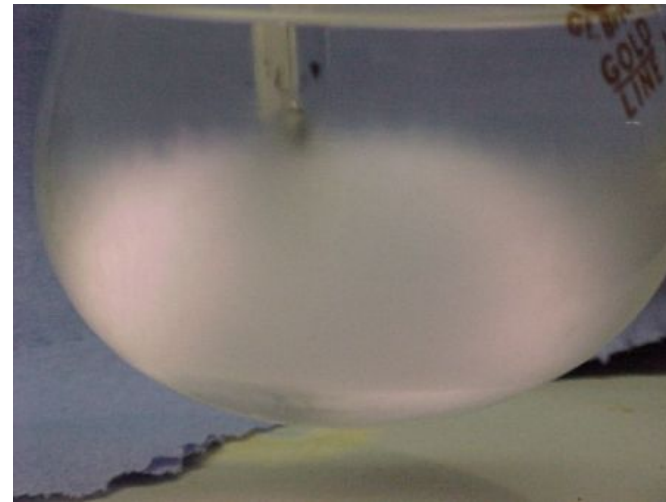
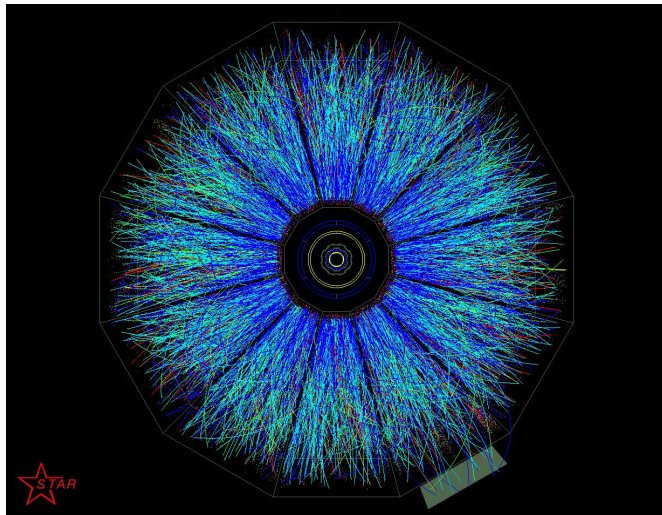


Simulating stochastic fluids

Thomas Schäfer

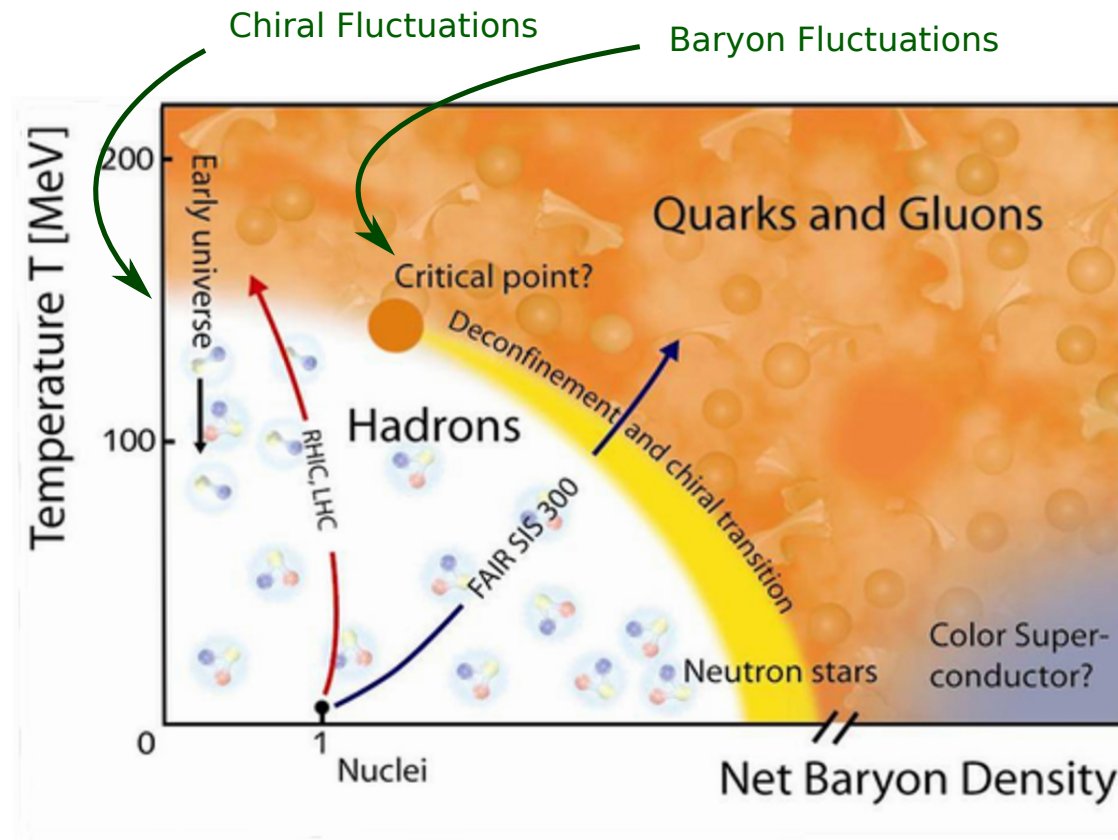
North Carolina State University



With C. Chattopadhyay, J. Ott, V. Skokov

References: 2403.10608 (PRL 2024), 2411.15994 (PRD 2025).

