

Propagation of Monokinetic Measures with Rough Momentum Profiles I

François Golse

Ecole Polytechnique
Centre de Mathématiques Laurent Schwartz

Quantum Systems:
A Mathematical Journey from Few to Many Particles

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Work in collaboration with Claude Bardos,
Peter Markowich and Thierry Paul

Statement of the problem

Def: Monokinetic probability measure in the 1-particle phase space $\mathbf{R}_x^N \times \mathbf{R}_\xi^N$, with **density** ρ^{in} and **momentum profile** $U^{in} \equiv U^{in}(x) \in \mathbf{R}^N$

$$\mu^{in}(x, d\xi) := \rho^{in}(x) \delta_{U^{in}(x)}(\xi)$$

where

$$\rho^{in} \geq 0 \text{ a.e.}, \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{\mathbf{R}^N} \rho^{in}(x) dx = 1$$

Hamiltonian flow $\Phi_t: \mathbf{R}_x^N \times \mathbf{R}_\xi^N \ni (x, \xi) \mapsto (X, \Xi)(t; x, \xi) \in \mathbf{R}_x^N \times \mathbf{R}_\xi^N$
generated by Hamiltonian system

$$(H) \quad \dot{X} = D_\xi H(X, \Xi), \quad \dot{\Xi} = -D_x H(X, \Xi)$$

Statement of problem II

I.e. $t \mapsto \Phi_t(x, \xi) = \text{solution of (H) s.t. } (x, \xi) \text{ at } \Phi_0(x, \xi) = (x, \xi)$

If $T : X \rightarrow Y$ is measurable and μ is a probability measure on X , define a probability measure ν on Y by

$$\nu(B) := \mu(T^{-1}(B)), \quad \text{denoted } \nu = T\#\mu$$

Propagated measure: with Hamiltonian flow Φ_t , we define

$$\mu(t) := \Phi_t\#\mu^{in}$$

Space marginal of $\mu(t)$: with the notation $\Pi : (x, \xi) \mapsto x$, we set

$$\rho(t) := \Pi\#\mu(t) = F_t\#(\rho^{in} \mathcal{L}^N) \quad \text{i.e. } \rho(t, \cdot) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \mu(t, \cdot, d\xi)$$

Statement of problem III

To study the structure of the propagated phase space probability measure $\mu(t)$ and of its space marginal $\rho(t)$ for all $t \in \mathbf{R}$

For instance

- Is $\mu(t)$ still a monokinetic measure? if not
- Is $\mu(t)$ representable in terms of monokinetic measures?
- Is $\rho(t)$ a probability density for all $t \in \mathbf{R}$? if not
- What can be said of the singular component of $\rho(t)$?

Moreover, we are interested in answering these questions under the most general regularity assumptions possible on ρ^{in} and U^{in} .

Earlier research in this direction: Gasser-Markowich ('94), Sparber-Markowich-Mausser ('03)...

Motivation: classical limit of Schrödinger's equation

Classical limit of Schrödinger's equation for $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$:

$$i\epsilon\partial_t\psi_\epsilon + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^2\Delta_x\psi_\epsilon = V(x)\psi_\epsilon, \quad \psi_\epsilon(0, x) = a^{in}(x)e^{iS^{in}(x)/\epsilon}$$

Wigner function at scale ϵ : for each wave function $\Psi \in L^2(\mathbf{R}^N)$

$$W_\epsilon[\Psi](x, \xi) := \frac{1}{(2\pi)^N} \int_{\mathbf{R}^N} \Psi(x + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon y) \overline{\Psi(x - \frac{1}{2}\epsilon y)} e^{-i\xi \cdot y} dy$$

Case of WKB ansatz: for $a^{in} \in L^2(\mathbf{R}^N)$ and $S^{in} \in W_{loc}^{1,1}(\mathbf{R}^N)$

$$W_\epsilon[a^{in} e^{iS^{in}/\epsilon}](x, \xi) \rightarrow a^{in}(x)^2 \delta_{\nabla_x S^{in}(x)}(\xi)$$

