

Wigner function of spin-1/2 particles in equilibrium

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Describing particles with spin 1/2

Spin density matrices $f^\pm(x, p)$ (2×2) & spinor density matrices $X^\pm(x, p)$ (4×4):

$$f_{rs}^+(x, p) = \frac{1}{2m} \bar{u}_r(p) X^+ u_s(p), \quad f_{rs}^-(x, p) = -\frac{1}{2m} \bar{v}_s(p) X^- v_r(p), \quad r, s = \{1, 2\}$$

Relativistic fluid of spin-1/2 particles:

- *Classical treatment*: kinetic theory + $\int dS$
- *Quantum treatment*: Wigner function + tr (spinor space)

$$W^\pm(x, k) = \frac{1}{4m} \int dP \delta^{(4)}(k \mp p) (\not{p} \pm m) X^\pm(\not{p} \pm m) \quad (1)$$

[De Groot, Relativistic Kinetic Theory. Principles and Applications (1980)]

Spinor density matrix $X^\pm$

Commonly used form of $X^\pm$ in local equilibrium

[Becattini et al., Annals Phys. 338 (2013)]

$$X^\pm = \exp \left[-\frac{p^\mu u_\mu}{T} \pm \frac{\mu}{T} \right] \exp \left[\pm \frac{1}{2} \omega_{\mu\nu}(x) \Sigma^{\mu\nu} \right] \quad (2)$$

$$\Sigma^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{4} [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]$$

$\omega_{\mu\nu} = \Omega_{\mu\nu}/T$ – spin polarization tensor, $\Omega_{\mu\nu}$ – spin chemical potential

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$$\omega_{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & e^1 & e^2 & e^3 \\ -e^1 & 0 & -b^3 & b^2 \\ -e^2 & b^3 & 0 & -b^1 \\ -e^3 & -b^2 & b^1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

$\mathbf{e} = (e^1, e^2, e^3)$, $\mathbf{b} = (b^1, b^2, b^3)$ – electric- and magnetic-like vectors

Mean spin polarization of spin-1/2 particles in equilibrium, $\mu = 0$

[Florkowski et al. PRD 97, 116017 (2018)]

$$\mathbf{P} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\text{tr}_2(f^\pm \boldsymbol{\sigma})}{\text{tr}_2(f^\pm)} = -\frac{1}{2} \tanh \left[\frac{\sqrt{\mathbf{b}_* \cdot \mathbf{b}_* - \mathbf{e}_* \cdot \mathbf{e}_*}}{2} \right] \frac{\mathbf{b}_*}{\sqrt{\mathbf{b}_* \cdot \mathbf{b}_* - \mathbf{e}_* \cdot \mathbf{e}_*}} \quad (4)$$

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Motivation

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(from no polarization to pure state)

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+ *other issues*

Deriving $X^\pm$ from the spin density matrices

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Decomposition of 2×2 Hermitian matrices $f_{rs}^\pm(x, p)$ [Florkowski et al., PRD97 (2018)]:

$$f_{rs}^\pm(x, p) = f_0^\pm(x, p) [\delta_{rs} + \zeta_*^\pm(x, p) \cdot \sigma_{rs}] \quad (7)$$

- $f_0^\pm(x, p)$ – spin-averaged phase-space density
- $\zeta_*^{\pm\mu} = (0, \zeta_*^\pm)$ – mean polarization vector in PRF, $0 \leq |\zeta_*^\pm| \leq 1$

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Canonical boost to LAB frame, particle moves with $\mathbf{v}_p$:

$$\Lambda^\mu{}_\nu(\mathbf{v}_p) \zeta_{\pm*}^\nu \equiv \zeta_{\pm}^\mu \quad (8)$$

Deriving $X^\pm$ from the spin density matrices

From Lorentz covariance we get

$$\bar{u}_r(p) \gamma_5 \zeta_\mu^+ \gamma^\mu u_s(p) = 2m \zeta_*^+ \cdot \sigma_{rs} \quad (9)$$

$$\bar{v}_s(p) \gamma_5 \zeta_\mu^- \gamma^\mu v_r(p) = -2m \zeta_*^- \cdot \sigma_{rs} \quad (10)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{X_s^\pm(x, p) = f_0^\pm(x, p) [1 + \gamma_5 \not{\zeta}^\pm(x, p)]} \quad (11)$$

Derived with no assumptions on equilibrium properties

of the spin density matrix $f^\pm(x, p)$

$$X_s^\pm(x, p) = f_0^\pm(x, p) \left[1 + \gamma_5 \not{\zeta}^\pm(x, p) \right] \quad (12)$$

For general spacelike four-vectors $a_\pm^\mu$ satisfying $a_\pm^2 < 0$

$$\exp(\gamma_5 \not{a}_\pm) = \cosh \sqrt{-a_\pm^2} \left[1 + \frac{\gamma_5 \not{a}_\pm}{\sqrt{-a_\pm^2}} \tanh \sqrt{-a_\pm^2} \right] \quad (13)$$

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Square brackets are equal if

$$\zeta_\pm^\mu = \frac{a_\pm^\mu}{\sqrt{-a_\pm^2}} \tanh \sqrt{-a_\pm^2} \longrightarrow \zeta_\pm^\mu = a_\pm^\mu \quad (14)$$

$$X_s^\pm(x, p) = f_0^\pm(x, p) \exp(\gamma_5 \not{d}_\pm) \quad (15)$$

$$X_s^\pm(x, p) = f_0^\pm(x, p) \exp(\gamma_5 \not{p}_\pm) \quad (15)$$

Equilibrium spin density for Boltzmann statistics

$$X_s^\pm(x, p) = \exp\left[-\frac{p_\mu u^\mu}{T} \pm \frac{\mu}{T}\right] \exp[\gamma_5 \not{p}] \quad (16)$$

$$a_\mu(x, p) = -\frac{1}{2m} \tilde{\omega}_{\mu\nu}(x) p^\nu, \quad \tilde{\omega}_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \omega^{\alpha\beta} \quad (17)$$

