Sound of rigidly moving fluids: on linear waves in inhomogeneous backgrounds

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October 2, 2023









A theory of dissipative hydrodynamics must predict that the **equilibrium** state is stable against small perturbations



https://acrossthemargin.com/skipping-stones/

- Traditional relativistic Navier-Stokes theory predicts that small perturbations in a homogeneous background can grow forever [Hiscock and Lindblom (1985)]
- Müller-Israel-Stewart (MIS) theory emerged as an answer to this problem
- Denicol-Niemi-Molnar-Rischke (DNMR) theory
 - ...Bemfica-Disconzi-Noronha-Kovtun (BDNK) theory of first-order hydrodynamics

Outline



Our goal: extending [Hiscock and Lindblom (1985)] to inhomogenous equilibrium configurations

- 1 Introduction: Categorization of equilibrium configurations
- 2 Extending to the tangent bundle
- 3 The procedure
- 4 Stability analysis
- 5 Application to MIS theory
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Introduction



Only rigid motion is allowed in equilibrium

Equilibrium state is defined by
a Killing vector that is timelike $\overline{\nabla_{\mu}\beta_{\nu} + \nabla_{\nu}\beta_{\mu}} = 0 \text{and} \overbrace{\beta \cdot \beta > 0}^{\text{that is timelike}}$
• Geometry \rightarrow Physics in equilibrium (see, e.g., [Becattini (2016)])
$u^{\mu}=eta^{\mu}/\sqrt{eta\cdoteta}$ $T=1/\sqrt{eta\cdoteta}$ \mathcal{L}_{eta} Phys. $=0$
• Thermal vorticity $arpi_{\mu u}\equiv -rac{1}{2}\left(abla_{\mu}eta_{ u}- abla_{ u}eta_{\mu} ight)$
* $ abla$ is the covariant derivative

In flat spacetime using thermal vorticity, we can categorize equilibrium configurations

- ▶ Inhomogenous configurations $\varpi_{\mu\nu} \neq 0$: pure acceleration and rigid rotation (see e.g. [Becattini (2018)])
- To keep β timelike we need to enforce a boundary that introduces a length scale ℓ_{vort}
 - * Thermal vorticity $\varpi_{\mu\nu} \equiv -\nabla_{[\mu}\beta_{\nu]} = \frac{2}{T}a_{[\mu}u_{\nu]} + \frac{1}{T}\epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}\omega^{\alpha}u^{\beta}$
 - * Hydrostatic (fluid at rest with constant temperature) $\beta = \frac{1}{T_0} \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$
 - * Uniformly moving fluid with constant temperature $\beta = \frac{1}{T_0} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \right)$
 - * Uniformly accelerating fluid $\beta = \frac{1}{T_0} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + a_0 \left(z \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + t \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \right]$

* Rigidly rotating fluid
$$\beta = \frac{1}{T_0} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \Omega_0 \left(x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \right]$$

How do we study stability?

 Information current method: The equilibrium state must have the maximum entropy between the solutions with a shared initial state [Hiscock and Lindblom (1983)] - [Olson (1990)] - [Gavassino et al. (2022)]
 Mode stability analysis: Plane wave solutions of linearized hydrodynamics equations of motion around an equilibrium state may not grow with time [Hiscock and Lindblom (1985)] Linearized equations of hydrodynamics in a homogenous equilibrium configuration have linear wave solutions which reveal the nature of the theory in the linear regime and can be used to investigate linear stability

- We perturb our around a homogenous equilibrium $X_0 \rightarrow X_0 + \delta X \ (X = \varepsilon, u, ...)$ with Fourier modes $\delta X(x) \rightarrow \delta X(k) \exp(-i\omega t + i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x})$
- Insert these into the EOM $\partial_{\mu}\delta T^{\mu\nu} = \mathcal{O}(\delta^2)$
- Find the matrix form of the EOM $M^{AB}\delta X^B = 0$

