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To cite this article: Yi-Cai Zhang and Shizhong Zhang 2024 New J. Phys. 26 103044

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New Journal of Physics

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Published in partnership with: Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft and the Institute of Physics



OPEN ACCESS

RECEIVED

15 May 2024

REVISED

16 September 2024

ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION

21 October 2024

PUBLISHED

1 November 2024

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PAPER

Hydrodynamic equations for a U(N) invariant superfluid

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Keywords: superfluid hydrodynamic equation, SU(N) quantum gases, two fluid model

Abstract

In this paper, we develop an appropriate set of hydrodynamic equations for a U(N) invariant superfluid that couple the dynamics of superflow and magnetization. In the special case when both the superfluid and normal velocities are zero, the hydrodynamic equations reduce to a generalized version of Landau–Lifshitz equation for ferromagnetism with U(N) symmetry. When both velocities are non-zero, there appears couplings between the superflow and magnetization dynamics, and the superfluid velocity no longer satisfies the irrotational condition. On the other hand, the magnitude of magnetization is no longer a constant of motion as was the case for the standard Landau–Lifshitz theory. In comparison with the simple superfluid, the first and second sounds are modified by a non-zero magnetization through various thermodynamic functions. For U(2) invariant superfluid, we get both (zero-) sound wave and a spin wave at zero temperature. It is found that the dispersion of spin wave is always quadratic, which is consistent with microscopic analysis. In the appendix, we show that the hydrodynamic equation for a U(N) invariant superfluid can be obtained from the general hydrodynamic equation with arbitrary internal symmetries.

1. Introduction

The low-energy and long-wavelength dynamics of a many-body system can be usually described by hydrodynamics. The relevant hydrodynamic variables typically refer to the densities of conserved quantities, for example, the particle density, the momentum density [1]. In addition, when symmetry breaking is involved, extra hydrodynamic variables may arise. For example, in superfluid Helium-4 or Bose–Einstein condensate of a single component atomic Bose gas, the hydrodynamic variable also include the symmetry broken variable, the superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s [2].

On the other hand, the patterns of symmetry breaking in a multi-component Bose or Fermi system are more complicated and provide a new platform to explore interplay between various different orders. One classic example is that of superfluid Helium three where, depending on the external parameters, different phases are realized with different broken symmetries [3]. The hydrodynamic behavior is, as a result, much richer than its Helium-4 counterpart. In cold atom physics, multi-component Bose gases have also attracted a lot of interest because of its various ground states with different magnetic structures. For example, in a spinor-1 Bose–Einstein condensate (BEC), depending on interaction and applied Zeeman field, there may exist ferromagnetic phase, antiferromagnetic phase or polar phase [4–6]. Another interesting example is the spin-orbit coupled atomic gas [7–18] that can host plane-wave phase, strip phase and zero-momentum phase. In the last case, the superfluid properties is also very unique with superfluid density greatly suppressed due to enhanced effective mass by spin-obit coupling [19], and an anisotropic response in hydrodynamics [20–24]. Recently, the physics of SU(N) atomic gas have also attracted a lot interests [25–29]. The enlarged symmetry can lead to unconventional magnetisms [30], spin-liquid [31], superfluid [32], itinerant ferromagnetism [33], valence-bond solid phase [34] and novel trion states [35] etc. The collective excitation have been measure experimentally [36, 37]. The equation of state of SU(N) Fermi–Hubbard model is measured in both continuum [38, 39] and in lattices [40].

In a typical Bose–Einstein condensate of atomic gases, due to the weak inter-atomic interaction, the superfluid behaviors can be described by Gross–Pitaevskii (GP) equation. Furthermore, based on GP equation, by introducing the amplitude and the phase of the condensate wave functions, one can obtain the hydrodynamic description of the system in terms of particle number density n and superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s [41–47]. We note, however, that there are several limitations of this method. First of all, the standard GP equation only applies when the interaction is weak and the quantum depletion is negligible. It is much harder to justify the use of GP equation when inter-atomic interaction is strong. Secondly, at finite temperature, the generalization of the GP equation is fairly complicated and the reduction of which to the standard hydrodynamics is not straightforward [48]. Thirdly, even if we restricted ourselves to the zero-temperature case, a straightforward generalization of the phase-amplitude method to multi-component gas does not bring out the magnetic order explicitly. It is thus useful to construct the low-energy hydrodynamic theory by appealing to symmetry and conservation law directly.

In this paper, we overcome the above difficulties by choosing density of conserved quantities as hydrodynamic variables. Using Hamilton method, we develop the hydrodynamic theory for a multi-component superfluid system with U(N) invariant interactions. In this approach, the physical meaning of hydrodynamic variables are clear and apply to both zero and finite temperatures. We find that due to coupling of superflow and magnetization, the superfluid velocity does not in general satisfy the irrotational condition and the magnitude of magnetization is not a constant in general, in contrast with the case for the standard ferromagnetic theory without damping. Furthermore, based on the hydrodynamic equations obtained, we calculate the velocities of the first and second sound, and the spin wave excitation in a U(2) invariant superfluid. It is found that both sound velocities are modified by nonzero magnetization.

2. Hydrodynamics for a classical fluid

To set the stage for our discussion of U(N) superfluid, let us first start with the application of the Hamilton method [49] in classical fluid to derive the ideal hydrodynamic equations. From thermodynamics, we know [2, 24, 50]

$$d\epsilon = Tds + \mu dn + \mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{g},$$

$$f = \epsilon - Ts - \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{g},$$

$$df = -sdT + \mu dn - \mathbf{g} \cdot d\mathbf{v},$$

$$p = -\epsilon + Ts + \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{g} + \mu n,$$

$$dp = sdT + \mathbf{g} \cdot d\mathbf{v} + nd\mu,$$
(1)

where ϵ is energy density (energy per unit volume), f is free energy density (free energy per unit volume), f is temperature, f is entropy density (entropy per unit volume), f is liquid velocity, f is momentum density (momentum per unit volume), f is chemical potential and f is the particle number density (particle number per unit volume). Here the hydrodynamic variables are taken as the number density f, momentum density f, and entropy density f. In an ideal fluid, these are densities of conserved quantities. In order to get hydrodynamic equations within Hamilton method, we use the energy density f to construct an energy functional (Hamiltonian), i.e.

$$H = \int d^3 \mathbf{r} \epsilon(\mathbf{r}). \tag{2}$$

By equation (1), the Hamilton equation of hydrodynamic variable A is given by

$$\frac{\partial A(\mathbf{r}_{1})}{\partial t} = \{A(\mathbf{r}_{1}), H\}
= \int d^{3}\mathbf{r}_{2} \left[\frac{\partial \epsilon(\mathbf{r}_{2})}{\partial s(\mathbf{r}_{2})} \{A, s(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} + \frac{\partial \epsilon(\mathbf{r}_{2})}{\partial n(\mathbf{r}_{2})} \{A, n(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} + \frac{\partial \epsilon(\mathbf{r}_{2})}{\partial \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_{2})} \{A, \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} \right],
= \int d^{3}\mathbf{r}_{2} \left[T(\mathbf{r}_{2}) \{A, s(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} + \mu(\mathbf{r}_{2}) \{A, n(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} + \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}_{2}) \cdot \{A, \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} \right],$$
(3)

where $\{A, B\}$ denotes the classical Poisson's bracket.

Based on equations (1)–(3), we see that in order to get the equation of motion in terms of hydrodynamic variables, we need to know the commutation relations (Poisson's brackets) among n, g, and s. For mechanical quantities, n and g, we adopt Landau's method to calculate their Poisson bracket [51, 52]. First of all, we

know the particle number density n and momentum density can be written in terms of the position and momentum of the particles, i.e.

$$n(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i} \delta^{3}(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r});$$

$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i} \mathbf{p}_{i} \delta^{3}(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}),$$
(4)

where \mathbf{r}_i , \mathbf{p}_i are respectively the position vectors and momentum of *i*th particle, which form the canonical conjugate pairs, i.e.

$$\{\mathbf{r}_{i}, \mathbf{p}_{i}\} = -\{\mathbf{p}_{i}, \mathbf{r}_{i}\} = \delta_{i,j}$$

$$\{\mathbf{r}_{i}, \mathbf{r}_{j}\} = \{\mathbf{p}_{i}, \mathbf{p}_{j}\} = 0,$$
 (5)

and the classical Poisson's bracket between A and B is given by

$$\{A,B\} = \sum_{k} \left[\frac{\partial A}{\partial \mathbf{r}_{k}} \cdot \frac{\partial B}{\partial \mathbf{p}_{k}} - \frac{\partial A}{\partial \mathbf{p}_{k}} \cdot \frac{\partial B}{\partial \mathbf{r}_{k}} \right]. \tag{6}$$

Using equations (4) and (5), we find the commutation relations

$$\{n(\mathbf{r}_1), n(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = 0, \tag{7}$$

$$\{n(\mathbf{r}_1), \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = n(\mathbf{r}_2) \nabla_2 \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1), \tag{8}$$

$$\left\{g_i(\mathbf{r}_1), g_j(\mathbf{r}_2)\right\} = g_i(\mathbf{r}_2) \nabla_{2j} \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) - g_j(\mathbf{r}_1) \nabla_{1i} \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2), \tag{9}$$

where ∇_2 stands for $\partial/\partial \mathbf{r}_2$ and index i,j=x,y,z.

