Relativistic fluids with a twist



Nils Andersson





Erice 1991



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Erice Lecture Notes

COVARIANT MECHANICS OF

MEMBRANES, STRINGS, ...

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B. Carter

May, 1991.

MECHANICS AND EQUILIBRIUM GEOMETRY OF HORIZONS, MEMBRANES AND STRINGS

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Introductory Remark

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EU Network meeting 2002





William Hodge, Pembroke College



George Batchelor, DAMTP



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Relativistic Fluid Dynamics

Noto 1987



COVARIANT THEORY OF CONDUCTIVITY IN IDEAL FLUID OR SOLID MEDIA.

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REVIEW ARTICLE



Relativistic fluid dynamics: physics for many different scales

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convective variations

Convective variational principle makes use of the idea of a three dimensional "matter space".

For a single fluid Lagrangian $\Lambda = \Lambda(n^2)$ where $n^2 = -n^a n_a$ we have the conjugate momentum

$$\mu_a = -2\frac{\partial\Lambda}{\partial n^2}n_a = Bn_a$$

A general variation leads to

$$\delta\left(\sqrt{-g}\Lambda\right) = \sqrt{-g}\left[\mu_a\delta n^a + \frac{1}{2}\left(\Lambda g^{ab} + n^a\mu^b\right)\delta g_{ab}\right]$$

which means that the momentum has to vanish! Clearly not what we want.

Need a **constrained variation**, ensuring a conserved particle flux. This follows if the associated volume form $n_{abc} = \varepsilon_{abcd} n^d$ is closed, i.e.

$$\nabla_{\left[a\right]} n_{bcd} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \nabla_{a} n^{a} = 0$$



Introduce matter space with coordinates X^A and associated displacement such that

$$\Delta X^{A} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta X^{A} = -\xi^{a} \nabla_{a} X^{A}$$

Then the variation leads to

$$\begin{split} &\delta\Big(\sqrt{-g}\Lambda\Big) = \sqrt{-g} \Bigg[\frac{1}{2}\Big(\Psi g^{ab} + n^a \mu^b\Big)\delta g_{ab} - f_a\xi^a \Bigg] \\ &\text{where } \Psi = \Lambda - n^a \mu_a. \end{split}$$

many fluids

The final equations of motion take the form:

$$f_a = 2n^b \nabla_{[b} \mu_{a]} = 2n^b \omega_{ab} = 0$$

emphasize the role of the (momentum) vorticity.

Also - and this is crucial - it is now straightforward to account for several identifiable fluxes (=multi-fluid systems!).

"Simply" need several matter spaces (one for each flux);

$$n_{\rm x}^a = n_{\rm x} u_{\rm x}^a$$

Following the same procedure as before, we arrive at:

$$\nabla_a n_x^a = 0$$

$$f_a^{\mathbf{x}} = 2n_{\mathbf{x}}^b \nabla_{[b} \mu_{a]}^{\mathbf{x}} = 2n_{\mathbf{x}}^b \omega_{ba}^{\mathbf{x}} = 0$$

(no summation over x).



why bother?

- "mixtures", where the components retain their identity (chemistry).
- superfluids, where finite temperature excitations (e.g. phonons) lead to a two-fluid model (condensed matter physics)
- heat flow, where the entropy (say, phonons) may be treated as a "fluid" (non-equilibrium thermodynamics)
- electromagnetism, where a charge current is required to maintain the magnetic field (plasma physics)
- elasticity, where the matter space approach provides a natural description of deformations (solid state physics)

Strong motivation for trying to understand these systems in general relativity, ranging from neutron star astrophysics to early Universe cosmology.

Interesting connections with laboratory atomic Bose-Einstein condensates, where the Hamiltonian can be "designed to specification".

Depending on the situation under consideration, the force f_a^x encodes additional physics, like dissipation, elasticity, mutual interaction forces...

towards dissipation

In order to model "reality", we need to account for dissipation (friction, thermal conductivity, resistivity etc).

Disregarding conventional wisdom, according to which action principles do not exist for dissipative systems, we have extended the variational approach in this direction.

How? The key conceptual step involves breaking the closure of the individual volume forms.

For example, if each n_{abc}^{x} is no longer just a function of its own X_{x}^{A} , the closure will be broken. As the fluxes are no longer conserved, the formalism incorporates dissipation (in some sense). In general, we have

$$\delta n_{abc}^{x} = -\mathcal{L}_{\xi_{x}} n_{abc}^{x} + \frac{\partial X_{x}^{A}}{\partial x^{[a}} \frac{\partial X_{x}^{B}}{\partial x^{b}} \frac{\partial X_{x}^{C}}{\partial x^{c]}} \Delta_{x} n_{ABC}^{x}$$

In practice, we may let each volume form depend on:

- (1) the coordinates of all the matter spaces, and
- (2) the independent mappings of the spacetime metric into these spaces.



Intuition: The individual matter space coordinates do not vary along their own world lines, even when the system is dissipative. By adding a dependence on the other matter spaces there is "evolution" since the world lines cut across each other.

Application: When each volume form depends on all sets of matter space coordinates we arrive at a model for reactive/resistive systems.

$$R_a^{xy} \equiv \frac{1}{3!} \mu_x^{ABC} \frac{\partial n_{ABC}^x}{\partial X_y^D} \partial_a X_y^D \qquad R_a^x = \sum_{y \neq x} \left(R_a^{yx} - R_a^{xy} \right)$$

and, introducing the individual creation/destruction rates

$$\Gamma_{\rm x} = \nabla_a n_{\rm x}^{\ a}$$

it follows that

$$2n_x^{a} \nabla_{[a} \mu_{b]}^{x} + \Gamma_x \bot_{xb}^{a} \mu_a^{x} = \bot_{xb}^{a} R_a^{x}$$

take home message

Happy Birthday!