Motivation



Can we locate the chiral phase transition, or the endpoint of a first-order QGP-hadron gas transition?

Critical Dynamics

What is the dynamical theory near the critical point?

The basic logic of fluid dynamics still applies. Important modifications:

- Critical equation of state.
- Stochastic fluxes, fluctuation-dissipation relations.
- Possible Goldstone modes (chiral field in QCD)

Classified by Hohenberg & Halperin in 1977 (model A, B, ...)

Chiral phase transition: Model G (Rajagopal & Wilczek, 1993)

Possible critical endpoint: Model H (Son & Stephanov, 2004)

Digression: Diffusion

Consider a Brownian particle

$$\dot{p}(t) = -\gamma_D p(t) + \zeta(t)$$

drag (dissipation)

$$\langle \zeta(t) \zeta(t') \rangle = \kappa \delta(t - t')$$

white noise (fluctuations)

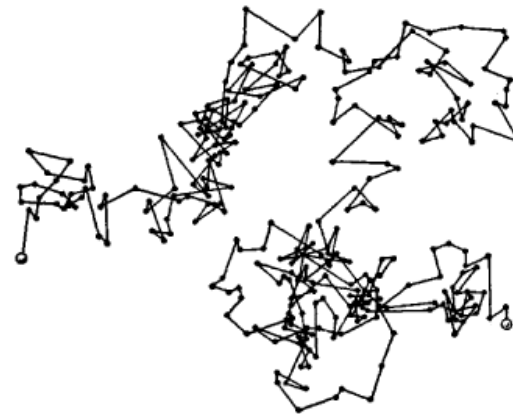
For the particle to eventually thermalize

$$\langle p^2 \rangle = 2mT$$

drag and noise must be related

$$\kappa = \frac{mT}{\gamma_D}$$

Einstein (Fluctuation-Dissipation)



Hydrodynamic equation for critical mode

Equation of motion for critical mode ϕ (“model H”)

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = \kappa \nabla^2 \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \phi} - g \left(\vec{\nabla} \phi \right) \cdot \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \vec{\pi}^T} + \zeta \quad (g = 1)$$

Diffusion Advection Noise

Equation of motion for momentum density π

$$\frac{\partial \vec{\pi}^T}{\partial t} = \eta \nabla^2 \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \vec{\pi}^T} + g \left(\vec{\nabla} \phi \right) \cdot \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \phi} - g \left(\frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \vec{\pi}^T} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \right) \vec{\pi}^T + \vec{\xi}$$

Free energy functional: Order parameter ϕ , momentum density $\vec{\pi} = w\vec{v}$

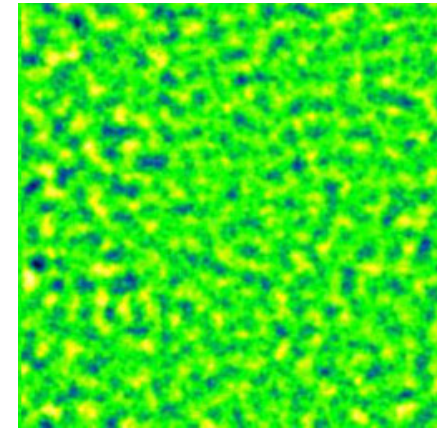
$$\mathcal{F} = \int d^3x \left[\frac{1}{2w} \vec{\pi}^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\vec{\nabla} \phi)^2 + \frac{m^2}{2} \phi^2 + \lambda \phi^4 \right] \quad D = m^2 \kappa$$

Fluctuation-Dissipation relation

$$\langle \zeta(x, t) \zeta(x', t') \rangle = -2\kappa T \nabla^2 \delta(x - x') \delta(t - t')$$

$$\langle \xi_i(x, t) \xi_j(x', t') \rangle = -2\eta T \nabla^2 P_{ij}^T \delta(x - x') \delta(t - t')$$

$$\text{ensures } P[\phi, \vec{\pi}] \sim \exp(-\mathcal{F}[\phi, \vec{\pi}]/T)$$



Mode couplings governed by Poisson brackets: $\psi^a = (\phi, \vec{\pi})$

$$\partial_t \psi^a = \{\mathcal{H}, \psi^a\} = - \int d^3x \{\psi^a, \psi^b\} \frac{\delta \mathcal{H}}{\delta \psi^b} = - \int d^3x Q^{ab} \psi^b$$

Provides mutual coupling between ϕ and $\vec{\pi}$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = - \left(\vec{\nabla} \phi \right) \cdot \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \vec{\pi}^T} \qquad \frac{\partial \vec{\pi}^T}{\partial t} = + \left(\vec{\nabla} \phi \right) \cdot \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \phi}$$

as well as self coupling (self-advection) of $\vec{\pi}$

$$\frac{\partial \vec{\pi}^T}{\partial t} = - \left(\frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \vec{\pi}^T} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \right) \vec{\pi}^T$$

Note: There is a consistent truncation (“model H0”) in which the self-coupling of $\vec{\pi}$ is dropped. This model is claimed to be in the same dynamical universality class as model H.

