A fluid dynamic perspective on high energy nucleus collisions

Stefan Floerchinger (Jena University, Germany)

14th International Conference on Nucleus Nucleus Collisions, Whistler, British Columbia, Canada August 22, 2024.



Fluid dynamics



- long distances, long times or strong enough interactions
- quantum fields form a fluid!
- needs macroscopic fluid properties
 - thermodynamic equation of state $p(T, \mu)$
 - $\bullet\,$ shear and bulk viscosity $\eta,\,\zeta$
 - heat conductivity
 - relaxation times
 - heavy quark diffusion coefficient κ_n
- fixed by microscopic properties encoded in Lagrangian \mathscr{L}_{QCD}

High energy nuclear collisions



Relativistic fluid dynamics

Energy-momentum tensor and conserved current

$$\begin{split} T^{\mu\nu} &= \epsilon \, u^{\mu} u^{\nu} + (p + \pi_{\mathsf{bulk}}) \Delta^{\mu\nu} + \pi^{\mu\nu} \\ N^{\mu} &= n \, u^{\mu} + \nu^{\mu} \end{split}$$

- tensor decomposition using fluid velocity u^{μ} , $\Delta^{\mu\nu} = g^{\mu\nu} + u^{\mu}u^{\nu}$
- thermodynamic equation of state $p = p(T, \mu)$

Covariant conservation laws $\nabla_\mu\,T^{\mu\nu}=0$ and $\nabla_\mu N^\mu=0$ imply evolution equations for

 \bullet energy density ϵ

$$u^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}\epsilon + (\epsilon + p + \pi_{\mathsf{bulk}})\nabla_{\mu}u^{\mu} + \pi^{\mu\nu}\nabla_{\mu}u_{\nu} = 0$$

 \bullet fluid velocity u^{μ}

 $(\epsilon + p + \pi_{\mathsf{bulk}})u^{\mu}\nabla_{\mu}u^{\nu} + \Delta^{\nu\mu}\partial_{\mu}(p + \pi_{\mathsf{bulk}}) + \Delta^{\nu}{}_{\alpha}\nabla_{\mu}\pi^{\mu\alpha} = 0$

• particle number density n

$$u^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}n + n\nabla_{\mu}u^{\mu} + \nabla_{\mu}\nu^{\mu} = 0$$

Constitutive relations

[Israel & Stewart]

Second order relativistic fluid dynamics:

• equation for shear stress $\pi^{\mu\nu}$

 $\tau_{\text{shear}} P^{\rho\sigma}_{\ \alpha\beta} u^{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} \pi^{\alpha\beta} + \pi^{\rho\sigma} + 2\eta P^{\rho\sigma\alpha}_{\ \beta} \nabla_{\alpha} u^{\beta} + \ldots = 0$

with shear viscosity $\eta(T,\mu)$

• equation for bulk viscous pressure π_{bulk}

 $au_{\mathsf{bulk}} \, u^{\mu} \partial_{\mu} \pi_{\mathsf{bulk}} + \pi_{\mathsf{bulk}} + \zeta \,
abla_{\mu} u^{\mu} + \ldots = 0$

with bulk viscosity $\zeta(T,\mu)$

• equation for baryon diffusion current u^{μ}

$$\tau_{\text{heat}} \,\Delta^{\alpha}{}_{\beta} \,u^{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} \nu^{\beta} + \nu^{\alpha} + \kappa \left[\frac{nT}{\epsilon+p}\right]^2 \Delta^{\alpha\beta} \partial_{\beta} \left(\frac{\mu}{T}\right) + \ldots = 0$$

with heat conductivity $\kappa({\,T},\mu)$

non-hydrodynamic degrees of freedom are needed for relativistic causality!

Causality

[Floerchinger & Grossi, JHEP 08 (2018) 186]



- dissipative fluid equations can be of hyperbolic type
- characteristic velocities depend on fluid fields
- \bullet need $|\lambda^{(j)}| < c$ for relativistic causality
- works when relaxation times are large enough

Bjorken boost invariance



How does the fluid velocity look like?

