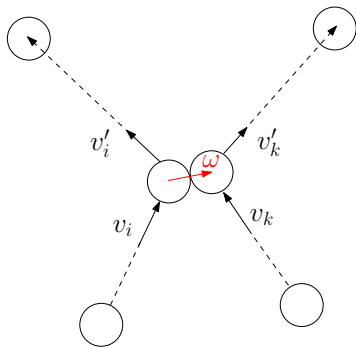


DYNAMICAL CONNECTIVITY OF HARD SPHERES

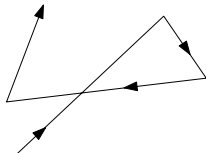
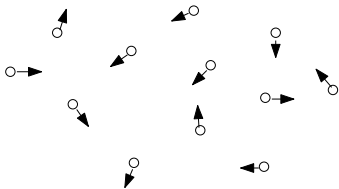
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$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_i = v_i \\ \dot{v}_i = 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{in} \quad \Omega_N^\varepsilon := \left\{ |x_i - x_k| > \varepsilon \text{ for } i \neq k \right\} \subset (\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d)^N \quad d \geq 2$$

$$\begin{cases} v'_i = v_i - \omega[\omega \cdot (v_i - v_k)] \\ v'_k = v_k - \omega[\omega \cdot (v_j - v_k)] \end{cases} \quad \text{if} \quad x_k - x_i = \varepsilon \omega, \quad \omega \in S^{d-1}$$



N = number of spheres ; ε = sphere diameter
 rate of coll. $\approx N\varepsilon^{d-1} \sim 1$; 'volume' density $N\varepsilon^d \sim \varepsilon$
 $\varepsilon \ll 1$: low density gas

Configuration $Z_N = (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N)$ $z_i = (x_i, v_i)$.

Density distribution: $W_N^\varepsilon = W_N^\varepsilon(t, Z_N)$, symmetric in the particle labels.

$$\left(\partial_t + \sum_{i=1}^N v_i \cdot \nabla_{x_i} \right) W_N^\varepsilon = 0 \quad \text{in} \quad \Omega_N^\varepsilon$$

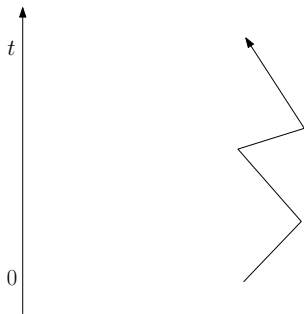
$$W_N^\varepsilon(\dots, x_i, v'_i, \dots, x_k, v'_k, \dots) = W_N^\varepsilon(\dots, x_i, v_i, \dots, x_k, v_k, \dots), \quad x_k - x_i = \varepsilon \omega$$

$$W_N^\varepsilon|_{t=0} = W_{0,N}^\varepsilon$$

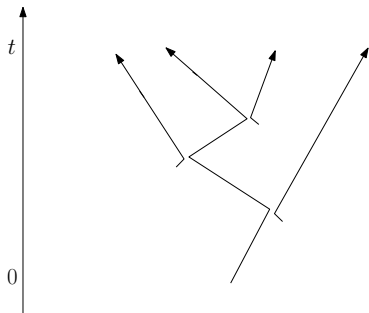
Liouville equation

$$W_N^\varepsilon|_{t=0} = W_{0,N}^\varepsilon$$

$W_{0,N}^\varepsilon$ “chaotic” (finite marginals almost tensorized)



Trajectory of particle 1 in $[0, t]$



Forward cluster of particle 1 in $[0, t]$

$$FC(1) = \text{Forward-Cluster}(1) = \{1, k_1, k_2, k_3\}$$

Problem: given $t > 0$, $|FC(1)| = ?$, uniformly in ε, N with $\varepsilon^{d-1}N \sim 1$.

* After the *Boltzmann-Grad limit* $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, $N = \varepsilon^{-(d-1)}$ one gets:

$$\mathbb{E}(|FC(1)|) \simeq e^{Ct}, C > 0$$

(using the homogeneous Boltzmann equation, or numerical simulations; e.g. as in [Aoki, Pulvirenti, S., Tsuji. ('15)]).

* For $\varepsilon > 0$: difficult. Rough bound:

$$\mathbb{P}_N^\varepsilon(|FC(1)| = k) \leq \frac{(Ct)^k k!}{k!}.$$

The *equilibrium state* can be handled at least.