Hohenberg, Halperin, RMP (1977)

And: There is a generalization (“compressible model H”) in which $\vec{\pi}^L$ is retained. This theory is needed to understand the critical behavior of the bulk viscosity.

M. Martinez, T.S., V.S, arXiv:1906.11306

Numerical realization

Stochastic relaxation equation (“model A”)

$$\partial_t \psi = -\Gamma \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \psi} + \zeta \quad \langle \zeta(x, t) \zeta(x', t') \rangle = \Gamma T \delta(x - x') \delta(t - t')$$

Naive discretization

$$\psi(t + \Delta t) = \psi(t) + (\Delta t) \left[-\Gamma \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \psi} + \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma T}{(\Delta t) a^3}} \theta \right] \quad \langle \theta^2 \rangle = 1$$

Noise dominates as $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$, leads to discretization ambiguities in the equilibrium distribution.

Idea: Use Metropolis update

$$\psi(t + \Delta t) = \psi(t) + \sqrt{2\Gamma(\Delta t)} \theta \quad p = \min(1, e^{-\beta \Delta \mathcal{F}})$$

Numerical realization

Central observation

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \psi(t + \Delta t, \vec{x}) - \psi(t, \vec{x}) \rangle &= -(\Delta t) \Gamma \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \psi} + O((\Delta t)^2) \\ \langle [\psi(t + \Delta t, \vec{x}) - \psi(t, \vec{x})]^2 \rangle &= 2(\Delta t) \Gamma T + O((\Delta t)^2) .\end{aligned}$$

Metropolis realizes both diffusive and stochastic step. Also

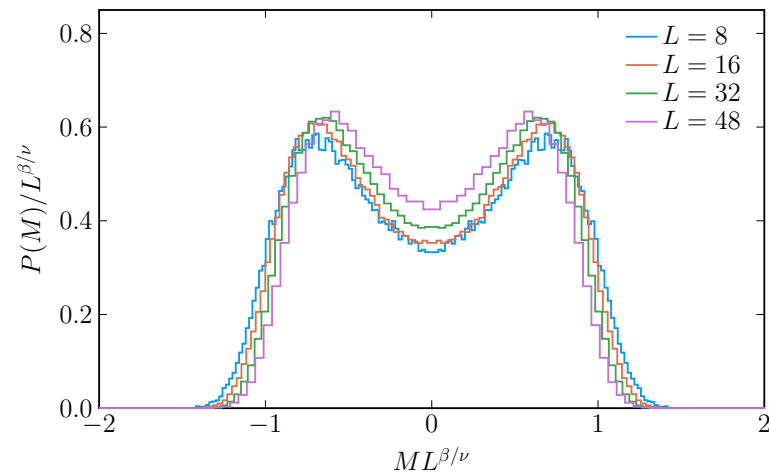
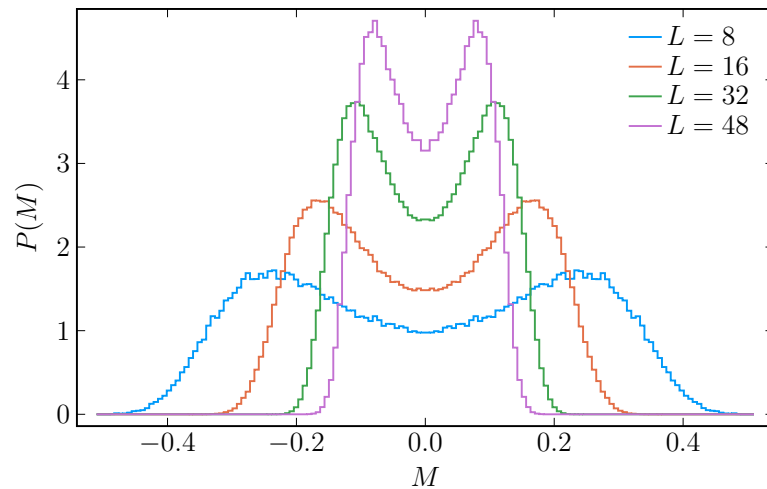
$$P[\psi] \sim \exp(-\beta \mathcal{F}[\psi])$$

Note: Still have short distance noise; need to adjust bare parameters such as Γ, m^2, λ to reproduce physical quantities.

