

# McKean–Vlasov equations with irregular drift

Alexander Veretennikov  
University of Leeds & HSE & IITP Moscow

2019 Winter Colloquium of LSA NRU HSE, Dec 2-6, Snegiri,  
Moscow Region

This is a joint work with Yulia S. Mishura (Kyiv)

December 14, 2019

# Setting

We consider solutions of the (MV–SDE) equations in  $R^d$

$$dX_t = B[t, X_t, \mu_t]dt + \Sigma[t, X_t, \mu_t]dW_t, \quad X_0 = x. \quad (1)$$

In general we assume non-degeneracy of  $\Sigma\Sigma^*$  and  $\leq$ linear growth in  $x$  of both  $B, \Sigma$ . The *true* McKean–Vlasov's case is

$$B[t, x, \mu] = \int b(t, x, y)\mu(dy), \quad \Sigma[t, x, \mu] = \int \sigma(t, x, y)\mu(dy).$$

Here in the equation  $W$  is a standard  $d$ -dimensional Wiener process (or  $d_1 \geq d$ ),  $b$  and  $\sigma$  – vector and matrix Borel functions of corresponding dimensions  $d$  and  $d \times d$ ,  $\mu_t$  is the distribution of the process  $X$  at  $t$ . The initial data  $x$  may be random, but independent of  $W$ . A bit more general case is

$$B[.] = \psi(t, x, \int b(t, x, y)\mu(dy)), \quad \Sigma[.] = \phi(t, x, \int \sigma(t, x, y)\mu(dy)).$$

# Thanks & presentation and publication “history”

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

Sincere thanks to Denis Talay, Mireille Bossy, Sima Mehri for very valuable questions which helped correct quite a few gaps in the calculus.

We started working on the topic with Yulia Mishura nearly ten years ago and showed various preliminary versions of our results at several conferences; the first presentation was in September 2010 at the “Homage V.S. Koroliuk, I.N. Kovalenko and A.V Skorokhod” conference. Now we devote it to the memory of A.V. Skorokhod (1930 – 2011). In March 2016 we made our first preprint. Today you may find the sixth version of it at [[arxiv.org/abs/1603.02212](https://arxiv.org/abs/1603.02212)]. Our journal submission was once rejected, resubmitted, and recently declined without a notice. We are now finishing a preparation of a new submission to another journal.

# Setting

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

Reminder: we consider a MV–SDE

$$dX_t = B(t, X_t, \mu_t)dt + \Sigma(t, X_t, \mu_t)dW_t, \quad X_0 = x.$$

An equivalent formulation in terms of measures (densities):

$$\partial_t p(t, x, x') - L^*(t, x, \mu_t)p(t, x, x') = 0, \quad p(0, x, x') = \delta_{x-x'},$$

with  $\mu_t(A) = \int_A p(t, x, x') dx'$  and

$$L(t, x, \mu) = \frac{1}{2} (\Sigma \Sigma^*)(t, x, \mu) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial x} + B(t, x, \mu) \frac{\partial}{\partial x}.$$

Dobrushin's paper relates to the “non-random case”  $\Sigma \equiv 0$ .

# Some physical references




McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

-  A.A. Vlasov (1938), “On Vibration Properties of Electron Gas” (Russian). J. Exp. Theor. Phys. 8 (3): 291.  
<http://ufn.ru/ru/articles/1967/11/f/> (also reprinted in Sov. Phys. Usp. 10 721–733 (1968)).
-  A. A. Vlasov (1945). Theory of Vibrational Properties of an Electron Gas and Its Applications, Sci. Rep. Moscow State Univ., v.75, Physics, book 2, Pt.1, 196p. (Russian)
-  A. A. Vlasov, Many-Particle Theory and Its Application to Plasma, Gordon and Breach, 1961.

# Some mathematical references





McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

-  Dobrushin, R.L. *Vlasov equations*. *Funct. Anal. Appl.* **13**, 115–123 (1979).
-  Sznitman, A.-S. *Topics in propagation of chaos*, *Calcul des probabilités, Ec. d'été Saint-Flour/Fr. 1989*, *Lect. Notes Math.* **1464**, 165–251 (1991).
-  Funaki, T. *A certain class of diffusion processes associated with nonlinear parabolic equations*, *Z. Wahrscheinlichkeitstheorie verw. Gebiete* **67**, 331–348 (1984).
-  Veretennikov, A.Yu. *On ergodic measures for McKean-Vlasov stochastic equations*, *MCQMC Methods*, 2004, Berlin etc. Springer, 471–486 (2006).