Theorem. [Pulvirenti, S. ('20)]

We consider the system of hard spheres of unit mass and diameter $\varepsilon > 0$, moving in \mathbb{R}^3 , in the equilibrium state with density

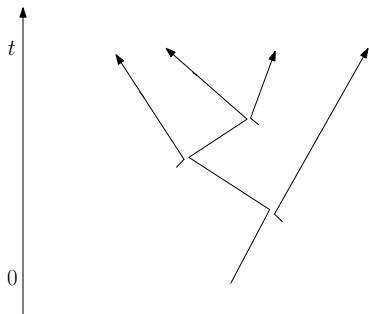
$$W_N^\varepsilon(Z_N) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}_N} e^{-\frac{\beta}{2} \sum_i v_i^2} \prod_{i < k} \mathbb{1}_{|x_i - x_k| > \varepsilon},$$

($\beta > 0$, \mathcal{Z}_N normalization constant). Then, $\exists k_0$ such that, for $k > k_0$, the probability of finding a forward cluster of size k at time t is

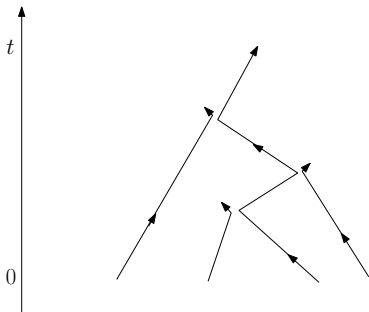
$$\mathbb{P}_{N,eq}^\varepsilon(|FC(1)| = k) \leq (1 + 2t) e^{-\frac{1}{2} k^{\frac{1}{2t}}}.$$

In particular, $\mathbb{E}_{N,eq}^\varepsilon(|FC(1)|)$ is bounded uniformly in ε in any bounded interval of time.

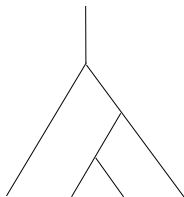
Remark. Not optimal. Expected: $\mathbb{P}_{N,eq}^\varepsilon(|FC(1)| = k) \leq e^{-ct} (1 - e^{-c't})^k$, ($c, c' > 0$).



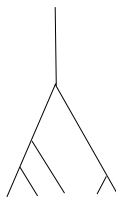
Forward cluster of particle 1 in $[0, t]$



Backward cluster of particle 1 in $[0, t]$
("Wild sums" for the Boltzmann equation)

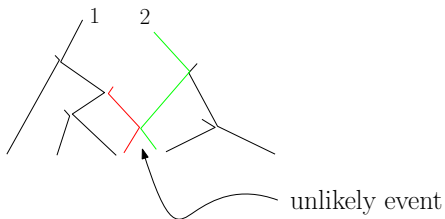


Cluster(1)



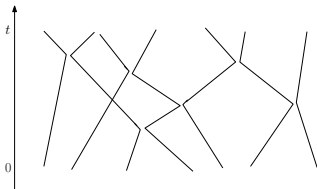
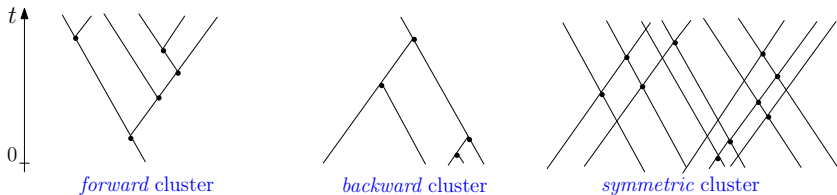
Cluster(2)

“Typically”, $\text{Cluster}(1) \cap \text{Cluster}(2) = \emptyset$ (*chaos propagation*)



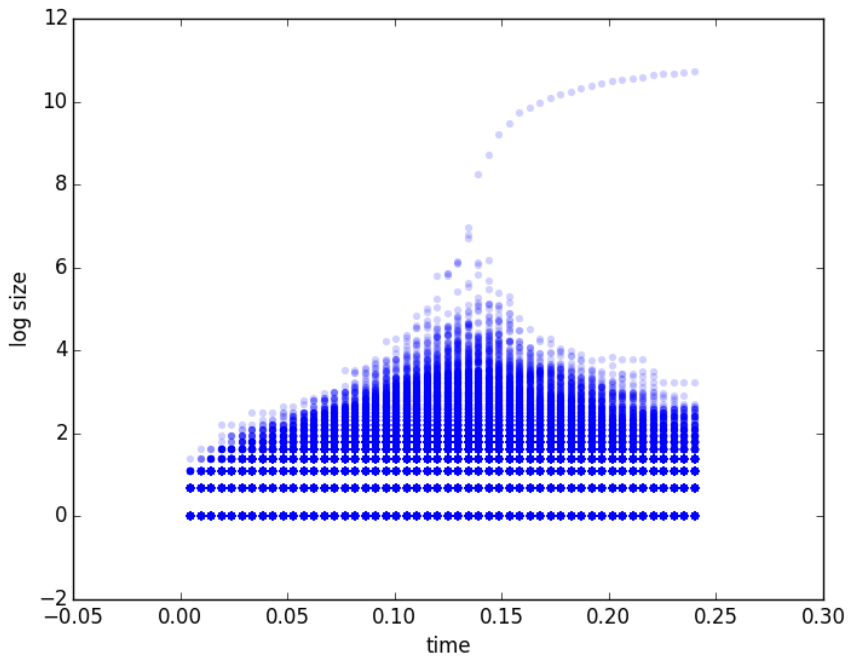
Mathematical derivation of the Boltzmann equation from Newton laws

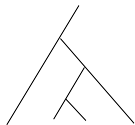
[Lanford, Spohn, Illner, Pulvirenti, ... Bodineau, Gallagher, Saint-Raymond, Texier, S. ...]