▶ This has solutions if $det(M) = 0 \implies$ dispersion relations $\omega = \omega(\mathbf{k})$

Sound waves in a perfect fluid

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \omega & -h_{\rm eq}k \\ -\frac{\partial p}{\partial \varepsilon}k & h_{\rm eq}\omega \end{pmatrix}}_{M^{AB}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \delta \varepsilon(k) \\ \delta u^x(k) \end{pmatrix}}_{\delta X^B} = 0 \qquad \det(M) = 0 \implies \omega^2 - \frac{\partial p}{\partial \varepsilon}k^2 = 0$$



- Dissipative hydrodynamics \rightarrow complex ω
- Linear stability requires ${
 m Im}\,\omega\leq 0$ [Hiscock and Lindblom (1985)]
- If Im ω > 0 for some domain of k the norm of δX over subsequent spacelike hypersurfaces grows without a bound

Linear stability analysis in inhomogeneous configurations

- (Q.1) Can we find linear wave solutions in inhomogeneous configurations?
- ▶ Naive Fourier modes do not work ($\omega = \omega(x, \mathbf{k})$ is inconsistent with $\partial_{\mu} \rightarrow -ik_{\mu}$
- (Q.2) How are they related to stability?
- (Q.2.a) ... How do the known stability criteria in homogeneous configurations generalize to inhomogeneous ones?

To the tangent bundle

- The idea: plane waves in an infinitesimal neighborhood
- ► Tangent space T_xM as a local infinitesimal homogeneous configuration
- ▶ T_xM is the space of infinitesimal displacements at point P
- ► Superposition of wave propagating in this space → solutions of the EOM in the base manifold



Wigner transform extends a tensor to the tangent bundle (Inspired by [Fonarev (1994)])

$$F^{\mu_1\mu_2\cdots}_{\nu_1\nu_2\cdots}(x,y) = \left(1 + y^{\alpha}\nabla_{\alpha} + \frac{1}{2!}y^{\alpha}y^{\beta}\nabla_{\alpha}\nabla_{\beta} + \cdots\right)F^{\mu_1\mu_2\cdots}_{\nu_1\nu_2\cdots}(x)$$

It knows all the local information about the base tensor

$$F^{\mu_1\mu_2\dots}_{\nu_1\nu_2\dots}(x) = \int_{\mathbb{T}_x M} \mathrm{d}^4 y \, \delta^4(y) F^{\mu_1\mu_2\dots}_{\nu_1\nu_2\dots}(x,y)$$

$$\nabla_{\mu} F^{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots}_{\nu_1 \nu_2 \dots}(x) = \int_{\mathbb{T}_x M} \mathrm{d}^4 y \, \delta^4(y) \partial^y_{\mu} F^{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots}_{\nu_1 \nu_2 \dots}(x,y)$$

Wigner transform of the β -vector

Equilibrium-preserving directions

$$\beta_{\mu}(x, y_{\rm e}) = \beta_{\mu}(x)$$

• ... exist if the spacetime is flat and $\omega_{\mu}a^{\mu}=0$

Direction of acceleration is an example of NEP directions



They are given by
$$y^{\mu}_{\rm e} \varpi_{\mu\nu}(x) = 0$$

 $abla_{\mu} \varpi_{\alpha\beta} = R_{\alpha\beta\mu\sigma}\beta^{\sigma}$



y

The procedure

Step 1. Extending the EOM to our *local infinitesimal homogeneous configuration*

▶ (S1.a) We extend the EOM to the whole tangent space

$$\partial^y_\mu \delta T^{\mu
u}(x,y) = 0$$
 then $\nabla_\mu \delta T^{\mu
u}(x) = 0$

