

## STEADY STATES OF THE VLASOV-MAXWELL SYSTEM

By

JACK SCHAEFFER

*Department of Mathematical Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213*

**Abstract.** The Vlasov-Maxwell system models collisionless plasma. Solutions are considered that depend on one spatial variable,  $x$ , and two velocity variables,  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ . As  $x \rightarrow -\infty$  it is required that the phase space densities of particles approach a prescribed function,  $F(v_1, v_2)$ , and all field components approach zero. It is assumed that  $F(v_1, v_2) = 0$  if  $v_1 \leq W_1$ , where  $W_1$  is a positive constant. An external magnetic field is prescribed and taken small enough so that no particle is reflected ( $v_1$  remains positive).

The main issue is to identify the large-time behavior; is a steady state approached and, if so, can it be identified from the time independent Vlasov-Maxwell system? The time-dependent problem is solved numerically using a particle method, and it is observed that a steady state is approached (on a bounded  $x$  interval) for large time. For this steady state, one component of the electric field is zero at all points, the other oscillates without decay for  $x$  large; in contrast the magnetic field tends to zero for large  $x$ . Then it is proven analytically that if the external magnetic field is sufficiently small, then (a reformulation of) the steady problem has a unique solution with  $B \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ . Thus the “downstream” condition,  $B \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ , is used to identify the large time limit of the system.

**1. Introduction.** A collisionless plasma is commonly modeled with the Vlasov-Maxwell system:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f + \frac{e}{m_f} (E + c^{-1} v \times B) \cdot \nabla_v f = 0, & \\ \partial_t g + v \cdot \nabla_x g - \frac{e}{m_g} (E + c^{-1} v \times B) \cdot \nabla_v g = 0, & \\ \partial_t E = c \nabla \times B - 4\pi j & \nabla \cdot E = 4\pi \rho, \\ \partial_t B = -c \nabla \times E & \nabla \cdot B = 0, \\ \rho = e \int (f - g) dv & j = e \int (f - g) v dv. \end{array} \right. \quad (1)$$

Received October 13, 2004.

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 35Q60; Secondary 86A25.

*E-mail address:* js5m@andrew.cmu.edu

©2005 Brown University  
Reverts to public domain 28 years from publication

Here  $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is position,  $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is velocity (not momentum), and  $t$  is time. The function  $f(t, x, v)$  gives the distribution of positive ions (with mass  $m_f$  and charge  $e$ ) in phase space; similarly  $g(t, x, v)$  gives the distribution of negative ions. The speed of light is  $c$ . Consider the so-called “one and one-half dimensional” case in which  $f = f(t, x_1, v_1, v_2)$ ,  $g = g(t, x_1, v_1, v_2)$ ,  $E = (E_1(t, x_1), E_2(t, x_1), 0)$ , and  $B = (0, 0, B_3(t, x_1))$ . We will also impose a given external magnetic field,  $B^A = (0, 0, B_3^A(x_1))$ , so that the total magnetic field is  $B = B^P + B^A$ . Then the problem becomes

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial_t f + v_1 \partial_{x_1} f + \frac{e}{m_f} [(E_1 + c^{-1} v_2 B_3) \partial_{v_1} f \\ + (E_2 - c^{-1} v_1 B_3) \partial_{v_2} f] = 0, \\ \\ \partial_t g + v_1 \partial_{x_1} g - \frac{e}{m_g} [(E_1 + c^{-1} v_2 B_3) \partial_{v_1} g \\ + (E_2 - c^{-1} v_1 B_3) \partial_{v_2} g] = 0, \\ \\ \partial_t E_1 = -4\pi j_1 \qquad \qquad \qquad \partial_{x_1} E_1 = 4\pi \rho, \\ \\ \partial_t E_2 = -c \partial_{x_1} B_3^P - 4\pi j_2, \\ \\ \partial_t B_3^P = -c \partial_{x_1} E_2, \\ \\ \rho = e \iint (f - g) dv_2 dv_1, \\ \\ j_i = e \iint (f - g) v_i dv_2 dv_1 \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \\ \\ B_3(t, x_1) = B_3^P(t, x_1) + B_3^A(x_1). \end{array} \right. \quad (2)$$

Unnecessary subscripts will be dropped, so  $x = x_1$  and  $B(t, x) = B_3(t, x_1)$  from now on. Similarly, let  $v = (v_1, v_2)$  and  $dv = dv_2 dv_1$ .

This work is guided by the desire to model the flow of the solar wind past the magnetic field of the earth ( $B^A(x)$ ). Thus an “upstream” condition is imposed:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(t, x, v) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} g(t, x, v) = F(v). \quad (3)$$

Here  $F$  is a given nonnegative continuous function with  $F(v) = 0$  if  $v_1 \leq W_1$  where  $W_1 > 0$ . Similarly, it is assumed that  $B^A$  is compactly supported and that the conditions

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} E_1(t, x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} E_2(t, x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} B(t, x) = 0 \quad (4)$$

are imposed. Note that if  $B^A = 0$ , then  $f = g = F$  and  $E_1 = E_2 = B = 0$  is a steady solution of (2), (3), (4).

The large-time behavior of solutions is of interest. Is a steady state approached as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ ? In Section 2 numerical evidence will be presented that steady state is approached as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  (on bounded intervals), when  $B^A$  is small enough and  $f(0, x, v) = g(0, x, v) = F(v)$ . It is desirable to be able to identify this limit as a time-independent solution of (2), but what behavior to require as  $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$  is not clear. It is observed from the numerical computation that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} B^P(t, x) = 0$$

and that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} E_1(t, x)$$

does not exist. In Section 3, the steady problem is reformulated in terms of potentials, and it is shown analytically that there is a unique solution of this problem (for  $B^A$  small) with

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} E_1(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} B^P(x) = 0$$

and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} B^P(x) = 0. \quad (5)$$

Thus the downstream condition (5) is used to get a well-posed steady problem.

The global existence of weak solutions of (1) is established in [4]. Many papers on the Vlasov-Maxwell system consider the natural relativistic version of the system. Lower-dimensional versions of the relativistic version of (1) are shown to have smooth global solutions in [7]–[10]; these works rely on the fundamental work [13]. Global existence of smooth solutions in three dimensions is also known for small data and nearly symmetric data, [6], [12], [25], [29].

The Vlasov-Poisson system results from (1) by formally setting  $B = 0$  (or letting  $c \rightarrow +\infty$ ; see [28]). For this system the global existence of smooth solutions in three dimensions was established in [22] and independently in [20] (see also extensions of [22] in [19] and [26]). For a more complete discussion of the Vlasov-Maxwell and Vlasov-Poisson systems, see [5].

The plasma physics literature on collisionless shocks is extensive; for example, see [2], [21], [30]. Many mathematical works consider the existence of steady states ([1, 15, 24]) and the stability of steady states ([14, 16, 17, 18, 23]) in collisionless plasma. This work differs from those mentioned above in that the applied field,  $B^A$ , is included and  $F(v)$  is taken to model the flow past the obstacle,  $B^A$ . A similar treatment for the Vlasov-Poisson system was presented in [27].

It is interesting to compare this paper with [15]. Both consider steady solutions of (2) and use the same potential formulation of the problem. It is shown in [15] that there are steady solutions with very different behavior for  $x \rightarrow -\infty$  and  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ . This is evident in the solutions considered in this work, although the context is different due to  $B^A$  and the assumptions made on  $F(v)$  here.

**2. The dynamic problem.** In this section the system (2), (3), (4) is solved numerically with a particle method. The goal is to observe the large-time behavior. The initial condition is taken to be

$$f(0, x, v) = g(0, x, v) = F(v),$$

$$E_2(0, x) = B^P(0, x) = 0.$$

The spatial domain must be truncated, so the computation will be performed on an interval  $-L \leq x \leq L$ , and (3) and (4) are replaced with

$$f(t, -L, v) = g(t, -L, v) = F(v)$$

and

$$E_1(t, -L) = 0.$$

The particle method used here is described for a periodic problem in Chapter 6 of [3] (see also [11] for convergence analysis). In the present context particles continually move into the computational domain,  $[-L, L]$ , from the left and out through the right. A convenient way to describe the method is to refer to particles which lie outside of  $[-L, L]$ , even though they cannot influence the implementation until they enter  $[-L, L]$ . Let  $dy, dv_1, dv_2$  be positive, and for any  $(i, j, k) \in \mathbb{Z}^3$  define

$$Xf_{ijk}(0) = Xg_{ijk}(0) = \left(i - \frac{1}{2}\right) dy,$$

$$V^1 f_{ijk}(0) = V^1 g_{ijk}(0) = \left(j - \frac{1}{2}\right) dv_1,$$

$$V^2 f_{ijk}(0) = V^2 g_{ijk}(0) = \left(k - \frac{1}{2}\right) dv_2,$$

$$q_{ijk} = F(V^1 f_{ijk}(0), V^2 f_{ijk}(0)) dy dv_1 dv_2.$$

$Xf_{ijk}(t), Xg_{ijk}(t), V^1 f_{ijk}(t), V^1 g_{ijk}(t), V^2 f_{ijk}(t), V^2 g_{ijk}(t)$  for  $t > 0$  will be defined later. The basic approximations are

$$f(t, x, v) = \sum_{i,j,k} q_{ijk} \tilde{\delta}(x - Xf_{ijk}(t)) \delta(v_1 - V^1 f_{ijk}(t)) \delta(v_2 - V^2 f_{ijk}(t)), \quad (6)$$

$$g(t, x, v) = \sum_{i,j,k} q_{ijk} \tilde{\delta}(x - Xg_{ijk}(t)) \delta(v_1 - V^1 g_{ijk}(t)) \delta(v_2 - V^2 g_{ijk}(t)), \quad (7)$$

where

$$\tilde{\delta}(x) = \begin{cases} (dx)^{-1} \left(1 - \frac{|x|}{dx}\right) & \text{if } |x| < dx, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and  $dx$  is a positive integer times  $dy$  ( $dx$  will be the spacing of the mesh used to compute  $E_2$  and  $B^P$ ). Note that (6) and (7) are written for all  $x$ , not only  $x \in [-L, L]$ . The approximations of  $\rho$  and  $j$  are obtained by integrating (6) and (7) in  $v$ .

