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LANDAU EQUATION FOR VERY SOFT AND COULOMB POTENTIALS NEAR MAXWELLIANS

K. CARRAPATOSO AND S. MISCHLER

ABSTRACT. This work deals with the Landau equation for very soft and Coulomb potentials near the associated Maxwellian equilibrium. We first investigate the corresponding linearized operator and develop a method to prove strong asymptotical (but not uniformly exponential) stability estimates of its associated semigroup in large functional spaces. We then deduce existence, uniqueness and fast decay of the solutions to the nonlinear equation in a close-to-equilibrium framework. Our result drastically improves the set of initial data compared to the one considered by Guo and Strain who established similar results in [21, 38, 39]. Our functional framework is compatible with the non perturbative frameworks developed by Villani, Desvillettes and co-authors [44, 17, 16, 13], and our main result then makes possible to improve the speed of convergence to the equilibrium established therein.

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CONTENTS

1. Introduction	2
1.1. The Landau equation	2
1.2. Main results	3
1.3. Overview of the proof	5
1.4. Notations and definitions	7
1.5. Structure of the paper	7
2. Linearized operator	7
2.1. Known results	8
2.2. Factorization of the operator	8
2.3. Preliminaries	9
2.4. Dissipative properties of \mathcal{B}	12
2.5. Estimates on the operator \mathcal{A}	15
3. Semigroup decay	16
3.1. Decay estimates for $S_{\mathcal{B}}$	16
3.2. Regularity properties of $S_{\mathcal{B}}$	18
3.3. Decay estimates for $S_{\mathcal{L}}$	18
3.4. Weak dissipativity of \mathcal{L}	20
3.5. Summarizing the decay and dissipativity estimates	21
4. Nonlinear estimates	21
5. Nonlinear stability	24
6. The spatially inhomogeneous case	28
6.1. The linearized inhomogeneous operator	28
6.2. Functional spaces	28
6.3. Weak coercivity estimate of $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$	29

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6.4. Weak dissipativity properties on $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$	32
6.5. Regularisation properties of $S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}$ and $(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*n)}$	35
6.6. Decay of the semigroup $S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}$	39
6.7. Summary of the decay and dissipativity results for $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$	41
6.8. Nonlinear estimate	42
6.9. Proof of the main result	43
References	43

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Landau equation. The Landau equation is a fundamental equation in kinetic theory modeling the evolution of a dilute plasma interacting through binary collisions. We consider here a plasma confined in a torus \mathbb{T}^3 and described by the distribution function $F = F(t, x, v) \geq 0$ of particles which at time $t \geq 0$ and at position $x \in \mathbb{T}^3$, move with the velocity $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$. The evolution of F is governed by the *spatially inhomogeneous* Landau equation

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t F + v \cdot \nabla_x F = Q(F, F) \\ F(0, x, v) = F_0(x, v). \end{cases}$$

For a spatially homogeneous plasma, namely when $F = F(t, v)$, the equation simplifies into the *spatially homogeneous* Landau equation

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t F = Q(F, F) \\ F(0, v) = F_0(v). \end{cases}$$

The Landau collision operator Q is a bilinear operator acting only on the velocity variable and it is given by

$$(1.3) \quad Q(g, f)(v) = \partial_i \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} a_{ij}(v - v_*) \{g_* \partial_j f - f \partial_j g_*\} dv_*,$$

where here and below we use the convention of implicit summation over repeated indices and the usual shorthand $g_* = g(v_*)$, $\partial_j g_* = \partial_{v_{*j}} g(v_*)$, $f = f(v)$ and $\partial_j f = \partial_{v_j} f(v)$. The matrix-valued function a is nonnegative, symmetric and depends on the interaction between particles. When particles interact by an inverse power law potential, a is given by

$$(1.4) \quad a_{ij}(z) = |z|^{\gamma+2} \left(\delta_{ij} - \frac{z_i z_j}{|z|^2} \right), \quad -3 \leq \gamma \leq 1.$$

In the present article, we shall consider the cases of very soft potentials $\gamma \in (-3, -2)$ and Coulomb potential $\gamma = -3$. It is worth mentioning that the Coulomb potential is the most physically interesting case, and also the most difficult because of the strong singularity in (1.4).

The Landau equation (1.1) (or (1.2)) possesses two fundamental properties (which hold at least formally). On the one hand, it conserves mass, momentum and energy, more precisely

$$(1.5) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{T}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3} F \varphi dx dv = \int_{\mathbb{T}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3} \{Q(F, F) - v \cdot \nabla_x f\} \varphi dx dv = 0 \quad \text{for } \varphi(v) = 1, v, |v|^2.$$

On the other hand, the Landau version of the celebrated Boltzmann H -theorem holds: the entropy $H(F) := \int F \log F dx dv$ is non-increasing and the global equilibria are global Maxwellian distributions that are independent of time and position. Hereafter, we normalize the initial data

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3} F_0 dx dv = 1, \quad \int_{\mathbb{T}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3} F_0 v dx dv = 0, \quad \int_{\mathbb{T}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3} F_0 |v|^2 dx dv = 3,$$

and therefore we consider the associated global Maxwellian equilibrium

$$\mu(v) = (2\pi)^{-3/2} e^{-|v|^2/2},$$

with same mass, momentum and energy of the initial data (normalizing the volume of the torus to $|\mathbb{T}_x^3| = 1$).

1.2. Main results. Our aim in this work is to study the Landau equation in a close-to-equilibrium framework (or perturbative regime) in large functional spaces and to establish new well-posedness and trend to the equilibrium results.

Let us then introduce the functional framework we will work with. For a given velocity weight function $m = m(v) : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ and exponent $1 \leq p \leq \infty$, we define the associated weighted Lebesgue space $L_v^p(m)$ and weighted Sobolev space $W_v^{1,p}(m)$, through their norms

$$(1.6) \quad \|f\|_{L_v^p(m)} := \|mf\|_{L_v^p}, \quad \|f\|_{W_v^{1,p}(m)} := \|mf\|_{W_v^{1,p}}.$$

Similarly, we define the weighted Sobolev space $W_x^{n,p}L_v^p(m)$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, associated to the norm

$$(1.7) \quad \|f\|_{W_x^{n,p}L_v^p(m)}^p := \|mf\|_{W_x^{n,p}L_v^p}^p := \sum_{0 \leq j \leq n} \|\nabla_x^j(mf)\|_{L_{x,v}^p}^p,$$

and we adopt the usual notation $H^n = W^{n,2}$.

We make the following assumption on the weight function m :

$$(1.8) \quad \begin{aligned} m &= \langle v \rangle^k := (1 + |v|^2)^{k/2} \text{ with } k > 2 + 3/2; \\ m &= \exp(\kappa \langle v \rangle^s) \text{ with } s \in (0, 2) \text{ and } \kappa > 0, \text{ or } s = 2 \text{ and } \kappa \in (0, 1/2); \end{aligned}$$

and through the paper we denote $\sigma = 0$ when m is a polynomial weight, and $\sigma = s$ when m is an exponential weight. We associate the decay functions

$$(1.9) \quad \Theta_m(t) = \begin{cases} C \langle t \rangle^{-\frac{k-\ell}{|\gamma|}}, & \text{if } m = \langle v \rangle^k, \\ C e^{-\lambda t^{\frac{s}{|\gamma|}}}, & \text{if } m = e^{\kappa \langle v \rangle^s}, \end{cases}$$

for any constant $\ell \in (2 + 3/2, k)$ and some constants $C, \lambda \in (0, \infty)$. It is worth emphasizing that in the polynomial case $m = \langle v \rangle^k$, the notation Θ_m refers to a class of functions (with increasing rate of decay as ℓ tends to $2 + 3/2$), while in the exponential case $m = e^{\kappa \langle v \rangle^s}$, the notation Θ_m stands for a fixed function. We finally introduce the projection operator P_v on the v -direction for any given $v \in \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}$ defined by

$$(1.10) \quad P_v \xi = \left(\xi \cdot \frac{v}{|v|} \right) \frac{v}{|v|}, \quad \forall \xi \in \mathbb{R}^3,$$

as well as the anisotropic gradient $\tilde{\nabla}_v f$ of a function f defined by

$$(1.11) \quad \tilde{\nabla}_v f = P_v \nabla_v f + \langle v \rangle (I - P_v) \nabla_v f.$$

Our main result reads as follows.

Theorem 1.1. *For any weight function m satisfying (1.8), there exist $C > 0$ and $\varepsilon_0 > 0$, small enough, so that, if $\|F_0 - \mu\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2(m)} < \varepsilon_0$, there exists a unique global weak solution F to (1.1) such that*

$$(1.12) \quad \begin{aligned} \sup_{t \geq 0} \|F(t) - \mu\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2(m)}^2 &+ \int_0^\infty \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} (F(t) - \mu)\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2(m)}^2 dt \\ &+ \int_0^\infty \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v \{m(F(t) - \mu)\}\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2}^2 dt \leq C \varepsilon_0^2. \end{aligned}$$

This solution verifies the decay estimate

$$(1.13) \quad \|F(t) - \mu\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2} \leq \Theta_m(t) \|F_0 - \mu\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2(m)}, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Remark 1.2. For a spatially homogeneous initial datum $F_0 \in L_v^2(m)$, the associated solution $F(t)$ is also a spatially homogeneous function, and thus satisfies the spatially homogeneous Landau equation (1.2). In that spatially homogeneous framework, the H_x^2 regularity is automatically fulfilled, it can be then removed of the corresponding version of Theorem 1.1 which statement thus simplifies accordingly.

Let us briefly comment on known results on the existence, uniqueness and long-time behaviour of solutions to the Landau equation when $-3 \leq \gamma < -2$. For the other cases $-2 \leq \gamma \leq 1$, we refer the reader to the recent work [14] and the references therein.

In the space homogeneous case, existence of solutions has been first addressed by Arsenev-Penskov [2], and next by Villani [44] and Desvillettes [16] who establish existence of global solutions for any initial datum with finite mass, energy and entropy. Uniqueness of strong solutions (which do exist locally in time) has been proved by Fournier-Guérin [19] and Fournier [18]. In a similar framework and for bounded (after regularisation) collision kernel a with $-3 < \gamma < -2$, polynomial convergence to the equilibrium has been obtained by Toscani and Villani [40] by entropy dissipation method. That last result has been recently improved by Desvillettes, He and the first author [13], who prove convergence to equilibrium with algebraic or stretched exponential rate removing the boundedness (unphysical) assumption on the collision kernel a and also considering the Coulomb potential $\gamma = -3$. The space homogeneous version of the results by Guo and Strain presented below also provides well-posedness and accurate rate of convergence to the equilibrium in a perturbative regime in $H_v^s(\mu^{-\theta})$, $\theta \in (1/2, 1)$. It is worth emphasising that even in that simple space homogeneous case, it was the only known result of existence and uniqueness of global (in time) solutions.

In the space inhomogeneous case, existence of global (renormalized with a defect measure) solutions has been established by Alexandre-Villani [1] for any initial datum with finite mass, energy and entropy. Under an additional (unverified) strong uniform in time boundedness assumption, Desvillettes and Villani [17] proved polynomial convergence of the solutions to the equilibrium. On the other hand, in a perturbative regime, Guo [21] proved well-posedness in the high-order Sobolev space with fast decay in velocity $H_{x,v}^s(\mu^{-1/2})$, and Guo and Strain [38, 39] proved stretched exponential convergence to equilibrium in $H_{x,v}^s(\mu^{-\theta})$, $\theta \in (1/2, 1)$.

Our result thus improves the well-posedness theory of Guo [21] to larger spaces $H_x^2 L_v^2(m)$ as well as the convergence to equilibrium of Guo and Strain [38, 39] to larger spaces and with more accurate rate. It is worth emphasising that in the space homogeneous case, our results only require that initial data are bounded (and close) in the Lebesgue space $L_v^2(m)$ (and thus do not require any control on derivatives).

Our result makes possible to improve the speed of convergence to the equilibrium results available in a non perturbative framework in the following way.

Corollary 1.3 (Spatially homogeneous framework). *Consider a nonnegative normalized initial datum $F_0 = F_0(v)$ with finite entropy such that furthermore $F_0 \in L^1(m)$ for an exponential weight function m satisfying (1.8) with $s \in (0, 1/2)$. There exists a global weak solution F to the spatially homogenous Landau equation (1.2) associated to F_0 satisfying*

$$(1.14) \quad \|F(t) - \mu\|_{L_v^2} \lesssim \Theta_m(t), \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Estimate (1.14) improves the rate of convergence of order $e^{-\lambda t^{\frac{s}{s+1+\gamma}}}$ established in [13], thanks to an entropy method, for the global weak solutions built in [44, 16]. Corollary 1.3 has to be compared with [34] where the optimal speed of convergence to the equilibrium for the spatially homogeneous Boltzmann equation for hard spheres has been established and with [41] where the optimal speed of convergence to the equilibrium for the spatially homogeneous Boltzmann equation for hard potentials has been proved.

Corollary 1.4 (Spatially inhomogeneous framework with a priori bounds). *Let F be a non-negative normalized global strong solution to the spatially inhomogeneous Landau equation (1.1) such that*

$$(1.15) \quad \sup_{t \geq 0} \left(\|F(t)\|_{H_{x,v}^\ell} + \|F(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^1(m)} \right) < +\infty,$$

for some explicit $\ell \geq 3$ large enough and some exponential weight function m satisfying (1.8), and such that the spatial density is uniformly positive on the torus, namely

$$(1.16) \quad \forall t \geq 0, x \in \mathbb{T}^3, \quad \rho(t, x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(t, x, v) dv \geq \alpha > 0.$$

Then this solution satisfies

$$(1.17) \quad \|F(t) - \mu\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2} \lesssim \Theta_m(t), \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Estimate (1.17) improves the polynomial (of any order) rate of convergence established in [17, Theorem 2] under stronger (of any order) uniform Sobolev norm estimates but weaker (polynomial of any order) velocity moment uniform estimates. Corollary 1.4 has to be compared with [20] where the optimal speed of convergence to the equilibrium for the spatially inhomogeneous Boltzmann equation for hard spheres has been established.

1.3. Overview of the proof. Our main theorem is based on stability estimates (which are however not uniformly exponential) for the semigroup corresponding to the associated linearized operator in large functional spaces, by taking advantage of a *weak coercivity* estimate in one small space and using an *enlargement trick for weakly dissipative operators* that we introduce here. We then conclude to our main result by combining these stability estimates (at the linear level) together with some nonlinear estimates for the Landau operator Q and a trapping argument. It is worth mentioning that our method is mostly based on these semigroup stability estimates, what is drastically different from the nonlinear energy method of [21, 38, 39].

Let us explain this enlargement trick in more details, and we restrict ourselves to the Hilbert framework to make the discussion simpler (and because it is the only case we will consider in the all paper). We begin with the simpler hypodissipative case. Let Λ be a linear operator acting on two Hilbert spaces $E \subset \mathcal{E}$ and suppose that Λ has a spectral gap in the small space E , and more precisely

$$(1.18) \quad \forall f \in E_1^\Lambda, \quad \langle \Lambda f, f \rangle_E \lesssim -\|\Pi f\|_E^2,$$

where E_1^Λ stands for the domain of Λ when acting on the space E and Π denotes the projector onto the orthogonal of $\ker(\Lambda)$. It is worth recalling that this estimate is equivalent to an exponential rate decay for the associated semigroup $S_\Lambda(t)\Pi$ in E . The extension theory recently introduced in an abstract Banach framework in [34] and developed in [20, 31, 29] (see also [30, 42, 32] for other developments of the factorization approach for the spectral analysis of semigroups in large Banach spaces) establishes that if we can factorise $\Lambda = \mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$ where \mathcal{B} is hypodissipative (with respect to \mathcal{E}), \mathcal{A} is bounded and some convolution product of $\mathcal{A}S_\mathcal{B}$ enjoys suitable regularity property, then Λ generates a C_0 -semigroup $S_\Lambda(t)$ on the large space \mathcal{E} and $S_\Lambda(t)\Pi$ enjoys in \mathcal{E} the same exponential rate decay as in E . This method has been successfully applied to many evolution equations, and in particular to the Landau equation with hard and moderately soft potentials in [11, 12, 14].

In our case (of very soft and Coulomb potentials $\gamma \in [-3, -2)$), the linearized Landau operator Λ does not satisfy any spectral gap inequality but only a weak coercivity estimate on a small space E . We are however able to generalize the extension theory presented above and prove that Λ generates a uniformly bounded continuous semigroup $S_\Lambda(t)$ on small and large Hilbert spaces X , which is now only strongly stable but not uniformly exponentially stable.

More precisely, on the one hand, the linearized version of the H -Theorem states that (at least) in one Hilbert space E , the linearized Landau operator Λ enjoys a weak spectral gap estimate

$$(1.19) \quad \forall f \in E_1^\Lambda, \quad \langle \Lambda f, f \rangle_E \lesssim -\|\Pi f\|_{E_*}^2, \quad E_* \text{ not included into } E,$$

where here E_* is a second Hilbert space (in the norm of which we express the weak dissipativity property of Λ in E).

On the other hand, in many Hilbert spaces X , the linearized Landau operator Λ splits as $\Lambda = \mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$ where \mathcal{A} is a bounded operator in X and \mathcal{B} is weakly dissipative

$$(1.20) \quad \forall f \in X_1^\Lambda, \quad \langle \mathcal{B}f, f \rangle_X \lesssim -\|f\|_{X_*}^2, \quad X_* \text{ not included into } X,$$

where again X_1^Λ stands for the domain of Λ when acting on the space X and X_* is a second Hilbert space (in the norm of which we express the weak dissipativity property of \mathcal{B} in X).

It is worth emphasizing that this weakly dissipative case is much more tricky than the previous classical dissipative case, because one cannot deduce any decay estimate on ΠS_Λ (resp. $S_\mathcal{B}$) just from inequality (1.19) (resp. inequality (1.20)).

However, by using (1.20) with several choices of spaces X and using an interpolation argument, we first obtain that $S_\mathcal{B}$ is strongly asymptotically stable (but not uniformly exponentially stable). Next, by using an extension trick, we deduce that the same holds for ΠS_Λ . More precisely, for several choices of Hilbert spaces $X \subsetneq X_0$, we have first

$$(1.21) \quad \|\Pi S_\Lambda(t)\|_{X \rightarrow X_0} \leq \Theta(t) \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty,$$

for some polynomial or stretched exponential decay function $\Theta = \Theta_{X, X_0}$, as well as the regularization estimate

$$(1.22) \quad \|\Pi S_\Lambda(t)\|_{X'_* \rightarrow X_0} \leq (t \wedge 1)^{-1/2} \Theta_*(t),$$

for some polynomial decay function $\Theta_* = \Theta_{X'_*, X_0}$ (such that $(t \wedge 1)^{-1/2} \Theta(t) \Theta_*(t) \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$) and where X'_* is the dual of X_* for some suitable duality product. Next, for some convenient choice of $\eta, K > 0$, the norm

$$(1.23) \quad \forall f \in \Pi X, \quad \|f\|_{X'}^2 := \eta \|f\|_X^2 + \int_0^\infty \|S_\Lambda(\tau) f\|_{X_0}^2 d\tau$$

is an equivalent norm in ΠX and Λ satisfies the weak dissipativity estimate

$$(1.24) \quad \forall f \in X_1^\Lambda, \quad \langle \Lambda f, f \rangle_X \leq -K \|\Pi f\|_{X_*}^2,$$

where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_X$ stands for the duality bracket associated to the $\|\cdot\|_X$ norm.

By choosing X and X_* well adapted for the quadratic Landau operator, we may then establish that for any solution $f = F - \mu$ to the Landau equation, the following a priori estimate holds (for some constant $C > 0$)

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|\Pi f\|_{X'}^2 \leq \|\Pi f\|_{X_*}^2 (-K + C \|\Pi f\|_X).$$

Our existence, uniqueness and asymptotic stability results are then immediate consequences of that last differential inequality and of the estimates it provides.

Let us finally discuss the decay issue for non-uniformly exponentially stable semigroups which naturally arises in many contexts. It arises first in statistical physics when involved coefficients are suitably decaying. In [9, 10], for the Boltzmann equation with soft potential of interaction under Grad's cutoff assumption, Caflisch had exhibited the explicit semigroup solution to the associated linearized equation and had deduced well-posedness and stability for the nonlinear Boltzmann equation in a perturbative regime. In [28], a similar result is obtained for the critical case of an attractive reversible nearest particle system. More recently, for the Fokker-Planck equation with weak confinement potential and for the spatial homogeneous Landau

equation with soft interaction some polynomial and stretch exponential rate of convergence to the equilibrium have been established in [37, 40]. The proofs are based on entropy methods, moments estimates and interpolation arguments. These results for the Fokker-Planck equation are improved in [23] where a similar factorization approach, as introduced in the present paper, is developed.

Independently, inspired by scattering and control theory [24, 4], many results on the decay rate of the energy for damped wave type equations have been established, see for instance [25, 26, 27, 8]. These results are based on the analysis of the absence of poles (resonances) in the neighbourhood of the real axis for the resolvent of the associated operator. They have inspired an abstract theory for non-uniformly exponentially stable semigroups, and we refer the interested reader to [7, 5, 6] and the references therein.

It is worth emphasizing that in that last abstract theory, one typically obtains some estimate on the semigroup by allowing the lost of (part of) a domain in the control of the trajectory and, roughly speaking, that is related to the absence of pole in bounded neighbourhoods of the real axis and to the control of how the spectrum approaches the imaginary axis at $\pm i\infty$. That is slightly different from the picture arising in the present statistical physics framework, where the estimates do not involve domains norms but norms controlling the confinement of the distribution function and where the continuous spectrum extends up to the origin.