Model A: Static Distribution

Tune m^2 to critical point $m^2 = m_c^2$ (Ising critical point)

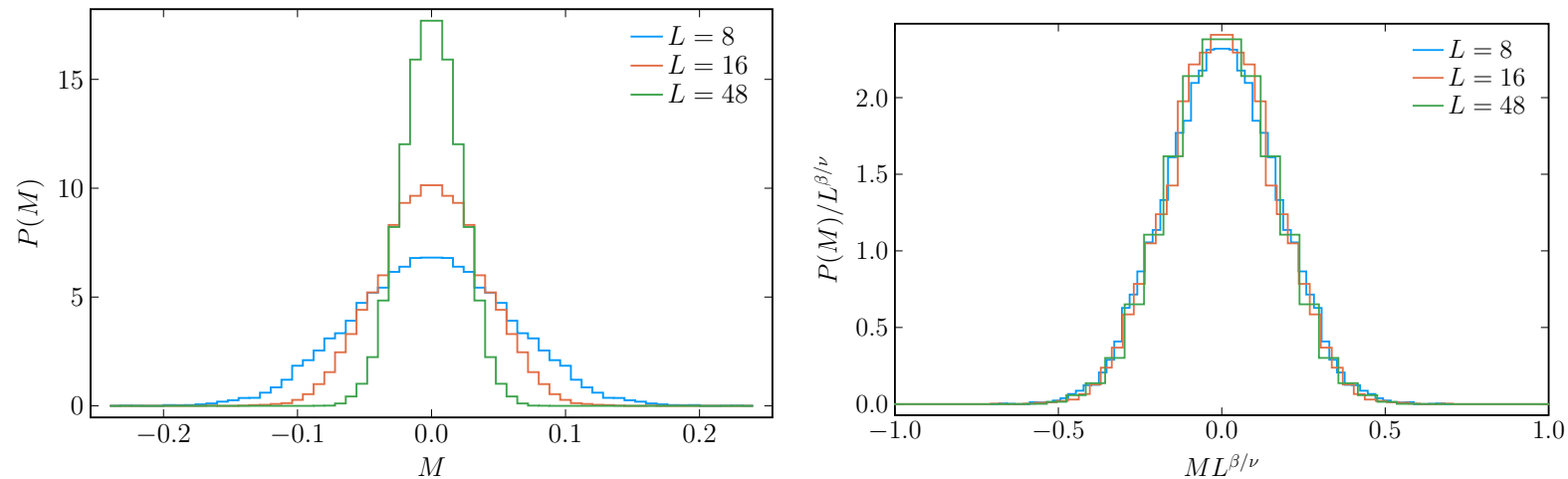
Check finite size scaling



Critical exponents $\beta = 0.326$ and $\nu = 0.630$.

Model B: Static Distribution

Model B (conserving dynamics): Static distribution modified
but scaling exponent is the same

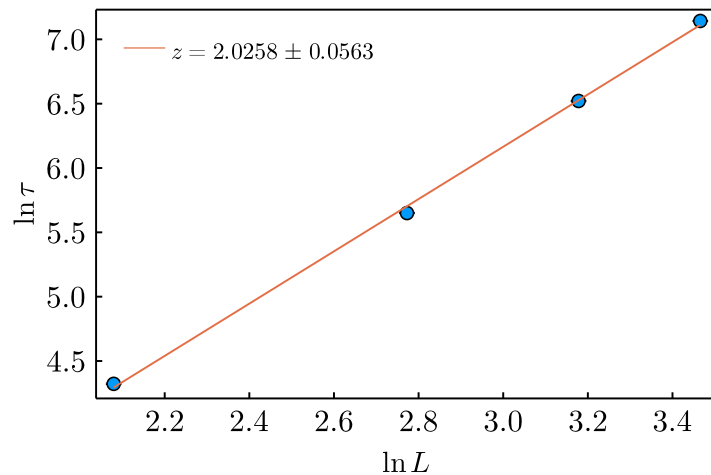


Critical exponents $\beta = 0.326$ and $\nu = 0.630$.

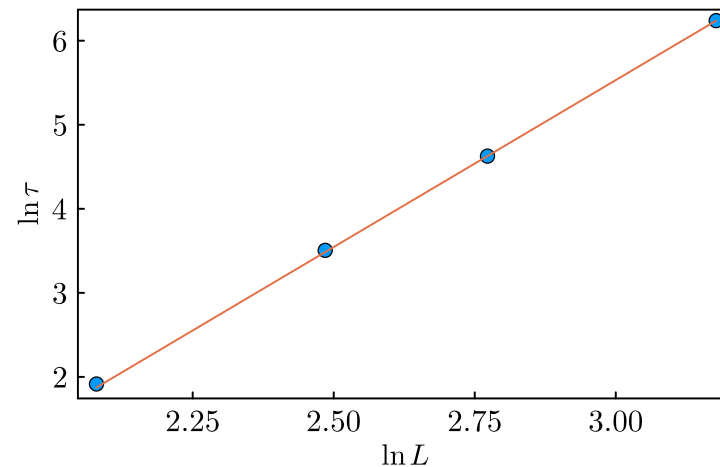
Model A/B: Dynamical Scaling

Finite size scaling of dynamic order parameter correlation function

$$z_A \simeq 2.026$$



$$z_B \simeq 3.906$$



$$G(t, k) = \int d^3x e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}} \langle \psi(0, 0) \psi(\vec{x}, t) \rangle$$