Let  $dt > 0$  and define  $dx = cdt$ . It is assumed that  $\frac{dx}{dy}$  and  $\frac{L}{dx}$  are integers. Let  $t^n = n dt$  and  $x_\ell = \ell dx$  for  $n \in \{0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \dots\}$  and  $\ell \in \{0, \frac{\pm 1}{2}, \pm 1, \frac{\pm 3}{2}, \dots\}$ , and (for example)

$$(E_1)_\ell^n \approx E_1(t^n, x_\ell).$$

Assume that for some integer  $n \geq 1$

$$Xf_{ijk}(t^n), Xg_{ijk}(t^n), V^1f_{ijk}\left(t^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\right), V^1g_{ijk}\left(t^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\right), \\ V^2f_{ijk}\left(t^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\right), V^2g_{ijk}\left(t^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\right)$$

are known for all  $(i, j, k) \in \mathbb{Z}^3$  and that

$$(E_1)_\ell^n, (E_2)_\ell^n, (B^P)_\ell^n$$

are known for all integers  $\ell$  with  $|\ell| \leq \frac{L}{dx}$ . For  $|\ell| > \frac{L}{dx}$  it is convenient to take

$$(E_1)_\ell^n = (E_2)_\ell^n = (B^P)_\ell^n = 0.$$

Define  $(E_1)^n(x), (E_2)^n(x), (B^P)^n(x)$  by linear interpolation and  $V^1f_{ijk}\left(t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right)$  and  $V^2f_{ijk}\left(t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right)$  by

$$\frac{V^1f_{ijk}\left(t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right) - V^1f_{ijk}\left(t^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\right)}{dt} \\ = \frac{e}{m_f} \left[ (E_1)^n + \frac{V^2f_{ijk}\left(t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right) + V^2f_{ijk}\left(t^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\right)}{2c} ((B^P)^n + B^A) \right] \Big|_{Xf_{ijk}(t^n)}$$

and

$$\frac{V^2f_{ijk}\left(t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right) - V^2f_{ijk}\left(t^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\right)}{dt} \\ = \frac{e}{m_f} \left[ (E_2)^n - \frac{V^1f_{ijk}\left(t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right) + V^1f_{ijk}\left(t^{n-\frac{1}{2}}\right)}{2c} ((B^P)^n + B^A) \right] \Big|_{Xf_{ijk}(t^n)}.$$

$V^1g_{ijk}\left(t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right)$  and  $V^2g_{ijk}\left(t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right)$  are defined similarly. Next define

$$Xf_{ijk}(t^{n+1}) = Xf_{ijk}(t^n) + dtV^1f_{ijk}\left(t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right), \\ Xf_{ijk}\left(t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right) = Xf_{ijk}(t^n) + \frac{1}{2}dtV^1f_{ijk}\left(t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right),$$

and similarly for  $Xg_{ijk}$ .

Next the fields must be advanced. Define

$$\rho_\ell^{n+1} = e \int (f(t^{n+1}, x_\ell, v) - g(t^{n+1}, x_\ell, v)) dv$$

for integers  $\ell$  and  $\rho^{n+1}(x)$  by linear interpolation. Then define

$$(E_1)_\ell^{n+1} = \int_{-L}^{x_\ell} \rho^{n+1}(y) dy$$

for integers  $\ell$  with  $|\ell| \leq \frac{L}{dx}$ . Note from (2) that

$$\partial_t (E_2 + B^P) + c\partial_x (E_2 + B^P) = -4\pi j_2$$

and

$$\partial_t (E_2 - B^P) - c \partial_x (E_2 - B^P) = -4\pi j_2$$

follow. Define, via (6) and (7),

$$(j_2)_{\ell-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} = e \int v_2 \left( f \left( t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, x_{\ell-\frac{1}{2}}, v \right) - g \left( t^{n+\frac{1}{2}}, x_{\ell-\frac{1}{2}}, v \right) \right) dv$$

for integers  $\ell$ . Then define  $(E_2)_{\ell}^{n+1}$  and  $(B^P)_{\ell}^{n+1}$  as follows:

$$(E_2 + B^P)_{\ell}^{n+1} = (E_2 + B^P)_{\ell-1}^n - 4\pi (j_2)_{\ell-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} dt$$

for  $\ell = 1 - \frac{L}{dx}, 2 - \frac{L}{dx}, \dots, \frac{L}{dx}$  and

$$(E_2 - B^P)_{\ell}^{n+1} = (E_2 - B^P)_{\ell+1}^n - 4\pi (j_2)_{\ell+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} dt$$

for  $\ell = -\frac{L}{dx}, 1 - \frac{L}{dx}, \dots, \frac{L}{dx} - 1$ . For  $\ell = -\frac{L}{dx}$  take

$$(E_2 + B^P)_{\ell}^{n+1} = 0,$$

and for  $\ell = \frac{L}{dx}$  take

$$(E_2 - B^P)_{\ell}^{n+1} = 0.$$

Consider the following choice for  $F$ : Let

$$s_+ = \begin{cases} s & \text{if } s \geq 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } s < 0, \end{cases}$$

$$d_{\varepsilon}(s) = \varepsilon^{-2} \left( 1 - \left( \frac{s}{\varepsilon} \right)_+^2 \right)_+^4$$

for  $s \in \mathbb{R}, \varepsilon > 0$ , and

$$F(v) = \text{coeff} d_{\varepsilon} \left( \sqrt{\left( (v_1 - W)^2 + v_2^2 \right)_+} \right).$$

The above method was implemented for several choices of  $B^A(x)$  and the parameters  $\text{coeff}, \varepsilon, W, e, m_f, m_g$ , and  $c$ . The results of one choice will be presented: the results of the others were similar. Take  $\varepsilon = 10^{-3}$ ,  $\text{coeff} = 10^{-1}$ ,  $W = 10^{-1}$ ,  $e = 1$ ,  $m_f = 10^3$ ,  $m_g = 1$ , and  $c = 1$ . So the wind speed is roughly  $\frac{1}{10}$  the speed of light in this choice. Take

$$B^A(x) = -(\text{amp})x(1 - 4x^2)_+^3$$

with  $\text{amp} = 1.6$ . Note that  $B^A(x) = 0$  if  $|x| \geq \frac{1}{2}$ . The coefficient,  $\text{amp}$ , was taken small enough that  $V^1 f_{ijk}$  and  $V^1 g_{ijk}$  remain positive (for  $ijk$  such that  $q_{ijk} \neq 0$ ). The computational (spatial) domain was  $[-L, L]$  where  $L = 5$ . Figures 1 through 7 show  $E_1, E_2$ , and  $B^P$  at times  $t = 1, 2, 3, 20, 40, 80$ , and 160, respectively. Times  $t = 1, 2, 3$  show a transient wave in  $E_2$  and  $B^P$  spreading out from  $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$ . In Figures 4, 5, 6, 7 a steady pattern emerges on the interval  $-5 \leq x \leq 5$ . Note that Figures 6 ( $t = 80$ ) and 7 ( $t = 160$ ) are identical; taking  $t$  larger produces no further change. The particles that are first disturbed by  $B^A$  are between  $-\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  at time zero. Their speed is roughly  $\frac{1}{10}$ , so the time for them to leave the interval  $[-5, 5]$  is roughly  $\frac{5}{.1} = 50$ . Thus steady conditions cannot be expected before  $t = 50$ . If  $L$  is taken larger, then more time elapses before steady state is reached on the whole interval  $[-L, L]$ , but the same steady state

emerges. Figure 8 shows  $B^A$  and  $B^P$  (with  $t = 160$ ). Note that  $B^P$  (the steady magnetic field produced by the plasma in response to  $B^A$ ) is smaller than  $B^A$  but tends to cancel  $B^A$ .

In all runs (with  $B^A$  sufficiently small to avoid reflecting particles) steady state emerged by roughly  $t = \frac{2L}{W}$ . For the steady state  $E_2 = 0$ ,  $B^P \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$  and as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ , and  $E_1$  exhibits roughly periodic oscillations for  $x$  large.

In the next section the existence of a steady solution of (2), (3), (4) with

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} B(x) = 0$$

is established using a fixed point iteration. Figure 9 shows  $E_1$  and  $B^P$  that result from this iteration ( $E_2$  is not graphed since for the iteration it is identically zero). Figure 9 is identical to Figures 6 and 7. Hence the solution constructed with the iteration agrees with the steady state observed with the particle simulation.

**3. The steady problem.** The following are assumed throughout:  $B^A(x)$  is continuously differentiable and compactly supported.  $F(v)$  is nonnegative, continuously differentiable, and compactly supported. Moreover, there exist  $W_1 > 0$  and  $W_2 > 0$  such that  $F(v_1, v_2) = 0$  if  $v_1 \leq W_1$  or if  $|v_2| \geq W_2$ . Let  $x_+ = x$  if  $x \geq 0$  and 0 if  $x < 0$ . Also, let  $I_{v_1} > 0 = 1$  if  $v_1 > 0$  and 0 if  $v_1 \leq 0$ . The letter  $C$  denotes a generic constant which changes from line to line. When the value of a constant needs to be fixed, a subscript is added, so, for example,  $C_1$  denotes a fixed positive constant.