(S1.b) ... and Fourier transform using the cotangent space

$$\delta T^{\mu\nu}(x,y) = \int_k \delta T^{\mu\nu}(x,k) e^{-ik \cdot y}$$



$$k_{\mu}\delta T^{\mu\nu}(x,k) = 0$$

Step 2. To find a plane-wave solution we need to define our local time



$$\cdots$$
 . . . to find $\omega = n \cdot k$ in terms of k_\perp

We will work in the LRF $n^{\mu}(x) = u^{\mu}(x)$



Step 3. Finding $\delta T^{\mu\nu}(x,k)$

(S3) Decompose
$$\delta T^{\mu\nu}(x,k)$$
 with $u^{\mu}_{eq}(x)$

$$\delta T^{\mu\nu}(x,k) = \delta \mathcal{E}(x,k) u^{\mu}_{eq}(x) u^{\nu}_{eq}(x) - \delta \mathcal{P}(x,k) \Delta^{\mu\nu}_{eq}(x) + h_{eq}(x) \left[u^{\mu}_{eq}(x) \delta u^{\nu}(x,k) + u^{\nu}_{eq}(x) \delta u^{\mu}(x,k) \right] + \delta \mathcal{Q}(x)^{\mu}(x,k) u^{\nu}_{eq}(x) + \delta \mathcal{Q}^{\nu}(x,k) u^{\mu}_{eq}(x) + \delta \pi^{\mu\nu}(x,k)$$

Equilibrium quantities are not Wigner transformed

- * We will work in the local rest frame $n^{\mu}(x) = u^{\mu}(x)$
- * In our mostly minus metric sign convention $\Delta^{\mu
 u}=g^{\mu
 u}-u^{\mu}_{
 m eq}u^{
 u}_{
 m eq}$
- * For example

$$\delta \mathcal{E}(x,k) = u_{\rm eq}^{\alpha}(x) u_{\rm eq}^{\beta}(x) \delta T_{\alpha\beta}(x,k) \qquad \delta \mathcal{P}(x,k) = -\frac{1}{3} \Delta_{\rm eq}^{\alpha\beta}(x) \delta T_{\alpha\beta}(x,k)$$

Step 4. Finding the dispersion relation

- ► (S4) Now we can write $k_{\mu}\delta T^{\mu\nu}(x,k) = 0$ in matrix form and find $\omega_a(x,k)$
- ▶ Applying to perfect fluids we find $\omega_{\pm}(x, \mathbf{k}) = \pm v_s(x)\mathbf{k}$
- The resulting dispersion relations are valid for any fixed background metric
- For dissipative fluids we need derivatives of $\delta X(x,k)$
- ... which are found by taking the derivative of the definition
- For example

$$\nabla_{\mu}\delta\mathcal{E}(x) \to -ik_{\mu}\delta\mathcal{E}(x,k) - 2T_{\rm eq}(x)\varpi_{\mu\nu}(x)\delta\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}^{\nu}(x,k)$$
$$\delta\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}^{\mu}(x,k) = \delta\mathcal{Q}^{\mu}(x,k) + h_{\rm eq}(x)\delta u^{\mu}(x,k)$$

Stability analysis

Does $\operatorname{Im} \omega > 0$ means instability?

- Recall that instability is the growth of the norm of the solutions on subsequent spacelike hypersurfaces without a bound
- This is not easy anymore ...
- But in many cases, in flat spacetime, the norm can be separated into equilibrium-preserving and nonequilibrium-preserving directions

The norm

$$\left\|\delta X\right\|^{2} = \sum_{A} \int \mathrm{d}\Sigma_{n} \left|\delta X_{A}(x)\right|^{2}$$

A separation between EP and NEP directions is possible in the hydrodynamics regime

- Restrict k_⊥ via (k^μ_⊥ ϖ_{µν}(x) = 0) to k_e in the dispersion relations
- If $\operatorname{Im} \omega_a > 0$ in this case
- ...and the EP part dominates the NEP parts which requires

$$\ell_{\rm micro} \ll \ell_{\rm vort}$$

- ... instability is proved
- But hydro is applicable if $\ell_{\rm micro} \ll \ell_{\rm macro} \sim \ell_{\rm vort}$
- If $\operatorname{Im} \omega_a > 0$ for k in NEP directions \rightarrow inconclusive