1.4. Notations and definitions. If Λ is a closed linear operator on a Banach space X that generates a semigroup on X , we denote by $S_\Lambda(t)$ its associated semigroup. Moreover, for Banach spaces X and Y , we denote $\mathcal{B}(X, Y)$ the space of bounded linear operators from X to Y , with the associated operator norm $\|\cdot\|_{X \rightarrow Y}$. We say that the generator Λ of a semigroup in a Banach space X is dissipative if

$$\forall f \in X_\Lambda^1, \exists f^* \in J_f, \quad \langle f^*, \Lambda f \rangle_{X', X} \leq 0$$

where $X_\Lambda^1 = D(\Lambda)$ is the domain of Λ and J_f is the dual set $J_f := \{g \in X'; \|g\|_{X'}^2 = \|f\|_X^2 = \langle g, f \rangle_{X', X}\}$. We say that the generator Λ is hypodissipative if it is dissipative for an equivalent norm.

1.5. Structure of the paper. For the sake of clarity, we shall first consider the spatially homogeneous case through Sections 2 to 5, and in the last Section 6 we show how our method can be adapted to the spatially inhomogeneous equation. In Section 2 we introduce a factorization of the (homogeneous) linearized Landau operator $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$ and prove several properties of the operators \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} . Section 3 is devoted to the proof of (non exponential) decay estimates in large functional spaces of the semigroup associated to \mathcal{L} (see Theorem 3.5) as well as weak dissipative properties for \mathcal{L} (see Corollary 3.7), using the method presented above. In Section 4 we prove nonlinear estimates for the Landau operator Q , and then in Section 5 we prove the spatially homogeneous version of Theorem 1.1. Finally, in Section 6, we deal with the inhomogeneous case and prove Theorem 1.1, by following the same program as for the homogeneous case above.

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2. LINEARIZED OPERATOR

We define the following quantities

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{aligned} b_i(z) &= \partial_j a_{ij}(z) = -2|z|^\gamma z_i, \\ c(z) &= \partial_{ij} a_{ij}(z) = -2(\gamma + 3)|z|^\gamma \quad \text{if } \gamma \in (-3, -2), \\ c(z) &= \partial_{ij} a_{ij}(z) = -8\pi\delta_0 \quad \text{if } \gamma = -3, \end{aligned}$$

from which we are able to rewrite the Landau operator (1.3) into two other forms

$$(2.2) \quad \begin{aligned} Q(g, f) &= \partial_i \{ (a_{ij} * g) \partial_j f - (b_i * g) f \} \\ &= (a_{ij} * g) \partial_{ij} f - (c * g) f. \end{aligned}$$

Consider now the variation $f := F - \mu$ and the linearized (homogeneous) Landau operator

$$(2.3) \quad \mathcal{L}f := Q(\mu, f) + Q(f, \mu).$$

We denote

$$(2.4) \quad \bar{a}_{ij} = a_{ij} * \mu, \quad \bar{b}_i = b_i * \mu, \quad \bar{c} = c * \mu,$$

and remark that

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{c}(v) &= -2(\gamma + 3) \int_{v_*} |v - v_*|^\gamma \mu_* \quad \text{when } \gamma \in (-3, -2), \\ \bar{c}(v) &= -8\pi\mu(v) \quad \text{when } \gamma = -3. \end{aligned}$$

2.1. Known results. On the space $E_0 := L_v^2(\mu^{-1/2})$, we classically observe that \mathcal{L} is self-adjoint and verifies $\langle \mathcal{L}f, f \rangle_{E_0} \leq 0$, so that its spectrum satisfies $\Sigma(\mathcal{L}) \subset \mathbb{R}_-$. Moreover, thanks to the conservation laws, there holds

$$\ker(\mathcal{L}) = \text{span}\{\mu, v_1\mu, v_2\mu, v_3\mu, |v|^2\mu\},$$

and the projection Π_0 onto $\ker(\mathcal{L})$ is given by

$$(2.5) \quad \Pi_0(f) = \left(\int f dv \right) \mu + \sum_{j=1}^3 \left(\int v_j f dv \right) v_j \mu + \left(\int \frac{|v|^2 - 3}{6} f dv \right) \frac{|v|^2 - 3}{6} \mu.$$

Several authors have studied weak coercivity estimates for \mathcal{L} on E_0 . Summarising results from [15, 3, 21, 33, 36], for all $-3 \leq \gamma \leq 1$, we have

$$(2.6) \quad \langle \mathcal{L}f, f \rangle_{E_0} \lesssim -\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} \Pi f\|_{E_0}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v \Pi(\mu^{-1/2} f)\|_{L^2}^2, \quad \forall f \in E_0,$$

where we define the projection $\Pi := I - \Pi_0$ onto the orthogonal of $\ker(\mathcal{L})$ and we recall that the anisotropic gradient $\tilde{\nabla}_v$ has been defined in (1.11). Observe that (2.6) does not provide any spectral gap for the operator \mathcal{L} in E_0 in the very soft and Coulomb potential case $-3 \leq \gamma < -2$ we are concerned with in the present work, contrarily to the moderately soft and hard potentials case $-2 \leq \gamma \leq 1$.

2.2. Factorization of the operator. Using the form (2.2) of the operator Q , we decompose the linearized Landau operator as $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{A}_0 + \mathcal{B}_0$, where we define

$$(2.7) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_0 f &:= Q(f, \mu) = \partial_i \{ (a_{ij} * f) \partial_j \mu + (b_i * f) \mu \} = (a_{ij} * f) \partial_{ij} \mu - (c * f) \mu, \\ \mathcal{B}_0 f &:= Q(\mu, f) = \partial_i \{ (a_{ij} * \mu) \partial_j f + (b_i * \mu) f \} = (a_{ij} * \mu) \partial_{ij} f - (c * \mu) f. \end{aligned}$$

Consider a smooth nonnegative function $\chi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3)$ such that $0 \leq \chi(v) \leq 1$, $\chi(v) \equiv 1$ for $|v| \leq 1$ and $\chi(v) \equiv 0$ for $|v| > 2$. For any $R \geq 1$, we define $\chi_R(v) := \chi(R^{-1}v)$. Then, we make the final decomposition of the operator \mathcal{L} as $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$, with

$$(2.8) \quad \mathcal{A} := \mathcal{A}_0 + M\chi_R, \quad \mathcal{B} := \mathcal{B}_0 - M\chi_R,$$

where $M > 0$ and $R \geq 1$ will be chosen later.

2.3. Preliminaries. We introduce some convenient classes of weight functions and we state some preliminary results that will be useful in the sequel.

We say that a weight function $m : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ is admissible if

- (i) it is a polynomial function, and we write $m = \langle v \rangle^k$, $k \geq 0$;
- (ii) or if it is an exponential function, that is $m = e^{\kappa \langle v \rangle^s}$ with $\kappa > 0$ and $s \in (0, 2)$, or with $0 < \kappa < 1/2$ and $s = 2$.

We denote $\sigma = 0$ when $m = \langle v \rangle^k$ and $\sigma = s$ when $m = e^{\kappa \langle v \rangle^s}$. For two admissible weight functions m_0 and m_1 , we write $m_0 \prec m_1$ (or $m_1 \succ m_0$) if $\lim_{|v| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m_0}{m_1}(v) = 0$. Similarly, we write $m_0 \preceq m_1$ (or $m_1 \succeq m_0$) if $m_0 \prec m_1$ or $m_0 = m_1$ (up to a constant).

We finally define the following functions:

$$(2.9) \quad \zeta_m(v) := \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{m^2} \partial_{ij} (\bar{a}_{ij} m^2) - \bar{c} = \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_{ij} m}{m} + \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_i m}{m} \frac{\partial_j m}{m} + 2\bar{b}_i \frac{\partial_i m}{m} - \frac{1}{2} \bar{c},$$

$$(2.10) \quad \tilde{\zeta}_m(v) := \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_i m}{m} \frac{\partial_j m}{m} + \bar{b}_i \frac{\partial_i m}{m} - \frac{1}{2} \bar{c},$$

and also

$$(2.11) \quad \zeta_{m,\omega}(v) := \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_{ij} \omega}{\omega} + \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_i \omega}{\omega} \frac{\partial_j \omega}{\omega} - 2\bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_i \omega}{\omega} \frac{\partial_j m}{m}.$$

We start stating some estimates on the matrix \bar{a}_{ij} . To that purpose, we define

$$\ell_1(v) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \left(1 - \left(\frac{v}{|v|} \cdot \frac{w}{|w|} \right)^2 \right) |w|^{\gamma+2} \mu(v-w) dw,$$

$$\ell_2(v) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{v}{|v|} \times \frac{w}{|w|} \right|^2 \right) |w|^{\gamma+2} \mu(v-w) dw,$$

where \times stands for the vector product in \mathbb{R}^3 , and, for $-3 < \beta < 0$, we define

$$J_\beta(v) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |v-w|^\beta \mu(w) dw.$$

Lemma 2.1. *The following properties hold:*

- (a) *The matrix $\bar{a}(v)$ has a simple eigenvalue $\ell_1(v) > 0$ associated with the eigenvector v and a double eigenvalue $\ell_2(v) > 0$ associated with the eigenspace v^\perp . Moreover, when $|v| \rightarrow +\infty$, we have*

$$\ell_1(v) \sim 2\langle v \rangle^\gamma, \quad \ell_2(v) \sim \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2}.$$

- (b) *The function \bar{a}_{ij} is smooth, more precisely for any multi-index $\beta \in \mathbb{N}^3$,*

$$|\partial^\beta \bar{a}_{ij}(v)| \leq C_\beta \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2-|\beta|}.$$

Moreover, there exists a constant $K > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{a}_{ij}(v) \xi_i \xi_j &= \ell_1(v) |P_v \xi|^2 + \ell_2(v) |(I - P_v) \xi|^2 \\ &\geq K \{ \langle v \rangle^\gamma |P_v \xi|^2 + \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} |(I - P_v) \xi|^2 \}. \end{aligned}$$

- (c) *We have*

$$\text{tr}(\bar{a}(v)) = \ell_1(v) + 2\ell_2(v) = 2J_{\gamma+2}(v) \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{b}_i(v) = -\ell_1(v) v_i.$$

- (d) *If $|v| > 1$, we have*

$$|\partial^\beta \ell_1(v)| \leq C_\beta \langle v \rangle^{\gamma-|\beta|} \quad \text{and} \quad |\partial^\beta \ell_2(v)| \leq C_\beta \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2-|\beta|}.$$

- (e) *For any $\beta \in (-3, 0)$, there exists some constant $C_\beta > 0$ such that*

$$|J_\beta(v) - \langle v \rangle^\beta| \leq C_\beta \langle v \rangle^{\beta-1/2}, \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{R}^3.$$

Proof. Item (a) comes from [15, Propositions 2.3 and 2.4], (b) is [21, Lemma 3], (c) is evident and (d) is [14, Lemma 2.3].

We just then present the proof of (e). On the one hand, for any $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$, we have

$$(2.12) \quad \begin{aligned} J_\beta(v) &= \int_{|v_*| \leq 1} |v_*|^\beta \mu(v_* - v) dv_* + \int_{|v_*| \geq 1} |v_*|^\beta \mu(v - v_*) dv_* \\ &\leq \sup_{|v_*| \leq 1} \mu(v - v_*) \int_{|v_*| \leq 1} |v_*|^\beta dv_* + \int_{|v_*| \geq 1} \mu(v - v_*) dv_* \leq C_1, \end{aligned}$$

since the two terms are clearly bounded uniformly in $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$.

On the other hand, for any $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$, $|v| \geq 1$, and for any $R > 0$, we write

$$J_\beta(v) = \int_{|v_*| \leq R} |v_* - v|^\beta \mu(v_*) dv_* + \int_{|v_*| \geq R} |v_* - v|^\beta \mu(v_*) dv_* = T_1 + T_2.$$

For the second term, we have

$$|T_2| \leq \sqrt{\mu(R)} \int_{|v_*| \geq R} |v_* - v|^\beta \sqrt{\mu(v_*)} dv_* \leq C_2 e^{-R^2/4},$$

where we have used an estimate very similar to (2.12) in order to bound the integral term. For the first term and for $|v| > R$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &\geq \int_{|v_*| \leq R} (|v| + |v_*|)^\beta \mu(v_*) dv_* \\ &\geq \int_{|v_*| \leq R} (|v| + R)^\beta \mu(v_*) dv_* \geq (|v| + R)^\beta (1 - C_3 e^{-R^2/4}), \end{aligned}$$

and in a similar way, we have

$$T_1 \leq ||v| - R|^\beta.$$

We conclude by making the choice $R := |v|^{1/2}$. \square

Lemma 2.2. *Let m be an admissible weight function such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2}$.*

(1) *If $\sigma = 0$ and $\omega = \langle v \rangle^\alpha$ is a polynomial weight function such that $\omega \prec m \langle v \rangle^{-(\gamma+3)/2}$, then*

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{|v| \rightarrow \infty} \zeta_m(v) \langle v \rangle^{-\gamma} &= \limsup_{|v| \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{\zeta}_m(v) \langle v \rangle^{-\gamma} \leq 2\{(\gamma+3)/2 - k\}, \\ \limsup_{|v| \rightarrow \infty} \left[\tilde{\zeta}_m(v) + \zeta_{m,\omega}(v) \right] \langle v \rangle^{-\gamma} &\leq 2\{(\gamma+3)/2 + \alpha - k\}. \end{aligned}$$

(2) *If $\sigma \in (0, 2)$, then*

$$\limsup_{|v| \rightarrow \infty} \zeta_m(v) \langle v \rangle^{-\sigma-\gamma} = \limsup_{|v| \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{\zeta}_m(v) \langle v \rangle^{-\sigma-\gamma} \leq -2\kappa s.$$

(3) *If $\sigma = 2$, then*

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{|v| \rightarrow +\infty} \zeta_m(v) \langle v \rangle^{-2-\gamma} &\leq 4\kappa(4\kappa - 1), \\ \limsup_{|v| \rightarrow +\infty} \tilde{\zeta}_m(v) \langle v \rangle^{-2-\gamma} &\leq 4\kappa(2\kappa - 1). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We introduce the notation

$$\tilde{J}_\gamma(v) = \begin{cases} (\gamma+3)J_\gamma(v) & \text{if } \gamma \in (-3, -2), \\ 4\pi\mu(v) & \text{if } \gamma = -3, \end{cases}$$

so that $\bar{c} = -2\tilde{J}_\gamma$. We observe from Lemma 2.1 that, when $|v| \rightarrow +\infty$, we have

$$(2.13) \quad \frac{1}{2}\ell_1(v) \sim \ell_2(v)|v|^{-2} \sim \langle v \rangle^\gamma \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{J}_\gamma(v) = (\gamma + 3)\langle v \rangle^\gamma + \mathcal{O}(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma-1/2}).$$

Step 1. Polynomial weight. Consider $m = \langle v \rangle^k$. From definition (2.1)-(2.4) and Lemma 2.1, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_{ij} m}{m} &= (\delta_{ij} \bar{a}_{ij}) k \langle v \rangle^{-2} + (\bar{a}_{ij} v_i v_j) k(k-2) \langle v \rangle^{-4} \\ &= 2\ell_2(v) k \langle v \rangle^{-2} + \ell_1(v) k \langle v \rangle^{-2} + \ell_1(v) k(k-2) |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{-4}, \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$\bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_i m}{m} \frac{\partial_j m}{m} = (\bar{a}_{ij} v_i v_j) k^2 \langle v \rangle^{-4} = \ell_1(v) k^2 |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{-4},$$

and also, using the fact that $\bar{b}_i(v) = -\ell_1(v) v_i$ from Lemma 2.1,

$$\bar{b}_i \frac{\partial_i m}{m} = -\ell_1(v) k |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{-2}.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_m(v) &= 2k\ell_2(v) \langle v \rangle^{-2} + k\ell_1(v) \langle v \rangle^{-2} + k(k-2)\ell_1(v) |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{-4} \\ &\quad + k^2 \ell_1(v) |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{-4} - 2k\ell_1(v) |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{-2} + \tilde{J}_\gamma(v), \end{aligned}$$

as well as

$$\tilde{\zeta}_m(v) = k^2 \ell_1(v) |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{-4} - k\ell_1(v) |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{-2} + \tilde{J}_\gamma(v).$$

Thanks to (2.13), the dominant terms are of order $\langle v \rangle^\gamma$. We then obtain

$$\limsup_{|v| \rightarrow +\infty} \zeta_m(v) \langle v \rangle^{-\gamma} = \limsup_{|v| \rightarrow +\infty} \tilde{\zeta}_m(v) \langle v \rangle^{-\gamma} \leq 2\{(\gamma + 3)/2 - k\},$$

from which we conclude the proof of the first part of point (1). The estimate of $\zeta_{m,\omega}$ is similar as above, and thus we omit it.

Step 2. Exponential weight. For $m = e^{\kappa \langle v \rangle^s}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_m(v) &= 2\kappa s \ell_2(v) \langle v \rangle^{s-2} + \kappa s \ell_1(v) \langle v \rangle^{s-2} + \kappa s(s-2) \ell_1(v) |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{s-4} \\ &\quad + 2\kappa^2 s^2 \ell_1(v) |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{2s-4} - 2\kappa s \ell_1(v) |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{s-2} + \tilde{J}_\gamma(v) \end{aligned}$$

and also

$$\tilde{\zeta}_m(v) = -\kappa s \ell_1(v) |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{s-2} + \kappa^2 s^2 \ell_1(v) |v|^2 \langle v \rangle^{2s-4} + \tilde{J}_\gamma(v).$$

In any cases $0 < s \leq 2$, the dominant terms are of order $\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+s}$, and we easily conclude. \square

We conclude this section with a remark about the weighted spaces we have defined in (1.6). For any admissible weight function m we easily obtain

$$(2.14) \quad \|\langle v \rangle^{(\sigma-1)+} m f\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\nabla_v(m f)\|_{L^2}^2 \sim \|m f\|_{L^2}^2 + \|m \nabla_v f\|_{L^2}^2,$$

so that in particular $\|f\|_{H^1(m)}^2 \sim \|f\|_{L^2(m)}^2 + \|\nabla_v f\|_{L^2(m)}^2$ when $\sigma \in [0, 1]$.

2.4. Dissipative properties of \mathcal{B} . We prove in this section weakly dissipative properties for the operator \mathcal{B} . These estimates are similar to the estimates established in [12, 14] for $-2 \leq \gamma \leq 1$, in which case it is proven that the operator $\mathcal{B} - \alpha$ is dissipative for some $\alpha < 0$.

Lemma 2.3. *Let m be an admissible weight function such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2}$ and we recall that we have defined $\sigma = 0$ when m is polynomial and $\sigma = s$ when m is exponential. There exist $M, R > 0$ large enough such that \mathcal{B} is weakly dissipative in $L^2(m)$ in the sense:*

- If $m \prec \mu^{-1/2}$, there holds

$$(2.15) \quad \langle \mathcal{B}f, f \rangle_{L^2(m)} \lesssim -\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v f\|_{L^2(m)}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v(mf)\|_{L^2}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} f\|_{L^2(m)}^2.$$

- If $\mu^{-1/2} \preceq m \prec \mu^{-1}$, there holds

$$(2.16) \quad \langle \mathcal{B}f, f \rangle_{L^2(m)} \lesssim -\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v(mf)\|_{L^2}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} f\|_{L^2(m)}^2,$$

Proof. From the definition (2.7)-(2.8) of \mathcal{B} , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int (\mathcal{B}f) f m^2 &= \int \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_{ij} f f m^2 - \int \bar{c} f^2 m^2 - \int M \chi_R f^2 m^2 \\ &=: T_1 + T_2 + T_3. \end{aligned}$$

Let us compute the term T_1 . Writing $g = mf$ and thus $\partial_{ij} f f m^2 = \partial_{ij}(m^{-1}g) gm$, an integration by parts yields

$$T_1 = - \int \{ \bar{b}_j gm + \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_i gm + \bar{a}_{ij} g \partial_i m \} \partial_j(m^{-1}g).$$

Using that $\partial_j(m^{-1}g) = m^{-1} \partial_j g - m^{-2} \partial_j m g$ in the last equation, we first get

$$T_1 = - \int \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_i g \partial_j g + \int \left\{ \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_i m}{m} \frac{\partial_j m}{m} + \bar{b}_j \frac{\partial_j m}{m} \right\} g^2 - \int \bar{b}_j g \partial_j g,$$

and thanks to another integration by parts for the last term, we finally obtain

$$\int (\mathcal{B}f) f m^2 = - \int \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_i(mf) \partial_j(mf) + \int \{ \tilde{\zeta}_m - M \chi_R \} f^2 m^2.$$

In a similar (and even simpler) way, we can also obtain

$$\int (\mathcal{B}f) f m^2 = - \int \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_i f \partial_j f m^2 + \int \{ \zeta_m - M \chi_R \} f^2 m^2.$$

Thanks to Lemma 2.2, we may choose $M, R > 0$ large enough such that

$$\zeta_m(v) - M \chi_R(v) \lesssim -\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+\sigma}, \quad \tilde{\zeta}_m(v) - M \chi_R(v) \lesssim -\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+\sigma}, \quad \text{if } m \prec \mu^{-1/2},$$

and

$$\tilde{\zeta}_m(v) - M \chi_R(v) \lesssim -\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+\sigma}, \quad \text{if } \mu^{-1/2} \preceq m \prec \mu^{-1},$$

and we then conclude using the coercivity of \bar{a}_{ij} from Lemma 2.1. \square

For any admissible weight function m , we define the operator $\mathcal{B}_m g = m \mathcal{B}(m^{-1}g)$, which writes

$$(2.17) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}_m g &= \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_{ij} g - 2\bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_i m}{m} \partial_j g + \left\{ 2\bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_i m}{m} \frac{\partial_j m}{m} - \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_{ij} m}{m} - \bar{c} - M \chi_R \right\} g \\ &=: \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_{ij} g + \beta_j \partial_j g + (\delta - M \chi_R) g. \end{aligned}$$

We then define its formal adjoint operator \mathcal{B}_m^* that verifies

$$(2.18) \quad \mathcal{B}_m^* \phi = \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_{ij} \phi + 2 \left\{ \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_i m}{m} + \bar{b}_j \right\} \partial_j \phi + \left\{ \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_{ij} m}{m} + 2\bar{b}_i \frac{\partial_i m}{m} - M \chi_R \right\} \phi.$$

Observe that if f satisfies the equation $\partial_t f = \mathcal{B}f$ then $g = mf$ satisfies $\partial_t g = \mathcal{B}_m g$, and also that $\langle \mathcal{B}f, f \rangle_{L^2(m)} = \langle \mathcal{B}_m g, g \rangle_{L^2}$. Moreover there holds by duality

$$\forall t \geq 0, \quad \langle S_{\mathcal{B}_m}(t)g, \phi \rangle_{L^2} = \langle g, S_{\mathcal{B}_m^*}(t)\phi \rangle_{L^2},$$

where we recall that $S_{\mathcal{B}_m}(t)$ is the semigroup generated by \mathcal{B}_m and $S_{\mathcal{B}_m^*}(t)$ the semigroup generated by \mathcal{B}_m^* .

