

# Nonlinearity stability of active suspension model

Helge Dietert

Université Paris Cité and Sorbonne Université, CNRS  
IMJ-PRG, F-75006 Paris, France

Joint work with David Gérard-Varet and Michele Coti Zelati

26th Septembre 2024

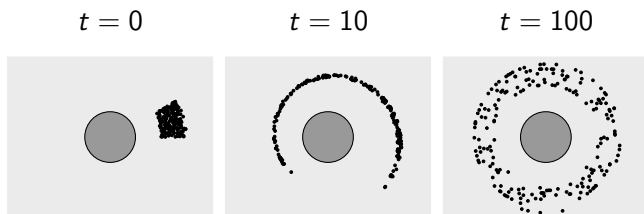
# Macroscopic behaviour from microscopic laws

**Statistical physics:** many particle systems

- Microscopic laws: reversible
- Macroscopic laws: irreversible (thermodynamic)

**Kinetic theory:** density over phase space  $(x, v)$

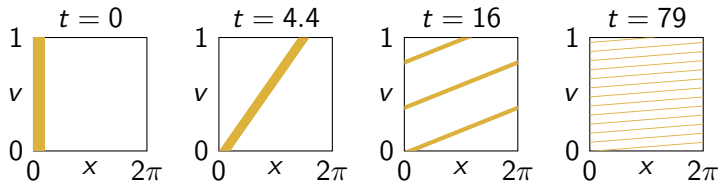
- with collisions by Boltzmann and Maxwell  
⇒ H theorem
- collisionless by Jeans (gravitational) and Vlasov (plasmas)  
⇒ reversible  
⇒ Landau (1946) damping



# Phase mixing for free transport

Density  $f(t, x, v)$  evolves over phase space  $(x, v) \in \mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{R}$  as

$$\partial_t f + v \partial_x f = 0.$$



Fourier transform  $x \rightarrow k$ :

$$\partial_t f_k + ikv f_k = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad f_k(t, v) = e^{-ikvt} f_k^{\text{in}}(v)$$

Spatial density

$$\rho_k(t) = \int_{v \in \mathbb{R}} f_k(t, v) dv = \int_{v \in \mathbb{R}} e^{-ikvt} f_k^{\text{in}}(v) dv$$

decays if  $f^{\text{in}}$  has regularity.

# Active suspension model

## Model [Saintillan, Shelley '08]

Active particles (bacteria) in a Stokes fluid described by

- position  $x \in \mathbb{T}^3$ ,
- orientation  $v \in \mathbb{S}^2$ .

Each particle moves forward  $\Rightarrow$  Induced velocity field  $u$ .

Density  $f(t, x, v)$  evolves as

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t f + (v + u) \cdot \nabla_x f + \nabla_v \cdot \left( \mathbb{P}_{v^\perp} [(\gamma E(u) + W(u))v] f \right) = \nu \Delta_v f, \\ -\Delta_x u + \nabla_x q = \alpha \nabla_x \cdot \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} f(t, x, v) v \otimes v \, dv, \\ \nabla_x \cdot u = 0. \end{cases}$$

$$E(u) = \frac{1}{2} [\nabla_x u + (\nabla_x u)^T] \quad \text{and} \quad W(u) = \frac{1}{2} [\nabla_x u - (\nabla_x u)^T]$$

**Pusher:**  $\alpha < 0$

**Puller:**  $\alpha > 0$

# Observations for the active suspension model

**Popular model.** For pushers, simulations show a phase transition more or less observed in experiments:

- For  $\gamma|\alpha|$  small enough, the incoherent state  $f(v) = \frac{1}{4\pi}$  is stable.
- For  $\gamma|\alpha|$  big enough, emergence of a new collective behaviour. Changes the rheology of the suspension.

**Goal:** Recover observations analytically

**First step:** Understand the linearised behaviour

In the incoherent regime, we exhibit a mixing phenomenon, both at  $\nu = 0$  and  $\nu \gg 1 > 0$  (much harder). The fact that  $v \in \mathbb{S}^2$  changes deeply the behaviour with respect to usual settings.