In order to get the commutation relations between s and g and between s and n, one can make use of their properties under the general coordinate transformation [53]. It is found that the commutation relations are given by

$$\{s(\mathbf{r}_1), n(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = \{s(\mathbf{r}_1), s(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = 0,$$
 (10)

$$\{s(\mathbf{r}_1), \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = s(\mathbf{r}_2) \nabla_2 \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2). \tag{11}$$

Note that the Poisson bracket for entropy density $s(\mathbf{r}_1)$ with momentum density $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_2)$ are of the same form as that of particle density $n(\mathbf{r}_1)$ with $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_2)$. This is expected as both $n(\mathbf{r}_1)$ and $s(\mathbf{r}_1)$ are scalar density variables that transform in the same way under the general coordinate transformation.

Based on the commutation relations equations (7)–(11), the Hamilton equation (3) gives the hydrodynamic equation

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = \{n, H\} = -\nabla \cdot (n\mathbf{v}), \tag{12}$$

$$\frac{\partial g_{j}}{\partial t} = \left\{ g_{j}, H \right\} = -n\partial_{j}\mu - s\partial_{j}T - g_{i}\partial_{j}\nu_{i} - \partial_{i}\left(\nu_{i}g_{j}\right), \tag{13}$$

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial t} = \{s, H\} = -\nabla \cdot (s\mathbf{v}). \tag{14}$$

Moreover, using thermodynamic relations equations (1)–(13) is reduced into the momentum conservation equation, i.e.

$$\frac{\partial g_i}{\partial t} = \{g_i, H\} = -\partial_j \left(\pi_{ij}\right),\tag{15}$$

where the stress tensor

$$\pi_{ij} = p\delta_{ij} + g_i \nu_j. \tag{16}$$

Furthermore we introduce particle current density \mathbf{j} and velocity \mathbf{v} by

$$\mathbf{j} \equiv \mathbf{g}/m = n\mathbf{v},\tag{17}$$

where m is the mass of the particle in the liquid. In terms of current density \mathbf{j} and velocity \mathbf{v} , equations (12)–(14) becomes the standard Euler's equations [54], i.e.

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j} = 0, \tag{18}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} = -\frac{\nabla p}{\rho},\tag{19}$$

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (s\mathbf{v}) = 0, \tag{20}$$

where $\rho = mn$ is mass density (mass per unit volume). The first equation (18), expresses particle number conservation; the second equation (19) is the famous Euler's dynamical equation for velocity and the third equation (20) is the entropy conservation equation. In the following section, we use a similar method to get the hydrodynamic equation for a superfluid.

3. Hydrodynamics for a simple superfluid

Comparing with the classical fluid, superfluid distinguishes itself by the additional thermodynamic variables, the superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s that characterize the motion of the superfluid component. As a result, in a superfluid, the whole liquid can be viewed as two interpenetrating parts, i.e. the normal part with the particle number density n_n and the superfluid part with the particle number density n_s ; the total particle density is given by $n = n_n + n_s$. The superfluid component suffers no viscosity and is governed by dynamical laws that is very different from the normal component [51, 52, 55]. The normal fluid is characterized by a velocity \mathbf{v}_n . For a superfluid system, the free energy density takes the form of [2, 24]

$$f = f_0(T, n) - \frac{mn\mathbf{v}_n^2}{2} + \frac{n_s m(\mathbf{v}_s - \mathbf{v}_n)^2}{2}$$
(21)

where f_0 is the free energy density when liquid is stationary, i.e. $\mathbf{v}_s = \mathbf{v}_n \equiv 0$. The particle number current density \mathbf{j} and the conjugate variable, \mathbf{h} , to the superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s are given respectively by [24]

$$\mathbf{j} = -\frac{\partial f}{m\partial \mathbf{v}_n} = n_n \mathbf{v}_n + n_s \mathbf{v}_s = \frac{\mathbf{g}}{m}$$
 (22)

$$\mathbf{h} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{v}_s} = n_s m(\mathbf{v}_s - \mathbf{v}_n). \tag{23}$$

The thermodynamic relations of a superfluid takes the form [24]

$$d\epsilon = Tds + \mu dn + \mathbf{v}_n \cdot d\mathbf{g} + \mathbf{h} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_s, \tag{24}$$

$$f = \epsilon - Ts - \mathbf{v}_n \cdot \mathbf{g},\tag{25}$$

$$df = -sdT + \mu dn - \mathbf{g} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_n + \mathbf{h} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_s, \tag{26}$$

$$p = -\epsilon + Ts + \mathbf{v}_n \cdot \mathbf{g} + \mu n, \tag{27}$$

$$dp = sdT + \mathbf{g} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_n + nd\mu - \mathbf{h} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_s. \tag{28}$$

Similarly, the effective Hamiltonian is given by

$$H = \int d^3 \mathbf{r} \epsilon \left(\mathbf{r} \right). \tag{29}$$

In order to get the equation for \mathbf{v}_s , we need to know the commutation relations between \mathbf{v}_s and other hydrodynamic variables, n, \mathbf{g} and s. To this end, we can either make use of the transformation law of \mathbf{v}_s under the general coordinate transformation [53] or introduce the Clebsch's representation [49, 57–59] for the momentum density \mathbf{g} , i.e.,

$$\mathbf{g} = nm\mathbf{v}_{s} + s\nabla\beta \tag{30}$$

where n, s are particle number density and entropy density, respectively. Here β is the Clebsch variable. Together with n, s, they form two independent canonical conjugate pairs with Poisson brackets [49]:

$$\{n(\mathbf{r}_1), m\mathbf{v}_s(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = \nabla_2 \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2), \tag{31}$$

$$\{s(\mathbf{r}_1), \beta(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2), \tag{32}$$

$$\{n(\mathbf{r}_1), \beta(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = \{s(\mathbf{r}_1), \mathbf{v}_s(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = \{n(\mathbf{r}_1), s(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = 0.$$
 (33)

One can verify that the above relations equation (30)–(33) can recover the correct commutation relations equations (7)–(11). The introduction of Clebsch variables provides a convenient way of defining the Hamiltonian structure of hydrodynamics and facilitates the construction of hydrodynamic equations. In the superfluid system, the Clebsch variable β was introduced in [49] which demonstrated that it reproduces the correct two fluid equations. For classical fluid, the mathematical foundation has been discussed by, for example, Morrison [60].

From the equations (7)–(9), (30) and (31)–(33), we can get

$$\left\{\mathbf{v}_{si}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right),g_{j}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\right\} = \mathbf{v}_{sj}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\left[\nabla_{2i}\delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}-\mathbf{r}_{1}\right)\right] - \delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}-\mathbf{r}_{1}\right)\left[\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{si}-\nabla_{i}\mathbf{v}_{sj}\right],\tag{34}$$

$$\left\{\mathbf{v}_{si}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right),\mathbf{v}_{sj}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\right\} = -\frac{1}{mn}\delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}-\mathbf{r}_{1}\right)\left[\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{si}-\nabla_{i}\mathbf{v}_{sj}\right].$$
(35)

Using commutation relation equations (7)–(11), equations (31)–(35) and thermodynamical relation equations (24)–(28), the two-fluid equations can be written in the form of a set of Hamilton equations, i.e.

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = \{n, H\} = -\nabla (n \cdot \mathbf{v}_n) - \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{h}/m) = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}, \tag{36}$$

$$\frac{\partial g_i}{\partial t} = \{g_i, H\} = -\sum_i \partial_i \pi_{ij},\tag{37}$$

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial t} = \{s, H\} = -\nabla \cdot (s\mathbf{v}_n), \tag{38}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_s}{\partial t} = \{\mathbf{v}_s, H\}$$

$$= -\nabla (\mu/m) - \nabla (\mathbf{v}_n \cdot \mathbf{v}_s) - (\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_s) \times \mathbf{v}_n - \frac{(\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_s) \times \mathbf{h}}{mn}$$

$$= -\nabla (\mu/m) - \nabla (\mathbf{v}_n \cdot \mathbf{v}_s) - \frac{(\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_s) \times (n_n \mathbf{v}_n + n_s \mathbf{v}_s)}{n},$$
(39)

with the constitutive relations

$$h_i = mn_s \left(\mathbf{v}_{si} - \mathbf{v}_{ni} \right), \tag{40}$$

$$j_i = n_n \mathbf{v}_{ni} + n_s \mathbf{v}_{si}, \tag{41}$$

$$g_i = mj_i, (42)$$

$$\pi_{ii} = p\delta_{ii} + mn_n \mathbf{v}_{ni} \mathbf{v}_{ni} + mn_s \mathbf{v}_{si} \mathbf{v}_{si}. \tag{43}$$

From equations (36)–(39), we see that if initially the superfluid velocity is irrotational, i.e. $\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_s = 0$, then the superfluid velocity would stay irrotational in the future [51]. Therefore, the equation for superfluid velocity becomes:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_s}{\partial t} + \nabla \left(\mu / m + \mathbf{v}_n \cdot \mathbf{v}_s \right) = 0. \tag{44}$$

In the following, we shall see that in a multi-component superfluid with U(N) invariant interactions, due to coupling between superfluid motion and magnetization, the superfluid velocity inevitably has non-vanishing vorticity in general.

