

Mean-field limits and emergent dynamics of the classical and quantum many-body systems

Lecture 1

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What is a Mean-Field Kinetic Model?

System of N identical particles, with pairwise interactions; $N \gg 1$
(e.g. $N = \text{Avogadro number} \simeq 6.02 \cdot 10^{23} \dots$)

Dynamics described either

- (a) by Newton's 2nd law of motion for each particle, or
- (b) by the motion equation for the "typical particle" driven by the collective interaction with all the other particles

Approach (b) is usually referred to as a mean-field kinetic model

The N -Body Problem in Classical Mechanics

System of N identical point particles of mass m , spatial domain \mathbf{R}^d

Newton's second law for the motion of the k th particle:

$$m\dot{x}_j = \xi_j, \quad \dot{\xi}_j = \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^N -\nabla \underbrace{V(x_j - x_k)}_{\text{interaction potential}}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq N$$

Assumptions on V

$$(H1) \quad V(z) = V(-z) \quad \text{for all } z \in \mathbf{R}^d$$

$$(H2) \quad V \in C^1(\mathbf{R}^d) \text{ with } \nabla V \in L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d) \cap \text{Lip}(\mathbf{R}^d)$$

Notation set $X_N := (x_1, \dots, x_N)$ and $\Xi_N := (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_N)$ in \mathbf{R}^{dN}

Solution of the differential system with initial data (X_N^{in}, Ξ_N^{in})

$$(X_N, \Xi_N)(t) = \Phi_N(t; X_N^{in}, \Xi_N^{in})$$

Mean Field Scaling

Rescaled time, position and momentum:

$$\hat{t} = t/N, \quad \hat{x}_j(\hat{t}) = x_j(t), \quad \hat{\xi}_j(\hat{t}) = \xi_j(t)$$

Motion equations

$$mN \frac{d\hat{x}_j}{d\hat{t}} = \hat{\xi}_j, \quad N \frac{d\hat{\xi}_j}{d\hat{t}} = \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^N -\nabla V(\hat{x}_j - \hat{x}_k)$$

Finite total mass assumption

$$Nm = 1$$

Henceforth drop hats on all variables; our starting point is

$$\dot{x}_j = \xi_j, \quad \dot{\xi}_j = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^N \nabla V(x_j - x_k)$$

Vlasov Equation

Unknown $f(t, dx d\xi) =$ single-particle phase-space number density

$$(\partial_t + \xi \cdot \nabla_x) f - \nabla_x V_f \cdot \nabla_\xi f = 0, \quad x, \xi \in \mathbf{R}^d$$

where $V_f \equiv V_f(t, x)$ is the **mean-field potential**

$$V_f(t, x) := \iint_{\mathbf{R}^d \times \mathbf{R}^d} V(x - y) f(t, dy d\eta) = (V \star f(t))(x, \xi)$$

Notation set of Borel probability measures on \mathbf{R}^n denoted $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}^n)$

$$\mu \in \mathcal{P}_k(\mathbf{R}^n) \iff \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} |x|^k \mu(dx) < \infty$$

Existence/Uniqueness For each $f^{in} \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{R}^{2d})$, there exists a unique weak solution $f \in C([0, +\infty); w - \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}^{2d}))$ of the Vlasov equation such that $f|_{t=0} = f^{in}$

Liouville Equation

For a.e. $Y_N := (y_1, \dots, y_N)$ and $H_N := (\eta_1, \dots, \eta_N)$, consider

$$F_N(t, Y_N, H_N) := (f^{in})^{\otimes N}(\Phi_N(-\frac{t}{N}, Y_N, H_N))$$

By the method of characteristics, F_N is the solution of the N -body Liouville equation

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t F_N + \sum_{j=1}^N \left(\eta_j \cdot \nabla_{y_j} F_N - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \nabla V(y_j - y_k) \cdot \nabla_{\eta_j} F_N \right) = 0 \\ F_N|_{t=0} = (f^{in})^{\otimes N} \end{cases}$$

Problem compare $f(t)^{\otimes n}$, where f is the Vlasov solution, with

$$F_N^n(t, Y_n, H_n) := \int_{\mathbf{R}^{2d(N-n)}} F_N(t, Y_N, H_N) dy_{n+1} d\eta_{n+1} \dots dy_N d\eta_N$$