# Linearised model

Linearise around the incoherent state:

- Fourier modes  $x \rightarrow k$  decouple
- Can rescale  $k$  to  $|k| = 1$  in adimensional form

Fixed mode  $k \in \mathbb{S}^2$ , perturbation  $f = f(t, v)$ ,  $v \in \mathbb{S}^2$ , evolves as

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t f + i v \cdot k f - \frac{3\Gamma}{4\pi} v \otimes v : E(u) = v \Delta_v f, \\ u = \mathbb{P}_{k^\perp} i k \Sigma, \\ \Sigma := \epsilon \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} f(t, v) v \otimes v \, dv \end{cases}$$

where  $\epsilon = \pm 1$  (pullers  $\epsilon = 1$ , pushers  $\epsilon = -1$ ) and strength number  $\Gamma$ .

## Theorem ( $\nu = 0$ : mixing)

If  $\epsilon = 1$  (pullers), for any  $\Gamma$ , as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$|u(t)| = O(t^{-2}), \quad \|\psi\|_{H^{-1-}} = O(t^{-1}).$$

If  $\epsilon = -1$  (pushers), there exists  $\Gamma_c$  such that

- For  $\Gamma < \Gamma_c$ , the same stability result holds.
- For  $\Gamma > \Gamma_c$ , there exist unstable eigenmodes.

## Theorem ( $\nu > 0$ : mixing followed by enhanced dissipation)

If  $\epsilon = 1$  or  $\epsilon = -1$  and  $\Gamma < \Gamma_c$ , then for  $\nu$  small enough

$$|u(t)| + \frac{1}{t} \|\psi\|_{H^{-1-}} \lesssim \min \left( \frac{|\ln t|^M}{t^2}, e^{-\eta\nu^{\frac{1}{2}}t} \right).$$

**Remark:** Decay due to mixing is at fixed polynomial rate, even for analytic  $f_{\text{in}}$ .

Strong difference with usual results due to  $\nu \in \mathbb{S}^2$  instead of  $\nu \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Remark:** Contemporary paper by [\[Albritton-Ohm\]](#) on the same model.

- $\nu = 0$ : Under stability condition from dispersion relation,  $L^2$  decay as

$$\int_{t=0}^{\infty} |u(t)|^2 (1+t)^{3-\epsilon} dt < \infty$$

- $\nu > 0$ : No analogue of our theorem. Only result of enhanced dissipation under stringent assumption  $\Gamma \ll \nu^{1/2}$ .



# Decay by phase mixing and diffusion

## Key step

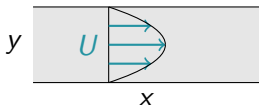
Understand phase mixing and diffusion (Fourier mode  $x \rightarrow k$ ):

$$(\partial_t - L_1)f_k = (\partial_t + ik \cdot v - \nu \Delta_v)f_k = 0, \quad f_k = f_k(t, v), t \in \mathbb{R}^+, v \in \mathbb{S}^2$$

where we can rescale  $k \in \mathbb{S}^2$ .

**Challenge:** Phase mixing is degenerate at poles  $\pm k$

Similar to mixing through Poiseuille flow:



$$U = \begin{pmatrix} y(1-y) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

*Common theme* for phase mixing of trapped particles.

# Decay by pure phase mixing

$$(\partial_t - L_1)f = (\partial_t + ik \cdot v - \nu \Delta_v)f = 0, \quad f = f(t, v), t \in \mathbb{R}^+, k, v \in \mathbb{S}^2.$$

## Proposition (inviscid decay)

For  $\nu = 0$  and  $\delta > 0$  and weight  $F : \mathbb{S}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} f(t, v) F(v) dv \right| \lesssim \frac{1}{(1+t)} \|F\|_{H^{1+\delta}} \|f\|_{H^{1+\delta}},$$
$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} f(t, v) F(v) \nabla(k \cdot v) dv \right| \lesssim \frac{1}{(1+t)^2} \|F\|_{H^{2+\delta}} \|f\|_{H^{2+\delta}}.$$

**Idea:** Solve explicitly and use stationary phase.

# Decay by phase mixing and diffusion

$$(\partial_t - L_1)f = (\partial_t + ik \cdot v - \nu \Delta_v)f = 0, \quad f = f(t, v), t \in \mathbb{R}^+, k, v \in \mathbb{S}^2.$$

## Small degenerate diffusion ( $0 < \nu \ll 1$ )?

(collisions in kinetic theory (Boltzmann/Landau operator), viscosity in fluids)

**Hypoocoercivity:** Decay by combination of

transport and degenerate dissipation.

