Far-off-equilibrium journeys through the QCD phase diagram

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# Exploring the QCD phase diagram: emergent phenomena in non-Abelian media



#### Phenomena:

- (De-)confinement (clustered vs. homogeneous states)
- chiral symmetry restoration
- (almost) perfect fluidity
- order of the phase transition(s)
- critical end point?

(from the 2007 NSAC Nuclear Physics LRP)

What happened in the early universe about  $10 \,\mu s$  after the Big Bang?

What changes when you dope the matter that filled the early universe with extra quarks/baryon number?

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# Exploring the QCD phase diagram: emergent phenomena in non-Abelian media



#### **Probes:**

- Collective flow
- Jet modification and quenching
- Thermal electromagnetic radiation
- Critical fluctuations

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## Compass for the QCD phase diagram



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## Compass for the QCD phase diagram



#### Isentropic evolution (ideal fluid dynamics)

#### Consider a simple model:

noninteracting gas of gluons (bosons,  $m_g = 0$ ) and quarks & antiquarks (fermions,  $m_q = m$ ) with non-zero net baryon number in chemical equilibrium

More details:

Chattopadhyay, UH, Schäfer, 2209.10483; Florkowski, Maksymiuk, Ryblewski, 1710.07905



#### Isentropic evolution (ideal fluid dynamics) $(T, n \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \mu \rightarrow m)$



#### What should we expect for dissipative expansion?



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#### Second-order Chapman Enskog hydrodynamics

Denicol et al., 1407.4767; A. Jaiswal, Ryblewski, Strickland, 1407.7231

Simple flow model: 1-d Bjorken expansion:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{de}{d\tau} &= -\frac{1}{\tau} \Big( e + P + \Pi - \pi \Big), \\ \frac{dn}{d\tau} &= \frac{n}{\tau}, \\ \frac{d\Pi}{d\tau} &+ \frac{\Pi}{\tau_R} = -\frac{\beta_{\Pi}}{\tau} - \delta_{\Pi\Pi} \frac{\Pi}{\tau} + \lambda_{\Pi\pi} \frac{\pi}{\tau}, \\ \frac{d\pi}{d\tau} &+ \frac{\pi}{\tau_R} = \frac{4}{3} \frac{\beta_{\pi}}{\tau} - \left( \frac{1}{3} \tau_{\pi\pi} + \delta_{\pi\pi} \right) \frac{\pi}{\tau} + \frac{2}{3} \lambda_{\pi\Pi} \frac{\Pi}{\tau} \end{aligned}$$

Transport coefficients from kinetic theory for a quark-gluon gas with nonzero quark mass Chattopadhyay, UH, Schäfer, 2209.10483

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Dore, Noronha-Hostler, McLaughlin, 2007.15083



Dore, Noronha-Hostler, McLaughlin, 2007.15083



How can some of these trajectories evolve towards larger  $\mu/T$ and therefore smaller s/n ?!

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How can some of these trajectories evolve towards larger  $\mu/T$ and therefore smaller equilibrium  $s_{eq}/n$ ?

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#### Dissecting the problem Chattopadhyay, UH, Schäfer, 2209.10483

#### • The equilibrium state maximizes the entropy

 $\implies$  for any given point  $(T, \mu)$  in the phase diagram,  $s/n \leq (s_{eq}/n)(T, \mu)$ :

$$\frac{s}{n} = \frac{1}{n_{\rm eq}(T,\mu)} \left( s_{\rm eq}(T,\mu) - c_{\Pi}(T,\mu) \,\Pi^2 - c_{\pi}(T,\mu) \,\pi^{\mu\nu} \pi_{\mu\nu} + c_n(T,\mu) \,n^{\mu} n_{\mu} \right) + \dots$$

- **Dissipation creates entropy:**  $T \partial_{\mu} S^{\mu} = \pi^{\mu\nu} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \prod \theta T n^{\mu} \nabla_{\mu} \alpha + \cdots \ge 0$ , where  $\sigma_{\mu\nu}$  is the shear flow tensor,  $\theta$  is the scalar expansion rate, and  $\alpha \equiv \mu/T$ .
- During evolution, entropy flows between the equilibrium and non-equilibrium sectors. For Bjorken flow

$$\frac{d(s_{\rm eq}\tau)}{d\tau} = \frac{\pi - \Pi}{T}.$$

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#### I. The conformal case m = 0



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#### I. The conformal case m = 0; $\eta/s = 10/4\pi$



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#### Is this an artifact of the hydrodynamic approximation? No!



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#### II. The non-conformal case for m = 1 GeV, ideal



#### II. The non-conformal case for m = 1 GeV, $\pi_0 = \Pi_0 = 0$



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#### II. Non-conformal case: m = 1 GeV, $[(\pi - \Pi)/(e+p)]_0 = -0.45$



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## II. Non-conformal case: m = 1 GeV, $[(\pi - \Pi)/(e+p)]_0 = -0.45$ : Entropy production



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#### II. Non-conformal case: m = 1 GeV, $[(\pi - \Pi)/(e+p)]_0 = -0.45$ : Entropy production





#### Kinetic theory vs. hydrodynamics: quantitative differences but qualitative consistency



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# "Viscous cooling" Chattopadhyay, UH, Schäfer, in preparation



- For equilibrium initial conditions system experiences viscous heating – cools more slowly than ideal fluid. Well-known effect.
- For non-equilibrium initial conditions with  $[(\pi-\Pi)/(e+p)]_0 < 0$  system experiences **viscous cooling** cools initially faster than ideal fluid.
- As the system approaches local equilibrium at late times (Navier-Stokes stage), viscous cooling turns into viscous heating.
- Both viscous heating and cooling phenomena last longer for larger relaxation times (i.e. for larger viscosities).

#### "Viscous cooling" Chattopadhyay, UH, Schäfer, in preparation



Qualitatively similar but less pronounced viscous cooling effect seen in the conformal (massless) limit.

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#### "Viscous cooling" Chattopadhyay, UH, Schäfer, in preparation



Viscous cooling reduces the thermal energy density faster than for ideal expansion, both as a function of time and as a function of net baryon density.

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#### So what?

#### • Widespread folklore that must be un-learned:

"Dissipation can be understood as internal friction that causes viscous heating."

- For far-off-equilibrium systems there are situations where negative entropy can flow from the non-equilibrium to the equilibrium sector, causing the temperature and thermal energy density of the system to **decrease faster** than in an isentropically expanding ideal fluid ⇒ "viscous cooling"
- Viscous cooling arises only for far-off-equilibrium conditions where the bulk and shear viscous pressures start out with the "wrong" signs (i.e. opposite to their Navier-Stokes values towards which they evolve at late times).
- In non-conformal systems with sufficiently extreme initial conditions viscous cooling can cause the system to evolve initially towards larger  $\mu/T$  values, seemingly violating deeply ingrained rules from our childhood.
- Unclear whether and under which conditions such far-off-equilibrium initial conditions can arise naturally in heavy-ion collisions.
- Interesting question: can macroscopic systems be initialized in analogous far-off-equilibrium initial states, in order to explore the dynamics of viscous cooling in the laboratory?

# Thank you!

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