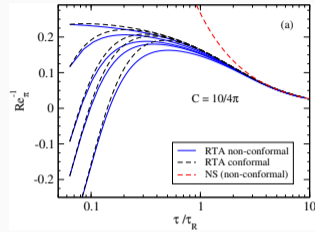
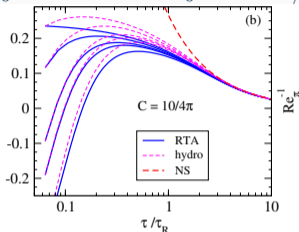
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- In shear channel: initial **power law decay** for **non-conformal KT** is lost quickly when compared to conformal KT evolution.
 - Conformal KT converges $\approx (\tau/\tau_R) \gtrsim 0.5$; **No ETA in non-conformal KT in shear.**

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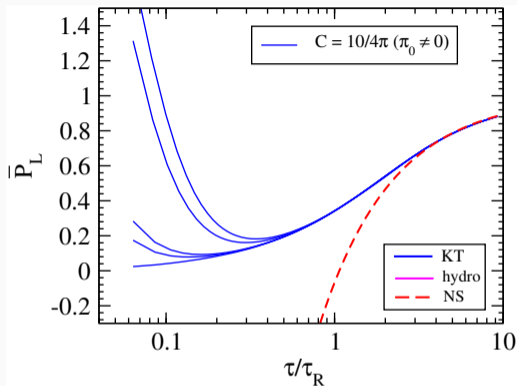
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- ETA also absent in **non-conformal hydrodynamics** in both channels.

Is there an early-time attractor?

Yes!

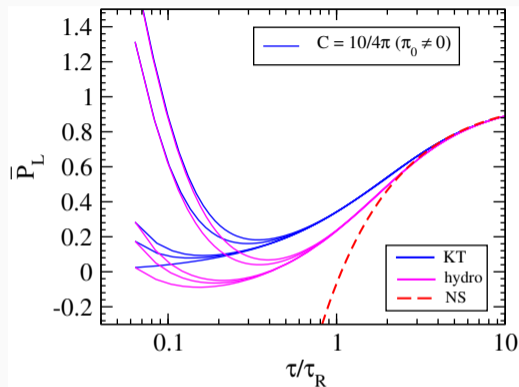
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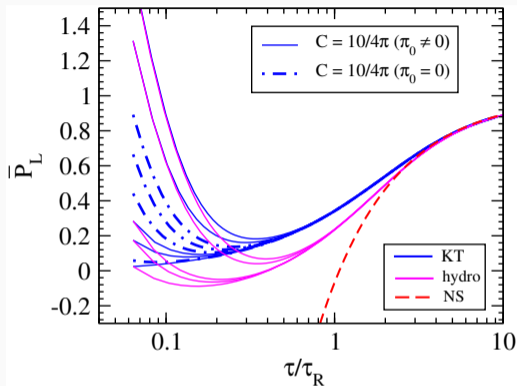
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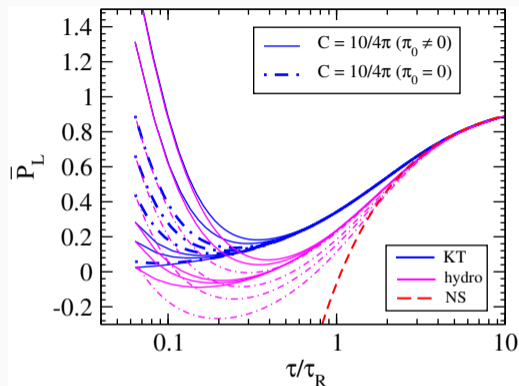
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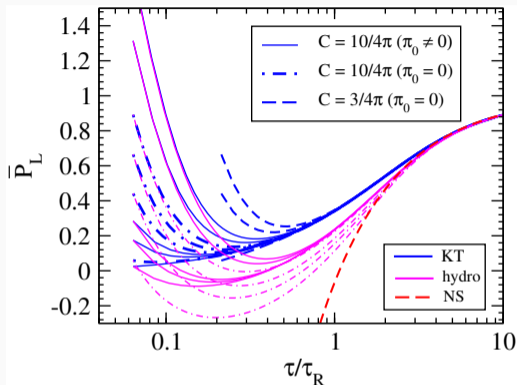
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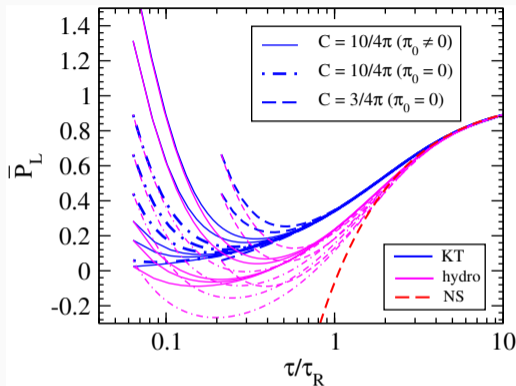
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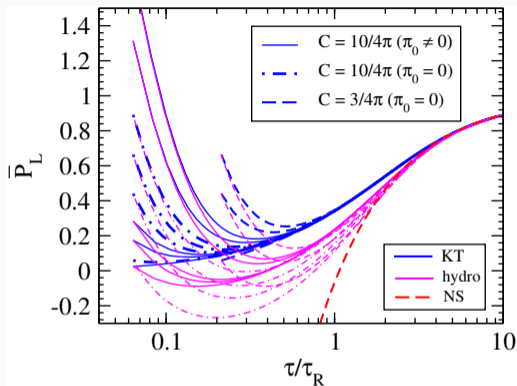