- Bjorkens guess: $v_z(t, x, y, z) = z/t$
- leads to an invariance under Lorentz-boosts in the z-direction
- use coordinates $\tau = \sqrt{t^2 z^2}$, x, y, $\eta = \operatorname{arctanh}(z/t)$
- Bjorken boost symmetry is reasonably accurate close to mid-rapidity $\eta pprox 0$

Transverse expansion



• for central collisions (
$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$
)

 $\epsilon = \epsilon(\tau, r)$

• initial pressure gradient leads to radial flow

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} f(\tau, r)$$

Non-central collisions



- pressure gradients larger in reaction plane
- leads to larger fluid velocity in this direction
- more particles fly in this direction
- can be quantified in terms of elliptic flow v₂
- particle distribution

$$\frac{dN}{d\phi} = \frac{N}{2\pi} \left[1 + 2\sum_{m} v_m \cos\left(m\left(\phi - \psi_R\right)\right) \right]$$

• symmetry $\phi \rightarrow \phi + \pi$ implies $v_1 = v_3 = v_5 = \ldots = 0$.

Two-particle correlation function

• normalized two-particle correlation function

$$C(\phi_1,\phi_2) = \frac{\langle \frac{dN}{d\phi_1} \frac{dN}{d\phi_2} \rangle_{\mathsf{events}}}{\langle \frac{dN}{d\phi_1} \rangle_{\mathsf{events}} \langle \frac{dN}{d\phi_2} \rangle_{\mathsf{events}}} = 1 + 2\sum_m v_m^2 \, \cos(m\,(\phi_1 - \phi_2))$$

• surprisingly v_2 , v_3 , v_4 , v_5 and v_6 are all non-zero!



[ALICE 2011, similar results from CMS, ATLAS, Phenix, Star]

Event-by-event fluctuations

- deviations from symmetric initial energy density distribution from event-by-event fluctuations
- one example is Glauber model



Thermodynamics of QCD



[Borsányi et al. (2016), similar Bazavov et al. (2014)]

[Floerchinger, Grossi, Lion (2019)]

- equation of state at vanishing chemical potential is well known now
- at large temperature lattice QCD
- at small temperature hadron resonance gas approximation
- extensions to non-zero chemical potentials e. g. by Taylor expansion

Fluid dynamic description of heavy ion collisions

FluiduM: Fluid dynamics of heavy ion collisions with Mode expansion [Floerchinger & Wiedemann, PLB 728, 407 (2014), PRC 88, 044906 (2013), 89, 034914 (2014)] [Floerchinger, Grossi & Lion, PRC 100, 014905 (2019)]



- background-fluctuation splitting + mode expansion
- resonance decays included [Mazeliauskas, Floerchinger, Grossi & Teaney, EPJC 79, 284 (2019)]
- allows fast and precise comparison between theory and experiment

Parameter estimation from theory-experiment comparisson

[Vermunt, Seemann, Dubla, Floerchinger, Grossi, Kirchner, Masciocchi, Selyuzhenkov, PRC 108, 064908 (2023)]

- fluid models have parameters
- can be determined with Bayesian analysis from data
- here based on transverse momentum spectra of pions, kaons, protons
- data from Pb-Pb (2.76 TeV), Pb-Pb (5.02 TeV), Xe-Xe (5.44 TeV)



Particle production at the Large Hadron Collider

[Vermunt, Seemann, Dubla, Floerchinger, Grossi, Kirchner, Masciocchi, Selyuzhenkov, PRC 108, 064908 (2023)]



- overall good description
- some deviations for pions at small p_T

Event-by-event fluid simulations





- fluctuating initial conditions from different models
- overall good agreement with experimental data reached

Collective behavior in large and small systems



- flow coefficients from higher order cumulants $v_2\{n\}$ agree: \rightarrow collective behavior
- elliptic flow signals also in pPb and pp collisions
- this conference: hints for v_2 even in high-multiplicity e^+e^- collisions [Chris McGinn, Talk on Monday]

Elliptic flow for a few interacting atoms

[S. Floerchinger, G. Giacalone, L. H. Heyen, L. Tharwat, PRC 105, 044908 (2022)]
[S. Brandstetter, P. Lunt, C. Heintze, G. Giacalone, L. H. Heyen, M. Gałka, K. Subramanian, M. Holten, P. M. Preiss, S. Floerchinger, S. Jochim, 2308.09699]



- elliptic flow of 5+5 strongly interacting fermionic atoms released from anisotropic trap
- qualitative agreement with ideal fluid dynamics

Quantum corrections at second order in derivatives





nonrelativistic superfluid with bulk pressure and shear stress

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{\mathsf{bulk}} &= \lambda \frac{\hbar^2}{8mn_s} \left[n_s \nabla^2 n_s + (\nabla n_s)^2 \right] \\ \pi_{jk} &= \lambda \frac{\hbar^2}{4mn_s} \left[(\partial_j n_s) (\partial_k n_s) - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{jk} (\nabla n_s)^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

