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Transport properties from quantum kinetic theory

David Wagner

Conference on Chirality, Vorticity and Magnetic Field 26.07.2024





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Quantum kinetic theory: What is it, why does it always look so complicated, and why should I care? A short introduction to the method and a selection of applications

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Introduction to the framework





- Nonequilibrium statistical description of a dilute gas
 - Nonequilibrium: Describes process of thermalization selfconsistently, concept of temperature emerges from dynamics
 - Statistical: Quantity of interest: single-particle distribution function
 - Dilute: Main assumption: System consists of essentially pointlike free particles scattering via short-range interactions



Ihr solltet mein Papier lesen!

L. Boltzmann, Sitz.-Ber. Akad. Wiss. Wien (II) 66, 275–370 (1872) english translation: The Kinetic Theory of Gases, 262-349 (2003)

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 - Nonequilibrium: Describes process of thermalization selfconsistently, concept of temperature emerges from dynamics
 - Statistical: Quantity of interest: single-particle distribution function
 - Dilute: Main assumption: System consists of essentially pointlike free particles scattering via short-range interactions



Connection to macroscopic currents

- Kinetic theory is an effective microscopic description
 - Provides (infinitely) more information than macroscopic approaches, such as thermo- and hydrodynamics
 - Can be used to extract information about any macroscopic current of interest

Kinetic representation of currents

$$\begin{split} N^{\mu}(t,\mathbf{x}) &= \int \mathrm{d}K \, k^{\mu} f(t,\mathbf{x},\mathbf{k}) \;, \\ T^{\mu\nu}(t,\mathbf{x}) &= \int \mathrm{d}K \, k^{\mu} k^{\nu} f(t,\mathbf{x},\mathbf{k}) \;, \\ S^{\mu}(t,\mathbf{x}) &= -\int \mathrm{d}K \, k^{\mu} f(t,\mathbf{x},\mathbf{k}) \left[\ln f(t,\mathbf{x},\mathbf{k}) - 1 \right] \end{split}$$

$$\mathrm{d}K \coloneqq \mathrm{d}^3k/[(2\pi\hbar)^3k^0]$$

Evolution of the distribution function

Boltzmann equation (classical version)

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\mathbf{k}}{m} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla} + \mathbf{F} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla}_{\mathbf{k}}\right) f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}) = C[f]$$



L. Rezzolla, O. Zanotti, 978-0-19-174650-5 (2013)

- Left-hand side: Advection through (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}) -phase space
- Right-hand side: Collision term

Depends on higher-order distribution functions, e.g.

$$f_2(\{\mathbf{x}_1,\mathbf{k}_1\};\{\mathbf{x}_2,\mathbf{k}_2\})$$

- ► Has to be truncated (→ BBGKY hierarchy)
- Stoßzahlansatz: Replace $f_2({\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{k}_1}; {\mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{k}_2}) \rightarrow f({\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{k}_1})f({\mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{k}_2})$

Collision term

$$C[f] = \frac{1}{2} \int \mathrm{d}K_1 \,\mathrm{d}K_2 \,\mathrm{d}K' \mathcal{W} \left(f_1 f_2 - f f'\right)$$

Connecting to quantum theory

- How to translate these ideas to quantum mechanics?
 - For the the conserved currents and find W(x,k,t) such that

$$\operatorname{Tr}\left[\widehat{\rho}(\hat{\mathbf{x}},\hat{\mathbf{p}},t)\,\widehat{A}(\hat{\mathbf{x}},\hat{\mathbf{p}})\right] = \int \mathrm{d}^3x \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^3k}{(2\pi\hbar)^3} A(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{k}) W(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{k},t)$$

• Choice "closest" to classical kinetic theory: Wigner function

$$W(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}, t) = \int \mathrm{d}^3 v \, e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}} \left\langle \mathbf{x} + \frac{\mathbf{v}}{2} \right| \hat{\rho} \left| \mathbf{x} - \frac{\mathbf{v}}{2} \right\rangle$$

E. P. Wigner, Phys. Rev. 40, 749-760 (1932) H.-W. Lee, Physics Reports 259, 147-211 (1995)

- Price to pay: Wigner function is not positive semidefinite
- Relativistic field-theoretical version (scalar field):

$$W(x,k) = \int \mathrm{d}^4 v \, e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}k \cdot v} \left\langle \widehat{\phi}^{\dagger}\left(x + \frac{v}{2}\right) \widehat{\phi}\left(x - \frac{v}{2}\right) \right\rangle \equiv G^{<}(x,k)$$

