

About solutions of the Vlasov equations.

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Based on ongoing work and discussion with N. Besse F. Golse, T. Nguyen and C. Mouhot.

The equations

$$\text{In } \mathbb{D} = (\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^d) \times \mathbf{R}_v^d \quad \partial_t F + v \cdot \nabla_x F + E(f) \cdot \nabla_v F = 0$$

$$- \Delta V = \rho = \int_{\mathbf{R}_v^d} F(x, v, t) dv - \int_{\mathbf{R}_v^d} F(x, v, t) dx dv, \quad \hat{V}(k) = \frac{e}{|k|^2}$$

$$\Lambda \quad \text{Plasma Parameter} \quad \text{Electrons} \quad E = \Lambda \nabla V.$$

- Exhibit several some refined properties present in physic and numerical simulations.
- The Vlasov flow preserves the positivity (density of particles) the total density and any $L^p(\mathbb{D})$ norm, and the total energy;

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\|F\|_{L^p} + \int_{\mathbb{D}} F(x, v, t) \frac{|v|^2}{2} dx dv + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla V|^2 dx \right) = 0.$$

- A super play ground for mathematicians and what I intend to do is to draw a road map of the mathematical state of the art focusing on the global profile:

$$G(t) = \int_{\Omega} F(x, v, t) dv \quad \text{or} \quad E(t, x). \quad (1)$$

and qualitatives related issues.

Elementary observations for the spectra of the linearized operator (as dubbed projective dynamic in other fields) in a bounded set Ω or in \mathbf{T}^d :

$$\begin{aligned} f \rightarrow A(t)f &= A_d f + K(t)(f) \\ A_d f &= v \cdot \nabla_x f \quad K(t)(f) = \nabla_v G(t, v) \cdot E(f) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$\sigma(\pm A_d) = i\mathbf{R}$ and $\sigma(-A(t) \cap \Re\lambda \geq \delta > 0)$ is a finite sum of eigenvalues invariant under conjugaison:

$$\lambda \in \sigma(A(t) \cap \Re\lambda > 0) \Leftrightarrow \exists f \neq 0 \quad (I + (\lambda I + A(t))^{-1} K(t))f = 0 \quad (3)$$

Since the L^p norm and energy of $F(x, v, t)$ are bounded the $\Re\lambda_k(t)$ cannot grow for ever .

Hence for a solution $t \mapsto F(x, v, t)$ a formal description of the evolution in term of the spectra of the linearized operator

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{R}_t^+ &= \{0 < T_{ns} \leq T_{tur} \leq T_{LD} \leq \infty\} \\
 \sigma_{us} &\subset \{0 < t < T_{ns} \leftrightarrow \Re \lambda > 0 \cap \sigma(-A(t)) \neq \emptyset, \} \\
 \sigma_{st} &\subset \{T_{LD} < t \leftrightarrow \Re \lambda > 0 \cap \sigma(-A(t)) = \emptyset, \\
 \{T_{us} < t < T_{LD}\} &= \text{Transitional or turbulent time.}
 \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

For the mathematical community it concerns solutions $t > 0$, $F(t) = G(t) + f(t)$ with no unstable eigenvalues for $-A(t)$.

Hence for $G(t) = G(0)$ given the solution of

$$\partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f + \nabla_v(G(0)E(f)) = 0 \quad (5)$$

should go to 0 fast (exponentially for analytic data, $\exp(-t^{\frac{1}{\beta}})$ for data in Gevrey space) which in turns gives, under small perturbations the same decay for

$$\partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f + \nabla_v(G(t)E(f)) = 0 \quad (6)$$

and with

$$\partial_t G + \nabla_v \langle E(f), f \rangle = 0 \quad (7)$$

then with a boot strap argument the fast decay of the electric field $E(f)$ to zero.

This is already written in any physic text book, systematically studied in the torus \mathbf{T}^d and it is by now well known that this is a much diverse and rich issue:

- Forerunner Cagliotti Maffei 1998, Hwang, Velazquez, 2009.
- Complete proof for analytic data a Mouhot Villani,
- For Gevrey data Mouhot Bedrossian Masmoudi, Grenier, Nguyen, and I. Rodnianski.

The state of the art by now is

- Convergence to 0 of the electric field $E(x, t)$ is proven only as "small perturbation" of a "stable" regular profile $G(0, v)$ with the Coulomb potential, with data and small perturbation in the space Gevrey < 3 .
- "Plateau" for $1d$ $G(0, v)$ (< 3) is compatible with the decay.
- Small perturbations in Gevrey 3 does not prevent non convergence to 0 of the electric field. Hence Gevrey 3 appears as a threshold.
- For $\Omega = \mathbf{R}^d$ one can adapt the point of view of classical scattering theory (cf for instance, for non linear Klein Gordon equation, Morawetz and Strauss (1973)) under a stability condition and for a screened potential:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \|f(x + vt, v, t) - f_{\infty}(x, v)\| = 0.$$

Masmoudi Mouhot 2016, Han-Kwan, Nguyen Rousset 2020.

