

Hydrodynamics from gauge/gravity duality

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Plan

- Hydrodynamics
 - Relation to finite-temperature field theory
 - First-order hydrodynamics
 - Second-order hydrodynamics
- Gauge/gravity duality
 - Hydrodynamics as low-energy dynamics of black-brane horizons
 - Second-order transport coefficients from gauge/gravity duality

Refs: [R. Baier, P. Romatschke, DTS, A. Starinets, M. Stephanov, arxiv:0712.2451](#)

related work: [Bhattacharyya, Hubeny, Minwalla, Rangamani, arxiv:0712.2456](#);
[Loganayaram, arxiv:0801.3701](#)

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- Conceptually a much simpler theory than QFT:
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 - Classical: bosonic modes at $\omega \ll T$
 - “Every cook has learned how to use hydrodynamics”

Why gauge/gravity duality

Practical consideration:

- Strong coupling, not treatable by other methods
- Simple calculations

Conceptual consideration:

- Deep connection between QFT and black-hole physics
- sharp contrast to weak coupling:
weak coupling: QFT \rightarrow kinetic theory \rightarrow hydro
strong coupling: QFT \rightarrow hydro

Hope: more to be discovered, e.g., for second-order hydrodynamics.

Hydrodynamics as effective theory

Consider a finite-temperature interacting QFT

Real-time: close-time-path formalism

$$Z[g_{\mu\nu}^1, g_{\mu\nu}^2] = \int D\psi_1 D\psi_2 \exp(iS[\psi_1, g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)}] - iS[\psi_2, g_{\mu\nu}^{(2)}])$$

$$\langle T^{\mu\nu}(x) T^{\alpha\beta}(y) \rangle = \frac{\delta^2 \ln Z}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}(x) \delta g_{\alpha\beta}(y)}$$

We want an effective field theory that gives correlators of $T^{\mu\nu}$ at low momenta.

Hydrodynamics: gives $\langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle$ for any given smooth source $g_{\mu\nu}^1 = g_{\mu\nu}^2$.

Validity: length scales \gg mean free path

Degrees of freedom

- Chiral perturbation theory: d.o.f. = Goldstone modes
- Hydrodynamics: d.o.f = “collective coordinates” of thermal ensemble
For a plasma with no conserved charge:
 - Temperature $T(x)$
 - Velocity (boost) $u^\mu(x)$, $u^2 = -1$

Optional:

- $\mu(x)$ for each conserved charge
- Phases of condensate (superfluid hydrodynamics)
- U(1) magnetic fields (magnetohydrodynamics)

Ideal and first-order

Ideal (zeroth order) hydrodynamics

$$\nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad T^{\mu\nu} = (\epsilon + P)u^\mu u^\nu + P g^{\mu\nu}$$

First-order hydrodynamics (relativistic Navier-Stokes)

$$T^{\mu\nu} = T_{\text{ideal}}^{\mu\nu} + \underbrace{\Pi^{\mu\nu}}_{\text{viscous stress}}$$

Ambiguity of defining u^μ beyond leading order: fixed by $u_\mu \Pi^{\mu\nu} = 0$

$$\Pi^{\mu\nu} = -\eta \nabla^{\langle\mu} u^{\nu\rangle} - \zeta P^{\mu\nu} (\nabla \cdot u)$$

$$P^{\mu\nu} = g^{\mu\nu} + u^\mu u^\nu$$

$$A^{\langle\mu\nu\rangle} = \frac{1}{2} P^{\mu\alpha} P^{\nu\beta} (A_{\alpha\beta} + A_{\beta\alpha}) - \frac{1}{3} P^{\mu\nu} P^{\alpha\beta} A_{\alpha\beta}$$

Shear viscosity η and bulk viscosity ζ . Affect damping of shear and sound modes.

Second order: Müller-Israel-Stewart

Modified relationship between $\Pi^{\mu\nu}$ and $\nabla^\mu u^\nu$.

$$(\tau_\pi u^\lambda \nabla_\lambda + 1) \Pi^{\mu\nu} = -\eta \sigma^{\mu\nu}$$

$\tau_\pi D \ll 1$: equivalent to keeping one next term in derivative expansion

$$\Pi^{\mu\nu} = -\eta \sigma^{\mu\nu} + \eta \tau_\pi (u \cdot \nabla) \sigma^{\mu\nu},$$

Matching with AdS/CFT, $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

$$\text{Bjorken flow: } \tau_\pi = \frac{1 - \ln 2}{6\pi T}$$

$$\text{sound: } \tau_\pi = \frac{2 - \ln 2}{2\pi T}$$

This indicates not all second-order terms are taken into account.