We now prove weakly dissipative properties of the adjoint \mathcal{B}_m^* . Here, we restrict ourselves to the case of a polynomial weight function in order to simplify the presentation and because it will be sufficient for our purpose. Indeed, the final estimates we will deduce of the analysis we are starting here will be used on ‘‘perturbation terms’’ and we will not destroy the possible faster rate of decay we get for stronger weight functions.

Lemma 2.4. *Let m and ω be two admissible polynomial weight functions such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2}$ and $1 \preceq \omega \prec m \langle v \rangle^{-(\gamma+3)/2}$.*

(1) *We can choose $M, R > 0$, large enough, such that \mathcal{B}_m^* is weakly dissipative in $L^2(\omega)$ in the following sense:*

$$(2.19) \quad \langle \mathcal{B}_m^* \phi, \phi \rangle_{L^2(\omega)} \lesssim -\|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2 - \|\tilde{\nabla}_v \phi\|_{L^2(\omega \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2.$$

(2) *For any $\eta > 0$, we define the equivalent norm $\|\cdot\|_{\tilde{H}^1(\omega)}$ on $H^1(\omega)$, and the associated scalar product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\tilde{H}^1(\omega)}$, by*

$$\|\phi\|_{\tilde{H}^1(\omega)}^2 := \|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega)}^2 + \eta \|\nabla_v \phi\|_{L^2(\omega)}^2.$$

We can choose $M, R, \eta > 0$, such that \mathcal{B}_m^ is weakly dissipative in $H^1(\omega)$ in the following sense:*

$$(2.20) \quad \langle \mathcal{B}_m^* \phi, \phi \rangle_{\tilde{H}^1(\omega)} \lesssim -\|\phi\|_{\tilde{H}^1(\omega \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2 - \|\tilde{\nabla}_v \phi\|_{L^2(\omega \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2 - \eta \|\tilde{\nabla}_v(\nabla_v \phi)\|_{L^2(\omega \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2.$$

Proof. We split the proof into three steps. In what follows we shall use the equivalence (2.14) since ω is a polynomial weight function.

Step 1. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \int (\mathcal{B}_m^* \phi) \phi \omega^2 &= \int \left(\bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_{ij} m}{m} + 2\bar{b}_j \frac{\partial_j m}{m} - M \chi_R \right) \phi^2 \omega^2 \\ &\quad + \int \left(\bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_j m}{m} + \bar{b}_i \right) \partial_i(\phi^2) \omega^2 + \int \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_{ij} \phi \phi \omega^2 \\ &=: I_1 + I_2 + I_3. \end{aligned}$$

Performing one integration by parts, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &= - \int \partial_i \left(\bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_j m}{m} + \bar{b}_i \right) \phi^2 \omega^2 - \int \left(\bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_j m}{m} + \bar{b}_i \right) 2\omega \partial_i \omega \phi^2 \\ &= \int \left\{ -\bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_{ij} m}{m} + \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_i m}{m} \frac{\partial_j m}{m} - \bar{b}_j \frac{\partial_j m}{m} - \bar{c} \right\} \phi^2 \omega^2 \\ &\quad - \int 2 \left\{ \bar{a}_{ij} \frac{\partial_j m}{m} \frac{\partial_i \omega}{\omega} + \bar{b}_i \frac{\partial_j \omega}{\omega} \right\} \phi^2 \omega^2. \end{aligned}$$

Using that $\partial_{ij}\phi\phi = \frac{1}{2}\partial_{ij}(\phi^2) - \partial_i\phi\partial_j\phi$, it follows

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 &= - \int \bar{a}_{ij}\partial_i\phi\partial_j\phi\omega^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int \partial_{ij}(\bar{a}_{ij}\omega^2)\phi^2 \\ &= - \int \bar{a}_{ij}\partial_i\phi\partial_j\phi\omega^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int \partial_i(\bar{b}_i\omega^2 + \bar{a}_{ij}2\omega\partial_j\omega)\phi^2 \\ &= - \int \bar{a}_{ij}\partial_i\phi\partial_j\phi\omega^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int \left\{ \bar{c} + 4\bar{b}_i\frac{\partial_i\omega}{\omega} + 2\bar{a}_{ij}\frac{\partial_i\omega}{\omega}\frac{\partial_j\omega}{\omega} + 2\bar{a}_{ij}\frac{\partial_{ij}\omega}{\omega} \right\} \phi^2\omega^2. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we get

$$(2.21) \quad \begin{aligned} \int (\mathcal{B}_m^*\phi)\phi\omega^2 &= - \int \bar{a}_{ij}\partial_i\phi\partial_j\phi\omega^2 + \int \{\tilde{\zeta}_m + \zeta_{m,\omega} - M\chi_R\}\phi^2\omega^2 \\ &\lesssim -\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v \phi\|_{L^2(\omega)}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \phi\|_{L^2(\omega)}^2 \end{aligned}$$

by choosing $M, R > 0$ large enough and using that $\tilde{\zeta}_m(v) + \zeta_{m,\omega}(v) - M\chi_R(v) \lesssim -\langle v \rangle^\gamma$ thanks to Lemma 2.2. That completes the proof of point (1).

Step 2. Now, we introduce the notation $\phi_\alpha := \partial_v^\alpha \phi$ where $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^3$ and $|\alpha| = 1$. There holds

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_v^\alpha (\mathcal{B}_m^*\phi) &= \mathcal{B}_m^*\phi_\alpha + \partial_v^\alpha \left\{ \bar{a}_{ij}\frac{\partial_{ij}m}{m} + 2\bar{b}_j\frac{\partial_jm}{m} - M\chi_R \right\} \phi + 2\partial_v^\alpha \left\{ \bar{a}_{ij}\frac{\partial_jm}{m} + \bar{b}_i \right\} \partial_i\phi \\ &\quad + \partial_v^\alpha \bar{a}_{ij}\partial_{ij}\phi, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \int \partial_v^\alpha (\mathcal{B}_m^*\phi)\phi_\alpha\omega^2 &= \int (\mathcal{B}_m^*\phi_\alpha)\phi_\alpha\omega^2 + \int \partial_v^\alpha \left\{ \bar{a}_{ij}\frac{\partial_{ij}m}{m} + 2\bar{b}_j\frac{\partial_jm}{m} - M\chi_R \right\} \phi\phi_\alpha\omega^2 \\ &\quad + 2 \int \partial_v^\alpha \left\{ \bar{a}_{ij}\frac{\partial_jm}{m} + \bar{b}_i \right\} \partial_i\phi\phi_\alpha\omega^2 + \int (\partial_v^\alpha \bar{a}_{ij})(\partial_{ij}\phi)\phi_\alpha\omega^2 \\ &=: T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4. \end{aligned}$$

Using Step 1 of the proof, we have, for some constant $\lambda > 0$,

$$T_1 \leq -\lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v \phi_\alpha\|_{L^2(\omega)}^2 + \int \{\tilde{\zeta}_m + \zeta_{m,\omega} - M\chi_R\}\phi_\alpha^2\omega^2.$$

For the term T_2 , we have straightforwardly from Lemma 2.1

$$T_2 \lesssim \int \langle v \rangle^{\gamma-1} |\phi| |\nabla_v \phi| \omega^2 \leq \|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma-1)/2})} \|\nabla_v \phi\|_{L^2(\omega \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma-1)/2})},$$

and similarly

$$T_3 \lesssim \int \langle v \rangle^\gamma |\nabla_v \phi|^2 \omega^2 = \|\nabla_v \phi\|_{L^2(\omega \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2.$$

For the last term, we use one first integration by part, in order to get

$$\begin{aligned} T_4 &= - \int (\partial_v^\alpha \bar{b}_i)(\partial_i\phi)\phi_\alpha\omega^2 - \int (\partial_v^\alpha \bar{a}_{ij})(\partial_i\phi)\partial_j\phi_\alpha\omega^2 \\ &\quad - \int (\partial_v^\alpha \bar{a}_{ij})(\partial_i\phi)\phi_\alpha\partial_j\omega^2 = U_1 + U_2 + U_3. \end{aligned}$$

In the above expression, the first term and last term can be bounded exactly as T_3 . For the middle term, we perform one more integration with respect to the ∂_α derivative, and we get

$$U_2 = \int (\Delta_v \bar{a}_{ij})\partial_i\phi\partial_j\phi\omega^2 + \int (\partial_v^\alpha \bar{a}_{ij})(\partial_i\phi_\alpha)\partial_j\phi\omega^2 + \int (\partial_v^\alpha \bar{a}_{ij})(\partial_i\phi)\partial_j\phi\partial_v^\alpha\omega^2.$$

We recognize the middle term as $-U_2$, from what we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} U_2 &= \frac{1}{2} \int (\Delta_v \bar{a}_{ij}) \partial_i \phi \partial_j \phi \omega^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int (\partial_v^\alpha \bar{a}_{ij}) (\partial_i \phi) \partial_j \phi \partial_v^\alpha \omega^2 \\ &\lesssim \|\nabla_v \phi\|_{L^2(\omega\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2. \end{aligned}$$

All the estimates together, we have established, for some constants $\lambda, C > 0$,

$$(2.22) \quad \langle \nabla_v (\mathcal{B}_m^* \phi), \nabla_v \phi \rangle_{L^2(\omega)} \leq -\lambda \|\tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_v \phi)\|_{L^2(\omega\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2 + C \|\phi\|_{H^1(\omega\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2.$$

Step 3. We gather estimates (2.21) and (2.22), we observe that

$$\|\phi\|_{H^1(\omega\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2 \lesssim \|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2 + \|\tilde{\nabla}_v \phi\|_{L^2(\omega\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2$$

and we conclude choosing $\eta > 0$ small enough. \square

2.5. Estimates on the operator \mathcal{A} . We prove boundedness properties for the operator \mathcal{A} .

Lemma 2.5. *For any $\theta \in (0, 1)$, $\ell = 0, 1$ and $p \in [1, \infty]$, there holds $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{B}(W^{\ell,p}, W^{\ell,p}(\mu^{-\theta}))$.*

Proof. We only prove the case $\ell = 0$, the case $\ell = 1$ being similar. We only investigate \mathcal{A}_0 since $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_0 + M\chi_R$, and we recall that $\mathcal{A}_0 g = (a_{ij} * g) \partial_{ij} \mu + (c * g) \mu$. We decompose a and c into a bounded part and a singular part. More precisely, we split $a_{ij}(z) = a_{ij}(z) \mathbf{1}_{|z|>1} + a_{ij}(z) \mathbf{1}_{|z|\leq 1} =: a_{ij}^+(z) + a_{ij}^-(z)$, and similarly for $c(z)$.

Assume first $\gamma \in (-3, -2)$. For the bounded parts a^+ and c^+ , we easily have

$$|(a_{ij}^+ * g)(v)| + |(c^+ * g)(v)| \lesssim \|g\|_{L^1},$$

and therefore

$$\|(a_{ij}^+ * g) \partial_{ij} \mu\|_{L^p(\mu^{-\theta})} + \|(c^+ * g) \mu\|_{L^p(\mu^{-\theta})} \lesssim \|g\|_{L^1}.$$

We now turn to the singular terms. We first have

$$\|(a_{ij}^- * g) \partial_{ij} \mu\|_{L^1(\mu^{-\theta})} \lesssim \int_{v_*} |g(v_*)| \left(\int_v |v - v_*|^{(\gamma+2)} \mathbf{1}_{|v-v_*|\leq 1} \mu^{1-\theta}(v) \right) \lesssim \|g\|_{L^1}$$

and similarly,

$$\|(c^- * g) \mu\|_{L^1(\mu^{-\theta})} \lesssim \int_{v_*} |g(v_*)| \left(\int_v |v - v_*|^\gamma \mathbf{1}_{|v-v_*|\leq 1} \mu^{1-\theta}(v) \right) \lesssim \|g\|_{L^1}.$$

As a consequence, we already obtain that \mathcal{A} is a bounded operator from $L^1 \rightarrow L^1(\mu^{-\theta})$. Moreover, we can estimate

$$|(a_{ij}^- * g)(v)| \lesssim \|g\|_{L^\infty} \left(\int |v - v_*|^{(\gamma+2)} \mathbf{1}_{|v-v_*|\leq 1} dv_* \right) \lesssim \|g\|_{L^\infty}$$

and in a similar way

$$|(c^- * g)(v)| \lesssim \|g\|_{L^\infty} \left(\int |v - v_*|^\gamma \mathbf{1}_{|v-v_*|\leq 1} dv_* \right) \lesssim \|g\|_{L^\infty},$$

which imply

$$\|(a_{ij}^- * g) \partial_{ij} \mu\|_{L^\infty(\mu^{-\theta})} \lesssim \|g\|_{L^\infty}, \quad \|(c^- * g) \mu\|_{L^\infty(\mu^{-\theta})} \lesssim \|g\|_{L^\infty}.$$

These estimates prove that \mathcal{A} is bounded from $L^\infty \rightarrow L^\infty(\mu^{-\theta})$. We can then conclude to the boundedness of \mathcal{A} for any $p \in [1, \infty]$ by Riesz-Thorin interpolation theorem.

Assume now $\gamma = -3$. In that case the term $(a_{ij} * g) \partial_{ij} \mu$ can be treated exactly in the same way as above, but now we have $c = -\delta_0$ and then $c * g = -g$. Therefore, for any $p \in [1, \infty]$,

$$\|(c * g) \mu\|_{L^p(\mu^{-\theta})} = \|g \mu^{1-\theta}\|_{L^p} \lesssim \|g\|_{L^p},$$

which completes the proof. \square

3. SEMIGROUP DECAY

This section is devoted to the proof of decay and regularity estimates for the linearized semigroup $S_{\mathcal{L}}$. Given two admissible weight functions $m_0 \prec m_1$, we define

$$\Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t) = \langle t \rangle^{-\frac{(k_1 - k_*)}{|\gamma|}}, \text{ for any } k_* \in (k_0, k_1), \text{ if } m_1 = \langle v \rangle^{k_1} \text{ and } m_0 = \langle v \rangle^{k_0},$$

and

$$\Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t) = e^{-\lambda t^{\frac{s}{|\gamma|}}}, \text{ for some } \lambda > 0, \text{ if } m_1 = e^{\kappa \langle v \rangle^s}.$$

In order to avoid misleading, it is worth emphasizing that when m_1 is a polynomial weight, Θ_{m_1, m_0} refers to a class of functions, whereas for m_1 an exponential weight, Θ_{m_1, m_0} stands for a fixed function. That somehow usual convention greatly shorten notations and simplify the exposition. As a consequence, we also emphasize that in both cases, for any $0 < s < t$, we have

$$\Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t-s) \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(s).$$

Here and below, we define the time convolution product $S_1 * S_2$ of two functions S_i defined on the half real line \mathbb{R}_+ by

$$(S_1 * S_2)(t) = \int_0^t S_1(t-s) S_2(s) ds,$$

and we also define $S^0 = I$ and $S^{(*n)} = S * S^{*(n-1)}$ for any $n \geq 1$.

3.1. Decay estimates for $S_{\mathcal{B}}$. We first prove decay estimates for the semigroup $S_{\mathcal{B}}$.

For any admissible weight function m , we define the space $H_*^1(m)$ associated to the norm

$$(3.1) \quad \|f\|_{H_*^1(m)}^2 := \|f\|_{L^2(m \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+\sigma)/2})}^2 + \|\tilde{\nabla}_v(mf)\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2,$$

and we easily observe that $H_*^1(m \langle v \rangle^{|\gamma|/2}) \subset H^1(m) \subset H_*^1(m)$. When furthermore m is a polynomial weight function, we define the negative Sobolev space $H_*^{-1}(m)$ in duality with $H_*^1(m)$ with respect to the duality product on $L^2(m)$, more precisely

$$(3.2) \quad \|f\|_{H_*^{-1}(m)} := \sup_{\|\phi\|_{H_*^1(m)} \leq 1} \langle f, \phi \rangle_{L^2(m)} = \sup_{\|\phi\|_{H_*^1(m)} \leq 1} \langle mf, m\phi \rangle_{L^2},$$

and observe that $\|f\|_{H_*^{-1}(m)} = \|mf\|_{H_*^{-1}}$.

Lemma 3.1. *Let m_0, m_1 be two admissible weight functions such that $m_1 \succ m_0 \succ \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2}$. For any $t \geq 0$, there holds*

$$(3.3) \quad \|S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{L^2(m_1) \rightarrow L^2(m_0)} \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t).$$

Let m_0, m_1, m be admissible polynomial weight functions such that $m \succeq m_1 \succ m_0 \succ \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2}$. For any $t \geq 0$, there holds

$$(3.4) \quad \|S_{\mathcal{B}_m^*}(t)\|_{L^2(\omega_1) \rightarrow L^2(\omega_0)} \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t),$$

where $\omega_1 := m/m_0$ and $\omega_0 := m/m_1$.

Proof. We denote $X(m) = L^2(m)$. We observe that for $\tilde{m}_0 := m_0 \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+\sigma)/2} \prec m_0 \prec m_1$ (where we recall that $\sigma = 0$ if m_0 is a polynomial function and $\sigma = s$ if m_0 is an exponential function), there is a positive constant $C = C(m_0, m_1)$ such that for any $R \in (0, \infty)$ we have

$$\frac{\tilde{m}_0^2}{m_0^2}(R) \|f\|_{X(m_0)}^2 \leq \|f\|_{X(\tilde{m}_0)}^2 + C \frac{\tilde{m}_0^2}{m_1^2}(R) \|f\|_{X(m_1)}^2,$$

where we also denote by m the function $R \mapsto m(v)$ for $|v| = R$. We write that estimate as

$$(3.5) \quad \varepsilon_R \|f\|_{X(m_0)}^2 \leq \|f\|_{X(\tilde{m}_0)}^2 + C \theta_R \|f\|_{X(m_1)}^2,$$

with

$$\varepsilon_R := \frac{\tilde{m}_0^2}{m_0^2}(R), \quad \theta_R := \frac{\tilde{m}_0^2}{m_1^2}(R), \quad \varepsilon_R, \frac{\theta_R}{\varepsilon_R} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } R \rightarrow \infty.$$

Let us denote $f_{\mathcal{B}}(t) = S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)f_0$ for any $t \geq 0$. Thanks to (2.15) for the weight m_1 , we have

$$\|f_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{X(m_1)} \leq \|f_0\|_{X(m_1)}, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Writing now (2.15) for m_0 , using the interpolation (3.5) and the above estimate, for any $R > 0$, we get (for some positive constants $\lambda, C > 0$)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \|f_{\mathcal{B}}\|_{X(m_0)}^2 &\leq -\lambda \|f_{\mathcal{B}}\|_{X(m_0 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+\sigma})}^2 \\ &\leq -\lambda \varepsilon_R \|f_{\mathcal{B}}\|_{X(m_0)}^2 + C \theta_R \|f_{\mathcal{B}}\|_{X(m_1)}^2 \\ &\leq -\lambda \varepsilon_R \|f_{\mathcal{B}}\|_{X(m_0)}^2 + C \theta_R \|f_0\|_{X(m_1)}^2, \end{aligned}$$

with $\varepsilon_R = \langle R \rangle^{\gamma+\sigma}$ and $\theta_R/\varepsilon_R = m_0^2(R)/m_1^2(R)$. Integrating that last differential inequality, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{X(m_0)}^2 &\lesssim e^{-\lambda \varepsilon_R t} \|f_0\|_{X(m_0)}^2 + \frac{\theta_R}{\varepsilon_R} \|f_0\|_{X(m_1)}^2 \\ &\lesssim \Gamma_{m_1, m_0}^2(t) \|f_0\|_{X(m_1)}^2, \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\Gamma_{m_1, m_0}^2(t) := \inf_{R>0} \left(e^{-\lambda \varepsilon_R t} + \frac{\theta_R}{\varepsilon_R} \right).$$

We can complete the proof of (3.3) by establishing $\Gamma_{m_1, m_0}(t) \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t)$ for the different choices of weight functions $m_0 \prec m_1$.

