

# Expansion of an inviscid isentropic fluid in vacuum

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or

Why do we care about T.-P. Liu's  
*Physical singularity at the boundary ?*

## Euler equations

Density  $\rho$ , velocity  $u$ , pressure  $p$ , internal energy  $e$  :

$$\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho u) = 0, \quad (1)$$

$$\partial_t(\rho u) + \operatorname{Div}(\rho u \otimes u) + \nabla p(\rho) = 0. \quad (2)$$

Equation of state (ideal gas)

$$p = A\rho^\gamma, \quad e = \frac{p}{(\gamma - 1)\rho} \quad (\gamma > 1).$$

For smooth flows, (1,2) imply

$$\partial_t \left( \frac{1}{2} \rho |u|^2 + \rho e \right) + \operatorname{div} \left( \left( \frac{1}{2} \rho |u|^2 + \rho e + p \right) u \right) = 0. \quad (3)$$

**Initial data.**  $\rho u(x, 0) = m_0(x)$  and  $\rho(x, 0) = \rho_0(x)$ . Equivalently,

$$c(x, 0) = c_0(x), \quad c := \sqrt{\frac{dp}{d\rho}} = a\rho^\kappa \quad \text{the sound speed.}$$

**Cauchy problem with vacuum around.**

$$\Omega(t) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \rho(x, t) > 0\} \quad \text{bounded, but unknown.}$$

**Match the vacuum.** Rankine–Hugoniot gives

$$\rho(u \cdot \nu - \sigma) = \mathbf{0}, \quad \rho(u \cdot \nu - \sigma)u + p(\rho)\nu = \mathbf{0},$$

with  $\nu$  the unit normal to  $\partial\Omega(t)$ ,  $\sigma$  the normal velocity of the boundary.

$$\implies \rho = 0 \quad \text{on} \quad \partial\Omega(t).$$

*Boundary shocks are impossible.*

## Classical solutions. Local theory

Needs a symmetrization (Godunov, ...)

Makino, Ukai & Kawashima (1986) found a non-singular symmetrization:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \kappa^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \kappa \end{pmatrix} (\partial_t + u \cdot \nabla) \begin{pmatrix} c \\ u \end{pmatrix} + c \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \text{div} \\ \nabla & 0_d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c \\ u \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

with  $\kappa := \frac{\gamma-1}{2}$ .

Implies locally well-posedness of the Cauchy problem in variables  $(c, u)$ , even in presence of vacuum !!

... →

**Theorem 1 (MUK, Chemin.)** *Let  $s > 1 + \frac{d}{2}$  be given. Let the initial data  $(u_0, c_0) \in H^s(\mathbb{R}^d)$  be such that  $c_0 \geq 0$ . Then there exists  $T^* > 0$  and a unique solution*

$$(u, c) \in \mathcal{C}([0, T^*]; H^s(\mathbb{R}^d)) \cap \mathcal{C}^1([0, T^*]; H^{s-1}(\mathbb{R}^d))$$

*of the Cauchy problem.*



These are classical solutions (Sobolev:  $H^s \subset \mathcal{C}^1$ ,  $H^{s-1} \subset \mathcal{C}^0$ ),

$$(u, c) \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T^*) \times \mathbb{R}^d).$$

Linear growth:

$$\Omega(t) \subset \Omega(0) + B_{|t|M}, \quad \text{where } M := \sup_{x,t} |u|.$$

**Questions**  $\longrightarrow \dots$

- Can the  $H^s$ -solution be a global one ? (Is  $T^* = +\infty$  possible?)
- When it is not, is it sufficient to incorporate shock wave theory ?

### A positive result

**Warm-up: an academic case.** If  $c_0 \equiv 0$  (no gas at all !) then  $c \equiv 0$ , and the system reduces to

$$\partial_t u + (u \cdot \nabla) u = 0,$$

a *vector*-Burgers equation.

Method of characteristics:  $\frac{dX}{dt} = u(X, t)$ ,  $\frac{du}{dt} = 0$  yields

$$\frac{d\nabla u}{dt} + (\nabla u)^2 = 0,$$

a Riccati equation in  $M_d(\mathbb{R})$  !

