

Gyrokinetic limit of the 2D Hartree equation in a large magnetic field

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Model

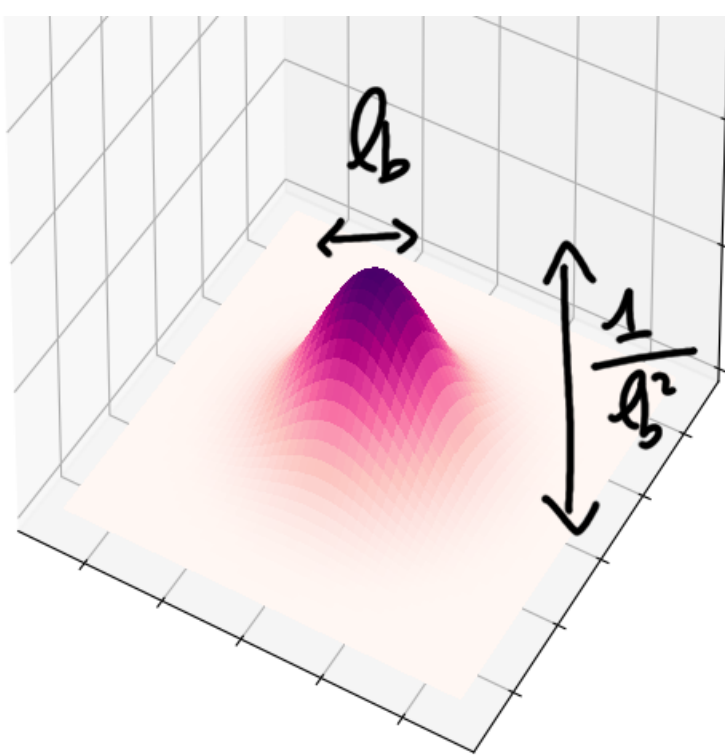
Motivated in particular by the physical context of the quantum Hall effect [5], we study a large system of spinless, non relativistic fermions in \mathbb{R}^2 subjected to a homogeneous transverse magnetic field of amplitude b .

The kinetic energy is given by the magnetic Laplacian in symmetric gauge:

$$\mathcal{L}_b := \left(i\hbar\nabla + \frac{b}{2}X^\perp \right)^2$$

where \hbar is our semi-classical parameter and $l_b := \hbar/b$ the magnetic length. We consider a large magnetic field/semi-classical limit

$$l_b \rightarrow 0, \quad \hbar b = \mathcal{O}(1). \quad (S)$$



Ground state density of \mathcal{L}_b .

Let V be the external potential and w the interaction potential, assumed to be radial. We study the solution $\gamma \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathcal{L}^1(L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)))$ to Hartree's equation:

$$i\hbar^2 \partial_t \gamma = [\mathcal{L}_b + V + w \star \rho_\gamma, \gamma], \quad (H)$$

where \mathcal{L}^1 is the trace class and $\rho_\gamma(t, x) := \gamma(t)(x, x)$ the density associated to γ that we identify with its integral kernel.