Case 1: $m_0 = \langle v \rangle^{k_0}$ and $m_1 = \langle v \rangle^{k_1}$ with $k_0 < k_1$. We have

$$\Gamma_{m_1, m_0}^2(t) = \inf_{R>0} \left(e^{-\lambda \langle R \rangle^{\gamma} t} + \langle R \rangle^{2(k_0 - k_1)} \right).$$

We take $\langle R \rangle = (\langle t \rangle \theta(t))^{1/|\gamma|}$ with $\theta(t) := [\log(1+t)]^{-2}$ and we get

$$\Gamma_{m_1, m_0}^2(t) \leq e^{-\lambda \theta(t)^{-1}} + [\log(1+t)]^{4(k_1 - k_0)/|\gamma|} \langle t \rangle^{-2(k_1 - k_0)/|\gamma|},$$

from which we easily obtain $\Gamma_{m_1, m_0}(t) \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t)$.

Case 2: $m_0 = e^{\kappa_0 \langle v \rangle^s}$ and $m_1 = e^{\kappa_1 \langle v \rangle^s}$ with $\kappa_0 < \kappa_1$. We have

$$\Gamma_{m_1, m_0}^2(t) = \inf_{R>0} \left(e^{-\lambda \langle R \rangle^{\gamma+s} t} + e^{2(\kappa_0 - \kappa_1) \langle R \rangle^s} \right).$$

We take $\langle R \rangle = t^{1/|\gamma|}$ and we get

$$\Gamma_{m_1, m_0}^2(t) \leq e^{-\lambda t^{s/|\gamma|}} + e^{-2(\kappa_1 - \kappa_0) t^{s/|\gamma|}},$$

which is nothing but $\Theta_{m_1, m_0}^2(t)$. The general case $m_1 \succ m_0$ follows from that estimate, and the proof of (3.3) is complete.

Case 3: $m_0 = \langle v \rangle^{k_0}$ and $m_1 = e^{\kappa_1 \langle v \rangle^s}$. We define $m = e^{\kappa \langle v \rangle^s}$ with $\kappa < \kappa_1$ so that $m_0 \prec m \prec m_1$. Using Case 2 above with m and m_1 we obtain

$$\|f_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{X(m_0)} \leq \|f_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{X(m)} \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m}(t) \|f_0\|_{X(m_1)} \lesssim e^{-\lambda t^{s/|\gamma|}} \|f_0\|_{X(m_1)},$$

and conclude with the estimate of Case 2 above.

Case 4: $m_0 = e^{\kappa_0 \langle v \rangle^{s_0}}$ and $m_1 = e^{\kappa_1 \langle v \rangle^s}$ with $s_0 < s$. We first define $m = e^{\kappa \langle v \rangle^s}$ with $\kappa < \kappa_1$, so that $m_0 \prec m \prec m_1$, and we argue as in Case 3.

Estimate (3.4) can be proven similarly as above by using the estimates of Lemma 2.4, where we remark that in this case we have $\Theta_{\omega_1, \omega_0}(t) = \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t)$, because m_0, m_1, m are polynomial weight functions and $\omega_1 = m/m_0$, $\omega_0 = m/m_1$. \square

3.2. Regularity properties of $S_{\mathcal{B}}$. We now prove that the semigroup $S_{\mathcal{B}}$ enjoys some regularization properties.

Lemma 3.2. *Let m_1, m be admissible polynomial weight functions such that $\langle v \rangle^{3/2} \prec m_1 \prec m$. Then the following regularization estimate holds*

$$(3.6) \quad \|S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{H_*^{-1}(m) \rightarrow L^2(m_1 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{m, m_1}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1}, \quad \forall t > 0.$$

Proof. We define $\omega_0 := 1$, $\omega_1 := \langle v \rangle^{|\gamma|/2}$ and $\omega := m/(m_1 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})$, so that $1 \prec \omega \prec m \langle v \rangle^{-(\gamma+3)/2}$. We write $\phi_t := S_{\mathcal{B}_m^*}(t)\phi$ for a given function $\phi \in L^2(\omega_1)$. Thanks to (2.19) and (2.20) together with $H_*^1(\omega_1) \subset H^1(\omega_0)$, we have for some constant $\lambda > 0$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\|\phi_t\|_{L^2(\omega_1)}^2 + \eta t \|\phi_t\|_{H^1(\omega_0)}^2 \right) \leq -\lambda \|\phi_t\|_{H_*^1(\omega_1)}^2 + \eta \|\phi_t\|_{H^1(\omega_0)}^2 \leq 0,$$

for $\eta > 0$ small enough. We deduce that

$$(3.7) \quad \eta t \|\phi_t\|_{H^1(\omega_0)}^2 \lesssim \|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega_1)}^2, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

For large values of time $t \geq 1$, we can use (3.7) and (3.4) to obtain

$$\|\phi_t\|_{H^1(\omega_0)} \lesssim \|\phi_{t-1}\|_{L^2(\omega_1)} \lesssim \Theta_{m, m_1}(t-1) \|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega)} \lesssim \Theta_{m, m_1}(t) \|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega)}.$$

Both estimates together with $H^1(\omega_0) \subset H_*^1(\omega_0)$, we have proved

$$\|S_{\mathcal{B}_m^*}(t)\phi\|_{H_*^1(\omega_0)} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{m, m_1}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1} \|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega)} \quad \forall t > 0.$$

We then get (3.6) by duality. More precisely, recalling that that

$$\forall t \geq 0, \quad m S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)f = S_{B_m}(t)g, \quad \langle S_{B_m}(t)g, \phi \rangle_{L^2} = \langle g, S_{B_m^*}(t)\phi \rangle_{L^2},$$

we first have $\|S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)f\|_{L^2(m_1 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})} = \|\omega^{-1} S_{B_m}(t)g\|_{L^2}$ and then we can compute

$$\begin{aligned} \|\omega^{-1} S_{B_m}(t)g\|_{L^2} &= \sup_{\|\psi\|_{L^2} \leq 1} \langle S_{B_m}(t)g, \omega^{-1}\psi \rangle_{L^2} \\ &= \sup_{\|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega)} \leq 1} \langle g, S_{B_m^*}(t)\phi \rangle_{L^2} \\ &\leq \sup_{\|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega)} \leq 1} \|g\|_{H_*^{-1}(\omega_0)} \|S_{B_m^*}(t)\phi\|_{H_*^1(\omega_0)} \\ &\lesssim \sup_{\|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega)} \leq 1} \frac{\Theta_{m, m_1}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1} \|g\|_{H_*^{-1}(\omega_0)} \|\phi\|_{L^2(\omega)}, \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of (3.6) by coming back to the function $f = m^{-1}g$. \square

3.3. Decay estimates for $S_{\mathcal{L}}$. We first prove decay estimates in a family of small reference spaces included in $L^2(\mu^{-1/2})$.

Proposition 3.3. *For any admissible weight ν such that $\mu^{-1/2} \prec \nu \prec \mu^{-1}$, there holds*

$$\forall t \geq 0, \quad \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{L^2(\nu) \rightarrow L^2(\mu^{-1/2})} \lesssim \Theta_{\nu, \mu^{-1/2}}(t) = C e^{-\lambda t^{\frac{2}{|\gamma|}}}$$

Proof. Let us denote for simplicity $E_0 = L^2(\mu^{-1/2}) \supset E_1 = L^2(\nu)$. We already know from (2.6) and (2.15) that

$$t \mapsto \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{E_0 \rightarrow E_0}, \quad t \mapsto \|S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{E_1 \rightarrow E_1} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+).$$

We then write, thanks to Duhamel's formula,

$$S_{\mathcal{L}}\Pi = S_{\mathcal{B}}\Pi + S_{\mathcal{B}}\mathcal{A} * S_{\mathcal{L}}\Pi,$$

and using Lemma 2.5 and Lemma 3.1, we obtain that $t \mapsto \|S_{\mathcal{B}}\mathcal{A}(t)\|_{E_0 \rightarrow E_1} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$, whence

$$(3.8) \quad \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{E_1 \rightarrow E_1} \lesssim \|S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{E_1 \rightarrow E_1} + \|S_{\mathcal{B}}\mathcal{A}(t)\|_{E_0 \rightarrow E_1} * \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{E_1 \rightarrow E_0} \in L_t^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+).$$

Defining $\Pi f_L(t) = \Pi S_L(t)f_0$ and using (2.6), (3.8) and the same interpolation argument as in the proof of Lemma 3.1, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \|\Pi f_L(t)\|_{E_0}^2 &\leq -\lambda \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2} \|\Pi f_L(t)\|_{E_0}^2 \\ &\leq -\lambda \varepsilon_R \|\Pi f_L(t)\|_{E_0}^2 + C\theta_R \|\Pi S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)f_0\|_{E_1}^2 \\ &\leq -\lambda \varepsilon_R \|\Pi f_L(t)\|_{E_0}^2 + C\theta_R \|\Pi f_0\|_{E_1}^2, \end{aligned}$$

with $\varepsilon_R = \langle R \rangle^{\gamma+2}$ and $\theta_R/\varepsilon_R = \mu^{-1/2}(R)/\nu(R)$. We conclude as in the proof of Lemma 3.1. \square

As an immediate consequence, we prove uniform in time bounds for the semigroup $S_{\mathcal{L}}$ in large spaces.

Lemma 3.4. *For any admissible weight function $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+3}{2}}$, there holds*

$$t \mapsto \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{L^2(m) \rightarrow L^2(m)} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+).$$

Proof. Let us denote $E = L^2(\mu^{-1/2})$, $E_1 = L^2(\nu)$ and $X = L^2(m)$, with $\mu^{-1/2} \prec \nu \prec \mu^{-1}$. We only need to treat the case $\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+3}{2}} \prec m \prec \mu^{-1/2}$ so that $E \subset X$ (the other cases have already been treated in (3.8)). We first write

$$S_{\mathcal{L}}\Pi = \Pi S_{\mathcal{B}} + S_{\mathcal{L}}\Pi * \mathcal{A}S_{\mathcal{B}},$$

and observe that $t \mapsto \|S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{X \rightarrow X} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$ from (2.15) and $t \mapsto \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{E_1 \rightarrow E} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$ from Proposition 3.3. Moreover, Lemma 2.5 and Lemma 3.1 yield $t \mapsto \|\mathcal{A}S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{X \rightarrow E_1} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$, so that

$$\|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{X \rightarrow X} \lesssim \|S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{X \rightarrow X} + \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{E_1 \rightarrow E \rightarrow X} * \|\mathcal{A}S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{X \rightarrow E_1} \in L_t^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+),$$

and the proof is complete. \square

We can now prove that $S_{\mathcal{L}}$ inherits the decay and regularity estimates already established for the semigroup $S_{\mathcal{B}}$.

Theorem 3.5. *Let m_0, m_1 be two admissible weight functions such that $\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2} \prec m_0 \prec m_1$ and $m_0 \preceq \mu^{-1/2}$. There holds*

$$(3.9) \quad \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{L^2(m_1) \rightarrow L^2(m_0)} \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t), \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Let m_0, m_1 be two admissible polynomial weight functions such that $\langle v \rangle^{3/2} \prec m_0 \prec m_1$. There holds

$$(3.10) \quad \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{H_*^{-1}(m_1) \rightarrow L^2(m_0 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1}, \quad \forall t > 0.$$

Proof. We fix an admissible weight function ν such that $\mu^{-1/2} \prec \nu \prec \mu^{-1}$ and $\nu \succ m_1$, and we split the proof into two steps.

Step 1. We denote $X_0 = L^2(m_0)$, $X_1 = L^2(m_1)$, $E_0 = L^2(\mu^{-1/2})$ and $E_1 = L^2(\nu)$. We write the factorization identity

$$S_{\mathcal{L}}\Pi = \Pi S_{\mathcal{B}} + S_{\mathcal{L}}\Pi * \mathcal{A}S_{\mathcal{B}},$$

which implies

$$\Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}\Pi\|_{X_1 \rightarrow X_0} \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1} \|S_{\mathcal{B}}\Pi\|_{X_1 \rightarrow X_0} + (\Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1} \|\Pi S_{\mathcal{L}}\|_{E_1 \rightarrow X_0} * \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1} \|\mathcal{A}S_{\mathcal{B}}\|_{X_1 \rightarrow E_1}).$$

Thanks to Lemma 3.1, Proposition 3.3 and Lemma 2.5, we have

$$\begin{aligned} t &\mapsto \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\Pi\|_{X_1 \rightarrow X_0} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+), \\ t &\mapsto \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|\Pi S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\|_{E_1 \rightarrow E_0 \rightarrow X_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+), \\ t &\mapsto \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|\mathcal{A}S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{X_1 \rightarrow X_0 \rightarrow E_1} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+), \end{aligned}$$

which concludes the proof of (3.9).

Step 2. Denote $Z_1 = H_*^{-1}(m_1)$ and $\tilde{X}_0 = L^2(m_0 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})$. Writing the factorization identity as in Step 1 and denoting $\tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}(t) = \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t)/(t^{1/2} \wedge 1)$, we have

$$\tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}\Pi\|_{Z_1 \rightarrow \tilde{X}_0} \lesssim \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1} \|S_{\mathcal{B}}\|_{Z_1 \rightarrow \tilde{X}_0} + \left(\tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}\Pi\|_{E_1 \rightarrow \tilde{X}_0} * \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1} \|\mathcal{A}S_{\mathcal{B}}\|_{Z_1 \rightarrow E_1} \right).$$

Thanks to Lemma 2.5, Lemma 3.2, and Proposition 3.3, we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} t &\mapsto \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\Pi\|_{Z_1 \rightarrow \tilde{X}_0} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+), \\ t &\mapsto \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|\Pi S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\|_{E_1 \rightarrow E_0 \rightarrow \tilde{X}_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+), \\ t &\mapsto \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|\mathcal{A}S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{Z_1 \rightarrow \tilde{X}_0 \rightarrow E_1} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+), \end{aligned}$$

which implies (3.10). \square

3.4. Weak dissipativity of \mathcal{L} . As a final step, we establish that \mathcal{L} is weakly dissipative in some appropriate spaces. In order to do that, we define the spaces

$$(3.11) \quad X := L^2(m), \quad Y := H_*^1(m), \quad Z := H_*^{-1}(m), \quad X_0 := L^2,$$

where we recall that $H_*^1(m)$ and $H_*^{-1}(m)$ have been introduced in (3.1) and (3.2). For any $\eta > 0$, we also define the norm $\|\cdot\|_X$ on ΠX by

$$(3.12) \quad \|\|f\|_X^2 := \eta \|f\|_X^2 + \int_0^\infty \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau)f\|_{X_0}^2 d\tau,$$

and we denote by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_X$ the associated duality product.

Proposition 3.6. *Let m be an admissible weight function such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{\frac{3}{2}}$. The norm $\|\cdot\|_X$ is equivalent to $\|\cdot\|_X$ on ΠX , and, moreover, there exists $\eta > 0$ small enough such that*

$$(3.13) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)f\|_X^2 \lesssim -\|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)f\|_Y^2, \quad \forall f \in \Pi X.$$

Proof. We easily observe that, thanks to Theorem 3.5,

$$\int_0^\infty \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau)f\|_{X_0}^2 d\tau \lesssim \|f\|_X^2 \int_0^\infty \Theta^2(\tau) d\tau,$$

for some decay function $\Theta \in L^2(\mathbb{R}_+)$ under the condition $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{3/2}$, thus $\|\cdot\|_X$ is equivalent to $\|\cdot\|_X$ on ΠX . Now denote $f_{\mathcal{L}}(t) = S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)f_0$, $f_0 \in \Pi X$, so that $f_{\mathcal{L}}(t) \in \Pi X$ for any $t \geq 0$, recall that $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$ and write

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|f_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\|_X^2 = \eta \langle \mathcal{B}f_{\mathcal{L}}(t), f_{\mathcal{L}}(t) \rangle_X + \eta \langle \mathcal{A}f_{\mathcal{L}}(t), f_{\mathcal{L}}(t) \rangle_X + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty \frac{d}{d\tau} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau)f_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\|_{X_0}^2 d\tau.$$

Thanks to Lemma 2.3 and Lemma 2.5, we have

$$\eta \langle \mathcal{B}f_{\mathcal{L}}(t), f_{\mathcal{L}}(t) \rangle_X \leq -\eta K' \|f_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\|_Y^2, \quad \eta \langle \mathcal{A}f_{\mathcal{L}}(t), f_{\mathcal{L}}(t) \rangle_X \leq \eta C \|f_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\|_{X_0}^2.$$

Moreover, for the last term, we have

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{d}{d\tau} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau)f_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\|_{X_0}^2 d\tau = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau)f_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\|_{X_0}^2 - \|f_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\|_{X_0}^2 = -\|f_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\|_{X_0}^2,$$

where we have used

$$\forall t \geq 0, \quad \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau)f_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\|_{X_0} \leq C\Theta_m(\tau)\|f_0\|_X \quad \text{with} \quad \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \Theta_m(\tau) = 0,$$

thanks to Lemma 3.4 and Theorem 3.5. We conclude the proof of (3.13) gathering previous estimates and taking $\eta > 0$ small enough. \square

3.5. Summarizing the decay and dissipativity estimates. We summarize the set of information we have established in this section and that we will use in order to get our main existence, uniqueness and stability result for the nonlinear equation in Section 5 (in the spatially homogeneous case). Consider the spaces defined in (3.11).

Corollary 3.7. *Consider an admissible weight function m such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{2+3/2}$. With the above assumptions and notation, there exists $\eta > 0$ such that the norm $\|\cdot\|_X$ defined in (3.12) is equivalent to the initial norm on ΠX and*

$$(3.14) \quad \langle \mathcal{L}\Pi f, \Pi f \rangle_X \lesssim -\|\Pi f\|_Y^2, \quad \forall f \in X_1^{\mathcal{L}},$$

$$(3.15) \quad t \mapsto \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{Y \rightarrow X_0} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{Z \rightarrow X_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+),$$

where we recall that $X_1^{\mathcal{L}}$ is the domain of \mathcal{L} when acting on X .

It is worth observing again that the polynomial decay rate (3.10) in Theorem 3.5 has been established in polynomial weighted Sobolev spaces and thus immediately extends with same decay rate to exponential weighted Sobolev spaces. That remark is used in the proof of the second estimate in (3.15) which is valid for any (polynomial or not) admissible weight function.

Proof. Using the identity

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi f\|_X^2 = \langle \mathcal{L}\Pi f, \Pi f \rangle_X,$$

we see that estimate (3.14) is just a reformulation of (3.13) in Proposition 3.6.

We now prove estimate (3.15). We fix admissible polynomial weight functions m_0 and m_1 such that $\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2} \prec m_0 \prec m_1 \preceq \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2} m$. Then estimate (3.9) in Theorem 3.5 and the embeddings $L^2(m_0) \subset X_0$ and $Y \subset L^2(m_1)$ imply

$$\|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi\|_{Y \rightarrow X_0} \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t), \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Now consider admissible polynomial weight functions m'_0 and m'_1 so that $\langle v \rangle^{3/2} \prec m'_0 \prec m'_1 \preceq m$. Thanks to estimate (3.10) in Theorem 3.5 together with the embeddings $L^2(m'_0 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2}) \subset X_0$ and $Z \subset H_*^{-1}(m'_1)$, we obtain

$$\|S_{\mathcal{L}}(t)\Pi f\|_{Z \rightarrow X_0} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{m'_1, m'_0}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1}, \quad \forall t > 0.$$

We finally obtain (3.15) by observing that $t \mapsto \langle t \rangle^{-(2k-3)/|\gamma|} (t \wedge 1)^{-1/2} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$ for any $k > 2 + 3/2$ and that we may thus choose m_0, m_1, m'_0 and m'_1 adequately in such a way that $t \mapsto \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t) \Theta_{m'_1, m'_0}(t) (t \wedge 1)^{-1/2} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+)$. \square

4. NONLINEAR ESTIMATES

In this section, we present some estimates on the nonlinear Landau operator Q . We start with two auxiliary results.

Lemma 4.1. ([14, Lemma 3.2]) *Let $-3 < \alpha < 0$ and $\theta > 3$. Then*

$$A_{\alpha}(v) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |v - v_*|^{\alpha} \langle v_* \rangle^{-\theta} dv_* \lesssim \langle v \rangle^{\alpha}.$$

Lemma 4.2. *There holds*

(i) For any $3/(3 + \gamma + 2) < p \leq \infty$ and $\theta > 2 + 3(1 - 1/p)$

$$|(a_{ij} * f)(v) v_i v_j| + |(a_{ij} * f)(v) v_i| + |(a_{ij} * f)(v)| \lesssim \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} \|f\|_{L^p(\langle v \rangle^\theta)}.$$

(ii) For any $3/(3 + \gamma + 1) < p \leq \infty$ and any $\theta' > 3(1 - 1/p)$

$$|(b_j * f)(v)| \lesssim \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+1} \|f\|_{L^p(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})}.$$

Proof. (i) Recall that 0 is an eigenvalue of the matrix $a_{ij}(z)$ so that $a_{ij}(v - v_*)v_i = a_{ij}(v - v_*)v_{*i}$ and $a_{ij}(v - v_*)v_i v_j = a_{ij}(v - v_*)v_{*i}v_{*j}$. Thanks to Holder's inequality and using Lemma 4.1, we obtain for any $3/(3 + \gamma + 2) < p \leq \infty$ and any $\theta > 3(1 - 1/p)$,

$$\begin{aligned} |(a_{ij} * f)(v) v_i v_j| &= \left| \int_{v_*} a_{ij}(v - v_*)v_{*i}v_{*j} f_* \right| \\ &\lesssim \int_{v_*} |v - v_*|^{\gamma+2} \langle v_* \rangle^{-\bar{\theta}} \langle v_* \rangle^{\bar{\theta}+2} |f_*| \\ &\lesssim \left(\int_{v_*} |v - v_*|^{(\gamma+2)\frac{p}{p-1}} \langle v_* \rangle^{-\bar{\theta}\frac{p}{p-1}} \right)^{(p-1)/p} \|f\|_{L^p(\langle v \rangle^{\theta+2})} \\ &\lesssim \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} \|f\|_{L^p(\langle v \rangle^{\theta+2})}. \end{aligned}$$

We can get the estimates for $(a_{ij} * f)(v) v_i$ and $(a_{ij} * f)(v)$ in a similar way. Remark that we can choose $p = 2$ since $\gamma \in [-3, -2)$.