Define  $\mathcal{R} : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathcal{J} : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}(u, b) = & e \int \left[ F \left( \sqrt{\left( v_1^2 - \frac{2ebv_2}{cm_f} - \frac{2eu}{m_f} - \left( \frac{eb}{cm_f} \right)^2 \right)}_+, v_2 + \frac{eb}{cm_f} \right) \right. \\ & \left. - F \left( \sqrt{\left( v_1^2 + \frac{2ebv_2}{cm_g} + \frac{2eu}{m_g} - \left( \frac{eb}{cm_g} \right)^2 \right)}_+, v_2 - \frac{eb}{cm_g} \right) \right] I_{v_1 > 0} dv \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}(u, b) = & e \int v_2 \left[ F \left( \sqrt{\left( v_1^2 - \frac{2ebu_2}{cm_f} - \frac{2eu}{m_f} - \left( \frac{eb}{cm_f} \right)^2 \right)}_+, v_2 + \frac{eb}{cm_+} \right) \right. \\ & \left. - F \left( \sqrt{\left( v_1^2 + \frac{2ebv_2}{cm_g} + \frac{2eu}{m_g} - \left( \frac{eb}{cm_g} \right)^2 \right)}_+, v_2 - \frac{eb}{cm_g} \right) \right] I_{v_1 > 0} dv. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Then we have the following:

**THEOREM 1.** Assume that  $\mathcal{U} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathcal{B} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are twice continuously differentiable and satisfy

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \mathcal{U}(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \mathcal{U}'(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \mathcal{B}(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \mathcal{B}'(x) = 0, \quad (10)$$

and for all  $x$

$$|\mathcal{B}(x)| \leq \frac{c \min(m_f, m_g)}{8e} \min \left( W_2, \frac{W_1^2}{W_2} \right), \quad (11)$$

$$|\mathcal{U}(x)| \leq \frac{\min(m_f, m_g)}{4e} W_1^2, \quad (12)$$

$$\mathcal{U}''(x) = 4\pi\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{U}(x), \mathcal{B}(x)), \quad (13)$$

$$\mathcal{B}''(x) = -4\pi c^{-1} \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{U}(x), \mathcal{B}(x)) + \frac{dB^A}{dx}. \quad (14)$$

Define

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, v) &= F \left( \sqrt{\left( v_1^2 - \frac{2e\mathcal{B}(x)v_2}{cm_f} - \frac{2e\mathcal{U}(x)}{m_f} - \left( \frac{e\mathcal{B}(x)}{cm_f} \right)^2 \right)}_+, v_2 + \frac{e\mathcal{B}(x)}{cm_f} \right) I_{v_1 > 0}, \\ g(x, v) &= F \left( \sqrt{\left( v_1^2 + \frac{2e\mathcal{B}(x)v_2}{cm_g} + \frac{2e\mathcal{U}(x)}{m_g} - \left( \frac{e\mathcal{B}(x)}{cm_g} \right)^2 \right)}_+, v_2 - \frac{e\mathcal{B}(x)}{cm_g} \right) I_{v_1 > 0}, \\ E_1 &= \mathcal{U}', \quad E_2 = 0, \quad B = \mathcal{B}'. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $f, g, E_1, E_2, B$  is a time-independent, continuously differentiable solution of (2), (3), (4).

*Proof.* Note first that since  $F(v_1, v_2) = 0$  if  $v_1 \leq W_1$  (in particular for  $v_1$  near 0), the function

$$(x, v) \mapsto F \left( \sqrt{\left( v_1^2 - \frac{2e\mathcal{B}(x)v_2}{cm_f} - \frac{2e\mathcal{U}(x)}{cm_f} - \left( \frac{e\mathcal{B}(x)}{cm_f} \right)^2 \right)}_+, v_2 + \frac{e\mathcal{B}(x)}{cm_f} \right)$$

is continuously differentiable at all points. Also

$$v_1^2 - \frac{2e\mathcal{B}v_2}{cm_f} - \frac{2e\mathcal{U}}{m_f} - \left( \frac{e\mathcal{B}}{cm_f} \right)^2 = 2 \left( \frac{1}{2}|v|^2 - \frac{e\mathcal{U}}{m_f} \right) - \left( v_2 + \frac{e\mathcal{B}}{cm_f} \right)^2,$$

so on the set  $v_1 > 0$ ,  $f$  is a  $C^1$  function of  $\frac{1}{2}|v|^2 - \frac{e\mathcal{U}}{m_f}$  and  $v_2 + \frac{e\mathcal{B}}{cm_f}$ . It follows (by explicit computation) that on  $v_1 > 0$ ,  $f$  satisfies the Vlasov equation (the equation for  $f$  in (2)). Claim that  $f(x, v) = 0$  if  $v_1 \leq \sqrt{\frac{7}{32}}W_1$ . Suppose  $f(x, v) \neq 0$ ; then by (11)

$$|v_2| \leq W_2 + \frac{e|\mathcal{B}(x)|}{cm_f} \leq \frac{9}{8}W_2$$

and by (11) and (12)

$$\begin{aligned} & v_1^2 - \frac{2e\mathcal{B}v_2}{cm_f} - \frac{2e\mathcal{U}}{m_f} - \left( \frac{e\mathcal{B}}{cm_f} \right)^2 \\ & \leq v_1^2 + \frac{9}{4}W_2 \frac{e|\mathcal{B}|}{cm_f} + \frac{2e}{m_f} |\mathcal{U}| \\ & \leq v_1^2 + \frac{9}{4}W_2 \left( \frac{1}{8} \frac{W_1^2}{W_2} \right) + 2 \left( \frac{1}{4} W_1^2 \right) \\ & = v_1^2 + \frac{25}{32} W_1^2. \end{aligned}$$



But for  $f(x, v) \neq 0$ ,  $v_1 > 0$  and

$$\sqrt{v_1^2 - \frac{2e\mathcal{B}v_2}{cm_f} - \frac{2e\mathcal{U}}{m_f} - \left(\frac{e\mathcal{B}}{cm_f}\right)^2} > W_1$$

must hold, and hence

$$v_1^2 + \frac{25}{32}W_1^2 > W_1^2,$$

$$v_1 > \sqrt{\frac{7}{32}}W_1.$$

The claim now follows and hence the fact that  $f$  is  $C^1$  and satisfies the equation for  $f$  in (2). Similar reasoning shows that  $g$  is  $C^1$  and satisfies the equation for  $g$  in (2).

By (8) and (9) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_x E_1 &= \mathcal{U}'' = 4\pi\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{U}, B) \\ &= 4\pi e \int (f - g)dv = 4\pi\rho. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, by (8) and (9) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_x B^P &= \partial_x (B - B^A) = \mathcal{B}'' - \frac{dB^A}{dx} = -4\pi c^{-1}\mathcal{J}(\mathcal{U}, B) \\ &= -4\pi c^{-1}e \int (f - g)v_2 dv = -4\pi c^{-1}j_2. \end{aligned}$$

Noting that  $j_1 = 0$  follows from the Vlasov equations for  $f$  and  $g$ , (2) is established.

Since  $\mathcal{U}' \rightarrow 0$  and  $\mathcal{B}' \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$  and  $E_2 = 0$ , (4) follows immediately. Also

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x, v) = F\left(\sqrt{v_1^2}, v_2\right) I_{v_1 > 0} = F(v),$$

since  $F(v) = 0$  if  $v_1 \leq 0$ . A similar conclusion holds for  $g$  and the proof is complete.

The next goal is to find solutions of (10), (13), (14). The behavior of  $\mathcal{R}$  and  $\mathcal{J}$  near  $(0, 0)$  will be crucial, so we consider this first.

**LEMMA 1.** Let  $c_i \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , and let  $h \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ . Define

$$\varphi(u, b) = \int F\left(\sqrt{(v_1^2 + c_1bv_2 + c_2u + c_3b^2)_+}, v_2 + c_4b\right) h(v_2) dv;$$

then  $\varphi$  is  $C^\infty$  on some neighborhood of  $(0, 0)$ .

**Comment:** It follows that  $\mathcal{R}$  and  $\mathcal{J}$  are  $C^\infty$  on some neighborhood of  $(0, 0)$ .

*Proof of Lemma 1.* Let  $\varepsilon = \sqrt{(v_1^2 + c_1bv_2 + c_2u + c_3b^2)_+}$  and  $\ell = v_2 + c_4b$ . Consider  $v_1 > 0$ ,  $\varepsilon > W_1$ , and  $|\ell| < W_2$ . Then for  $|u| + |b|$  sufficiently small,

$$|v_2| \leq |\ell| + |c_4b| \leq 2W_2$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} v_1 &= \sqrt{\varepsilon^2 - c_1bv_2 - c_2u - c_3b^2} \\ &\geq \sqrt{W_1^2 - |c_1b|2W_2 - |c_2u| - |c_3b^2|} \geq \frac{1}{2}W_1. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(u, b) &= \int_{v_1 > 0, \varepsilon > W_1, |\ell| < W_2} F(\varepsilon, \ell) h(v_2) dv \\ &= \int_{-W_2}^{W_2} \int_{W_1}^{\infty} \frac{F(\varepsilon, \ell) h(\ell - c_4 b) \varepsilon}{\sqrt{\varepsilon^2 - c_1 b(\ell - c_4 b) - c_2 u - c_3 b^2}} d\varepsilon d\ell.\end{aligned}\tag{15}$$

The lemma now follows since  $(\varepsilon^2 - c_1 b(\ell - c_4 b) - c_2 u - c_3 b^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  is  $C^\infty$  for  $\varepsilon \geq W_1$ ,  $|\ell| \leq W_2$ , and  $|u| + |b|$  small.