**Decay rate for  $\nu \ll 1$ :** Faster as simple diffusion as

- transport pushes perturbations to high Fourier frequencies,
- dissipation is faster for high Fourier frequencies.

## Proposition (enhanced dissipation)

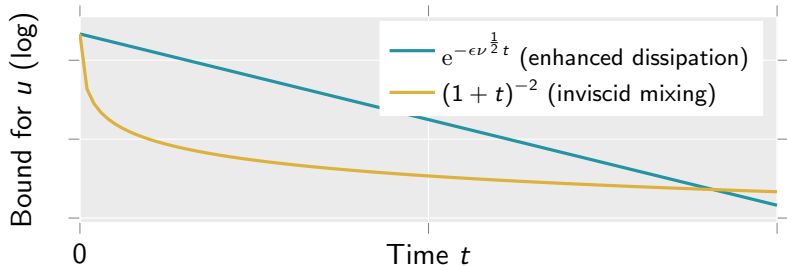
*There exists  $\nu_0, \lambda > 0$  such that for  $0 < \nu < \nu_0$*

$$\|f(t, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{S}^2)} \lesssim e^{-\lambda \nu^{\frac{1}{2}} t} \|f^{\text{in}}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{S}^2)}.$$

**Idea:** Use functional with commutator brackets.

# Decay of induced velocity field $u$ (macroscopic quantity)

Velocity field  $u(t) = \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} f(t, \nu) F(\nu) \nabla(k \cdot \nu) d\nu$  (macroscopic)



## Proposition (Persistence of phase mixing)

For  $0 < \nu \ll 1$  and  $t \lesssim \nu^{-1/2} |\log \nu|$

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} f(t, \nu) F(\nu) d\nu \right| \lesssim_{\log} \frac{1}{(1+t)} \|F\|_{H^{1+\delta}} \|f\|_{H^{1+\delta}},$$
$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} f(t, \nu) F(\nu) \nabla(k \cdot \nu) d\nu \right| \lesssim_{\log} \frac{1}{(1+t)^2} \|F\|_{H^{2+\delta}} \|f\|_{H^{2+\delta}}.$$

# Proof ideas

Consider the hypocoercive functional ( $a, b, c$  suitable constants):

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \|f\|^2 + a\nu t \|\nabla f\|^2 + 2b\nu t^2 \Re \langle i \nabla(k \cdot \nu) f, \nabla f \rangle + c\nu t^3 \|\nabla(k \cdot \nu) f\|^2 \right]$$

In considered time-frame:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} E(t) + \frac{\nu}{2} \|\nabla f\|^2 + \frac{a\nu^2 t}{2} \|\nabla \nabla f\|^2 + \frac{b\nu t^2}{2} \|\nabla(k \cdot \nu) f\|^2 \\ + \frac{c\nu^2 t^3}{2} \|\nabla(\nabla(k \cdot \nu) f)\|^2 \lesssim \text{OK} \end{aligned}$$

Enhanced dissipation follows from interpolation

## Lemma (interpolation)

For  $\sigma \in (0, 1]$

$$\sigma^{1/2} \|g\|^2 \leq \frac{\sigma}{2} \|\nabla g\|^2 + 2 \|\nabla(k \cdot \nu) g\|^2.$$

# Proof ideas for mixing

Use vector-field method:

Inviscid case ( $\nu = 0$ )

Consider  $Jf$  for  $J = \nabla + it\nabla(k \cdot v)$ :

$$(\partial_t + ik \cdot v)f = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad (\partial_t + ik \cdot v)Jf = 0$$

Control on  $Jf \Rightarrow$  time decay

With viscosity:

$$(\partial_t - L_1)Jf + \nu Jf = 2i\nu t(\nabla(k \cdot v)f + (k \cdot v)\nabla f).$$

Expected bounds

$$\|f(t)\|_{L^2} \lesssim 1, \quad \|\nabla f(t)\|_{L^2} \lesssim t$$

would yield

$$\|Jf(t)\|_{L^2} \leq C \left( 1 + \nu \int_0^t s(1+s) ds \right), \quad \forall t \leq \nu^{-1/2}.$$