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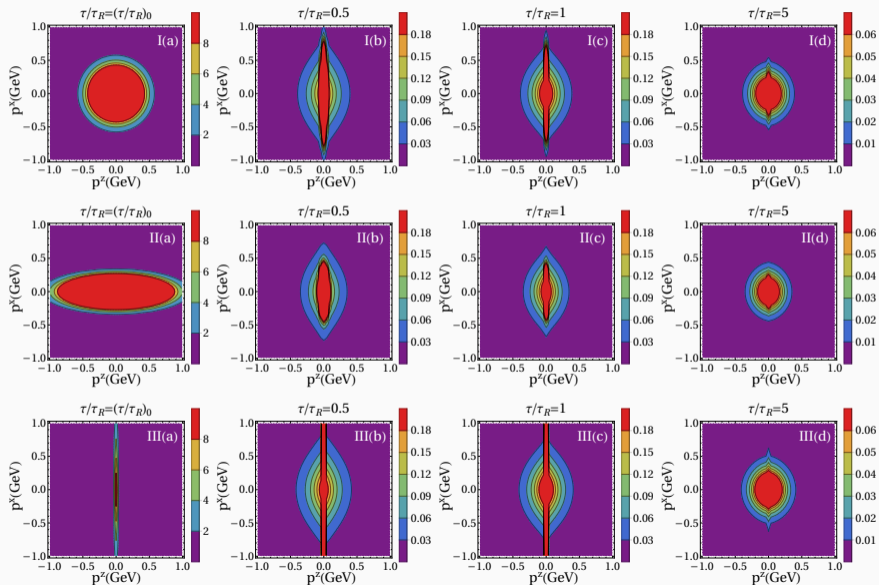


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Evolution of the distribution function



Some remarks..

Early-time attractor: feature of free-streaming, not interactions.

- Possible confusion: ETA exists for normalized shear for conformal systems. Governed by interactions?
 - For conformal systems undergoing Bjorken flow, P_L and π are equivalent quantities : $P_L/P = 1 - \pi/P$. Share a common attractor.
 - Not the case for non-conformal system : $P_L/P = 1 + (\Pi - \pi)/P$.
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 - Does not capture well the effects of strong longitudinal expansion.
- anisotropic hydrodynamics** captures the free-streaming effects.