(ii) For the term $(b_j * f)$ we recall that $b_i(z) = -2|z|^\gamma z_i$. Thanks to Holder's inequality and Lemma 4.1, we obtain for any $3/(3 + \gamma + 1) < p \leq \infty$ and any $\theta' > 3(1 - 1/p)$,

$$\begin{aligned} |(b_i * f)(v)| &\lesssim \int_{v_*} |v - v_*|^{\gamma+1} \langle v_* \rangle^{-\theta'} \langle v_* \rangle^{\theta'} |f_*| \\ &\lesssim \left(\int_{v_*} |v - v_*|^{(\gamma+1)\frac{p}{p-1}} \langle v_* \rangle^{-\theta'\frac{p}{p-1}} \right)^{(p-1)/p} \|f\|_{L^p(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})} \\ &\lesssim \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+1} \|f\|_{L^p(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})}. \end{aligned}$$

Remark now that we have $3/(3 + \gamma + 1) \in (3/2, 3]$, thus we can choose $p = 4$ for any $\gamma \in [-3, -2)$. \square

We establish our main estimate on the Landau collision operator.

Lemma 4.3. *Consider any admissible weight function $m \succeq 1$. Then, for any $\theta > 2 + 3/2$ and $\theta' > 9/4$, there holds*

$$(4.1) \quad \langle Q(f, g), h \rangle_{L^2(m)} \lesssim \left(\|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|g\|_{H^1_+(m)} + \|f\|_{H^1(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})} \|g\|_{L^2(m)} \right) \|h\|_{H^1_+(m)}.$$

Proof. Let us denote $G = mg$ and $H = mh$. We write

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Q(f, g), h \rangle_{L^2(m)} &= \int \partial_j \{ (a_{ij} * f) \partial_i g - (b_j * f) g \} h m^2 \\ &= \int \partial_j \{ (a_{ij} * f) \partial_i (m^{-1} G) \} H m - \int \partial_j \{ (b_j * f) m^{-1} G \} H m =: A + B. \end{aligned}$$

Performing an integration by parts and developing terms, we easily get $A = A_1 + A_2 + A_3 + A_4$ and $B = B_1 + B_2$, with

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &:= - \int (a_{ij} * f) \partial_i G \partial_j H, & A_2 &:= - \int (a_{ij} * f) \frac{\partial_j m}{m} \partial_i G H, \\ A_3 &:= \int (a_{ij} * f) \frac{\partial_i m}{m} G \partial_j H, & A_4 &:= \int (a_{ij} * f) \frac{\partial_i m}{m} \frac{\partial_j m}{m} G H, \end{aligned}$$

$$B_1 := \int (b_j * f) G \partial_j H, \quad B_2 := \int (b_j * f) \frac{\partial_j m}{m} G H.$$

We then estimate each term separately.

Step 1. Term A_1 . We only consider the case $|v| > 1$, since the estimate for $|v| \leq 1$ is evident. We decompose $\partial_i G = P_v \partial_i G + (I - P_v) \partial_i G =: \partial_i^{\parallel} G + \partial_i^{\perp} G$, and similarly for $\partial_j H = \partial_j^{\parallel} H + \partial_j^{\perp} H$. We write

$$\begin{aligned} A_1^+ &:= \int_{|v|>1} (a_{ij} * f) \{ \partial_i^{\parallel} G \partial_j^{\parallel} H + \partial_i^{\parallel} G \partial_j^{\perp} H + \partial_i^{\perp} G \partial_j^{\parallel} H + \partial_i^{\perp} G \partial_j^{\perp} H \} \\ &=: T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4. \end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 4.2-(i) with $p = 2$, for any $\theta > 2 + 3/2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &= \int_{|v|>1} (a_{ij} * f) v_i v_j \frac{(v \cdot \nabla_v G)}{|v|^2} \frac{(v \cdot \nabla_v H)}{|v|^2} \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \int_{|v|>1} \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} |v|^{-2} |\nabla_v G| |\nabla_v H| \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \nabla_v(mg)\|_{L^2} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \nabla_v(mh)\|_{L^2}. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_2 &= \int_{|v|>1} (a_{ij} * f) v_i \frac{(v \cdot \nabla_v G)}{|v|^2} \partial_j^{\perp} h \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \int_{|v|>1} \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} |v|^{-1} |\nabla_v G| |\nabla_v^{\perp} H| \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} \nabla_v(mg)\|_{L^2} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} \nabla_v^{\perp}(mh)\|_{L^2}, \end{aligned}$$

and similarly

$$T_3 \lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} \nabla_v^{\perp}(mg)\|_{L^2} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \nabla_v(mh)\|_{L^2}.$$

For the term T_4 , we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_4 &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \int \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} |\nabla_v^{\perp} G| |\nabla_v^{\perp} H| \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} \nabla_v^{\perp}(mg)\|_{L^2} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} \nabla_v^{\perp}(mh)\|_{L^2}. \end{aligned}$$

All in all, we obtain

$$A_1^+ \lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|g\|_{H_*^1(m)} \|h\|_{H_*^1(m)}.$$

Step 2. Term A_2 . Recall that $\partial_j m^2 = C v_j \langle v \rangle^{\sigma-2} m^2$. The case $|v| \leq 1$ is evident so we only consider $|v| > 1$. The same argument as for A_1 gives us

$$\begin{aligned} A_2^+ &:= C \int_{|v|>1} (a_{ij} * f) v_j \langle v \rangle^{\sigma-2} \{ \partial_i^{\parallel} G + \partial_i^{\perp} G \} H \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \int \left\{ \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+\sigma-1} |\nabla_v G| + \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+\sigma} |\nabla_v^{\perp} G| \right\} |H| \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \left\{ \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \nabla_v(mg)\|_{L^2} + \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} \nabla_v^{\perp}(mg)\|_{L^2} \right\} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2\sigma-2}{2}} h\|_{L^2(m)} \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|g\|_{H_*^1(m)} \|h\|_{H_*^1(m)}. \end{aligned}$$

Step 3. Term A_3 . In a similar way as for the term A_2 , we also have

$$A_3 \lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} g\|_{L^2(m)} \|h\|_{H_*^1(m)} \lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|g\|_{H_*^1(m)} \|h\|_{H_*^1(m)}.$$

Step 4. Term A_4 . Arguing as before, we easily get

$$\begin{aligned} A_4^+ &:= C \int_{|v|>1} (a_{ij} * f) v_i v_j \langle v \rangle^{2\sigma-4} G H \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \int \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2\sigma-2} |G| |H| \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2\sigma-2}{2}} g\|_{L^2(m)} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2\sigma-2}{2}} h\|_{L^2(m)} \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|g\|_{H_*^1(m)} \|h\|_{H_*^1(m)}. \end{aligned}$$

Step 5. Term B_1 . Thanks to Lemma 4.2-(ii) with $p = 4$, for any $\theta' > 9/4$, it follows

$$\begin{aligned} B_1 &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^4(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})} \int \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+1} |G| |\nabla_v H| \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{H^1(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} g\|_{L^2(m)} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \nabla_v(mh)\|_{L^2} \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{H^1(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} g\|_{L^2(m)} \|h\|_{H_*^1(m)}, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the embedding $H^1(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'}) \subset L^4(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})$.

Step 6. Term B_2 . Using $\partial_j m = C v_j \langle v \rangle^{\sigma-2} m$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} B_2 &\lesssim \|f\|_{L^4(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})} \int \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+\sigma} |G| |H| \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{H^1(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} g\|_{L^2(m)} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} h\|_{L^2(m)} \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{H^1(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} g\|_{L^2(m)} \|h\|_{H_*^1(m)}. \end{aligned}$$

Step 7. Conclusion. Gathering previous estimates and using that $\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} g\|_{L^2(m)}$ and $\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} g\|_{L^2(m)}$ can be controlled by $\|g\|_{L^2(m)}$, we obtain, for any $\theta > 2 + 3/2$ and $\theta' > 9/4$,

$$\langle Q(f, g), h \rangle_{L^2(m)} \lesssim \|f\|_{L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|g\|_{H_*^1(m)} \|h\|_{H_*^1(m)} + \|f\|_{H^1(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})} \|g\|_{L^2(m)} \|h\|_{H_*^1(m)},$$

which concludes the proof of (4.1). \square

Corollary 4.4. *Consider an admissible weight function m such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{2+3/2}$. With the notation (3.11), there holds*

$$(4.2) \quad \langle Q(f, g), h \rangle_X \lesssim \left(\|f\|_X \|g\|_Y + \|f\|_Y \|g\|_X \right) \|h\|_Y,$$

and in particular

$$(4.3) \quad \|Q(f, g)\|_Z \lesssim \|f\|_X \|g\|_Y + \|f\|_Y \|g\|_X.$$

Proof. The proof of (4.2) easily follows from (4.1) observing that, since $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{2+3/2}$, we can choose θ and θ' in Lemma 4.3 such that $L^2(m) \hookrightarrow L^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)$ and $H_*^1(m) \hookrightarrow H^1(\langle v \rangle^{\theta'})$ (see (3.1)). The proof of (4.3) is then straightforward by the definition of $Z = H_*^{-1}(m)$ (see (3.2)). \square

5. NONLINEAR STABILITY

This section is devoted to the proof of the spatially homogeneous version of Theorem 1.1.

Consider a solution F to the homogeneous Landau equation (1.2) and define the variation $f = F - \mu$, which satisfies,

$$(5.1) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t f = \mathcal{L}f + Q(f, f) \\ f|_{t=0} = f_0 = F_0 - \mu. \end{cases}$$

We observe that, $\Pi_0 f_0 = 0$ and therefore, thanks to the conservation laws,

$$\Pi_0 f(t) = \Pi_0 Q(f(t), f(t)) = 0 \quad \text{for any } t > 0.$$

Hereafter in this section, we fix an admissible weight function m satisfying $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{2+3/2}$ and consider the spaces X, Y, Z and X_0 defined in (3.11). We also recall the norm $\|\cdot\|_X$ defined in (3.12), which is equivalent to $\|\cdot\|_X$.

We first prove a stability estimate.

Proposition 5.1. *There exist some constants $C, K \in (0, \infty)$ such that any solution f to (5.1) satisfies, at least formally, the following differential inequality*

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|f\|_X^2 \leq (C \|f\|_X - K) \|f\|_Y^2.$$

Proof. We write

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|f\|_X^2 &= \langle \mathcal{L}f, f \rangle_X + \eta \langle Q(f, f), f \rangle_X + \int_0^\infty \langle S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau) \Pi Q(f, f), S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau) \Pi f \rangle_{X_0} d\tau \\ &=: T_1 + T_2 + T_3. \end{aligned}$$

On the one hand, thanks to (3.14) in Corollary 3.7 and to Corollary 4.4, there exist $K, C' > 0$ such that

$$T_1 + T_2 \leq -K \|f\|_Y^2 + C' \|f\|_X \|f\|_Y^2.$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^\infty \langle S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau) \Pi Q(f, f), S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau) \Pi f \rangle_{X_0} d\tau \\ &\leq \int_0^\infty \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau) \Pi Q(f, f)\|_{X_0} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau) \Pi f\|_{X_0} d\tau \\ &\lesssim \|Q(f, f)\|_Z \|f\|_Y \int_0^\infty \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau) \Pi\|_{Z \rightarrow X_0} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau) \Pi\|_{Y \rightarrow X_0} d\tau \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_X \|f\|_Y^2, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used (3.15) in Corollary 3.7 as well as Corollary 4.4 again in the last line. We conclude the proof by gathering these two estimates. \square

A consequence of the stability estimate in Proposition 5.1 we obtain the spatially homogeneous version of Theorem 1.1.

Proof of Theorem 1.1. The spatially homogeneous case. We split the proof into three steps.

Step 1. Uniqueness. We still denote by K and C the constants exhibited in Proposition 5.1 and we set $\varepsilon := (2 - \sqrt{2})K/C$. Consider two solutions f_1 and f_2 to (5.1) with same initial data such that

$$(5.2) \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \quad \|f_i\|_{L^\infty(0, \infty; X)}^2 + K \|f_i\|_{L^2(0, \infty; Y)}^2 < 2\varepsilon^2.$$

The difference $\rho := f_1 - f_2$ satisfies

$$\partial_t \rho = \mathcal{L}\rho + Q(f_1, \rho) + Q(\rho, f_2), \quad \rho(0) = 0.$$

Repeating the same computation as in Proposition 5.1, we get

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|\rho\|_X^2 \leq -K \|\rho\|_Y^2 + \frac{C}{2} \left((\|f_1\|_X + \|f_2\|_X) \|\rho\|_Y^2 + (\|f_1\|_Y + \|f_2\|_Y) \|\rho\|_X \|\rho\|_Y \right).$$

Integrating in time the above differential inequality and using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} A &:= \|\rho\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)}^2 + K\|\rho\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)}^2 \\ &\leq \|\rho(0)\|_X^2 + \frac{C}{2} \left(\|f_1\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)} + \|f_2\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)} \right) \|\rho\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)}^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{C}{2} \left(\|f_1\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)} + \|f_2\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)} \right) \|\rho\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)} \|\rho\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)}. \end{aligned}$$

We assume by contradiction that $\rho \neq 0$. Thanks to estimate (5.2) and the Young inequality, we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} A &< C(2\varepsilon^2)^{1/2} \|\rho\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)}^2 + C\left(\frac{2\varepsilon^2}{K}\right)^{1/2} \|\rho\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)} \|\rho\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)} \\ &\leq \|\rho\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)}^2 + \left\{ C\sqrt{2}\varepsilon + \frac{C^2}{2K}\varepsilon^2 \right\} \|\rho\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)}^2 \leq A, \end{aligned}$$

and a contradiction. We conclude that $f_1 = f_2$.

Step 2. Existence. The proof follows a classical argument based on an iterative scheme that approximates (5.1) (see e.g. [43, 21] or [20, Proof of Theorem 5.3]) that we sketch for the sake of completeness. We consider the iterative scheme

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t f^n = \mathcal{L}f^n + Q(f^{n-1}, f^n) & \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \\ f^n|_{t=0} = f_0 \end{cases}$$

with the convention $f^{-1} = Q(f^{-1}, f^0) = 0$ when $n = 0$. We claim that for $\varepsilon_0 := \|f_0\|_X < \varepsilon$, with ε defined as in Step 1, we may build by an induction argument a sequence $(f^n)_{n \geq 0}$ of solutions of the above scheme such that

$$(5.3) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \quad A^n := \sup_{t \geq 0} \|f^n(t)\|_X^2 + K \int_0^\infty \|f^n(t)\|_Y^2 dt \leq 2\varepsilon_0^2.$$

We only prove the a priori estimate (5.3) by an induction argument, the construction at each step of the solution of the above linear equation being very classical. We assume that f^{n-1} satisfies (5.3). Repeating the same argument as in Step 1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A^n &\leq \|f_0\|_X^2 + \frac{C}{2} \|f^{n-1}\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)} \|f^n\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)}^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{C}{2} \|f^{n-1}\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)} \|f^n\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)} \|f^n\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thanks to estimate (5.3) at rank $n-1$ and the Young inequality, as in Step 1 again, we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} A^n &\leq \varepsilon_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|f^n\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)}^2 + \left\{ \frac{C}{\sqrt{2}K}\varepsilon_0 + \frac{C^2}{4K^2}\varepsilon_0^2 \right\} K \|f^n\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)}^2 \\ &\leq \varepsilon_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} A^n, \end{aligned}$$

from what f^n satisfies (5.3) and the stability of the scheme is proven. We now turn to the convergence of the scheme and we define $\rho^n := f^{n+1} - f^n$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, which satisfies

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \rho^0 = \mathcal{L}\rho^0 + Q(f^0, f^1); \\ \partial_t \rho^n = \mathcal{L}\rho^n + Q(f^n, \rho^n) + Q(\rho^{n-1}, f^n), & \forall n \in \mathbb{N}^*; \end{cases}$$

with $\rho^n|_{t=0} = 0$. We define

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \quad B^n := \sup_{t \geq 0} \|\rho^n(t)\|_X^2 + K \int_0^\infty \|\rho^n(t)\|_Y^2 dt,$$

so that in particular $B^0 \leq A^1 + A^0 \leq (2\varepsilon_0)^2$. For $n \geq 1$, we compute as in the previous steps

$$\begin{aligned} B^n &\leq \frac{C}{2} \|f^n\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)} \|\rho^n\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)}^2 + \frac{C}{2} \|f^n\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)} \|\rho^n\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)} \|\rho^n\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)} \\ &\quad + \frac{C}{2} \left\{ \|f^n\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)} \|\rho^{n-1}\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)} + \|\rho^{n-1}\|_{L^\infty(0,\infty;X)} \|f^n\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)} \right\} \|\rho^n\|_{L^2(0,\infty;Y)}. \end{aligned}$$

Arguing similarly as in the previous steps by using the Young inequality, estimate (5.3) and choosing $\varepsilon_0 < \sqrt{2}K/(3C)$, we easily get

$$B^n \leq \frac{C_1^2}{2} \varepsilon_0^2 B_{n-1} + \frac{1}{2} B_n,$$

where the constant $C_1 := 3C/(\sqrt{2}K)$ only depends on C and K . That readily implies that

$$B^n \leq (C_1 \varepsilon_0)^{2n} B_0, \quad \forall n \geq 1,$$

with $C_1 \varepsilon_0 < 1$. It then follows that $(f^n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $L^\infty(0, \infty; X)$, its limit f is a weak solution to (5.1) and, passing to the limit $n \rightarrow \infty$ in (5.3), f also satisfies (5.3), from which one deduces (1.12).

Step 3. Decay. Let \tilde{m} be an admissible weight function such that $\langle v \rangle^{2+3/2} \prec \tilde{m} \prec m$, and denote $\tilde{X} = L^2(\tilde{m})$ and $\tilde{Y} = H_*^1(\tilde{m})$. Thanks to the estimate (5.3) (or (1.12)) and Proposition 5.1 in both spaces X and \tilde{X} , it follows

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \|f\|_{\tilde{X}}^2 &\leq (C\sqrt{2}\varepsilon_0 - K) \|f\|_{\tilde{Y}}^2 \leq -K' \|f\|_{\tilde{Y}}^2 \leq 0, \\ \frac{d}{dt} \|f\|_{\tilde{X}}^2 &\leq (C\sqrt{2}\varepsilon_0 - K) \|f\|_{\tilde{Y}}^2 \leq -K' \|f\|_{\tilde{Y}}^2. \end{aligned}$$

These two estimates together imply (see the proof of Lemma 3.1) the decay

$$\|f(t)\|_{\tilde{X}} \lesssim \Theta_{m, \tilde{m}}(t) \|f_0\|_X.$$

We hence obtain

$$\|f(t)\|_{X_0} \lesssim \Theta_m(t) \|f_0\|_X,$$

where we recall that Θ_m is defined in (1.9), and that completes the proof. \square

We conclude the section by presenting a proof of our improvement of the speed of convergence to the equilibrium for solutions to the spatially homogenous Landau equation in a non perturbative framework.

Proof of Corollary 1.3. We claim that for some time $t_0 > 0$ (smaller than some explicit constant $T > 0$) we have

$$(5.4) \quad \|f(t_0)\|_{L_v^2(m_1)} \leq \varepsilon_0,$$

where we denote $m_1 = m^{1/2} \langle v \rangle^{-9/2}$ and $\varepsilon_0 > 0$ is given in Theorem 1.1. Indeed, thanks to [16] there holds

$$\forall t, T > 0, \quad \int_t^{t+T} \|f(\tau)\|_{L_v^3(\langle v \rangle^{-3})} d\tau \lesssim 1 + T,$$

and from [13, Theorem 2] we have the convergence

$$\|f(t)\|_{L^1(m)} \lesssim \theta(t), \quad \theta(t) = e^{-\lambda t^{\frac{s}{s+|\gamma|}} (\log(1+t))^{-\frac{|\gamma|}{s+|\gamma|}}},$$

for some constant $\lambda > 0$. Thanks to the interpolation inequality

$$\|f\|_{L_v^2(m_1)} \leq \|f\|_{L_v^1(m)}^{1/4} \|f\|_{L_v^3(\langle v \rangle^{-3})}^{3/4},$$

we obtain, for any $t > 0$,

$$\theta(t)^{-1/4} \int_t^{t+1} \|f(\tau)\|_{L_v^2(m_1)} d\tau \lesssim \int_t^{t+1} \theta^{-1}(\tau) \|f(\tau)\|_{L_v^1(m)} d\tau + \int_t^{t+1} \|f(\tau)\|_{L_v^3(\langle v \rangle^{-3})} d\tau \lesssim 1,$$

which proves (5.4). Therefore, observing that $m^{1/3} \prec m_1$ and $m^{1/3}$ is an exponential weight satisfying (1.8), we can apply Theorem 1.1 with $m^{1/3}$ starting from $t_0 > 0$ and we deduce the convergence

$$\|f(t)\|_{L_v^2} \lesssim \Theta_{m^{1/3}}(t).$$

The proof is then complete by remarking that, since m is an exponential weight, $\Theta_{m^{1/3}}$ and Θ_m have the same type of asymptotic behaviour (up to a change in the constants in (1.9)). \square

6. THE SPATIALLY INHOMOGENEOUS CASE

In this section, we explain how we may adapt to the spatially inhomogeneous case the arguments presented in the previous sections. The novelties come from the facts that:

- (1) We establish a first weak hypocoercivity estimate in the (small) space $\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\mu^{-1/2})$ (see (6.3) below);
- (2) We prove a set of weak dissipativity estimates on an appropriate operator $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ and of regularization results on the time functions $(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*n)}$ and $(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*\ell)}$ in order to transfer the above information to the space $H_x^2 L_v^2(m)$, which is suitable for establishing our existence, uniqueness and stability results.

