Off-equilibrium infrared structure of selfinteracting scalar fields

Qun Wang

Department of Modern Physics Univ of Science & Technology of China (USTC)



J. Deng (Shandong), S. Schlichting (Bielefeld), R. Venugopalan (Brookhaven)

Initial Stages 2019, Columbia University, NYC, June 24-28, 2019

# Outline

- Introduction: non-thermal fixed points, ultra-violet & infrared fixed points, examples: turbulence in kinetic processes, vortices as topological defects
- Map: from relativistic real scalar  $\phi$  to non-relativistic complex scalar  $\psi$ , derive GP theory from that of  $\phi$
- Simulations of relativistic real scalar  $\phi$  in 2D which give the dynamics of vortices and scaling exponents appearing in GP theory for  $\psi$

Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

## Physical systems far from equilibrium at different scales



universe



Heavy-ion collisions



Ultracold atoms



#### **Question:**

Do they have common properties?

Classical and quantum turbulence

Talks by Berges, Mazeliauskas, Heller, Noronha, Martinez, Denicol

## **Example: IS in HIC far from equilibrium**

- IS in HIC at early times is a weak coupling system with g<<1</li>
- Highly correlated system (color glass condensate)
- The system can take detour to NTFP before thermalization

Berges, Epelbaum, Gasenzer, Gelis, Mclerran, Moore, Schlichting, Sexty, Venugopalan, .....



$$f(p \lesssim Q) \sim 1/g^2 ~~ ({\rm or}~ \langle A\,A \rangle \sim Q^2/g^2$$
 )



## Non-thermal fixed-points & universality classes

- At a non-thermal fixed point
  - $\rightarrow$  Memory loss of the details of the initial conditions;
  - → Self-similar evolution of distribution function f (critical slowing down)
  - $\rightarrow$  Scaling behavior in time  $~f\sim t^{\alpha}$  ,  $p\sim t^{-\beta}$

 $f(p,t) = t^{\alpha} f_S(t^{\beta} p)$ 

- → Several fixed-points in different momentum regimes (inertial range)
- → Often connected to kinetic processes (turbulence) or topological defects (vortices)
- Classification: universality classes for system far from equilibrium  $\rightarrow$  by NTFP with dynamical exponents  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and the scaling function  $f_s(x)$

Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

#### **Dual cascade in scalar field theory**



#### Self-similarity

 $f(p,t) = t^{\alpha} f_S(t^{\beta} p)$ 

#### Perturbative

Micha & Tkachev, PRL(2003), PRD(2004) Non-perturbative Berges, Rothkopf & Schmidt, PRL (2008) Nowak, Sexty & Gasenzer PRB(2011) Bose condensation Berges & Sexty, PRL(2012)

#### **Classical-statistical lattice simulation**

- Start with fluctuating initial conditions at initial time t<sub>0</sub>
- Solve initial value problem on the lattice. For example, self-interacting real scalars:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{\mu} \phi) (\partial^{\mu} \phi) - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!} \lambda \phi^4$$
$$(\partial_{\mu} \partial^{\mu} + m^2) \phi + \frac{1}{6} \lambda \phi^3 = 0 \implies \phi(t)$$

• We know  $\phi(t) \rightarrow 0[\phi(t)]$  at t for a specific IC, ensemble average over initial conditions at time t to obtain the observable  $\langle 0[\phi(t)] \rangle$ 



[Aarts & Berges, PRL 88, 041603 (2002); Jeon, PRC 72, 014907 (2005)]

Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

## **Relativistic vs non-relativistic fields**

#### Relativistic real scalar (high energy physics)

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{\mu} \phi) (\partial^{\mu} \phi) - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!} \lambda \phi^4$$
$$(\partial_{\mu} \partial^{\mu} + m^2) \phi + \frac{1}{6} \lambda \phi^3 = 0$$
$$- \frac{\text{global U(1)}}{- \frac{1}{2}} \nabla^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!} \partial_{\mu} \phi^4$$

Non-relativistic complex scalar (Superfluid Helium, cold atoms)

$$\mathcal{H} = -\frac{1}{2m} \psi^* \nabla^2 \psi + V |\psi|^2 + \frac{1}{2} g |\psi|^4$$

$$i \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \left( -\frac{1}{2m} \nabla^2 + V + g |\psi|^2 \right) \psi$$
global U(1)

Low-momentum universality class of scalar field theory: dynamical scaling exponents of the infrared fixed-point

	exponent	relativistic	non-relativistic	Self-similar distribution
j	α	3	3/2	$f(p,t) = t^{\alpha} f_S(t^{\beta} p)$
	β	1	1/2	

What is the connection between relativistic real scalar and nonrelativistic complex scalar field theory?

Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

## Mapping: from $\Phi$ to $\Psi$

Hamiltonian density, scalar field and its canonical momentum •

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2} [\pi^2 + (\nabla \phi)^2 + m^2 \phi^2] + \frac{1}{24} \lambda \phi^4$$
 all complex classical variables 
$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \int [d^3 \mathbf{k}] \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E_k}} \left( \underline{a_k} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} + \underline{a_k^*} e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \right)$$
 classical variables 
$$\pi(\mathbf{x}) = -i \int [d^3 \mathbf{k}] \sqrt{\frac{E_k}{2}} \left( \underline{a_k} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} - \underline{a_k^*} e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \right)$$
 non-resonant terms:

Hamiltonian in  $a_k$  and  $a_k^*$ •

of a<sub>k</sub>

$$\begin{split} H(a,a^{*}) &= \int d^{3}\mathbf{x}\mathcal{H} = \int [d^{3}\mathbf{k}] E_{k}a_{\mathbf{k}}a_{\mathbf{k}}^{*} & a_{\mathbf{k}}^{*} \text{ and } a_{\mathbf{k}}^{*}, \text{ correspond to particle number of } a_{\mathbf{k}} \text{ and } a_{\mathbf{k}}^{*}, \text{ correspond to particle number of } a_{\mathbf{k}} \text{ and } a_{\mathbf{k}}^{*} \\ &+ \frac{1}{24}\lambda\int [d^{3}\mathbf{k}][d^{3}\mathbf{k}_{1}][d^{3}\mathbf{k}_{2}][d^{3}\mathbf{k}_{3}] \frac{(2\pi)^{3}}{\sqrt{16E_{\mathbf{k}}E_{\mathbf{k}}IE_{\mathbf{k}}2E_{\mathbf{k}}3'}} & \text{ changing processes } \\ &+ \frac{1}{24}\lambda\int [d^{3}\mathbf{k}][d^{3}\mathbf{k}_{1}][d^{3}\mathbf{k}_{2}][d^{3}\mathbf{k}_{3}] \frac{(2\pi)^{3}}{\sqrt{16E_{\mathbf{k}}E_{\mathbf{k}}IE_{\mathbf{k}}2E_{\mathbf{k}}3'}} & \text{ changing processes } \\ &= \frac{a_{\mathbf{k}}a_{\mathbf{k}1}a_{\mathbf{k}2}a_{\mathbf{k}3}\delta(\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{k}_{1}+\mathbf{k}_{2}+\mathbf{k}_{3}) + 4a_{\mathbf{k}}a_{\mathbf{k}1}a_{\mathbf{k}2}a_{\mathbf{k}3}^{*}\delta(\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{k}_{1}+\mathbf{k}_{2}-\mathbf{k}_{3}) \\ &+ \frac{6a_{\mathbf{k}}a_{\mathbf{k}1}a_{\mathbf{k}2}^{*}a_{\mathbf{k}3}^{*}}{\sqrt{16E_{\mathbf{k}}E_{\mathbf{k}}IE_{\mathbf{k}}2E_{\mathbf{k}}3'}} & \delta(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}_{1}-\mathbf{k}_{2}-\mathbf{k}_{3}) \\ &+ \frac{6a_{\mathbf{k}}a_{\mathbf{k}1}a_{\mathbf{k}2}^{*}a_{\mathbf{k}3}^{*}}{\sqrt{16E_{\mathbf{k}}E_{\mathbf{k}}IE_{\mathbf{k}}2E_{\mathbf{k}}3'}} & \delta(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}_{1}-\mathbf{k}_{2}-\mathbf{k}_{3}) \\ &+ \frac{a_{\mathbf{k}}^{*}a_{\mathbf{k}1}^{*}a_{\mathbf{k}2}^{*}a_{\mathbf{k}3}^{*}}\delta(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}_{1}-\mathbf{k}_{2}-\mathbf{k}_{3})] \\ \end{array}$$

