

# Spin polarization in strongly coupled fluid



Shu Lin  
Sun Yat-Sen University

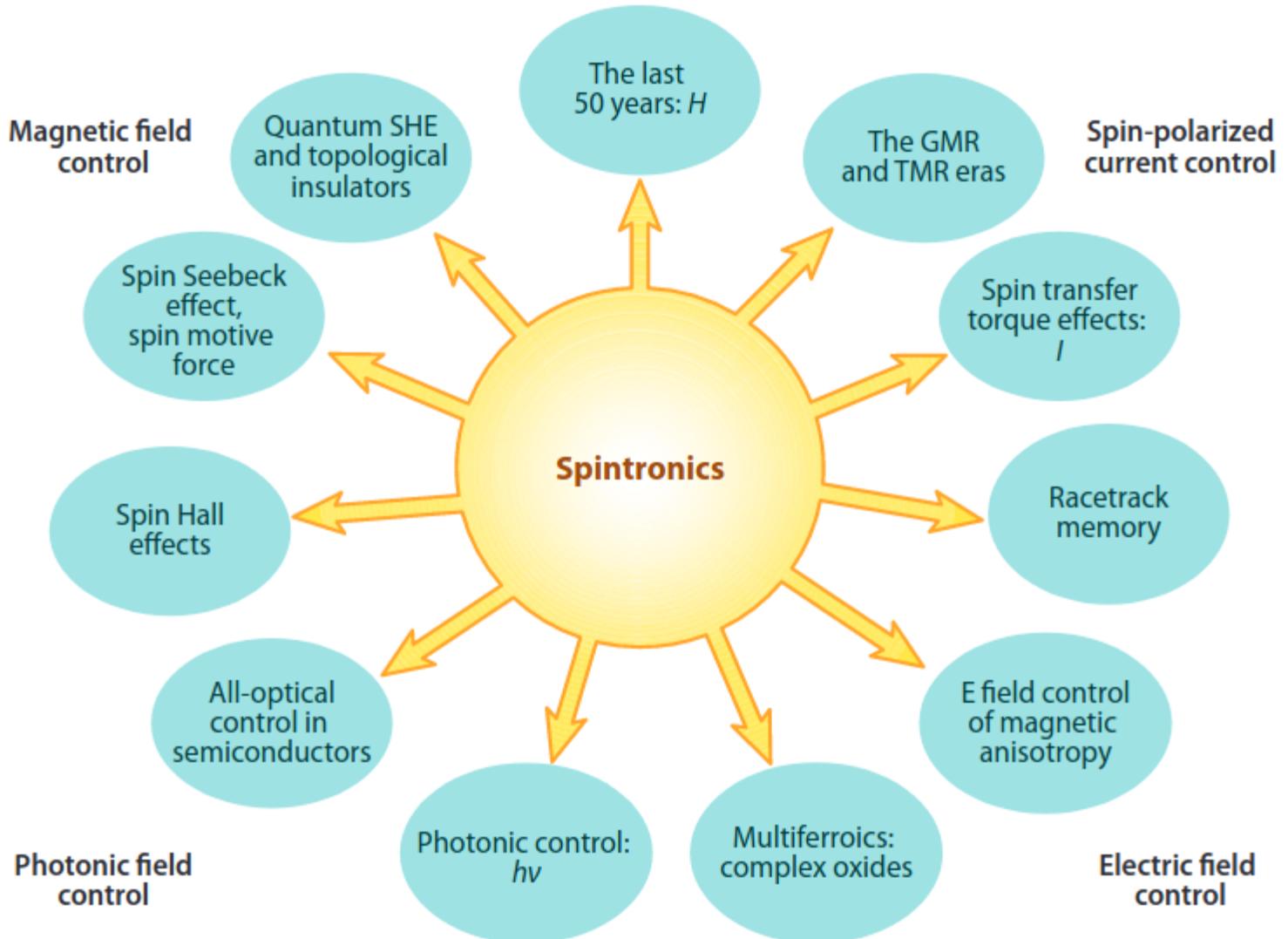
Gauge Gravity 2024, Sanya, Nov 30 – Dec 4, 2024

S.-W. Li, SL,  
2412.XXXXXX

# Outline

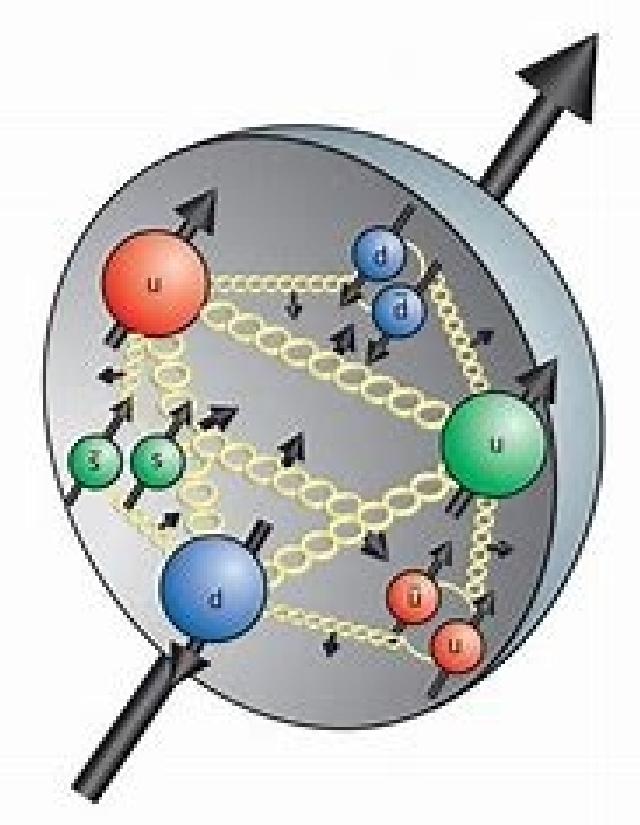
- ◆ Spin physics in different areas
- ◆ Spin in heavy ion collisions as response to hydrodynamic gradient
- ◆ Lessons from weakly coupled studies
- ◆ Holographic model for spin polarization
- ◆ Fermionic spectral function in strongly coupled fluid and spin polarization
- ◆ Conclusion and outlook