Equations of motion



- Real-time QFT: Expectation values of operators can be represented as time evolution along a closed-time path
- EoM: (contour-ordered) Dyson-Schwinger equation

$$G_0^{-1} G^{AB}(x_1, x_2) = -ic^{AB} \delta^{(4)}(x_1 - x_2) + i \int d^4 x' \Sigma^{AC}(x_1, x') c_{CD} G^{DB}(x', x_2)$$



• Wigner transform: $-i\hbar\partial_1^{\mu}G^{AB}(x_1,x_2) \rightarrow \left(k^{\mu} - \frac{i\hbar}{2}\partial^{\mu}\right)G^{AB}(x,k)$

Approximations

• \hbar -gradient expansion: Assume that the two-point functions are sufficiently localized in central coordinate $x = (x_1 + x_2)/2$

Notion of a particle should make sense!

Allows to approximate memory integrals



$$\int \mathrm{d}^4 x' G(x_1, x') \Sigma(x', x_2) \longrightarrow G(x, k) \Sigma(x, k) - \frac{i\hbar}{2} \left\{ G(x, k), \Sigma(x, k) \right\}_{\mathrm{PB}}$$

(Gradient-expanded) Kadanoff-Baym equations

$$\begin{aligned} G_0^{-1}G^<(x,k) &= \frac{i}{2} \left[\Sigma^>(x,k)G^<(x,k) - \Sigma^<(x,k)G^>(x,k) \right] \\ &+ \frac{\hbar}{4} \left[\left\{ \Sigma^>(x,k), G^<(x,k) \right\}_{\rm PB} - \left\{ \Sigma^<(x,k), G^>(x,k) \right\}_{\rm PB} \right] \end{aligned}$$

L. P. Kadanoff, G. Baym, ISBN 9780429493218 (1989)

$$\{f,g\}_{\rm PB} \coloneqq (\partial_{\mu}f)(\partial_{k}^{\mu}g) - (\partial_{k}^{\mu}f)(\partial_{\mu}g)$$

Example: Scalar field

- Approximate self-energy to lowest nontrivial order
- Separate real and imaginary parts of KB equations



Quantum kinetic equations (lowest order)

$$\begin{pmatrix} k^2 - m^2 \end{pmatrix} G^{<}(x,k) = 0 \implies G^{<}(x,k) = 2\pi\hbar^2 \delta(k^2 - m^2) f(x,k) , k \cdot \partial f(x,k) = \frac{1}{2} \int dK_1 \, dK_2 \, dK' \, (2\pi\hbar)^4 \delta^{(4)}(k_1 + k_2 - k - k') \times \frac{|M|^2}{16} \left(f_1 f_2 \tilde{f} \tilde{f}' - \tilde{f}_1 \tilde{f}_2 f f' \right)$$

"Ok, but why the complicated setup?"

Including electromagnetic fields

- Standard definition of Wigner function is not gauge invariant due to fields at different positions
 - Remedy: Include gauge link

$$U(x_1, x_2) = \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar}(x_1 - x_2) \cdot \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \mathrm{d}t A(x_1 + x_2 + t(x_1 - x_2))\right]$$

Wigner function with EM fields

$$G^{<}(x,k) = \int \mathrm{d}^{4} v \, e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}k \cdot v} \left\langle \widehat{\phi}^{\dagger}\left(x+\frac{v}{2}\right) U\left(x+\frac{v}{2},x-\frac{v}{2}\right) \widehat{\phi}\left(x-\frac{v}{2}\right) \right\rangle$$

• Main effect: Wigner representation of momentum changes $-i\hbar\partial_1^{\mu}G^{<} \rightarrow \left\{k^{\mu} - \frac{\hbar}{2}j_1(\Delta)F^{\mu\nu}\partial_{k,\nu} - \frac{i\hbar}{2}\left[\partial^{\mu} - j_0(\Delta)F^{\mu\nu}\partial_{k,\nu}\right]\right\}G^{<}(x,k)$

D. Vasak, M. Gyulassy, H. T. Elze, Annals Phys. 173, 462-492 (1987)

$$\Delta := (\hbar/2)\partial \cdot \partial_k$$

Including electromagnetic fields

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$$\Delta := (\hbar/2)\partial \cdot \partial_{\mu}$$