LEMMA 2. Assume that

$$F(v_1, -v_2) = F(v_1, v_2)\tag{16}$$

for all  $v$ . Then

$$\partial_u \mathcal{R}(0, 0) < 0,$$

$$\partial_b \mathcal{J}(0, 0) < 0,$$

and

$$\partial_b \mathcal{R}(0, 0) = \partial_u \mathcal{J}(0, 0) = 0.$$

Moreover, for  $u$  near zero

$$\mathcal{J}(u, 0) = \partial_u \mathcal{J}(u, 0) = 0.$$

*Proof.* By (15) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}(u, b) &= e \int_{-W_2}^{W_2} \int_{W_1}^{\infty} F(\varepsilon, \ell) \varepsilon \left[ \left( \varepsilon^2 + \frac{2eb(\ell - \frac{eb}{cm_f})}{cm_f} + \frac{2eu}{m_f} + \left( \frac{eb}{cm_f} \right)^2 \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \left( \varepsilon^2 - \frac{2eb(\ell + \frac{eb}{cm_g})}{cm_g} - \frac{2eu}{m_g} + \left( \frac{eb}{cm_g} \right)^2 \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right] d\varepsilon d\ell\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{J}(u, b) &= e \int_{-W_2}^{W_2} \int_{W_1}^{\infty} F(\varepsilon, \ell) \varepsilon \left[ \frac{\left( \ell - \frac{eb}{cm_f} \right)}{\sqrt{\varepsilon^2 + \frac{2eb(\ell - \frac{eb}{cm_f})}{cm_f} + \frac{2eu}{m_f} + \left( \frac{eb}{cm_f} \right)^2}} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{\left( \ell + \frac{eb}{cm_g} \right)}{\sqrt{\varepsilon^2 - \frac{2eb(\ell + \frac{eb}{cm_g})}{cm_g} - \frac{2eu}{m_g} + \left( \frac{eb}{cm_g} \right)^2}} \right] d\varepsilon d\ell.\end{aligned}$$

By direct computation (without using (16))

$$\partial_u \mathcal{R}(0, 0) = -e^2 \left( m_f^{-1} + m_g^{-1} \right) \int_{-W_2}^{W_2} \int_{W_1}^{\infty} \frac{F(\varepsilon, \ell)}{\varepsilon^2} d\varepsilon d\ell < 0$$

and

$$\partial_b \mathcal{J}(0, 0) = -e^2 c^{-1} \left( m_f^{-1} + m_g^{-1} \right) \int_{-W_2}^{W_2} \int_{W_1}^{\infty} F(\varepsilon, \ell) \left( 1 + \frac{\ell^2}{\varepsilon^2} \right) d\varepsilon d\ell < 0.$$

Similarly,

$$\partial_b \mathcal{R}(0, 0) = -e^2 c^{-1} \left( m_f^{-1} + m_g^{-1} \right) \int_{-W_2}^{W_2} \int_{W_1}^{\infty} F(\varepsilon, \ell) \varepsilon^{-2} \ell d\varepsilon d\ell,$$

which is zero by (16). Finally for  $u$  near 0

$$\mathcal{J}(u, 0) = e \int_{-W_2}^{W_2} \int_{W_1}^{\infty} F(\varepsilon, \ell) \varepsilon \left[ \frac{\ell}{\sqrt{\varepsilon^2 + \frac{2eu}{m_f}}} - \frac{\ell}{\sqrt{\varepsilon^2 - \frac{2eu}{m_g}}} \right] d\varepsilon d\ell,$$

which is also zero by (16). The lemma now follows.

Define

$$\begin{aligned} \omega &= \sqrt{-4\pi \partial_u \mathcal{R}(0, 0)}, \\ \lambda &= \sqrt{-4\pi c^{-1} \partial_b \mathcal{J}(0, 0)} \\ G(u, b) &= 4\pi \mathcal{R}(u, b) + \omega^2 u, \\ H(u, b) &= -4\pi c^{-1} \mathcal{J}(u, b) - \lambda^2 b, \end{aligned}$$

and note that by Lemma 2

$$G(0, 0) = \partial_u G(0, 0) = \partial_b G(0, 0) = 0$$

and

$$H(0, 0) = \partial_u H(0, 0) = \partial_b H(0, 0) = 0.$$

Equations (13) and (14) may be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{U}''(x) + \omega^2 \mathcal{U}(x) &= G(\mathcal{U}(x), \mathcal{B}(x)), \\ \mathcal{B}''(x) - \lambda^2 \mathcal{B}(x) &= H(\mathcal{U}(x), \mathcal{B}(x)) + \frac{dB^A}{dx}. \end{aligned}$$

The linearization about  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{B} = 0$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{U}'' + \omega^2 \mathcal{U} &= 0, \\ \mathcal{B}'' - \lambda^2 \mathcal{B} &= \frac{dB^A}{dx}, \end{aligned}$$

so oscillatory behavior may be expected of  $\mathcal{U}$  and exponential behavior of  $\mathcal{B}$  (as was observed in Section 2).

A solution will be constructed with the contraction mapping principle. To set this up, define

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma(x) &= \min(\omega, \lambda)(-x)_+, \\ \beta(x) &= \frac{1}{3}\lambda(-x)_+ - \frac{1}{6}\min(\omega, \lambda)(x)_+, \\ \|\mathcal{U}\|_E &= \sup \left( e^{\frac{2}{3}\sigma(x)} |\mathcal{U}(x)| \right), \\ ||\mathcal{U}||_E &= \sup \left( e^{\beta(x)} |\mathcal{U}(x)| \right), \\ \|\mathcal{B}\|_B &= \sup \left( e^{\frac{2}{3}\lambda|x|} |\mathcal{B}(x)| \right), \\ ||\mathcal{B}||_B &= \sup \left( e^{\frac{1}{3}\lambda|x|} |\mathcal{B}(x)| \right),\end{aligned}$$

and for  $\delta > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}S_\delta &= \{(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{B}) \in C^2(\mathbb{R}) \times C^2(\mathbb{R}) : \|\mathcal{U}\|_E \leq \delta, \|\mathcal{U}'\|_E \leq \delta, \\ &\quad \|\mathcal{B}\|_B \leq \delta, \text{ and } \|\mathcal{B}'\|_B \leq \delta\}.\end{aligned}$$

Then for  $(\mathcal{U}, B) \in S_\delta$  define  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}, B) = (\overline{\mathcal{U}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}})$  by

$$\begin{cases} \overline{\mathcal{U}}'' + \omega^2 \overline{\mathcal{U}} = G(\overline{\mathcal{U}}, \mathcal{B}), \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \overline{\mathcal{U}}(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \overline{\mathcal{U}}'(x) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (17)$$

and

$$\overline{\mathcal{B}}(x) = \frac{-1}{2\lambda} \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} \left( H(\mathcal{U}(y), \mathcal{B}(y)) + \frac{dB^A}{dy}(y) \right) dy. \quad (18)$$

A few comments are in order. Note that the definition of  $S_\delta$  involves  $\|\cdot\|_E$  and  $\|\cdot\|_B$ , not  $||\cdot||_E$  or  $||\cdot||_B$ . Also for  $\|\mathcal{U}\|_E$  and  $\|\mathcal{B}\|_B$  finite

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \mathcal{U}(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \mathcal{B}(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{B}(x) = 0,$$

but  $\mathcal{U}(x)$  need not tend to zero as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ ; moreover, for all  $x$

$$|\mathcal{U}(x)| + |\mathcal{B}(x)| \leq \|\mathcal{U}\|_E + \|\mathcal{B}\|_B,$$

so restricting  $\|\mathcal{U}\|_E + \|\mathcal{B}\|_B$  ensures that  $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{U}(x), \mathcal{B}(x))$  (for example) is defined and  $C^2$ . It will be shown that for  $\delta$  sufficiently small  $\mathcal{F} : S_\delta \rightarrow S_\delta$  is a contraction in the norm  $||\mathcal{U}||_E + ||\mathcal{B}||_B + ||\mathcal{U}'||_E + ||\mathcal{B}'||_B$ . Note that  $G$  in equation (17) is evaluated at  $(\overline{\mathcal{U}}, \mathcal{B})$ , not  $(\mathcal{U}, B)$ . Also, it may be shown that for  $(\mathcal{U}, B) \in S_\delta$  ( $\delta$  small)

$$\begin{cases} \overline{\mathcal{B}}'' - \lambda^2 \overline{\mathcal{B}} = H(\mathcal{U}, B) + \frac{dB^A}{dx}, \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \overline{\mathcal{B}}(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \overline{\mathcal{B}}'(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \overline{\mathcal{B}}'(x) = 0. \end{cases}$$

Therefore the iteration consists of solving a boundary value problem for  $\overline{\mathcal{B}}$  and an evolution problem for  $\overline{\mathcal{U}}$ .  $\square$

THEOREM 2. Assume that (16) holds. Then there exists  $C > 0$  and  $\delta_0 > 0$  such that for  $0 < \delta \leq \delta_0$  and

$$\left\| \frac{dB^A}{dx} \right\|_B \leq C\delta$$

there is a unique  $(\mathcal{U}, B) \in S_\delta$  which satisfies (10), (13), (14), and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{B}'(x) = 0.$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 2,  $\mathcal{J}(u, 0) = 0$  for  $u$  small, so  $H(u, 0) = 0$  and  $\partial_u H(u, 0) = 0$  for  $u$  small. Using the mean value theorem (twice) there exists  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  between 0 and  $b$  (for  $|u| + |b|$  small) such that

$$H(u, b) = H(u, b) - H(u, 0) = \partial_b H(u, \xi_1) b$$

and

$$\partial_u H(u, b) = \partial_u H(u, b) - \partial_u H(u, 0) = \partial_b \partial_u H(u, \xi_2) b.$$

Since  $G$  and  $H$  are  $C^\infty$  in a neighborhood of  $(0, 0)$  and recalling Lemma 2, it now follows that there exist  $\delta_1 > 0$  and  $C > 0$  such that for  $\sqrt{u^2 + b^2} < \delta_1$

$$|G(u, b)| \leq C(u^2 + b^2), \quad (19)$$

$$|H(u, b)| \leq C\sqrt{u^2 + b^2}|b|, \quad (20)$$

$$|\partial_u G(u, b)| + |\partial_b G(u, b)| + |\partial_b H(u, b)| \leq C\sqrt{u^2 + b^2}, \quad (21)$$

$$|\partial_u H(u, b)| \leq C|b|. \quad (22)$$

Consider  $(\mathcal{U}, B) \in S_\delta$  with  $0 < \delta \leq \delta_1$ . Note that

$$\begin{aligned} |H(\mathcal{U}(x), \mathcal{B}(x))| &\leq C\sqrt{\mathcal{U}^2(x) + \mathcal{B}^2(x)}|\mathcal{B}(x)| \\ &\leq C\delta\|\mathcal{B}\|_B e^{-\frac{2}{3}\lambda|x|} \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

decays as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ , even though  $\mathcal{U}(x)$  may not. This would not follow from

$$|H(u, b)| \leq C(u^2 + b^2).$$

From (18) note that

$$\overline{\mathcal{B}}'(x) = \frac{1}{2} \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} \text{sgn}(x-y) \left( H(\mathcal{U}(y), \mathcal{B}(y)) + \frac{dB^A}{dy}(y) \right) dy$$

