

# Diffusion in Systems with Integral Invariants on the Torus

Academician V. V. Kozlov

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1. It is well known that differential equations on the two-dimensional torus with an integral invariant and without equilibrium positions reduce to the form

$$\dot{x}_1 = \frac{\omega_1}{f}, \quad \dot{x}_2 = \frac{\omega_2}{f}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\omega_1, \omega_2 = \text{const}$  ( $\omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2 \neq 0$ ) and  $f$  is a smooth positive function on  $\mathbb{T}^2 = \{x_1, x_2 \bmod 2\pi\}$  (the density of the integral invariant [1]). Equations (1) on  $\mathbb{T}^2$  were considered as early as almost a century ago by Poincaré [2].

Kolmogorov proved [1] that, for almost all rotation numbers  $\gamma = \frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2}$  (“poorly” approximated by rationals), there exists an invertible change of variables reducing Eqs. (1) to the conditionally periodic form

$$\dot{x}_1 = \frac{\omega_1}{\Lambda}, \quad \dot{x}_2 = \frac{\omega_2}{\Lambda}, \quad (2)$$

where

$$\Lambda = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2.$$

This statement of Kolmogorov’s result is given in [3].

On the contrary, if an irrational  $\gamma$  is approximated by rationals anomalously fast, then such a reduction is impossible [1] (see also [4, 5]). A sufficient irreducibility condition is that the integral

$$\int_0^t [f(\gamma s, s) - \Lambda] ds \quad (3)$$

of a conditionally periodic function is unbounded.

Suppose that  $\gamma$  is rational. Then the torus  $\mathbb{T}^2$  is fibered into a family of closed trajectories  $\Gamma$ . If they have different periods, then the reduction of Eqs. (1) to (2) is also impossible. This is equivalent to the condition that the mean value of the density  $f$  over the trajectories  $\Gamma$  is nonconstant.

2. Suppose that  $g^t$  is the phase flow of system (1) and  $F, G$  are two square-summable functions on  $\mathbb{T}^2$ . Let us introduce the function of time

$$K(t) = \int_{\mathbb{T}^2} F(g^{-t}(x))G(x)f(x)dx_1 dx_2. \quad (4)$$

For brevity, we put

$$\langle H \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{T}^2} H(x)f(x)dx_1 dx_2.$$

If, as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , the function  $K(t)$  tends to

$$\frac{\langle F \rangle \langle G \rangle}{\Lambda}, \quad (5)$$

then (1) is a mixing system. In [1], the problem on the possibility of mixing in the case where (1) does not reduce to (2) is stated. Actually, this problem was considered by Poincaré [2], who conjectures that mixing occurs if integral (3) is unbounded.

A negative answer to the question about mixing is given in [6, 7]. In [3], the following stronger assertion about uniform returning is obtained: there exists an unbounded sequence of moments of time  $t_n$  such that

$$\|g^{t_n}(x) - x\| \rightarrow 0$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  uniformly with respect to  $x$ . This, certainly, immediately implies the absence of not only mixing but also diffusion.

**Definition.** System (1) is called a diffusion system if function (4) has a limit as  $t \rightarrow \pm\infty$ .

To better understand the sense of this definition, consider the case where  $F$  is the density of the probability measure on  $\mathbb{T}^2$  (in the sense of Gibbs), in particular,  $\langle F \rangle = 1$ . Let  $G$  be the characteristic function of a measurable domain  $D$ . Then  $K(t)$  has the meaning of the probability that the system is in the domain  $D$  at time  $t$ . For mixing systems, this probability tends toward the share

$\frac{\text{mes} D}{\text{mes} \mathbb{T}^2}$  of the domain  $D$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . For diffusion systems, the probability tends to a certain limit. This limit may be zero for some domains. However, if  $D = \mathbb{T}^2$ , then  $K(t) \equiv 1$ . The presence of diffusion witnesses the

noninvertibility of the behavior of the dynamical system.

If  $\gamma$  is rational, then system (1) is nonergodic, and mixing is out of the question. However, since the periods of different trajectories do not generally coincide, neither is this system uniformly returning; therefore, diffusion may occur.

3. Thus, suppose that  $\gamma = \frac{p}{q}$ , where the integers  $p$  and  $q$  are coprime integers. There exist integers  $r$  and  $s$  such that  $ps - qr = 1$ . Consider the linear automorphism of the torus

$$z_1 = sx_1 + rx_2, \quad z_2 = -qx_1 + px_2.$$

In the new angular variables  $z_1, z_2 \pmod{2\pi}$ , differential equations (1) take the form

$$\dot{z}_1 = \frac{\Omega}{f}, \quad \dot{z}_2 = 0. \tag{6}$$

Here,  $\Omega = s\omega_1 - r\omega_2$ , and  $f$  is the density of the invariant measure written in the variables  $z_1, z_2$ .