Including spin

Case of nonzero spin: Wigner function becomes matrix-valued
 Additional components encode spin degrees of freedom

Wigner function (spin 1/2)

$$G^{<} = \frac{1}{4} \left(\mathcal{F} + i\gamma_5 \mathcal{P} + \mathcal{V} + \gamma_5 \mathcal{A} + \frac{i}{4} [\gamma_{\mu}, \gamma_{\nu}] \mathcal{S}^{\mu\nu} \right)$$

- Underlying equations (Dirac, Proca, \cdots) can be solved perturbatively in \hbar expansion
 - \rightarrow Gradient contributions appear!
 - $\mathcal{V}^{\mu} \sim -\frac{\hbar}{2m} \partial_{\nu} S^{\nu\mu}$, $k_{\mu} S^{\mu\nu} \sim -\frac{\hbar}{2} \partial^{\nu} \mathcal{F}$, $\mathcal{P} \sim -\frac{\hbar}{4m^2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} k_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} S_{\alpha\beta}$, ...

Responsible for a lot of the interesting transport phenomena

- H. T. Elze, M. Gyulassy, D. Vasak, Nucl. Phys. B 276, 706-728 (1986)
- D. Vasak, M. Gyulassy, H. T. Elze, Annals Phys. 173, 462-492 (1987)
- S. Mrowczynski, U. W. Heinz, Annals Phys. 229, 1-54 (1994)
- Y. A. Markov, M. A. Markova, Theor. Math. Phys. 108, 977-991 (1996)
- Y. A. Markov, M. A. Markova, Theor. Math. Phys. 111, 601-612 (1997)

Equilibrium: Chiral effects

Sessions dedicated to CME: 23.07.24, 11:00-13:00 & 14:30-16:00

CME, CVE, & CSE from intuition





D. Kharzeev, J. Liao, S. Voloshin, G. Wang, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 88, 1-28 (2016)

- Intuition:
 - CME: Imbalance in chirality induces current along B
 - \blacktriangleright CVE: Imbalance in chirality& charge induces current along ω
 - CSE: Imbalance in charge induces axial current along B

CME, CVE, & CSE from QKT

- Quantum kinetic theory: these effects arise naturally as gradient contributions at global equilibrium
- 1) Assume global equilibrium, $f_s^{(0)} \coloneqq [\exp(k \cdot u/T \mu_s/T) + 1]^{-1}$

 $\mathcal{V}^{\mu}(x,k) \approx k^{\mu} \delta(k^2) (f_R^{(0)} + f_L^{(0)}) \;, \; \mathcal{A}^{\mu}(x,k) \approx k^{\mu} \delta(k^2) (f_R^{(0)} - f_L^{(0)})$

2) Obtain gradient contributions

$$\frac{\hbar}{2}\epsilon^{\mu
ulphaeta}\partial_{lpha}\mathcal{A}_{eta} = -k_{[\mu}\mathcal{V}_{
u]} \ , \ \frac{\hbar}{2}\epsilon^{\mu
ulphaeta}\partial_{lpha}\mathcal{V}_{eta} = -k_{[\mu}\mathcal{A}_{
u]}$$

3) Compute currents

$$J^{\mu}(x) = \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^4 k}{(2\pi\hbar)^4} \,\mathcal{V}^{\mu}(x,k) = nu^{\mu} + \xi \omega^{\mu} + \xi_B B^{\mu} ,$$

$$J^{\mu}_5(x) = \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^4 k}{(2\pi\hbar)^4} \,\mathcal{A}^{\mu}(x,k) = n_5 u^{\mu} + \xi_5 \omega^{\mu} + \xi_{B5} B^{\mu}$$

J.-H. Gao, Z.-T. Liang, S. Pu, Q. Wang, X.-N. Wang, Xin-Nian, Phys. Rev. Lett. 109, 232301 (2012)

- N. Weickgenannt, X.-L. Sheng, E. Speranza, Q. Wang, D. H. Rischke, Phys. Rev. D 100, 056018 (2019)
- Y. Hidaka, S. Pu, Q. Wang, D.-L. Yang, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys., 127, 103989 (2022)
- Z. Chen, S. Lin, Phys. Rev. D 105, 014015 (2022)

CME, CVE, & CSE from QKT

- Quantum kinetic theory: these effects arise naturally as gradient contributions at global equilibrium
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u]} \ , \ \frac{\hbar}{2}\epsilon^{\mu
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u]}$$