4. Hydrodynamics for a U(N) invariant superfluid

To be concrete, let us first start with the general Hamiltonian with U(N)-invariant interactions and introduces the necessary notations,

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{\sigma} \int dr \psi_{\sigma}^{\dagger}(r) \frac{-\hbar^{2} \nabla^{2}}{2m} \psi_{\sigma}(r)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\sigma \sigma'} \int dr_{1} dr_{2} \psi_{\sigma}^{\dagger}(r_{1}) \psi_{\sigma'}^{\dagger}(r_{2}) V^{II}(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}) \psi_{\sigma'}(r_{2}) \psi_{\sigma}(r_{1})$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\sigma_{1} \sigma_{2} \sigma_{3} \sigma_{4}} \int dr_{1} dr_{2} T_{\sigma_{1} \sigma_{2}}^{a} T_{\sigma_{3} \sigma_{4}}^{a} \psi_{\sigma_{1}}^{\dagger}(r_{1}) \psi_{\sigma_{3}}^{\dagger}(r_{2}) V^{SS}(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}) \psi_{\sigma_{4}}(r_{2}) \psi_{\sigma_{2}}(r_{1}), \tag{45}$$

where T^u is the generator of SU(N) group and V^{II} , V^{SS} are density–density and spin–spin interactions, respectively. $\psi^{\dagger}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{r})$ is a bosonic creation operator that satisfies the standard commutation relations. It is clear that the Hamiltonian equation (45) is U(N) invariant and completely general. In the next section, specific forms for $V^{II}(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$ and $V^{SS}(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$ will be used in the case of weakly interacting atomic gas.

At low temperature, condensation occurs which can be viewed as $\psi_{\sigma}(\mathbf{r})$ acquiring an expectation value in thermal equilibrium. Let us denote it as $\langle \psi \rangle$ which should be viewed as a column vector consisting of elements $\langle \psi_{\sigma} \rangle$. Furthermore, it is known that the U(N) group can be viewed as a direct product by U(1) and SU(N), i.e. $U(N) = U(1) \otimes SU(N)$. A general rotation R that acts on order parameter can then be expressed as

$$R\langle\psi\rangle = e^{i\theta^0 T^0 + i\theta^a T^a} \langle\psi\rangle,\tag{46}$$

where $T^0 = I$ is an identity matrix (the generator of U(1) subgroup), and T^a is the generator of SU(N). Phases θ^0 and θ^a are the corresponding (real number) rotation angles of general rotations. The corresponding conserved charges are given by [61]

$$n(\mathbf{r}) = \psi^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r}) I \psi(\mathbf{r}) = \psi^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r}) \psi(\mathbf{r}), \tag{47}$$

$$n^{a}(r) = \psi^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r}) T^{a} \psi(\mathbf{r}). \tag{48}$$

The commutation relations among them can be found easily, using $[T^0, T^b] = 0$ and $[T^a, T^b] = if^c{}_{ab}T^c$ where the structural constant of SU(N) group $f^c{}_{ab}$ are completely antisymmetric with respect to indices (abc),

$$[n(\mathbf{r}_1), n^a(\mathbf{r}_2)] = 0, \tag{49}$$

$$\left[n^{a}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right), n^{b}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\right] = i f^{c}_{ab} n^{c}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right) \delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}\right). \tag{50}$$

In addition, the structure constant f^a_{bc} should satisfy the Jacobi identity [62]

$$0 = f^{\delta}_{\alpha\beta} f^{\epsilon}_{\delta\gamma} + f^{\delta}_{\gamma\alpha} f^{\epsilon}_{\delta\beta} + f^{\delta}_{\beta\gamma} f^{\epsilon}_{\delta\alpha}. \tag{51}$$

For a U(2) invariant superfluid, the system has four generators, i.e. $T^0 = I_{2\times 2}$, $T^1 = \sigma^x/2$, $T^2 = \sigma^y/2$ and $T^3 = \sigma^z/2$ (for definiteness, we assume the dimension of representation of U(2) is two, i.e. its fundamental representation). The corresponding conserved charges are particle number $n = \psi^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r})\psi(\mathbf{r})$, spins (or magnetization) $M^{x,y,z} = \frac{1}{2}\psi^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r})\sigma^{x,y,z}\psi(\mathbf{r})$. Now their commutation relations are

$$[n(\mathbf{r}_1), M^a(\mathbf{r}_2)] = 0,$$

$$[M^a(\mathbf{r}_1), M^b(\mathbf{r}_2)] = i\epsilon^{abc}M^c(\mathbf{r}_1)\delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2),$$
(52)

where the structural constant ϵ^{abc} is the Levi-Civita tensor, which is completely antisymmetric with respect to indices (abc) and $\epsilon^{123}=1$. Let us comment that so far all the commutation relations are exact as operator relations.

In the following, we assume that it is possible to describe the quantum fluid by a set of hydrodynamic equations that treat the related quantities as classical variables, ignoring their quantum fluctuations. In the present work, we do not investigate the hydrodynamic fluctuations of SU(N) superfluid, for which it is necessary to quantize the hydrodynamic Hamiltonian (see equation (61)) à la Landau; see also discussion in [63]. The quantum commutation relation will be replaced by classical Poisson's brackets, i.e. $[A, B]/i \Rightarrow \{A, B\}$, then the commutation relation in equations (49) and (50) is replaced by

$$\{n(\mathbf{r}_1), n^a(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = 0, \tag{53}$$

$$\left\{ n^{a}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right), n^{b}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right) \right\} = f^{c}_{ab}n^{c}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right)\delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}\right). \tag{54}$$

In comparison with equations (49) and (50), we drop the imaginary unit i in the right-hand sides of equations and replace the quantum commutator by classical Poisson's brackets on the left-hand sides.

The U(1) rotation generated by $T^0 = I$ plays a special role because it commutes with other generators T^a . The spatial derivative of the U(1) phase $\nabla \theta^0$ corresponds to a superfluid motion of the total density with the velocity \mathbf{v}_s . For the SU(N) part, we will choose the density of SU(N) conserved charges (generalized spins) n^a as independent variables in constructing our hydrodynamic equation, instead of the phases θ^a or their derivatives $\nabla \theta^a$. In fact, it can be shown that, under the assumption of a specific form of free energy [see equation (154) in the appendix] that is consistent with the Gross–Pitaevskii analysis, the generalized spin densities suffice to provide a complete description for low-energy hydrodynamics of a U(N) invariant superfluid.

Let us elaborate a bit more on this point. Taking ferromagnetic system as an example, it is known that in the magnetic ordered phase, if a rotation is along magnetization direction, the magnetization would not be affected. However, if the rotation is not uniform, then usually superflow of mass occurs. Such a superflow motion can be described by a superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s (see appendix). Then the superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s would in general be a linear combination of the spatial derivatives of U(1) phase and SU(N) rotation angles. As a consequence of this, it is found later that such a superfluid velocity would not satisfy the irrotational condition in general. On the other hand, if the axis of a rotation is perpendicular to the magnetization direction which corresponds to magnetization distortion, this can then be described by Landau–Lifshitz equation that only involve magnetization density and its spatial derivatives.

Thus it is possible to determine the form of free energy density for a U(N) invariant system by first considering the free energy in the rest frame $f_0(T, n, n^a)$. As explained above, we expect the dependence on n^a to take the standard Landau–Lifshitz form (see appendix) while the free energy density f in moving frame to have the same dependence on \mathbf{v}_s and \mathbf{v}_n as in equation (21) and will be a function of T, n, n^a , \mathbf{v}_s and \mathbf{v}_n .

As a result, similar to the case of simple superfluid, the particle number current and the conjugate variable of superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s are given respectively by

$$\mathbf{j} = -\frac{\partial f}{m\partial \mathbf{v}_n} = n_n \, \mathbf{v}_n + n_s \mathbf{v}_s = \mathbf{g}/m,$$

$$\mathbf{h} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{v}_s} = n_s m \left(\mathbf{v}_s - \mathbf{v}_n \right).$$
(55)

Since there are now additional conserved charge densities n^a , the thermodynamic relations need to be generalized by introducing Lagrange multipliers μ^a to enforce the spin conservation

$$d\epsilon = Tds + \mu dn + \mathbf{v}_n \cdot d\mathbf{g} + \mathbf{h} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_s + \mu^a dn^a, \tag{56}$$

$$f = \epsilon - Ts - \mathbf{v}_n \cdot \mathbf{g},\tag{57}$$

$$df = -sdT + \mu dn - \mathbf{g} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_n + \mathbf{h} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_s + \mu^a dn^a, \tag{58}$$

$$p = -\epsilon + Ts + \mathbf{v}_n \cdot \mathbf{g} + \mu n + \mu^a n^a, \tag{59}$$

$$dp = sdT + \mathbf{g} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_n + nd\mu - \mathbf{h} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_s + n^a d\mu^a, \tag{60}$$

where n^a is density for other conserved charges except for particle number. μ^a are generalized chemical potential for conserved charge n^a . Similarly, the hydrodynamic Hamiltonian for hydrodynamic equation is given by

$$H = \int d^3 \mathbf{r} \epsilon \left(\mathbf{r} \right). \tag{61}$$

In order to get the equation of motion of conserved charges n^a , we need to know the commutation relations between n^a and the other independent variables n, \mathbf{g} , \mathbf{v}_s , s which appear in the above thermodynamic relation equation (56). First, let us write

$$n(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i} \delta^{3} (\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r});$$
(62)

$$n^{a}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i} T_{i}^{a} \delta^{3}(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r});$$
(63)

$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i} \mathbf{p}_{i} \delta^{3} (\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}). \tag{64}$$