From Schrödinger to Liouville

Thm (Lions-Paul '93): Assume $a^{in} \in L^2(\mathbf{R}^N)$ and $S^{in} \in W_{loc}^{1,1}(\mathbf{R}^N)$
Let $V \in C^2(\mathbf{R}^N)$ satisfy, for some $\alpha > N/2$, the condition

$$V(x) = o(|x|) \text{ and } V^-(x) = o(|x|^{-\alpha}) \quad \text{as } |x| \rightarrow \infty$$

Set

$$\psi_\epsilon(t, \cdot) := e^{-i \frac{t}{\epsilon} \left(-\frac{\epsilon^2}{2} \Delta_x + V(x) \right)} a^{in} e^{i S^{in}/\epsilon}$$

Then

$$(a) \quad W_\epsilon[\psi_\epsilon] \rightarrow \mu \geq 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{S}'(\mathbf{R}_x^N \times \mathbf{R}_\xi^N) \text{ as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$$

and

$$(b) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t \mu + \xi \cdot \nabla_x \mu - \nabla_x V(x) \cdot \nabla_\xi \mu = 0 \\ \mu|_{t=0} = a^{in}(x)^2 \delta_{\nabla_x S^{in}(x)}(\xi) \end{cases}$$

Hamiltonian propagation of Wigner measure

Hence

$$\mu(t) = (X_t, \Xi_t) \# \mu^{in} \quad \text{with } \mu^{in}(x, \xi) := a^{in}(x)^2 \delta_{\nabla_x S^{in}(x)}(\xi)$$

with (X_t, Ξ_t) = flow generated by Hamiltonian of classical mechanics

$$H(x, \xi) := \frac{1}{2} |\xi|^2 + V(x)$$

Propagation of Wigner measure for WKB ansatz requires **much less regularity** of V , and of S^{in} and a^{in} than the WKB method

Propagation of Wigner measure for WKB ansatz is **global** on $\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}^N$
— not limited by caustic onset

See also Gérard-Markowich-Mauser-Poupaud CPAM'97 for other PDEs.

Hamiltonian $H(x, \xi)$ satisfies, for some $\kappa > 0$ and $h(r) = o(r)$ at ∞

$$(H) \quad \begin{cases} |\nabla_{\xi} H(x, \xi)| \leq \kappa(1 + |\xi|), & |D^2 H(x, \xi)| \leq \kappa \\ |\nabla_x H(x, \xi)| \leq h(|x|) + \kappa|\xi| \end{cases}$$

Prop: Under assumptions (H), Hamiltonian H generates a **global flow** $\Phi_t = (X_t, \Xi_t)$ that is C^1 in all its variables. Besides

a) for each $T, \eta > 0$ there exists $C_{T, \eta} > 0$ s.t.

$$\sup_{|t| \leq T} |X_t(x, \xi) - x| \leq C_{T, \eta}(1 + |\xi|) + \eta|x|$$

b) for each $t > 0$, one has $|D\Phi_t(x, \xi) - I| \leq e^{\kappa|t|} - 1$

The dynamics in configuration space

Assume initial momentum profile $U^{in} \in C(\mathbf{R}^N; \mathbf{R}^N)$ satisfies

$$(SL) \quad |U^{in}(x)| = o(|x|) \quad \text{as } |x| \rightarrow \infty$$

With the Hamiltonian flow $\Phi_t = (X_t, \Xi_t)$, define the map

$$F_t : \mathbf{R}^N \ni y \mapsto X_t(y, U^{in}(y)) \in \mathbf{R}^N$$

Lemma: The map F_t satisfies the following properties

- $F_t(y) = y + o(|y|)$ as $|y| \rightarrow \infty$ for all $t \in \mathbf{R} \Rightarrow F_t$ is proper
- $\deg(F_t, B(0, R), x) = 1$ for $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$ and $R \gg 1 \Rightarrow F_t$ is onto