The Riccati ODE

$$M' + M^2 = 0, \quad M(0) = M_0$$

yields

$$Y' + MY = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad Y(t) := M(t)(I_d + tM_0) - M_0,$$

whence  $Y \equiv 0_d$ :

$$M(t) = M_0(I_d + tM_0)^{-1}.$$

Its solution is global (up to  $t = +\infty$ ) *iff*

$$\sigma(M_0) \cap (-\infty, 0) = \emptyset.$$

**Lemma 1** *Let  $\nabla u_0 \in H^{s-1}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  be given, with  $s > 1 + \frac{d}{2}$ . The classical solution of the vector-Burgers equation exists for all  $t > 0$  *iff**

$$\sigma(\nabla u_0) \cap (-\infty, 0) = \emptyset, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$



Typically,  $\nabla u(X(t), t) \sim \frac{1}{t} I_d$ .

**A perturbation argument** shows that the dispersion may dominate the non-linearity:

**Theorem 2 (M. Grassin 1988.)** *Suppose*

$$\min_x \text{dist}(\sigma(\nabla u_0(x)); \mathbb{R}^-) > 0.$$

*There exists  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $\|c_0\|_{H^s} < \delta$ , then the classical solution exists for all  $t > 0$ .*



## A negative result.

The boundary  $\partial\Omega$  is convected by the flow. For a classical solution, trajectories along  $\partial\Omega$  satisfy

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = u(X, t), \quad \frac{du}{dt} = -\frac{c}{\kappa} \nabla c = \mathbf{0}.$$

Hence the flow coincides, at the boundary, with that of the free transport:

$$\phi^t(a) \equiv a + tu_0(a) =: \psi^t(a), \quad \forall a \in \partial\Omega_0.$$

**Theorem 3 (à la J. Milnor.)** *The volume  $Q(t)$  of  $\Omega(t)$  is a **polynomial** function, of degree  $\leq d$ .*



*Proof*

$$\Omega(t) = \phi^t(\Omega_0).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vol } \Omega(t) &= \int_{\Omega_0} \text{Jac}(\phi^t) dx = \int_{\Omega_0} \text{div}(\phi_1^t \nabla \phi_2^t \wedge \cdots \wedge \nabla \phi_d^t) dx \\ &= \int_{\partial\Omega_0} \phi_1^t (\nabla \phi_2^t \wedge \cdots \wedge \nabla \phi_d^t) \cdot \nu_x ds(x) \\ &= \int_{\partial\Omega_0} \phi_1^t \det(\nabla \phi_2^t, \cdots, \nabla \phi_d^t, \nu_x) ds(x) \end{aligned}$$

But the restrictions of  $\phi^t$  and  $\psi^t$  to  $\partial\Omega_0$  coincide :

$$\nabla \phi_j^t = \nabla \psi_j^t + a_j(t, x) \nu_x.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vol } \Omega(t) &= \int_{\partial\Omega_0} \psi_1^t \det(\nabla \psi_2^t, \cdots, \nabla \psi_d^t, \nu_x) ds(x) \\ &= \int_{\partial\Omega_0} \psi_1^t (\nabla \psi_2^t \wedge \cdots \wedge \nabla \psi_d^t) \cdot \nu_x ds(x). \end{aligned}$$

The integrand is a polynomial in  $t$ , of degree  $\leq d$ .

**Q.E.D.**

Dominant term

$$Q(t) = Jt^d + \text{l.o.t.},$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} J &:= \int_{\partial\Omega_0} u_{01} (\nabla u_{02} \wedge \cdots \wedge \nabla u_{0d}) \cdot \nu_x \, ds(x) \\ &= \int_{\Omega_0} \text{Jac}(u_0) \, dx. \end{aligned}$$

Recalling that  $Q(t) \geq 0$ , we infer

**Theorem 4** *Suppose*

$$\int_{\Omega_0} \text{Jac}(u_0) dx < 0.$$

*Then the classical solution is only local-in-time:*

$$T^* < \infty.$$



**Remark.** Thm 4 needs only that  $(u, c)$  be smooth at the boundary  $\partial\Omega(t)$ .  
Shocks are welcome in  $\Omega(t)$  !