un-equal number of

Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

### **EOM and Poisson brackets**

EOM in Poisson brackets •

$$i\frac{da_{\mathbf{p}}}{dt} = \left\{a_{\mathbf{p}}, H\right\}_{a}, \qquad i\frac{da_{\mathbf{p}}^{*}}{dt} = \left\{a_{\mathbf{p}}^{*}, H\right\}_{a}$$

Poisson brackets in the a<sub>p</sub> basis ٠

$$\begin{split} \{F(\mathbf{p}), G(\mathbf{p}_1)\}_a &= \int [d^3\mathbf{k}] \left[ \frac{\partial F(\mathbf{p})}{\partial a_{\mathbf{k}}} \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{p}_1)}{\partial a_{\mathbf{k}}^*} - \frac{\partial F(\mathbf{p})}{\partial a_{\mathbf{k}}^*} \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{p}_1)}{\partial a_{\mathbf{k}}} \right] \\ \{a_{\mathbf{p}}, a_{\mathbf{p}1}^*\}_a &= (2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_1) \\ \{a_{\mathbf{p}}, a_{\mathbf{p}1}^*\}_a &= \{a_{\mathbf{p}}^*, a_{\mathbf{p}1}^*\}_a = 0 \end{split}$$

Generally we can use any canonical variables  $(a_k, a_k^*) \rightarrow (b_p, b_p^*)$ , ٠ Ľ

f 
$$(b_{\mathbf{p}}, b_{\mathbf{p}}^{*})$$
 have the same Poisson brackets in the  $a_{\mathbf{p}}$ -basis

$$\{b_{\mathbf{p}}, b_{\mathbf{p}1}^*\}_a = (2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_1) \{b_{\mathbf{p}}, b_{\mathbf{p}1}\}_a = \{b_{\mathbf{p}}^*, b_{\mathbf{p}1}^*\}_a = 0$$

## **Canonical transformation**

 Poisson brackets are invariant under the change of canonical basis, for example

$$i\frac{\partial b_{\mathbf{p}}}{\partial t} = \{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H\}_{\underline{b}} = \{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H\}_{\underline{a}}$$

- Canonical variables can be defined by time shift through  $H_{aux}$   $(b_p, b_p^*)$ : z is auxiliary time  $b_p(z) = b_p + z \frac{db_p(z)}{dz} \Big|_{z=0} + \frac{1}{2} z^2 \frac{d^2b_p(z)}{d^2z} \Big|_{z=0} + \frac{1}{6} z^3 \frac{d^3b_p(z)}{d^3z} \Big|_{z=0} + \cdots$   $= b_p - iz\{b_p, H_{aux}\}_b + \frac{1}{2}(-iz)^2\{\{b_p, H_{aux}\}_b, H_{aux}\}_b$   $a_p \equiv b_p(z) + \frac{1}{6}(-iz)^3\{\{\{b_p, H_{aux}\}_b, H_{aux}\}_b, H_{aux}\}_b + \cdots$ 
  - One can prove that  $b_{\mathbf{p}}(z), b_{\mathbf{p}}^{*}(z)$  satisfy canonical relations in  $b_{\mathbf{p}}$  basis

$$\{a_{\mathbf{p}}, a_{\mathbf{p}1}^*\}_b = (2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_1) \{a_{\mathbf{p}}, a_{\mathbf{p}1}\}_b = \{a_{\mathbf{p}}^*, a_{\mathbf{p}1}^*\}_b = 0$$