From equations (53), (54) and equation (62)–(64), we get the Poisson brackets

$$\{n(\mathbf{r}_1), n(\mathbf{r}_2)\} \equiv 0, \tag{65}$$

$$\{n(\mathbf{r}_1), n^a(\mathbf{r}_2)\} \equiv 0,\tag{66}$$

$$\{n(\mathbf{r}_1), \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = n(\mathbf{r}_2) \left[\nabla_2 \delta^3 (\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1) \right], \tag{67}$$

$$\left\{n^{a}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right), n^{b}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\right\} = f^{c}_{ab}n^{c}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2} - \mathbf{r}_{1}\right),\tag{68}$$

$$\left\{n^{a}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right),\mathbf{g}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\right\}=n^{a}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\left[\nabla_{2}\delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}-\mathbf{r}_{1}\right)\right],\tag{69}$$

$$\left\{g_i(\mathbf{r}_1), g_j(\mathbf{r}_2)\right\} = g_i(\mathbf{r}_2) \nabla_{2j} \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) - g_j(\mathbf{r}_1) \nabla_{1i} \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2). \tag{70}$$

Similarly, we introduce the superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s by

$$\mathbf{g} = nm\mathbf{v}_s + s\nabla\beta,\tag{71}$$

with the elementary Poisson brackets

$$\{n(\mathbf{r}_{1}), m\mathbf{v}_{s}(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} = \nabla_{2}\delta^{3}(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}),
 \{s(\mathbf{r}_{1}), \beta(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} = \delta^{3}(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}),
 \{n(\mathbf{r}_{1}), \beta(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} = \{s(\mathbf{r}_{1}), \mathbf{v}_{s}(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} = \{n(\mathbf{r}_{1}), s(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} = 0.$$

After a straightforward calculation, we get commutation relations for superfluid velocity, i.e.

$$\{n(\mathbf{r}_1), m\mathbf{v}_s(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = \nabla_2 \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1), \tag{72}$$

$$\{n^{a}(\mathbf{r}_{1}),\mathbf{v}_{s}(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} = \frac{n^{a}(\mathbf{r}_{2})}{mn(\mathbf{r}_{2})}\nabla_{2}\delta^{3}(\mathbf{r}_{2} - \mathbf{r}_{1}), \tag{73}$$

$$\left\{\mathbf{v}_{si}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right),g_{j}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\right\} = \left\{\mathbf{v}_{sj}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\left[\nabla_{2i}\delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}-\mathbf{r}_{1}\right)\right] - \delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}-\mathbf{r}_{1}\right)\left[\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{si}-\nabla_{i}\mathbf{v}_{sj}\right]\right\};\tag{74}$$

$$\left\{\mathbf{v}_{si}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right),\mathbf{v}_{sj}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\right\} = -\frac{1}{mn}\delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2} - \mathbf{r}_{1}\right)\left[\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{si} - \nabla_{i}\mathbf{v}_{sj}\right],\tag{75}$$

$$\{g_i(\mathbf{r}_1), s(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = s(r_1) \nabla_{2i} \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2),$$
 (76)

$$\{\mathbf{v}_{s}(\mathbf{r}_{1}), s(\mathbf{r}_{2})\} = 0. \tag{77}$$

In addition, as usual, the commutation between n^a and entropy are zero, i.e.

$$\{n^a(\mathbf{r}_1), s(\mathbf{r}_2)\} = 0. \tag{78}$$

This is natural considering that both transform in exactly the same way under general coordinate transformation.

Using the above commutation relations, we can write the equation of motion as follows:

$$\frac{\partial n(\mathbf{r})}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{j},\tag{79}$$

$$\frac{\partial g_j}{\partial t} = -\partial_i \left(\pi_{ji} \right), \tag{80}$$

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (s\mathbf{v}_n) = 0, \tag{81}$$

$$\frac{\partial n^{a}(\mathbf{r})}{\partial t} = \left\{ n^{a}(\mathbf{r}), H \right\} = -\nabla \cdot (n^{a}\mathbf{v}_{n}) + f^{c}_{ab}n^{c}\mu^{b} - \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{n^{a}\mathbf{h}}{mn}\right), \tag{82}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_{s}}{\partial t} = \{\mathbf{v}_{s}, H\} = -\nabla \left(\frac{\mu}{m}\right) - \nabla \left(\mathbf{v}_{n} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{s}\right) - \left(\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_{s}\right) \times \mathbf{v}_{n}$$
(83)

$$-\frac{n^a \left(\nabla \mu^a\right)}{mn} - \frac{\left(\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_s\right) \times \mathbf{h}}{mn}.$$
(84)

Because n^a is conserved in a U(N) invariant superfluid, its equation can be written in a form of continuity equations. To guarantee that, we take generalized chemical potential as

$$\mu^a = -\alpha \nabla^2 n^a + \mu_0^a, \tag{85}$$

where α is a constant, $\mu_0^a \propto n^a$ is determined by a minimization of free energy when the system is in thermodynamic equilibrium [see appendix]. We emphasize that this is equivalent to taking the Landau–Lifshitz's energy functional $\Delta\epsilon \propto \alpha (\nabla M^a)^2$ for magnetization distortions in ferromagnetic system [52]. By equations (82)–(85), we get the current \mathbf{j}^a for n^a

$$\mathbf{j}^{a}(r) = \alpha f^{c}{}_{ab} n^{c} \nabla n^{b} + n^{a} \mathbf{v}_{n} + \frac{n^{a} \mathbf{h}}{mn}$$

$$= \alpha f^{c}{}_{ab} n^{c} \nabla n^{b} + \frac{n^{a} (n_{n} \mathbf{v}_{n} + n_{s} \mathbf{v}_{s})}{n}$$

$$= \alpha f^{c}{}_{ab} n^{c} \nabla n^{b} + \frac{n^{a} \mathbf{j}}{n}$$

$$= \alpha f^{c}{}_{ab} n^{c} \nabla n^{b} + n^{a} \bar{\mathbf{v}}.$$
(86)

In the above equation, we introduce the average velocity $\bar{\bf v} \equiv {\bf j}/n$. This shows that the current of SU(N) charge n^a includes two contributions. The first part $\alpha f^c{}_{ab} n^c \nabla n^b$ arises from the magnetization distortion, the second part $n^a \bar{\bf v}$ comes from non-zero average velocity $\bar{\bf v}$.

To summarize, we obtain the hydrodynamic equations for the coupling between superfluid motion and magnetization distortion, i.e.

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j} = 0, \tag{87}$$

$$\frac{\partial g_i}{\partial t} + \sum_j \partial_j \pi_{ij} = 0, \tag{88}$$

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (s\mathbf{v}_n) = 0, \tag{89}$$

$$\frac{\partial n^a}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}^a = 0, \tag{90}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_{s}}{\partial t} + \nabla \left(\frac{\mu}{m} + \mathbf{v}_{n} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{s} \right) = -\left(\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_{s} \right) \times \frac{n_{n} \mathbf{v}_{n} + n_{s} \mathbf{v}_{s}}{n} - \frac{n^{a} \left(\nabla \mu^{a} \right)}{mn}, \tag{91}$$

with again the constitutive relations

$$j_i = n_n \mathbf{v}_{ni} + n_s \mathbf{v}_{si}, \tag{92}$$

$$g_i = mj_i, (93)$$

$$\pi_{ji} = p\delta_{ij} + mn_n \mathbf{v}_{nj} \mathbf{v}_{ni} + mn_s \mathbf{v}_{sj} \mathbf{v}_{si}$$
(94)

$$\mathbf{j}^a = \alpha f^c{}_{ab} n^c \nabla n^b + n^a \mathbf{v}_n + \frac{n^a \mathbf{h}}{mn}$$

$$= \alpha f^{c}{}_{ab} n^{c} \nabla n^{b} + \frac{n^{a} (n_{n} \mathbf{v}_{n} + n_{s} \mathbf{v}_{s})}{n},$$

$$= \alpha f^{c}{}_{ab} n^{c} \nabla n^{b} + n^{a} \bar{\mathbf{v}}. \tag{95}$$

The above equations (87)–(91) are the main results of this paper. In appendix, we show that the same set of equations can be also derived from a general hydrodynamic equation with an arbitrary internal symmetry group. The above equations have several important characteristics that are worth emphasizing.

First, when $\mathbf{v}_n = 0$ and $\mathbf{v}_s = 0$, the equation for n^a reduces to generalized Landau–Lifshitz's equation in ferromagnetization theory. For general cases, the superfluid motions and magnetization motions are coupled together.

Second, we see that the superfluid velocity is not irrotational due to source term $-\frac{n_a(\nabla \mu_a)}{mn}$, which arising from the coupling to magnetization. Furthermore, it is found that, different from the usual two-fluid case, here the superfluid velocity is a mixture of several velocities defined by both the U(1) and SU(N) groups [see equation (165) in the appendix]. The breaking of irrotationality arises from the mixture of several velocities. A similar phenomenon where superfluid velocity does not satisfy the irrotational condition also appears in spinor-1 Bose–Einstein condensate [45] and in spin-orbit coupled Bose gases [56].

Third, the motion of magnetization is also affected by superfluid motion. Due to the coupling between magnetization and superfluid motions, the magnitude of magnetization $M = \sqrt{n^a n^a}$ is no longer a constant of motion, i.e., $n^a \partial_t n^a \neq 0$. This is because by equation (90), we get

$$\frac{\partial (n^a n^a)}{\partial t} = 2n^a \partial_t n^a = -2n^a \nabla \cdot \left[\frac{n^a \mathbf{j}}{n} \right] = -2n^a \nabla \cdot (n^a \bar{\mathbf{v}}) \neq 0$$
(96)

which is different from the usual Landau–Lifshitz theory where the magnitude of magnetization is always a constant.