Need to include all second-derivative terms consistent with symmetry. After eliminating redundant ones: 16 independent terms

Conformal invariance

Assume fundamental theory is a CFT,

$$T^\mu{}_\mu = 0 \quad \text{in flat space}$$

In curved space: Weyl anomaly

$$g_{\mu\nu} T^{\mu\nu} \sim R_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}^2 \quad \text{in curved space}$$

But $R \sim \partial^2 g_{\mu\nu}$: Weyl anomaly reproduced in hydrodynamics only at **fourth** order in derivatives.

$$\Rightarrow g_{\mu\nu} T^{\mu\nu} = 0 \quad \text{for our purposes}$$

First order: $\zeta = 0$,

Second order: 8 possible structures in $\Pi^{\mu\nu}$

Conformal invariance (II)

Further constraint: $T^{\mu\nu}$ transforms simply under Weyl transformation

$$g_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow e^{2\omega} g_{\mu\nu}, \quad T_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow e^{6\omega} T_{\mu\nu}$$

8 \rightarrow 5 possible structures in $\Pi^{\mu\nu}$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_{2\text{nd order}}^{\mu\nu} = & \eta \tau_{\pi} \left[\langle D\sigma^{\mu\nu} \rangle + \frac{1}{3} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (\nabla \cdot u) \right] + \kappa \left[R^{\langle\mu\nu\rangle} - 2u_{\alpha} R^{\alpha\langle\mu\nu\rangle\beta} u_{\beta} \right] \\ & + \lambda_1 \sigma^{\langle\mu}_{\lambda} \sigma^{\nu\rangle\lambda} + \lambda_2 \sigma^{\langle\mu}_{\lambda} \Omega^{\nu\rangle\lambda} + \lambda_3 \Omega^{\langle\mu}_{\lambda} \Omega^{\nu\rangle\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

$$D \equiv u^{\mu} \nabla_{\mu}$$

$$\sigma^{\mu\nu} = 2\nabla^{\langle\mu} u^{\nu\rangle}$$

$$\Omega^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla^{\langle\mu} u^{\nu\rangle} - \nabla^{\langle\nu} u^{\mu\rangle}) \quad \text{vorticity}$$

κ only in curved space, but affects 2-point function of $T^{\mu\nu}$

λ_i nonlinear response

Hydrodynamics from AdS/CFT

Main philosophy:

Finite- T field theory in flat space \Leftrightarrow black hole with flat horizon

Example: nonextremal D3 metric

$$ds^2 = \frac{r^2}{R^2} (-f dt^2 + d\vec{x}^2) + \frac{R^2}{r^2 f} dr^2, \quad f = 1 - \frac{r^4}{r_0^4}$$

- Construct a family of configurations by changing $T \sim r_0/R^2$ and boosting along \vec{x} directions by velocity \vec{u}

$$g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}(z; T, u^\mu)$$

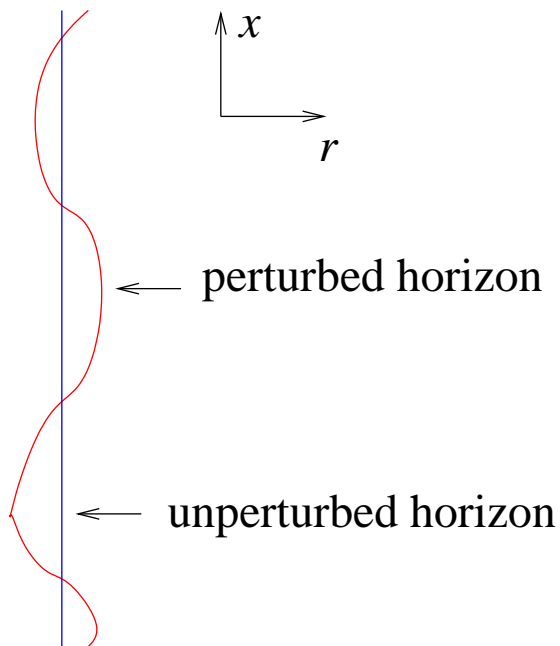
- Promote T and \vec{u} into fields.
- Require regularity away from $r = 0 \Rightarrow$ hydrodynamic equations