# Proof ideas for mixing

**Idea:** Use viscosity adapted vector fields

$$J_\nu f = \alpha(t)\nabla f + i\beta(t)\nabla(k \cdot \nu)f$$

where  $\beta' = \alpha$  and  $\alpha' = -2i\nu\beta$  so that

$$\alpha(t) = \cosh(\sqrt{-2i\nu} t) \text{ and } \beta(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{-2i\nu}} \sinh(\sqrt{-2i\nu} t).$$

New error

$$\left(\partial_t + i(k \cdot \nu) - \nu\Delta\right)J_\nu f + \nu J_\nu f = 2i\beta\nu\nabla([k \cdot \nu - 1]f)$$

localised **away** from pole  $\nu = k$ .

# Volterra equation

To conclude for the linearised evolution, use Duhamel's formula to get Volterra equation for  $u$ :

$$u(t) + \int_0^t K_\nu(t-s)u(s) ds = g(t)$$

where

$$K_\nu(t)w \cdot \bar{w} = \frac{3\epsilon\Gamma}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} e^{L_1 t} (\mathbb{P}_{k^\perp} k \cdot w) (\mathbb{P}_{k^\perp} k \cdot \bar{w}) dv$$

$$g(t) = i\epsilon \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} e^{L_1 t} f_{\text{in}}(k, \nu) \mathbb{P}_{k^\perp} k dv$$

**Key point:** Obtain  $O(t^{-2})$  decay for  $u$ !

**Steps:**

- 1 Prove  $O(t^{-2})$  decay for  $K_\nu$  and  $g$
- 2 Identify condition on  $\Gamma$  to transfer decay to  $u$



# Transfer of decay in Volterra equation

Classical theory for Volterra equation

$$u(t) + \int_0^t K(t-s)u(s) ds = g(t):$$

Theorem (Paley-Wiener, see [Gripenberg et al])

If  $g \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^+)$  and  $K \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^+)$ , and if its Laplace transform satisfies

$$\det(I + \mathcal{L}K(z)) \neq 0, \quad \forall \Re z \geq 0 \quad (\text{Lap})$$

then the Volterra equation has a unique solution in  $u \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^+)$ .

Not quantitative and for exponential decay. We show

Theorem (Quantitative version)

If  $g, K \in O(t^{-\alpha})$ ,  $\alpha > 1$  and (Lap), then  $u \in O(t^{-\alpha})$ .

**Remark:** Already known? Various quantitative statements in literature.

# Solution of the Volterra equation

Our proof is to write

$$\begin{aligned}(\tilde{u}, \tilde{g}) &:= (1 + \epsilon t)^\alpha (u, g), \\ k(t, s) &:= \left( \frac{1 + \epsilon t}{1 + \epsilon s} \right)^\alpha K(t - s) 1_{s < t}, \\ \tilde{u}(t) + \int_{s=0}^t k(t, s) \tilde{u}(s) ds &= \tilde{g}(t).\end{aligned}$$

**Aim:** Show that  $\tilde{u}$  is bounded knowing that  $\tilde{g}$  is bounded.  
Use that  $k$  satisfies

$$k(t, s) = 0 \quad \text{for } s \geq t, \quad \|k\| := \sup_t \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} |k(t, s)| ds < \infty.$$

This forms a *Banach algebra* for products

$$k_1 \star k_2(t, s) = \int_{\tau=0}^{\infty} k_1(t, \tau) k_2(\tau, s) d\tau$$

# Resolvent for Volterra equation

In this algebra, find the *resolvent*  $r$  satisfying

$$r + r \star k = r + k \star r = k.$$

If  $k$  has a resolvent the solution is  $\tilde{u} = \tilde{g} - r \star \tilde{g}$ .

Obtain the resolvent for small enough  $\epsilon$  as perturbation from a von Neumann series of the kernel  $K(t-s)1_{s<t}$  which has a resolvent  $R(t-s)1_{s<t}$ .

**Last point: Spectral condition** (Lap)

Use complex analysis for a Penrose style argument. Here one studies the winding number of  $\det(I + \mathcal{L}K)$ .