# Mathematical refs, ctd, incomplete





McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

-  T. S. Chiang, McKean-Vlasov equations with discontinuous coefficients. *Soochow J. Math.*, 20(4):507–526, 1994.
-  M. Bossy, D. Talay, A stochastic particle method for the McKean-Vlasov and the Burgers equation. *Math. Comp.* 66: 157-192, 1997.
-  S. Benachour, B. Roynette, D. Talay, P. Vallois, Nonlinear self-stabilizing processes. I: Existence, invariant probability, propagation of chaos. *Stochastic Processes Appl.* 75(2): 173-201, 1998.
-  A. Ganz, Approximation of equilibrium distributions of some stochastic systems with McKean-Vlasov interactions, PhD Thesis, Sophia-Antipolis, 2008.

# Mathematical refs, ctd, still very incomplete

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution



S. Méléard



B. Jourdain



L. Szpruch, D. Siska, et al.



J.-F. Jabir



S. Menozzi, et al.



M. Röckner et al.



V. Kolokoltsov



R. Carmona and F. Delarue



S. Mehri and W. Stannat



# About Dobrushin's paper

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

Dobrushin treats, in particular, convergence as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  of the system

$$dX_t^i = A(X_t^i)dt + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N V(X_t^i - X_t^j), \quad X_0^i = x^i.$$

Assuming that “sample measures”  $\mu_t^N = N^{-1} \sum \delta(X_t^i)$  weakly converges,  $\mu_t^N \Longrightarrow \mu_t$  and denoting

$$B_\mu(x) = \int V(x - x')\mu(dx'),$$

it is shown that the limiting equation for  $X^i$  is

$$d\bar{X}_t = (A(\bar{X}_t) + B(\bar{X}_t))dt, \quad \bar{X}_0 = x^i.$$

So, it was suggested to add a Wiener process as a white noise,

$$dX_t = B(t, X_t, \mu_t)dt + dW_t, \quad X_0 = x.$$

A recommended review is [A.-S.Sznitman (1991)], where Dobrushin's results and technique were used rather extensively, in particular, Kantorovich–Rubinstein metrics (aka Vasserstein's metric <http://www.personal.psu.edu/lxv1/>). Drift  $b$  was Lipschitz in  $x$ , original McKean–Vlasov case. A version of the K-R 1-metric on  $[0, T]$  may be defined as

$$\rho(\mu, \nu) = \inf_{\pi: \pi_1 = \mu, \pi_2 = \nu} \int |x^1 - x^2| \wedge 1 \pi(dx^1, dx^2)$$

Convergence in this metric is equivalent to weak convergence.

# ∃! due to Dobrushin–Sznitman

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

Let  $\Phi : X \mapsto x + W + \int \cdot B(s, X_s, \mu_s) ds$ . Show contraction. Let  $(X^1, \mu^1)$  and  $(X^2, \mu^2)$  be two solutions of the equation with unit diffusion. For simplicity assume  $b$  bounded. We have,

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_t(\mu^1, \mu^2) &\leq \mathbb{E} \sup_{s \leq t} |X_s^1 - X_s^2| \\ &\leq \int_0^t ds \mathbb{E} \left| \int (b(s, X_s^1, y_s) \mu^1(dy_s) - b(s, X_s^2, y_s) \mu^2(dy_s)) \right| \\ &\leq C \int_0^t ds \inf_{\pi: \pi_1 = \mu_s^1, \pi_2 = \mu_s^2} \int |x^1 - x^2| \wedge 1 \pi(dx^1, dx^2) \\ &= C \int_0^t \rho_s(\mu_s^1, \mu_s^2) ds \quad (\text{and further apply Gronwall}). \end{aligned}$$

# Some motivation for further work

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

NO general enough solution, both strong and weak!

Weak solutions: Funaki (1984) established weak existence – analogous to Skorokhod’s weak existence in ordinary SDEs – yet, so far, there was no full analogue of Krylov’s weak existence, except for [V. 2006] with drift measurable in  $x$  with a special case of a constant non-degenerate diffusion matrix. We establish such analogue, see the Theorem 1 below. In the “true McKean–Vlasov case” no continuity with respect to either variable is required.