Application to MIS hydrodynamics

According to the info-current method: same stability criteria for homogeneous/accelerating/rotating/non-self-gravitating equilibria [Hiscock and Lindblom (1983)]

Linearized MIS hydrodynamics

$$\begin{split} \delta T^{\mu\nu} &= \delta \mathcal{E} u^{\mu}_{\rm eq} u^{\nu}_{\rm eq} - \left(v^2_s \delta \mathcal{E} + \delta \Pi \right) \Delta^{\mu\nu}_{\rm eq} + h_{\rm eq} \left(u^{\mu}_{\rm eq} \delta u^{\nu} + u^{\nu}_{\rm eq} \delta u^{\mu} \right) + \delta \pi^{\mu\nu} \\ \tau_{\Pi} u_{\rm eq} \cdot \nabla \delta \Pi + \delta \Pi + \zeta \nabla \cdot \delta u &= 0 \\ \tau_{\pi} \Delta^{\mu\nu}_{\alpha\beta\rm eq} \left(u_{\rm eq} \cdot \nabla \delta \pi^{\alpha\beta} - 2\delta \pi^{\alpha}_{\lambda} \Omega^{\beta\lambda}_{\rm eq} \right) + \delta \pi^{\mu\nu} - 2\eta \, \delta \sigma^{\mu\nu} = 0 \end{split}$$

Recall

$$\Delta^{\mu\nu}_{\alpha\beta} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left(\Delta^{\mu}_{\alpha} \Delta^{\nu}_{\beta} + \Delta^{\mu}_{\beta} \Delta^{\nu}_{\alpha} \right) - \frac{1}{3} \Delta^{\mu\nu} \Delta_{\alpha\beta} \qquad \sigma_{\mu\nu} \equiv \Delta^{\alpha\beta}_{\mu\nu} \nabla_{\alpha} u_{\beta}$$

MIS hydrodynamics with bulk viscosity alone

► The sound modes are modified in the direction of the acceleration ($\alpha \equiv a/T_{eq}$)

$$\Omega_{\text{sound}} = \pm \sqrt{v_s^2 \kappa_t^2 + \frac{1}{4} \alpha^2 \mathcal{V}_{\zeta}^2 \kappa_{\ell}^2} - \frac{1}{2} \alpha \mathcal{V}_{\zeta} \kappa_{\ell} + \cdots$$

Decomposition of k (a generalization of [Brito and Denicol (2020)])

$$k^{\mu} = T_{\rm eq} \left(\Omega u^{\mu}_{\rm eq} + \kappa_{\ell} \ell^{\mu} + \kappa^{\mu} \right) \qquad \omega = T_{\rm eq} \Omega \qquad \kappa_{\ell} = k \cdot \ell$$

* Tetrad of orthonormal vectors $\{u, \ell, \tilde{\kappa}, \chi\}$

$$\ell_{\mu} = a_{\mu}/\sqrt{-a \cdot a} \qquad \tilde{\kappa}_{\mu} = \kappa_{\mu}/\sqrt{-\kappa \cdot \kappa} \qquad \chi^{\mu} \equiv \epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} u_{\nu}^{\mathrm{eq}} \ell_{\alpha} \tilde{\kappa}_{\beta}$$

Auxiliary parameter

$$\mathcal{V}_{\zeta} = \left(2 + \frac{1}{v_s^2}\right) C_{\zeta} - \frac{2}{3} \left(1 - 3v_s^2\right) R_{\zeta} \qquad R_{\zeta} = \tau_{\Pi} T_{\text{eq}} \qquad C_{\zeta} = T_{\text{eq}} \zeta / h_{\text{eq}}$$

MIS hydrodynamics with bulk viscosity alone

• The nonhdyro mode receives linear contribution $\sim \kappa_\ell$

$$\Omega_{\text{gapped}} = -\frac{i}{R_{\zeta}} + \alpha \mathcal{V}_{\zeta} \kappa_{\ell} + \cdots$$

There is no novel contribution in EQP directions

▶ The acceleration-induced terms disappear in $k \to \infty$: standard causality/stability criteria [Pu et al. (2010)]

$$R_{\zeta} > C_{\zeta} , \qquad \frac{C_{\zeta}}{R_{\zeta}} < 1 - v_s^2$$

• But $\operatorname{Im} \omega$ can be positive in ℓ direction if $\alpha > \alpha_c$

Is this physically relevant?