## Theorem

Let  $s > \frac{7}{2}$ . Assume linear stability.  $\exists C_0, \nu_0, \delta_0 > 0$  such that  $\forall \nu \leq \nu_0$  and all initial data  $\psi^{in}$

$$\|\psi^{in}\|_{H_x^s L_p^2} \leq \delta_0 \nu^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

there exists a global solution  $\psi$  satisfying

$$\sup_{t \geq 0} \|\psi(t)\|_{H_x^s L_p^2}^2 + \nu \int_0^\infty \|\nabla_p \psi(t)\|_{H_x^s L_p^2}^2 dt \leq C_0 \nu^{-1} \|\psi^{in}\|_{H_x^s L_p^2}^2.$$

Recall full equation:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t f + (v + u) \cdot \nabla_x f + \nabla_v \cdot \left( \mathbb{P}_{v^\perp} [(\gamma E(u) + W(u))v] f \right) = \nu \Delta_v f, \\ -\Delta_x u + \nabla_x q = \alpha \nabla_x \cdot \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} f(t, x, v) v \otimes v \, dv, \\ \nabla_x \cdot u = 0. \end{cases}$$

**Main difficulty:** Cannot treat  $u \cdot \nabla_x f$  as error term in linear theory ( $x$  regularity)

- Need to use  $\nabla \cdot u = 0!$
- Need to take all modes together

# Advection-diffusion equation

Given velocity field  $v$  with (bootstrap) assumption

$$\sup_{t \geq 0} \|v(t)\|_{H^s} + \left( \int_0^\infty \|v(t)\|_{H^s}^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \epsilon \nu^{\frac{5}{4}} \quad (\text{H})$$

Evolution

$$\partial_t g + (v + p) \cdot \nabla_x g = \nu \Delta_p g.$$

## Theorem

Let  $s > \frac{5}{2}$ ,  $0 < s' < s + \frac{1}{4}$ .  $\exists C_0, \epsilon, \nu_0, \eta_1 > 0$ . For  $\nu \leq \nu_0$ :

$$\|g(t)\|_{H_x^s L_p^2} \leq C_0 e^{-\eta_1 \nu^{\frac{1}{2}} t} \|g^{\text{in}}\|_{H_x^s L_p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k \neq 0} |k|^{2s'} |V_k[g_k(t)]|^2 \lesssim \left( \frac{\nu^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\min\{1, \nu^{\frac{1}{2}} t\}} \right)^3 \|g^{\text{in}}, \nabla_p g^{\text{in}}, \nabla_p^2 g^{\text{in}}\|_{H_x^s L_p^2}^2.$$

# Ideas for the advection-diffusion equation

Study each Fourier mode  $k$ : Need long time results for enhanced dissipation and mixing (with localisation).

For enhanced dissipation, functional for mode  $k$

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\chi,k}(Y_k) &= \|Y_k \chi\|^2 + \left(\frac{\nu}{|k|}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} a_k \|\nabla_p Y_k \chi\|^2 \\ &\quad + 2b_k \Re \langle i \nabla_p (p \cdot \hat{k}) Y_k \chi, \nabla_p Y_k \chi \rangle \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{\nu}{|k|}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} c_k \|\nabla_p (p \cdot \hat{k}) Y_k \chi\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

where  $(a_k, b_k, c_k) := (a, b, c)(h)$  with  $h = \nu^{\frac{1}{2}} |k|^{\frac{1}{2}} t$  and

$$a(h) = A \min(h, 1), \quad b(h) = B \min(h^2, 1), \quad c = C \min(h^3, 1).$$

# Covering the advection

Use summed quantity:

$$E_{\chi,s}(Y) = \sum_k |k|^{2s} E_{\chi_k,k}(Y_k)$$

Simplified typical error term from velocity field  $v$  (no localisation):

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k,\ell} |k|^{2s} \Re \langle i k v_{k-\ell} Y_\ell, Y_k \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,\ell} \Re \langle i (|k|^{2s} k - |\ell|^{2s} \ell) \cdot v_{k-\ell} Y_\ell, Y_k \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,\ell} \Re \langle i (|k|^{2s} - |\ell|^{2s}) v_{k-\ell} \cdot \ell Y_\ell, Y_k \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Use the gain from the difference.