Rough (non C^1) momentum profiles U^{in}

Assume initial momentum profile $U^{in} \in C(\mathbf{R}^N; \mathbf{R}^N)$ satisfies

$$\begin{cases} |U^{in}(x)| = o(|x|) & \text{as } |x| \rightarrow \infty \end{cases} \quad (\text{SL})$$

$$\begin{cases} DU^{in} \in L_{loc}^{N,1}(\mathbf{R}^N) \end{cases} \quad (\text{DU})$$

(Variant of) **Rademacher's thm**: $\mathcal{L}^N(E) = 0$ where

$$E := \{y \in \mathbf{R}^N \mid U^{in} \text{ not differentiable}\}$$

Jacobian:

$$J_t(y) := |\det(DF_t(y))|, \quad P_t := J_t^{-1}((0, \infty)), \quad Z_t := J_t^{-1}(\{0\})$$

Caustic fiber (for rough momentum profiles):

$$C_t := \{x \in \mathbf{R}^N \mid F_t^{-1}(\{x\}) \cap (Z_t \cup E) \neq \emptyset\}$$

Structure of $\mu(t)$ and $\rho(t)$ outside caustic fiber

Thm A: Assume Hamiltonian H satisfies condition (H) and that momentum profile U^{in} satisfies (SL+DU). Then

(a) for a.e. $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$ and all $t \in \mathbf{R}$, the set $F_t^{-1}(\{x\})$ is finite

(b) the following conditions are equivalent

$$\rho(t)(C_t) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \rho(t)(\mathbf{R}^N \setminus C_t) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \rho^{in} = 0 \text{ a.e. on } Z_t$$

(c) under the equivalent conditions in (b), $\rho(t) \ll \mathcal{L}^N$ and

$$\rho(t, x) := \frac{d\rho(t)}{d\mathcal{L}^N}(x) = \sum_{F_t(y)=x} \frac{\rho^{in}(y)}{J_t(y)} \quad \text{for a.e. } x \in \mathbf{R}^N$$

(d) under the equivalent conditions in (b)

$$\mu(t, x, \cdot) = \sum_{F_t(y)=x} \frac{\rho^{in}(y)}{J_t(y)} \delta_{\Xi_t(y, U^{in}(y))} \quad \text{for a.e. } x \in \mathbf{R}^N$$

Structure of $\mu(t)$ outside caustic fiber

Outside caustic fiber, $\mu(t) = \text{a.e. finite sum of monokinetic measures}$

Analogy with $\psi_\epsilon \simeq \text{locally finite sum of WKB ansatz}$ away from caustic

More than an analogy: if $a_k \in L^2(\mathbf{R}^N)$ and $S_k \in W_{loc}^{1,1}(\mathbf{R}^N)$, then

$$W_\epsilon \left[\sum_{k=1}^n a_k e^{iS_k/\epsilon} \right] (x, \cdot) \rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^n a_k(x)^2 \delta_{\nabla S_j(x)}$$

in $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbf{R}^N \times \mathbf{R}^N)$ as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ provided that $\nabla S_1(x), \dots, \nabla S_n(x)$ linearly independent for a.e. $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$

Solving for y the equation $F_t(y) = x$

Counting function: we define $\mathcal{N}(t, x) := \#F_t^{-1}(\{x\})$

The counting function measures the **complexity of the structure** of the propagated measure $\mu(t)$

If momentum profile U^{in} satisfies (SL) then

$$M_T(R) := \sup_{\substack{|y| \geq R \\ |t| \leq T}} |F_t(y) - y|/|y| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } R \rightarrow \infty$$

Let $R_T^* > 0$ satisfy $M_T(R_T^*) < \frac{1}{2}$; then, for all $R > 2R_T^*$ one has

$$|x| \leq R \text{ and } F_t(y) = x \Rightarrow |y| \leq 2R$$

(Indeed $|y| > 2R > R_T^* \Rightarrow |F_t(y) - y| \leq \frac{1}{2}|y| \Rightarrow |F_t(y)| \geq \frac{1}{2}|y| > R$.)