## The limit case $J = 0$

**Theorem 5** ( $\gamma \leq 1 + \frac{2}{d-1}$ .) *Let  $(u, \rho)$  be an admissible\* solution of the isentropic Euler system, with  $(u, c)$  smooth at the boundary. Suppose*

$$\int_{\Omega_0} \text{Jac}(u_0) dx \leq 0.$$

*Then the solution is only local:  $T^* < \infty$ .*



Allowing shock waves is not sufficient to have global solutions !!

*Proof.*

The case  $J < 0$  has been treated above. Suppose instead  $J = 0$ . Then

$$Q(t) = |\Omega(t)| \in \mathbb{R}[t], \quad \deg Q \leq d - 1.$$

...  $\longrightarrow$

\*In the sense of the energy inequality.

**Lemma 2 (Dispersion.)** If  $\gamma \leq 1 + \frac{2}{d}$ , then

$$\int \rho^\gamma dx \leq C(1+t)^{-2d\kappa}.$$

**If instead**  $1 + \frac{2}{d} < \gamma$ , then

$$\int_0^{+\infty} t dt \int \rho^\gamma dx < \infty.$$

*Proof* based upon

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int \left( \frac{1}{2} \rho |tu - x|^2 + t^2 \rho e \right) dx &= \frac{d}{dt} \left[ t^2 \int \left( \frac{1}{2} \rho |u|^2 + \rho e \right) dx \right. \\ &\quad \left. - t \int \rho u \cdot x dx + \int \frac{|x|^2}{2} \rho dx \right] \\ &\leq t \int (2\rho e - d\rho) dx = 2t(1 - d\kappa) \int \rho e dx. \end{aligned}$$

Use  $\rho e = \text{cst} \cdot \rho^\gamma$ , plus the Gronwall inequality.

*Proof* of Theorem 5 (say  $\gamma \leq 1 + \frac{2}{d}$ ).

Let  $M$  be the total mass. Apply Hölder inequality and  $\deg Q \leq d - 1$  :

$$\begin{aligned} M = \int \rho(t, x) dx &\leq |\Omega(t)|^{1-1/\gamma} \left( \int \rho^\gamma dx \right)^{1/\gamma} \\ &\leq C(1+t)^{(d-1)(1-1/\gamma)} \left( \int \rho^\gamma dx \right)^{1/\gamma}. \end{aligned}$$

Dispersion gives

$$M \leq C(1+t)^{(d-1)(1-1/\gamma)-2d\kappa/\gamma} = C(1+t)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}-1}$$

$$\xrightarrow{t \rightarrow +\infty} 0.$$

But  $M > 0$  is a constant ; *contradiction* !

Q.E.D.



## The case of eternal flows

**Definition 1** A solution  $U(t)$  of a dynamical system is *eternal* if it is defined for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

... thus not only for all  $t > 0$ .

Examples of eternal solutions:

- Steady, periodic, homoclinic, heteroclinic solutions,
- (For PDEs) travelling waves and solitons,  $U(x, t) = \phi(x - ct)$ .
- Multi-solitons (KdV),

- Interacting fronts (Hamel & Nadirashvili, 1999) in reaction-diffusion equations,
- Interacting viscous shock fronts (D. S. 1998).
- Global Maxwellians of the Boltzmann equation (D. Levermore 2014).
- (Averaging the former) Eternal **isothermal** flow with Gaussian density.

**Question** : *Do there exist eternal solutions of the isentropic Euler equations, compactly supported in space ?*

## A dichotomy $d$ even/odd

$d$  **even (existence)**. One may choose  $\nabla u_0 \in H_{\text{loc}}^{s-1}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  such that

$$\sigma(\nabla u_0(x)) \cap \mathbb{R} = \emptyset, \quad \forall x. \quad (4)$$

If  $\|c_0\|_{H^s} \ll 1$ , then Grassin's Theorem provides an eternal smooth solution  $(u, c)$ . *Example* :  $u_0(x) = x^\perp$ .

$d$  **odd (non-existence)**. The choice (4) is not possible. Instead, let  $(\rho, u)$  be admissible, eternal, with  $(u, c)$  smooth at the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ . The volume  $Q \in \mathbb{R}[t]$  satisfies  $Q \geq 0$ , hence has an *even* degree.

But  $\deg Q \leq d$ , hence

$$\deg Q \leq d - 1.$$

Again, dispersion and  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  yields a contradiction.