(where  $\text{sgn}(x) = 1$  if  $x > 0$ , 0 if  $x = 0$ ,  $-1$  if  $x < 0$ ), so using (23) yields

$$\begin{aligned} |\overline{\mathcal{B}}(x)| + |\overline{\mathcal{B}}'(x)| &\leq C \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} \left( |H(\mathcal{U}, B)| + \left| \frac{dB^A}{dy} \right| \right) dy \\ &\leq C \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} \left( C\delta\|\mathcal{B}\|_B + \left\| \frac{dB^A}{dy} \right\|_B \right) e^{-\frac{2}{3}\lambda|y|} dy. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

The following will be used:

LEMMA 3. For any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\theta \in [0, 1)$

$$\int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} e^{-\theta\lambda|y|} dy \leq \frac{3}{(1-\theta)\lambda} e^{-\theta\lambda|x|}.$$

The proof is deferred to the Appendix. Now (24) yields

$$|\overline{\mathcal{B}}(x)| + |\overline{\mathcal{B}}'(x)| = C e^{-\frac{2}{3}\lambda|x|} \left( \delta \|\mathcal{B}\|_B + \left\| \frac{d\mathcal{B}^A}{dx} \right\| \right)$$

and hence

$$\|\overline{\mathcal{B}}\|_B + \|\overline{\mathcal{B}}'\|_B \leq C_1 \left( \delta \|\mathcal{B}\|_B + \left\| \frac{d\mathcal{B}^A}{dx} \right\|_B \right). \quad (25)$$

Similarly for  $(\mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{B}_1) \in S_\delta$  and  $(\overline{\mathcal{U}}_1, \overline{\mathcal{B}}_1) = \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{B}_1)$ , (21) and (22) may be used to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |\overline{\mathcal{B}} - \overline{\mathcal{B}}_1| &= \left| \frac{-1}{2\lambda} \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} (H(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{B}) - H(\mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{B}_1)) dy \right| \\ &\leq C \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} (|H(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{B}) - H(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{B}_1)| + |H(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{B}_1) - H(\mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{B}_1)|) dy \\ &\leq C \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} (\delta |\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1| + |\mathcal{B}_1| |\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{U}_1|) dy \\ &\leq C \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} \left( \delta \|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B e^{-\frac{1}{3}\lambda|y|} + \|\mathcal{B}_1\|_B e^{-\frac{2}{3}\lambda|y|} \|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{U}_1\|_E e^{-\beta(y)} \right) dy \\ &\leq C \delta \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} (\|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B + \|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{U}_1\|_E) e^{-\frac{1}{3}\lambda|y|} dy. \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

Using Lemma 3 yields

$$|\overline{\mathcal{B}} - \overline{\mathcal{B}}_1| \leq C \delta (\|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B + \|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{U}_1\|_E) e^{-\frac{1}{3}\lambda|x|}$$

and hence

$$\|\overline{\mathcal{B}} - \overline{\mathcal{B}}_1\|_B \leq C_2 \delta (\|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B + \|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{U}_1\|_E). \quad (27)$$

Since

$$\overline{\mathcal{B}}' - \overline{\mathcal{B}}'_1 = \frac{1}{2} \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} \operatorname{sgn}(x-y) (H(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{B}) - H(\mathcal{U}_1, \mathcal{B}_1)) dy,$$

the estimate

$$\|\overline{\mathcal{B}}' - \overline{\mathcal{B}}'_1\|_B \leq C_2 \delta (\|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B + \|\mathcal{U} - \mathcal{U}_1\|_E) \quad (28)$$

follows, just as (27) did.

To estimate  $\|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_E$  an energy method will be used. Define

$$\mathcal{G}(u, b) = \int_0^u G(\overline{u}, b) d\overline{u}$$

and note that by (17)

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \left( \overline{\mathcal{U}}'(x) \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \overline{\mathcal{U}}^2(x) - \mathcal{G}(\overline{\mathcal{U}}(x), \mathcal{B}(x)) \\ &= - \int_{-\infty}^x \mathcal{B}'(y) \int_0^{\overline{\mathcal{U}}(y)} \partial_b G(u, \mathcal{B}(y)) du dy. \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

Also define

$$X = \sup \{x : |\overline{\mathcal{U}}| \leq \delta \text{ on } (-\infty, x]\}$$

and for  $R > 0$

$$\sigma_R(x) = \begin{cases} \min(\omega, \lambda)R & \text{if } x \leq -R, \\ \min(\omega, \lambda)|x| & \text{if } -R \leq x \leq 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } 0 \leq x \end{cases}$$

and  $\|\cdot\|_{ER}(x)$  by

$$\|\phi\|_{ER}(x) = \sup \left\{ e^{\frac{2}{3}\sigma_R(y)} |\phi(y)| : y \leq x \right\}.$$

Note that for  $x < X$  using (20) yields

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{G}(\overline{\mathcal{U}}(x), \mathcal{B}(x))| &\leq \int^{|\overline{\mathcal{U}}(x)|} C(u^2 + \mathcal{B}^2(x)) du \\ &\leq C |\overline{\mathcal{U}}(x)| \left( \overline{\mathcal{U}}^2(x) + \mathcal{B}^2(x) \right) \\ &\leq C\delta \left( \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}^2(x) e^{-\frac{4}{3}\sigma_R(x)} + \|\mathcal{B}\|_B^2 e^{-\frac{4}{3}\lambda|x|} \right) \\ &\leq C\delta e^{-\frac{4}{3}\sigma_R(x)} \left( \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}^2(x) + \|\mathcal{B}\|_B^2 \right). \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Similarly for  $x < X$  using (21) yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \mathcal{B}'(y) \int_0^{\overline{\mathcal{U}}(y)} \partial_b G(u, \mathcal{B}(y)) du \right| \\ &\leq C |\mathcal{B}'(y)| \int_0^{|\overline{\mathcal{U}}(y)|} \sqrt{u^2 + \mathcal{B}^2(y)} du \\ &\leq C \|\mathcal{B}'\|_B e^{-\frac{2}{3}\lambda|y|} \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}(y) e^{-\frac{2}{3}\sigma_R(y)} \sqrt{\delta^2 + \delta^2} \\ &\leq C\delta^2 \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}(y) e^{-\frac{2}{3}(\lambda|y| + \sigma_R(y))}. \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

The following will be used:

LEMMA 4. For  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\int_{-\infty}^x e^{-\frac{2}{3}(\lambda|y| + \sigma_R(y))} dy \leq 5\lambda^{-1} e^{-\frac{4}{3}\sigma_R(x)}.$$

The proof is deferred to the Appendix. Now using (30) and (31) in (29) yields

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2} \left( \overline{\mathcal{U}}'(x) \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \overline{\mathcal{U}}^2(x) &\leq \left| \mathcal{G}(\overline{\mathcal{U}}(x), \mathcal{B}(x)) \right| \\
&\quad + \int_{-\infty}^x \left| \mathcal{B}'(y) \int_0^{\overline{\mathcal{U}}(y)} \partial_b G(u, \mathcal{B}(y)) du \right| dy \\
&\leq C \delta e^{-\frac{4}{3} \sigma_R(x)} \left( \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}^2(x) + \|\mathcal{B}\|_B^2 \right) \\
&\quad + C \delta^2 \int_{-\infty}^x \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}(y) e^{-\frac{2}{3}(\lambda|y| + \sigma_R(y))} dy \\
&\leq C \delta e^{-\frac{4}{3} \sigma_R(x)} \left( \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}^2(x) + \|\mathcal{B}\|_B^2 + \delta \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}(x) \right)
\end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left[ \left( \overline{\mathcal{U}}'(x) \right)^2 + \overline{\mathcal{U}}^2(x) \right] e^{\frac{4}{3} \sigma_R(x)} \\
&\leq C_3 \delta \left( \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}^2(x) + \|\mathcal{B}\|_B^2 + \delta \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}(x) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that (for  $x < X$  still)

$$\begin{aligned}
&\|\overline{\mathcal{U}}'\|_{ER}^2(x) + \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}^2(x) \\
&\leq C_3 \delta \left( \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}^2(x) + \delta \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}(x) + \|\mathcal{B}\|_B^2 \right) \\
&\leq C_3 \delta \left( \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}(x) + \delta \right)^2.
\end{aligned} \tag{32}$$

Requiring  $\delta \leq (16C_3)^{-1}$  yields

$$\|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}(x) \leq \frac{1}{4} \left( \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}(x) + \delta \right),$$

so

$$\|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}(x) \leq \frac{1}{3} \delta.$$

It now follows that  $X = +\infty$  and by (32) that

$$\|\overline{\mathcal{U}}'\|_{ER}^2(x) + \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_{ER}^2(x) \leq \frac{1}{9} \delta^2.$$

Since the upper bound does not depend on  $R$  or  $x$ ,

$$\|\overline{\mathcal{U}}'\|_E^2 + \|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_E^2 \leq \frac{1}{9} \delta^2$$

follows, and hence

$$\|\overline{\mathcal{U}}'\|_E \leq \frac{1}{3} \delta \tag{33}$$

and

$$\|\overline{\mathcal{U}}\|_E \leq \frac{1}{3} \delta. \tag{34}$$



It remains to estimate  $\|\bar{\mathcal{U}} - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1\|_E$ . Define