6.1. The linearized inhomogeneous operator. We denote by $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$ the inhomogeneous linearized Landau operator given by

$$(6.1) \quad \bar{\mathcal{L}} := \mathcal{L} - v \cdot \nabla_x,$$

where we recall that \mathcal{L} is defined in (2.3). We have

$$\ker(\bar{\mathcal{L}}) = \text{span}\{\mu, v_1\mu, v_2\mu, v_3\mu, |v|^2\mu\}$$

and the projection $\bar{\Pi}_0$ onto $\ker(\bar{\mathcal{L}})$ is given by

$$\bar{\Pi}_0(f) = \left(\int f dx dv \right) \mu + \sum_{j=1}^3 \left(\int v_j f dx dv \right) v_j \mu + \left(\int \frac{|v|^2 - 3}{6} f dx dv \right) \frac{|v|^2 - 3}{6} \mu.$$

Hereafter we denote $\bar{\Pi} := I - \bar{\Pi}_0$ the projection onto the orthogonal of $\ker(\bar{\mathcal{L}})$. Recall the factorization for the homogeneous operator $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{A} + \mathcal{B}$ in (2.8), then we write

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}} = \mathcal{A} + \bar{\mathcal{B}}, \quad \bar{\mathcal{B}} := \mathcal{B} - v \cdot \nabla_x.$$

6.2. Functional spaces. We denote by $L_{x,v}^2 = L_{x,v}^2(\mathbb{T}_x^3 \times \mathbb{R}_v^3)$ the standard Lebesgue space on $\mathbb{T}_x^3 \times \mathbb{R}_v^3$. For a velocity weight function $m = m(v) : \mathbb{R}_v^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$, we then define the weighted Lebesgue spaces $L_{x,v}^2(m)$ and weighted Sobolev spaces $H_x^n L_v^2(m)$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, associated to the norms

$$\|f\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m)} = \|mf\|_{L_{x,v}^2}, \quad \|f\|_{H_x^n L_v^2(m)}^2 := \sum_{0 \leq j \leq n} \|\nabla_x^j(mf)\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2.$$

We similarly define the weighted Sobolev space $H_{x,v}^n(m)$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, through the norm

$$(6.2) \quad \|f\|_{H_{x,v}^n(m)} := \|mf\|_{H_{x,v}^n},$$

where $H_{x,v}^n = H_{x,v}^n(\mathbb{T}_x^3 \times \mathbb{R}_v^3)$ denotes the usual Sobolev space on $\mathbb{T}_x^3 \times \mathbb{R}_v^3$. We also define the space $\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m)$, for an admissible weight m , as the space associated to the norm defined by

$$(6.3) \quad \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m)}^2 := \|mf\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \|\nabla_x(mf)\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \|\langle v \rangle^\alpha \nabla_v(mf)\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2,$$

with

$$(6.4) \quad \alpha := \alpha(m) := \max \left\{ \gamma + \sigma, \frac{\gamma}{2} + \frac{\sigma}{4} \right\} < 0.$$

We easily observe that

$$(6.5) \quad H_{x,v}^1(m) \subset \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m) \subset H_{x,v}^1(\langle v \rangle^\alpha m),$$

and also that, for any $\gamma \in [-3, -2)$,

$$\alpha = \frac{\gamma}{2} + \frac{\sigma}{4} \text{ if } \sigma \in [0, 4/3], \quad \alpha = \gamma + 2 \text{ if } \sigma = 2,$$

where we recall that σ has been defined at the beginning of Section 2.3. We remark that we shall use the spaces $\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m)$ (instead of $H_{x,v}^1(m)$) in order to obtain weakly dissipative estimates for $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$, and the reason for that will be explained in Lemma 6.4.

Recall the space $H_{v,*}^1(m)$ defined in (3.1), then we define the space $H_x^2(H_{v,*}^1(m))$ associated to the norm

$$(6.6) \quad \|f\|_{H_x^2(H_{v,*}^1(m))}^2 := \sum_{0 \leq j \leq 2} \|\nabla_x^j f\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,*}^1(m))}^2 := \sum_{0 \leq j \leq 2} \int_{\mathbb{T}_x^3} \|\nabla_x^j f\|_{H_{v,*}^1(m)}^2.$$

When furthermore m is a polynomial weight function, we also define the negative weighted Sobolev space $H_x^2(H_{v,*}^{-1}(m))$ in duality with $H_x^2(H_{v,*}^1(m))$ with respect to the $H_x^2 L_v^2(m)$ duality product, more precisely

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{H_x^2(H_{v,*}^{-1}(m))} &:= \sup_{\|\phi\|_{H_x^2(H_{v,*}^1(m))} \leq 1} \langle f, \phi \rangle_{H_x^2 L_v^2(m)} \\ &:= \sup_{\|\phi\|_{H_x^2(H_{v,*}^1(m))} \leq 1} \sum_{0 \leq j \leq 2} \langle \nabla_x^j(mf), \nabla_x^j(m\phi) \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2}, \end{aligned}$$

and observe that $\|f\|_{H_x^2(H_{v,*}^{-1}(m))} = \|mf\|_{H_x^2(H_{v,*}^{-1}(m))}$.

6.3. Weak coercivity estimate of $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$. Starting from the weak coercivity estimate (2.6) for the homogeneous linearized operator \mathcal{L} in $L_v^2(\mu^{-1/2})$, we can exhibit an equivalent norm to the usual norm in $\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\mu^{-1/2})$ such that $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$ is weakly coercive related to that norm. Our method of proof follows the method developed in [35] for proving (strong) coercivity estimate and then spectral gap estimate in the case of the linearized Landau equation for harder potentials. We also refer to [21, 45] where related arguments have been introduced.

Lemma 6.1. *There exists a Hilbert norm $\|\cdot\|_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(\mu^{-1/2})}$ (which associated scalar product is denoted by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(\mu^{-1/2})}$) equivalent to $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\mu^{-1/2})}$ such that, for any $f \in \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\mu^{-1/2})$, there holds*

$$(6.7) \quad \langle \bar{\mathcal{L}}f, f \rangle_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(\mu^{-1/2})} \lesssim -\|\bar{\Pi}f\|_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2} \mu^{-1/2})}^2.$$

Proof. We only sketch the proof presenting the main steps, and we refer to [35] for more details. We define

$$Lh = \mu^{-1/2} \mathcal{L}(\mu^{1/2}h).$$

Observe that $f = \mu^{1/2}h$ satisfies $Lh = \mu^{-1/2} \mathcal{L}f$ and $\langle Lh, h \rangle_{L_v^2} = \langle \mathcal{L}f, f \rangle_{L_v^2(\mu^{-1/2})}$. Following [21, Section 2] we can decompose $L = A + K$ such that the following properties holds:

(i) Generalized coercivity estimate (see (2.6)): there holds, for some constant $\lambda > 0$,

$$\langle Lh, h \rangle_{L_v^2} \leq -\lambda \|h - \Pi_L h\|_{H_{v,**}^1}^2,$$

where Π_L is the projection onto $\ker(L)$ in L_v^2 , and we denote

$$\|h\|_{H_{v,**}^1(\omega)}^2 := \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} h\|_{L_v^2(\omega)}^2 + \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v h\|_{L_v^2(\omega)}^2.$$

(ii) [21, Lemma 5]: For $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\delta > 0$, there holds

$$\langle \langle v \rangle^{2\theta} Kh, h \rangle_{L_v^2} \lesssim \delta \|h\|_{H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^\theta)}^2 + C(\delta) \|h\|_{L_v^2(\langle v \rangle^\theta)}^2,$$

and also

$$\langle \langle v \rangle^{2\theta} Lh_1, h_2 \rangle_{L_v^2} \lesssim \|h_1\|_{H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^\theta)} \|h_2\|_{H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^\theta)}.$$

(iii) [21, Lemma 6]: For $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\eta > 0$, there holds (for some $\lambda, C > 0$)

$$\langle \langle v \rangle^{2\theta} \nabla_v(Ah), \nabla_v h \rangle_{L_v^2} \leq -\lambda \|\nabla_v h\|_{H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^\theta)}^2 + \eta C \|h\|_{H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^\theta)}^2 + \eta^{-1} C \|\mu h\|_{L_v^2}^2,$$

and also

$$\langle \langle v \rangle^{2\theta} \nabla_v(Kh), \nabla_v h \rangle_{L_v^2} \lesssim \eta \|h\|_{L_x^2 H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2})}^2 + \eta \|\nabla_v h\|_{L_x^2 H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2})}^2 + \eta^{-1} \|\mu h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2.$$

We now consider the inhomogeneous operator $\bar{L} := L - v \cdot \nabla_x$, we denote $\Pi_{\bar{L}}$ the projection onto $\ker(\bar{L})$ in $L_{x,v}^2$ and we consider a solution h to the evolution equation $\partial_t h = \bar{L}h$ with initial datum $h(0) = h_0 \in \ker(\bar{L})^\perp$. Thanks to (i) and the fact that ∇_x commutes with \bar{L} , we immediately have

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\|h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 \right) \leq -\lambda \|h - \Pi_L h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1)}^2 - \lambda \|\nabla_x h - \Pi_L(\nabla_x h)\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1)}^2.$$

We next look to the v -derivative.

We first compute

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} \nabla_v h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 &= \langle \langle v \rangle^{2(\gamma+2)} \nabla_v(Kh), \nabla_v h \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2} + \langle \langle v \rangle^{2(\gamma+2)} \nabla_v(Ah), \nabla_v h \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2} \\ &\quad - \langle \langle v \rangle^{2(\gamma+2)} v \cdot \nabla_x(\nabla_v h), \nabla_v h \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2} - \langle \langle v \rangle^{2(\gamma+2)} \nabla_x h, \nabla_v h \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2} \\ &=: T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4. \end{aligned}$$

Terms T_1 and T_2 satisfy estimates of point (iii) above, moreover, we easily observe that $T_3 = 0$ and we also get

$$T_4 \lesssim \eta \|\nabla_v h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3\gamma/2+3})}^2 + \eta^{-1} \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2+1})}^2.$$

We know observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mu h\|_{L_{x,v}^2} &\lesssim \|h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3\gamma/2+3})}, \quad \|\nabla_v h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3\gamma/2+3})} \lesssim \|\nabla_v h\|_{L_x^2 H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2})}, \\ \|h\|_{L_x^2 H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2})} &\lesssim \|h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3\gamma/2+3})} + \|\nabla_v h\|_{L_x^2 H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2})}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, putting together previous estimates and taking $\eta > 0$ small enough, we already obtain, for (other) constants $\lambda, C > 0$,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} \nabla_v h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 \leq -\lambda \|\nabla_v h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2}))}^2 + \eta^{-1} C \|h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3\gamma/2+3})}^2 + \eta^{-1} C \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2+1})}^2.$$

We also compute the evolution of the mixed term

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \langle \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} \nabla_x h, \nabla_v h \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2} &= -\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+2}{2}} \nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + 2\langle \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} \nabla_x Lh, \nabla_v h \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2} \\ &\quad + \langle (\nabla_v \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2}) \nabla_x Lh, h \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2}, \end{aligned}$$

Thanks to (i) and $\nabla_x Lh = L(\nabla_x h - \Pi_L(\nabla_x h))$, for any $\eta > 0$, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} \nabla_x Lh, \nabla_v h \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2} + \langle (\nabla_v \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2}) \nabla_x Lh, h \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2} \\ &\lesssim \eta^{-1} \|\nabla_x h - \Pi_L(\nabla_x h)\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 \\ &\quad + \eta \|\nabla_v h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 + \eta \|h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 \end{aligned}$$

We finally introduce the norm

$$\|h\|^2 := \|h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \alpha_1 \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \alpha_2 \|\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} \nabla_v h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \alpha_3 \|\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} \nabla_x h, \nabla_v h\|_{L_{x,v}^2},$$

for positive constants α_i with $\alpha_3 < 2\sqrt{\alpha_1\alpha_2}$, so that $\|h\|^2$ is equivalent to

$$\|h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \|\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2} \nabla_v h\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2.$$

Observe that $\Pi_L h$ has zero mean on the torus \mathbb{T}^3 hence Poincaré's inequality implies

$$\|\Pi_L h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\omega)}^2 + \|\Pi_L h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\omega))}^2 \lesssim \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\omega)}^2,$$

and splitting $h = (h - \Pi_L h) + \Pi_L h$ we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3\gamma/2+3})}^2 &\lesssim \|h - \Pi_L h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3\gamma/2+3})}^2 + \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3\gamma/2+3})}^2 \\ \|h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 &\lesssim \|h - \Pi_L h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 + \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3\gamma/2+3})}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, gathering previous estimates we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \|h\|^2 &\leq -\lambda \|h - \Pi_L h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1)}^2 - \alpha_1 \lambda \|\nabla_x h - \Pi_L(\nabla_x h)\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1)}^2 \\ &\quad - \alpha_2 \lambda \|\nabla_v h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2}))}^2 - \alpha_3 \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 \\ &\quad + \alpha_2 \eta^{-1} C \|h - \Pi_L h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3\gamma/2+3})}^2 + \alpha_2 \eta^{-1} C \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3\gamma/2+3})}^2 \\ &\quad + \alpha_2 \eta^{-1} C \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 + \alpha_3 \eta C \|h - \Pi_L h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2}))}^2 + \alpha_3 \eta C \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 \\ &\quad + \alpha_3 \eta C \|\nabla_v h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2}))}^2 + \alpha_3 \eta^{-1} C \|\nabla_x h - \Pi_L(\nabla_x h)\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2}))}^2. \end{aligned}$$

We choose the constants $\alpha_i, \eta > 0$ small enough, and we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \|h\|^2 &\lesssim -\|h - \Pi_L h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1)}^2 - \alpha_1 \|\nabla_x h - \Pi_L(\nabla_x h)\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1)}^2 \\ &\quad - \alpha_3 \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 - \alpha_2 \|\nabla_v h\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,**}^1(\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+2}))}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Because $\Pi_{\bar{L}} h = 0$, the function $\Pi_L h$ has zero mean on the torus \mathbb{T}_x^3 and Poincaré's inequality implies

$$\|h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 \lesssim \|h - \Pi_L h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 + \frac{\alpha_3}{2} \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2.$$

We put together the two last estimates and we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \|h\|^2 &\lesssim -\|h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 - \|\nabla_x h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 - \|\nabla_v h\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\langle v \rangle^{3(\gamma+2)/2})}^2 \\ &\lesssim -\|\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2} h\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Coming back to the function $f = \mu^{1/2} h$ and defining

$$\|f\|_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(\mu^{-1/2})} := \|\mu^{-1/2} f\|,$$

we have $\partial_t f = \bar{\mathcal{L}} f$ and

$$\langle \bar{\mathcal{L}} f, f \rangle_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(\mu^{-1/2})} = \frac{d}{dt} \|f\|_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(\mu^{-1/2})}^2 \lesssim -\|f\|_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+2)/2} \mu^{-1/2})}^2,$$

from which (6.7) immediately follows. \square

6.4. Weak dissipativity properties on $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$. We prove in this section weak dissipativity properties of $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ using the analogous results already proven in Lemmas 2.3 and 2.4 for the homogeneous operator \mathcal{B} .

Lemma 6.2. *Let m be an admissible weight function such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$. There exist $M, R > 0$ large enough such that $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ is weakly dissipative in $H_x^n L_v^2(m)$ in the following sense:*

- If $m \prec \mu^{-1/2}$, there holds

$$(6.8) \quad \langle \bar{\mathcal{B}}f, f \rangle_{H_x^n L_v^2(m)} \lesssim -\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v f\|_{H_x^n L_v^2(m)}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v(mf)\|_{H_x^n L_v^2(m)}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} f\|_{H_x^n L_v^2(m)}^2.$$

- If $\mu^{-1/2} \preceq m \prec \mu^{-1}$, there holds

$$(6.9) \quad \langle \bar{\mathcal{B}}f, f \rangle_{H_x^n L_v^2(m)} \lesssim -\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v(mf)\|_{H_x^n L_v^2(m)}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} f\|_{H_x^n L_v^2(m)}^2.$$

Proof. Since the operator $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ commutes with ∇_x we only need to treat the case $n = 0$. The proof follows the same argument as for the homogeneous case in Lemma 2.3 thanks to the divergence structure of the transport operator. \square

We define the operator

$$(6.10) \quad \bar{\mathcal{B}}_m g = m \bar{\mathcal{B}}(m^{-1}g) = \mathcal{B}_m g - v \cdot \nabla_x g,$$

where we recall that \mathcal{B}_m is defined in (2.17), as well as its formal adjoint operator $\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m^*$ that verifies

$$(6.11) \quad \bar{\mathcal{B}}_m^* \phi = \mathcal{B}_m^* \phi + v \cdot \nabla_x \phi,$$

with \mathcal{B}_m^* defined in (2.18). Observe that if f satisfies $\partial_t f = \bar{\mathcal{B}}f$, then $g = mf$ satisfies $\partial_t g = \bar{\mathcal{B}}_m g$ and $\langle \bar{\mathcal{B}}f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m)} = \langle \bar{\mathcal{B}}_m g, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m)}$. Moreover, we have by duality

$$\forall t \geq 0, \quad \langle S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m}(t)g, \phi \rangle_{H_x^n L_v^2} = \langle g, S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m^*}(t)\phi \rangle_{H_x^n L_v^2}.$$

Lemma 6.3. *Let m, ω be admissible polynomial weight functions such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2}$, $1 \leq \omega \prec m \langle v \rangle^{-(\gamma+3)/2}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$. We can choose M, R large enough such that $\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m^*$ is weakly dissipative in $H_x^n L_v^2(\omega)$ in the sense*

$$\langle \bar{\mathcal{B}}_m^* \phi, \phi \rangle_{H_x^n L_v^2(\omega)} \lesssim -\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v \phi\|_{H_x^n L_v^2(\omega)}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} \phi\|_{H_x^n L_v^2(\omega)}^2.$$

Proof. The proof follows the same arguments as in the proof of Lemma 2.4, thanks to the divergence structure of the transport operator and since ∇_x commutes with $\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m^*$. \square

We turn now to weakly dissipative properties of $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ in the spaces $\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m)$ defined in (6.3).

Lemma 6.4. *Let m be an admissible weight function such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2}$. For any $\eta > 0$, we define the norm*

$$\|f\|_{\bar{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(m)}^2 := \|mf\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \|\nabla_x(mf)\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \eta \|\langle v \rangle^\alpha \nabla_v(mf)\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2,$$

and its associated scalar product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\bar{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(m)}$, which is equivalent to the standard $\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m)$ -norm defined in (6.3). There exist $M, R, \eta > 0$ such that $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ is weakly dissipative in $\bar{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(m)$ in the sense

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \bar{\mathcal{B}}f, f \rangle_{\bar{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(m)} &\lesssim -\|f\|_{\bar{\mathcal{H}}_{x,v}^1(m \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+\sigma)/2})}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v(mf)\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 \\ &\quad - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v(\nabla_x(mf))\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 - \eta \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}+\alpha} \tilde{\nabla}_v(\nabla_v(mf))\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We remark that we have introduced the spaces (6.3), in which the term $\nabla_v(mf)$ has a weight $\langle v \rangle^\alpha$ with $\alpha < 0$, in order to treat the terms coming from the derivative in the v -variable of the transport operator. In what follows we shall denote $\lambda, C > 0$ positive constants that can change from line to line.

For the sake of simplicity, we shall equivalently prove that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left(\|g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m}\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 + \|\nabla_x g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m}\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 + \eta \|\langle v \rangle^\alpha \nabla_v g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m}\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 \right) \\ & \lesssim - \left(\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m}\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 + \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} \nabla_x g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m}\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 + \eta \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}+\alpha} \nabla_v g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m}\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 \right) \\ & \quad - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m}\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_x g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m})\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 - \eta \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}+\alpha} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_v g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m})\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2, \end{aligned}$$

for any solution $g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m}$ to the equation $\partial_t g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m} = \bar{\mathcal{B}}_m g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m}$, so that, with $g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m} = m f_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}$, $f_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}$ is a solution to $\partial_t f_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}} = \bar{\mathcal{B}} f_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}$. We now use the shorthand $g = g_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m}$ and split the proof into three steps.