# Spintronics in condensed matter physics



Bader+Parkin  
ARCMP 2010

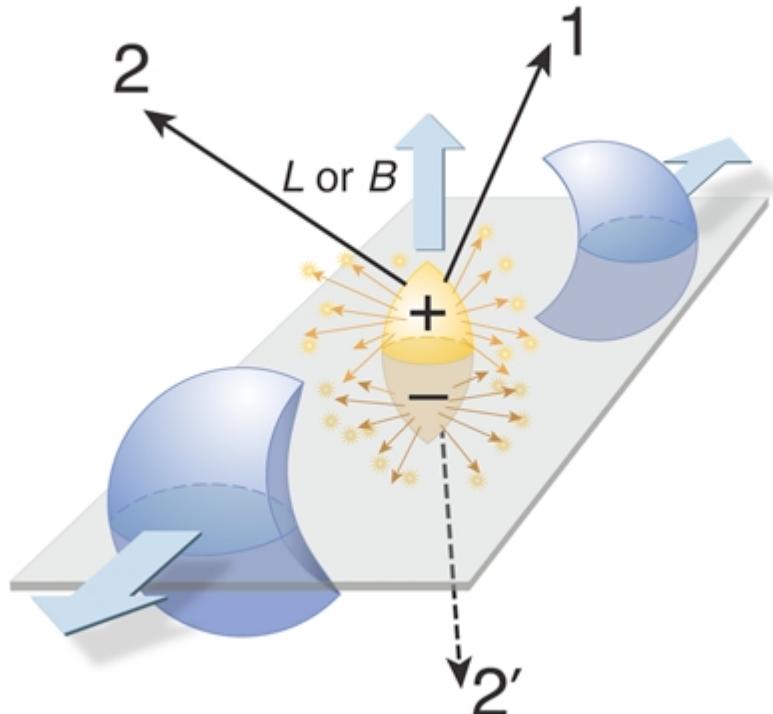
# Spin in particle physics



Proton spin puzzle  
(1988-now)

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}\Delta\Sigma + L_q + \Delta G + L_g$$

# Spin polarization in heavy ion collisions (HIC)



$$L_{ini} \sim 10^5 \hbar \rightarrow S_{final}$$

Spin polarization observed in multiple final particles:  $\Lambda$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $J/\psi$  etc

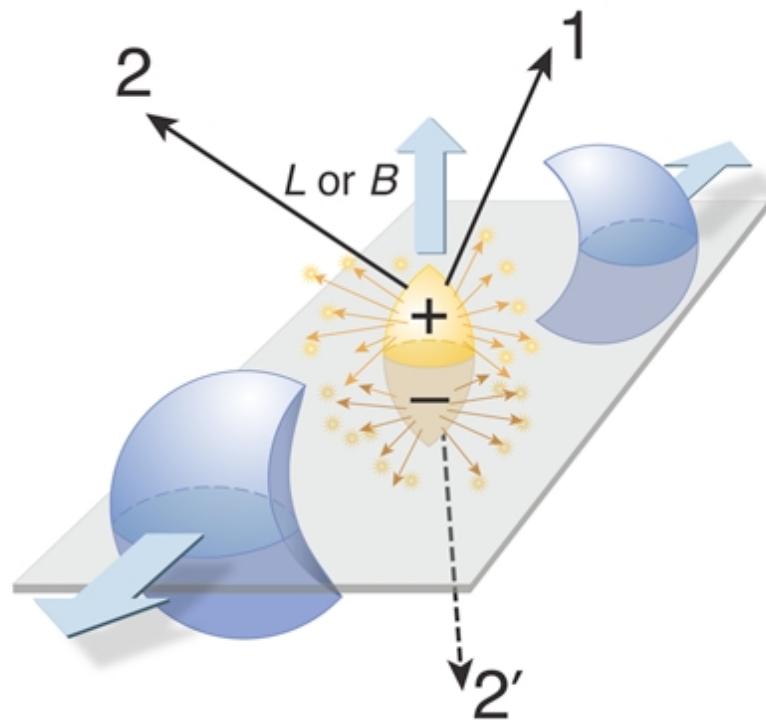
Quark-gluon plasma (QGP)  
characterized by hydrodynamic gradient



