

COMPORTEMENTS ASYMPTOTIQUES DE L'ÉQUATION DE VLASOV-POISSON-FOKKER-PLANCK

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We consider the dimensionless Vlasov-Poisson-Fokker-Planck equation for a plasma

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f - \nabla_x \phi \cdot \nabla_v f = \frac{1}{\tau} \nabla_v \cdot (vf + \nabla_v f) \\ -\delta^2 \Delta_x \phi = \rho - \rho_*(x), \quad \rho(t, x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} f(t, x, v) dv \end{cases}$$

in a 2D periodic box $x \in \mathbb{T}^2 = \mathbb{R}^2/\mathbb{Z}^2$, $v \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

Two dimensionless parameters

- The scaled Debye length $\delta > 0$
- The scaled mean free path / Knudsen number $\tau > 0$

Steady state satisfies

$$\begin{cases} v \cdot \nabla_x f_\infty - \nabla_x \phi_\infty^\delta \cdot \nabla_v f_\infty = \frac{1}{\tau} \operatorname{div}_v (v f_\infty + \nabla_v f_\infty), \\ -\delta^2 \Delta_x \phi_\infty^\delta = \rho_\infty - \rho_*, & \rho_\infty = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} f_\infty \, dv. \end{cases}$$

and is given by

$$f_\infty(x, v) = M(v) e^{-\phi_\infty^\delta(x)}, \quad M(v) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-\frac{1}{2}|v|^2}.$$

with $\phi_\infty^\delta(x)$ satisfying the **Poisson-Boltzmann equation**

$$-\delta^2 \Delta_x \phi_\infty^\delta = e^{-\phi_\infty^\delta} - \rho_*.$$

Lemma

For any $\rho_* \in H^{-1}(\mathbb{T}^2)$ such that $\int_{\mathbb{T}^2} \rho_* = 1$, the Poisson-Boltzmann equation possesses a unique weak solution $\phi_\infty^\delta \in H^1(\mathbb{T}^2)$ and moreover $\int_{\mathbb{T}^2} e^{-\phi_\infty^\delta} = 1$.

We are interested in two asymptotic regimes

- Strong collisions / Diffusive regime $\tau \ll 1$
- Evanescent collisions / Inviscid regime $\tau \gg 1$

We want to derive uniform in τ and δ estimates in order to

- Quantify long-time behavior (exponential convergence to f_∞) with explicit asymptotic rates in τ .
- Derive asymptotic models on appropriate time scales.

Far-from-exhaustive state of the art : *Bouchut-Dolbeault, Diff. Int. Eq 95, JMPA 99, Hwang-Jang, Contin. Dyn. Syst. Ser. B 2013, Hérau-Thomann, J. Funct. Anal. 2016...*

DESIGN OF A HYPOCOERCIVE FUNCTIONAL

- **Perturbative unknowns:** $h = (f - f_\infty)/f_\infty$ and $E = -\nabla_x(\phi - \phi_\infty^\delta)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t h + v \cdot \nabla_x h - \nabla_x \phi_\infty^\delta \cdot \nabla_v h - E \cdot v + E \cdot (\nabla_v - v)h \\ + \frac{1}{\tau} (v - \nabla_v) \cdot \nabla_v h = 0 \end{aligned}$$

- **Hilbertian setting:** $\mathcal{H} = L^2(\mathbb{T}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2, \mu)$ with $d\mu = f_\infty(x, v) dx dv$ and canonical scalar product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ and norm $\| \cdot \|$.

$$\mathcal{H}_0 = \{h \in \mathcal{H} \text{ such that } h f_\infty \text{ is mean free}\}$$

- **Operators:** Following [Villani, Memoirs AMS, 09](#) we introduce

$$A = \nabla_v, \quad B = v \cdot \nabla_x - \nabla_x \phi_\infty^\delta \cdot \nabla_v, \quad L_\tau = \frac{1}{\tau} A^* A + B$$

where $A^* = v - \nabla_v$ and $B^* = -B$. Then, VFPF rewrites

$$\partial_t h + L_\tau h = E \cdot A^*(1 + h), \quad E = \delta^{-2} \nabla_x \Delta_x^{-1} n$$

Hypo-coercivity on a toy model: Consider $X(t)$ and $V(t)$ solving

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ V \end{pmatrix} + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_B \begin{pmatrix} X \\ V \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{\tau} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{A^*A} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ V \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

- Set

$$L_\tau = \frac{1}{\tau} A^*A + B$$

By an explicit computation $\|e^{-L_\tau t}\| \leq e^{-\kappa(\tau)t}$ with $\kappa(\tau) = O_{\tau \rightarrow 0}(\tau)$ and $\kappa(\tau) = O_{\tau \rightarrow +\infty}(\tau^{-1})$