Strong solution existence (NOT equivalent to pathwise uniqueness (no full Yamada–Watanabe principle)! However, see




[T.Kurtz, The Yamada-Watanabe-Engelbert... EJP, 2007.](#)

Such existence was known only under Lipschitz conditions. We establish a new theorem of this type (Theorem 1 below).

Pathwise uniqueness: in a special case of diffusion that does not depend on  $y$  and is Lipschitz with respect to the variable  $x$  only, see the Theorem 3 below. See also a recent preprint [D. Lacker 2018, arxiv]<sup>1</sup>. Again note that no continuity with respect to  $y$  in the “true McKean–Vlasov” case is required. In the general case see [P.-E. Chaudru de Raynal 2016 arxiv] under a certain Hölder continuity.

For weak uniqueness see [T. Funaki 1986, et al.]; for *non-uniqueness* see (*Tugaut, Muzychka*) of stationary measures, the latter under assumptions which severely violate linear growth and global Lipschitz. We assume linear growth in  $x$  and some Lipschitz.

---

<sup>1</sup>Who also established multi-particle convergence. 

# Last fresh references

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution



Paul-Eric Chaudru de Raynal (LAMA), Strong well-posedness of McKean-Vlasov stochastic differential equation with Hölder drift,  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1512.08096>



Daniel Lacker, On a strong form of propagation of chaos for McKean-Vlasov equations, arXiv:1805.04476

$$dX_t = B(t, X_t, \mu_t)dt + \Sigma(t, X_t, \mu_t)dW_t, \quad X_0 = x$$

$$B(t, x, \mu) = \int b(t, x, y)\mu(dy), \quad \Sigma(t, x, \mu) = \int \sigma(t, x, y)\mu(dy);$$

## Theorem (1: weak existence)

1. Let the functions  $b$  and  $\sigma$  satisfy linear growth bound condition in  $x$ , i.e., there exist  $C > 0$  such that

$$|b(s, x, y)| + \|\sigma(s, x, y)\| \leq C(1 + |x|), \quad \forall s, x, y,$$

where  $|\cdot|$  stands for Euclidean norms in  $R^d$  for  $b$  and  $\sigma$ .

2. Diffusion matrix  $\sigma$  is uniformly nondegenerate in the following sense:

$$\inf_{s, x, \mu} \inf_{|\lambda|=1} \lambda^* \left( \int \sigma(s, x, y)\mu(dy) \right) \left( \int \sigma(s, x, y)\mu(dy) \right)^* \lambda > 0.$$

Then under  $\mathbb{E}|x_0|^4 < \infty$  (which could be, perhaps, possible to relax) the equation (1) has a weak solution.

Proof,  $dX_t = B(t, X_t, \mu_t)dt + \Sigma(t, X_t, \mu_t)dW_t$   
 $B(t, x, \mu) = \int b(t, x, y)\mu(dy)$ ,  $\Sigma(t, x, \mu) = \int \sigma(t, x, y)\mu(dy)$  (“true McK–V”)

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

The proof is based on the Skorokhod unique probability space convergence, representation

$B(s, x, \mu_t) = \hat{\mathbb{E}}b(s, x, \hat{X}_t)$ , and on Krylov’s estimates,

$$\mathbb{E} \int_0^T f(t, X_t) dt \leq N_{(d, T, \dots)} \|f\|_{L_{d+1}},$$

for any non-degenerate Ito process (not necessarily a solution of an SDE) (with bounded coefts, then localize).

This estimate is applied to a *couple* of processes,

$$\mathbb{E} \int_0^T f(t, X_t, \hat{X}_t) dt \leq N_{(2d, T, \dots)} \|f\|_{L_{2d+1}},$$

where  $\hat{X}_t$  is an independent copy of  $X_t$  and, hence, has the same distribution.



$$dX_t = B(t, X_t, \mu_t)dt + \Sigma(t, X_t, \mu_t)dW_t, \quad X_0 = x$$

$$B(t, x, \mu) = \psi(t, x, \int b(t, x, y)\mu(dy)), \quad \Sigma(t, x, \mu) = \phi(t, x, \int \sigma(t, x, y)\mu(dy));$$