- Assume a cylinder of QGP rotating with $\Omega_0 \sim 10^{22} {\rm s}^{-1}$ and $T_0 \sim 200 {\rm MeV}$
- ▶ Then $\alpha \sim 0.01$ while $\alpha_c \sim 0.1$
- The unknown effects of a positive Im ω don't seem to be physically relevant in the domain of applicability of vanilla MIS

Conformal MIS hydrodynamics

- Modes are modified by acceleration and rotation
- ... not only in EQP directions
- Im ω becomes positive for some modes if (1) a and/or ω are large enough or (2) we are very close to the causal boundary
- ... not only in EQP directions!!
- (1) requires $\alpha > 1 \rightarrow \ell_{\text{micro}} \sim \text{Maximum size of the system}!$
- Homogeneous modes are recovered in $k \to \infty$ limit
- In the domain of applicability of MIS hydrodynamics stability requires

$$T\tau_{\pi} > 2\eta/s > 0$$

We numerically investigated the full MIS and ended up with similar results

Summary and outlook

- We extended the equations to the tangent bundle to find linear wave solutions in inhomogeneous equilibrium configurations
- This machinery can be consistently applied to hydrodynamics
- Novel modes are found in MIS theory arising from coupling between dissipative fluxes and thermal vorticity
- Such modes are only present in the long wavelength regime
- The bulk viscous pressure couples only to the acceleration
- Shear stress tensor couples both to acceleration and kinematic vorticity
- MIS theory in its domain of validity and far from the boundary remains linearly stable in purely accelerating and rigidly rotating configurations, with the standard stability and causality conditions.
- In agreement with the info-current method



- Applications to hydro theories with the explicit presence of thermal vorticity in fluxes (Spin hydrodynamics, hydrodynamic theories with quantum corrections arising from acceleration and rotation, ...)
- Boundary effects



- + Doesn't assume a homogenous configuration
- + Is more fundamental in some sense: proves that u and T must be related to the thermal Killing vector, leads to some important thermodynamic inequalities . . .
- + Can be easier to apply
- + Is independent of the equations of motion for dissipative fluxes
- Recently applied to electromagnetic fields and charged equilibria:

The electromagnetic part of the information current is stable and causal by construction and, therefore, the stability criteria found for Israel-Stewart theories of hydrodynamics automatically extend to similar formulations of magnetohydrodynamics. L. Gavassino and MS [2307.11615] ...and cons

- Neglects the existence of boundaries
- Works only for certain types of theories
- Doesn't tell us much about the nature of the solutions



One defines

$$\phi^{\mu} = S^{\mu} + \alpha_{\star} N^{\mu} - \beta_{\nu}^{\star} T^{\nu\mu}$$

- A common perturbation parameter λ , with $\lambda = 0$ denoting the equilibrium
- (1) In equilibrium

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\phi^{\mu}(0)}{\mathrm{d}\lambda} = 0$$

(2) The information current must be future-directed non-spacelike:

$$E^{\mu} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 \phi^{\mu}(0)}{\mathrm{d}\lambda^2}$$



We can add the generator of boost along z-direction (see for example [Becattini (2018)])

$$\beta = \frac{1}{T_0} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + a_0 \left(z \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + t \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \right]$$

To keep β timelike we need to a enforce boundary |1 + a₀z| > |a₀t|
 Thermal vorticity scale ℓ_{vort} ~ a₀⁻¹