Fluid equations of motion for charm

- $\bullet\,$ net heavy quark number current $N_{-}^{\mu}=N_{Q}^{\mu}-N_{\bar{Q}}^{\mu}$ conserved in QCD
- averaged quark number current $N^{\mu}_{+} = (N^{\mu}_{Q} + N^{\mu}_{\bar{Q}})/2$ approximately conserved for small temperatures $T \ll m_Q$

decompose

$$N^{\mu} = N^{\mu}_{+} = nu^{\mu} + \nu^{\mu}$$

conservation law

$$\nabla_{\mu}N^{\mu} = u^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}n + n\nabla_{\mu}u^{\mu} + \nabla_{\mu}\nu^{\mu} = 0$$

constitutive relation for diffusion current

$$\boldsymbol{\tau_n} \Delta^{\rho}{}_{\sigma} u^{\lambda} \nabla_{\lambda} \nu^{\sigma} + \nu^{\rho} + \boldsymbol{\kappa_n} \Delta^{\rho\sigma} \partial_{\sigma} \left(\frac{\mu}{T}\right) = 0$$

- \bullet chemical potential μ conjugate to heavy quark number
- heavy quark diffusion coefficient $\kappa_n = D_s n$
- relaxation time τ_n

 $Thermodynamic\ equation\ of\ state\ for\ charm$

- fluid dynamics needs a thermodynamic equation of state
- we use a hadron resonance model approximation with sum over all measured charmed states

$$n(T,\mu) = \frac{T}{2\pi^2} \sum_{i \in \mathsf{HRGc}} q_i M_i^2 \exp\left(\frac{q_i \mu}{T}\right) K_2\left(\frac{M_i}{T}\right)$$

• lattice results would be nice to have

Constraints on charm quark diffusion on the lattice



- latest lattice results for heavy quark diffusion coefficient for $N_f = 2 + 1$ flavor QCD indicate small D_s [HotQCD, PRL 130, 231902 (2023)]
- supports fast hydrodynamization of heavy quarks

Yields of charmed hadrons

[Capellino, Dubla, Floerchinger, Grossi, Kirchner, Masciocchi, PRD 108, 116011 (2023)] [related work by Andronic, Braun-Munzinger, Redlich, Stachel et al.]



 D^0 D^+ D^{*+} D^+_s J/ψ Λ^+_c Ξ^+_c Ω^0_c

• resonance decays from FASTRESO sizeable

• yield of Λ_c^+ underpredicted, possibly missing higher resonances in PDG list?

• prediction for Ξ_c^+ and Ω_c^0

Transverse momentum spectra of charmed hadrons

[Capellino, Dubla, Floerchinger, Grossi, Kirchner, Masciocchi, PRD 108, 116011 (2023)]



• good agreement for D-mesons up to $p_{\rm T}\approx 4-5~{\rm GeV}$ • some deviations for ${\rm J}/\Psi$ (dissipative correction at freezeout?) Photon and dilepton production rate in local thermal equilibrium

• photon production rate per unit volume and momentum

$$p^0 \frac{dR}{d^3 p} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} n_{\mathsf{B}}(\omega) \rho(\omega)$$

- frequency in the fluid rest frame $\omega = u_\mu p^\mu$
- Bose-Einstein factor

$$n_{\mathsf{B}}(\omega) = \frac{1}{e^{\omega/T} - 1}$$

- \bullet electromagnetic spectral function $\rho(\omega)$
- similar for dileptons

Electromagnetic spectral function

[S. Floerchinger, C. Gebhardt, K. Reygers, PLB 837 (2023) 137647]



 fluid dynamics for electric current yields spectral function at small frequencies and momenta

$$\rho(\omega, \mathbf{p}) = \frac{\sigma\omega(\omega^2 - \mathbf{p}^2)}{(\tau\omega^2 - D\mathbf{p}^2)^2 + \omega^2} + 2\frac{\sigma\omega}{\tau^2\omega^2 + 1}$$

- electric conductivity σ
- diffusion coefficient $D = \sigma/\chi$
- charge susceptibility $\chi = (\partial n / \partial \mu)|_T$
- relaxation time τ constrained by causality $\tau > D = \sigma/\chi$