## New canonical variable through H<sub>aux</sub>

Auxiliary Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\text{aux}}(b,b^*) &= \int [d^3\mathbf{k}_1] [d^3\mathbf{k}_2] [d^3\mathbf{k}_3] [d^3\mathbf{k}_4] \\ &\times \left\{ \frac{1}{24} [\underline{B_1(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2,\mathbf{k}_3,\mathbf{k}_4) b_{\mathbf{k}1} b_{\mathbf{k}2} b_{\mathbf{k}3} b_{\mathbf{k}4} + \text{c.c.}] \right. \\ &\times \delta(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_4) \\ &+ \frac{1}{6} [\underline{B_2(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2,\mathbf{k}_3;\mathbf{k}_4) b_{\mathbf{k}1} b_{\mathbf{k}2} b_{\mathbf{k}3} b_{\mathbf{k}4}^* + \text{c.c.}] \\ &\times \delta(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3 - \mathbf{k}_4) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

 B<sub>1</sub> and B<sub>2</sub> will be determined by removing non-resonant terms in the original Hamiltonian

Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

## **Canonical transformation: derive H**<sub>GP</sub>

New canonical variable by time shift through H<sub>aux</sub>



## **Gross-Pitaevskii Hamiltonian**

#### The main result: (1) derivation of GP Hamiltonian from $\phi$

Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

## Express b<sub>p</sub> as function of a<sub>p</sub>

• Change the basis from  $b_p$  to  $a_p$  for all Poisson brackets

$$b_{\mathbf{p}} = a_{\mathbf{p}} + iz\{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H_{\mathrm{aux}}(b)\}_{a} \\ -\frac{1}{2}(iz)^{2}\{\{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H_{\mathrm{aux}}(b)\}_{a}, H_{\mathrm{aux}}(b)\}_{a} + \cdots$$

•  $b_p$  can be solved as a function of  $a_p$  in perturbation

$$b_{\mathbf{p}}^{(0)} = a_{\mathbf{p}}$$

$$b_{\mathbf{p}}^{(1)} = iz \{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H_{\mathrm{aux}}(b)\}_{a}|_{b \to a}$$

$$b_{\mathbf{p}}^{(2)} = -\frac{1}{2}(iz)^{2} \{\{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H_{\mathrm{aux}}(b)\}_{a}, H_{\mathrm{aux}}(b)\}_{a}|_{b \to a}$$

$$+iz \{b_{\mathbf{p}}, H_{\mathrm{aux}}(b)\}_{a}|_{b \to a+b^{(1)}}$$

$$\dots \dots \dots$$

# Express ( $\Psi$ , $\Psi^*$ ) as function of ( $\phi$ , $\pi$ )

Transform to coordinate space

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \int [d^3 \mathbf{k}] b_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}}$$

Express (Ψ, Ψ\*) as function of (φ,π). In the large mass limit, the zeroth order

$$\begin{split} \psi_{(0)}(\mathbf{x}) &= \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} a_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{E_k}{2}} \phi_{\mathbf{k}} + i\sqrt{\frac{1}{2E_k}} \pi_{\mathbf{k}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{E_k}{2}} \int d^3x \phi(x) e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} + i\sqrt{\frac{1}{2E_k}} \int d^3x \pi(x) e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{4m^2} \nabla_x^2\right) \phi(x) + i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2m}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{4m^2} \nabla_x^2\right) \pi(x) \\ &\equiv \Phi + \Pi - \frac{1}{4} \Phi'' + \frac{1}{4} \Pi'' \\ \Phi &\equiv \sqrt{\frac{m}{2}} \phi(\mathbf{x}) \quad \Pi \equiv i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2m}} \pi(\mathbf{x}) \quad O'' \equiv \frac{1}{m^2} \nabla_x^2 O \end{split}$$

# Express ( $\Psi$ , $\Psi^*$ ) as function of ( $\Phi,\pi$ )

• The 1<sup>st</sup> order contribution at large mass limit ( $\lambda \phi^2/m^2$  is small)

$$\psi_{(1)}(\mathbf{x}) = iz \int [d^{3}\mathbf{p}] e^{i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \{a_{\mathbf{p}}, H_{\mathrm{aux}}(a, a^{*})\}_{a}$$

$$\psi_{(1)} \sim \frac{\lambda \phi^{2}}{m^{2}} \psi_{(0)} = -\frac{\lambda}{16m^{3}} \left[ -\frac{5}{6} \Phi^{3} - \frac{7}{4} \Phi^{2} \Phi'' - \frac{27}{8} \Phi \Phi' \Phi' + \frac{5}{2} \Phi^{2} \Pi \right.$$