Step 1. We first obtain from Lemma 6.2 (for $M, R > 0$ large enough)

$$(6.12) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \|g\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 \lesssim -\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v g\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} g\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2$$

and

$$(6.13) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \|\nabla_x g\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 \lesssim -\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_x g)\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 - \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} \nabla_x g\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2.$$

Step 2. We write

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\langle v \rangle^\alpha \nabla_v g\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 = \int_{x,v} \nabla_v (\mathcal{B}_m g) \cdot \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} - \int_{x,v} \nabla_x g \cdot \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha}.$$

where we have

$$\nabla_v (\mathcal{B}_m g) = \mathcal{B}_m (\nabla_v g) + (\nabla_v \bar{a}_{ij}) \partial_{ij} g + (\nabla_v \beta_j) \partial_j g + (\nabla_v \delta - M \nabla_v \chi_R) g.$$

We first compute

$$\int_{x,v} \nabla_v (\mathcal{B}_m g) \cdot \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} =: T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &= \int (\mathcal{B}_m \nabla_v g) \cdot \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha}, & T_2 &= \int (\nabla_v \bar{a}_{ij}) \partial_{ij} g \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha}, \\ T_3 &= \int (\nabla_v \beta_j) \partial_j g \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha}, & T_4 &= \int (\nabla_v \delta - M \nabla_v \chi_R) g \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha}. \end{aligned}$$

From Lemma 6.2, we have

$$T_1 \leq -\lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}+\alpha} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_v g)\|_{L^2}^2 + \int \{\tilde{\zeta}_m - M \chi_R\} |\nabla_v g|^2 \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha}.$$

Terms T_3 and T_4 are easy to estimate. As in the proof of Lemma 2.2, we can compute explicitly $\beta_j(v)$ and $\delta(v)$, thus we easily deduce

$$|\nabla_v \beta_j(v)| + |\nabla_v \delta(v)| \lesssim \langle v \rangle^{\gamma+\sigma-1}.$$

Therefore

$$T_3 + T_4 \lesssim \int \{\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+\sigma-1} + \frac{M}{R} \mathbf{1}_{R \leq |v| \leq 2R}\} |\nabla_v g|^2 \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} + \int \{\langle v \rangle^{\gamma+\sigma-1} + \frac{M}{R} \mathbf{1}_{R \leq |v| \leq 2R}\} g^2 \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha}.$$

Thanks to Lemma 2.2, for $M, R > 0$ large enough, we have

$$T_1 + T_3 + T_4 \leq -\lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}+\alpha} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_v g)\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 - \lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}+\alpha} \nabla_v g\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 + C \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma-1}{2}+\alpha} g\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2.$$

Performing an integration by parts, we first obtain

$$\begin{aligned} T_2 &= - \int (\nabla_v \bar{b}_j) \partial_j g \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} - \int (\nabla_v \bar{a}_{ij}) \partial_j g \partial_i \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} - \int (\nabla_v \bar{a}_{ij}) \partial_j g \nabla_v g \partial_i \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} \\ &=: U + V + W. \end{aligned}$$

Thanks to Lemma 2.1, we easily have

$$U + W \lesssim \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2} + \alpha} \nabla_v g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2.$$

We make another integration by parts for V (now with respect to ∇_v), we get

$$V = \int (\Delta_v \bar{a}_{ij}) \partial_i g \partial_j g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} + \int (\nabla_v \bar{a}_{ij}) \partial_i g \partial_j \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} + \int (\nabla_v \bar{a}_{ij}) \partial_i g \partial_j g \nabla_v \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha},$$

and we recognize that the middle term is equal to $-V$, so that

$$V = \frac{1}{2} \int (\Delta_v \bar{a}_{ij}) \partial_i g \partial_j g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} + \frac{1}{2} \int (\nabla_v \bar{a}_{ij}) \partial_i g \partial_j g \nabla_v \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} \lesssim \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2} + \alpha} \nabla_v g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2.$$

We finally obtain (for $M, R > 0$ large enough)

$$(6.14) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_{x,v} \nabla_v (\mathcal{B}_m g) \cdot \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} &\leq -\lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2} + \alpha} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_v g)\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 - \lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2} + \alpha} \nabla_v g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 \\ &\quad + C \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma-1}{2} + \alpha} g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + C \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2} + \alpha} \tilde{\nabla}_v g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

By Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we also get

$$(6.15) \quad \int_{x,v} \nabla_x g \cdot \nabla_v g \langle v \rangle^{2\alpha} \leq C \eta^{-1/2} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} \nabla_x g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + C \eta^{1/2} \|\langle v \rangle^{2\alpha - \frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} \nabla_v g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2.$$

Remark that the first term in the right-hand side of (6.15) can be controlled by the second term in the right-hand side of (6.13), as well as

$$\begin{aligned} 2\alpha - \frac{\gamma + \sigma}{2} &= \frac{\gamma}{2} \quad \text{if } \frac{\gamma}{2} + \frac{\sigma}{4} \geq \gamma + \sigma, \\ 2\alpha - \frac{\gamma + \sigma}{2} &= \frac{\gamma + \sigma}{2} + \alpha = \frac{3}{2}(\gamma + \sigma) \quad \text{if } \frac{\gamma}{2} + \frac{\sigma}{4} < \gamma + \sigma. \end{aligned}$$

As a consequence, the last term in (6.15) can be controlled by the first term in the right-hand side of (6.12) or by the second term in the right-hand-side of (6.14).

Step 3. Putting together previous estimates, it follows that for any $\eta > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \|g\|_{\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1}^2 &\leq -\lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \eta C \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma-1}{2} + \alpha} g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 \\ &\quad - \lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \eta C \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2} + \alpha} \tilde{\nabla}_v g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 \\ &\quad - \lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} \nabla_x g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \eta^{1/2} C \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} \nabla_x g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 \\ &\quad - \lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 - \eta \lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2} + \alpha} \nabla_v g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \eta^{3/2} C \|\langle v \rangle^{2\alpha - \frac{\gamma+\sigma}{2}} \nabla_v g\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 \\ &\quad - \lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_x g)\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 - \eta \lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2} + \alpha} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_v g)\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2, \end{aligned}$$

and we conclude the proof by taking $\eta > 0$ small enough. \square

Corollary 6.5. *Let m_0, m_1 be admissible weight functions such that $m_1 \succ m_0 \succ \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2}$. There hold*

$$(6.16) \quad \|S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2(m_1) \rightarrow H_x^2 L_v^2(m_0)} \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t), \quad \forall t \geq 0,$$

$$(6.17) \quad \|S_{\mathcal{B}}(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m_1) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m_0)} \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t), \quad \forall t \geq 0,$$

Let m_0, m_1, m be admissible polynomial weight functions such that $m \succeq m_1 \succ m_0 \succ \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2}$. Then there holds

$$(6.18) \quad \|S_{\bar{B}_m^*}(t)\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2(\omega_1) \rightarrow H_x^2 L_v^2(\omega_0)} \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t), \quad \forall t \geq 0,$$

where $\omega_1 := m/m_0$ and $\omega_0 := m/m_1$.

Proof. The proof follows the same arguments of Lemma 3.1, using the weakly dissipative estimates of Lemmas 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4. \square

6.5. Regularisation properties of $S_{\bar{B}}$ and $(AS_{\bar{B}})^{(*n)}$. We start proving regularisation properties of the semigroup $S_{\bar{B}}$ in some large weighted Lebesgue and Sobolev spaces in the spirit of Hérau's quantitative version [22] of the Hörmander hypoellipticity property of the kinetic Fokker-Planck equation.

Lemma 6.6. *Let m, m_1 be admissible polynomial weight functions such that $\langle v \rangle^{3/2} \prec m_1 \prec m$ with $m_1 \prec \mu^{-1/2}$. Then the following regularity estimates hold:*

(i) *For any $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, there holds*

$$(6.19) \quad \forall t > 0, \quad \|S_{\bar{B}}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow H_{x,v}^n(m_1 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{m, m_1}(t)}{t^{3n/2} \wedge 1}.$$

(ii) *For any $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$, there holds*

$$(6.20) \quad \forall t > 0, \quad \|S_{\bar{B}}(t)\|_{H_x^\ell(H_{v,*}^{-1}(m)) \rightarrow H_x^\ell L_v^2(m_1 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{m, m_1}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1}.$$

Proof. We split the proof into two steps.

Step 1. Proof of (i). We only prove (6.19) in the case $n = 1$, the other cases can be obtained by iterating the case $n = 1$. In what follows we shall denote $\lambda, C > 0$ positive constants that can change from line to line.

Let us denote $m_0 := m_1 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2}$ and $f_t = S_{\bar{B}}(t)f$. Define $g_t^0 = m_0 f_t$ and $g_t^1 = m_1 f_t$, which verify $g_t^0 = S_{\bar{B}_{m_0}}(t)g^0$ and $g_t^1 = S_{\bar{B}_{m_1}}(t)g^1$. We define the functional

$$\mathcal{F}(t) := \|g_t^1\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \alpha_1 t \|\nabla_v g_t^0\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \alpha_2 t^2 \langle \nabla_x g_t^0, \nabla_v g_t^0 \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2} + \alpha_3 t^3 \|\nabla_x g_t^0\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2,$$

and choose $\alpha_i, i = 1, 2, 3$ such that $0 < \alpha_3 \leq \alpha_2 \leq \alpha_1 \leq 1$ and $\alpha_2^2 \leq \alpha_1 \alpha_3$. We already observe that we have the following lower bounds

$$(6.21) \quad \forall t \in [0, 1], \quad \mathcal{F}(t) \gtrsim \|g_t^1\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \alpha_3 t^3 \|\nabla_{x,v} g_t^0\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 \gtrsim \alpha_3 t^3 \|g_t^0\|_{H_{x,v}^1}^2,$$

and also

$$(6.22) \quad \forall t \in [0, 1], \quad \mathcal{F}(t) \gtrsim \|g_t^1\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \alpha_1 t \|\nabla_v g_t^0\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 \gtrsim \alpha_1 t \|g_t^0\|_{L_x^2(H_v^1)}^2 \gtrsim \alpha_1 t \|g_t^0\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,*}^1)}^2,$$

where we have used the embedding $L_x^2(H_v^1) \subset L_x^2(H_{v,*}^1)$ in the last inequality.

We derive the functional \mathcal{F} in time to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{F}(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} \|g_t^1\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \alpha_1 \|\nabla_v g_t^0\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \alpha_1 t \frac{d}{dt} \|\nabla_v g_t^0\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 \\ &\quad + 2\alpha_2 t \langle \nabla_x g_t^0, \nabla_v g_t^0 \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2} + \alpha_2 t^2 \frac{d}{dt} \langle \nabla_x g_t^0, \nabla_v g_t^0 \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2} \\ &\quad + 3\alpha_3 t^2 \|\nabla_x g_t^0\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2 + \alpha_3 t^3 \frac{d}{dt} \|\nabla_x g_t^0\|_{L_{x,v}^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that $\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m$ is defined in (6.10), so that we compute

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \langle \nabla_x g^0, \nabla_v g^0 \rangle_{L^2_{x,v}} &= \int \nabla_x (\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m g^0) \cdot \nabla_v g^0 + \nabla_v (\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m g^0) \cdot \nabla_x g^0 \\ &= \int \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_{ij} (\nabla_x g^0) \nabla_v g^0 + \beta_j \partial_j (\nabla_x g^0) \nabla_v g^0 + (\delta - M\chi_R) \nabla_x g^0 \nabla_v g^0 - v \cdot \nabla_x (\nabla_x g^0) \nabla_v g^0 \\ &\quad + \int \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_{ij} (\nabla_v g^0) \nabla_x g^0 + \beta_j \partial_j (\nabla_v g^0) \nabla_x g^0 + (\delta - M\chi_R) \nabla_v g^0 \nabla_x g^0 - v \cdot \nabla_x (\nabla_v g^0) \nabla_x g^0 \\ &\quad + \int (\nabla_v \bar{a}_{ij}) \partial_{ij} g^0 \nabla_x g^0 + (\nabla_v \beta_j) \partial_j g^0 \nabla_x g^0 + \nabla_v (\delta - M\chi_R) g^0 \nabla_x g^0 - |\nabla_x g^0|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Gathering terms and integrating by parts in last expression, we obtain (with the same type of arguments as in step 2 of Lemma 6.4)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \langle \nabla_x g^0, \nabla_v g^0 \rangle_{L^2_{x,v}} &= -2 \int \bar{a}_{ij} \partial_i (\nabla_x g^0) \partial_j (\nabla_v g^0) + \int \{-\partial_j \beta_j + \bar{c} + 2\delta - 2M\chi_R\} \nabla_x g^0 \nabla_v g^0 \\ &\quad + \int \nabla_v (\beta_j - \bar{b}_j) \partial_j g^0 \nabla_x g^0 - \|\nabla_x g^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2. \end{aligned}$$

From that equation, we deduce

$$(6.23) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \langle \nabla_x g_t^0, \nabla_v g_t^0 \rangle_{L^2_{x,v}} &\leq C \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_x g_t^0)\|_{L^2_{x,v}} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_v g_t^0)\|_{L^2_{x,v}} \\ &\quad + C \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \nabla_x g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}} \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \nabla_v g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}} - \|\nabla_x g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that from Lemma 6.2, we already have

$$(6.24) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \|g_t^1\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 \leq -\lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v g_t^1\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 - \lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} g_t^1\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2.$$

Moreover, thanks to the proof of Lemma 6.4, we get

$$(6.25) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \|\nabla_v g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 &\leq -\lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_v g_t^0)\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 - \lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \nabla_v g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 \\ &\quad + C \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma-1}{2}} g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 + C \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 \\ &\quad + C \|\nabla_x g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}} \|\nabla_v g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}. \end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 6.2 and the fact that ∇_x commutes with $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$, we also have

$$(6.26) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \|\nabla_x g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 \leq -\lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_x g_t^0)\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 - \lambda \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \nabla_x g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2.$$

Let us denote $D_1 := \lambda (\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v g_t^1\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 + \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} g_t^1\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2)$ the absolute value of the dissipative terms in (6.24), $D_2 := \lambda (\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_v g_t^0)\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 + \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \nabla_v g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2)$ the absolute value of the dissipative terms in (6.25), $D_3 := \|\nabla_x g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2$ the absolute value of the dissipative terms in (6.23), and finally $D_4 := \lambda (\|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v (\nabla_x g_t^0)\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 + \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \nabla_x g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2)$ the absolute value of the dissipative terms in (6.26). Observe that

$$\|\nabla_v g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 + \|\langle v \rangle^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \tilde{\nabla}_v g_t^0\|_{L^2_{x,v}}^2 \lesssim D_1.$$

Gathering estimates (6.23), (6.24), (6.25) and (6.26), we obtain, for any $t \in (0, 1]$,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}\mathcal{F}(t) &\leq (-1 + C\alpha_1 + C\alpha_1 t)D_1 + (C\alpha_1 t + C\alpha_2 t + C\alpha_2 t^2) D_1^{1/2} D_3^{1/2} \\ &\quad - \alpha_1 t D_2 - \alpha_2 t^2 D_3 + C\alpha_2 t^2 D_2^{1/2} D_4^{1/2} + C\alpha_3 t^2 D_3 - \alpha_3 t^3 D_4 \\ &\leq (-1 + C\alpha_1)D_1 + C\alpha_1 t D_1^{1/2} D_3^{1/2} \\ &\quad - \alpha_1 t D_2 + (-\alpha_2 + C\alpha_3)t^2 D_3 + C\alpha_2 t^2 D_2^{1/2} D_4^{1/2} - \alpha_3 t^3 D_4. \end{aligned}$$

Using Cauchy-Schwarz inequality we first get, for some $0 < \alpha_4 < \alpha_3$ to be chosen later,

$$\alpha_1 t D_1^{1/2} D_3^{1/2} \lesssim \frac{\alpha_1^2}{\alpha_3} D_1 + \alpha_3 t^2 D_3, \quad \alpha_2 t^2 D_2^{1/2} D_4^{1/2} \lesssim \frac{\alpha_2^2}{\alpha_4} t D_2 + \alpha_4 t^3 D_4,$$

from which it follows, for $t \in (0, 1]$,

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathcal{F}(t) \leq (-1 + C\alpha_1 + C\frac{\alpha_1^2}{\alpha_3})D_1 + t(-\alpha_1 + C\frac{\alpha_2^2}{\alpha_4})D_2 + t^2(-\alpha_2 + C\alpha_3)D_3 + t^3(-\alpha_3 + C\alpha_4)D_4.$$

Let $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$. We choose $\alpha_1 = \epsilon > \alpha_2 = \epsilon^{3/2} > \alpha_3 = \epsilon^{5/3} > \alpha_4 = \epsilon^{11/6}$ so that $\alpha_2^2 \leq \alpha_1 \alpha_3$. Taking $\epsilon > 0$ small enough, we easily conclude to

$$(6.27) \quad \forall t \in (0, 1], \quad \frac{d}{dt}\mathcal{F}(t) \leq 0.$$

This implies, coming back to the function $f_t = S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)f$ and using (6.21),

$$\forall t \in (0, 1], \quad t^3 \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)f\|_{H_{x,v}^1(m_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})}^2 \lesssim \|f\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m_1)}^2,$$

which already gives (6.19) for small times $t \in (0, 1]$. For large times $t > 1$ and $m \succ m_1$ (recall that $m_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2} \succ \langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2}$) we write, using first the last estimate and next (6.16),

$$\begin{aligned} \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)f\|_{H_{x,v}^1(m_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})} &= \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(1)(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t-1)f)\|_{H_{x,v}^1(m_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})} \\ &\lesssim \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t-1)f\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m_1)} \\ &\lesssim \Theta_{m,m_1}(t)\|f\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m)}, \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of (6.19). In a similar way, using (6.27) together with (6.22) (instead of (6.21)) and (6.16), we obtain

$$(6.28) \quad \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{L_x^2 L_v^2(m) \rightarrow L_x^2(H_{v,*}^1(m_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2}))} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{m_1,m_0}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1}, \quad \forall t > 0.$$

Step 2. Proof of (ii). We only need to prove (6.20) for $\ell = 0$, since the operators ∇_x and $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ commute.

Define $\omega_0 := 1$, $\omega_1 := \langle v \rangle^{|\gamma|/2}$ and $\omega := m/(m_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})$ so that $1 \prec \omega \prec m\langle v \rangle^{-(\gamma+3)/2}$. Let us denote $f_t = S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)f$ and $\phi_t = S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m^*} \phi$. Arguing as in Step 1, we define the functional

$$\mathcal{R}(t) := \|\phi_t\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\omega_1)}^2 + a_1 t \|\nabla_v \phi_t\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\omega_0)}^2 + a_2 t^2 \|\nabla_x \phi_t, \nabla_v \phi_t\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\omega_0)}^2 + a_3 t^3 \|\nabla_x \phi_t\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\omega_0)}^2,$$

and we can choose appropriate constants $a_1, a_2, a_3 > 0$ such that it follows

$$\|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}_m^*}(t)\|_{L_x^2 L_v^2(\omega) \rightarrow L_x^2(H_{v,*}^1(\omega_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2}))} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{m_1,m_0}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1}, \quad \forall t > 0,$$

Last estimate implies by duality

$$\|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{L_x^2(H_{v,*}^{-1}(m)) \rightarrow L_x^2 L_v^2(m_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{m_1,m_0}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1}, \quad \forall t > 0,$$

which completes the proof. \square

As a consequence of Lemma 2.5, we also obtain an analogous result for high-order Sobolev spaces.

Corollary 6.7. *For any $\theta \in (0, 1)$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, there hold $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{B}(H_x^n L_v^2, H_x^n L_v^2(\mu^{-\theta}))$ and $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{B}(H_{x,v}^n, H_{x,v}^n(\mu^{-\theta}))$.*

We finally obtain the following regularity properties, as a consequence of Corollary 6.5, Lemma 6.6 and Corollary 6.7.

Corollary 6.8. *Let m, ν be admissible weight functions such that $\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2} \prec m \prec \nu$ and $\mu^{-1/2} \prec \nu \prec \mu^{-1}$. There hold*

$$(6.29) \quad \forall t > 0, \quad \|(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*2)}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\nu) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\nu)} \lesssim \frac{e^{-\lambda t^2/|\gamma|}}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1},$$

and

$$(6.30) \quad \forall t > 0, \quad \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*4)}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow H_{x,v}^2(m)} \lesssim e^{-\lambda t^2/|\gamma|}.$$

Proof. We define $m_1 := m\langle v \rangle^{|\gamma|/2} \succ \langle v \rangle^{3/2}$ and observe that with the choice of the weight ν we have $\Theta_{\nu, m_1}(t) = e^{-\lambda t^2/|\gamma|}$.

Step 1. Thanks to Corollary 6.5 and Corollary 6.7, we already have,

$$\|\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\nu) \rightarrow L_{x,v}^2(\nu)} \lesssim \|\mathcal{A}\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow L_{x,v}^2(\nu)} \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\nu) \rightarrow L_{x,v}^2(m)} \lesssim \Theta_{\nu, m}(t)$$

and

$$\|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow L_{x,v}^2(m)} \lesssim \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\nu) \rightarrow L_{x,v}^2(m)} \|\mathcal{A}\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow L_{x,v}^2(\nu)} \lesssim \Theta_{\nu, m}(t)$$

so that, for any $j \in \mathbb{N}^*$,

$$\|(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*j)}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\nu) \rightarrow L_{x,v}^2(\nu)}, \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*j)}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow L_{x,v}^2(m)} \lesssim \Theta_{\nu, m}(t),$$

and similarly

$$\|(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*j)}(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\nu) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\nu)}, \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*j)}(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(m)} \lesssim \Theta_{\nu, m}(t).$$

Step 2. We prove (6.29). We first write

$$\begin{aligned} & \|(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*2)}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\nu) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\nu)} \\ & \lesssim \int_0^{t/2} \|\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t-s)\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(s)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\nu) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\nu)} ds \\ & \quad + \int_{t/2}^t \|\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t-s)\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(s)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\nu) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\nu)} ds =: I_1 + I_2. \end{aligned}$$

Using Corollary 6.5, (6.19) of Lemma 6.6, Corollary 6.7 and Step 1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 & \lesssim \int_0^{t/2} \|\mathcal{A}\|_{H_{x,v}^1(m_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2}) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\nu)} \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t-s)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\nu) \rightarrow H_{x,v}^1(m_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})} \|\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(s)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\nu) \rightarrow L_{x,v}^2(\nu)} ds \\ & \lesssim \int_0^{t/2} \frac{\Theta_{\nu, m_1}(t-s)}{(t-s)^{3/2} \wedge 1} \Theta_{\nu, m}(s) ds \lesssim \Theta_{\nu, m_1}(t/2) \int_0^{t/2} \frac{\Theta_{\nu, m}(s)}{(t-s)^{3/2} \wedge 1} ds \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{\nu, m_1}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1}. \end{aligned}$$

For the other term I_2 , we use again Corollary 6.5, (6.19) of Lemma 6.6, Corollary 6.7 and Step 1, but in a different order, to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 & \lesssim \int_{t/2}^t \|\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t-s)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\nu) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\nu)} \|\mathcal{A}\|_{H_{x,v}^1(m_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2}) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\nu)} \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(s)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(\nu) \rightarrow H_{x,v}^1(m_1\langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})} ds \\ & \lesssim \int_{t/2}^t \Theta_{\nu, m}(t-s) \frac{\Theta_{\nu, m_1}(s)}{s^{3/2} \wedge 1} ds \lesssim \Theta_{\nu, m_1}(t/2) \int_{t/2}^t \frac{\Theta_{\nu, m}(t-s)}{s^{3/2} \wedge 1} ds \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{\nu, m_1}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1}, \end{aligned}$$

and the proof of (6.29) is complete.

