

Notes on fixed-point procedure

We want to obtain estimates on $n_i - n_e$. We make the following assumptions:

- The electron density f_e satisfies the boundary condition, and is bounded by a constant $c \geq 0$.
- The potential φ is strongly concave, i.e. there exists $\alpha > 0$ such that $\varphi''(x) \leq -\alpha$ uniformly over $x \in [0, 1]$.
- We have $\varphi(0) = \varphi'(0) = 0$.

The assumptions on φ yield that

$$\varphi'(x) \leq -\alpha x, \quad \varphi(x) \leq -\alpha \frac{x^2}{2}. \quad (0.1)$$

Let us first focus on $n_e(x)$. The characteristics of the electron density are the level lines of

$$\mathcal{L}_e(x, v) := \frac{v^2}{2} - \frac{1}{\mu} \varphi(x). \quad (0.2)$$

Since φ is strongly concave, these curves are closed. Since f_e satisfies the homogeneous boundary condition, its support is embedded in $\left\{ (x, v) \mid \frac{v^2}{2} - \frac{1}{\mu} \varphi(x) \leq \frac{0^2}{2} - \frac{1}{\mu} \varphi(1) \right\}$. In particular, we denote by \underline{v}_e the extremal speed of the support,

$$\underline{v}_e := \sqrt{-\frac{2}{\mu} \varphi(1)}. \quad (0.3)$$

We can roughly majorize

$$n_e(x) = \int_{v \in \mathbb{R}} f_e(x, v) dv \leq \int_{v=-\underline{v}_e}^{\underline{v}_e} c dv = 2c\underline{v}_e \leq 2c \sqrt{-\frac{2}{\mu} \varphi(1)}.$$

The estimates on n_i are slightly more technical. Let the ion Lyapunov function be defined as

$$\mathcal{L}_i(x, v) := \frac{v^2}{2} + \varphi(x). \quad (0.4)$$

In the sequel, we will heavily rely on the level lines of \mathcal{L}_i to partition the space. We distinguish the *critical characteristic* as the curve $\{\mathcal{L}_i = 0\}$. Let $x \in [0, 1]$ and $v \in \mathbb{R}_-$. We denote by $(x_b(x, v), v_b(x, v))$ the intersection of the boundary $\{x = 0\} \cap \{v = 0\}$ with the characteristic issued from (x, v) , equal to

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_b(x, v) \\ v_b(x, v) \end{pmatrix} := \begin{cases} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{v^2}{2} + \varphi(x)\right) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & \text{if } \mathcal{L}_i(x, v) \leq 0, \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -\sqrt{\frac{v^2}{2} + \varphi(x)} \end{pmatrix} & \text{if } \mathcal{L}_i(x, v) > 0. \end{cases}$$

In the following paragraph, we use $(x(t), v(t))_{t \leq 0}$ to denote the characteristic reaching $(x_b(x, v), v_b(x, v))$ at $t = 0$. We use the symmetry of f_i to write

$$n_i(x) = 2 \int_{v \in \mathbb{R}^-} f_i(x_b(x, v), v_b(x, v)) dv = 2 \int_{v \in \mathbb{R}^-} \int_{t=-\infty}^0 f_e(x(t), v(t)) dt dv.$$

The lower bound $t \rightarrow -\infty$ is artificial, since the characteristic exits the support of f_e in finite time. We will split the double integral in three domains:

1. \mathcal{D}_1 will be $\{(v, t) \in \mathbb{R}_-^2 \mid \mathcal{L}_i(x, v) \leq 0 \text{ and } x(t) \geq x\}$. This is the region contained between the x -axis, the critical characteristic and the vertical line going through x .
2. \mathcal{D}_2 is $\{(v, t) \in \mathbb{R}_-^2 \mid \mathcal{L}_i(x, v) \leq 0 \text{ and } x < x(t) \geq 1\}$. It is exactly $\{\mathcal{L}_i \leq 0\} \setminus \mathcal{D}_1$.
3. \mathcal{D}_3 is defined by $\{(v, t) \in \mathbb{R}_-^2 \mid \mathcal{L}_i(x, v) > 0 \text{ and } \underline{v}_e \geq v(t)\}$.