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J.-H. Gao, Z.-T. Liang, S. Pu, Q. Wang, X.-N. Wang, Xin-Nian, Phys. Rev. Lett. 109, 232301 (2012)

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Z. Chen, S. Lin, Phys. Rev. D 105, 014015 (2022)

CME, CVE, & CSE from QKT



Beyond equilibrium: Collisions

Angular momentum and collisions



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

- Assume that collisions take place in a point
 - \rightarrow Total orbital angular momentum vanishes
 - \rightarrow Spin is conserved on its own
 - $\rightarrow\,$ No exchange of spin and orbital angular momenta
- Collisions must be nonlocal for spin equilibration!

$$k \cdot \partial G^{<}(x,k) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\Sigma^{<}(x,k) G^{>}(x,k) - \Sigma^{<}(x,k) G^{<}(x,k) \right]$$



- Collisions determined by self-energies
- Crucial quantum enhancement: All internal lines have to be evaluated to order $\mathcal{O}(\hbar)$!
 - $\rightarrow\,$ Introduces gradient corrections inside the collision integral!

DW, NW, DHR, Phys.Rev.D 106 (2022) 11, 116021

Boltzmann equation with collisions

$$\begin{split} \mathfrak{f}(x,k,\mathfrak{s}) &= \delta(k^2 - m^2) f(x,k,\mathfrak{s}) \coloneqq \frac{1}{2} \left[\mathcal{F}(x,k) - \mathfrak{s} \cdot \mathcal{A}(x,k) \right] \\ k \cdot \partial f(x,k,\mathfrak{s}) &= \frac{1}{2} \int \mathrm{d}\Gamma_1 \mathrm{d}\Gamma_2 \mathrm{d}\Gamma' \mathrm{d}\bar{S}(k) \delta^{(4)}(k_1 + k_2 - k - k') \mathcal{W} \\ &\times \left[f(x + \Delta_1 - \Delta, k_1, \mathfrak{s}_1) f(x + \Delta_2 - \Delta, k_2, \mathfrak{s}_2) \right. \\ &\left. - f(x,k,\bar{\mathfrak{s}}) f(x + \Delta' - \Delta, k', \mathfrak{s}') \right] \end{split}$$

$$\mathrm{d}\Gamma := 2\mathrm{d}^4 k \delta(k^2 - m^2) \mathrm{d}S(k)$$

DW, NW, DHR, Phys.Rev.D 106 (2022) 11, 116021

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Contributions inside the collision term have gradient corrections

$$f(x,k,\mathfrak{s}) + \Delta^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}f(x,k,\mathfrak{s}) \approx f(x+\Delta,k,\mathfrak{s})$$

- A (momentum- and spin-dependent) spacetime shift Δ^μ enters
 → Particles do not scatter at the same spacetime point!
- This enables a conversion of orbital and spin angular momenta

 $\mathrm{d}\Gamma := 2\mathrm{d}^4 k \delta(k^2 - m^2) \mathrm{d}S(k)$



 $J(\mathfrak{u},\mathfrak{n},\mathfrak{s}) + \Delta \mathcal{O}_{\mu J}(\mathfrak{u},\mathfrak{n},\mathfrak{s}) \sim J(\mathfrak{u} + \Delta,\mathfrak{n},\mathfrak{s})$

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 → Particles do not scatter at the same spacetime point!
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 $\mathrm{d}\Gamma := 2\mathrm{d}^4 k \delta(k^2 - m^2) \mathrm{d}S(k)$

Back to equilibrium

- Local-equilibrium distribution function makes local collision term vanish (without spacetime shifts Δ^μ)
- Has to depend on the collisional invariants
 - $\rightarrow\,$ Charge, four-momentum and total angular momentum

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Local-equilibrium distribution function

$$f_{\mathsf{eq}}(x,k,\mathfrak{s}) = \exp\left(\alpha_0 - \beta_0 E_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{\hbar}{2}\Omega_{0,\mu\nu}\Sigma_{\mathfrak{s}}^{\mu\nu}\right)$$

- Necessary conditions on Lagrange multipliers for a vanishing **nonlocal** collision term: $\partial^{\mu}\alpha_0 = 0$, $\partial^{(\mu}(\beta_0 u^{\nu)}) = 0$, $\Omega_0^{\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{2}\partial^{[\mu}(\beta_0 u^{\nu]})$
- Same conditions as for **global** equilibrium, where $k \cdot \partial f_{eq} = 0$

$$\Sigma^{\mu
u}_{\mathfrak{s}}:=-rac{1}{m}\epsilon^{\mu
ulphaeta}k_{lpha}\mathfrak{s}_{eta}$$
, $E_{\mathbf{k}}:=k\cdot u$