Spin polarization as response to  
hydrodynamic gradient

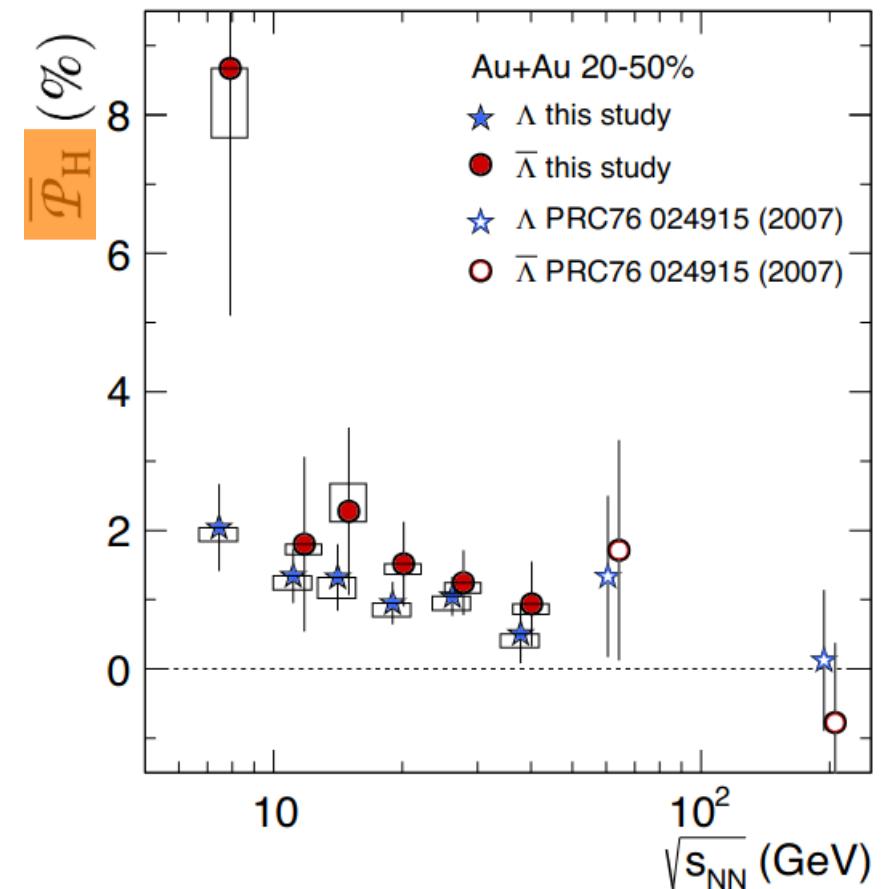
Liang, Wang, PRL 2005, PLB 2005

# global spin polarization from spin-vorticity coupling



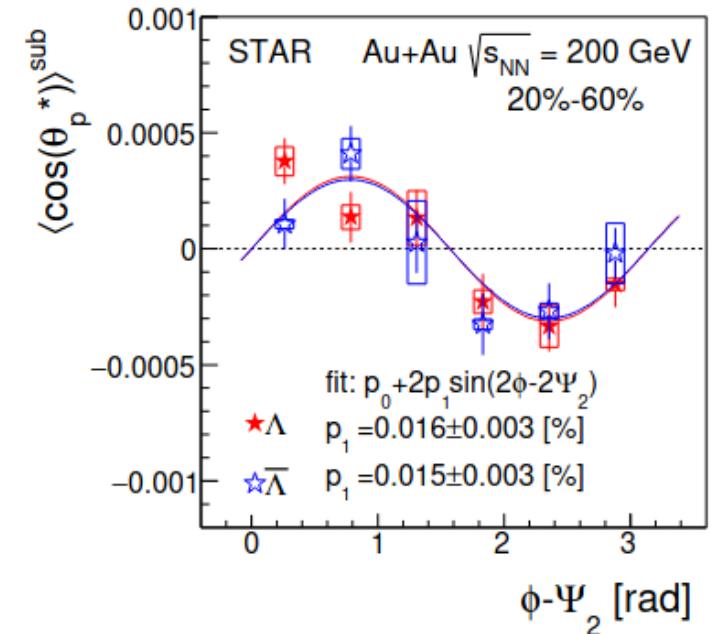
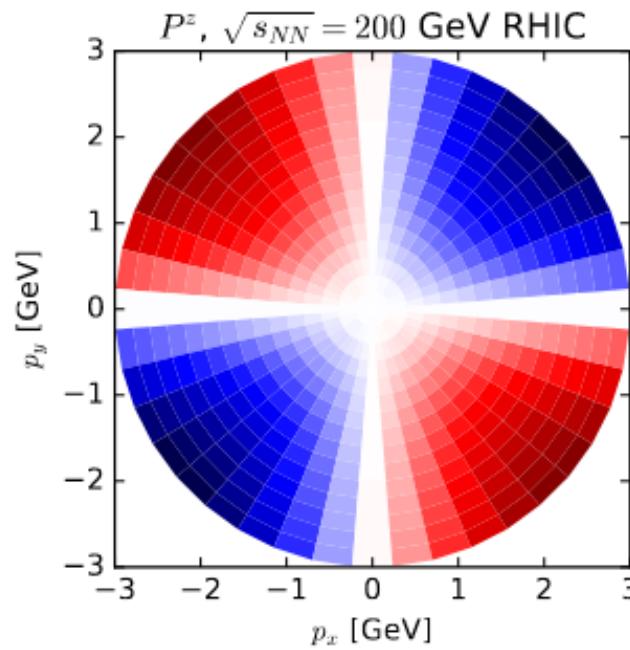
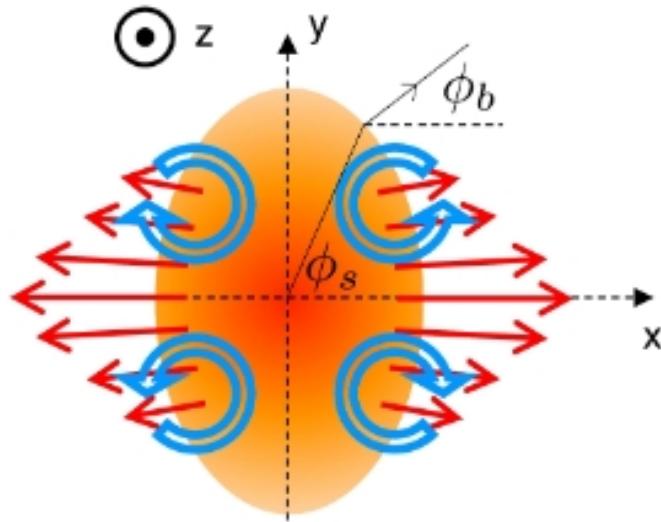
$$L_{ini} \sim 10^5 \hbar \rightarrow S_{final}$$

Liang, Wang, PRL 2005, PLB 2005



STAR collaboration, Nature  $e^{-\beta(H_0 - \mathbf{S} \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega})}$   
2017