5. Sound waves and spin waves

Having established the general hydrodynamic equation for a U(N) invariant superfluid that applies to both boson and fermion systems, irrespective of the strength of inter-atomic interaction, let us investigate its possible collective excitations, including sound wave and spin wave. When the oscillation amplitudes are small, we can neglect the second order terms in velocities of equation (87)–(91), i.e.,

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j} = 0, \tag{97}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial t} + \nabla_i p = 0 \tag{98}$$

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (s\mathbf{v}_n) = 0 \tag{99}$$

$$\frac{\partial n^a}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}^a = 0 \tag{100}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_{s}}{\partial t} + \nabla \left(\frac{\mu}{m}\right) = -\frac{n_{a} \left(\nabla \mu_{a}\right)}{mn} \tag{101}$$

with constitutive relations

$$j_i = n_n \mathbf{v}_{ni} + n_s \mathbf{v}_{si} = g_i / m,$$

$$\mathbf{j}^a = \alpha f^c_{ab} n^c \nabla n^b + \frac{n^a (n_n \mathbf{v}_n + n_s \mathbf{v}_s)}{n}.$$

After introducing the entropy per unit mass, i.e. $\tilde{s} = s/(mn)$ and using thermodynamic relation equations (56)–(60), we get

$$\frac{\partial^2 n}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\nabla^2 p}{m},\tag{102}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \tilde{s}}{\partial t^2} = \frac{n_s \tilde{s}^2}{n_n} \nabla^2 T,\tag{103}$$

$$\frac{\partial n^a}{\partial t} + \alpha f^c{}_{ab} n^c \nabla^2 n^b - \frac{n^a}{n} \frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = 0.$$
 (104)

Using the thermodynamic relation equations (56)–(60), once we know the free energy, we can get the first, second sounds and spin wave.

We take U(2) invariant superfluid as an example and furthermore assume that when the system is in thermodynamic equilibrium, $n^{x(y)} = \bar{m}_x = \bar{m}_y = 0$, $n = \bar{n} \neq 0$, $n^z = \bar{m}_z \neq 0$. The above equations reduce into

$$\frac{\partial^2 n}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\nabla^2 p}{m},\tag{105}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \tilde{s}}{\partial t^2} = \frac{n_s \tilde{s}^2}{n_n} \nabla^2 T,\tag{106}$$

$$\frac{\partial m_x}{\partial t} + \alpha \bar{m}_z \nabla^2 m_y = 0, \tag{107}$$

$$\frac{\partial m_x}{\partial t} + \alpha \bar{m}_z \nabla^2 m_y = 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial m_y}{\partial t} - \alpha \bar{m}_z \nabla^2 m_x = 0,$$
(107)

$$\frac{\partial m_z}{\partial t} - \frac{\bar{m}_z \partial n}{\bar{n} \partial t} = 0. \tag{109}$$

Choosing n, n^a and \tilde{s} as independent variables, we have

$$dp = \frac{\partial p}{\partial n} \Big|_{m_{xyz},\tilde{s}} dn + \frac{\partial p}{\partial \tilde{s}} \Big|_{n,m_{xyz}} d\tilde{s} + \frac{\partial p}{\partial m_x} \Big|_{n,\tilde{s},m_{yz}} d\tilde{m}_x + \frac{\partial p}{\partial m_y} \Big|_{n,\tilde{s},m_{xz}} d\tilde{m}_y + \frac{\partial p}{\partial m_z} \Big|_{n,\tilde{s},m_{yz}} d\tilde{m}_z,$$
(110)

$$dT = \frac{\partial T}{\partial n} \bigg|_{m_{xyz},\tilde{s}} dn + \frac{\partial T}{\partial \tilde{s}} \bigg|_{n,m_{xyz}} d\tilde{s} + \frac{\partial T}{\partial m_x} \bigg|_{n,\tilde{s},m_{yz}} d\tilde{m}_x$$

$$+ \frac{\partial T}{\partial m_y} \bigg|_{n,\tilde{s},m_{xz}} d\tilde{m}_y + \frac{\partial T}{\partial m_z} \bigg|_{n,\tilde{s},m_{yx}} d\tilde{m}_z. \tag{111}$$

Substituting equations (110) and (111) into equations (105) and (109), we obtain two sound (the first and second sound) waves $\omega_{\pm}(\mathbf{q}) = c_{\pm}|\mathbf{q}|$ and one spin wave, $\omega_{\rm spin}(\mathbf{q}) = \alpha \bar{m}_z |\mathbf{q}|^2$. Here the sound velocities are given by

$$c_{\pm} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\bar{n}}} \left(A \pm \sqrt{B} \right)^{1/2} \tag{112}$$

with

$$A = (a_{11} + a_{22}) \bar{n} + a_{15} \bar{m}_z,$$

$$B = a_{15}^2 \bar{m}_z^2 + 2a_{15} (a_{11} - a_{22}) \bar{n} \bar{m}_z$$

$$+ \bar{n} \left[4a_{12} a_{25} \bar{m}_z + \left(4a_{12} a_{21} + (a_{11} - a_{22})^2 \right) \bar{n} \right],$$

where the coefficients a_{ij} 's are given by

$$a_{11} = \frac{\partial p}{m\partial n}\Big|_{m_{xyz},\tilde{s}}; a_{12} = \frac{\partial p}{m\partial \tilde{s}}\Big|_{m_{xyz},n}; a_{15} = \frac{\partial p}{m\partial m_z}\Big|_{m_{xy},n,\tilde{s}};$$

$$a_{21} = \frac{n_s \tilde{s}^2}{n_n} \frac{\partial T}{\partial n}\Big|_{m_{xyz},\tilde{s}}; a_{22} = \frac{n_s \tilde{s}^2}{n_n} \frac{\partial T}{\partial \tilde{s}}\Big|_{m_{xyz},n}; a_{25} = \frac{n_s \tilde{s}^2}{n_n} \frac{\partial T}{\partial m_z}\Big|_{m_{xy},n,\tilde{s}}.$$
(113)

with all other $a_{ij} = 0$. In the above equations, all the physical quantities take their values at thermodynamic equilibrium. We see that in comparison with a simple superfluid, the first and second sound have been modified by the magnetization in U(N) invariant superfluid through thermodynamic function p and T. In the case of a simple superfluid, $m_z = a_{15} = a_{25} \equiv 0$, the first and second sounds are given by

$$\omega_{1} = c_{1}q = \frac{\sqrt{(a_{11} + a_{22}) + \sqrt{4a_{12}a_{21} + (a_{11} - a_{22})^{2}}}}{\sqrt{2}}q,$$

$$\omega_{2} = c_{2}q = \frac{\sqrt{(a_{11} + a_{22}) - \sqrt{4a_{12}a_{21} + (a_{11} - a_{22})^{2}}}}{\sqrt{2}}q.$$
(114)

$$\omega_2 = c_2 q = \frac{\sqrt{(a_{11} + a_{22}) - \sqrt{4a_{12}a_{21} + (a_{11} - a_{22})^2}}}{\sqrt{2}} q. \tag{115}$$

At zero temperature T = 0, $\tilde{s} = 0$, $a_{21} = a_{22} = a_{25} = 0$, by equation (112), we get only a zero sound and a spin wave, i.e.

$$\omega_{0}(|\mathbf{q}|) = \omega_{\pm}(|\mathbf{q}|) = \sqrt{a_{11} + \frac{a_{15}\bar{m}_{z}}{\bar{n}}}|\mathbf{q}| = \sqrt{\frac{\partial p}{m\partial n}\Big|_{m_{xyz}} + \frac{\bar{m}_{z}\partial p}{m\bar{n}\partial m_{z}}\Big|_{m_{xy},n}}q,$$

$$\omega_{\text{spin}} = \alpha\bar{m}_{z}q^{2}.$$
(116)

Near the ground state, the spin-wave dispersion is quadratic, which is consistent with detailed microscopic

Furthermore, for weakly interacting ultra-cold atomic gas, the interaction potentials take following form, i.e.

$$V^{II} = g_0 \delta (\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2),$$

 $V^{SS} = g_2 \delta (\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2),$

where g_0 is density-density interaction parameter and g_2 is the spin-spin interaction parameter. After taking mean-field approximation (the field operator replaced by its expectation value), i.e. $\psi_{\sigma} \to \langle \psi_{\sigma} \rangle$, the energy density is given by interaction potentials of equation (45), i.e.

$$\epsilon = \frac{1}{2}g_0\bar{n}^2 + \frac{1}{2}g_2\bar{n}_a^2 = \frac{1}{2}g_0n^2 + \frac{1}{2}g_2\bar{m}_z^2 \tag{117}$$

where particle density $\bar{n} = |\langle \psi_1 \rangle|^2 + |\langle \psi_2 \rangle|^2$ and magnetization $\bar{m}_z = \frac{|\langle \psi_1 \rangle|^2 - |\langle \psi_2 \rangle|^2}{2}$. Then by equations (56)–(60), $p = \frac{1}{2}g_0n^2 + \frac{1}{2}g_2\bar{m}_z^2$ and the sound velocity is reduced to

$$c_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\partial p}{m\partial n}}\Big|_{m_{xyz}} + \frac{\bar{m}_z \partial p}{m\bar{n}\partial m_z}\Big|_{m_{xy},n} = \sqrt{\frac{g_0 n}{m} + \frac{g_2 \bar{m}_z^2}{m\bar{n}}}.$$
 (118)

We get a linear dispersion phonon $\omega_0(q)=c_0q$ with sound velocity $c_0=\sqrt{\frac{g_0n}{m}+\frac{g_2\bar{m}_2^2}{m\bar{n}}}$ and a quadratic dispersion spin wave $\omega_{\rm spin}(q) = \alpha \bar{m}_z q^2$. We see the spin–spin interaction also has contribution in the sound velocity when a nonzero magnetization appears. From equation (118), we can see that the spin-spin interaction parameter g_2 enters the formula of c_0 . If the interaction g_2 is negative, the sound velocity c_0 may become imaginary and the system would loss its stabilities. For weakly interacting ultra-cold atomic gas, the parameter $\alpha = 1/\bar{n}$.