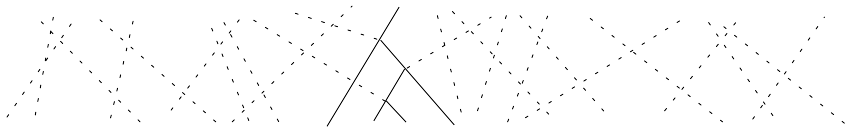


Definition. We call two spheres “ t -neighbours” if they collided during the time interval $[0, t]$. Any connected component of this neighbour relation is called a *symmetric cluster* at time t .

[Sinai ('70), Gabrielov, Keilis-Borok, Sinai, Zaliapin ('08)]







Results. [Patterson, S., Wagner ('16,'17)]

* In the Boltzmann-Grad limit, there exist kinetic equations for the symmetric cluster dynamics:

$$\frac{\#(\text{clusters of size } k \text{ at time } t)}{N} \longrightarrow n^{(k)}(t);$$

* The equations exhibit the phase transition in finite time.

Symmetric cluster distribution: $\left\{ f^{(k)} = f^{(k)}(t, Z_k) \right\}_{k \geq 1}^{\infty}$

Boltzmann cluster equations:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(\partial_t + \sum_{i=1}^k v_i \cdot \nabla_{x_i} \right) f^{(k)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{Q \subset \{1, \dots, k\} \\ Q = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_q\} \\ Q^c = \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_{k-q}\}}} \frac{1}{\binom{k}{q}} \sum_{\substack{\alpha \in Q \\ \beta \in Q^c}} \delta(x_\alpha - x_\beta) \int_{S^2} (\omega \cdot (v_\alpha - v_\beta))_+ \\
 & \quad \times f^{(q)}(z_{\alpha_1}, \dots, x_\alpha, v'_\alpha, \dots, z_{\alpha_q}) f^{(k-q)}(z_{\beta_1}, \dots, x_\beta, v'_\beta, \dots, z_{\beta_q}) d\omega \\
 & - \sum_{\alpha=1}^k \int_{S^2 \times \mathbb{R}^3} (\omega \cdot (v_\alpha - v_*))_+ f^{(k)}(z_1, \dots, x_\alpha, v_\alpha, \dots, z_j) f(x_\alpha, v_*) d\omega dv_*
 \end{aligned}$$

$f(x, v) =$ Boltzmann density $\geq \sum_{k \geq 1} k \int_{\mathbb{R}^{6(k-1)}} f^{(k)}(x, v, z_2, \dots, z_k) dz_2 \cdots dz_k$

equality holds only up to $t \leq t_c$ (*giant cluster*)

Integrating all variables Z_k we get, for $t \leq t_c$,

$$\partial_t n^{(k)}(t) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{q=1}^{k-1} \mathcal{K}_t(q, k-q) n^{(q)}(t) n^{(k-q)}(t) - \sum_{q \geq 1} \mathcal{K}_t(k, q) n^{(k)}(t) n^{(q)}(t)$$

with kernel

$$\mathcal{K}_t(k, q) = k q \int d v_1 d v_2 d x d \omega ((v_1 - v_2) \cdot \omega)_+ f^{(k)}(t; x, v_1) f^{(q)}(t; x, v_2),$$

where $f^{(k)}(t; x, v) =$ normalized 1-particle phase-space distribution in clusters of size k .

Remark. $\mathcal{K}_t(k, q) \neq kq$, unless we replace $\int d \omega ((v_1 - v_2) \cdot \omega)_+$ with a constant, namely:

Maxwell mol. with Grad cutoff \longleftrightarrow Smoluchowski eq. with product kernel

Consider the Boltzmann equation for Maxwell molecules with Grad cutoff:

$$\partial_t f(v) = -Rf + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times S^{d-1}} dv_1 d\omega b\left(\frac{v-v_1}{|v-v_1|} \cdot \omega\right) f(v'_1) f(v'), \quad R > 0.$$

Then:

– The associated cluster size distribution is

$$n^{(k)}(t) = k^{-\beta} e^{-k/\gamma(t)} (1 + O(1/k))$$

with $\beta = 5/2$ and $\gamma(t) = |\ln(eRte^{-Rt})|^{-1}$.

– Its normalization constant has discontinuous second derivative at the critical time $t_c = R^{-1}$.

– The density of particles in a k -cluster is not normalized:

$m_1(t) = \sum_{k \geq 1} k n^{(k)}(t) < 1$ for $t > t_c$, and $m_1(t) \rightarrow 0$ exponentially as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

– $\partial_t f^{(k)}(t; x, v) = 0$ and $\partial_t E^{(k)}(t) = \partial_t \left(\int dv v \frac{v^2}{2} f^{(k)}(t; x, v) \right) = 0$.

THANK YOU!

* Special thanks to D. Coulette for graphical support.