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \bar{\mathcal{U}}' - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1' \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \left( \bar{\mathcal{U}} - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1 \right)^2$$

and note that using (21) yields

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{E}'| &= \left| \bar{\mathcal{U}}' - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1' \right| \left| G(\bar{\mathcal{U}}, \mathcal{B}) - G(\bar{\mathcal{U}}_1, \mathcal{B}_1) \right| \\ &\leq \left| \bar{\mathcal{U}}' - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1' \right| C\delta \left( |\bar{\mathcal{U}} - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1| + |\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1| \right) \\ &\leq C\delta \left( \mathcal{E} + \left| \bar{\mathcal{U}}' - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1' \right| \|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B e^{-\frac{1}{3}\lambda|x|} \right) \\ &\leq C_4\delta \left( \mathcal{E} + \|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B^2 e^{-\frac{2}{3}\lambda|x|} \right). \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

The following version of Gronwall's inequality will be used:

LEMMA 5. Assume  $\mathcal{E} \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$  is nonnegative and that  $C > 0, D > 0, A_2 > A_1 > 0, A_3 > A_1$  with

$$\mathcal{E}(x) \leq C e^{A_3 x}$$

and

$$|\mathcal{E}'(x)| \leq A_1 \mathcal{E}(x) + D e^{-A_2|x|}$$

for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then

$$\mathcal{E}(x) \leq \frac{2D}{A_2 - A_1} e^{A_1 x - (A_2 - A_1)(-x)_+}.$$

The proof is deferred to the Appendix. Note that from (33) and (34)

$$0 \leq \mathcal{E} \leq C \left( \delta e^{-\frac{2}{3}\sigma(x)} \right)^2 = C\delta^2 e^{-\frac{4}{3}\sigma(x)}$$

follows. Take  $A_3 = \frac{4}{3} \min(\omega, \lambda)$ ,  $A_2 = \frac{2}{3}\lambda$ , and  $A_1 = C_4\delta$  and require

$$\delta \leq \frac{1}{4C_4} \min(A_2, A_3).$$

Now (35) yields

$$|\mathcal{E}'| \leq A_1 \mathcal{E} + C_4\delta \|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B^2 e^{-A_2|x|},$$

so by Lemma 5

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{E}| &\leq \frac{2C_4\delta \|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B^2}{A_2 - A_1} e^{A_1 x - (A_2 - A_1)(-x)_+} \\ &\leq C\delta \|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B^2 e^{-2\beta(x)} \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$|\bar{\mathcal{U}} - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1| + \left| \bar{\mathcal{U}}' - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1' \right| \leq C\delta^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B e^{-\beta(x)}$$

and

$$\|\bar{\mathcal{U}} - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1\|_E + \|\bar{\mathcal{U}}' - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1'\|_E \leq C_5\delta^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1\|_B. \tag{36}$$

Taking  $\delta \leq \frac{1}{2C_1}$  and  $\|\frac{d\mathcal{B}^A}{dx}\|_B \leq \frac{1}{2C_1}$ , (25) yields

$$\|\bar{\mathcal{B}}\|_B + \|\bar{\mathcal{B}}'\|_B \leq \delta. \tag{37}$$

Combining (33), (34), and (37) yields  $(\bar{\mathcal{U}}, \bar{\mathcal{B}}) \in S_\delta$ .

Taking  $\delta \leq \min \left( \frac{1}{8C_2}, \left( \frac{1}{4C_5} \right)^2 \right)$ , (27), (28), and (36) imply that

$$\begin{aligned} & \| \bar{\mathcal{U}} - \bar{\mathcal{U}}_1 \|_E + \| \bar{\mathcal{U}}' - \bar{\mathcal{U}}'_1 \|_E + \| \bar{\mathcal{B}} - \bar{\mathcal{B}}_1 \|_B + \| \bar{\mathcal{B}}' - \bar{\mathcal{B}}'_1 \|_B \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} ( \| \mathcal{U} - \mathcal{U}_1 \|_E + \| \mathcal{B} - \mathcal{B}_1 \|_B ). \end{aligned}$$

It now follows that there is a unique fixed point of  $\mathcal{F}$  in  $S_\delta$ , call it  $(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{B})$ . It further follows that  $(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{B})$  satisfies (10), (13), (14) and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{B}'(x) = 0.$$

#### 4. Appendix: proofs of technical lemmas.

*Proof of Lemma 3.* For  $x \leq 0$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} e^{-\theta\lambda|y|} dy \\ &= e^{-\lambda x} \frac{e^{(1+\theta)\lambda x}}{(1+\theta)\lambda} + e^{\lambda x} \frac{1-e^{-(1-\theta)\lambda x}}{(\theta-1)\lambda} + \frac{e^{\lambda x}}{(1+\theta)\lambda} \\ &\leq \frac{e^{\theta\lambda x}}{(1+\theta)\lambda} + \frac{e^{\theta\lambda x}}{(1-\theta)\lambda} + \frac{e^{\lambda x}}{(1+\theta)\lambda} \leq \frac{3}{(1-\theta)\lambda} e^{-\theta\lambda|x|}. \end{aligned}$$

Since the mapping

$$x \longmapsto \int e^{-\lambda|x-y|} e^{-\theta\lambda|y|} dy$$

is even, the lemma follows.

*Proof of Lemma 4.* For  $x \leq -R$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-\frac{2}{3}(\lambda|y|+\sigma_R(y))} dy &= \frac{3}{2}\lambda^{-1} e^{\frac{2}{3}\lambda x - \frac{2}{3}\sigma_R(x)} \\ &\leq \frac{3}{2}\lambda^{-1} e^{-\frac{4}{3}\sigma_R(x)}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $-R \leq x \leq 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-\frac{2}{3}(\lambda|y|+\sigma_R(y))} dy &\leq \frac{3}{2}\lambda^{-1} e^{-\frac{4}{3}\sigma_R(-R)} + \int_{-R}^x e^{\frac{2}{3}\lambda y + \frac{2}{3}\min(\omega, \lambda)y} dy \\ &\leq \frac{3}{2}\lambda^{-1} e^{-\frac{4}{3}\sigma_R(x)} + \left( \frac{2}{3}\lambda + \frac{2}{3}\min(\omega, \lambda) \right)^{-1} e^{\frac{2}{3}(\lambda + \min(\omega, \lambda))x} \\ &\leq \frac{3}{2}\lambda^{-1} e^{-\frac{4}{3}\sigma_R(x)} + \left( \frac{2}{3}\lambda \right)^{-1} e^{\frac{4}{3}\min(\omega, \lambda)x} \\ &= 3\lambda^{-1} e^{-\frac{4}{3}\sigma_R(x)}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $0 \leq x$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-\frac{2}{3}(\lambda|y|+\sigma_R(y))} dy \leq 3\lambda^{-1}e^{-\frac{4}{3}\sigma_R(0)} + \int_0^x e^{-\frac{2}{3}\lambda y} dy \\
&= 3\lambda^{-1} + \frac{3}{2}\lambda^{-1} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{2}{3}\lambda x}\right) \leq 5\lambda^{-1} \\
&= 5\lambda^{-1}e^{-\frac{4}{3}\sigma_R(x)},
\end{aligned}$$

completing the proof.

*Proof of Lemma 5.* Define

$$\mathcal{R}(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \left( A_1 \mathcal{E}(y) + D e^{-A_2|y|} \right) dy$$

and note that

$$0 \leq \mathcal{E} = \int_{-\infty}^x \mathcal{E}'(y) dy \leq \mathcal{R}$$

and that

$$e^{-A_1 x} \mathcal{R}(x) \leq e^{-A_1 x} \int_{-\infty}^x \left( A_1 C e^{A_3 y} + D e^{-A_2|y|} \right) dy,$$

which tends to zero as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
e^{-A_1 x} \mathcal{R}(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{d}{dy} \left( e^{-A_1 y} \mathcal{R}(y) \right) dy \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-A_1 y} \left( -A_1 \mathcal{R}(y) + A_1 \mathcal{E}(y) + D e^{-A_2|y|} \right) dy \\
&\leq D \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-A_1 y - A_2|y|} dy.
\end{aligned}$$

