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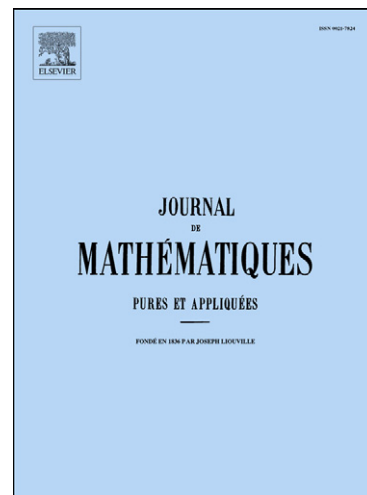
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Stability and bifurcation for the Kuramoto model

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Abstract

We study the mean-field limit of the Kuramoto model of globally coupled oscillators. By studying the evolution in Fourier space and understanding the domain of dependence, we show a global stability result. Moreover, we can identify function norms to show damping of the order parameter for velocity distributions and perturbations in $\mathcal{W}^{n,1}$ for $n > 1$. Finally, for sufficiently regular velocity distributions we can identify exponential decay in the stable case and otherwise identify finitely many eigenmodes. For these eigenmodes we can show a center-unstable manifold reduction, which gives a rigorous tool to obtain the bifurcation behaviour. The damping is similar to Landau damping for the Vlasov equation.

Résumé: Nous étudions la limite de champ moyen du modèle de Kuramoto pour des oscillateurs couplés de manière globale. En étudiant l'équation d'évolution dans l'espace de Fourier et grâce à la compréhension du domaine de dépendance, nous démontrons un résultat de stabilité globale. De plus, nous pouvons identifier des normes de fonction pour lesquelles nous montrons l'amortissement du « paramètre d'ordre », lorsque la distribution en vitesse de référence et sa perturbation sont dans $\mathcal{W}^{n,1}$, $n > 1$. Enfin, pour des distributions en vitesse de référence suffisamment régulières, nous prouvons, dans le cas stable, la décroissance exponentielle, et dans le cas instable nous identifions un nombre fini de modes propres. Pour ces modes propres, nous démontrons un résultat de réduction de variété centrale-instable, ce qui donne un outil rigoureux pour obtenir le comportement de bifurcation. L'amortissement est similaire à « l'amortissement Landau » pour l'équation de Vlasov.

Keywords: Kuramoto model, mean-field limit, Landau damping, nonlinear stability, center manifold reduction, bifurcation

2010 MSC: 35Q83, 35Q92, 35B32, 35B40, 82C27, 92B25, 37N25

1. Introduction*1.1. Overview*

The Kuramoto model for globally coupled oscillators is a prototype for synchronisation behaviour. Introduced 40 years ago to model chemical instabilities [1, 2], it has found many other applications, see [3, 4].

The finite model consists of N oscillators with natural frequencies $(\omega_i)_{i=1}^N$ whose phase $(\theta_i)_{i=1}^N$ evolves as

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \theta_i(t) &= \omega_i + \frac{K}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \sin(\theta_j(t) - \theta_i(t)) \\ &= \omega_i + \frac{K}{2i} \left(\eta(t) e^{-i\theta_i(t)} - \overline{\eta(t)} e^{i\theta_i(t)} \right),\end{aligned}$$

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