## Lemma (1: weak existence, “case $\sigma$ symmetric, with $\phi$ & $\psi$ ”)

1. Let the functions  $b$  and  $\sigma$  be continuous in  $y$  and let there exist  $C > 0$  such that

$$|b(s, x, y)| + \|\sigma(s, x, y)\| \leq C(1 + |x|), \quad \forall s, x, y.$$

2. Diffusion matrix  $\sigma$  is symmetric, and  $\phi(\tilde{\sigma})$  is symmetric and uniformly nondegenerate for any symmetric and uniformly nondegenerate  $\tilde{\sigma}$  in the following strict sense:

$$\inf_{s, x, y} \inf_{|\lambda|=1} \lambda^* \phi(\tilde{\sigma}) \lambda > 0.$$

3.  $\|\phi(s, x, A) - \phi(s, x, A')\| + |\psi(s, x, B) - \psi(s, x, B')| \leq C(x)(\|A - A'\| + |B - B'|)$ ,  $C(x) = C(1 + |x|^2)$ . Then under  $\mathbb{E}|x_0|^4 < \infty$  the equation (1) has a weak solution.

# Step I, Idea of proof of the Lemma 1

$B$  and  $\Sigma$  bounded, Special case  $\phi(A) \equiv A$ ,  $\psi(b) \equiv b$

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

1. Establish a priori moment estimates. Smooth both coefficients. Use known results for smooth coefficients from [Funaki 86]. If time allows, show how to establish existence of (weak) solutions for smooth  $B, \Sigma$  “by hands” via successive approximations.

2. By Skorokhod’s Theorem “on single probability space and a.s. convergence”, we may assume that not only  $\mu^n \implies \mu$ , but also a.s. on some probability space,

$$(\tilde{X}^n, \tilde{W}^n) \rightarrow (\tilde{X}, \tilde{W}),$$

where  $(\tilde{X}^n, \tilde{W}^n) \sim (X^n, W^n)$  (standard).

3. Now the task is to pass to the limit in the integral equality,

$$X_t^n = x + \int_0^t B^n(s, X_s^n, \mu_s^n) ds + \int_0^t \Sigma^n(s, X_s^n, \mu_s^n) dW_s^n.$$

# Step I, Idea of proof of the Lemma 1 case “no $(\phi, \psi)$ ”

Rem:  $(B, \Sigma)^*(s, x, \mu) = \int (b, \sigma)^*(s, x, y)\mu(dy)$ , bounded, &  $\sigma$  “elliptic”

We have, with  $\hat{\mathbb{E}}$  standing for the expectation wrt  $\hat{X}^n$ ,

$$X_t^n = x + \int_0^t \hat{\mathbb{E}}b^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n)ds + \int_0^t \hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n)dW_s^n,$$

where  $(\hat{X}^n)$  is an independent copy of  $X^n$ . Hence, by Skorokhod’s method we may also assume that

$$(\hat{X}^n, \hat{W}^n) \rightarrow (\hat{X}, \hat{W}), \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Now, as an example, by Krylov’s inequalities, we establish

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \mathbb{E} \int_0^t \hat{\mathbb{E}}b^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n) - \hat{\mathbb{E}}b(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s) ds \right| \\ & \leq \mathbb{E} \int_0^t \hat{\mathbb{E}}|b^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n) - b(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s)| ds \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

# Step I, Idea of proof

How to use Krylov's inequalities

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

Indeed, let us find  $n_0$  (or, rather,  $b^{n_0}$ ) such that

$$\|b^{n_0}(\cdot) - b(\cdot)\|_{L_{2d+1}} < \varepsilon.$$

Then (the 3rd term is tackled via the 1st one),

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \hat{\mathbb{E}} \int_0^t |b^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n) - b(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s)| ds \\ & \leq \mathbb{E} \hat{\mathbb{E}} \int_0^t |b^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n) - b^{n_0}(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n)| ds \quad | \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Krylov} \\ < N\varepsilon \end{array} \\ & \quad + \mathbb{E} \hat{\mathbb{E}} \int_0^t |b^{n_0}(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n) - b^{n_0}(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s)| ds \quad | \quad \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow 0 \\ n \rightarrow \infty \end{array} \\ & \quad + \mathbb{E} \hat{\mathbb{E}} \int_0^t |b^{n_0}(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s) - b(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s)| ds. \quad | \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Krylov} \\ < N\varepsilon \end{array} \end{aligned}$$

The stochastic terms are tackled similarly.