Dielectron transverse momentum and mass spectra

[S. Floerchinger, C. Gebhardt, K. Reygers, PLB 837 (2023) 137647]



- integration over fireball volume at LHC energies
- background contribution from resonance decays dominates
- Hanbury Brown-Twiss correlations could help

Conclusions

- fluid dynamics approximately describes quantum fields out-of-equilibrium
- based on thermodynamic and transport properties of QCD
- can explain many aspects of high-energy heavy ion collisions
- seems applicable even for relatively small systems
- finds applications also for heavy quarks
- photon and dilepton spectra in the soft regime

Backup

Expansion with second order corrections



Fluid dynamics with several conserved quantum numbers

- fluid with conserved quantum number densities $c_m = (\epsilon, n_{\rm B}, n_{\rm C}, n_{\rm S}, \ldots)$
- equation of state in grand canonical ensemble in terms of Massieu potential $w(\beta, \alpha_j) = \beta p(\beta, \alpha_j)$ with $\beta = 1/T$, $\alpha_j = \mu_j/T$,

 $dw = -\epsilon d\beta + n_j d\alpha_j$

- second derivative yields a matrix of susceptibilities with $\gamma^m = (\beta, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots)$ $G_{mn}(\gamma) = \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \gamma^m \partial \gamma^n}$
- fluid evolution equations from conservation laws

 $u^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}c_m + f_m = 0$

can be written with inverse susceptibility matrix as

$$u^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}\gamma^{n} + (G^{-1}(\gamma))^{nm}f_{m} = 0$$

Fluid dynamics for heavy quarks from Fokker-Planck equation

- phase-space distribution function $f(t, \mathbf{x}, p)$
- currents are moments with respect to momenta

$$N^{\mu}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \int \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 p^0} p^{\mu} f(t, \mathbf{x}, p)$$

• Boltzmann equation for time evolution

$$p^{\mu} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{\mu}} f(t, \mathbf{x}, p) = C[f]$$

- heavy quarks get small "momentum kicks" from light partons
- Fokker-Planck approximation to collision kernel

$$C[f] = k^0 \frac{\partial}{\partial p^j} \left[A^j f + \frac{\partial}{\partial p^k} \left[B^{jk} f \right] \right]$$

- fluid dynamics from taking moments of the Fokker-Planck equation
- approximations justified for slow dynamics

Initial conditions for charm current

[Capellino, Dubla, Floerchinger, Grossi, Kirchner, Masciocchi, PRD 108, 116011 (2023)]

• initial density distribution from hard scattering

$$n(\tau_0, r) = \frac{1}{\tau_0} n_{\text{coll}}(r) \frac{1}{\sigma_{pp}^{\text{in}}} \frac{d\sigma^{QQ}}{dy}$$

 $\sigma_{pp}^{in}=67.6$ mb, $\frac{d\sigma^{Q\bar{Q}}}{dy}=0.463$ mb [Cacciari, Frixone, Nason, JHEP03(2001)006]

• diffusion current initially assumed to vanish

$$\nu^{\mu}(\tau_0,r)=0$$

leads to parameter-free model for initial charm density and current

Evolution of charm density and diffusion current

[Capellino, Dubla, Floerchinger, Grossi, Kirchner, Masciocchi, PRD 108, 116011 (2023)]



- charm density expands and dilutes like energy density
- diffusion leads to further dilution

Applicability of fluid description

[Capellino, Beraudo, Dubla, Floerchinger, Masciocchi, Pawlowski, Selyuzhenkov, PRD 106, 034021 (2022)]

- Fokker-Planck equation yields relation for relaxation time τ_n in terms of diffusion coefficient D_s
- fluid dynamics applicable when the relaxation time is small compared to the dynamics
- for initial Bjorken expansion

$$\tau_n < 1/(\nabla_\mu u^\mu) = \tau$$



Production rate for thermal dileptons

ullet thermal dilepton (e^+e^-) production rate per unit volume and time

$$\frac{dR}{d^4p} = \frac{\alpha}{12\pi^4} \frac{1}{M^2} n_{\rm B}(\omega) \,\rho(\omega, M) \left(1 + \frac{2m^2}{M^2}\right) \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m^2}{M^2}} \Theta(M^2 - 4m^2)$$

- momentum of the dilepton pair $p^\mu = p_1^\mu + p_2^\mu$
- invariant mass defined by $p^2 + M^2 = 0$
- lepton mass m
- \bullet electromagnetic fine structure constant $\alpha = e^2/(4\pi)$