6. Conclusions

In summary, we generalize the hydrodynamic equation to a superfluid system with U(N) invariant interactions. By choosing the densities of the conserved quantities as the hydrodynamic variables, we obtain a set of hydrodynamic equations that describes the low energy and long wave-length physics of a U(N) superfluid. Generally speaking, the superfluid motion and magnetization motion are coupled together. When the superfluid is stationary, our equations can be reduced to Landau–Lifshitz equation in ferromagnetism theory. Due to the coupling of superfluid motion and magnetization distortion, the superfluid velocity does not satisfy the irrotational condition and the magnitude of magnetization is no longer a constant. In addition, it is found that a non-zero magnetization modifies the sound velocities through thermodynamic relations. Our work should be useful for future studies of hydrodynamic behavior of multi-component Bose and Fermi systems currently explored in cold atomic gases.

Data availability statement

No new data were created or analyzed in this study.

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by the NSFC under Grants No. 11874127, the Joint Fund with Guangzhou Municipality under No. 202201020137, and the Starting Research Fund from Guangzhou University under Grant No. RQ 2020083. SZ is supported by HK GRF Grants No. 17306024, CRF Grants No. C6009-20G and No. C7012-21G, and a RGC Fellowship Award No. HKU RFS2223-7S03.

Appendix

In this appendix, we review the main results in [58, 59] which provide a general formalism for hydrodynamics in a superfluid with arbitrary internal symmetry. Based on the general hydrodynamic equations and an assumption of free energy of a U(N) invariant superfluid, we can re-derive the hydrodynamic equations (87)–(91) for a superfluid with U(N) invariant interactions in the main text.

A.1. The hydrodynamics with arbitrary symmetry group

The basic idea in [58, 59] is to define a set of physical quantities for hydrodynamic description and then calculate their commutation relations. Equations of motions are then obtained from Hamilton equations. Let us thus first consider the variations of order parameter for multi-component system (to simplify the notation, we use ψ to denote a column vector of ψ_a):

$$\delta\psi = iT^0\delta\theta^0\psi + iT^a\delta\theta^a\psi = i\delta\theta^0\psi + iT^a\delta\theta^a\psi. \tag{119}$$

In the above equation, we have neglected the variations of amplitude of order parameter ψ . The superfluid velocities \mathbf{v}_s^0 and \mathbf{v}_s^a , and the scalar function Ω^a are defined by

$$\nabla \psi = i \mathbf{v}_s^0 \psi + i T^a \mathbf{v}_s^a \psi, \tag{120}$$

$$\partial_t \psi = i\Omega^0 \psi + iT^a \Omega^a \psi. \tag{121}$$

By equations (120)–(121) and $\partial_t(\nabla \psi) = \nabla(\partial_t \psi)$, we obtain the equation of motion for \mathbf{v}^a

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_{si}^0}{\partial t} = -\nabla_i \Omega^0, \tag{122}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}}{\partial t} = -\nabla_{i}\Omega^{a} + f^{a}_{bc}\Omega^{b}\mathbf{v}_{si}^{c}.$$
(123)

In the following, we will determine the specific function form of Ω^0 and Ω^a [see equation (152) below]. From equations (120) and (121), we get

$$0 = \nabla \times \nabla \psi = i \nabla \times \mathbf{v}_{s}^{a} T^{a} \psi + (-i) (i) T^{a} \mathbf{v}_{s}^{a} \times \nabla \psi$$

$$= i \nabla \times \mathbf{v}_{s}^{a} T^{a} \psi + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}_{s}^{a} \times \mathbf{v}_{s}^{b} \left[T^{a} T^{b} - T^{b} T^{a} \right] \psi$$

$$= i \nabla \times \mathbf{v}_{s}^{c} T^{c} \psi + i \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}_{s}^{a} \times \mathbf{v}_{s}^{b} f^{c}_{ab} T^{c} \psi = 0,$$
(124)

that is, because ψ is arbitrary

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_{s}^{c} = -\frac{1}{2} f^{c}_{ab} \mathbf{v}_{s}^{a} \times \mathbf{v}_{s}^{b}. \tag{125}$$

Or in component form

$$\nabla_i \mathbf{v}_{si}^c - \nabla_j \mathbf{v}_{si}^c + f^c_{ab} \mathbf{v}_{si}^a \mathbf{v}_{si}^b = 0. \tag{126}$$

If we interpret \mathbf{v}_s^a as gauge potential \mathbf{A}^a , then equation (125) is the zero-curvature condition for \mathbf{v}_s^a , i.e.

$$F^{c}_{i,j}T^{c}\phi = \left[D_{i}, D_{j}\right]\phi = \left[\nabla_{i}A^{c}_{sj} - \nabla_{j}A^{c}_{si} + f^{c}_{ab}A^{a}_{si}A^{b}_{sj}\right]T^{c}\phi = 0$$

$$(127)$$

where $D_i = \nabla_i - iA_i^a T^a$ is the covariant derivative, F is curvature, ϕ is matter field in the standard Yang–Mills theory.

In order to get the commutation relations, we promote the order parameter ψ as quantum mechanical field operator. Its Hermitian conjugate is ψ^{\dagger} , satisfying quantum commutation brackets, i.e.

$$\left[\psi_{\mu}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right),\psi_{\nu}^{\dagger}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\right]=\delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}-\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\delta_{\mu,\nu},\tag{128}$$

$$[\psi_{\mu}(\mathbf{r}_1), \psi_{\nu}(\mathbf{r}_2)] = [\psi_{\mu}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r}_1), \psi_{\nu}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r}_2)] = 0. \tag{129}$$

The particle number density n and conserved charge (generalized spin) density n^a [61] are given by

$$n = \psi^{\dagger}_{\mu}\psi_{\mu}; \ n^{a} = \psi^{\dagger}_{\mu}T^{a}_{\mu,\nu}\psi_{\nu}. \tag{130}$$

The momentum density is (setting $\hbar = m = 1$)

$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}) = -i\frac{\hbar}{m}\psi_{\mu}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r})\nabla\psi_{\mu}(\mathbf{r}) = -i\psi_{\mu}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{r})\nabla\psi_{\mu}(\mathbf{r}). \tag{131}$$

In the above equation, the repeated indices are summed.

Now the thermodynamic relations can be written as

$$d\epsilon = Tds + v_{nj}dg_j + \mu^0 dn + h_i^0 dv_{sj}^0 + \mu^a dn^a + h_j^a dv_{sj}^a$$
(132)

$$f = \epsilon - Ts - \mathbf{v}_n \cdot \mathbf{g},\tag{133}$$

$$df = -sdT + \mu dn - \mathbf{g} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_n + \mathbf{h}^0 \cdot d\mathbf{v}_s^0 + \mathbf{h}^a \cdot d\mathbf{v}_s^a + \mu^a dn^a, \tag{134}$$

$$p = -\epsilon + Ts + v_{ni}g_i + \mu^0 n + \mu^a n^a \tag{135}$$

$$dp = sdT + \mathbf{g} \cdot d\mathbf{v}_n + nd\mu^0 + n^a d\mu^a - h_i^0 d\mathbf{v}_{si}^0 - h_i^a d\mathbf{v}_{si}^a.$$
 (136)

From equation (120), we can see that definitions of superfluid velocities only involve ψ , rather than ψ^{\dagger} . So we can assume they commutate each other, i.e.

$$\left[\mathbf{v}_s^a(\mathbf{r}_1), \mathbf{v}_s^b(\mathbf{r}_2)\right] = 0. \tag{137}$$

Using equations (120) and (128)–(131), the commutation relations can be obtained straightforward, i.e.

$$\left[n^{a}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right), n^{b}\left(\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)\right] = if^{c}_{ab}n^{c}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right)\delta\left(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}\right),\tag{138}$$

$$[n^{a}(\mathbf{r}_{1}), \psi(\mathbf{r}_{2})] = -\delta^{3}(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}) T^{a} \psi(\mathbf{r}_{1}), \tag{139}$$

$$\left[n^{a}(\mathbf{r}_{1}), \mathbf{v}_{si}^{b}(\mathbf{r}_{2})\right] = i\delta_{ab}\nabla_{2i}\delta^{3}(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}) - if^{b}_{ac}\mathbf{v}_{s}^{c}(\mathbf{r}_{1})\delta^{3}(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}), \tag{140}$$

$$[n^a(\mathbf{r}_1), g_i(\mathbf{r}_2)] = in^a(\mathbf{r}_2) \nabla_{2i} \delta^3(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2), \tag{141}$$

$$[g_{1i}, g_{2j}] = ig_{2j} \nabla_{2i} \delta^{3} (\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}) + i [\nabla_{i} g_{j}] \delta^{3} (\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}) + ig_{2i} \nabla_{2j} \delta^{3} (\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}),$$
(142)

$$\left[g_{1i}, \mathbf{v}_{2j}^{a}\right] = i\mathbf{v}_{2si}^{a} \nabla_{2j} \delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}\right) + i\left[\nabla_{j} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}\right] \delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1} - \mathbf{r}_{2}\right)$$

$$+i\left[\nabla_{i}\mathbf{v}_{sj}^{a}-\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}\right]\delta^{3}\left(\mathbf{r}_{1}-\mathbf{r}_{2}\right),\tag{143}$$

where g_{1i} stands for $g_i(\mathbf{r}_1)$. Similarly to that in the main text, we can write

$$[g_i(\mathbf{r}_1), s(\mathbf{r}_2)] = is(\mathbf{r}_1) \nabla_2 \delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2), \tag{144}$$

$$[s(\mathbf{r}_1), n^a(\mathbf{r}_2)] = [s(\mathbf{r}_1), \mathbf{v}_s^a(\mathbf{r}_2)] = 0.$$
 (145)