- Energy estimate in canonical norm

$$\frac{d}{dt}(X^2 + V^2) + \frac{2}{\tau}V^2 = 0$$

- Energy estimate in equivalent norm for small enough $\varepsilon(\tau)$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(X^2 + V^2 + \varepsilon(\tau)XV) + \kappa_X(\tau)X^2 + \kappa_V(\tau)V^2 \leq 0$$

A WEIGHTED H^1 HYPOCOERCIVE FUNCTIONAL

$$\begin{aligned} \|h\|_{\mathfrak{t}}^2 &= \|h\|^2 + \gamma_1 \tau^{\beta_1} \min\left(1, \frac{\mathfrak{t}}{\tau}\right) \|\nabla_v h\|^2 \\ &\quad + \gamma_2 \tau^{\beta_2} \min\left(1, \frac{\mathfrak{t}}{\tau}\right)^3 \|\nabla_x h\|^2 + 2\gamma_3 \tau^{\beta_3} \min\left(1, \frac{\mathfrak{t}}{\tau}\right)^2 \langle \nabla_v h, \nabla_x h \rangle \end{aligned}$$

- **Time weights** quantify hypoelliptic (regularization) effects
 - Technique introduced by [Hérau-Nier, ARMA 04](#)
- **Weights in τ** quantify the size of each derivative. Parameters β_1 , β_2 and β_3 will be chosen to close estimates uniformly in $\tau \rightarrow 0$ or $\tau \rightarrow +\infty$.
- **Full Lyapunov functional**

$$\mathcal{E}_{\mathfrak{t}}(h) = \|h\|_{\mathfrak{t}}^2 + \delta^2 \left(1 + \gamma_1 \tau^{\beta_1} \min\left(1, \frac{\mathfrak{t}}{\tau}\right)\right) \|E\|_{L^2}^2$$

- We want to establish (under conditions on parameters)

$$\mathcal{E}_{t_2}(h(t_2)) + \theta \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \mathcal{D}_s(h(s)) ds \leq \mathcal{E}_{t_1}(h(t_1))$$

- **Dissipation** associated with the Lyapunov functional is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}_t(h) &= \tau^{-1} \|\nabla_v h\|^2 + \gamma_1 \tau^{\beta_1 - 1} \min\left(1, \frac{t}{\tau}\right) (\|\nabla_v h\|^2 + \|\nabla_v^2 h\|^2) \\ &\quad + \gamma_2 \tau^{\beta_2 - 1} \min\left(1, \frac{t}{\tau}\right)^3 \|\nabla_v \nabla_x h\|^2 + \gamma_3 \tau^{\beta_3} \min\left(1, \frac{t}{\tau}\right)^2 \|\nabla_x h\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

- **Exponential decay** is a consequence of the Poincaré inequality:

$$\|h\|^2 \leq K \|e^{\phi_\infty^\delta}\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^2)} \|e^{-\phi_\infty^\delta}\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^2)} (\|\nabla_v h\|^2 + \|\nabla_x h\|^2).$$

which yields

$$K \tau^{\beta_*} \mathcal{E}_t(h(t)) \leq \mathcal{D}_t(h(t)).$$

for some β_* depending on $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3$

MAIN RESULTS

DIFFUSIVE REGIME $\tau \ll 1$

Let $\rho_* \in W^{1,p}(\mathbb{T}^2)$, with $p > 2$ s.t. $\int_{\mathbb{T}^2} \rho_* = 1$. Choose $\tau_0 > 0$, and a ball radius for the initial data $R_0 > 1$.

Theorem (H., Rodrigues)

There are positive constants θ_0 and K such that

$$\forall (\tau, \delta), \quad \tau \leq \tau_0, \quad \delta \geq K(1 + R_0^{1/2})$$

and for any f_0 s.t. $\|f_0\|_{L^2(M^{-1})} \leq R_0$ and $\int_{\mathbb{T}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2} f_0 = 1$, then VPFP has a unique strong solution f starting from f_0 , and for any $t \geq 0$

$$\|f(t, \cdot, \cdot) - f_\infty\|_{L^2(M^{-1})} \leq K \|f_0 - f_\infty\|_{L^2(M^{-1})} e^{-\theta_0 \tau t}$$

and if g solves VPFP starting from g_0

$$\|f(t, \cdot, \cdot) - g(t, \cdot, \cdot)\|_{L^2(M^{-1})} \leq K \|f_0 - g_0\|_{L^2(M^{-1})} e^{-\theta_0 \tau t}.$$

Theorem (H., Rodrigues)