# local spin polarization puzzle

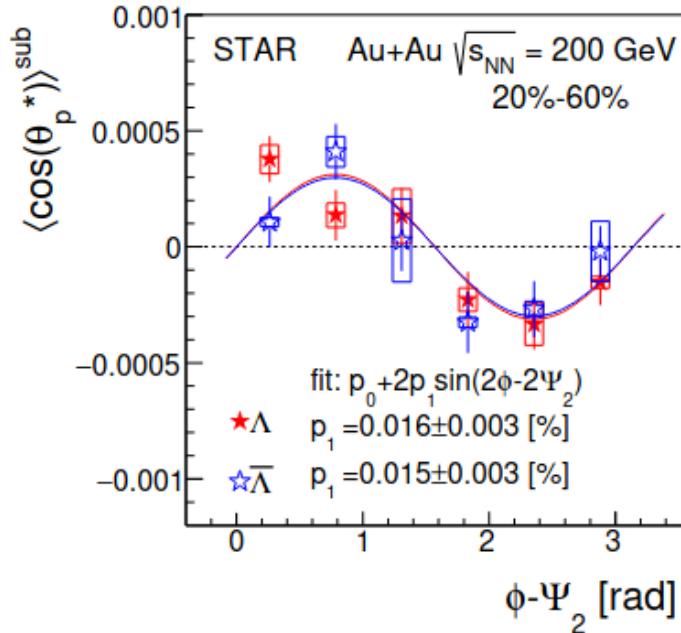


$$S^i \sim \omega^i$$

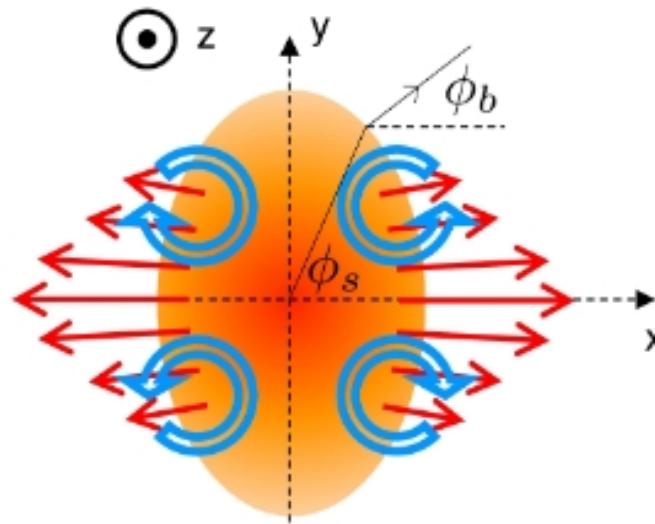
Becattini, Karpenko, PRL 2018  
Wei, Deng, Huang, PRC 2019  
Wu, Pang, Huang, Wang, PRR 2019  
Fu, Xu, Huang, Song, PRC 2021

STAR collaboration, PRL 2019

# local spin polarization from spin-vorticity/shear coupling



STAR collaboration, PRL  
2019



Hidaka, Pu, Yang, PRD 2018  
Liu, Yin, JHEP 2021  
Becattini, et al, PLB 2021

vorticity + shear

$$S^i \sim \omega^i$$

$$S^i \sim \epsilon^{ijk} \hat{p}_k \hat{p}_l \sigma_{jl}$$

$$S^z \sim (\langle p_y^2 \rangle - \langle p_x^2 \rangle) \partial_y u_x$$

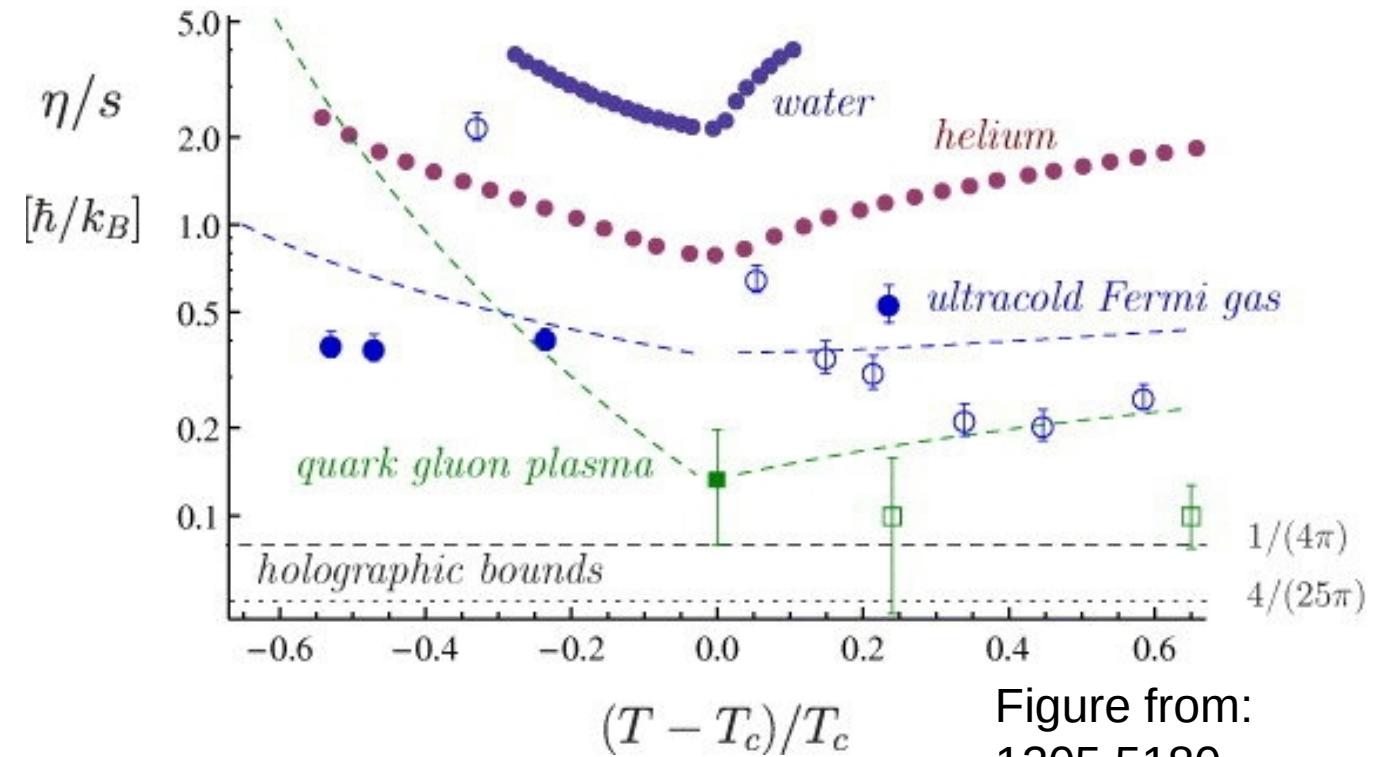
Spin-shear coupling  
gives correct sign

# Theoretical frameworks for spin polarization

- Quantum kinetic theory: kinetic theory extended to include spin
  - pro: applies to general off-equilibrium state
  - con: relies on quasi-particle picture
- Spin hydrodynamics: hydrodynamics extended to include spin assuming slow relaxation of spin

Yarom's talk

QGP may be strongly coupled



Question:  
spin polarization in strongly coupled fluid w/o quasi-particle?