Estimates on the set $F_t^{-1}(\{x\})$: rough (non C^1) case

Thm B: Assume Hamiltonian H satisfies (H) and momentum profile U^{in} satisfies (SL+DU). Let $T > 0$ and $R_T^* > 0$ s.t. $M_T(R_T^*) < \frac{1}{2}$.

(a) The caustic fibers satisfy $\mathcal{L}^N(C_t) = 0$ for all $t \in \mathbf{R}$.

(b) For each $t \in [-T, T]$ and each $R > 2R_T^*$

$$\mathcal{L}^N(\{x \text{ s.t. } |x| \leq R \ \& \ \mathcal{N}(t, x) \geq n\}) \leq \frac{e^{\kappa N|t|}}{n} \|1 + |Du^{in}|\|_{L^N(B(0, 2R))}^N$$

(c) For a.e. $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$

$$\mathcal{H}^1(\{(t, y) \text{ s.t. } |t| \leq T \ \& \ F_t(y) = x\}) < \infty$$

Solving for y the equation $F_t(y) = x$: smooth (C^1) case

Caustic: define $C := \{(t, x) \in \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}^N \text{ s.t. } x \in C_t\}$

Thm B': Assume Hamiltonian H satisfies (H) and momentum profile $U^{in} \in C_b^1(\mathbf{R}^N, \mathbf{R}^N)$ satisfies (SL)

- (a) The caustic C is **closed** in $\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}^N$.
- (b) The integer $\mathcal{N}(t, x)$ is odd for each $(t, x) \in \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}^N \setminus C$.
- (c) There exists $a < 0 < b$ s.t. $a < t < b \Rightarrow C_t = \emptyset$ and $\mathcal{N}(t, x) = 1$.
- (d) The integer-valued counting function \mathcal{N} is **constant on each connected component** of $\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}^N \setminus C$
- (e) Set $F_t^{-1}(\{x\}) := \{y_j(t, x) \mid j = 1, \dots, \mathcal{N}(t, x)\}$ for all $x \notin C_t$; then each map $y_j \in C^1(\mathcal{O}_j)$, where $\mathcal{O}_j := \{(t, x) \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{N}(t, x) \geq j\}$.

The manifold Λ_t

For each $t \in \mathbf{R}$, we define

$$\Lambda_t := \Phi_t(\{(x, \xi) \text{ s.t. } \xi = U^{in}(x)\}) \quad \Lambda := \{(t, x, \xi) \mid (x, \xi) \in \Lambda_t\}$$

Therefore

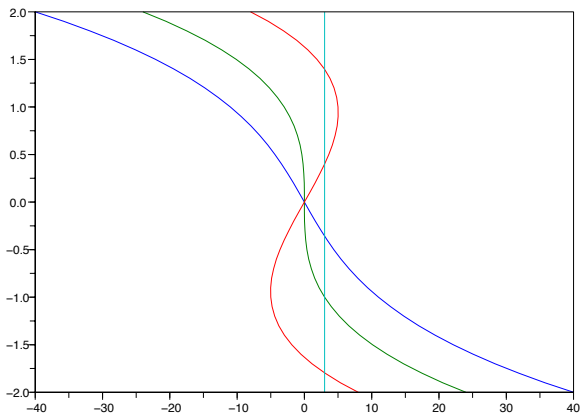
$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_t \cap (\{x\} \cap \mathbf{R}^N) &= \{(x, \Xi_t(y, U^{in}(y))) \mid F_t(y) = x\} \\ &\Rightarrow \#(\Lambda_t \cap (\{x\} \cap \mathbf{R}^N)) \leq \mathcal{N}(t, x) \end{aligned}$$