Now, with the replacement $[A, B]/i \Rightarrow \{A, B\}$, the equations of motions are

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = -\nabla_i \left[n \mathbf{v}_{ni} + h_i^0 \right],\tag{146}$$

$$\frac{\partial n^a}{\partial t} = -\nabla_i \left[n^a \mathbf{v}_{ni} + h_i^a \right] + f^a_{bc} \left[\mu^b n^c + h_i^b \mathbf{v}_{si}^c \right], \tag{147}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_{si}^{0}}{\partial t} = -\nabla_{i} \left[\mu^{0} + \mathbf{v}_{s}^{0} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{n} \right], \tag{148}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}}{\partial t} = -\nabla_{i} \left[\mu^{a} + \mathbf{v}_{s}^{a} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{n} \right] + f^{a}_{bc} \left[\mu^{b} + \mathbf{v}_{s}^{b} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{n} \right] \mathbf{v}_{si}^{c}, \tag{149}$$

$$\frac{\partial g_i}{\partial t} = -\nabla_j \pi_{ij},\tag{150}$$

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial t} = -\nabla_i \left(s \mathbf{v}_{ni} \right), \tag{151}$$

where $\pi_{ij} = p\delta_{ij} + g_i v_{nj} + v_{si}^0 h_j^0 + v_{si}^a h_j^a$. Comparing it with equations (122), (123) we see that the scalar function

$$\Omega^{0} = \mu^{0} + \mathbf{v}_{s}^{0} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{n},$$

$$\Omega^{a} = \mu^{a} + \mathbf{v}_{s}^{a} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{n}.$$
(152)

From equation (148), we can see the superfluid velocity of U(1) part \mathbf{v}_s^0 is still irrotational, i.e. $\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_s^0 = 0$. If the energy density ϵ or free energy f density is invariant under a general U(N) (global) rotation, e.g. $\delta n^a = f^a_{bc} n^b \delta \theta^c$, $\delta \mu^a = f^a_{bc} \mu^b \delta \theta^c$, $\delta h^a = f^a_{bc} h^b \delta \theta^c$ and $\delta \mathbf{v}_s^a = f^a_{bc} \mathbf{v}_s^b \delta \theta^c$, the last term for n^a in equation (147) is zero, i.e.

$$f^{a}_{bc} \left[\mu^{b} n^{c} + h^{b}_{i} \mathbf{v}^{c}_{si} \right] \equiv 0. \tag{153}$$

It means that n^a satisfies a continuity equation and generalized spin (magnetization) n^a is conserved in a U(N) invariant superfluid. Equations (146)–(151) can be applied to a system with arbitrary symmetry group. We see that there are many superfluid velocities $\mathbf{v}_{\varepsilon}^a$ in general.

In the following, we will see that for a U(N) invariant superfluid, we can use a single superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s in the hydrodynamic description. In this case, the hydrodynamic equation is simplified greatly. Now for a U(N) invariant superfluid, we take a specific form for free energy density as

$$f = f_0 (T, n, n^a) + f_{\text{Landau}} + f_{\text{kinetic}},$$

$$f_{\text{Landau}} = \frac{\alpha (\nabla n^a)^2}{2},$$

$$f_{\text{kinetic}} = -\frac{mn\mathbf{v}_n^2}{2} + \frac{mn_s (\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_s^0 - \mathbf{v}_n)^2}{2},$$
(154)

where $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_s^0 = \mathbf{v}_s^0 + (n^a/n)\mathbf{v}_s^a$ is an effective superfluid velocities. $f_0(T,n,n^a)$ is the free energy density when superfluid is in equilibrium (stationary), i.e. $\mathbf{v}_n = \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_s^0 = \nabla n^a = 0$. f_{Landau} is the energy of magnetization distortion (gradient energy) in ferromagnetic system, which is consistent with SU(N) and spatial inversion symmetry [2]. The remaining part f_{kinetic} is kinetic energy when $\mathbf{v}_n \neq 0$ or $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_s \neq 0$, which can be obtained by considering Galilean transformation and statistical mechanics when fluid is in motion [2, 24]. Here we should identify $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_s^0$ with \mathbf{v}_s in the main text. We see that the superfluid velocity $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_s^0$ is mixture of superflow motion and spin rotation (magnetization distortion). Using equations (120) and (130), f_{Landau} can be rewritten as

$$\nabla n^{a} = f^{a}_{bc} n^{b} \mathbf{v}_{s}^{c},$$

$$f_{\text{Landau}} = \frac{\alpha (\nabla n^{a})^{2}}{2} = \frac{\alpha}{2} f^{a}_{bc} f^{a}_{ef} n^{b} n^{e} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{c} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{f}.$$
(155)

In the following, we will label all the physical quantities with tilde, which would be identified with the corresponding ones in the main text. By equations (154) and (155), and comparing two thermodynamic relations equations (56)–(60), (132)–(136), the relations between old and new ones are:

$$h_i^0 = \tilde{h}_i^0 = m n_s \left(\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{si}^0 - \mathbf{v}_{ni} \right), \tag{156}$$

$$h_i^a = \alpha f^d_{ba} f^d_{ef} n^b n^e v_{si}^f + \frac{n^a}{n} h_i^0 \equiv \hat{h}_i^a + \frac{n^a}{n} h_i^0, \tag{157}$$

$$\mu^0 = \tilde{\mu}^0 - \frac{n^a \mathbf{v}_{ij}^a}{n^2} h_j^0, \tag{158}$$

$$\mu^{a} = \alpha f^{d}_{ac} f^{d}_{ef} n^{e} \mathbf{v}_{sj}^{c} \mathbf{v}_{sj}^{f} + \frac{\partial f_{0}}{\partial n^{a}} + \frac{\mathbf{v}_{sj}^{a}}{n} h_{j}^{0} \equiv \hat{\mu}^{a} + \frac{\mathbf{v}_{sj}^{a}}{n} h_{j}^{0}, \tag{159}$$

$$\tilde{\mu}^{a} = -\alpha \nabla_{j} \left[\nabla_{j} n^{a} \right] + \frac{\partial f_{0}}{\partial n^{a}} = -\alpha \nabla_{j} \left[f^{a}_{bc} n^{b} \mathbf{v}_{sj}^{c} \right] + \frac{\partial f_{0}}{\partial n^{a}}. \tag{160}$$

To show that our assumption of the effective superfluid velocity $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_s^0 = \mathbf{v}_s^0 + (n^a/n)\mathbf{v}_s^a$ satisfies the equation (91) that was derive in the main text, we calculate the equation of motion of $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_s^0$ and show that they are consistent. From equations (146)–(149), we get