Figure from:  
1205.5180

# Lessons from quantum kinetic theory

$$S^i \sim \left( \beta \omega^i + \epsilon^{ijk} \hat{p}_l \hat{p}_k \beta \sigma_{jl} + \partial_i \beta \right)$$

vorticity shear T-grad

free theory in local equilibrium state

Hidaka, Pu, Yang 2016, 2017

$$\Delta S^i \sim F(p, T) \epsilon^{ijk} \hat{p}_k \hat{p}_l \sigma_{jl}$$

similarly for T-grad, but not for vorticity!

interacting theory in steady (off-equilibrium) state

$$\delta f \sim \frac{\partial_i f^{\text{leq}}}{g^4} \quad \eta \sim \frac{1}{g^4}$$

SL, Wang, 2022, 2024

dependence on coupling cancels at LO!

# Holographic model for fermions

$$S = i \int d^{D+1}x \sqrt{-g} \bar{\psi} (\Gamma^M \nabla_M - m) \psi,$$

Iqbal, Liu 2009

bulk Dirac fermion



boundary Weyl fermion

$$\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_R \\ \psi_L \end{pmatrix}$$

spin 1/2 lump of quark-gluon

$$\psi_L = Az^{-m} + Bz^{m+1},$$

$$\psi_R = Cz^{1-m} + Dz^m$$

source for  $m > 0$

$$-D = G_R(\omega, \vec{p}) A.$$

# Fluid-gravity background

$$ds^2 = -2u_\mu(x)dx^\mu dr - r^2 f(b(x)r)u_\mu u_\nu dx^\mu dx^\nu + r^2 P_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu \quad \text{local equilibrium}$$

$$+ 2r^2 b F(br) \sigma_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + \frac{2}{3} r u_\mu u_\nu \partial_\lambda u^\lambda dx^\mu dx^\nu - r u^\lambda \partial_\lambda (u_\mu u_\nu) dx^\mu dx^\nu \quad \text{steady state}$$

$$O(\partial^0) \qquad O(\partial)$$

Bhattacharyya et al 2008

$$T^{\mu\nu} = (\pi T)^4 (\eta^{\mu\nu} + 4 u^\mu u^\nu) - 2 (\pi T)^3 \sigma^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\eta$$

local equilibrium steady state

$$\sigma_{ij} - \cancel{\partial_0 b} = \frac{1}{3} \cancel{\partial_i u_i} - \partial_i b = \partial_0 u_i$$

naively spin respond to shear & T-grad only

# Spectral function generalities

$$\rho_{\alpha\beta} = \int d^4x e^{iP \cdot x} \langle \{\chi_\alpha(x), \chi_\beta^\dagger(0)\} \rangle$$

$$S_{R,\alpha\beta} = \int d^4x e^{iP \cdot x} i\theta(x^0) \langle \{\chi_\alpha(x), \chi_\beta^\dagger(0)\} \rangle$$

$$S_{A,\alpha\beta} = - \int d^4x e^{iP \cdot x} i\theta(-x^0) \langle \{\chi_\alpha(x), \chi_\beta^\dagger(0)\} \rangle$$

$$\rho = S_R - S_A = 2\text{Im}S_R$$

for state invariant under T-reversal

true for local equilibrium state  
false for steady state

# Equilibrium spectral function

$$S_R(P) = \frac{\Delta_+(P)}{2}(1 + \hat{p} \cdot \sigma) + \frac{\Delta_-(P)}{2}(1 - \hat{p} \cdot \sigma)$$