▶ In Rindler coordinates (τ, x, y, ξ)

$$u^{\mu} = e^{-a_0\xi} (1, \mathbf{0})$$
 $T = e^{-a_0\xi} T_0$ $a^{\mu} = a_0 e^{-2a_0\xi} (0, 0, 0, 1),$

$$\tau = \frac{1}{2a_0} \log\left[\frac{1+a_0\left(z+t\right)}{1+a_0\left(z-t\right)}\right] \qquad \xi = \frac{1}{2a_0} \log\left[\left(1+a_0z\right)^2 - a_0^2t^2\right]$$





 ...and/or we can the generator of rotation around z-direction (see for example [Palermo et al. (2021)])

$$\beta = \frac{1}{T_0} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \Omega_0 \left(x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} - y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \right]$$

- Again, we have a boundary $\Omega_0^2 \left(x^2 + y^2\right) < 1$
- ▶ Thermal vorticity length scale $\ell_{
 m vort} \sim \Omega_0^{-1}$
- In cylindrical coordinates (t, ρ, φ, z)

$$u^{\mu} = \gamma(\rho) (1, 0, \Omega_0, 0) , \quad T = \gamma(\rho)T_0 \quad \gamma(\rho) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \rho^2 \Omega_0^2}}$$
$$a^{\mu} = -\gamma^2(\rho) \rho \Omega_0^2(0, 1, 0, 0) , \qquad \omega^{\mu} = \gamma^2(\rho) \Omega_0(0, 0, 0, 1)$$

Rigid rotation

Equilibrium-preserving directions

- ln pure accelerating equilibrium T changes in ξ -direction while u^{μ} changes in τ -direction (Figure from [Becattini (2018)])
- ► x and y are EP directions
- In the cylindrical rotation z is the only EP directions



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Wave equation in the tangent bundle

• Let's assume a toy model (f and m are functions of T_{eq})

$$\left(\Box - \frac{f(x)}{T_{\rm eq}(x)} u_{\rm eq}(x) \cdot \partial + m(x)^2\right) \phi(x) = 0$$

Wave equation in the tangent space

$$\left[\Box_y^2 - f(x)\beta(x) \cdot \partial_y + m^2(x)\right]\phi(x,y) = 0$$

• Characteristic equation at x in the LRF

$$\omega(x,\mathbf{k})^2 - \mathbf{k}^2 - i\frac{f(x)}{T(x)}\omega(x,\mathbf{k}) - m^2(x) = 0$$

The base solution

$$\phi(x) = \int_k \sum_{a=\pm} \phi_a(x,k) \,\,\delta(u \cdot k - \omega_a)$$



The amplitudes fulfill

$$\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{\mu}\left[\phi_{a}(x,k)\delta(u\cdot k-\omega_{a})
ight]=-ik_{\mu}\phi_{a}(x,k)\delta(u\cdot k-\omega_{a})+$$
curvature terms.

Horizontal lift in the cotangent bundle

$$\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{\mu}\phi(x,k) = \nabla_{\mu}\phi(x,k) + \Gamma^{\rho}_{\mu\sigma}k_{\rho}\partial^{\sigma}_{k}\phi(x,k)$$



Wave equation in the tangent bundle

Separate EQP part

$$\phi(x) = \int \frac{\mathrm{d}^d k_{\mathrm{e}}}{(2\pi)^d} \sum_{a=\pm} e^{\Gamma_a(x_{\mathrm{ne}}, \mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{e}}) + i\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{e}} \cdot \mathbf{x}_{\mathrm{e}}} \phi_a(x_{\mathrm{ne}}, \mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{e}})$$

Frequencies depend on k and equilibrium quantities

$$\Gamma_a(x_{\rm ne},k) = -i \int_0^{\mathfrak{s}} \mathrm{d}\mathfrak{s}' \,\omega_a(x_{\rm ne},k)$$

► $f(T) > 0 \implies \Gamma_+(x, \mathbf{k}) > \Lambda \mathfrak{s} > 0$ the norm grows without a bound





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Step 3. What is $\delta T^{\mu\nu}(x,k)$?