Back to equilibrium

- Alternative way of introducing $\Omega_0^{\mu\nu}$: Statistical operator on term Then explicitly pseudogauge dependent! see also **M. Buzzegoli's talk, 23.07. 17:30**
 - $\rightarrow\,$ Charge, four-momentum and total angular momentum

Local-equilibrium distribution function

$$f_{\mathsf{eq}}(x,k,\mathfrak{s}) = \exp\left(\alpha_0 - \beta_0 E_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{\hbar}{2}\Omega_{0,\mu\nu}\Sigma_{\mathfrak{s}}^{\mu\nu}\right)$$

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ulphaeta}k_{lpha}\mathfrak{s}_{eta},\ E_{\mathbf{k}}:=k\cdot u$$

Polarization & spin hydrodynamics

Sessions dedicated to polarization: 22.07.24, 11:00-13:00 24.07.24, 14:30-16:00 26.07.24, 11:00-13:00 Sessions dedicated to hydrodynamics: 23.07.24, 16:30-18:00 25.07.24, 14:30-16:00

Global Λ -Polarization



- "Global": Integrated polarization along the direction of orbital angular momentum
- Can be explained by assuming spins in equilibrium
- \rightarrow "Polarization through rotation"
 - Analogous to Barnett effect





Local Λ -Polarization





F. Becattini, M. Buzzegoli, G. Inghirami, I. Karpenko, A. Palermo, PRL 127, 272302 (2021)

- "Local": Angle-dependent polarization along beam-direction
- Could only be explained recently by incorporating shear effects
- → Simple picture of equilibrated spins not complete



B. Fu, S. Y. F. Liu, L. Pang, H. Song, Y. Yin, Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 142301 (2021)

Local Λ -Polarization



B. Fu, S. Y. F. Liu, L. Pang, H. Song, Y. Yin, Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 142301 (2021)

Pauli-Lubanski vector in (global) equilibrium

$$S^{\mu}_{\varpi} = -\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}k_{\nu}\frac{\int \mathrm{d}\Sigma_{\lambda}k^{\lambda}f_{0}(1-f_{0})\varpi_{\alpha\beta}}{8m\int \mathrm{d}\Sigma_{\lambda}k^{\lambda}f_{0}}$$

- Traditional approaches to computing the polarization
 - assume equilibrated spin degrees of freedom
 - neglect dissipative quantities

$$\varpi_{\mu\nu} \coloneqq \frac{1}{2} [\partial_{\mu} \left(u_{\nu}/T \right) - \partial_{\nu} \left(u_{\mu}/T \right)]$$

Pauli-Lubanski vector in (global) equilibrium

$$S^{\mu}_{\varpi} = -\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}k_{\nu}\frac{\int \mathrm{d}\Sigma_{\lambda}k^{\lambda}f_{0}(1-f_{0})\varpi_{\alpha\beta}}{8m\int \mathrm{d}\Sigma_{\lambda}k^{\lambda}f_{0}}$$

- Traditional approaches to computing the polarization
 - assume equilibrated spin degrees of freedom
 - neglect dissipative quantities
- Not clear so far:
 - (I) How fast do spin degrees of freedom equilibrate?
 - (II) How do dissipative effects influence polarization?
- $\rightarrow\,$ Can be answered through spin hydrodynamics from quantum kinetic theory

$$\varpi_{\mu\nu} \coloneqq \frac{1}{2} [\partial_{\mu} \left(u_{\nu}/T \right) - \partial_{\nu} \left(u_{\mu}/T \right)]$$

Spin hydrodynamics



- NMR: Large constant *B*-field in *z*-direction and short-lived alternating field in *x*, *y*-plane
- Identify materials by relaxation times T_1 , T_2



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bloch_equations

Bloch equations

$$T_2 \dot{M}_{x,y} + M_{x,y} = \mu_2 \left(\mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{B} \right)_{x,y} ,$$

$$T_1 \dot{M}_z + M_z = \mu_1 \left(\mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{B} \right)_z + M_0 .$$

$$\mu_1 \coloneqq T_1 \frac{gq}{2m}, \ \mu_2 \coloneqq T_2 \frac{gq}{2m}$$

Spin waves in a fluid at rest

Conservation equations

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{\mu}T^{(\mu\nu)} &= 0 + \mathcal{O}(\hbar^2) ,\\ \partial_{\lambda}S^{\lambda\mu\nu} &= \frac{1}{\hbar}T^{[\nu\mu]} + \mathcal{O}(\hbar^2) . \end{aligned}$$