Fourier spectra $\sigma(-A(t)) \cap \Re\lambda > 0$. in \mathbf{T}^d .

$$f(x, v) = \sum_k f_k e^{i \cdot x} \Rightarrow (\lambda + ik \cdot v) f_k - \frac{ik}{|k|^2} \cdot \partial_v G(v, t) \rho_k = g_k(v)$$

$$D(\lambda, k, t) \rho_k = \left(1 - \frac{ik}{|k|^2} \cdot \int \frac{\partial_v G(v, t)}{\lambda + ik \cdot v} dv\right) \rho_k = \int \frac{g_k(v)}{\lambda + ik \cdot v} dv.$$

- $D(\lambda, k, t)$ is called the “Penrose” dispersion relation.
- λ_k with $\Re\lambda_k > 0$ is an eigenvalue if and only if there exists k such $D(\lambda, k, t) = 0$
- $D(\lambda_k, k, t) = 0 \Leftrightarrow D(\overline{\lambda}_k, -k, t) = 0$.
- For λ_k, t given the number of solutions of $D(\lambda_k, k, t) = 0$ is finite. That does not prevent, for given \mathbf{k} the number of λ such that $D(\lambda, \mathbf{k}, t) = 0$ to be infinite

Introduce the "modulated linear" operator

$$f \mapsto A(t)f = v \cdot \nabla_x f + \nabla_x (-\Delta)^{-1} f \nabla_v G(t, v)$$

Assume that $\sigma(-A(t)) \cap \{\Re \lambda > 0\}$ is the union simple smoothly time dependent eigenvalues $(\lambda_k(t), f_k(t))$ each of them contained in non intersecting closed time independent closed curves $\Gamma_k(t)$

$$f_k(t) = \frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_{\Gamma_k} (\tau I + A(t))^{-1} f d\tau \quad (8)$$

$$f_k(t) = -\frac{E_k(t) \cdot \nabla_v G(v, t)}{\lambda + ik \cdot v} \quad (9)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\partial_t + A(t))(e^{\int_0^t \lambda_k(s) ds} f_k(t)) &= e^{\int_0^t \lambda_k(s) ds} f_k(t) \\
 \frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_{\Gamma_k} (\tau + A(t))^{-1} \partial_t (\nabla_v G(v, t)) \cdot E((\tau + A(t))^{-1} f) d\tau & \quad (10)
 \end{aligned}$$

For slowly varying $\nabla_v G(t) = O(\epsilon^2)$

$$f = \sum_k (e^{\int_0^t \lambda_k(s) ds} f_k(t)) \quad \text{or} \quad \sum_k \Re(e^{\int_0^t \lambda_k(s) ds} f_k(t)) \quad (11)$$

are approximate solutions of the equation

$$(\partial_t + A(t))(e^{\int_0^t \lambda_k(s) ds} f_k(t)) = O(\epsilon^2), .$$

In the equations:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_t F + v \partial_x F + E(f) \partial_v G(t, v) &= 0 \\
 F(t, v) &= G(t, v) + f(x, v, t) \quad \langle f \rangle = 0 \\
 \partial_t G + \partial_v \langle E(f), f \rangle &= 0, \\
 \partial_t f + v \cdot \partial_x f + E(f) \partial_v G(t) &= -((E(f), f) - \langle E(f) f \rangle)
 \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

Insert $F(x, v, t) = G(t, v) + \epsilon(f \simeq \sum_{k>0} \Re(e^{\int_0^t \lambda_k(s)} f_k(t) e^{ikx}))$

in the equations

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_t F + v \partial_x F + E(f) \partial_v G(t, v) &= 0 \\
 F(t, v) &= G(t, v) + f(x, v, t) \\
 \partial_t G + \partial_v \langle E(f), f \rangle &= 0, \\
 \partial_t f + v \cdot \partial_x f + E(f) \partial_v G(t) &= -((E(f), f) - \langle E(f) f \rangle)
 \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

This leads to the following formulas:

$$\nabla_v \langle E(\epsilon f, \epsilon f) \rangle \simeq -\epsilon^2 \nabla_v (\mathbf{D} \nabla_v G)$$

$$\mathbf{D}(v, \nabla_v G(v, t)) = \sum_{D(k, \lambda)=0} \frac{|E(0, k)|^2 2\Re \lambda e^{2\Re \int_0^t ds \lambda(s)}}{(k \cdot v - \lambda)^2 + (\Re \lambda)^2}$$

$$\partial_t G - \epsilon^2 \nabla_v (\mathbf{D}(v, \nabla_v G(v, t)) \nabla_v G) = o(\epsilon^2)$$

$$\partial_t f + v \cdot \partial_x f + E(f) \partial_v G(t) = ((E(f), f) - \langle E(f) f \rangle) + o(\epsilon^2)$$

The above estimates are given for uniformly smooth solutions and as such they lead to proof of validity in a very small time $t \in (0, T_\epsilon)$ with $T_\epsilon = O(\epsilon^2)$. Such type of observations are present in recent derivations (Bobylev , Pulvirenti , Saffirio) for the Landau equation, and Duerinck for Balescu Lenhard).