## Resolving a paradox

We have seen that the regularity of  $c$  at the boundary, in the sense that  $c\nabla c$  vanishes, is an obstacle to the existence of global solutions

... because it does not always let the volume of the domain grow as  $t^d$ ,

... even if we allow shock waves.

However, ...

The ~~show~~ flow must go on !

Whence the need of  $\dots \longrightarrow$

## Physical singularities at the boundary (after T.-P. Liu)

The volume  $\Omega(t)$  has to grow like  $t^d$  (at least) to cope with the dispersion estimate and the conservation of mass ...

... even if  $J < 0$ .

Some kind of singularity may/must form at the front, sooner or later ...

... but we know that boundary shocks don't exist. So what ?

Revisit the particle trajectories

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = u(X(t), t), \quad \frac{d^2X}{dt^2} = u_t + (u \cdot \nabla)u = -\frac{1}{\gamma - 1} \nabla(c^2).$$

If  $c$  is only  $\frac{1}{2}$ -Hölder (instead of Lipschitz), the front experiences a normal acceleration

$$g := -\frac{1}{\gamma - 1} \frac{\partial(c^2)}{\partial\nu} \geq 0.$$

Notice the sign:  $c^2$  is  $> 0$  in the interior and vanishes at the boundary:

the front is *accelerated*.

Local existence of shock-free solutions with physical singularity:

$d = 1$ . Juhi Jang, N.Masmoudi. *Commun. Pure Appl. Math.*, **62** (2009), pp 1327–1385.

D. Coutand, S. Shkoller. *Commun. Pure Appl. Math.*, **64** (2011), pp 328–366.

$d \geq 2$ . Juhi Jang, N. Masmoudi. *Commun. Pure Appl. Math.*, **68** (2015), pp 61–111.

D. Coutand, S. Shkoller. *Archive Rat. Mech. Anal.*, **206** (2012), pp 515–616.

**Spherical symmetry** : Tao Luo, Zhouping Xin & Huihui Zeng. *Archive Rat. Mech. Anal.*, **213** (2014), pp 763–831.



## Physical singularity ( $d = 1$ )

Domain

$$\Omega(t) = (a(t), b(t)).$$

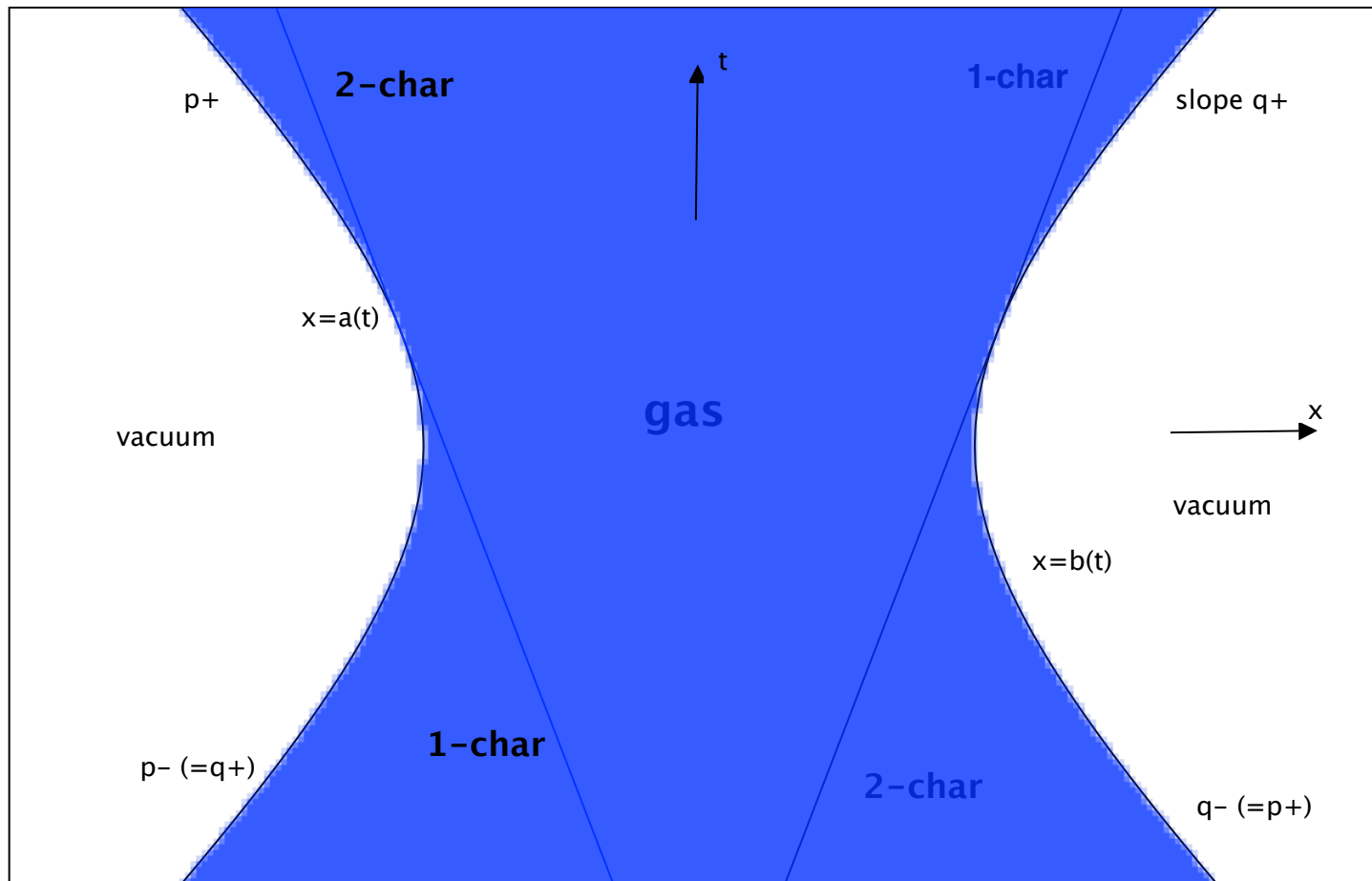
Due to acceleration,  $t \mapsto b(t)$  is convex ;  $a$  is concave.

