# Multiphase formulation of plasma physics

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The Vlasov-Poisson equation and the kinetic Euler equation

Known results concerning linear and non-linear instability

New results: the measure-valued setting and the multiphase formulation

An application to incompressible optimal transport

The Vlasov-Poisson case

The Vlasov-Poisson equation and the kinetic Euler equation

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Global existence of classical solutions for d = 2 or 3 [Ukai, Okabe 78; Lions, Perthame 91; Pfaffelmoser 92].

$$(VP_{\varepsilon}) \begin{cases} \partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f - \nabla_x U \cdot \nabla_v f = 0, \\ -\varepsilon^2 \Delta_x U = \int f \, \mathrm{d}v - 1, \\ f|_{t=0} = f_0, \end{cases}$$

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The parameter  $\varepsilon$  is the **Debye length**. It is typically very small w.r.t. the scale of observations ( $\sim 10^{-3}$ m in the ionosphere,  $\sim 10^{-4}$ m in a tokamak).

$$(kEu) \begin{cases} \partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f - \nabla_x p \cdot \nabla_v f = 0, \\ \int f \, \mathrm{d}v \equiv 1, \\ f|_{t=0} = f_0, \end{cases}$$

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As in the case of the incompressible Euler equation, p solves an elliptic equation:

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The pressure p has the same number of spatial derivatives as f. (Same scaling as in the **Vlasov-Benney equation** where p is replaced by the spatial density  $\rho = \int f \, dv$  [Jabin, Nouri 11; Bardos, Nouri 12]).

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We look for exponential growing modes (EGM):

$$f(t, x, v) = g(v) \exp(in \cdot x) \exp(\lambda t),$$

where  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  is the **frequency**,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\Re(\lambda) > 0$  is the **growing** rate.

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If there exists an EGM, we say that  $\mu$  is **unstable**.

### Penrose instability criterion

#### Proposition (Penrose 1960)

Let  $\mu$  be a smooth profile. Equation (L) admits an EGM of frequency n and growing rate  $\lambda$  iff the following **Penrose condition (Pen)** holds:

$$\int \frac{in \cdot \nabla_{v} \mu(v)}{\lambda + in \cdot v} \, \mathrm{d}v = \begin{cases} \varepsilon^{2} |n|^{2}, & \text{for } (VP_{\varepsilon}), \\ 0, & \text{for } (kEu). \end{cases}$$

In that case:

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In dimension 1:



Take  $(\lambda, n)$  satisfying (Pen) and set the ansatz:

$$\begin{cases} f(t, x, v) = \mu(v) + \delta \Re \left( \frac{in \cdot \nabla_v \mu(v)}{\lambda + in \cdot v} \exp(\lambda t + in \cdot x) \right) + R^{\delta}(t, x, v), \\ R^{\delta}|_{t=0} = 0. \end{cases}$$

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<u>Main question</u>: Up to which time  $T_{\delta}$  and in which norm  $\| \bullet \|$  can you justify:

$$\forall t \in [0, T_{\delta}], \quad \|R^{\delta}(t)\| \ll \delta \exp\left(\Re(\lambda)t\right)?$$

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#### Problem

$$\mu(\mathbf{v}) + \delta \Re \left( \frac{i\mathbf{n} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{v}} \mu(\mathbf{v})}{\lambda + i\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v}} \exp(i\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{x}) \right)$$

needs to be sufficiently regular and nonnegative. It is hence needed to add assumptions on  $\mu$  (regularity + cancellation conditions).

This question has been widely studied, see e.g. [Guo, Strauss 95; Han-Kwan, Hauray 15; Han-Kwan, Nguyen 16].

#### Theorem (Han-Kwan, Nguyen 16)

Let  $\mu$  be smooth, Penrose unstable and satisfying cancellation conditions. For all  $s, m \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exist solutions  $f^{\delta}$  up to time  $T_{\delta} > 0$  of (VP) such that:

• Convergence at the initial time:

$$\left| \left( 1 + |v|^2 \right)^{m/2} \left\{ f_0^{\delta} - \mu \right\} \right|_{H^s(\mathbb{T}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d)} = \mathcal{O}(\delta),$$

• No convergence at time  $T_{\delta} = \mathcal{O}(|\log \delta|)$ :

$$\liminf_{\delta\to 0} \|f^{\delta}(T_{\delta}) - \mu\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{T}^{d}\times\mathbb{R}^{d})} > 0.$$

#### Proposition

If  $\mu$  is unstable, if  $(n, \lambda)$  satisfies (Pen) for (kEu) and if  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , then  $(kn, k\lambda)$  also satisfies (Pen).

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$$\frac{\|f^{\delta} - \mu\|_{L^{2}([0, \mathcal{T}_{\delta}) \times \mathbb{T}^{d})}}{\left\|\left(1 + |v|^{2}\right)^{m/2} \left\{f_{0}^{\delta} - \mu\right\}\right\|_{H^{s}(\mathbb{T}^{d} \times \mathbb{R}^{d})}^{\alpha}} \xrightarrow{\delta \to 0} + \infty$$

New results: the measure-valued setting and the multiphase formulation

## The measure-valued setting

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- we have:

$$\frac{\|\boldsymbol{p}_{\delta}\|_{L^{1}([0,T_{\delta})\times\mathbb{T}^{d})}}{\sum_{i=1}^{N}\|\langle f_{0}^{\delta},\varphi_{i}\rangle-\langle\mu,\varphi_{i}\rangle\|_{W^{s,\infty}(\mathbb{T}^{d})}^{\alpha}}\xrightarrow{\delta\to 0}+\infty.$$

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If  $\rho^w \equiv 1$ ,  $u^w \equiv w$ ,  $w \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , we get  $f(t, x, \bullet) = \mu$ .



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The stationary solution  $(1, w)_{w \in \mathbb{R}^d}$  is linearly unstable if and only if  $\mu$  is **Penrose unstable**.

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$$\frac{\|P\delta\|_{L^1([0,T_{\delta})\times\mathbb{T}^d)}}{\sup_{w\in\mathbb{R}^d}\left\{\|\rho_0^{\delta,w}-1\|_{W^{s,\infty}}^{\alpha}+\|u_0^{\delta,w}-w\|_{W^{s,\infty}}^{\alpha}\right\}}\xrightarrow{\delta\to 0}+\infty.$$

















Goal: Under constraints related to incompressibility and to endpoints:

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By our ill-posedness result: p is not a smooth function of  $\gamma$  [B. 2019].

The Vlasov-Poisson case

Ongoing work with D. Han-Kwan.

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- A generalization of their proof in higher dimension and general  $\mu$  would provide a proof of non-linear instability for (VP) in a measure-valued setting.






Pictures from Frans Ebersohn, PEPL, University of Michigan.