We impose that the initial data satisfies

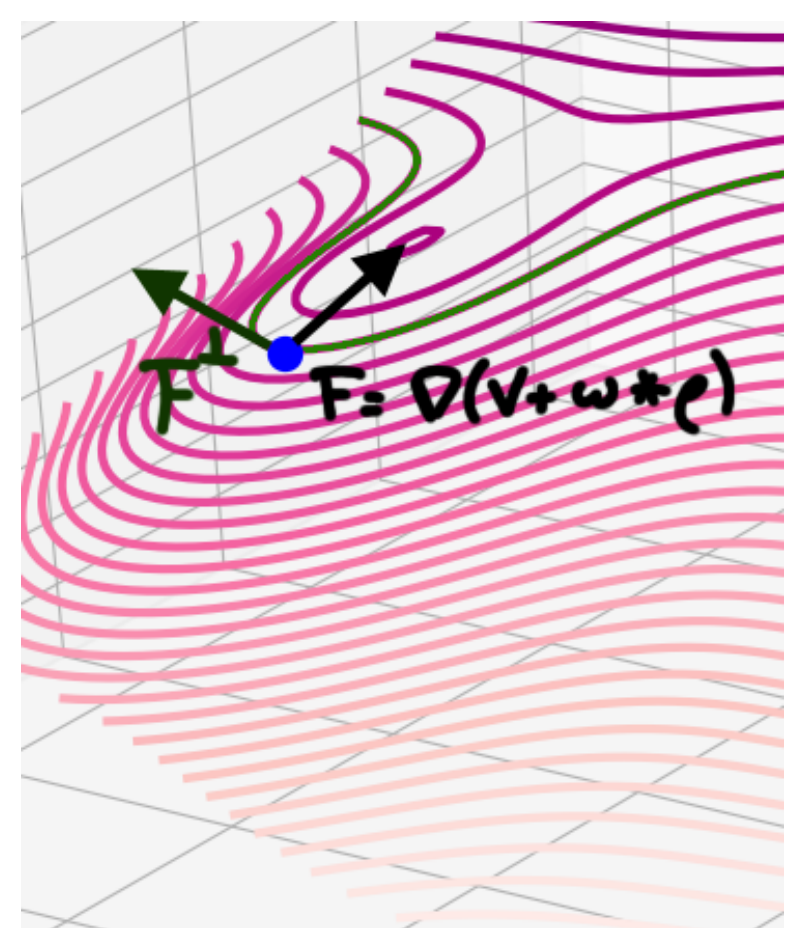
$$\text{Tr}(\gamma(0)) = 1, \quad 0 \leq \gamma(0) \leq 2\pi l_b^2. \quad (PP)$$

With the scaling (S) all the terms in the Hamiltonian $\mathcal{L}_b + V + w \star \rho_\gamma$ are $\mathcal{O}(1)$.

Our goal is to obtain from (H) the drift equation

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla^\perp(V + w \star \rho) \cdot \nabla \rho = 0 \quad (D)$$

for a density $\rho : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$.



Level sets of $V + w \star \rho$.

Remark: Pauli principle

(PP) guarantees that the system occupies an $\mathcal{O}(1)$ volume. It is known that the degeneracy per area inside a Landau level is of order l_b^{-2} [3]. A typical fermionic state satisfying (PP) is a projection onto a N -body Slater determinant of $N := \mathcal{O}(l_b^{-2})$ orthonormal one body wave-functions.

Theorem: Convergence of densities

Let γ be the solution of (H) with initial data satisfying (PP) and for some $p > 7$,

$$\text{Tr} \left(\gamma(0) \left(\mathcal{L}_b + V + \frac{1}{2}w \star \rho_\gamma \right) \right) \leq C, \quad \text{Tr}(\gamma(0) |X|^p) \leq C$$

Let ρ solve (D). Assume $V, w \in W^{4,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ and $\nabla w \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$, $w \in H^2(\mathbb{R}^2)$. Then $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}_+$, $\forall \varphi \in W^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^2) \cap H^2(\mathbb{R}^2)$,

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \varphi(\rho_\gamma(t) - \rho(t)) \right| \leq \tilde{C}(C, p, t, V, w) (\|\varphi\|_{W^{1,\infty}} + \|\nabla \varphi\|_{L^2}) \left(W_1(\rho_\gamma(0), \rho(0)) + l_b^{\min(2\frac{p-7}{4p-7}, 2)} \right)$$