In  $\Omega$ ,  $(\rho, u)$  is an entropy solution of the Euler system.

At almost every  $P \in \partial\Omega$ ,

$$\lim_{(x,t) \rightarrow P} \rho(x, t) = 0.$$

A 2-characteristic may emanate from  $(a(t), t)$  or may terminate at  $(b(t), t)$ , but not the converse. Switch  $a \longleftrightarrow b$  for 1-characteristics.



Shock-free 1-D gas bubble with physical singularity at the boundary.

The (space-time) domain is hyperbola-shaped.

## One-dimensional scattering

Let  $(\rho, u)$  be an eternal flow.

Define (remember the convexity)

$$p_{\pm} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \pm\infty} a'(t), \quad q_{\pm} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \pm\infty} b'(t).$$

**Theorem 6** ( $d = 1, \gamma > 1.$ ) *If the flow is shock-free in  $\Omega$  and has physical singularity at the front, then*

$$p_+ = q_-, \quad p_- = q_+.$$



In other words

$$\Omega(t) \sim t(q_-, q_+), \quad |t| \rightarrow +\infty.$$

Similar to flows that are smooth at the boundary ( $d$  even) :  $\Omega(t) \sim tu_0(\Omega(0))$ .

## Mono-atomic gas

For  $\gamma = 3$ , the system is made of two Burgers equations

$$\partial_t r_{\pm} + r_{\pm} \partial_x r_{\pm} = 0, \quad r_{\pm} := u \pm c.$$

Coupled only at shocks and at the vacuum front !

**Example.** Domain

$$|x| < \sqrt{1 + t^2}$$

with flow

$$\rho = \frac{\sqrt{1 + t^2 - x^2}}{1 + t^2}, \quad u = \frac{tx}{1 + t^2}.$$

**Theorem 7** ( $d = 1, \gamma = 3$ .) *For the solution with physical boundary to be eternal and shock-free, it is necessary and sufficient that the initial data  $r_0 = u_0 + c_0$  be concave and  $s_0 = u_0 - c_0$  convex.*

*Given an equation  $F(x, v) < 0$  ( $F$  convex) of the domain*

$$\{(x, v) \mid s_0(x) < v < r_0(x)\},$$

*the solution is given by*

$$F(x - vt, v) = 0, \quad v = u \pm c.$$



**Thank you for attention**

**Très bon anniversaire Jérôme !**