Equations (6) can be further simplified by passing to the new angular coordinates

$$v_1 = \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_0^{z_1} f(s, z_2) ds, \quad v_2 = z_2, \tag{7}$$

where

$$\lambda(v_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(s, v_2) ds.$$

The Jacobian of this change of variables is

$$\frac{\partial(v_1, v_2)}{\partial(z_1, z_2)} = \frac{f}{\lambda}. \tag{8}$$

In the variables  $v_1, v_2$ , Eqs. (6) take the form

$$\dot{v}_1 = \frac{\Omega}{\lambda(v_2)}, \quad \dot{v}_2 = 0. \tag{9}$$

4. Let us examine these equations in more detail. First, we rewrite them in the general form

$$\dot{x}_1 = \omega(y), \quad \dot{y} = 0; \tag{10}$$

$x$  and  $y$  are the angular coordinates on the torus, and  $\omega$  is a nowhere vanishing smooth  $2\pi$ -periodic function. The general solution to (10) has the form

$$x = \omega(y)t + x_0, \quad y = y_0; \quad x_0, y_0 = \text{const.}$$

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be square-summable functions on  $\mathbb{T}^2 = \{x, y \pmod{2\pi}\}$ . Put

$$a(y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} A(x, y) dx, \quad b(y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} B(x, y) dx.$$

**Theorem 1** (on diffusion). *If all critical points of a function  $y \mapsto \omega(y)$  are nondegenerate, then*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathbb{T}^2} A(x - \omega(y)t, y) B(x, y) dx dy = \int_0^{2\pi} a b dy. \tag{11}$$

**Remark.** If the function  $\omega(\cdot)$  is of class  $C^\infty$ , then it suffices to require that its critical points be finite-to-one. This condition is obviously fulfilled if  $\omega(\cdot)$  is a nonconstant analytic function.

5. Let us apply Theorem 1 to Eqs. (9). In this case,  $\omega = \frac{\Omega}{\lambda(y)}$ . Therefore, the critical points (and their nondegeneracy properties) of the functions with respect to  $\omega$  and  $\lambda$  coincide.

Let us show that averaging with respect to the coordinate  $v_1$  is equivalent to averaging in initial system (1) with respect to time along periodic trajectories. Suppose that  $H(v_1, v_2)$  is a function on the torus and  $H'(z_1, z_2)$  is the same function represented in other variables. Using transition formulas (7), we can write the mean

$$h(v_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} H(v_1, v_2) dv_1$$

in the form

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} H'(z_1, z_2) \frac{f(z_1, z_2)}{\lambda(z_2)} dz_1.$$

According to (6), this equals

$$\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \mu dt.$$

Here,  $\mu$  is the function  $H$  with  $z$  replaced by solutions to (6), and  $T$  is the period of the closed trajectory (depending on  $z_2$ ).

**Theorem 2** (on complete diffusion). *Suppose that  $\gamma$  is rational and all critical points of the periodic function  $\lambda(\cdot)$  are nondegenerate. Suppose also that  $F$  and  $G$  are the characteristic functions of measurable domains  $X$  and  $Y$  of positive measure on the torus  $\mathbb{T}^2 = \{x_1, x_2 \pmod{2\pi}\}$ , and almost all trajectories of system (1) intersect  $X$ . Then*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} K(t) > 0.$$

6. Let us fix functions  $F$  and  $G$  from  $L_2$  and consider a sequence of rational rotation numbers  $\{\gamma_n\}_1^\infty$  tending toward an irrational limit  $\gamma$ . Then the function  $K(t)$  defined by (4) depends on  $n$ ; we denote it by  $K_n(t)$ . Each  $\gamma_n$  is assigned its own periodic function  $\lambda_n(\cdot)$  obtained by averaging the density of the invariant measure over the closed trajectories of the  $n$ th dynamical

system. If  $\lambda_n$  are Morse functions, then (by Theorem 1)  $K_n(t) \rightarrow \kappa_n$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Theorem 3** (on limit mixing). *If  $\lambda_n$  are Morse functions at all  $n$ , then*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \kappa_n = \frac{\langle F \rangle \langle G \rangle}{\Lambda}.$$

Compare this formula with (5). In computer modeling (when an irrational  $\gamma$  is replaced by an irreducible fraction  $\frac{p}{q}$  with large  $p$  and  $q$ ), system (1) is virtually indistinguishable from a mixing system.

Note that, for a typical density  $f$ , the means  $\lambda(\cdot)$  calculated for all rational  $\gamma$ 's are Morse functions.

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