 No backreaction of spin on fluid evolution, fluid profile serves as input for spin potential

Equations of motion for the spin potential

$$\tau_{\kappa}\dot{\kappa}^{\langle\mu\rangle} + \kappa^{\mu} = \mu_{\kappa}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}u_{\nu}\nabla_{\alpha}\omega_{\beta} ,$$

$$\tau_{\omega}\dot{\omega}^{\langle\mu\rangle} + \omega^{\mu} = -\mu_{\omega}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}u_{\nu}\nabla_{\alpha}\kappa_{\beta} .$$

• Relaxation times au_{κ} , au_{ω} determined by **nonlocal** collisions

V. E. Ambrus, R. Ryblewski, R. Singh, Phys. Rev. D 106, 014018(2022)
 J. Hu, Z. Xu, Phys. Rev. D 107, 016010 (2023)
 DW, M. Shokri, D. H. Rischke, 2405.00533 (2024)

- Relaxation time depends on interaction model, can potentially get large
 - \rightarrow Spin relaxation can be a slow process, dynamics cannot be neglected!



DW, M. Shokri, D. H. Rischke, 2405.00533 (2024)



A. Ayala et al, Phys. Rev. D 109, 074018 (2024)



J. Hu, Phys. Rev. D 105, 096021 (2022)



A. Ayala, D. de la Cruz, L. A. Hernández, J. Salinas, Phys. Rev. D 102, 056019 (2020)

Transport properties from QK1

- Relaxation time depends on interaction model, can potentially get large
 - \rightarrow Spin relaxation can be a slow process, dynamics cannot be neglected!

More on spin relaxation:



David Wagner

Transport properties from QKT

Phys. Rev. D 102, 056019 (2020)





That's not all Folks: Alignment

Alignment of ϕ -mesons

- Spin-1 particles feature tensor polarization (= alignment)
- Intuition: "Polarization counts the difference between spin-projections +1 and -1, alignment counts spin-projection 0"
 - Larger than expected
 - Many theoretical developments
 Z-T. Liang, X.-N. Wang,
 Phys. Lett. B 629, 20-26 (2005)
 X.-L. Sheng, L. Oliva, Q. Wang,
 Phys. Rev. D 101, 096005 (2020)
 X.-L. Xia, H. Li, X-G. Huang, H.-Z. Huang,
 PLB 817 (2021) 136325
 X.-L. Sheng, L. Oliva, Z.-T. Liang, Q. Wang,
 X.-N. Wang, Phys. Rev. D 109, 036004 (2024)
 F. Li, S. Y. F. Liu, 2206.11890 (2022)
 DW, N. Weickgenannt, E. Speranza,
 Phys. Rev. Res. 5, 013187 (2023)
 J.-H. Chen, Z.-T. Liang, Y.-G. Ma, X.-L. Sheng,
 Q. Wang, 2407.06480



STAR collaboration, Nature 614, 244-248 (2023)

Alignment in QKT

• Spin-1 Wigner function has 16 components, 9 of which are independent

$$W^{\mu\nu} = E^{\mu\nu}f_E + \frac{k^{(\mu}}{2k}F_S^{\nu)} + F_K^{\mu\nu} + K^{\mu\nu}f_K + i\frac{k^{[\mu}}{2k}F_A^{\nu]} + i\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}\frac{k_{\alpha}}{m}G_{\beta}$$

- $f_K \longrightarrow$ particle-number density
- \blacktriangleright $G^{\mu} \longrightarrow$ polarization
- $F_K^{\mu\nu} \longrightarrow$ tensor polarization/ alignment
- Several approaches on the market (incomplete list)
 - Coalescence

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Strong force fields

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Holography

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Hydrodynamic gradients

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David Wagner

Transport properties from QK1

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Summary and (personal) outlook