For any $\varepsilon > 0$, there are positive constants θ_0 and K such that

$$\forall (\tau, \delta), \quad \tau \geq \tau_0, \quad \delta \geq K(1 + R_0^{1/2}) \tau^{7/15 + \varepsilon}$$

and for any f_0 s.t. $\|f_0\|_{L^2(M^{-1})} \leq R_0$ and $\int_{\mathbb{T}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2} f_0 = 1$, then VPFP has a unique strong solution f starting from f_0 , and for any $t \geq 0$

$$\|f(t, \cdot, \cdot) - f_\infty\|_{L^2(M^{-1})} \leq K \|f_0 - f_\infty\|_{L^2(M^{-1})} e^{-\theta_0 \frac{t}{\tau}}$$

and if g solves VPFP starting from g_0

$$\|f(t, \cdot, \cdot) - g(t, \cdot, \cdot)\|_{L^2(M^{-1})} \leq K \|f_0 - g_0\|_{L^2(M^{-1})} e^{-\theta_0 \frac{t}{\tau}}.$$

- **Strong collisions** $\tau \rightarrow 0$: $\delta \geq K(1 + R_0^{1/2})$
 - Constraint on δ is the same for linearized equation
 - Thanks to uniformity in τ , we can use estimates to study hydrodynamic limits
- **Evanescent collisions** $\tau \rightarrow +\infty$: $\delta \geq K(1 + R_0^{1/2}) \tau^{7/15+\varepsilon}$
 - Constraint on δ comes from non-linear terms
 - Uniformity in τ would contradict unstability of double-humped equilibria Penrose, *Phys. of Fluids*,60 ;Guo-Strauss, *Ann. IHP*, 95
 - Heuristic justification of the power :

$$y'(t) = \frac{1 + y(t)}{\delta^2} y(t) - \frac{1}{\tau} y(t)$$

If $y(0) = R_0 > 0$ then exponential decay to 0 occurs if and only if $\delta \geq \sqrt{1 + R_0} \tau^{1/2}$

We build solutions and close non-linear estimates by a Banach fixed-point argument

- We fix $R_0 > 0$ and choose $h_0 \in \mathcal{H}_0$ such that $\|h_0\| \leq R_0$.
- We introduce $X_R = \{ h \mid \mathcal{E}(h) = \sup_{t \geq 0} \mathcal{E}_t(h(t, \cdot, \cdot)) < R^2 \}$ and $Y_R = \{ h \mid \mathcal{E}(h) + \theta \int_0^\infty D_t(h(t, \cdot, \cdot)) dt < R^2 \}$ with $R = 2R_0$.
- Let

$$\Phi : g \mapsto h$$

where h starts from h_0 and solves the linear equation

$$\partial_t h + L_\tau h = E_h \cdot v + E_g \cdot A^* h,$$

with E_g, E_h the electric fields computed from g and h .

- We show that $\Phi(X_R) \subset Y_R \subset X_R$ and that Φ is a contraction map.

$$\mathcal{E}_t(h(t)) + \int_0^t \mathcal{D}_s(h(s)) ds \leq \|h_0\|^2 + \text{I} + \text{II}_\delta + \text{III}_\delta(g) + \text{IV}_\delta(g)$$

- $\text{I} \leq \theta \int_0^t \mathcal{D}_s(h(s)) ds$ with $\theta \in (0, 1)$ uniformly for small τ if

$$\max\left(1, \frac{\beta_1 + \beta_2}{2}\right) \leq \beta_3 \leq \min(2\beta_1 + 1, \beta_2 - 1)$$

Optimal decay rate obtained for $\beta_3 = 1$, that forces $\beta_1 = 0$ and $\beta_2 = 2$.

- $\text{II}_\delta + \text{III}_\delta(g) \leq \frac{K(1+R)}{\delta^2} \int_0^t \mathcal{D}_s(h(s)) ds$

- $\text{IV}_\delta(g) \leq \frac{KR}{\delta^2} \int_0^{\min(t, \tau)} \tau^{1-2\eta} \left(\frac{s}{\tau}\right)^{-3\eta} \|h(s)\|^2 ds$

Non-linear growth during short-time regularization

$\|E\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^2)} \leq \frac{K_\eta}{\delta^2} \|h\|^{1-\eta} \|\nabla_x h\|^\eta$ singular when $t \rightarrow 0$ since $\nabla_x h_0 \notin \mathcal{H}$.

Additional results

- Derivation of hydrodynamic limits on appropriate (τ -dependent time scales) when $\tau \rightarrow 0$ (e.g. strong convergence of macroscopic density to parabolic / diffusion limit)

Multiscale hypocoercive estimates

- Can be adapted to many situations to study **long-time behavior** with asymptotic dependence of rates on scaling parameters and to derive **hydrodynamic limits**
 - For Boltzmann with small Knudsen number [Briant, JDE, 15](#)
 - For VPFP with strong magnetic field / small electron mass [H., Rodrigues, preprint 17](#)
 - Kinetic models multiple scales and uncertainty [Jin, Zhu, preprint 17](#), [Jin, Liu, preprint 17](#)

M. H. and L. M. Rodrigues. Large-Time Behavior of Solutions to Vlasov-Poisson-Fokker-Planck Equations: From Evanescent Collisions to Diffusive Limit. *Journal of Statistical Physics*, Feb 2018.