Smooth case: let $O_n \subset \mathbf{R}^N \setminus C$ be a connected component, then

$$\mathcal{N}(t, x) = n \text{ for all } (t, x) \in O_n \Rightarrow$$

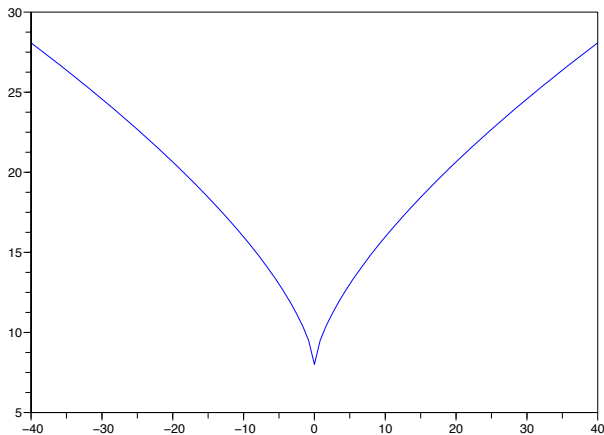
$$\Lambda \cap (O_n \times \mathbf{R}^N) = \bigcup_{j=1}^n \{(t, x, \Xi_t(y_j(t, x), U^{in}(y_j(t, x))) \mid (t, x) \in O_n\}$$

Example of Λ_t : free dynamics of cubic lagrangian



Free flow $H(x, \xi) = \frac{1}{2}\xi^2$ in space dimension $N = 1$
initial profile U^{in} inverse of $y \mapsto -8y - 3y^3$, time $t = 0, 8, 16$

Example of caustic



Caustic (simple cusp) in case of cubic Lagrangian

Proof of (b): apply **area formula** (Maly-Swanson-Ziemer '02)

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\overline{B(0,2R)}} J_t(y) dy &= \int_{\mathbf{R}^N} \#(F_t^{-1}(\{x\}) \cap (\overline{B(0,2R)})) dx \\ &\geq \int_{\overline{B(0,R)}} \#(F_t^{-1}(\{x\}) \cap (\overline{B(0,2R)})) dx \\ &= \int_{\overline{B(0,R)}} \mathcal{N}(t, x) dx\end{aligned}$$

By Bienaymé-Chebyshev's inequality

$$\mathcal{L}^N(\{x \in \overline{B(0,R)} \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{N}(t, x) \geq n\}) \leq \frac{1}{n} \int_{\overline{B(0,2R)}} J_t(y) dy$$

By the estimate on the gradient $|D\Phi_t|$ of the Hamiltonian flow

$$|D_x X_t(y, U^{in}(y))| \leq e^{\kappa|t|}, \quad |D_\xi X_t(y, U^{in}(y))| \leq (e^{\kappa|t|} - 1)$$

so that, by Hadamard's inequality

$$\begin{aligned} J_t(y) &= |\det(D_x X_t(y, U^{in}(y)) + D_\xi X_t(y, U^{in}(y))DU^{in}(y))| \\ &\leq (e^{\kappa|t|} + (e^{\kappa|t|} - 1)|DU^{in}(y)|)^N \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\mathcal{L}^N(\{x \in \overline{B(0, R)} \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{N}(t, x) \geq n\}) \leq \frac{e^{\kappa N|t|}}{n} \|1 + |DU^{in}|\|_{L^N(B(0, R))}^N$$