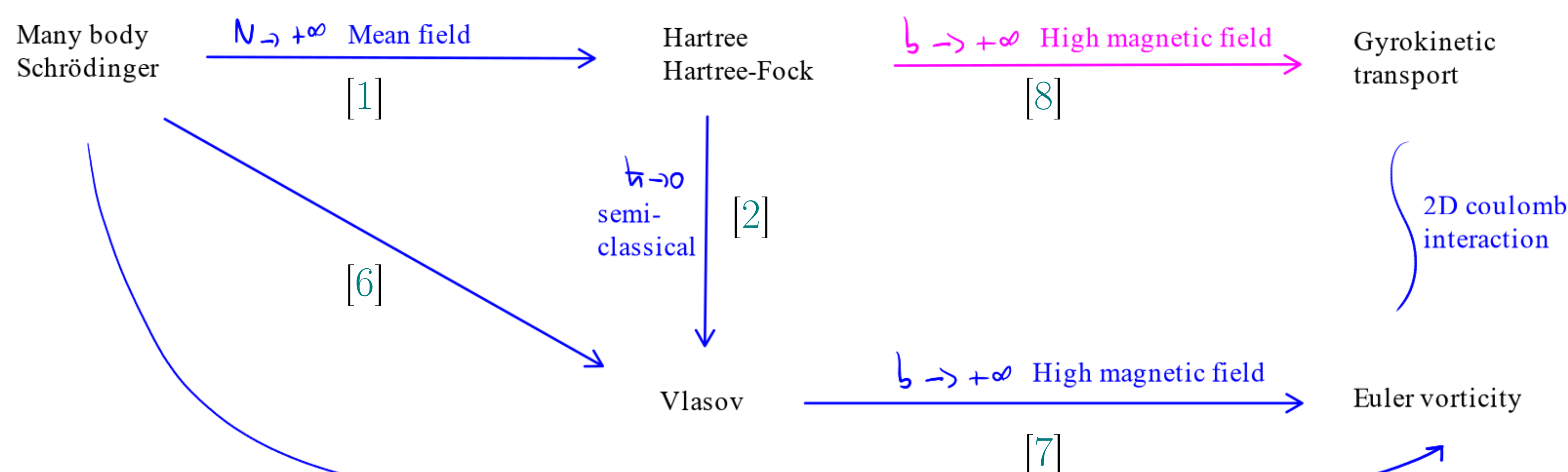
For the proof of this result, we use vortex coherent states and the associated Husimi function to define a semi-classical density almost satisfying the limiting equation. We then deduce convergence of the density of the Hartree solution by a Dobrushin-type stability estimate for the limiting equation.

Main difficulties arise from

- the Landau level quantization of the momentum in the semi-classical phase space $\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{N}$ due to the spectral gap $\hbar b = \mathcal{O}(1)$,

- the fast cyclotron motion creating oscillations that have to be smoothed out against regular test functions,
- the large magnetic time scale, making propagating a semi-classical structure challenging.

References



[4]: specific to Coulomb 2D, $\mathcal{O}(\text{Kinetic energy}) \ll \mathcal{O}(\text{interactions})$, phase space = $\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2$

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Classical trajectories

The limiting dynamics can be guessed by studying that of a classical particle of charge -1 submitted to a force field F . Newton's fundamental equation of dynamics gives