## Step II, Idea of proof of the Lemma 1 case “with $\psi$ ”

$B(s, x, \mu) = \psi(\int b(s, x, y)\mu(dy)$ , bounded, &  $\sigma$  “elliptic”

For the “ $\psi$  case” we have,

$$X_t^n = x + \int_0^t \psi(s, X_s^n, \hat{\mathbb{E}}b^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n)) ds + \int_0^t \hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n) dW_s^n$$

where  $(\hat{X}^n)$  is an independent copy of  $X^n$ . Again, we may assume

$$(\hat{X}^n, \hat{W}^n) \rightarrow (\hat{X}, \hat{W}), \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Now, assuming for simplicity

$|\psi(s, x, b) - \psi(s, x, b')| \leq C|b - b'|$ , we establish

$$\begin{aligned} & |\mathbb{E} \int_0^t \psi(s, X_s^n, \hat{\mathbb{E}}b^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n)) - \psi(\hat{\mathbb{E}}b(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s)) ds| \\ & \leq C \mathbb{E} \int_0^t \hat{\mathbb{E}}|b^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n) - b(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s)| ds \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

via Krylov’s estimates similarly to the case “without  $\psi$ ”.

# Step II, Idea of proof of the Lemma 1 case “with $\phi$ ”

$\Sigma(s, x, \mu) = \phi(\int \sigma(s, x, y)\mu(dy)$ ), bounded, &  $\sigma$  and  $\phi(\sigma)$  “elliptic”

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

We have, with  $\hat{\mathbb{E}}$  standing for the expectation wrt  $\hat{X}^n$ ,

$$X_t^n = x + \int_0^t \phi(\hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n))dW_s + \int_0^t \hat{\mathbb{E}}b^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n)ds,$$

with  $(\hat{X}^n)$  an independent copy of  $X^n$ . We may assume

$$(\hat{X}^n, \hat{W}^n) \rightarrow (\hat{X}, \hat{W}), \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Now, assuming for simplicity

$\|\phi(s, x, A) - \phi(s, x, A')\| \leq C\|A - A'\|$ , we get

$$|\mathbb{E} \int_0^t \phi(\hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n))dW_s^n - \phi(\hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s))dW_s|^2 \rightarrow 0,$$

via Krylov’s estimates similarly to the above. Indeed (see the next page),

# Step II, Idea of proof of the Lemma 1

Using Krylov's inequalities

let us find  $n_0$  (or, rather,  $\sigma^{n_0}$ ) such that

$$\|\sigma^{n_0}(\cdot) - \sigma(\cdot)\|_{L_{2d+1}} < \varepsilon.$$

Then (the 3rd term is tackled via the 1st one),

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \mathbb{E} \int_0^t \phi(s, X_s^n, \hat{\mathbb{E}} \sigma^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n)) dW_s^n - \phi(s, X_s, \hat{\mathbb{E}} \sigma(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s)) dW_s \right|^2 \\ & \leq C^2 \mathbb{E} \hat{\mathbb{E}} \int_0^t |\sigma^n(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n) - \sigma^{n_0}(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n)|^2 ds \quad \Big| \begin{array}{l} \text{Krylov} \\ < N\varepsilon \end{array} \\ & + \left| \mathbb{E} \hat{\mathbb{E}} \left( \int_0^t \phi(s, X_s^n, \sigma^{n_0}(s, X_s^n, \hat{X}_s^n)) dW_s^n \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. - \int_0^t \phi(s, X_s, \sigma^{n_0}(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s)) dW_s \right) \right|^2 \quad \Big| \begin{array}{l} \text{Skorokhod} \\ \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0 \end{array} \\ & + C^2 \mathbb{E} \hat{\mathbb{E}} \int_0^t |\sigma^{n_0}(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s) - \sigma(s, X_s, \hat{X}_s)|^2 ds. \quad \Big| \begin{array}{l} \text{Krylov} \\ < N\varepsilon \end{array} \end{aligned}$$

# Proof of Theorem, Step 3: General bdd case

$\Sigma$  non-symmetric; Eqn (1):  $dX_t = B[t, X_t, \mu_t]dt + \Sigma[t, X_t, \mu_t]dW_t, X_0 = x.$

Non-symmetric diffusion matrix may be impossible to smooth without losing non-degeneracy: e.g., if  $d = 1$  and  $\sigma$  may change sign. Hence, there is a special trick to tackle this case (from [Krylov, Veretennikov (1976)], where it was proposed, of course, for the case of Ito equations without  $\mu$ ). Let

$$A[s, x, \mu] = \Sigma\Sigma^*[s, x, \mu], \quad \tilde{\Sigma}[s, x, \mu] = \sqrt{A[s, x, \mu]}$$

(a symmetric matrix square root), and assume there is a (weak or strong) solution of the SDE

$$d\tilde{X}_t = B[t, \tilde{X}_t, \mu_t]dt + \tilde{\Sigma}[t, \tilde{X}_t, \mu_t]d\tilde{W}_t, \quad \tilde{X}_0 = x, \quad (2)$$

with a  $d$ -dimensional WP  $\tilde{W}$ .



