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ON THE LAX & PHILLIPS SCATTERING  
THEORY FOR TRANSPORT EQUATION

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Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded star shaped domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\rho$  the radius of a ball  $B_\rho$  around the origin which contains all the points of  $\Omega$ .  $E_+$  the free forward and  $E_-$  the free backward point sets are defined as follow:

$$E_+ = \{ (x,v) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times V \mid x \cdot v \geq \rho \}$$

$$E_- = \{ (x,v) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times V \mid x \cdot v \leq -\rho \}$$

Corresponding to the subsets  $E_\pm$  one defines the incoming subspace  $D_-$  and outgoing subspace  $D_+$  by:

$$D_\pm = \{ f \in X \mid \text{supp } f \subset E_\pm \}$$

In [1] Lax & Phillips have taken the unit sphere in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  as the velocity space  $V$  and  $X = L^2(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$ . They have shown that for  $U_0(t)$  the one-parameter unitary group defined by  $U_0(t)f(x,v) = f(x-vt,v)$  one has

THEOREM 1. The subspaces  $D_+$  and  $D_-$  satisfy the following properties:

i)<sub>+</sub>  $U_0(t)D_+ \subset D_+$  for  $t \geq 0$

i)<sub>-</sub>  $U_0(t)D_- \subset D_-$  for  $t \leq 0$

ii)  $\bigcap_{t \in \mathbb{R}^n} U_0(t)D_\pm = \{0\}$

iii)  $\bigcup_{t \in \mathbb{R}^n} U_0(t)D_\pm$  is dense in  $X$ .

This theorem can be easily generalized to the case when  $V$  is an annulus contained in the unit ball of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$V = \{ v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid 0 < v_m \leq |v| \leq 1 \}$$

and  $X = L^p(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$  for  $1 \leq p < \infty$ .

$U_0(t)$  is a strongly continuous positive group generated by free collision transport operator

$$T_0 f = -v \cdot \nabla_x f$$

in any  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$ . For any  $\lambda$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  the only function which verifies  $T_0 \phi = \lambda \phi$  is

$$\phi(x, v) = g(x_{\perp}, v) \exp\{-\lambda x \cdot v / |v|^2\}$$

where  $x_{\perp} = x - |v|^{-2}(x \cdot v)v$ . Hence for any  $g$  in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$ , belongs also to  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$  if and only if  $\lambda = i\beta$  for any real  $\beta$ .

This shows that the nature of the spectrum of  $T_0$  depends on the exponent  $p$  in  $L^p$ . In fact if we denote by  $\Sigma(T_0)$  the spectrum of  $T_0$ , using  $\Sigma_p(T_0)$ ,  $\Sigma_c(T_0)$  and  $\Sigma_r(T_0)$  to denote respectively the point spectrum, continuous spectrum and residual spectrum of  $T_0$ , we can prove the following peculiar result:

THEOREM 2. a)  $\Sigma(T_0) = \Sigma_r(T_0) = i\mathbb{R}$  in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$ .

b)  $\Sigma(T_0) = \Sigma_c(T_0) = i\mathbb{R}$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$ .

c)  $\Sigma(T_0) = \Sigma_p(T_0) = i\mathbb{R}$  in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$ .

One of our major aim in this paper is to show when the Lax & Phillips representation theorem (Theorem 1.) is valid in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$  for collision dynamics  $U(t)$  the one parameter group generated by linearized Boltzmann operator

$$T f = -v \cdot \nabla_x f - \sigma_a(x, v) f + \int_V k(x, v', v) f(x, v') dv'$$

where  $\sigma_a$  and  $k$  are two non-negative measurable functions on  $\mathbb{R}^n \times V$  and  $\mathbb{R}^n \times V \times V$  respectively. We define the production cross section  $\sigma_p$  by:

$$\sigma_p(x, v) = \int_V k(x, v, v') dv'$$

and we suppose that the transport system

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = T u, \quad u(x, v, 0) = u_0(x, v) \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$$

is admissible . i.e:

- i)  $\sigma_a$  and  $\sigma_p$  belong to  $L^{\infty}_+(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$
- ii) There is a compact set  $K$  in  $\Omega$  so that  $\sigma_a$  and  $\sigma_p$  vanish if  $x \notin K$ .