- Quantum kinetic theory is a versatile effective microscopic theory
 - ▶ At (global) equilibrium: allows to recover, e.g., CME, CVE, CSE, · · ·
 - At (local) equilibrium: provides a basis for ideal (spin) hydrodynamics
 - Near local equilibrium: provides a basis for dissipative (spin) hydrodynamics
 - Away from equilibrium: can be studied as a full-fledged nonequilibrium transport theory
- Future applications & developments (I would like to see):
 - Study of spin hydro from QKT in various setups, in particular polarization dynamics
 - > Numerical implementation of kinetic equations to first order in \hbar
 - Application to astrophysical scenarios, e.g., spin transport in neutron stars

Appendix

Conserved currents in QKT

Conserved currents

$$\frac{1}{2}T^{(\mu\nu)} = \int d\Gamma k^{\mu}k^{\nu}f ,$$

$$S^{\lambda\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2m}\int d\Gamma k^{\lambda}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}k_{\alpha}\mathfrak{s}_{\beta}f .$$

$$T^{[\mu\nu]} = \frac{1}{2}\int [d\Gamma]\widetilde{\mathcal{W}}\Delta^{[\mu}k^{\nu]} (f_{1}f_{2} - ff')$$

Conservation laws

$$\int \mathrm{d}\Gamma k^{\mu} C[f] = 0$$
$$\frac{\hbar}{2m} \int \mathrm{d}\Gamma \epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} k_{\alpha} \mathfrak{s}_{\beta} C[f] = \frac{\hbar}{m} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^4 k}{(2\pi\hbar)^4} k^{[\mu} \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{V}}^{\nu]}$$

 $[d\Gamma]:=d\Gamma_1\,d\Gamma_2\,d\Gamma\,d\Gamma'$

Polarization observables in kinetic theory

Vector Polarization (Pauli-Lubanski Pseudovector)

$$S^{\mu}(k) \coloneqq \operatorname{Tr}\left[\hat{S}^{\mu}\,\hat{
ho}(k)
ight] = rac{1}{N(k)} \int \mathrm{d}\Sigma_{\lambda}k^{\lambda} \int \mathrm{d}S(k) \mathfrak{s}^{\mu}f(x,k,\mathfrak{s})$$

Tensor Polarization

$$\begin{split} \rho_{00}(\boldsymbol{k}) &= \frac{1}{3} - \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \epsilon_{\mu}^{(0)}(\boldsymbol{k}) \epsilon_{\nu}^{(0)}(\boldsymbol{k}) \Theta^{\mu\nu}(\boldsymbol{k}) \\ \Theta^{\mu\nu}(\boldsymbol{k}) &\coloneqq \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \operatorname{Tr} \left[\left(\hat{S}^{(\mu} \hat{S}^{\nu)} + \frac{4}{3} K^{\mu\nu} \right) \hat{\rho}(\boldsymbol{k}) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{1}{N(\boldsymbol{k})} \int \mathrm{d}\Sigma_{\lambda} \boldsymbol{k}^{\lambda} \int \mathrm{d}S(\boldsymbol{k}) K^{\mu\nu}_{\alpha\beta} \mathfrak{s}^{\alpha} \mathfrak{s}^{\beta} f(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{k}, \mathfrak{s}) \end{split}$$

$$N(k) := \int \mathrm{d}\Sigma_{\gamma} k^{\gamma} \int \mathrm{d}S(k) f(x, k, \mathfrak{s}), \qquad \hat{S}^{\mu} := -(1/2m) \epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \hat{J}_{\nu\alpha} \hat{P}_{\mu}$$

Moment expansion

- Split distribution function $f = f_{eq} + \delta f$
- Perform moment expansion including spin degrees of freedom

Irreducible moments

$$\rho_r^{\mu_1\cdots\mu_\ell}(x) := \int \mathrm{d}\Gamma E_{\mathbf{k}}^r k^{\langle \mu_1}\cdots k^{\mu_\ell\rangle} \delta f(x,k,\mathfrak{s})$$

$$\tau_r^{\mu,\mu_1\cdots\mu_\ell}(x) := \int \mathrm{d}\Gamma \mathfrak{s}^{\mu} E_{\mathbf{k}}^r k^{\langle \mu_1}\cdots k^{\mu_\ell\rangle} \delta f(x,k,\mathfrak{s})$$

$$b_r^{\mu\nu,\mu_1\cdots\mu_\ell}(x) := \int \mathrm{d}\Gamma K_{\alpha\beta}^{\mu\nu} \mathfrak{s}^{\alpha} \mathfrak{s}^{\beta} E_{\mathbf{k}}^r k^{\langle \mu_1}\cdots k^{\mu_\ell\rangle} \delta f(x,k,\mathfrak{s})$$