Figure de la décomposition en domaines

Since $f_e(x(t), v(t))$ vanishes outside $\mathcal{D}_1 \cup \mathcal{D}_2 \cup \mathcal{D}_3$, we may exactly decompose n_i in

$$\frac{n_i(x)}{2} = \underbrace{\iint_{(v,t) \in \mathcal{D}_1} f_e(x(t), v(t)) dt dv}_{\mathcal{I}_1} + \underbrace{\iint_{(v,t) \in \mathcal{D}_2} f_e(x(t), v(t)) dt dv}_{\mathcal{I}_2} + \underbrace{\iint_{(v,t) \in \mathcal{D}_3} f_e(x(t), v(t)) dt dv}_{\mathcal{I}_3}$$

Each term will be bound separately.

Bound on \mathcal{I}_1 Let $v_0(x) := \sqrt{-2\varphi(x)}$ be the velocity such that $(x, -v_0(x))$ belongs to the critical characteristic. The characteristics in the domain \mathcal{D}_1 are joining points (x, v) , with $v \in [-v_0, 0]$, with points $(x_b(x, v), 0)$. Therefore, we may use the reparametrization

$$y = x(t) \quad dy = \dot{x}(t)dt = v(t)dt = -(v^2 + 2(\varphi(x) - \varphi(x(t))))^{1/2} dt = -(v^2 + 2(\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)))^{1/2} dt$$

The integral \mathcal{I}_1 becomes

$$\mathcal{I}_1 = \int_{v=-v_0(x)}^0 \int_{y=x}^{x_b(x,v)} f_e(y, -(v^2 + 2(\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)))^{1/2}) \frac{-1}{(v^2 + 2(\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)))^{1/2}} dy dv.$$

By exchanging the bounds of the integrals along y , and using $f_e \leq c$, we get

$$\mathcal{I}_1 \leq c \int_{v=-v_0(x)}^0 \int_{y=x_b(x,v)}^x \frac{1}{(v^2 + 2(\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)))^{1/2}} dy dv.$$

In order to use the explicit v^2 , we use Fubini theorem to switch the order of integration (since everything is positive). To do this, we write

$$\begin{cases} -v_0(x) \leq v \leq 0 \\ x_b(x, v) \leq y \leq x \end{cases} \iff \begin{cases} 0 \leq y \leq x \\ -v_0(x) \leq v \leq -g_x(y) \end{cases}$$

where $y = x_b(x, v) = \varphi^{-1}\left(\frac{v^2}{2} + \varphi(x)\right)$ is equivalent to $v = -g_x(y) := -(2(\varphi(y) - \varphi(x)))^{1/2}$. In the sequel, we drop the x and simply write $g(y)$. The function $g : [0, x] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^+$ is well-defined, since $y \leq x \implies \varphi(y) \geq \varphi(x)$. By the assumption of strong concavity of φ , g is positive whenever $y < x$. Finally, using that $v_0(x) = g(0)$, may now write

$$\mathcal{I}_1 \leq c \int_{y=0}^x \int_{v=-v_0(x)}^{-g(y)} \frac{1}{(v^2 - g^2(y))^{1/2}} dv dy \stackrel{\text{with } w:=g(y)-v}{=} c \int_{y=0}^x \int_{w=0}^{g(0)-g(y)} \frac{1}{(w^2 + 2wg(y))^{1/2}} dw dy.$$

By integration with $\frac{d}{dy} \sinh^{-1}\left(\sqrt{\frac{y}{a}}\right) = \frac{1}{y^2 - 2ay}$, we obtain

$$\mathcal{I}_1 \leq c \int_{y=0}^x \left[\sinh^{-1}\left(\sqrt{\frac{v}{g(y)}}\right) \right]_0^{g(0)-g(y)} dv = c \int_{y=0}^x \sinh^{-1}\left(\sqrt{\frac{g(0)-g(y)}{g(y)}}\right) dv.$$

We use the coarse estimates $\sinh^{-1}(z) \leq z$ and $\sqrt{\frac{a-b}{b}} \leq \sqrt{\frac{a}{b}}$ to reduce the expression to

$$\mathcal{I}_1 \leq c\sqrt{g(0)} \int_{y=0}^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{g(y)}} dv = c\sqrt{g(0)} \int_{y=0}^x \frac{1}{(2(\varphi(y) - \varphi(x)))^{1/4}} dv.$$