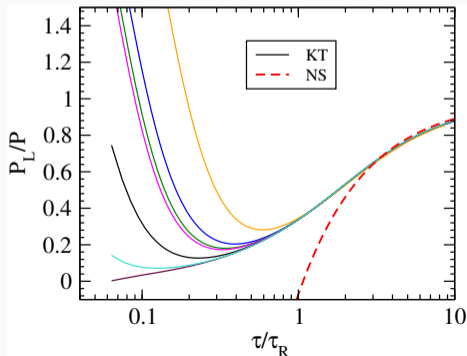
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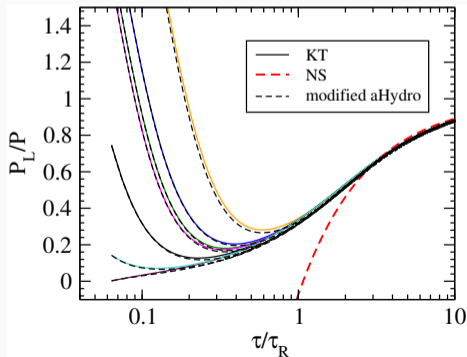
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From moments of distribution function

R. S. Bhalerao, J.-P. Blaizot, Z. Chen, A. Jaiswal, SJ and L. Yan. Forthcoming..

Consider a system with massive particle and vanishing chemical potential undergoing Bjorken expansion.

- Goal : Study transition from free-streaming to hydrodynamic regime.

$$\mathcal{L}_n \equiv \int_p p_0^2 P_{2n}(p_z/p_0) f(\tau, p), \quad \mathcal{M}_n \equiv m^2 \int_p P_{2n}(p_z/p_0) f(\tau, p)$$

where $\int_p \equiv \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 p_0}$ and P_{2n} is the Legendre polynomial of order $2n$.

- Coupled equations for \mathcal{L}_n and \mathcal{M}_n -moments:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_n}{\partial \tau} = -\frac{1}{\tau} (a_n \mathcal{L}_n + b_n \mathcal{L}_{n-1} + c_n \mathcal{L}_{n+1}) - (1 - \delta_{n,0}) \frac{(\mathcal{L}_n - \mathcal{L}_n^{\text{eq}})}{\tau_R}$$
$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{M}_n}{\partial \tau} = -\frac{1}{\tau} (a'_n \mathcal{M}_n + b'_n \mathcal{M}_{n-1} + c'_n \mathcal{M}_{n+1}) - \frac{(\mathcal{M}_n - \mathcal{M}_n^{\text{eq}})}{\tau_R}$$

where the coefficients $a_n, b_n, c_n, a'_n, b'_n, c'_n$ are pure numbers.

- Only three moments are hydro quantities: ($\mathcal{L}_0 = \varepsilon$, \mathcal{L}_1 , $\mathcal{M}_0 = T_\mu^\mu$)

$$\epsilon = \mathcal{L}_0, \quad P_L = \frac{1}{3} (\mathcal{L}_0 + 2\mathcal{L}_1), \quad P_T = \frac{1}{3} \left(\mathcal{L}_0 - \mathcal{L}_1 - \frac{3}{2} \mathcal{M}_0 \right).$$

Conclusions

- Absence of early-time attractor in the normalized shear and bulk stress channel (in both non-conformal kinetic theory and ‘modern’ hydrodynamics).
- In KT, normalized longitudinal pressure P_L/P continues to exhibit universal early-time attractive behavior driven by rapid longitudinal expansion.
- Rapid free-streaming expansion (and not interactions) is the reason for early-time attractor. Should be tested in other expansion geometries.
- 2nd order non-conformal hydrodynamics fails to capture this early-time attractor, but modified aHydro reproduces it very well.

Thank You!

Backup Slides

Second-order non-conformal hydrodynamics

- Hydrodynamic equations for gas undergoing Bjorken expansion:

Denicol, Jeon and Gale, 1403.0962, (2014), Jaiswal, Ryblewski and Strickland, 1407.7231, (2014)

$$\frac{d\epsilon}{d\tau} = -\frac{1}{\tau}(\epsilon + P + \Pi - \pi) \quad \Bigg| \quad \frac{d\Pi}{d\tau} + \frac{\Pi}{\tau_R} = -\frac{\beta_\Pi}{\tau} - \delta_{\Pi\Pi} \frac{\Pi}{\tau} + \lambda_{\Pi\pi} \frac{\pi}{\tau}$$
$$\frac{d\pi}{d\tau} + \frac{\pi}{\tau_R} = \frac{4}{3} \frac{\beta_\pi}{\tau} - \left(\frac{1}{3} \tau_{\pi\pi} + \delta_{\pi\pi} \right) \frac{\pi}{\tau} + \frac{2}{3} \lambda_{\pi\Pi} \frac{\Pi}{\tau}$$

