Electron hydrodynamics

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GORDON AND BETTY MOORE FOUNDATION

Could it finally be true?







Figure 1—Water circulates endlessly around this closed loop much like elecrical current.

Electric conduction versus water flow

Metal



 Resistance arises through external scattering due to the lattice (impurities, phonons,...)

Water



 Resistance arises through internal scattering (viscosity)

Outline

- Electron hydrodynamics What and why?
- Viscous Fermi liquids
- Using magnetic fields to detect viscous effects
- Conclusion and outlook





"More is different" [Anderson '72]



Spin liquids

Topological phases

Superconductors

Conventional metallic transport [Drude 1900]





Mean free time of electrons, set by defects and vibrations of the lattice





Electron-electron scattering⁵ plays a relatively minor role in the theory of conduction in solids, for reasons to be described in Chapter 17.



Hydrodynamics



- Universal description of fluids based on conserved quantities: momentum, energy, charge,...
- Works at length/time scales much larger than the microscopic ones



Viscous fluid description based on momentum conservation





Can quantum mechanics constrain hydrodynamics?





Can quantum mechanics *enrich* hydrodynamics?

For electrons in a solid:

H



Relativistic fluids: graphene, Weyl semimetals,...

Topological effects: Berry phase, Hall viscosity,...







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Hydrodynamic flow of electrons possible if...

 $l_{MC} \ll W \ll l_{MR}$

Momentum-conserving mean free path ("internal scattering"):

• e-e scattering





Momentum-relaxing mean free path ("external scattering"):

- Impurities
- Phonons

$$\vec{v} \neq \vec{v}'$$



[Gurzhi 1963] [Spivak, Kivelson 2006] [Hruska, Spivak 2011] [Andreev Kivelson Spivak 2011] [Torre,Tomadin,Geim,Spivak 2011] [Levitov Falkovich 2016] many more papers...

Which materials?



- 2D electron gases [de Jong, Molenkamp] (1994)
- PdCoO2 (high mobility layered metal) (2016)
- Graphene [Bandurin et al] [Crossno et al] (2016)







Bandurin et al, Science 351, 1055-1058 (2016)



Ohmic





Viscous

 $l_{MC} \ll W \ll l_{MR}$



Diffuse-Ballistic

$$W \ll l_{MR}, l_{MC}$$



"Knudsen flow"

Viscous fluid



Viscous electronic fluid

 $\vec{j} = n e \vec{v}$







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[TS et al, PRL '17]

How to identify hydro effects?

- Idea: Look at finite size corrections to transport coefficients
- Problem: how to distinguish from ballistic effects?
- Solution: use magnetic field





Navier-Stokes under magnetic field







Hydrodynamic solution [TS et al, PRL '17]



$$\partial_t \vec{v} = \eta_{xx} \nabla^2 \vec{v} + \eta_{xy} \nabla^2 \vec{v} \times \vec{z} + \frac{e}{m} (\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}) - \frac{1}{\tau_{MR}} \vec{v}$$

$$\rho_{xx} \simeq \rho_{xx}^{bulk} + \frac{m}{e^2 n} \eta_{xx} \frac{12}{W^2}$$
$$\rho_{xx}^{bulk} = \frac{m}{e^2 n} \frac{1}{\tau_{MR}}$$

Result from Boltzmann theory for a charged Fermi liquid:

$$\eta_{xx}(B) \sim \eta_{xx}(B=0) \frac{1}{1 + (B/B_0)^2}$$



Navier-Stokes is not enough

In theory:

$$l_{MC} \ll W \ll l_{MR}$$

Navier-Stokes

In practice:

$$U_{MC} \lesssim W \lesssim l_{MR}$$
 \longrightarrow Kinetic theory

$$\partial_t f + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla_{\vec{r}} f + \frac{e}{m} (\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}) \cdot \nabla_{\vec{v}} f = -\frac{1}{\tau_{MR}} f - \frac{1}{\tau_{MC}} I[f]$$

Results of Boltzmann-hydro: magnetoresistance



Measurement of shear viscosity in graphene

[Bandurin et al Science (2016)] [Berdyugin et al, Science 2018]





Historical perspective on Hall effect



B

[TS et al, PRL '17]

Hall resistivity => Hall viscosity

$$\partial_t \vec{v} = \eta_{xx} \nabla^2 \vec{v} + \eta_{xy} \nabla^2 \vec{v} \times \vec{z} + \frac{e}{m} (\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B})$$

 $\mathbf{\nabla}$ 2

$$\rho_{xy} = \rho_{xy}^{bulk} \left(1 - \eta_{xy} \frac{12}{W^2} \frac{1}{\omega_c} \right) \qquad \qquad \rho_{xy}^{bulk} = \frac{B}{ne}$$



Hall viscosity can be measured by looking at finite-size effects in Hall resistivity

Measuring Hall Viscosity of Graphene's Electron Fluid Science 2018

A. I. Berdyugin, S. G. Xu, F. M. D. Pellegrino, R. Krishna Kumar, A. Principi, I. Torre, M. Ben Shalom, T. Taniguchi, K. Watanabe, I. V. Grigorieva, M. Polini, A. K. Geim, D. A. Bandurin

(Submitted on 5 Jun 2018)





Last part of the talk: local properties

- So far we've only discussed quantities that are averaged over the cross section of the channel
- What about their spatial dependence? Any smoking gun features of hydro?
- Naïvely, yes:



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But:

Magnetic fields are useful again:



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field



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"Phase diagram" based on profile curvature κ

Hall electric field

Current

First visualization of hydrodynamic flow of electrons

Single-electron transistor

[J.A. Sulpizio¹⁺, L. Ella¹⁺, A. Rozen¹⁺, J. Birkbeck^{2,3}, D.J. Perello^{2,3}, D. Dutta¹, M. Ben-Shalom^{2,3,4}, T. Taniguchi⁵, K. Watanabe⁵, T. Holder¹, R. Queiroz¹, A. Stern¹, TS, A.K. Geim^{2,3}, and S. Ilani, **arXiv:1905.11662**, to appear in Nature (2019)]

References

[TS, Nandi, Schmidt, Mackenzie, and Moore, Phys. Rev. Lett. 118, 226601]

[Holder, Queiroz, TS, Silberstein, Rozen, Sulpizio, Ella, Ilani, Stern, arXiv:1901.08546]

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Thanks for your attention!

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Reynolds number? $\partial_t \vec{v} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \vec{v} = \eta \nabla^2 \vec{v} - \frac{1}{\tau \cdot \tau} \vec{v} + \frac{e\vec{E}}{m}$ au_{MR}

Bound on viscosity

$$\frac{\eta}{s} \ge \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\hbar}{k_B}$$

- Three arguments
 - Class of strongly interacting QFTs with gravity dual saturate this bound

• Empirical evidence:

• Extrapolation of kinetic theory

[Kovtun, Son, Starinets, PRL 2005]

Bound on viscosity

Bound on viscosity

$$\frac{\eta}{s} \sim \frac{\hbar}{k_B} \frac{l}{l_{dB}}$$

 l_{dB}