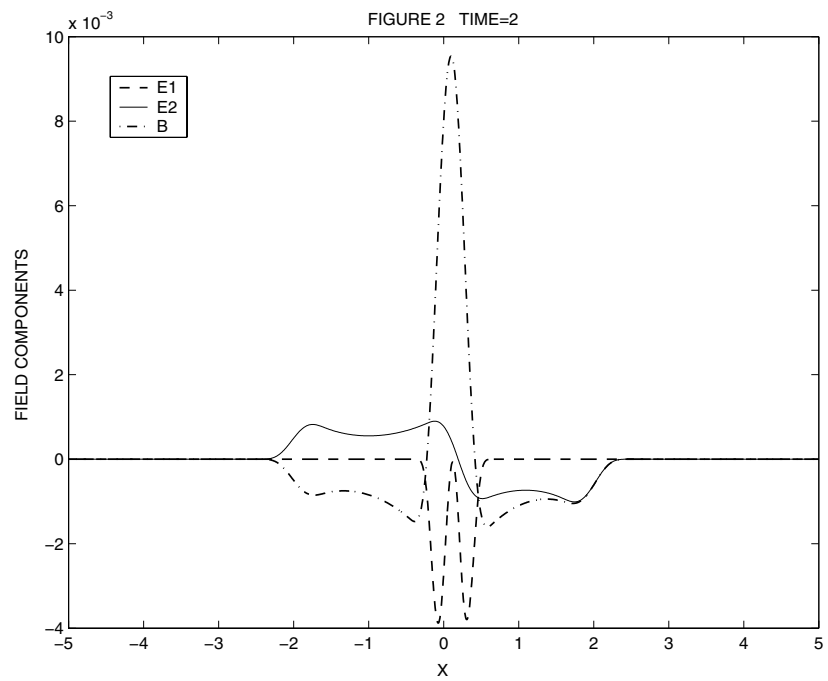
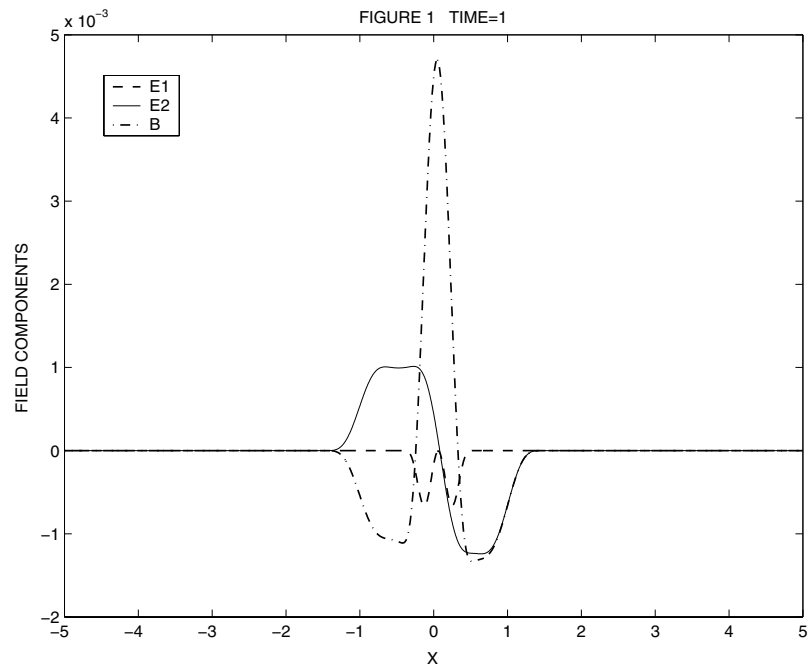
For  $x \leq 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{-\infty}^x e^{-A_1 y - A_2|y|} dy &= \frac{e^{(A_2 - A_1)x}}{A_2 - A_1} \\
&= (A_2 - A_1)^{-1} e^{-(A_2 - A_1)(-x)_+}.
\end{aligned}$$

For  $x > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{-\infty}^x e^{-A_1 y - A_2|y|} dy &= (A_2 - A_1)^{-1} + \int_0^x e^{-(A_1 + A_2)y} dy \\
&\leq (A_2 - A_1)^{-1} + (A_1 + A_2)^{-1} \\
&\leq 2(A_2 - A_1)^{-1} e^{-(A_2 - A_1)(-x)_+}.
\end{aligned}$$

The lemma now follows.



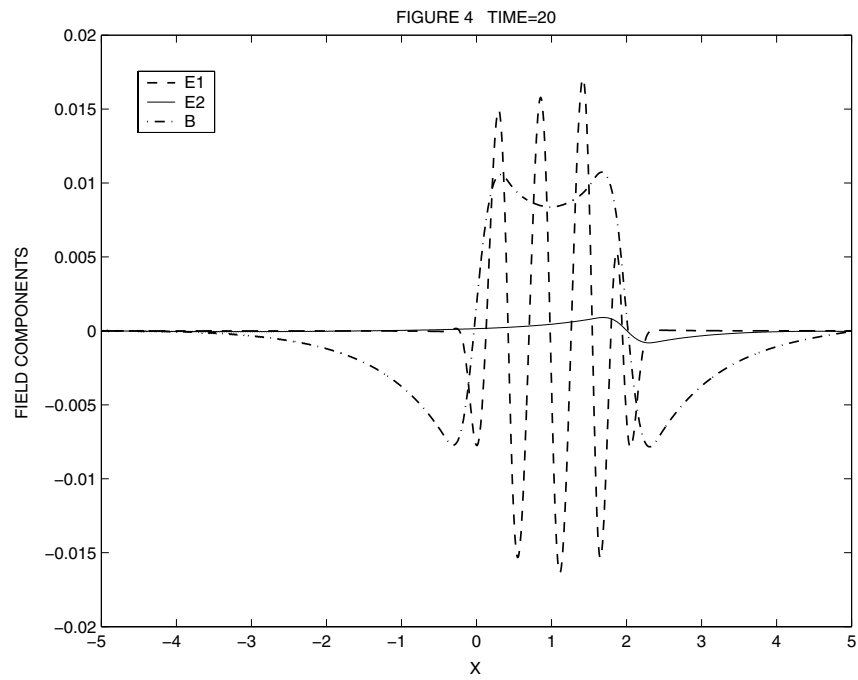
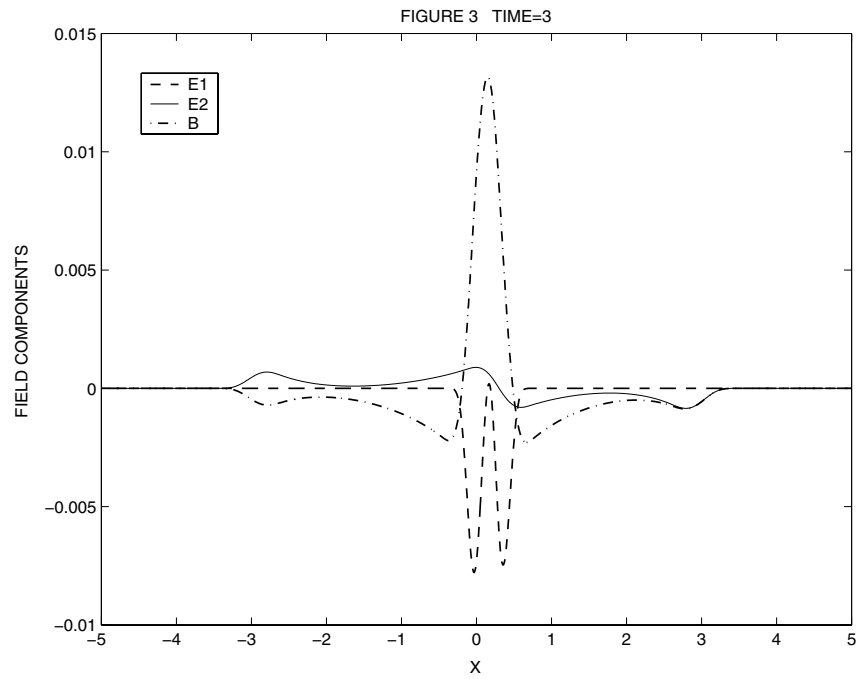