particle

plasmino

$$\text{Im}\Delta_+(\omega, p) = \text{Im}\Delta_-(-\omega, p).$$

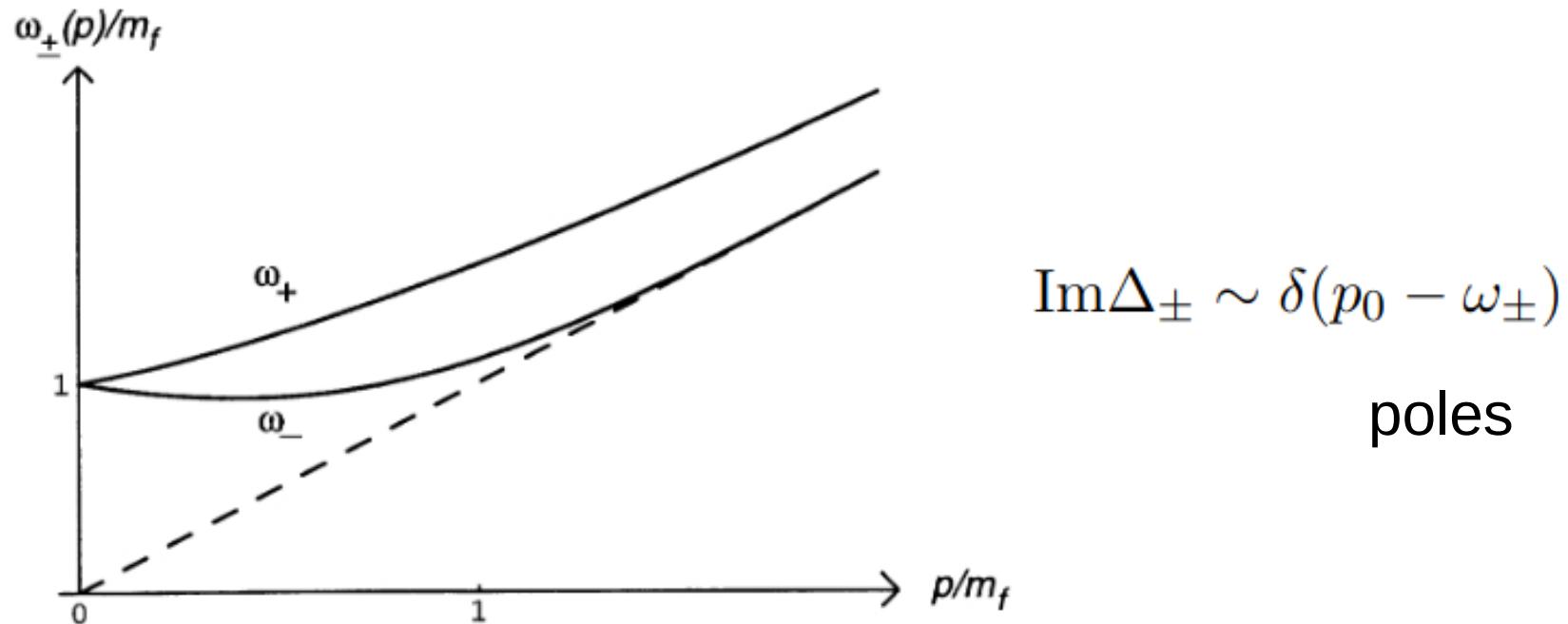
oddness of spectral function

# Equilibrium spectral function: weak coupling

$$S_R(P) = \frac{\Delta_+(P)}{2}(1 + \hat{p} \cdot \sigma) + \frac{\Delta_-(P)}{2}(1 - \hat{p} \cdot \sigma)$$

particle

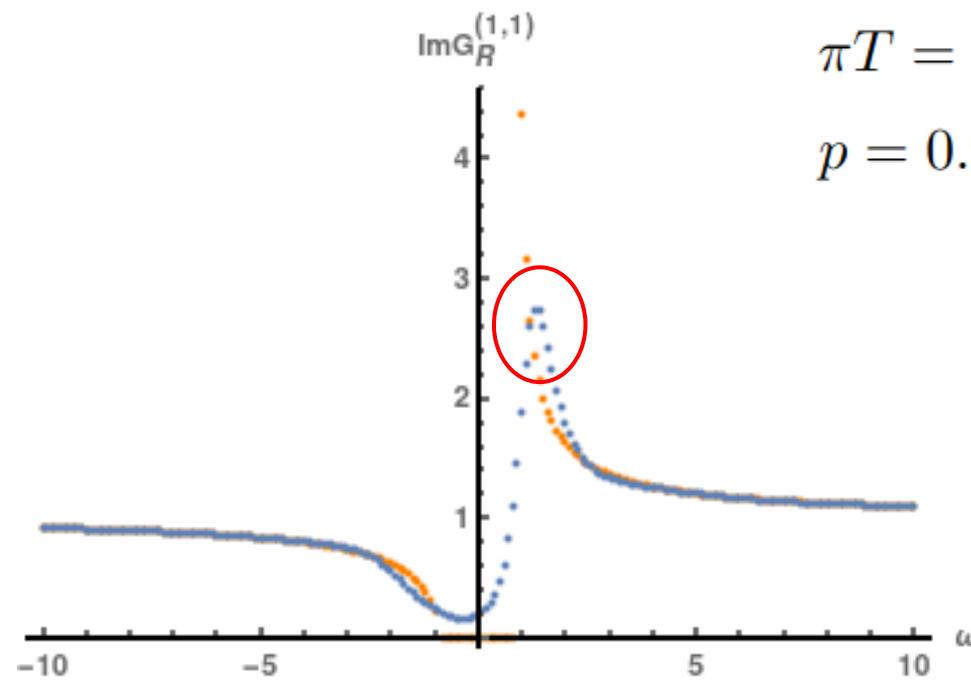
plasmino



# Equilibrium spectral function: strong coupling

$$S_R(P) = \frac{\Delta_+(P)}{2}(1 + \hat{p} \cdot \sigma) + \frac{\Delta_-(P)}{2}(1 - \hat{p} \cdot \sigma) \quad \text{p along z}$$

particle	plasmino	$G_R^{1,1} = \Delta_+ \quad C$
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$$\pi T = 1$$

**blue**: equilibrium  
**orange**: vacuum

# singularity in vacuum

$$\text{Im}\Delta_+ \sim (\omega - p)^{-1/2}$$

Iqbal, Liu 2009

# particle peak in medium no plasmino

Seo, Sin,  
Zhou, 2013

# Structure of hydrodynamic gradient correction

$$S_R(P) = \frac{\Delta_+(P)}{2}(1 + \hat{p} \cdot \sigma) + \frac{\Delta_-(P)}{2}(1 - \hat{p} \cdot \sigma)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\delta S_R(P) &= \frac{\delta\Delta_+(P)}{2}(1 + \hat{p} \cdot \sigma) + \frac{\delta\Delta_-(P)}{2}(1 - \hat{p} \cdot \sigma) \\ &\quad + A(P)\omega_\perp^i \sigma^i + B(P)\epsilon^{ijk} p_j \frac{\partial_k b}{b} \sigma^i + C(P)\epsilon^{ijk} \hat{p}_k \hat{p}_l \sigma_{jl} \sigma^i \\ &\quad + D(P)\epsilon^{ijk} \hat{p}_j \omega_k \sigma^i + F(P)\hat{p}_j \sigma_{ij} \sigma^i + G(P)\frac{\partial_\perp^i b}{b} \sigma^i\end{aligned}$$