Step 3. We now turn to the proof of (6.30). We claim that, for any $j \in \mathbb{N}$, there holds

$$(6.31) \quad \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*(j+1)}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow H_{x,v}^n(m)} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{\nu,m_1}(t)}{t^{3n/2-j} \wedge 1},$$

so that we can conclude to (6.30) by choosing $j = 3$ when $n = 2$.

The case $j = 0$ follows directly from Lemma 6.6 and Corollary 6.7, and we prove the claim by induction. Suppose that (6.31) holds for some j then we compute, splitting again the integral into two parts,

$$\begin{aligned} \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*(j+2)}(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow H_{x,v}^n(m)} &\lesssim \int_0^{t/2} \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*(j+1)}(t-s)S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A}(s)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow H_{x,v}^n(m)} ds \\ &\quad + \int_{t/2}^t \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A}(t-s)(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*(j+1)}(s)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow H_{x,v}^n(m)} ds \\ &=: T_1 + T_2. \end{aligned}$$

In a similar way as in Step 2, using Corollary 6.5, (6.19) of Lemma 6.6, Corollary 6.7 and Step 1, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &\lesssim \int_0^{t/2} \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*(j+1)}(t-s)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow H_{x,v}^n(m)} \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A}(s)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow L_{x,v}^2(m)} ds \\ &\lesssim \int_0^{t/2} \frac{\Theta_{\nu,m_1}(t-s)}{(t-s)^{3n/2-j} \wedge 1} \Theta_{\nu,m}(s) ds \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{\nu,m_1}(t)}{t^{3n/2-(j+1)} \wedge 1}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} T_2 &\lesssim \int_{t/2}^t \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A}(t-s)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow L_{x,v}^2(m)} \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*(j+1)}(s)\|_{L_{x,v}^2(m) \rightarrow H_{x,v}^n(m)} ds \\ &\lesssim \int_{t/2}^t \Theta_{\nu,m}(t-s) \frac{\Theta_{\nu,m_1}(s)}{s^{3n/2-j} \wedge 1} ds \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{\nu,m_1}(t)}{t^{3n/2-(j+1)} \wedge 1}, \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof. \square

6.6. Decay of the semigroup $S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}$. With the results above we obtain the decay of the semigroup $S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}\bar{\Pi}$ in large spaces as considered in the statement of Theorem 1.1.

We first write a semigroup factorization. Recall that $\bar{\mathcal{L}} = \mathcal{A} + \bar{\mathcal{B}}$ and that $\bar{\Pi}$ commutes with $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$. For any $\ell, n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, we can write the iterated Duhamel formulas

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\Pi}S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}} &= \sum_{0 \leq j \leq \ell-1} \bar{\Pi}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}} * (\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{*(j)} + \bar{\Pi}S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}} * (\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{*(\ell)} \\ S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}\bar{\Pi} &= \sum_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} (S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*(i)} * S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\bar{\Pi} + (S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*(n)} * S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}\bar{\Pi}, \end{aligned}$$

and then deduce

$$(6.32) \quad \begin{aligned} S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}\bar{\Pi} &= \sum_{0 \leq j \leq \ell-1} \bar{\Pi}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}} * (\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{*(j)} + \sum_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} (S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*(i)} * S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\bar{\Pi} * (\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{*(\ell)} \\ &\quad + (S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*(n)} * S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}\bar{\Pi} * (\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{*(\ell)}. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 6.9. *Let m_0, m_1 be two admissible weight functions such that $\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2} \prec m_0 \prec m_1$ and $m_0 \preceq \mu^{-1/2}$. Then we have the uniform in time bound*

$$(6.33) \quad t \mapsto \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}(t)\bar{\Pi}\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2(m_0) \rightarrow H_x^2 L_v^2(m_0)} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+),$$

as well as the decay estimate

$$(6.34) \quad \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}(t)\bar{\Pi}\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2(m_1) \rightarrow H_x^2 L_v^2(m_0)} \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t) \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Let m_0, m_1 be admissible polynomial weight functions such that $\langle v \rangle^{3/2} \prec m_0 \prec m_1$. Then the following regularity estimate holds

$$(6.35) \quad \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}(t)\bar{\Pi}\|_{H_x^2(H_{v,*}^{-1}(m_1)) \rightarrow H_x^2 L_v^2(m_0 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1}, \quad \forall t > 0.$$

Proof. We fix an admissible weight function ν such that $\mu^{-1/2} \prec \nu \prec \mu^{-1}$ with $\nu \succ m_1$, and split the proof into five steps.

Step 1. Decay in the small function space. Let us denote $E_0 = \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\mu^{-1/2})$ and $E_1 = \mathcal{H}_{x,v}^1(\nu)$. Arguing exactly as in Proposition 3.3, using Lemma 6.1 and Lemma 6.4 we obtain

$$\forall t \geq 0, \quad \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}(t)\bar{\Pi}\|_{E_1 \rightarrow E_0} \lesssim e^{-\lambda t^{\frac{2}{17}}}.$$

Step 2. Factorization. We write the factorization identity thanks to (6.32)

$$(6.36) \quad \begin{aligned} S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}\bar{\Pi} &= \sum_{0 \leq j \leq 2} \bar{\Pi} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}} * (\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*j)} + \sum_{0 \leq i \leq 3} (S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*i)} * S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\bar{\Pi} * (\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*3)} \\ &+ (S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*4)} * S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}\bar{\Pi} * (\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*3)} \\ &=: \sum_{0 \leq j \leq 2} S_1^j + \sum_{0 \leq i \leq 3} S_2^i + S_3. \end{aligned}$$

Step 3. Proof of (6.33). Let us denote $X_0 = H_x^2 L_v^2(m_0)$ and $X_2 = H_x^2 L_v^2(\nu)$. Thanks to Corollary 6.8, we already have

$$t \mapsto \|(\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*2)}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow E_1} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+), \quad t \mapsto \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*4)}(t)\|_{E_0 \rightarrow X_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+).$$

From Corollary 6.5 and Corollary 6.7, it also holds, for any $i, j \geq 1$,

$$t \mapsto \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_0}, \quad t \mapsto \|(\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*j)}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_2}, \quad t \mapsto \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*i)}(t)\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+),$$

moreover

$$t \mapsto \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_0}, \quad t \mapsto \|\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_2} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+).$$

Gathering these previous estimates and using the factorization (6.36), we first get

$$\|S_1^0(t)\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_0} \in L_t^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+),$$

Moreover, for $1 \leq j \leq 2$ and $0 \leq i \leq 3$, we also have

$$\begin{aligned} \|S_1^j(t)\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_0} &\lesssim \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_0} * \|(\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{*(j-1)}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_2} * \|\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_2} \\ &\in L_t^1(\mathbb{R}_+) * L_t^1(\mathbb{R}_+) * L_t^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+) \subset L_t^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \|S_2^i(t)\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_0} &\lesssim \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*i)}(t)\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_0} * \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_0} * \|(\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*2)}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_2} * \|\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_2} \\ &\in L_t^1(\mathbb{R}_+) * L_t^1(\mathbb{R}_+) * L_t^1(\mathbb{R}_+) * L_t^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+) \subset L_t^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, using Step 1, it follows

$$\begin{aligned} \|S_3(t)\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_0} &\lesssim \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\mathcal{A})^{(*4)}\|_{E_0 \rightarrow X_0} * \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}(t)\bar{\Pi}\|_{E_1 \rightarrow E_0} * \|(\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*2)}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow E_1} * \|\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_2} \\ &\in L_t^1(\mathbb{R}_+) * L_t^1(\mathbb{R}_+) * L_t^1(\mathbb{R}_+) * L_t^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+) \subset L_t^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+), \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of (6.33).

Step 4. Proof of (6.34). Let us denote $X_0 = H_x^2 L_v^2(m_0)$, $X_1 = H_x^2 L_v^2(m_1)$ and $X_2 = H_x^2 L_v^2(\nu)$. From Corollary 6.8 it follows

$$t \mapsto \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|(\mathcal{A} S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*2)}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow E_1} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+), \quad t \mapsto \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*4)}(t)\|_{E_0 \rightarrow X_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+).$$

Thanks to Corollary 6.5 and Corollary 6.7, it also holds, for any $i, j \geq 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} t &\mapsto \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+), \\ t &\mapsto \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*j)}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_2} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+), \\ t &\mapsto \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*i)}(t)\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+), \end{aligned}$$

and also

$$t \mapsto \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{X_1 \rightarrow X_0}, \quad t \mapsto \Theta_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\|_{X_1 \rightarrow X_2} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+).$$

We deduce (6.34) by writing the factorization (6.36) and using the above estimates. Indeed, with $\Theta := \Theta_{m_1, m_0}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\Theta^{-1} \|S_{\mathcal{L}}\Pi\|_{X_1 \rightarrow X_0} \\ &\lesssim \Theta^{-1} \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\|_{X_1 \rightarrow X_0} \\ &\quad + \sum_{1 \leq j \leq 2} (\Theta^{-1} \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_0}) * (\Theta^{-1} \|(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{*(j-1)}\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_2}) * (\Theta^{-1} \|\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\|_{X_1 \rightarrow X_2}) \\ &\quad + \sum_{0 \leq i \leq 3} (\Theta^{-1} \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*i}\|_{X_0 \rightarrow X_0}) * (\Theta^{-1} \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_0}) * (\Theta^{-1} \|(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{*2}\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_2}) * (\Theta^{-1} \|\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\|_{X_1 \rightarrow X_2}) \\ &\quad + (\Theta^{-1} \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{*4}\|_{E_0 \rightarrow X_0}) * (\Theta^{-1} \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}\|_{E_1 \rightarrow E_0}) * (\Theta^{-1} \|(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{*2}\|_{X_2 \rightarrow E_1}) * (\Theta^{-1} \|\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\|_{X_1 \rightarrow X_2}). \end{aligned}$$

Step 5. Proof of (6.35). Let us denote $Z_1 = H_x^2(H_{v,*}^{-1}(m_1))$, $\tilde{X}_0 = H_x^2 L_v^2(m_0 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2})$, and also $\tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}(t) = \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t)/(t^{1/2} \wedge 1)$. From Corollary 6.8 it follows

$$t \mapsto \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*2)}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow E_1} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+), \quad t \mapsto \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*4)}(t)\|_{E_0 \rightarrow \tilde{X}_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+).$$

Thanks to Corollary 6.5 and Corollary 6.7, it also holds, for any $i, j \geq 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} t &\mapsto \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow \tilde{X}_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+), \\ t &\mapsto \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|(\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}})^{(*j)}(t)\|_{X_2 \rightarrow X_2} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+), \\ t &\mapsto \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|(S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}\mathcal{A})^{(*i)}(t)\|_{\tilde{X}_0 \rightarrow \tilde{X}_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+), \end{aligned}$$

and also, using Lemma 6.6-(ii),

$$t \mapsto \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)f\|_{Z_1 \rightarrow \tilde{X}_0} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+), \quad t \mapsto \tilde{\Theta}_{m_1, m_0}^{-1}(t) \|\mathcal{A}S_{\bar{\mathcal{B}}}(t)\|_{Z_1 \rightarrow X_2} \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+).$$

We deduce (6.35) by writing the factorization (6.36) and using the above estimates similarly as in Step 4. \square

6.7. Summary of the decay and dissipativity results for $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$. We introduce the appropriate functional spaces and we summarize the decay and dissipativity properties of the semigroup $S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}$ which will be useful in the next section.

From now on, for a given admissible weight function m such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{2+3/2}$, we define

$$(6.37) \quad \mathcal{X} := H_x^2 L_v^2(m), \quad \mathcal{Y} := H_x^2(H_{v,*}^1(m)), \quad \mathcal{Z} := H_x^2(H_{v,*}^{-1}(m)), \quad \mathcal{X}_0 := H_x^2 L_v^2.$$

We also define the norm $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{X}}$ on $\bar{\Pi}\mathcal{X}$, and its associated scalar product $\langle\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle\rangle_{\mathcal{X}}$, given by

$$(6.38) \quad \|g\|_{\mathcal{X}}^2 := \eta \|g\|_{\bar{\mathcal{X}}}^2 + \int_0^\infty \|S_{\mathcal{L}}(\tau)g\|_{\bar{\mathcal{X}}_0}^2 d\tau,$$

for $\eta > 0$ small enough.

Theorem 6.10. *Consider an admissible weight function m such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{2+3/2}$. With the above assumptions and notations, the norm $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{X}}$ is equivalent to the initial norm $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{X}}$ on $\bar{\Pi}\mathcal{X}$, and moreover, there exists $\eta > 0$ small enough such that*

$$(6.39) \quad \langle \bar{\mathcal{L}}\bar{\Pi}f, \bar{\Pi}f \rangle_{\mathcal{X}} \lesssim -\|\bar{\Pi}f\|_{\mathcal{Y}}^2, \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{X}_1^{\bar{\mathcal{L}}},$$

$$(6.40) \quad t \mapsto \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}(t)\bar{\Pi}\|_{\mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_0} \|S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}(t)\bar{\Pi}\|_{\mathcal{Z} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_0} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}_+),$$

where we recall that $\mathcal{X}_1^{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}$ is the domain of $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$ when acting on \mathcal{X} .

The same remark as for Corollary 3.7 also works here.

Proof. The proof follows exactly the same arguments as in Proposition 3.6 and Corollary 3.7. First of all, the equivalence of the norms follows as in Proposition 3.6 since $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{3/2}$.

Let us prove (6.40). We fix admissible polynomial weight functions m_0, m_1 such that $\langle v \rangle^{(\gamma+3)/2} \prec m_0 \prec m_1 \preceq \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2} m$. Thanks to estimate (6.34) in Theorem 6.9 together with the embeddings $H_x^2 L_v^2(m_0) \subset \mathcal{X}_0$ and $\mathcal{Y} \subset H_x^2 L_v^2(m_1)$ we first obtain

$$\|S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}(t)\bar{\Pi}\|_{\mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_0} \lesssim \Theta_{m_1, m_0}(t), \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

We now consider admissible polynomial weight functions m'_0, m'_1 so that $\langle v \rangle^{3/2} \prec m'_0 \prec m'_1 \preceq m$. Thanks to (6.35) in Theorem 6.9 and the embeddings $H_x^2 L_v^2(m'_0 \langle v \rangle^{\gamma/2}) \subset \mathcal{X}_0$ and $\mathcal{Z} \subset H_x^2(H_{v,*}^{-1}(m'_1))$, it follows

$$\|S_{\bar{\mathcal{L}}}(t)\bar{\Pi}\|_{\mathcal{Z} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_0} \lesssim \frac{\Theta_{m'_1, m'_0}(t)}{t^{1/2} \wedge 1}, \quad \forall t > 0.$$

We then deduce (6.40) by arguing similarly as in the proof of Corollary 3.7. \square

6.8. Nonlinear estimate. From the nonlinear estimate for the homogeneous case established in Lemma 4.3 and Corollary 4.4, we deduce the following estimate.

Lemma 6.11. *Let m be an admissible weight function such that $m \succ \langle v \rangle^{2+3/2}$. Then*

$$(6.41) \quad \langle Q(f, g), h \rangle_{\mathcal{X}} \lesssim \left(\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}} \|g\|_{\mathcal{Y}} + \|f\|_{\mathcal{Y}} \|g\|_{\mathcal{X}} \right) \|h\|_{\mathcal{Y}}.$$

As a consequence

$$(6.42) \quad \|Q(f, g)\|_{\mathcal{Z}} \lesssim \|f\|_{\mathcal{X}} \|g\|_{\mathcal{Y}} + \|f\|_{\mathcal{Y}} \|g\|_{\mathcal{X}}.$$

Proof. We proceed similarly as in [14, Lemma 3.5] and thus only sketch the proof. We remark however that the estimates here are somewhat simpler than in [14], where the authors considered different spaces (with 3 derivatives in x and different weight functions in the x -derivatives) because there the weight function coming from the gain term of the linearized operator was weaker than the weight function appearing here in the loss term coming from the nonlinear estimates. For the most difficult term, we have thanks to Lemma 4.3,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \nabla_x^2 Q(f, g), \nabla_x^2 h \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2(m)} &= \langle Q(\nabla_x^2 f, g) + 2Q(\nabla_x f, \nabla_x g) + Q(f, \nabla_x^2 g), \nabla_x^2 h \rangle_{L_{x,v}^2(m)} \\ &\lesssim \int_{\mathbb{T}^3} \left(\|\nabla_x^2 f\|_{L^2(m)} \|g\|_{H_x^1(m)} + \|\nabla_x^2 f\|_{H_x^1(m)} \|g\|_{L^2(m)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \|\nabla_x f\|_{L^2(m)} \|\nabla_x g\|_{H_x^1(m)} + \|\nabla_x f\|_{H_x^1(m)} \|\nabla_x g\|_{L^2(m)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \|f\|_{L^2(m)} \|\nabla_x^2 g\|_{H_x^1(m)} + \|f\|_{H_x^1(m)} \|\nabla_x^2 g\|_{L^2(m)} \right) \|\nabla_x^2 h\|_{H_x^1(m)} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Using first the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality in the x variable and next the two Sobolev embeddings $H_x^2 \subset L_x^\infty$ and $H_x^1 \subset L_x^4$, we straightforwardly obtain that the above RHS term is bounded by the RHS term in (6.41). The proof of (6.42) is then straightforward. \square

6.9. Proof of the main result. For a solution F to the inhomogeneous Landau equation (1.1), we consider the perturbation $f = F - \mu$ that verifies

$$(6.43) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t f = \bar{\mathcal{L}}f + Q(f, f) \\ f_0 = F_0 - \mu. \end{cases}$$

Observe that, thanks to the conservation laws, there holds $\bar{\Pi}_0 f(t) = \bar{\Pi}_0 f_0 = 0$ and also that $\bar{\Pi}_0 Q(f(t), f(t)) = 0$ for any $t \geq 0$.

Proof of Theorem 1.1. Consider the spaces and norms defined in (6.37) and (6.38). The proof then follows the same arguments as in the proof of the spatially homogeneous version of Theorem 1.1 presented in Section 5, by using the dissipative, decay and regularity estimates of Theorem 6.10 and the nonlinear estimates in Lemma 6.11.

For the sake of clarity we sketch the proof below.

Let f satisfy (6.43). Thanks to Theorem 6.10 and Lemma 6.11, arguing as in the proof of Proposition 5.1, we obtain the following uniform in time a priori estimate

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|f\|_{\mathcal{X}}^2 \leq (C\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}} - K)\|f\|_{\mathcal{Y}}^2,$$

for some constants $C, K > 0$. For $\varepsilon_0 > 0$ small enough, the existence and uniqueness of a solution f for equation (6.43) such that (1.12) holds are then a consequence of this last estimate together with standard arguments (as already presented in the proof of the spatially homogeneous version of Theorem 1.1 in Section 5). Moreover, using the above estimate for different weight functions $\langle v \rangle^{2+3/2} \prec \tilde{m} \prec m$, the proof of the decay result (1.13) follows exactly as in the spatially homogeneous version of Theorem 1.1. \square

We conclude the section by presenting a proof of our improvement of the speed of convergence to the equilibrium for solutions to the spatially inhomogeneous Landau equation in a non perturbative framework.

Proof of Corollary 1.4. Under the assumptions (1.15) and (1.16), [17, Theorem 2 & Section I.5] implies that

$$\|f(t)\|_{L_{x,v}^1} \lesssim \langle t \rangle^{-\theta},$$

for some explicit constant $\theta > 0$. We then write the interpolation inequality

$$\|f\|_{H_{x,v}^2(m^\alpha)} \lesssim \|f\|_{H_{x,v}^3}^{\beta_1} \|f\|_{L_{x,v}^1}^{\beta_2} \|f\|_{L_{x,v}^1(m)}^{1-\beta_1-\beta_2},$$

where $\alpha, \beta_1, \beta_2 \in (0, 1)$ are explicit constants. We conclude taking $t_0 > 0$ large enough so that $\|f(t_0)\|_{H_x^2 L_v^2(m^\alpha)} \leq \varepsilon_0$, applying Theorem 1.1 and observing that $\Theta_{m^\alpha}(t) \simeq \Theta_m(t)$ (up to changing the constants in (1.9)). \square

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