# Proof of Theorem, Step 3: General bdd case

$\Sigma$  non-symmetric; Eqn (1):  $dX_t = B[t, X_t, \mu_t]dt + \Sigma[t, X_t, \mu_t]dW_t, X_0 = x.$

WLOG we may and will assume that there exists another *independent*  $d_1$ -dimensional Wiener process  $(\bar{W}_t, t \geq 0)$ . Let  $I$  denote a  $d_1 \times d_1$ -dimensional unit matrix and let

$$\rho[s, x, \mu] := \tilde{\Sigma}[s, x, \mu]^{-1} \Sigma[s, x, \mu]. \quad (3)$$

The matrix  $\tilde{\Sigma}[s, x, \mu] = \sqrt{A[s, x, \mu]}$  is symmetric and

$$\rho^* \rho[s, x, \mu] = \Sigma^*[s, x, \mu] (A)^{-1} [s, x, \mu] \Sigma[s, x, \mu];$$

$$\rho^*[s, x, \mu] \rho[s, x, \mu] \rho^*[s, x, \mu] \rho[s, x, \mu]$$

$$= \Sigma^* (A)^{-1} (A) A^{-1} \Sigma[s, x, \mu] = \Sigma^* (A)^{-1} \Sigma[s, x, \mu].$$

# Proof of Theorem, Step 3: General bdd case

$\Sigma$  non-symmetric; Eqn (1):  $dX_t = B[t, X_t, \mu_t]dt + \Sigma[t, X_t, \mu_t]dW_t, X_0 = x.$

Let  $\bar{W}_t$  be a new WP of dimension  $d_1$ , and denote

$$W_t^0 := \int_0^t p^*[s, \tilde{X}_s, \mu_s] d\tilde{W}_s \\ + \int_0^t (I - p^*[s, \tilde{X}_s, \mu_s]p[s, \tilde{X}_s, \mu_s]) d\bar{W}_s,$$

which is again a WP (dim  $d_1$ ), and notice that

$$\Sigma[s, x, \mu]p^*[s, x, \mu] = A[s, x, \mu](A[s, x, \mu])^{-1/2} = (A[s, x, \mu])^{1/2},$$

$$\Sigma[s, x, \mu]p^*[s, x, \mu]p[s, x, \mu] = (a[s, x, \mu])^{1/2}p[s, x, \mu]$$

$$= (a[s, x, \mu])^{1/2}(A[s, x, \mu])^{-1/2}\Sigma[s, x, \mu] = \Sigma[s, x, \mu].$$

# Proof of Theorem, Step 3: General bdd case

$$\text{Eqn (1): } dX_t = B[t, X_t, \mu_t]dt + \Sigma[t, X_t, \mu_t]dW_t, \quad X_0 = x.$$

Now, due to the stochastic integration rules,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t \Sigma[s, \tilde{X}_s, \mu_s] dW_s^0 \\ &= \int \Sigma p^*[s, \tilde{X}_s, \mu_s] d\tilde{W} + \int \Sigma(I - p^*p)[s, \tilde{X}_s, \mu_s] d\bar{W}_s \\ &= \int (A)^{1/2}[s, \tilde{X}_s, \mu_s] d\tilde{W}_s = \int \tilde{\Sigma}[s, \tilde{X}_s, \mu_s] d\tilde{W}_s \\ &= \tilde{X}_t - x - \int_0^t B[s, \tilde{X}_s, \mu_s] ds. \end{aligned}$$

So,  $(\tilde{X}, W^0)$  is a (weak) solution of the equation (1), because, since we did not change measures,  $\mu_s$  is still the distribution of  $\tilde{X}_s$  by the assumption.