Look for dynamic scaling $G(t, k, L) = \tilde{G}(t/L^z, kL)$

Numerical realization: Model H

Model H: Conserving update

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_{\nu}^{trial}(\vec{x}, t + \Delta t) &= \pi_{\nu}(\vec{x}, t) + r_{\nu\mu}, \\ \pi_{\nu}^{trial}(\vec{x} + \hat{\mu}, t + \Delta t) &= \pi_{\nu}(\vec{x} + \hat{\mu}, t) - r_{\nu\mu},\end{aligned}\quad r_{\nu\mu} = \sqrt{2\eta T(\Delta t)} \zeta_{\nu}.$$

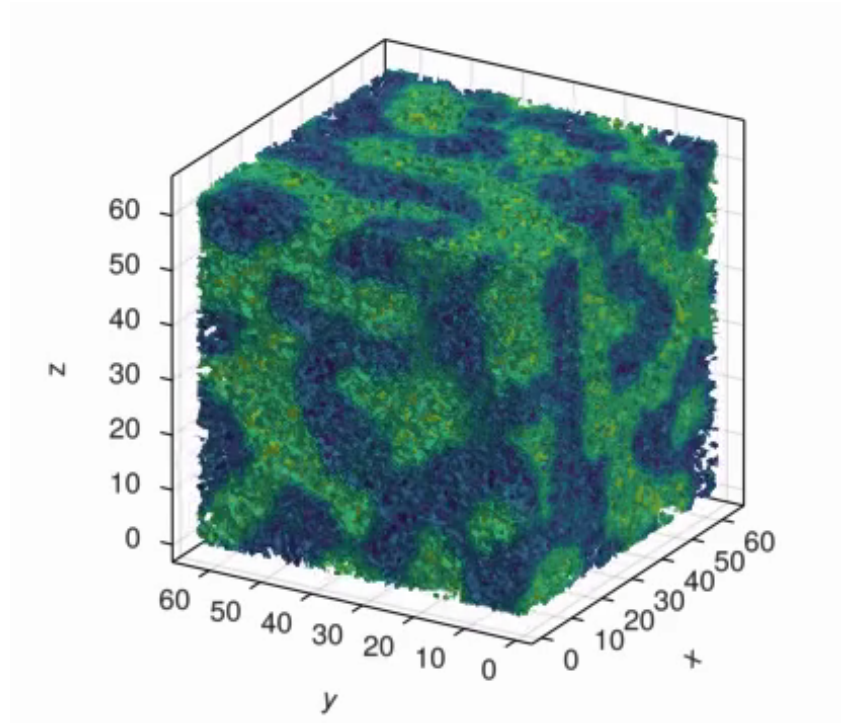
Advection (PB terms) conserves $\mathcal{H}$. On the lattice use “skew” discretized derivatives

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\phi} &= -\frac{1}{\rho} \pi_{\mu}^T \nabla_{\mu}^c \phi, \\ \dot{\pi}_{\mu}^T &= -\left[\frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\nu}^c \left(\frac{1}{\rho} \pi_{\nu}^T \pi_{\mu}^T \right) + \frac{1}{2\rho} \pi_{\nu}^T \nabla_{\nu}^c \pi_{\mu}^T + (\nabla_{\mu}^c \phi) (\nabla_{\nu}^c \nabla_{\nu}^c \phi) \right],\end{aligned}$$

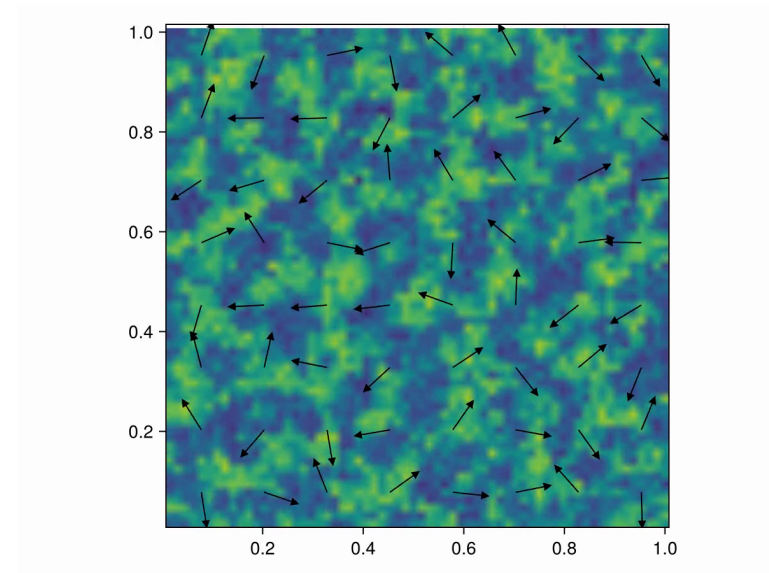
and project on π_{μ}^T using Fourier transforms.