Concretely realized by

Janik, Peschanski, Heller

Bhattacharyya, Hubeny, Minwalla, Rangamani

Dynamics of the horizon



$$T \sim r_0 = r_0(\vec{x})$$

Generalizing black hole thermodynamics M, Q, \dots
to black brane hydrodynamics

$$T = T_H(\vec{x}), \quad \mu = \mu(\vec{x})$$

Dissipation in QFT \Leftrightarrow dissipative behavior of black hole horizon \sim “black-hole membrane paradigm” [Damour; Thorne, Price, McDonald](#)

Kinetic coefficients from AdS/CFT

One strategy to find τ_π and κ :

- Within hydro: compute some $\langle T^{\mu\nu} T^{\alpha\beta} \rangle$ from linear response theory: response to gravitational perturbations $g_{\alpha\beta} = \eta_{\alpha\beta} + h_{\alpha\beta}$
- Compare with AdS/CFT calculations

Example: for momentum $\omega, \vec{k} = (0, 0, k)$

$$\langle T^{xy} T^{xy} \rangle(\omega, k) = P - i\eta\omega + \eta\tau_\pi\omega^2 - \frac{\kappa}{2}(\omega^2 + k^2)$$

from that

$$\eta = \frac{s}{4\pi}, \quad \text{universal result}$$

$$\tau_\pi = \frac{2 - \ln 2}{2\pi T}, \quad \kappa = \frac{\eta}{\pi T}$$

Sound-wave dispersion: $\text{Re } \omega = c_s k + \#k^3 \Rightarrow$ the same value for τ_π

Nonlinear coefficients $\lambda_{1,2,3}$

One needs to look beyond small perturbations around thermal equilibrium.

λ_1 : can be found from long-time tail of a boost-invariant solution (Janik, Peschanski, Heller):

$$\epsilon(\tau) \sim \frac{1}{\tau^{4/3}} - \frac{2\eta}{\tau^2} + \frac{\#}{\tau^{8/3}} \quad (0)$$

Matching the coefficient of $\tau^{-8/3}$ term:

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{\eta}{2\pi T}$$

Bhattacharyya et al. also found

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{\eta}{2\pi T}, \quad \lambda_2 = -\frac{2 \ln 2}{2\pi T} \eta, \quad \lambda_3 = 0$$

Comparison with Israel-Stewart formalism

- Israel-Stewart equation valid only in hydro regime.
- Frequently terms required by Weyl invariance are thrown away,

$$\langle D\Pi^{\mu\nu} \rangle + \frac{4}{3}\Pi^{\mu\nu}(\nabla \cdot u)$$

(equivalent to ones used by Romatschke & Romatschke). Such terms may be numerically important (U. Heinz's talk)

- In addition, $\lambda_1 = \lambda_3 = 0$ in IS theory; in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM $\lambda_1 \neq 0$ (but $\lambda_3 = 0$).
- Additional terms nonlinear: not important for sound wave propagation, but important for Bjorken expansion

Entropy current

Loganayaram

- One is unable to force the IS Ansatz $s^\mu = u^\mu + (s + \# \Pi_{\alpha\beta} \Pi^{\alpha\beta})$ to have explicitly positive derivative $\partial_\mu s^\mu \sim \Pi^2$
- More generally, s^μ has to be expressed in terms of u^μ and its derivatives,

$$s^\mu = s u^\mu + \# u^\mu \Pi^2 + u^\mu \omega^2 + O(u \nabla^2 u)$$

One can construct a current so that

$$\partial_\mu s^\mu = \frac{\eta}{2T} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \sigma_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{4} (\kappa - 2\lambda_1) \sigma^\mu{}_\nu \sigma^\nu{}_\lambda \sigma^\lambda{}_\mu$$

Generally not explicitly positive, but positive in the hydrodynamic regime:
 $\sigma^3 \ll \sigma^2$.

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Surprise: in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM $\kappa = 2\lambda_1$!

Conclusion

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To be done:

- Gravitational loop effects ($1/N_c$): thermal noise + nonlinearity of hydro equation
 - Hydrodynamic long-time tail as quantum gravity [Kovtun, Yaffe](#)
- Breaking conformal invariance [Buchel](#)
- Second-order transport coefficient at weak coupling, large- N_c QCD, $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM [can one use some kinetic theory?](#)
- Implications for elliptic flow in heavy ion collisions