- Equations of motion can be derived from Boltzmann equation
- Knowing the evolution of all moments is equivalent to solving the Boltzmann equation

$$k^{\langle \mu_1} \cdots k^{\mu_\ell \rangle} \coloneqq \Delta^{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_\ell}_{\nu_1 \cdots \nu_\ell} k^{\nu_1} \cdots k^{\nu_\ell}$$

DW, NW, ES, 2306.05936 (2023)

Spacetime shifts

$$\Delta^{\mu} := -\frac{i\hbar}{8m} \frac{m^4}{\mathcal{W}} M^{\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \delta_1 \delta_2} M^{\zeta_1 \zeta_2 \eta_1 \eta_2} h_{1,\gamma_1 \eta_1} h_{2,\gamma_2 \eta_2} h'_{\zeta_2 \delta_2} [h, \gamma^{\mu}]_{\zeta_1 \delta_1}$$

• Depend on the transfer-matrix elements

$$\langle 11' | \hat{t} | 22' \rangle = \bar{u}_{1,\alpha} \bar{u}_{1',\beta} u_{2,\gamma} u_{2',\delta} M^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}$$

- Manifestly covariant
 - $\rightarrow\,$ no "no-jump" frame

$$h \coloneqq \frac{1}{4}(\mathbb{1} + \gamma_5 \mathbf{s})(\mathbf{k} + m)$$

• Same procedure as for the moments of spin-rank 0

Moment equation for $\ell = 2$

$$\dot{\tau}_r^{\langle \mu \rangle, \nu \lambda} - \mathfrak{C}_{r-1}^{\langle \mu \rangle, \nu \lambda} = \cdots$$

- Navier-Stokes limit: $\mathfrak{C}_{r-1}^{\langle \mu \rangle, \nu \lambda} = 0$
- Contains local and nonlocal contributions
 - $\begin{array}{l} \bullet \ \mathfrak{C}_{r,\text{local}}^{\langle \mu \rangle,\nu\lambda} \sim \tau_r^{\mu,\nu\lambda} \\ \bullet \ \mathfrak{C}_{r,\text{nonlocal}}^{\langle \mu \rangle,\nu\lambda} \sim \sigma_{\rho}^{\langle \nu} \epsilon^{\lambda\rangle\mu\alpha\rho} u_{\alpha} \end{array}$
- Leads to shear-induced polarization, coefficient independent of total cross-section
- Magnitude not yet clear
- N. Weickgenannt, DW, E. Speranza, D. H. Rischke, Phys. Rev. D 106, L091901 (2022) N. Weickgenannt, DW, E. Speranza, D. H. Rischke, Phys. Rev. D 106, 096014 (2022)

Moment equation for $\ell = 0$

$$\begin{split} \dot{\psi}_{r}^{\langle\mu\nu\rangle} - \mathfrak{C}_{r-1}^{\langle\mu\nu\rangle} &= -\frac{\theta}{3} \left[(r+2)\psi_{r}^{\langle\mu\nu\rangle} - (r-1)m^{2}\psi_{r-2}^{\langle\mu\nu\rangle} \right] \theta + r\psi_{r-1}^{\langle\mu\nu\rangle,\alpha} \dot{u}_{\alpha} \\ &- \Delta_{\alpha\beta}^{\mu\nu} \nabla_{\gamma}\psi_{r-1}^{\alpha\beta,\gamma} + (r-1)\psi_{r-2}^{\langle\mu\nu\rangle,\alpha\beta} \sigma_{\alpha\beta} \end{split}$$

- No dependence on equilibrium quantities appears because moments of spin-rank 2 do not appear in any conserved current
- Nonetheless, they are important to e.g. describe **tensor polarization** of spin-1 particles

DW, NW, ES, 2207.01111 (2022)

▶ Main argument: $\mathfrak{C}_{r-1}^{\langle \mu\nu\rangle} \simeq A_r \psi_r^{\mu\nu} + B_r \pi^{\mu\nu}$ leads to $\psi_r^{\mu\nu} \sim \pi^{\mu\nu}$ in the Navier-Stokes limit

$$\Delta^{\mu\nu}_{\alpha\beta} \coloneqq (\Delta^{(\mu}_{\alpha} \Delta^{\nu)}_{\beta})/2 - (1/3)\Delta^{\mu\nu}\Delta_{\alpha\beta}$$