Numerical results (critical Navier-Stokes)

Order parameter (3d)

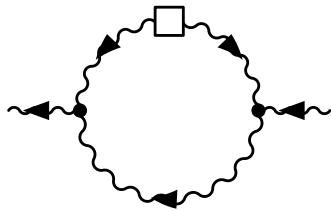


Order parameter/velocity field (2d)



Renormalized viscosity

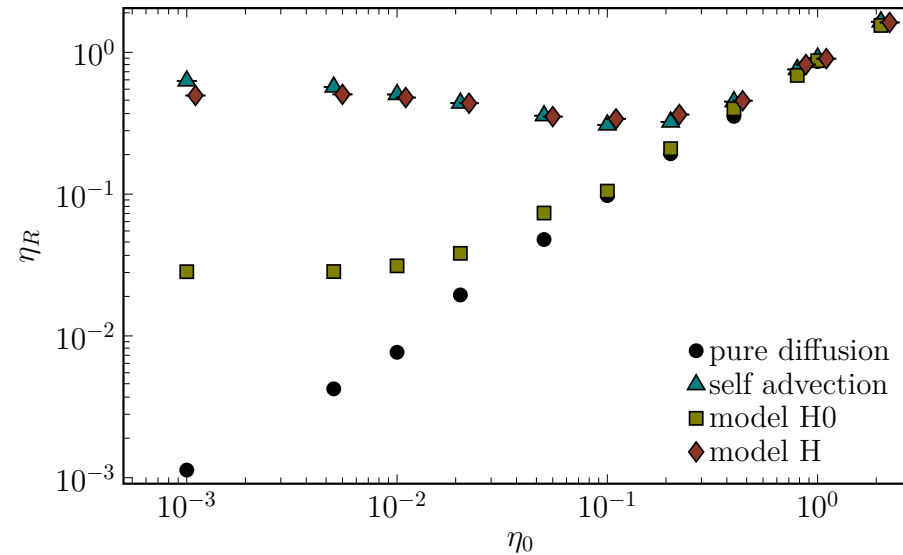
Renormalization of η
“Stickiness of shear waves”



$$\eta_R = \eta + \frac{7}{60\pi^2} \frac{\rho T \Lambda}{\eta}$$

Leads to minimum viscosity

Top: Model H

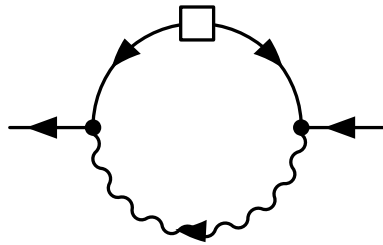


Middle: Model H0

Bottom: No advection

Relaxation Rate

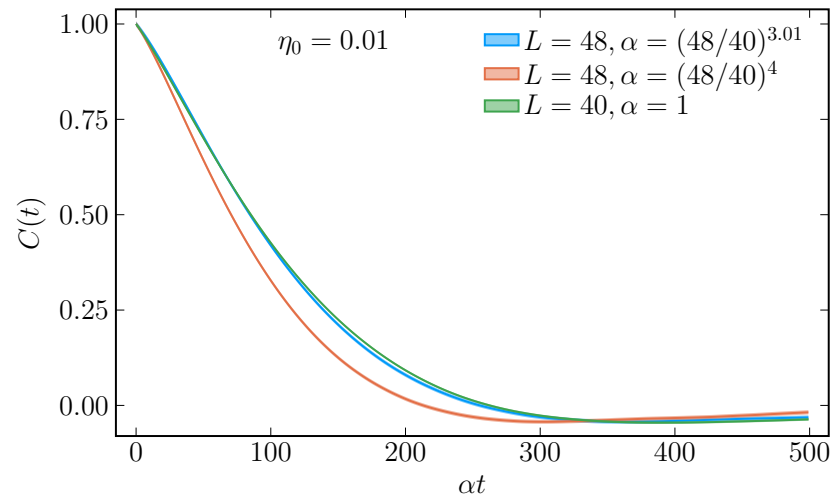
Order parameter relaxation rate



$$\Gamma_k = \frac{\Gamma}{\xi^4} (k\xi)^2 (1 + (k\xi)^2) + \frac{T}{6\pi\eta_R\xi^3} K(k\xi)$$

Crossover from $\tau_R \sim \xi^4$ at large η_R
to $\tau_R \sim \xi^3$ for small η_R

$$C(t) = \langle \phi_k(0) \phi_{-k}(t) \rangle$$

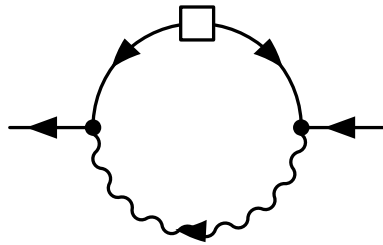


Dynamic Scaling:

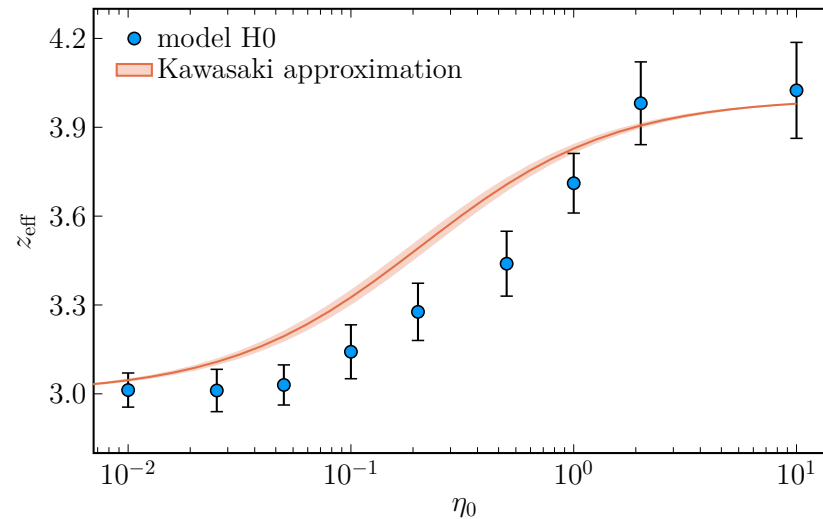
$$z(\eta=0.01) = 3.07$$

Relaxation Rate

Order parameter relaxation rate



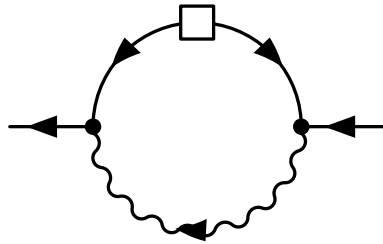
$$\Gamma_k = \frac{\Gamma}{\xi^4} (k\xi)^2 (1 + (k\xi)^2) + \frac{T}{6\pi\eta_R\xi^3} K(k\xi)$$



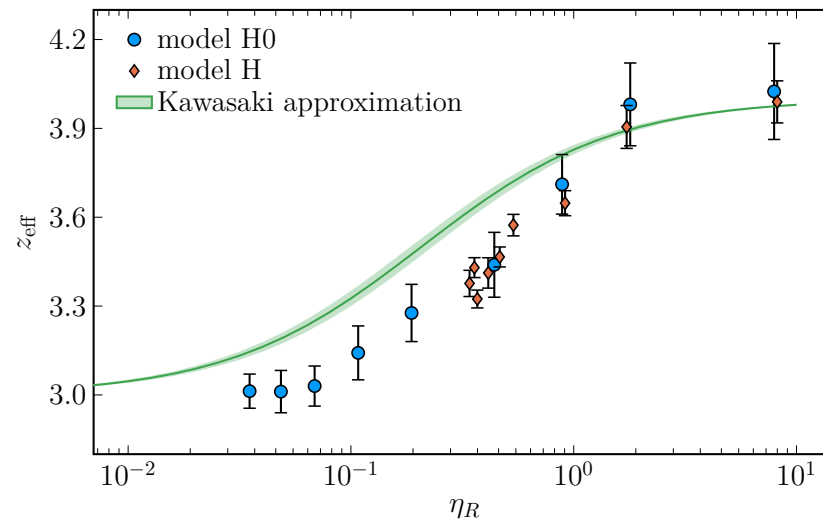
Crossover from $\tau_R \sim \xi^4$ at large η_R
to $\tau_R \sim \xi^3$ for small η_R

Universality: model H/H0

Order parameter relaxation rate



$$\Gamma_k = \frac{\Gamma}{\xi^4} (k\xi)^2 (1 + (k\xi)^2) + \frac{T}{6\pi\eta_R\xi^3} K(k\xi)$$

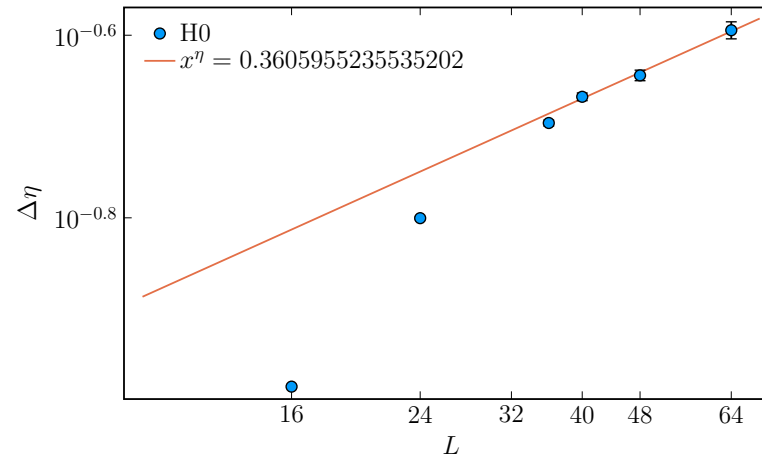
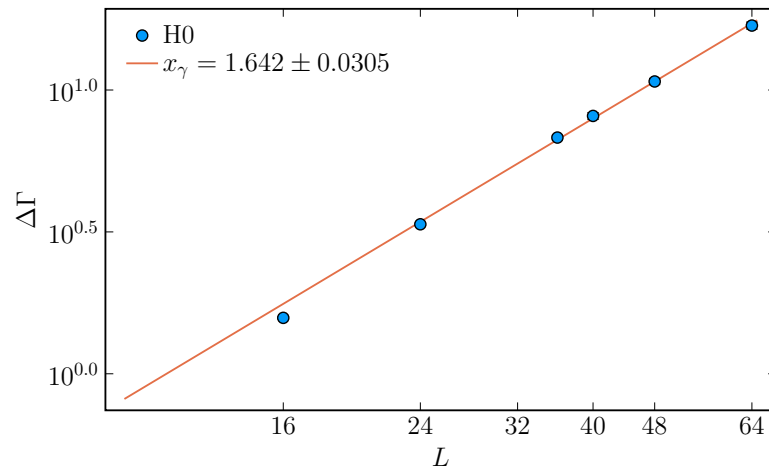