$\delta\Delta_\pm$  correction to spectral density

A, B, C, D, F, G: correction to spin polarization

# Splitting of corrections

$$ds^2 = -2u_\mu(x)dx^\mu dr - r^2 f(b(x)r)u_\mu u_\nu dx^\mu dx^\nu + r^2 P_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu \quad \text{local equilibrium}$$

$$+ 2r^2 b F(br) \sigma_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu + \frac{2}{3} r u_\mu u_\nu \partial_\lambda u^\lambda dx^\mu dx^\nu - r u^\lambda \partial_\lambda (u_\mu u_\nu) dx^\mu dx^\nu \quad \text{steady state}$$

$$(\Gamma^M \nabla_M - m) \psi = 0$$

local equilibrium  $O(\partial)$  correction to Dirac spinor



response to vorticity, shear, T-grad

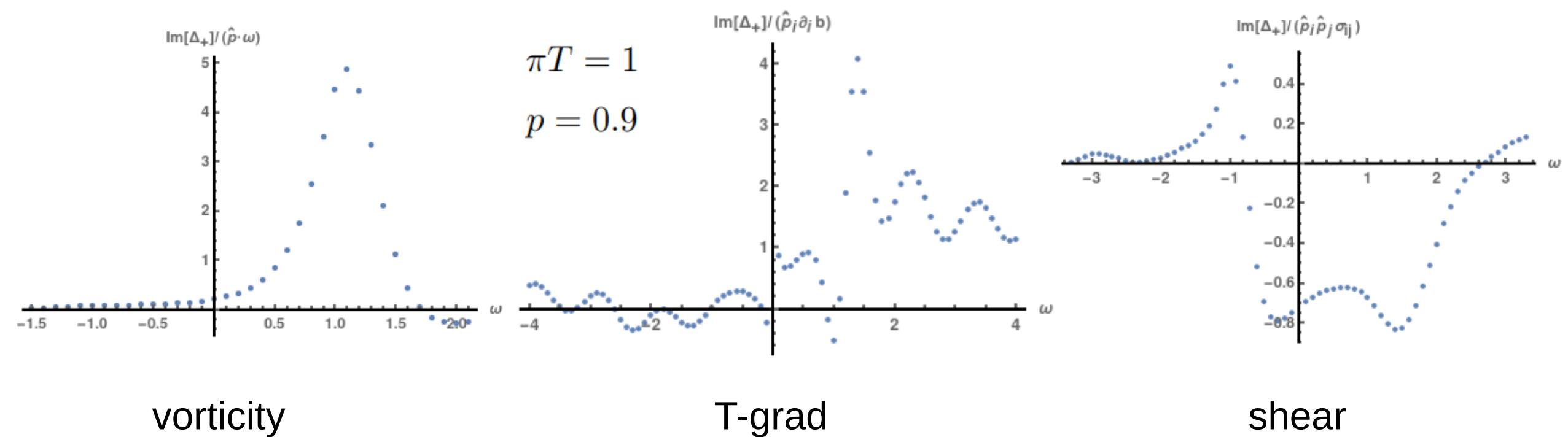
steady state  $O(\partial)$  correction to Dirac equation



response to shear, T-grad

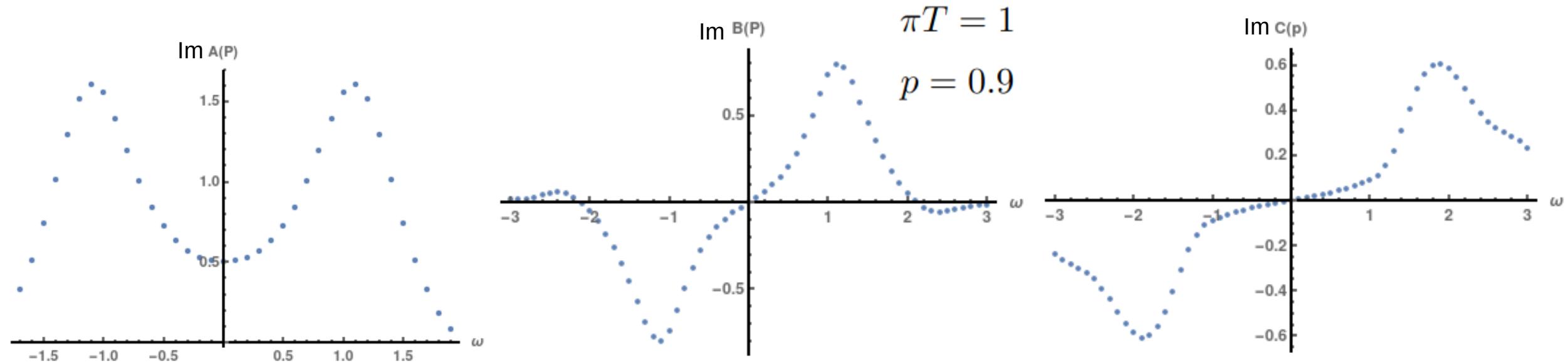
# Correction in local equilibrium state

$$\delta S_R(P) = \frac{\delta\Delta_+(P)}{2}(1 + \hat{p} \cdot \sigma) + \frac{\delta\Delta_-(P)}{2}(1 - \hat{p} \cdot \sigma)$$



# Correction in local equilibrium state

$$\delta S_R(P) = A(P)\omega_{\perp}^i \sigma^i + B(P)\epsilon^{ijk} p_j \frac{\partial_k b}{b} \sigma^i + C(P)\epsilon^{ijk} \hat{p}_k \hat{p}_l \sigma_{jl} \sigma^i$$