Free streaming fixed points

- Set $\tau_R \rightarrow \infty$, evaluate transport coefficients in $m/T \rightarrow 0$ limit:

$$\{P_L/P, P_T/P\} = \{-0.212, 1.61\}; \{3.64, -0.32\}; \{-1, -3.33\}.$$

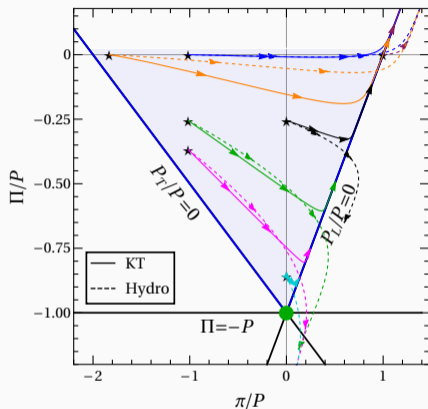
$$\{\Pi/P, \pi/P\} = \{0, 1.214\}; \{0, -2.64\}; \{-3.56, -1.56\}.$$

- Blue and Red fixed points are precisely the stable and unstable fixed points of second-order conformal hydrodynamics.
- Green fixed point— absent in conformal hydrodynamics: a feature of non-conformal hydrodynamics.

Collisionless regime: comparing KT and hydro

Free-streaming evolution of KT and 2nd-order hydrodynamics:

- Pushing hydro in free streaming, $\tau_R \rightarrow \infty$



- All free-streaming KT trajectories evolves upwards after reaching $P_L/P = 0$ line. Not the same for hydro.
 - Reason: incorrect description of the saddle point; acts like attractive fixed point (according to hydro equations) for perturbations near this FP.

- Hydrodynamics derived from KT: expansion of the distribution function around the thermal distribution.
 - Does not capture the rapid shrinking at early times of the p_z distribution caused by the rapid longitudinal Bjorken expansion.
- **anisotropic hydrodynamics:** Standard derivation assumes the form for distribution function (for Bjorken flow):

Romatschke and Strickland, hep-ph/0304092 (2003), L. Tinti, 1506.07164 (2016)

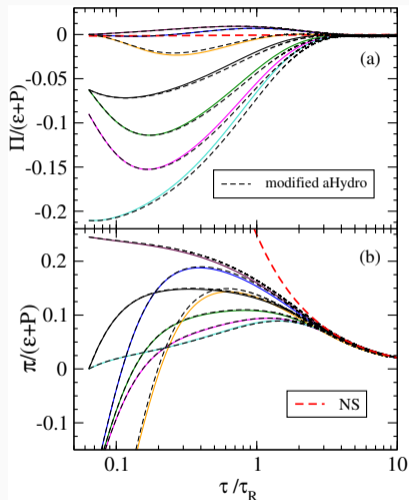
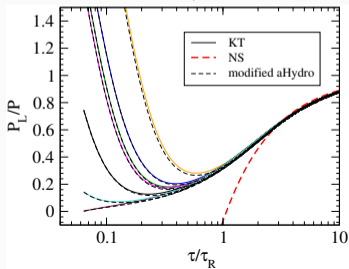
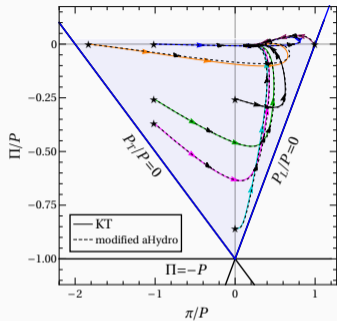
$$f(\tau; p_T, w) \approx f_a \equiv \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{m^2 + p_T^2/\alpha_T^2(\tau) + (w/\tau)^2/\alpha_L^2(\tau)}}{\Lambda(\tau)}\right)$$

- **However..** unable to span the entire allowed region: fails to generate large bulk.
- Modified ansatz for the anisotropic distribution:

$$f \approx \tilde{f}_a = \frac{1}{\alpha(\tau)} \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{m^2 + p_T^2 + (1 + \xi(\tau))(w/\tau)^2}}{\Lambda(\tau)}\right)$$

Spans entire solution space allowed by KT.

Modified aHydro: Results



Excellent agreement with KT. Reproduces the far-from-equilibrium attractor in P_L/P .