Crossover from $\tau_R \sim \xi^4$ at large η_R
to $\tau_R \sim \xi^3$ for small η_R

Critical behavior of transport coefficients (2d, prelim)

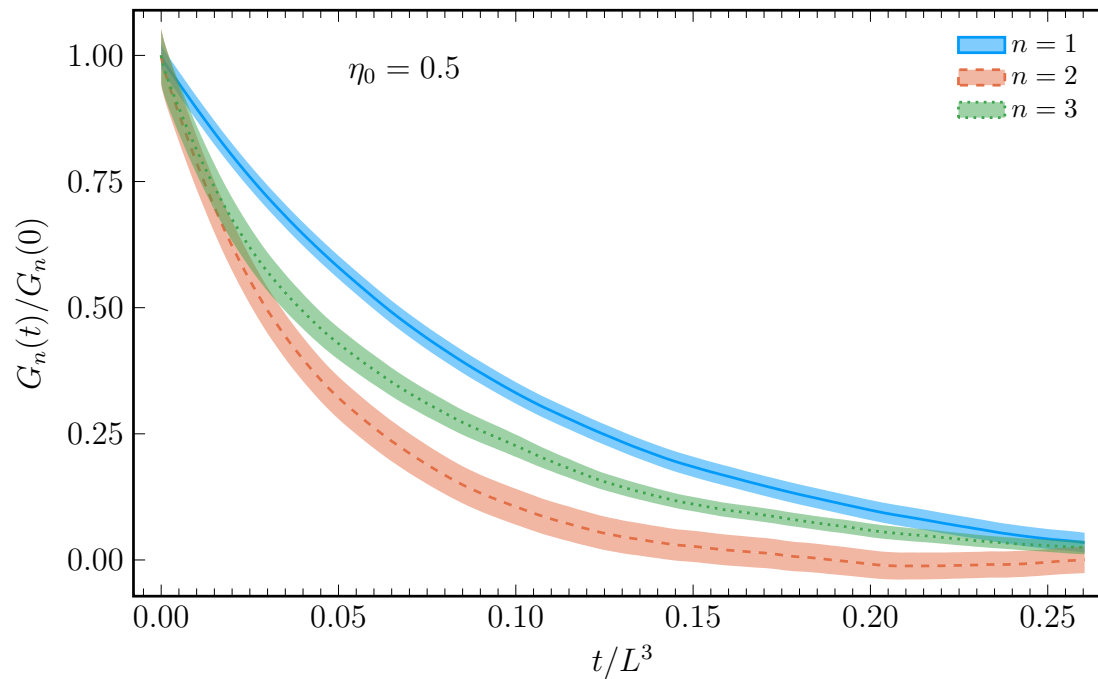
$$\kappa = \frac{1}{3VT} \int dt d^3 x_{1,2} \langle \vec{j}(0, x_1) \vec{j}(t, x_2) \rangle$$

$$\eta = \frac{1}{VT} \int dt d^3 x_{1,2} \langle \Pi_{xy}(0, x_1) \Pi_{xy}(t, x_2) \rangle$$



Consistent with $z = 4 - x_\kappa - \eta^*$ ($\eta^* = 0.25$ correlation function exponent)

Evolution of higher moments



$$G_n(t) = \langle M^n(t) M^n(0) \rangle, \quad M(t) = \int_V d^3x \phi(\vec{x}, t)$$

Relaxation time $\tau_n = \tau_n^{(0)} L^z$ with exponent z independent of n

But: $\tau_n^{(0)}$ depends (non-trivially) on n

Summary and Outlook

Numerical simulation of stochastic fluid dynamics, observed renormalization of shear viscosity and dynamical scaling. Obtained $z \simeq 3.07$, in good agreement with the ϵ expansion.

Outlook: Extend the present framework to full (relativistic) fluid dynamics, or couple the simulations to fixed relativistic background flow (no backreaction). Density frame provides a promising approach.