vorticity

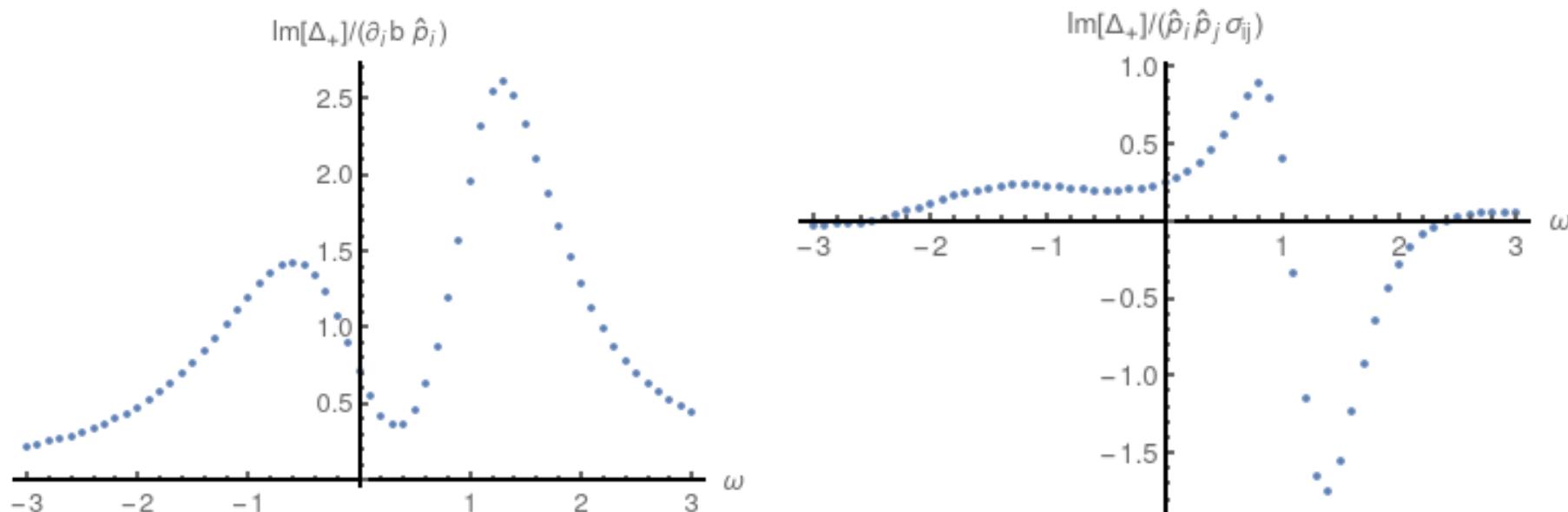
T-grad

shear

# Correction in steady state

$$\delta S_R(P) = \frac{\delta\Delta_+(P)}{2}(1 + \hat{p} \cdot \sigma) + \frac{\delta\Delta_-(P)}{2}(1 - \hat{p} \cdot \sigma)$$

$$\pi T = 1$$
  
$$p = 0.9$$



T-grad

$$S_A \neq S_R^*$$

non-invariance  
under T-reversal

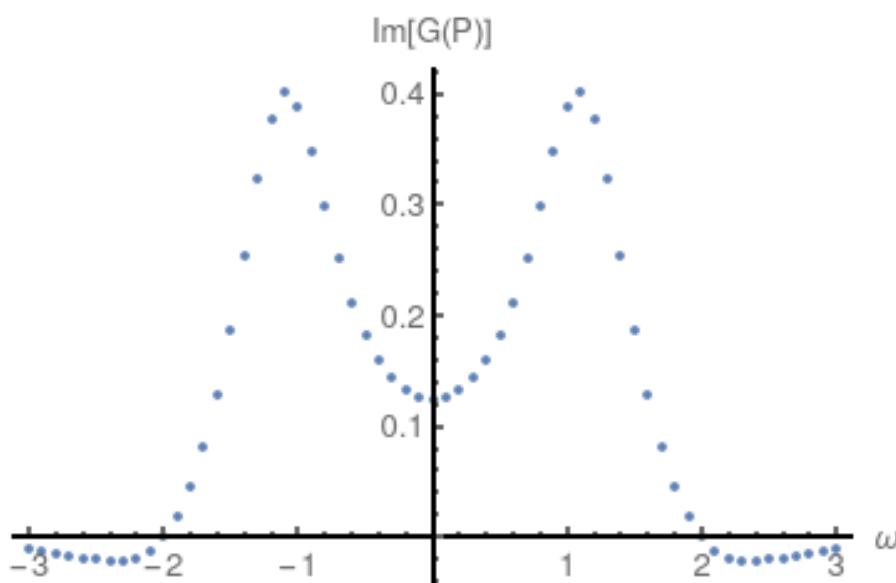
shear

# Correction in steady state

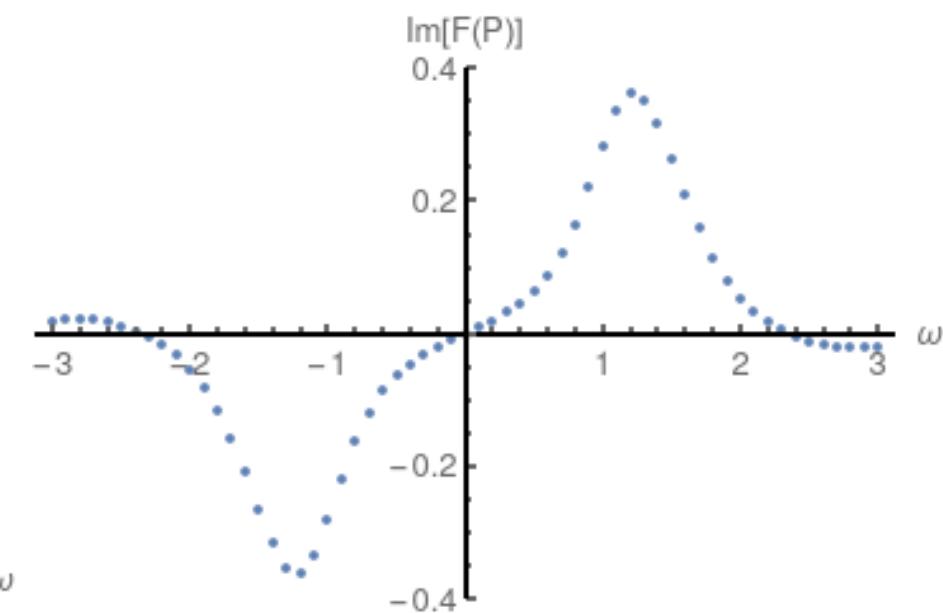
$$\delta S_R(P) = F(P)\hat{p}_j\sigma_{ij}\sigma^i + G(P)\frac{\partial_\perp^i b}{b}\sigma^i$$

$$\pi T = 1$$

$$p = 0.9$$



T-grad



shear

# Conclusion

- ◆ Spin polarization of Weyl spinor studied using bulk fermion in fluid-gravity background.
- ◆ Splitting of contributions in local equilibrium state and steady state.  
Spin response to all hydro gradient found.
- ◆ Non-invariance under T-reversal seen in spin-T-grad coupling in steady state.

# Outlook

- ◆ Bulk fermion in Schwinger-Keldysh contour extended fluid-gravity background.

Thank you!