Comparison of spinor densities

Previously known expression [Becattini, Chandra, Del Zanna, Grossi, Annals Phys. 338 (2013)]

$$X^{\pm}(x, p) = \exp \left[-\frac{p^{\mu} u_{\mu}}{T} \pm \frac{\mu}{T} \right] \exp \left[\pm \frac{i}{8} \omega_{\mu\nu}(x) [\gamma^{\mu}, \gamma^{\nu}] \right] \quad (18)$$

Our new finding [Bhadury, Drogosz, Florkowski, Kar, VM, arXiv:2505.02657]

$$X_s^{\pm}(x, p) = \exp \left[-\frac{p^{\mu} u_{\mu}}{T} \pm \frac{\mu}{T} \right] \exp \left[-\frac{1}{4m} \gamma_5 \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \omega^{\alpha\beta}(x) p^{\nu} \gamma^{\mu} \right] \quad (19)$$

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$$W^\pm(x, k) = \frac{1}{4m} \int dP \delta^{(4)}(k \mp p) (\not{p} \pm m) X_s^\pm(\not{p} \pm m) \rightarrow \text{thermodynamics}$$

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$$S^{\lambda, \mu\nu}(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{r,s=1}^2 \int dP p^\lambda [\sigma_{sr}^{+\mu\nu}(p) f_{rs}^+(x, p) + \sigma_{sr}^{-\mu\nu}(p) f_{rs}^-(x, p)] - \textit{spin tensor}$$

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$$S^\mu(x) = -\frac{1}{2} \int dP p^\mu \{ \text{tr}_4 [X_s^+ (\ln X_s^+ - 1)] + \text{tr}_4 [X_s^- (\ln X_s^- - 1)] \} - \textit{entropy}$$

[Florkowski et al. PRD 97, 116017 (2018)]

Generalized thermodynamic relations for perfect spin hydrodynamics

$$\beta_\alpha = \frac{u_\alpha}{T}, \quad \xi = \frac{\mu}{T}$$
$$\textit{Entropy} : S^\mu = T^{\mu\alpha} \beta_\alpha - \frac{1}{2} \omega_{\alpha\beta} S^{\mu,\alpha\beta} - \xi N^\mu + \mathcal{N}^\mu \quad (23)$$

$$\textit{Change of particle current} : d\mathcal{N}^\mu = N^\mu d\xi - T^{\lambda\mu} d\beta_\lambda + \frac{1}{2} S^{\mu,\alpha\beta} d\omega_{\alpha\beta} \quad (24)$$

$$\textit{Change of entropy} : dS^\mu = -\xi dN^\mu + \beta_\lambda dT^{\lambda\mu} - \frac{1}{2} \omega_{\alpha\beta} dS^{\mu,\alpha\beta} \quad (25)$$

[Florkowski, Hontarenko, PRL 134 (2025)]

Quantum vs. classical spin treatments

Quantum

$$X_s^\pm = [\cdots + \gamma_5 a_\mu \gamma^\mu]$$

$$a_\mu(x, p) = -\frac{1}{2m} \tilde{\omega}_{\mu\nu}(x) p^\nu$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{2} \gamma_5 \gamma^\mu \longleftrightarrow s^\mu}$$

Classical

$$f^\pm(x, p, s) = \exp \left[\cdots + \frac{1}{2} \omega_{\mu\nu} s^{\mu\nu} \right]$$

$$s^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{m} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\gamma\delta} p_\gamma s_\delta$$

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N^μ and $T^{\mu\nu}$ modified by $\omega_{\mu\nu}$ in classical and quantum descriptions

Quadratic corrections:

$$\cosh \sqrt{-a^2} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} a^2$$

Classical

$$f^\pm(x, p, s) = \exp \left[\cdots + \frac{1}{2} \omega_{\mu\nu} s^{\mu\nu} \right]$$

$$s^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{m} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\gamma\delta} p_\gamma s_\delta$$

$$1 + \frac{1}{16} \int dS \omega_{\mu\nu} s^{\mu\nu} \omega_{\rho\sigma} s^{\rho\sigma}$$

$$X_s^\pm(x, p, s) = \exp \left[-\frac{p_\mu u^\mu}{T} \pm \frac{\mu}{T} + \gamma_5 a_\mu(x, p) \gamma^\mu \right] \quad (26)$$
$$a_\mu(x, p) = -\frac{1}{2m} \tilde{\omega}_{\mu\nu}(x) p^\nu$$

Convergence criterion [Drogosz, Florkowski, VM, arXiv:2506.01537]

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\mathbf{b}'^2 + \mathbf{e}'^2 + 2|\mathbf{e}' \times \mathbf{b}'|} < \frac{m}{T}} \quad (27)$$

$\frac{1}{2}$ - maximum spin polarization in quantum case

*Our results are applicable within the range of hydrodynamic parameters
used in current models of HIC*

We have found:

- local equilibrium Wigner function for spin-1/2 particles with proper normalization of the mean polarization vector;
- agreement of the generalized thermodynamics in quantum and classical spin formalisms – employed in perfect spin hydrodynamics;
- applicability range of the spinor density $X_s^\pm$ in Wigner-function formalism and of the distribution function $f(x, p, s)$ in kinetic theory with spin.

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