$$+ \frac{11}{8} \Pi \Phi' \Phi' + \frac{3}{2} \Phi \Pi \Phi'' + \frac{11}{4} \Phi \Phi' \Pi' + 3 \Phi^{2} \Pi'' + \frac{3}{2} \Phi \Pi^{2} \Phi' + \frac{5}{4} \Pi \Phi' \Pi' + \frac{5}{8} \Phi \Pi' \Pi' + \frac{3}{2} \Phi \Pi^{2} + \frac{5}{4} \Pi^{2} \Phi'' + \frac{5}{4} \Pi \Phi' \Pi' + \frac{5}{8} \Phi \Pi' \Pi' + \frac{5}{8} \Phi \Pi' \Pi' + 2 \Phi \Pi \Pi'' - \frac{1}{2} \Pi^{3} - \frac{21}{8} \Pi \Pi' \Pi' - 2 \Pi^{2} \Pi'' \right]$$

- The main result: (2) a rigorous map from  $\phi$  to  $\psi = \psi_{(0)} + \psi_{(1)} + \cdots$  in non-relativistic limit
- An important application of our method is to study axion as dark matter candidate.

Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

## **Comparison with previous approaches**

- Compared with previous approaches (Guth, Braaten, ...):
- Our approach: a rigorous map between relativistic real scalar field to non-relativistic complex scalar field based on classical canonical transformation. The mapped relation can be derived order by order in large mass limit.
- It is a non-relativistic effective field theory (NREFT) built in a classical way !

Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

## Numerical simulation of massive relativistic scalar fields in (2+1)D

Solve classical EOM for  $\phi$  in real time lattice simulation

 $\partial_t \phi(t, \mathbf{x}) = \pi(t, \mathbf{x})$ ,

$$\partial_t \pi(t, \mathbf{x}) = \partial_i \partial^i \phi(t, \mathbf{x}) - m^2 \phi(t, \mathbf{x}) - \frac{\lambda}{6} \phi(t, \mathbf{x})^3$$

With fluctuating initial condition •

$$\phi_0(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(N_s a_s)^2} \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2E_p}} [\alpha_{\mathbf{p}} e^{+i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} + \alpha_{\mathbf{p}}^* e^{-i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}}],$$
$$\pi_0(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{(-i)}{(N_s a_s)^2} \sum_{\mathbf{p}} \sqrt{\frac{E_p}{2}} [\alpha_{\mathbf{p}} e^{+i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} - \alpha_{\mathbf{p}}^* e^{-i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}}],$$

Single particle distribution

$$f(t,p) = \frac{1}{(N_s a_s)^2} \sqrt{\langle |\tilde{\phi}(t,\mathbf{p})|^2 \rangle \langle |\tilde{\pi}(t,\mathbf{p})|^2 \rangle}, \qquad f(t=0,p) = \frac{6n_0 Q}{\lambda}$$
  
Fourier transform of  $\phi(t,x)$  and  $\pi(t,x)$ 

 $N_s$  $| \bullet | a_s | \bullet |$  $a_s$  $N_s$ 

Sampled with Gaussian magnitude and uniform random-phase distribution

$$\langle \alpha_{\mathbf{p}} \alpha_{\mathbf{q}}^* \rangle = (N_s a_s)^2 \delta_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}} f(t=0,p)$$

$$f(t=0,p) = \frac{6n_0Q}{\lambda}\theta(Q-p).$$

## Single-particle spectrum from real scalar $\phi$

- Non-thermal fixed-point in IR associated with self-similar cascade
- Different exponents from 2PI 1/N prediction (α=1, β=1/2)



## **Numerical results**

• Non-relativistic complex scalar  $\Psi$  constructed from  $\phi$ . We can draw density  $\rho = |\psi|^2$  and phase  $\theta(x)$ 