Observe that the error come from terms of the right hand $R(t)$ side of the equation and under the action of a propagator $\|U(t, s)\| \leq e^{(t-s)L}$ according to a Duhamel formula: $\int_0^t U(t, s)R(s)ds$ that will generate an error of order $\epsilon^2 e^{Lt}$ and a time of validity

$$T = O\left(\log \frac{C}{\epsilon}\right)$$

about the same time as the diffusion..

Time validity and accuracy of the QLI approximation for a basic growing mode:

$$\lambda(t)_{\pm} = \gamma(t) \pm i\omega(t)$$

$$f_s(t) = \Re |E(0)| e^{\int_0^t \gamma(s) ds + ikx} \cdot \frac{\nabla_v G(v, t)}{\lambda + ik \cdot v}$$

$$F(x, v, 0) = G(v, 0) + \epsilon f_s(x, v, 0); \quad h_{\epsilon}(x, v, 0) = 0$$

$$F_{\epsilon}(x, v, t) = G_{\epsilon}(v, t) + \epsilon f_{s,\epsilon}(x, v, t) + \epsilon^2 h_{\epsilon}(x, v, t)$$

$$\mathbf{D}_{\epsilon}(v, t) = \frac{2|E(0)|^2 \gamma_{\epsilon}(t) e^{2\int_0^t ds \gamma_{\epsilon}(s)}}{(k \cdot v - \omega_{\epsilon}(t))^2 + (\gamma_{\epsilon}(t))^2}$$

Then for $\log \frac{1}{\epsilon} \simeq \int_0^t \gamma_{\epsilon}(s) ds$ one has:

$$\partial_t G_{\epsilon}(x, v, t) - \epsilon^2 \nabla_v (\mathbf{D}(v, \nabla_v G_{\epsilon}) \nabla_v G_{\epsilon}(v, t)) = O(\epsilon^3)$$

$$F_{\epsilon} - (G_{\epsilon} + \epsilon f_{s,\epsilon}) = O(\epsilon^3)$$

In the torus \mathbf{T}_x^d at the present date "*fully well established qualitative mathematical results*" concern

- Large time behavior in the absence of unstable mode (Mouhot, Villani, Bedrossian, Toan Grenier...)
- Short time behavior in the presence of strong growing modes (B. Besse....)

Lol ! This is not compared to the diversity of phenomena in the most interesting region

$$T_{tur} \leq t < T_{LD}$$

where following approaches may be more relevant, in conjunction with a larger time scale and reiteration up to higher order of the Duhamel formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t F_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} v \cdot \nabla_x F_\epsilon + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \nabla_v \cdot (E_\epsilon F_\epsilon) &= 0 \\ \partial_t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} F_\epsilon dv + \nabla_v \cdot \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{E_\epsilon F_\epsilon}{\epsilon} dv \right) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

- The validity of the above approximation has been proven for non constant detailed random phase hypothesis (B., Besse)

$$E^\varepsilon(t, k) e^{-i \frac{\omega_k t}{\varepsilon^2}}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[E^\varepsilon(t, k) \otimes E^\varepsilon(s, k')] = A_k \left(\frac{t-s}{\varepsilon^2} \right) \delta(k+k')$$

$$|\sigma| > \tau \implies A_k(\sigma) = 0,$$

Following numerical experiments N. Besse, Y. Elskens, D. Escande, P. Bertrand, Validity of quasilinear theory: refutations and new numerical confirmation, Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion **53** 025012–48 (2011).

- Introduction of randomness rises the issue generation of transition from the unstable region to the "turbulent" region and the propagation of such randomness in the turbulent region.
- • For the transition one can use the Langmuir approximation of the dispersion relation near an oscillating mode: For $\sigma \rightarrow 0_+$ this gives for the eigenvalue $(0, \tilde{\omega})$ the expression:

$$\text{Bump on tail} \quad \partial_v G(\omega = 0, t) \quad \text{and} \quad PV \int \frac{\partial_v G(v, t)}{(v - \tilde{\omega})} dv = k^3 \quad (14)$$

and the Langmuir approximation:

$$\tilde{\sigma}(t) \simeq \frac{\pi}{2} \tilde{\omega}(t) \partial_v G(\tilde{\omega}(t)) \quad \text{with} \quad \partial_v G(\tilde{\omega}(T^*)) = 0 \Rightarrow \tilde{\sigma} \ll \tilde{\omega}$$

- Using the Langmuir approximation and following Nicholson section 7.16 one deduces in the transition region an approximation of the evolution of the density

$$\rho = \int f(x, v, t) dv$$

in term of a quasilinear Sine Gordon type system.

$$\partial_t \rho(x, t) - \partial_x^2 \rho(x, t) = \partial_x^2 |E(x, t)|^2 \quad \partial_x E(x, t) = 4\pi \rho(x, t)$$

- • And finally study the propagation of the randomness of $\rho(x, t)$ by weak turbulence analysis. P. Germain C. Cotta...And many more.