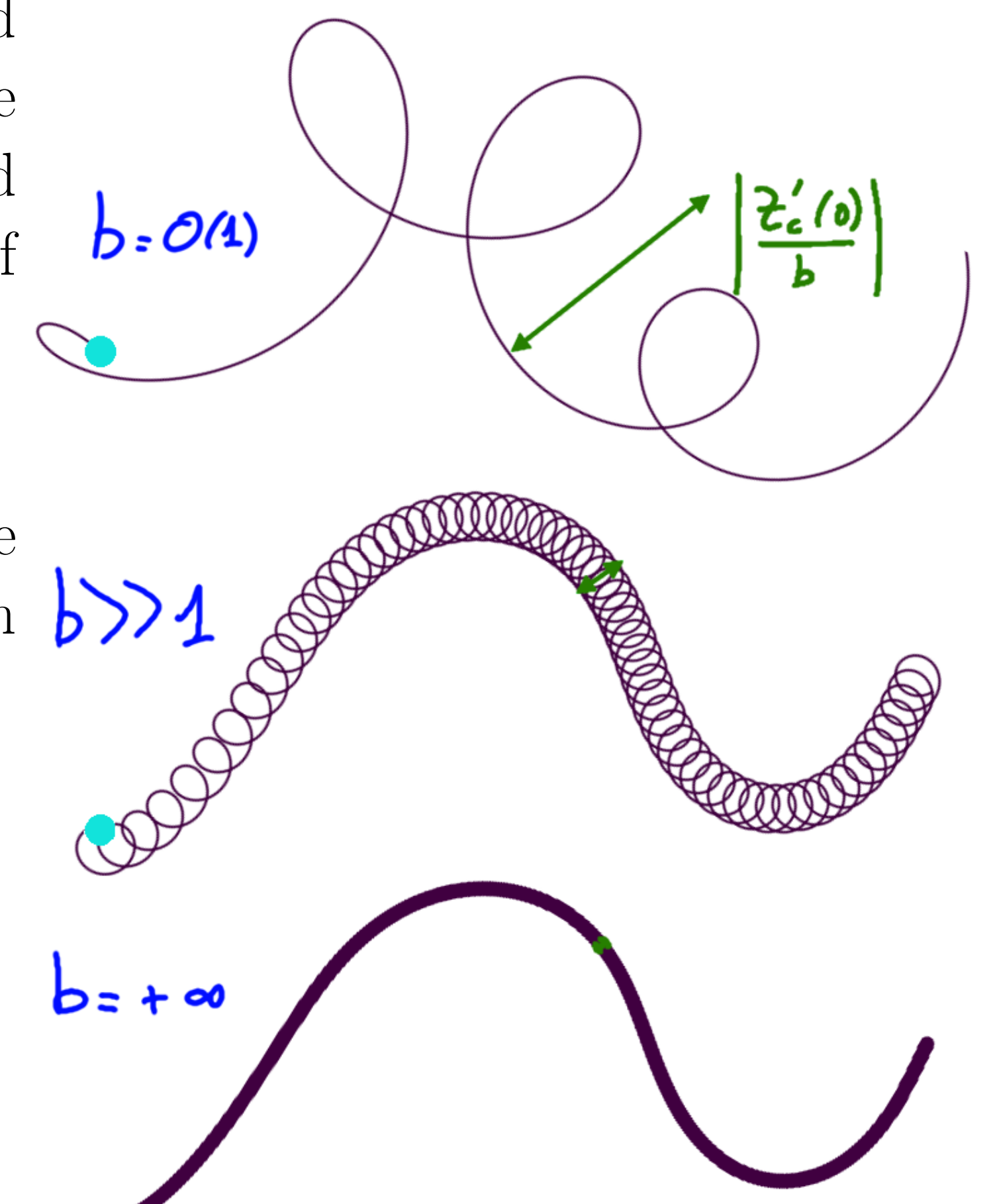
$$Z''(t) = F(t, Z(t)) + bZ'(t)^\perp.$$

For a constant and homogeneous force field, the motion splits into a cyclotron orbit and a drift of the orbit's center:

$$Z(t) = \underbrace{\frac{|Z'_c(0)|}{b} \begin{pmatrix} \cos(bt) \\ \sin(bt) \end{pmatrix}}_{=: Z_c(t)} + \underbrace{\frac{F^\perp}{b} t}_{=: Z_d(t)}$$

where we assumed

$$\begin{aligned} Z_d(0) &= (0, 0), \\ Z_c(0) &= \frac{|Z'_c(0)|}{b}(1, 0). \end{aligned}$$



Classical trajectories for different b .

The characteristic time for the cyclotron orbit is b^{-1} while that for the drift is of order b . This suggests, for $b \rightarrow \infty$, to observe the motion over a time scale of order b . Noticing that the usual semi-classical time scale is \hbar^{-1} [1], this explains the large magnetic field/semi-classical time scale $l_b^{-2} = b/\hbar$ in (H). The fast cyclotron motion will be averaged over in the limit equation, its radius being given by $|Z'_c(0)|/b$.

Then, if we assume a more general force field F , slowly varying on the scale of the cyclotron orbit, we should expect to leading order an effective equation $Z'_d(t) = F^\perp/b$ for the motion of the orbit center. Following (H) we should set $F := \nabla(V + w \star \rho)$ which leads via the method of characteristics to (D) which is a transport equation with force field F .

Main result

We denote $\Gamma(\mu, \nu)$ the set of couplings between probabilities $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ and $W_1(\mu, \nu) := \inf_{\pi \in \Gamma(\mu, \nu)} \iint |x - y| d\pi(x, y)$ the Wasserstein metric.