# Proof of Theorem, Step 4: General bdd case

$\Sigma$  may be non-symmetric

The last step: how to get a solution of the equation

$$d\tilde{X}_t = B[t, \tilde{X}_t, \mu_t]dt + \tilde{\Sigma}[t, \tilde{X}_t, \mu_t]d\tilde{W}_t, \quad \tilde{X}_0 = x,$$

with a  $d$ -dimensional WP  $\tilde{W}$  and with

$$A[s, x, \mu] = \Sigma\Sigma^*[s, x, \mu], \quad \tilde{\Sigma}[s, x, \mu] = \sqrt{A[s, x, \mu]}.$$

The answer is that we take a square root  $\tilde{\Sigma}[s, x, \mu]$  by the Cauchy formula

$$\sqrt{A[t, x, \mu]} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\Gamma} \lambda^{1/2} (\lambda - A[t, x, \mu])^{-1} d\lambda, \quad (4)$$

where  $\Gamma$  is a contour which internal domain includes all eigenvalues of the matrix  $A$  for each  $t, x, \mu$ . This is possible if  $A$  is bounded.

# Proof of Theorem, Step 4: General bdd case

$\Sigma$  may be non-symmetric

The mollifier for  $\sqrt{A[t, x, \mu]}$  can be constructed as follows:

$$A^n[t, x, \mu] := \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\Gamma} \lambda^{1/2} \left( \lambda - \left( \hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma(t, x, \xi^n) \right) \right) \\ \times \left( \hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma(t, x, \xi^n) \right)^* \right)^{-1} d\lambda,$$

where  $\xi$  is a r.v. with a distribution  $\mu$ , and  $\xi^n$  is a smoothed version of  $\xi$ , that is, a r.v. with the distribution. This smoothing is only wrt the last variable, which leaves the matrix uniformly nondegenerate. Thus, the function  $\phi$  in  $\phi(t, x, \Sigma[t, x, \mu]) = \phi(t, x, \hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma(t, x, \xi))$  here equals

$$\phi(t, x, \hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma(t, x, \xi)) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\Gamma} \lambda^{1/2} \left( \lambda - \left( \hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma(t, x, \xi) \right) \right) \\ \times \left( \hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma(t, x, \xi) \right)^* \right)^{-1} d\lambda.$$

# Proof of Theorem, Step 4: General bdd case

$\Sigma$  may be non-symmetric

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

Note that the function  $\phi(\cdot)$  given by

$$\phi(t, x, \hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma[t, x, \xi]) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\Gamma} \lambda^{1/2} \left( \lambda - \left( \hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma(t, x, \xi) \right) \right. \\ \left. \times \left( \hat{\mathbb{E}}\sigma(t, x, \xi) \right)^* \right)^{-1} d\lambda,$$

indeed, satisfies the required inequalities in the assumptions of the Lemma 1

$$\|\phi(t, x, A) - \phi(t, x, A')\| \leq C(x)\|A - A'\|,$$

due to choice of  $\Gamma$  and by the identity for the resolvent

$$(\lambda - A)^{-1} - (\lambda - A')^{-1} = (\lambda - A)^{-1}(A' - A)(\lambda - A')^{-1}.$$

# Proof of Theorem, Step 5: (The last note)

$\Sigma$  may be unbounded and non-symmetric

In the unbounded case for  $\sigma(\cdot)$  and  $b(\cdot)$  stopping times can be used(!), and the symmetric positive definite square root  $\sqrt{A[t, x, \mu]}$  can be represented by the sum

$$\sqrt{A[\dots]} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}(k-1 \leq |x| < k) \oint_{\Gamma_k} \lambda^{1/2} (\lambda - A[t, x, \mu])^{-1} d\lambda,$$

where  $\Gamma_k = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : |\lambda| = \sup_{t,x,\mu: |x| \leq k} \|A[t, x, \mu]\| + 1\}$ , where the contour  $\Gamma_k \subset \mathbb{C}$  in the complex plane is chosen in a way so that its interior contains all the eigenvalues of the (elliptic) matrix  $A[s, x, \cdot]$  for  $|x| \leq i$ , instead of a unique Cauchy (aka Riesz – Dunford) integral

$$\sqrt{A[t, x, \mu]} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\Gamma} \lambda^{1/2} (\lambda - A[t, x, \mu])^{-1} d\lambda.$$

# Thanks

McKean–  
Vlasov  
equations

A. Veretennikov

Setting

Motivation

Weak solution

Thanks!