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{si}^{o}}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_{si}^{o}}{\partial t} + \frac{n^{a}}{n} \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \partial_{t} \left(\frac{n^{a}}{n} \right) \\ &= -\nabla_{i} \left[\mu^{0} + \mathbf{v}_{n} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{s}^{o} \right] - \frac{n^{a} \nabla_{i} \mu^{a}}{n} + \mathbf{v}_{s}^{a} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{n} \nabla_{i} \left(n^{a}/n \right) \\ &+ \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \partial_{t} \left(n^{a}/n \right) + \frac{n^{a}}{n} f^{a} \int_{bc} \left[\mu^{b} + \mathbf{v}_{s}^{b} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{n} \right] \mathbf{v}_{si}^{c} \\ &= -\nabla_{i} \left[\mu^{0} + \mathbf{v}_{n} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{s}^{o} \right] - \frac{n^{a} \nabla_{i} \mu^{a}}{n} \\ &+ \mathbf{v}_{sj}^{a} \mathbf{v}_{ij} \nabla_{i} \left(n^{a}/n \right) - \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \mathbf{v}_{ij} \nabla_{j} \left(n^{a}/n \right) \\ &+ \frac{-n \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \nabla_{j} h_{j}^{a} + n^{a} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \nabla_{j} h_{j}^{0}}{n^{2}} + \frac{n^{a}}{n} f^{a} \int_{bc} \left[\mu^{b} + \mathbf{v}_{s}^{b} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{n} \right] \mathbf{v}_{si}^{c} \\ &= -\nabla_{i} \left[\mu^{0} + \mathbf{v}_{n} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{s}^{o} \right] - \frac{n^{a} \nabla_{i} \mu^{a}}{n} \\ &+ \mathbf{v}_{nj} \left[\nabla_{i} \left(n^{a} \mathbf{v}_{sj}^{a}/n \right) - \nabla_{j} \left(n^{a} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}/n \right) \right] \\ &+ \frac{-n \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \nabla_{j} h_{j}^{a} + n^{a} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \nabla_{j} h_{j}^{0}}{n^{2}} + \frac{h_{j}^{a}}{n} \left[\nabla_{i} \mathbf{v}_{sj}^{a} - \nabla_{j} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \right] \\ &= -\nabla_{i} \left[\mu^{0} + \mathbf{v}_{n} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{s}^{o} \right] - \frac{n^{a} \nabla_{i} \mu^{a}}{n} + \mathbf{v}_{nj} \left[\nabla_{i} \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{sj}^{o} - \nabla_{j} \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{si}^{o} \right] \\ &+ \frac{-n \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \nabla_{j} h_{j}^{a} + n^{a} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \nabla_{j} h_{j}^{0}}{n^{2}} + \frac{h_{j}^{a}}{n} \left[\nabla_{i} \mathbf{v}_{sj}^{a} - \nabla_{j} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \right] \\ &= -\nabla_{i} \left[\tilde{\mu}^{0} + \mathbf{v}_{n} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{s}^{o} \right] - \frac{n^{a} \nabla_{i} \tilde{\mu}^{a}}{n} - \left[\left(\nabla \times \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{s}^{o} \right) \times \mathbf{v}_{n} \right]_{i} \\ &- \frac{1}{n} \left[\left(\nabla \times \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{s}^{o} \right) \times \mathbf{h}^{0} \right]_{i} \\ &- \frac{\mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \nabla_{j} h_{j}^{a}}{n} + \frac{\hat{h}_{j}^{a}}{n} \left[\nabla_{i} \mathbf{v}_{sj}^{a} - \nabla_{j} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \right] - \frac{n^{a} \nabla_{i} \left[\tilde{\mu}^{a} - \tilde{\mu}^{a} \right]}{n} \\ &- \frac{\mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \nabla_{j} h_{j}^{a}}{n} + \frac{\hat{h}_{j}^{a}}{n} \left[\nabla_{i} \mathbf{v}_{sj}^{a} - \nabla_{j} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \right] - \frac{n^{a} \nabla_{i} \left[\tilde{\mu}^{a} - \tilde{\mu}^{a} \right]_{i}}{n} \\ &- \frac{1}{n} \left[\left(\mathbf{v} \times \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{s}^{o} \right) \times \mathbf{v}_{n} \right]_{i} \\ &- \frac{\mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \nabla_{j} h_{j}^{a}}{n} + \frac{\hat{h}_{j}^{a}}{n} \left[\nabla_{i} \mathbf{v}_{sj}^{a} - \nabla_{j} \mathbf{v}_{si}^{a} \right] - \frac{n^{a} \nabla_{i} \left[\tilde{\mu}^{a$$

In the above derivation, we have used the zero-curvature condition equation (125), the U(N) invariance of the energy density, equation (153), equations (156)–(160) and the fact that $\nabla \times \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_s^0 = \nabla \times (n^a \mathbf{v}_s^a/n)$ (due to $\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_s^0 = 0$).

Similarly, the equation for g_i is

$$\frac{\partial g_i}{\partial t} = -\nabla_j \pi_{ij} = -\nabla_j \left[\tilde{p} \delta_{ij} + g_j \mathbf{v}_{ni} + \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{sj}^0 h_i^0 \right]
- \mathbf{v}_{si}^a \nabla_j \hat{h}_j^a + \hat{h}_j^a \left[\nabla_i \mathbf{v}_{sj}^a - \nabla_j \mathbf{v}_{si}^a \right] - n^a \nabla_i \left[\hat{\mu}^a - \tilde{\mu}^a \right].$$
(162)

If the last line in equation (161) or equation (162) is zero, both equations would reduce to the equations of \mathbf{v}_s and g_i in the main text [see equations (87)–(91)]. The last line is proportional to

$$-\mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}\nabla_{j}\hat{h}_{j}^{a}+\hat{h}_{j}^{a}\left[\nabla_{i}\mathbf{v}_{sj}^{a}-\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}\right]-n^{a}\nabla_{i}\left[\hat{\mu}^{a}-\tilde{\mu}^{a}\right]$$

$$=-\alpha f^{d}_{ba}f^{d}_{ef}n^{b}n^{e}\left(\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{sj}^{f}\right)\mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}-\alpha f^{a}_{bc}f^{b}_{ef}n^{a}n^{e}\left(\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{sj}^{c}\right)\mathbf{v}_{si}^{f}$$

$$=-\alpha f^{d}_{ba}f^{d}_{ef}n^{b}n^{e}\left(\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{sj}^{f}\right)\mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}-\alpha f^{d}_{ae}f^{d}_{bf}n^{b}n^{e}\left(\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{sj}^{f}\right)\mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}-\alpha f^{d}_{eb}f^{d}_{af}n^{b}n^{e}\left(\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{sj}^{f}\right)\mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}$$

$$=-\alpha \left[f^{d}_{ba}f^{d}_{ef}+f^{d}_{ae}f^{d}_{bf}+f^{d}_{eb}f^{d}_{af}\right]n^{b}n^{e}\left(\nabla_{j}\mathbf{v}_{sj}^{f}\right)\mathbf{v}_{si}^{a}$$

$$=0.$$

$$(163)$$

In the above calculation, the zero-curvature condition equation (125) and Jacobi identity equation (51) in the main text are used. In addition, using Jacobi identity equation (51), we can prove that

$$\begin{split} & \left[f^{d}_{ba} f^{d}_{ef} f^{a}_{kl} + f^{d}_{bk} f^{d}_{af} f^{a}_{el} \right] n^{e} n^{b} \mathbf{v}^{f} \mathbf{v}^{l} \mathbf{v}^{k}_{i} \\ &= \left[f^{a}_{dl} f^{a}_{bk} + f^{a}_{db} f^{a}_{kl} \right] f^{d}_{ef} n^{e} n^{b} \mathbf{v}^{f} \mathbf{v}^{l} \mathbf{v}^{k}_{i} \\ &= - \left[f^{a}_{dk} f^{a}_{lb} \right] f^{d}_{ef} n^{e} n^{b} \mathbf{v}^{f} \mathbf{v}^{l} \mathbf{v}^{k}_{i} \\ &= \left[f^{a}_{dk} f^{a}_{lb} \right] f^{d}_{fe} n^{e} n^{b} \mathbf{v}^{f} \mathbf{v}^{l} \mathbf{v}^{k}_{i} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[f^{k}_{ad} f^{a}_{lb} f^{d}_{fe} + f^{k}_{da} f^{a}_{fe} f^{d}_{lb} \right] n^{e} n^{b} \mathbf{v}^{f} \mathbf{v}^{l} \mathbf{v}^{k}_{i} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left[f^{k}_{ad} f^{a}_{lb} f^{d}_{fe} + f^{k}_{da} f^{a}_{fe} f^{d}_{lb} + f^{k}_{da} f^{d}_{lb} f^{a}_{fe} + f^{k}_{da} f^{d}_{fe} f^{a}_{lb} \right] n^{e} n^{b} \mathbf{v}^{f} \mathbf{v}^{l} \mathbf{v}^{k}_{i} \\ &= 0, \end{split}$$

which is also used in equation (163).

Finally, one can also show that the other remaining equations for n, n^a and s in equations (146)–(151) are the same as we have derived in the main text. Therefore, we conclude that under an assumption of free energy equation (154), the hydrodynamic equation of U(N) invariant superfluid equations (87)–(91) can be obtained from the general hydrodynamic equation equations (146)–(151) with arbitrary internal symmetry group.

A.2. The origin of breaking of irrotationality of superfluid velocity v_s

One may wonder why the superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s does not satisfy the irrotational condition in U(N) invariant superfluid. This is because of the coupling between the superfluid motions of U(1) part and SU(N) part. The unique superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s is identified as

$$\mathbf{v}_{s} \equiv \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{s}^{0} \equiv \mathbf{v}_{s}^{0} + \frac{n^{a}\mathbf{v}^{a}}{n},\tag{165}$$

which is a mixture of several superfluid velocities. Now it is assumed that there is a variation of order parameter ψ (or field operator) under a rotation ($\psi \to e^{i\delta\theta^0 T^0 + i\delta\theta^b T^b}\psi$, $\psi^\dagger \to \psi^\dagger e^{-i\delta\theta^0 T^0 - i\delta\theta^b T^b}$), i.e.

$$\delta\psi = e^{i\delta\theta^0 T^0 + i\delta\theta^b T^b} \psi - \psi = \left(iT^0 \delta\theta^0 + iT^a \delta\theta^a\right) \psi. \tag{166}$$

By equations (131) and (120), such a rotation would induce a momentum density **g**

$$\mathbf{g} = n\mathbf{v}_s^0 + n^a \mathbf{v}_s^a = n\left(\mathbf{v}_s^0 + \frac{n^a \mathbf{v}_s^a}{n}\right) \equiv n\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_s^0.$$
 (167)

Then we find that the effective superfluid velocity

$$\mathbf{v}_{s} \equiv \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_{s}^{0} \equiv \mathbf{v}_{s}^{0} + \frac{n^{a}\mathbf{v}_{s}^{a}}{n},\tag{168}$$

is a mixture of the velocities of the U(1) part and SU(N) part. Because the superfluid velocity \mathbf{v}_s cannot be written as a derivative of a scalar function, then the irrotational condition $(\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_s = 0)$ cannot be satisfied in general.

At last, we notice that the correct commutation relations (equations (72)–(77)) between \mathbf{v}_s and n, n^a , s, \mathbf{g} in the main text can be also obtained by using the fundamental commutation relation equations (139)–(143) and the definition $\mathbf{v}_s \equiv \mathbf{v}_s^0 + \frac{n^a \mathbf{v}_s^a}{s}$. Such a method provides another derivation of the hydrodynamic equations (87)–(91) in the main text.

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