Wasserstein distance of exponent p between μ and $\nu \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathbf{R}^m)$

$$\mathbf{W}_p(\mu, \nu) := \inf_{\sigma \in \mathcal{C}(\mu, \nu)} \left(\iint_{\mathbf{R}^{2m}} |x - y|^p \sigma(dx dy) \right)^{1/p}$$

where $\mathcal{C}(\mu, \nu)$ = set of $\sigma \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}^{2m})$ (**couplings** of μ and ν) s.t.

$$\iint_{\mathbf{R}^{2m}} (\phi(x) + \psi(y)) \sigma(dx dy) = \int_{\mathbf{R}^m} \phi(x) \mu(dx) + \int_{\mathbf{R}^m} \psi(y) \nu(dy)$$

- Observe that $\mu \otimes \nu \in \mathcal{C}(\mu, \nu) \neq \emptyset$
- With $\sigma(dx dy) = \mu(dx) \delta(y - x) \in \mathcal{C}(\mu, \mu)$, one has $\mathbf{W}_p(\mu, \mu) = 0$

Theorem A [Dobrushin FA1979]

Assume that the potential V satisfies (H1)-(H2). Let $f(t)$ be the solution of the Vlasov equation with initial data f^{in} and F_N be the solution of the Liouville equation with initial data F_N^{in} . Then

$$\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{W}_2(f(t)^{\otimes n}, F_N^n(t))^2 \leq \frac{(2\|\nabla V\|_{L^\infty})^2}{N} \frac{e^{\Lambda t} - 1}{\Lambda}$$

for all $t \geq 0$ and $n = 1, \dots, N$, with

$$\Lambda = 2 + \max(1, 2 \operatorname{Lip}(\nabla V)^2)$$

Notation Henceforth, we denote

$$\rho_f(t, x) := \int_{\mathbf{R}^d} f(t, x, \xi) d\xi$$

Lemma 1 Let $t \mapsto P(t, dX_N d\Xi_N dY_N dH_N) \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}^{4dN})$ satisfy

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (\partial_t + \Xi_N \cdot \nabla_{X_N} + H_N \cdot \nabla_{Y_N})P \\ = \sum_{j=1}^N \left(\nabla V \star_x \rho_f(t, x_j) \cdot \nabla_{\xi_j} + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \nabla V(y_j - y_k) \cdot \nabla_{\eta_j} \right) P \\ P|_{t=0} = (f^{in})^{\otimes N}(X_N, \Xi_N) \delta(Y_N - X_N) \delta(H_N - \Xi_N) \end{array} \right.$$

Then $P(t) \in \mathcal{C}(f(t)^{\otimes N}, F_N(t))$ for each $t \geq 0$, i.e.

$$\int P(t) dY_N dH_N = f(t)^{\otimes N}, \quad \int P(t) dX_N d\Xi_N = F_N(t)$$

Proof: Integrate both sides of the equation for P in (Y_N, H_N) and in (X_N, Ξ_N) , and use the uniqueness property for the Vlasov and the Liouville equations

The Functional $D_N(t)$

For $P(t, dX_N d\Xi_N dY_N dH_N)$ defined above, consider the quantity

$$D_N(t) := \int_{\mathbf{R}^{4dN}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (|x_j - y_j|^2 + |\xi_j - \eta_j|^2) P(t, dX_N d\Xi_N dY_N dH_N)$$

Lemma 2

$$D_N(t) \geq \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{W}_2(f(t)^{\otimes n}, F_N^n(t))^2$$

Proof: By symmetry of $P(t)$, for all $j = 1, \dots, N$, one has

$$\begin{aligned} D_N(t) &:= \int_{\mathbf{R}^{4dN}} (|x_j - y_j|^2 + |\xi_j - \eta_j|^2) P(t, dX_N d\Xi_N dY_N dH_N) \\ &\geq \int_{\mathbf{R}^{4dN}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n (|x_j - y_j|^2 + |\xi_j - \eta_j|^2) P(t, dX_N d\Xi_N dY_N dH_N) \end{aligned}$$

Averaging out the last $d(N - n)$ position and momentum variables in $P(t)$ defines a coupling of $f(t)^{\otimes n}$ with $F_N^n(t)$