Using the strong concavity of φ , and the sign $-\varphi'(y) \geq 0$, we get

$$\varphi(y) - \varphi(x) \geq \frac{\alpha}{2}|x - y|^2 - \varphi'(y)(x - y) \geq \frac{\alpha}{2}(x - y)^2.$$

With this, we may finally write

$$\mathcal{I}_1 \leq c\sqrt{g(0)} \int_{y=0}^x \frac{1}{\alpha^{1/4}(x - y)^{1/2}} dv = \frac{2c}{\alpha^{1/4}} \sqrt{g(0)x} = \frac{2c}{\alpha^{1/4}} \sqrt{\sqrt{-2\varphi(x)}x} \leq \frac{2c}{\alpha^{1/4}} (-2\varphi(1))^{1/4}.$$

Bound on \mathcal{I}_2 We use the same reparametrization as for \mathcal{I}_2 , but with $y \in [x, 1]$, to obtain

$$\mathcal{I}_2 \leq c \int_{v=-v_0(x)}^0 \int_{y=x}^1 \frac{1}{(v^2 + 2(\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)))^{-1/2}} dy dv.$$

On $y \geq x$, we may directly use

$$\varphi(x) - \varphi(y) \geq \frac{\alpha}{2}|y - x|^2 - \varphi'(x)(y - x) \geq \frac{\alpha}{2}(y - x)^2$$

to get

$$\mathcal{I}_2 \leq c \int_{v=-v_0(x)}^0 \int_{y=x}^1 \frac{1}{(v^2 + \alpha(y - x)^2)^{1/2}} dy dv \leq c \max\left(1, \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}}\right) \int_{v=0}^{v_0(x)} \int_{z=0}^{1-x} \frac{1}{(v^2 + z^2)^{1/2}} dy dv.$$

By switching to polar coordinates over the (larger) domain $(\theta, r) \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}] \times [0, \sqrt{v_0(x)^2 + (1-x)^2}]$, we conclude to

$$\mathcal{I}_2 \leq c \max\left(1, \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}}\right) \frac{\pi}{2} \sqrt{v_0(x)^2 + (1-x)^2} \leq c \max\left(1, \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}}\right) \frac{\pi}{2} \sqrt{1 - 2\varphi(1)}.$$

Bound on \mathcal{I}_3 The domain \mathcal{D}_3 is covered by characteristics linking $x = 1$ to $x = 0$. We may use the same reparametrization within fixed bounds over y :

$$\mathcal{I}_3 \leq c \int_{v=-\underline{v}_e}^{-v_0(x)} \int_{y=0}^1 \frac{1}{(v^2 + 2(\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)))^{1/2}} dy dv = c \int_{y=0}^1 \int_{v=-\underline{v}_e}^{-v_0(x)} \frac{1}{(v^2 + 2(\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)))^{1/2}} dy dv.$$

We will use the same argument as for \mathcal{I}_2 , but with characteristics ending on $x = 0$ instead of $x = x$. Our first step is then to replace v by w the velocity at $x = 0$, defined by $\frac{v^2}{2} + \varphi(x) = \frac{w^2}{2} + 0$. We have

$$w = -(v^2 + 2\varphi(x))^{1/2} \in [-\underline{w}_e, 0], \quad v = -(v^2 - 2\varphi(x))^{1/2}, \quad dv = \frac{-w}{(w^2 - 2\varphi(x))^{1/2}} dw,$$

where $\underline{w}_e (v_e^2 + 2\varphi(x))^{1/2} \leq \underline{v}_e \leq \sqrt{-2\varphi(1)}$. Using the estimate $-\varphi(y) \geq \alpha \frac{y^2}{2}$, we conclude similarly that

$$\mathcal{I}_3 \leq c \int_{y=0}^1 \int_{w=-\underline{w}_e}^0 \frac{1}{(w^2 - \varphi(y))^{1/2}} dy dw = c \int_{y=0}^1 \int_{w=0}^{\underline{w}_e} \frac{1}{(w^2 + \alpha y^2)^{1/2}} dy dw \leq c \max\left(1, \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}}\right) \frac{\pi}{2} \sqrt{1 - 2\varphi(1)}.$$

In conclusion, we obtained

$$n_i(x) \leq \frac{4}{\alpha^{1/4}} (-2\varphi(1))^{1/4} + 4c \max\left(1, \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}}\right) \frac{\pi}{2} \sqrt{1 - 2\varphi(1)}$$

References