Proof of (c): consider the map

$$F : [-T, T] \times \mathbf{R}^N \ni (t, y) \mapsto F(t, y) \in \mathbf{R}^N$$

Jacobian $DF(t, y)$ is the column-wise partitioned matrix

$$DF(t, y) = [V(t, y), M(t, y)], \quad |t| \leq T, y \in \mathbf{R}^N \setminus E$$

with

$$\begin{cases} V(t, y) = \nabla_{\xi} H(\Phi_t(y, U^{in}(y))) \\ M(t, y) = D_x X_t(y, U^{in}(y)) + D_{\xi} X_t(y, U^{in}(y)) D U^{in}(y). \end{cases}$$

so that

$$DF(t, y) DF(t, y)^T = V(t, y) V(t, y)^T + M(t, y) M(t, y)^T$$

For each $m > 0$, both sets

$$K_m := F^{-1}(\overline{B(0, m)})$$

$$K'_m := \{y \in \mathbf{R}^N \mid \text{there exists } t \in [-T, T] \text{ s.t. } (t, y) \in K_m\}$$

are compact since F_t is proper uniformly in $|t| \leq T$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \|VV^T + MM^T\|_{L^{N/2}(K_m)}^{N/2} &\leq 2^{N/2-1} \|V\|_{L^\infty(K_m)}^N \mathcal{L}^{N+1}(K_m) \\ &\quad + 2^{N/2} T \|M\|_{L^N(K'_m)}^N < \infty \end{aligned}$$

By the **co-area formula** (Maly-Swanson-Ziemer '02), for each $m > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbf{R}^N} \mathcal{H}^1(F^{-1}(\{x\}) \cap K_m) dx \\ = \int_{K_m} \sqrt{\det(VV^T + MM^T)}(t, y) dt dy < \infty \end{aligned}$$

In particular, for each $m > 0$

$$\mathcal{H}^1(F^{-1}(\{x\})) = \mathcal{H}^1(F^{-1}(\{x\}) \cap K_m) < \infty \quad \text{a.e. in } |x| \leq m$$

so that

$$\mathcal{H}^1(F^{-1}(\{x\})) < \infty \quad \text{for a.e. } x \in \mathbf{R}^N$$

Proof of (a): using the bound on the counting function in Thm B

$$\mathcal{L}^N(\{x \text{ s.t. } |x| \leq R \text{ and } \mathcal{N}(t, x) = \infty\}) = 0$$

Proofs of (c+d): by definition of $\mu(t) = \Phi_t \# \mu^{in}$

$$\langle \mu(t), \chi \rangle = \langle \mu^{in}, \chi \circ \Phi_t \rangle = \int \chi(F_t(y), \Xi_t(y), U^{in}(y)) \rho^{in}(y) dy$$

Since $\rho^{in} = 0$ a.e. on $Z_t := J_t^{-1}(\{0\})$, define a positive measurable function b by the formula

$$b(y) = \rho^{in}(y)/J_t(y) \text{ if } y \in P_t, \quad \text{and } b(y) = 0 \text{ if } y \notin P_t$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \mu(t), \chi \rangle &= \int \chi(F_t(y), \Xi_t(y, U^{in}(y))) b(y) J_t(y) dy \\ &= \int \left(\sum_{y \in F_t^{-1}(\{x\})} b(y) \psi(x, \Xi_t(y, U^{in}(y))) \right) dx \\ &= \int \left(\sum_{y \in F_t^{-1}(\{x\})} b(y) \langle \delta_{\Xi_t(y, U^{in}(y))}, \psi(x, \cdot) \rangle \right) dx\end{aligned}$$

by the area formula, so that

$$\mu(t, x, \cdot) = \sum_{y \in F_t^{-1}(\{x\})} b(y) \delta_{\Xi_t(y, U^{in}(y))}$$

We have obtained a detailed description of the propagation of monokinetic measures by proper Hamiltonian flows under the assumption that the initial momentum profile is sublinear at infinity with $L_{loc}^{N,1}$ gradient

In the complement of the caustic fiber, a Lebesgue-negligible set, the propagated measure is an a.e. **finite sum of monokinetic measures**

We have obtained an **estimate on the distribution of values of the number of terms** in this sum

The proof of these results is based on the **area formula** from GMT