The Dynamics of $D_N(t)$

Notation for $Y_N = (y_1, \dots, y_N)$, we set

$$\mu_{Y_N} := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \delta_{y_j}$$

• Multiplying each side of the equation for P by

$$\frac{1}{N} (|X_N - Y_N|^2 + |\Xi_N - H_N|^2)$$

and integrating in all variables shows that

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{D}_N(t) &= \int \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (\xi_j \cdot \nabla_{x_j} + \eta_j \cdot \nabla_{y_j}) |x_j - y_j|^2 P(t) \\ &+ \int \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (\nabla V \star_x \rho_f(t, x_j) \cdot \nabla_{\xi_j} + \nabla V \star \mu_{Y_N}(y_j) \nabla_{\eta_j}) |\xi_j - \eta_j|^2 P(t) \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{D}_N(t) &= \int \frac{2}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (\xi_j - \eta_j) \cdot (x_j - y_j) P(t) \\ &+ \int \frac{2}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (\nabla V \star_x \rho_f(t, x_j) - \nabla V \star \mu_{Y_N}(y_j)) \cdot (\xi_j - \eta_j) P(t) \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{D}_N(t) &\leq D_N(t) \\ &+ \int \frac{2}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (\nabla V \star_x \rho_f(t, x_j) - \nabla V \star \mu_{X_N}(x_j)) \cdot (\xi_j - \eta_j) P(t) \\ &+ \int \frac{2}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (\nabla V \star \mu_{X_N}(x_j) - \nabla V \star \mu_{Y_N}(y_j)) \cdot (\xi_j - \eta_j) P(t) \\ &=: D_N(t) + I_N(t) + J_N(t) \end{aligned}$$

Since ∇V is Lipschitz continuous

$$\begin{aligned} J_N(t) &\leq \int \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (|\nabla V \star (\mu_{X_N}(x_j) - \mu_{Y_N}(y_j))|^2 + |\xi_j - \eta_j|^2) P(t) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{N} \int \sum_{j=1}^N (2 \operatorname{Lip}(\nabla V)^2 |x_j - y_j|^2 + |\xi_j - \eta_j|^2) P(t) \\ &\leq \max(1, 2 \operatorname{Lip}(\nabla V)^2) D_N(t) \end{aligned}$$

Likewise

$$\begin{aligned} I_N(t) &\leq \int \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (|\nabla V \star (\rho_f(t, x_j) - \mu_{X_N}(x_j))|^2 + |\xi_j - \eta_j|^2) P(t) \\ &\leq \int \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N |\nabla V \star (\rho_f(t, \cdot) - \mu_{X_N})(x_j)|^2 \rho_f(t)^{\otimes N} + D_N(t) \end{aligned}$$

Poor Man's Law of Large Numbers

Lemma 3

$$\int |\nabla V \star (\rho_f - \mu_{X_N})(x_1)|^2 \rho_f(t)^{\otimes N} \leq \frac{(2\|\nabla V\|_{L^\infty})^2}{N}$$

Proof Setting $\mathcal{V}(z) := \nabla V \star \rho_f(x_1) - \nabla V(x_1 - z)$, one has

$$|\nabla V \star (\rho - \mu_{X_N})(x_1)|^2 = \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{k,l=1}^N \mathcal{V}(x_j) \cdot \mathcal{V}(x_k)$$

and

$$j \neq k \Rightarrow \int \mathcal{V}(x_j) \cdot \mathcal{V}(x_k) \rho^{\otimes N} = 0$$

Apply Gronwall's lemma to the differential inequality

$$\dot{D}_N(t) \leq \Lambda D_N(t) + \frac{(2\|\nabla V\|_{L^\infty})^2}{N}$$

(KL) Dynamics of N weakly coupled oscillators

$$\dot{\theta}_j = \nu_j + \frac{\kappa}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \sin(\theta_k - \theta_j), \quad j = 1, \dots, N$$

(LMM) Motion of weakly coupled $U_j(t) \in \mathbf{U}(d)$, for $H_j = H_j^* \in M_d(\mathbf{C})$

$$i\dot{U}_j U_j^* = H_j + \frac{i\kappa}{2N} \sum_{k=1}^N (U_k U_j^* - U_j U_k^*), \quad 1 \leq j \leq N$$

where

$$\mathbf{U}(d) = \{V \in M_d(\mathbf{C}) \text{ s.t. } VV^* = V^*V = I\}$$

For $d = 1$, writing $U_j(t) = e^{i\theta_j(t)}$ and $H_j = \nu_j \in \mathbf{R}$ shows that Lohe's model reduces to Kuramoto's