In the Lax & Phillips representation theorem the crucial point is the density property iii) . This property is closely related to the local decay property of the dynamics (see [2] ). i.e For any compact subset  $K$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and any function  $f$  in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$

$$(LD) \quad \int_{K \times V} |U(t)f(x, v)| dx dv \rightarrow 0$$

as  $|t| \rightarrow \infty$ . It comes out that this last property is also intimately related with the spectral configuration of the infinitesimal generator  $T$  of  $U(t)$ . In fact one can never get (LD) if  $\sigma_p(T) \neq \emptyset$  . The following theorem shows that this may happen to our case.

THEOREM 3. In  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$ ,  $\Sigma(T) = i \mathbb{R} \cup \Sigma_p(T)$  where  $\Sigma_p(T)$  is either empty or at most a finite set of isolated points lying in the strip  $\Lambda = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} \mid -c \leq \text{Re } z \leq c_2 \}$  .

Sketch of the proof. Let us denote the operators  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  on  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$  by:

$$[A_1 f](x, v) = -\sigma_a(x, v) f(x, v)$$

$$[A_2 f](x, v) = \int_V k(x, v', v) f(x, v') dv'$$

Put  $A = A_1 + A_2$  and  $T_1 = T_0 + A_1$ . Since  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are bounded by  $c_1 = \|\sigma_a\|_\infty$  and  $c_2 = \|\sigma_p\|_\infty$  respectively. From the theory of semigroups one can deduce that  $T = T_0 + A$  generates an one-parameter group  $U(t)$  and  $\Sigma(T)$  lies in  $\Lambda$  with  $c = c_1 + c_2$ . Let  $L_\lambda = (\lambda - T_1)^{-1} A_2$ . By virtue of Dunford-Pettis theorem one can show that  $\lambda \rightarrow L_\lambda^2$  is an analytic compact operator-valued function in  $\mathbb{C}$ , and we have for  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda \neq 0$ ,  $\|L_\lambda^2\| \leq \|A_2\|^2 / |\operatorname{Re} \lambda|^2$ . Hence  $L_\lambda^2$  tends to zero as  $|\operatorname{Re} \lambda| \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore 1 and -1 are not the eigenvalues for all operators  $L_\lambda^2$ . Thus by applying the analytic Fredholm Theorem  $(I - L_\lambda^2)^{-1}$  exists, except at most a countable set of isolated points  $\lambda_k$ , where the function  $\lambda \rightarrow (I - L_\lambda^2)^{-1}$  has a pole. From the two following algebraic identities:

$$\begin{aligned} (I - L_\lambda)^{-1} &= (I + L_\lambda)(I - L_\lambda^2)^{-1} \\ (\lambda - T)^{-1} &= (I - L_\lambda)^{-1}(\lambda - T_1)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

it follows that for  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda \neq 0$  any pole of  $(I - L_\lambda^2)^{-1}$  is an eigenvalue of  $T$ . The finiteness of the number of these eigenvalues will be proved later.

Going back to the theorem 1. The proof of the assertions i) and ii) is a simple consequence of the following lemma.

LEMMA 4. For any  $t \geq 0$  [ $t \leq 0$ ] and any  $f \in D_+$  [ $f \in D_-$ ] one has

$$U(t)f = U_0(t)f .$$

Theorem 3 shows that the assertion iii) of Theorem 1 for  $U(t)$  fails to be true in general case, but however we have:

THEOREM 5. The following assertions are equivalent

- a)  $\bigcup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} U(t)D_{\pm}$  is dense in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$
- b) The local decay property (LD) holds .
- c) The operator  $T$  admits neither eigenvalues on the complex plane nor resonances on the imaginary axis.

For implication b)  $\Rightarrow$  a) see [3] . In order to prove c)  $\Rightarrow$  b) we have to introduce the Lax & Phillips semigroup  $Z(t)$  for transport equation.

Let us define the projections  $P_{\pm}$  on  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$  by  $P_{\pm}f = \chi_{\pm}f$  where  $\chi_{\pm}$  are the characteristic functions of  $E_{\pm}$  and  $\chi_{\pm}' = 1 - \chi_{\pm}$ . We define the Lax & Phillips semigroup by:

$$Z(t) = P_+U(t)P_-$$

Let us consider  $K$  a subspace of  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$  consisting of functions  $f$  which are identically zero on  $E_+ \cup E_-$  .