•

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \sqrt{\rho(\mathbf{x})} e^{i\theta(\mathbf{x})}$$

$$\psi_{(0)}(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \Phi + \Pi - \frac{1}{4} \Phi'' + \frac{1}{4} \Pi''$$

$$\text{Vortices } \rho \to \mathbf{0}, \theta \to \pm 2\pi$$

$$\psi_{(1)}(\mathbf{x}) = -\frac{\lambda}{16m^3} \left[ -\frac{5}{6} \Phi^3 - \frac{7}{4} \Phi^2 \Phi'' - \frac{27}{8} \Phi \Phi' \Phi' + \frac{5}{2} \Phi^2 \Pi \right]$$

$$+\frac{11}{8} \Pi \Phi' \Phi' + \frac{3}{2} \Phi \Pi \Phi'' + \frac{11}{4} \Phi \Phi' \Pi' + 3 \Phi^2 \Pi'' + \frac{3}{2} \Phi \Pi^2 + \frac{5}{4} \Pi \Phi' \Pi' + \frac{5}{8} \Phi \Pi' \Pi' + \frac{11}{8} \Pi \Phi' \Phi' = \frac{1}{2} \Pi^2 \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}^2 O$$

$$\psi_{(1)} \sim \frac{\lambda \phi^2}{m^2} \psi_{(0)} \quad \text{expansion parameter: } \lambda \phi^2 / m^2$$

#### Numerical results: density and phase of $\psi$



Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

#### Numerical results: density and phase of $\psi$



Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

#### **Defect structure of relativistic fields**

- Vortices of non-rel. fields correspond to intersections of domain walls of  $\varphi$  and  $\pi$  fields



## Numerical results: evolution of vortex and anti-vortex



- Striking similarities with previous observations in simulations of Gross-Pitaevski equation
- Non-equilibrium realization of topological phase transition (KT transition)
- Density of vortices decreases due to annihilation of vortex and anti-vortex

#### • vortex • • o anti-vortex

#### **Numerical results: vortex density**



Evolution of the vortex density as functions of time t in the unit of the healing length

Vortex density decays in power law of t



Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

#### **Numerical results: vortex density**



Extraction of the scaling exponent characterizing the power law decay  $n_V \sim t^{-\zeta} = t^{-2\beta}$ 

or the mean distance of two vortices increases In the power law as  $l_V \sim t^{\beta}$ 

Qun Wang (USTC, China), Off-equilibrium infrared structure of self-interacting scalar fields

# **Summary**

- We constructed a formal map between the infrared structure of an N=1 relativistic self-interacting scalar field theory and the Gross-Pitaevskii (GP) theory for nonrelativistic fields.
- This map is constructed by classical canonical transformation in a perturbation scheme in non-relativistic limit. In this way, we build up a non-relativistic effective field theory (NREFT) in a classical way!
- Many applications:
  - (1) axion as dark matter candidate
  - (2) superfluids + superconductors
  - (3) turbulence
  - (4) polarization in fluids



## **QCD** axion: real scalar field

QCD axion is a solution for strong CP problem

[Peccei, Quinn (1977)]

- QCD axion: a real pseudoscalar, Goldstone boson, candidate for cold dark matter
   [Weinberg (1978), Wilczek(1978)]
- Lagrangian for  $\phi$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} \partial_{\mu} \phi \partial^{\mu} \phi - \mathcal{V}(\phi)$$

Instanton potential

 $m_a$  axion mass  $f_a$  decay constant

$$\mathcal{V}(\phi) = m_a^2 f_a^2 \left[1 - \cos(\phi/f_a)\right]$$

- For QCD axion,  $m_a$  and  $f_a$  are not independent
- For axion-like particles,  $m_a$  and  $f_a$  are independent

## **QCD** axion: real scalar field

For QCD axion, we have constraints from astrophysics and cosmology

$$10^8 \text{ GeV} < f_a < 10^{13} \text{ GeV} \implies 10^{-6} \text{ eV} < m_a < 10^{-2} \text{ eV}$$

Very weak self-interaction

Tiny mass ( $\lambda \sim 10^{-3} m$ )

• Axion self-interaction may be too weak to thermalize themselves, but gravitational interaction can thermalize axions

(1) Bring initially incoherent axions into coherent ones

(2) Keep the axion field in BEC

- QCD axions are almost static: non-relativistic particles
- Non-relativistic EFT: effective Hamiltonian is built up by symmetry and matching procedure to fix coefficients

 $\phi \rightarrow \psi$ 

Guth et al. (2014,2017) Braaten, Zhang, et al. (2016)