Tangent space at U of $\mathbf{U}(d)$:

$$T_U\mathbf{U}(d) := \mathfrak{su}(d)U, \quad \mathfrak{su}(d) := \{A \in M_d(\mathbf{C}) \text{ s.t. } A = -A^*\}$$

Single-oscillator phase-space

$$T\mathbf{U}(d) := \{(U, AU) \text{ s.t. } (U, A) \in \mathbf{U}(d) \times \mathfrak{su}(d)\}$$

Continuous vector field on $\mathbf{U}(d)$

$$\mathbf{U}(d) \ni U \mapsto X_U = A(U)U \in T_U\mathbf{U}(d), \quad A(U) \in \mathfrak{su}(d)$$

Divergence of fX with $f \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{U}(d))$ and X continuous vector field on $\mathbf{U}(d)$: linear functional

$$C^1(\mathbf{U}(d)) \ni \phi \mapsto \langle \text{div}(fX), \phi \rangle := \int_{\mathbf{U}(d)} (d_U\phi, X_U)f(dU)$$

Liouville Equation for the LMM

Distribution function in the N -particle phase space $(\mathbf{U}(d) \times \mathfrak{su}(d))^N$:

$$F_N \equiv F_N(t, dU_1 dA_1 \dots dU_N dA_N)$$

Liouville equation N -particle system (with $A_j := -iH_j \in \mathfrak{su}(d)$)

$$\partial_t F_N + \sum_{j=1}^N \operatorname{div}_{U_j} (F_N (A_j + X_j(U_1, \dots, U_N)) U_j) = 0$$

where

$$X_j := \frac{\kappa}{2N} \sum_{k=1}^N K(U_k, U_j) U_j, \quad K(U, V) := UV^* - VU^* \in \mathfrak{su}(d)$$

Remark: the variables A_1, \dots, A_N are **not dynamical**, but only simple parameters — yet the mean-field limit requires considering the joint distribution of U and A

Mean-field equation: 1-particle distribution $f \equiv f(t, dUdA)$

$$\partial_t f(t) + \operatorname{div}_U \left(f(t) \left(A + \frac{\kappa}{2} \int_{\mathbf{U}(d) \times \mathfrak{su}(d)} K(V, U) f(t, dVdB) \right) U \right) = 0$$

Theorem B [FG-S.-Y. Ha ARMA2019]

Let $f^{in} \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbf{U}(d) \times \mathfrak{su}(d))$ and let f be the solution of the Lohe kinetic equation with initial data f^{in} . Let F_N be the solution of the Liouville equation with initial data $(f^{in})^{\otimes N}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{\operatorname{Lip}(\phi) \leq 1} \left| \int \phi(U, A) (F_N^1(t, dUdA) - f(t, dUdA)) \right|^2 \\ \leq \mathbf{W}_2(F_N^1(t), f(t))^2 \leq \frac{8\kappa d}{5N} (e^{10\kappa t} - 1) \end{aligned}$$

where F_N^1 is the 1st marginal of F_N , defined by

$$\int \phi(U, A) F_N^1(dUdA) = \int \phi(U_1, A_1) F_N(dU_1 dA_1 \dots dU_N dA_N)$$

- References used in the talk

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2. R.L. Dobrushin: Funct. Anal. Appl. **13**, 115–123 (1979)
3. F.G., C. Mouhot, T. Paul: Commun. Math. Phys. **343**, 165–205 (2016)
4. F.G. S.-Y. Ha: Arch. Rational Mech. Anal. **234**, 1445–1491 (2019)
5. C. Villani: “Topics in Optimal Transportation”. AMS, Providence (RI) (2003)

- Reference for numerical methods (vortex blob method for 2D Euler)

6. C. Marchioro, M. Pulvirenti: “Mathematical Theory of Incompressible Nonviscous Fluids”, Springer Verlag, New York 1994 (see chapter 5, and the appendix on K-R distance, which is \mathbf{W}_1)