THEOREM 6. The operators  $\{ Z(t) \mid t \geq 0 \}$  map  $K$  into itself and form strongly continuous semigroup on  $K$ . Furthermore it is a differentiable and compact semigroup for sufficiently large  $t$  .

The eigenvalues of  $B$  the infinitesimal generator of  $Z(t)$  are called *resonances* and the compactness of  $Z(t)$  implies that the spectrum of  $B$  is constituted of pure resonances . Furthermore the differentiability of  $Z(t)$

implies that these resonances are lying in a logarithmic region of the form

$$\Lambda = \{ \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \mid \operatorname{Re} \lambda < a - b \log |\lambda| \}$$

where  $a$  is real and  $b > 0$ . Thus the following theorem proves the finiteness of  $\Sigma_p(T)$ . This theorem is based on the fact that any eigenfunction of  $T$  vanishes out  $P$  of  $\Omega$ .

THEOREM 7.  $\Sigma_p(T) \subset \Sigma(B)$ .

Here the fundamental problem of the existence of such resonances arises. In order to prove that  $\Sigma(B) \neq \emptyset$  we will look to the interior transport problem which was posed by Jörgens [4]. He proved that in some circumstances the interior transport operator  $T^J$  admits eigenfunctions verifying the interior boundary condition:

$$\phi(x, v) = 0 \quad \text{for } x \in \partial\Omega \quad \text{and} \quad n(x) \cdot v < 0$$

where  $n(x)$  is the exterior normal to  $\Omega$  at  $x$ . By an extension of these eigenfunctions to whole space we prove

THEOREM 8.  $\Sigma(T^J) = \Sigma(B)$ .

This extension shows that the asymptotic form of these eigenfunctions look like  $\exp\{-\mu x \cdot v / |v|^2\}$  when  $n(x) \cdot v \geq 0$ . According to Lax & Phillips terminology we will call them *generalized eigenfunctions*.

By an analysis based on a complex residues computation we prove an eigenfunction expansion for  $Z(t)$  which is asymptotically valid for large  $t$ . i.e: By arranging the eigenvalues  $\mu_j$  of  $B$  in decreasing order of their real parts and denote by  $P_j$  the projection into the  $j^{\text{th}}$  eigenspace and  $D_j^k$  the corresponding nilpotent operator of order  $k$ , one has

$$Z(t) \approx \sum_{\mu_j \in \Sigma(B)} e^{\mu_j t} \left( P_j + \sum_k \frac{t^k}{k!} D_j^k \right)$$

The following version of the above formula was suggested by Melrose [5], for wave equation which is more coherent to our setting.

THEOREM 9. For any  $f$  in  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n \times V)$  there exist a sequence  $\mu_j$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  and generalized eigenfunctions  $w_{j,k}$ ,  $k = 0, \dots, m_j - 1$  such that for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\varepsilon$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon < \operatorname{Re} \mu_n - \operatorname{Re} \mu_{n+1}$

$$\sup_{(x,v) \in \Omega \times V} \left| [U(t)f](x,v) - \sum_{j=1}^n e^{\mu_j t} \sum_{k=0}^{m_j-1} t^k w_{j,k}(x,v) \right| \leq c |e^{(\mu_n - \varepsilon)t}|$$

for sufficiently large  $t$ . The constant  $c$  depends only on  $n$  and  $\varepsilon$ .

This theorem yields the implication  $c) \Rightarrow b)$  in theorem 5. We deduce also from compactness of  $Z(t)$  and the fact that  $\{0\} \notin \Sigma_p(T)$  ( see [6] ) that  $a) \Rightarrow c)$ .

Finally we give a physically relevant situation in which the property  $b)$  of Theorem 5 occurs. This situation is presented by Hejtmanek [7]. He showed when the Dyson-Phillips expansion of  $U(t)$  is finite, which physically means that the system is of finite collisions then the spectrum of  $T$  does not exceed the imaginary axis. We can conclude under the above condition Lax & Phillips representation theorem is fully valid.

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