FIGURE 5 TIME=40

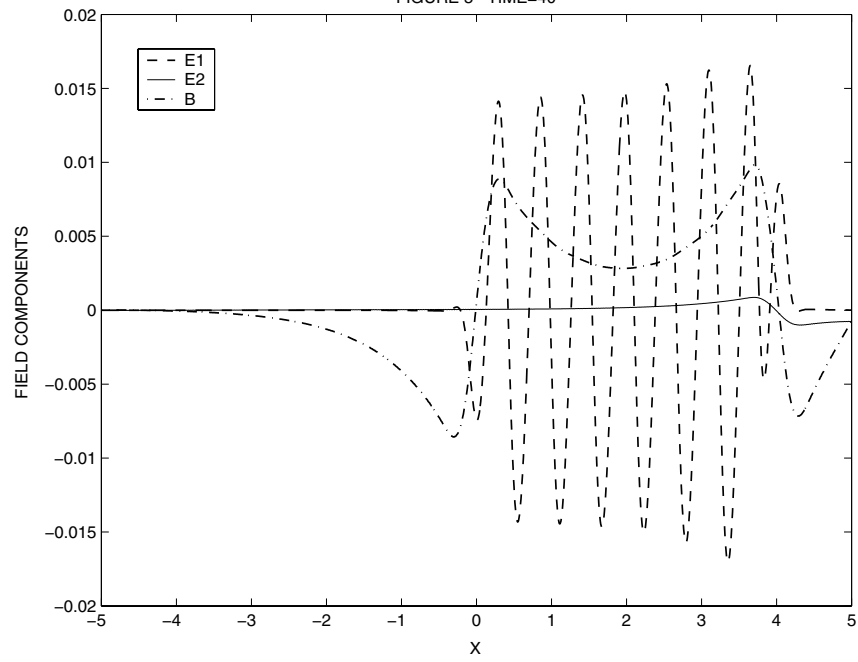
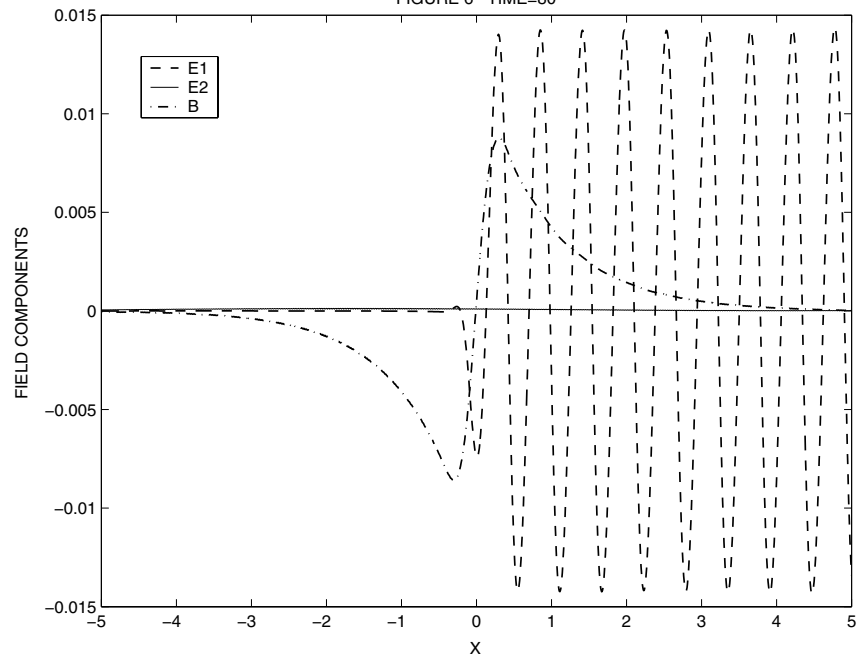
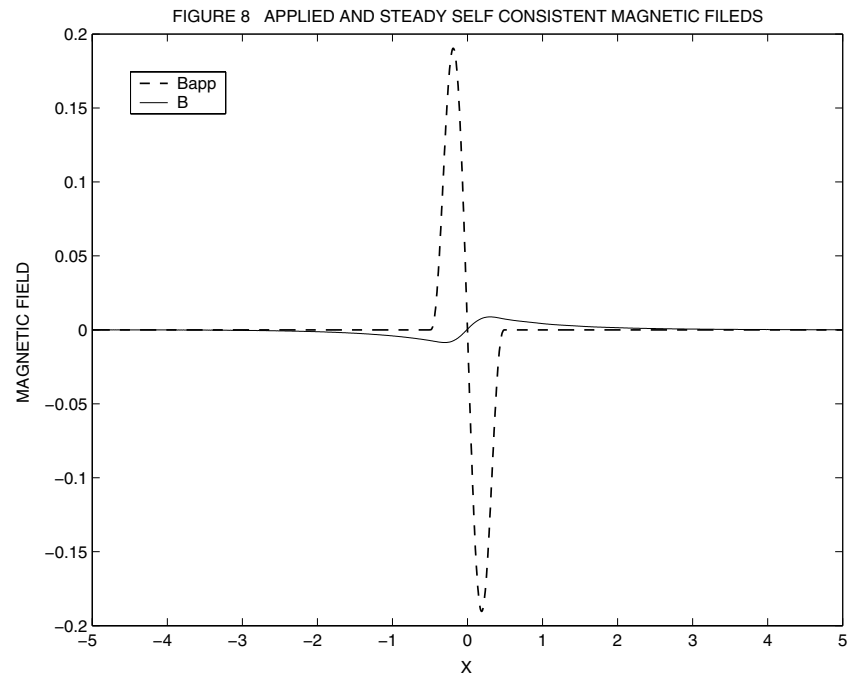
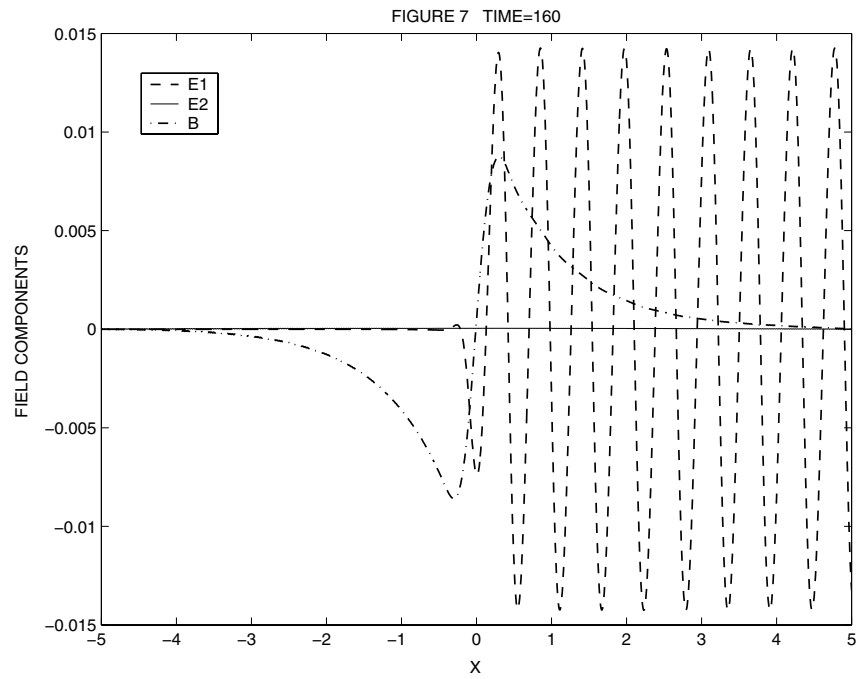
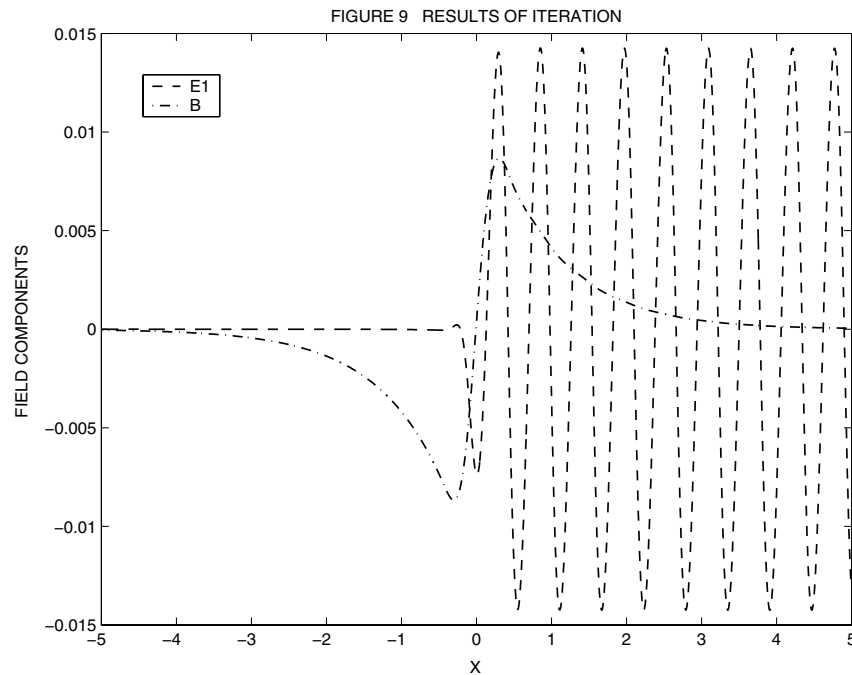


FIGURE 6 TIME=80







## REFERENCES

- [1] Batt, J. and Fabian, K., Stationary Solutions of the Relativistic Vlasov-Maxwell System of Plasma and Physics, *Chin. Ann. of Math.*, **14B:3** (1993), 253-278. MR1264300 (95a:82107)
- [2] Bernstein, I., Greene, J., and Kruskal, M., Exact Nonlinear Plasma Oscillations, *Phys. Rev.*, **108**, 3 (1957), 546-550. MR0102329 (21:1122)
- [3] Birdsall, C. K. and Langdon, A. B., Plasma Physics via Computer Simulation, *McGraw Hill* (1985).
- [4] DiPerna, R. and Lions, P.-L., Global Solutions of Vlasov-Maxwell Systems, *Comm. Pure Appl. Math.*, **42** (1989), 729-757. MR1003433 (90i:35236)
- [5] Glassey, R., The Cauchy Problem in Kinetic Theory, *SIAM: Philadelphia* (1996). MR1379589 (97i:82070)
- [6] Glassey, R. and Schaeffer, J., Global Existence of the Relativistic Vlasov-Maxwell System with Nearly Neutral Initial Data, *Comm. Math. Phys.*, **119** (1988), 353-384. MR0969207 (90b:82042)
- [7] Glassey, R. and Schaeffer, J., On the One and One-Half Dimensional Relativistic Vlasov-Maxwell System, *Math. Meth. Appl. Sci.*, **13** (1990), 169-179. MR1066384 (91g:82054)
- [8] Glassey, R. and Schaeffer, J., The Relativistic Vlasov-Maxwell System in Two Space Dimensions: Part I, *Arch. Rat. Mech. Anal.*, **141** (1998), 331-354. MR1620506 (99d:82071)
- [9] Glassey, R. and Schaeffer, J., The Relativistic Vlasov-Maxwell System in Two Space Dimensions: Part II, *Arch. Rat. Mech. Anal.*, **141** (1998), 355-374. MR1620506 (99d:82071)
- [10] Glassey, R. and Schaeffer, J., The Two and One-Half Dimensional Relativistic Vlasov-Maxwell System, *Comm. Math. Phys.*, **185** (1997), 257-284. MR1463042 (98f:35143)
- [11] Glassey, R. and Schaeffer, J., Convergence of a Particle Method for the Relativistic Vlasov-Maxwell System, *SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis*, **28**(1) (1991), 1-25. MR1083322 (92c:65105)
- [12] Glassey R. and Strauss, W., Absence of Shocks in an Initially Dilute Collisionless Plasma, *Comm. Math. Phys.*, **113** (1987), no. 2, 191-208. MR0919231 (88k:76034)
- [13] Glassey, R. and Strauss, W., Similarity Formation in a Collisionless Plasma Could Occur Only at High Velocities, *Arch. Rat. Mech. Anal.*, **92** (1986), 59-90. MR0816621 (87j:82064)



- [14] Guo, Y., Stable Magnetic Equilibria in Collisionless Plasmas, *Comm. Pure and Applied Math.*, **50** (1997), 891-933. MR1459591 (98g:76080)
- [15] Guo, Y. and Ragazzo, C. G., On Steady States in a Collisionless Plasma, *Comm. Pure and Applied Math.*, **49** (1996), 1145-1174. MR1406662 (97i:82075)
- [16] Guo, Y. and Strauss, W., Instability of periodic BGK equilibria, *Comm. Pure and Applied Math.*, **48** (1995), 861-846. MR1361017 (96j:35252)
- [17] Guo, Y. and Strauss, W., Nonlinear Instability of Double-Humped Equilibria, *Ann. Inst. Henri Poincaré*, **12** (1995), 339-352. MR1340268 (96e:35139)
- [18] Guo, Y. and Strauss, W., Unstable oscillatory-tail solutions, *SIAM J. Math. Analysis*, **30**, no. 5 (1999), 1076-1114. MR1709788 (2000g:35210)
- [19] Horst, E., On the asymptotic growth of the solutions of the Vlasov-Poisson system, *Math. Meth. Appl. Sci.* **16** (1993), 75-85. MR1200156 (94c:45011)
- [20] Lions, P.-L. and Perthame, B., Propagation of Moments and Regularity for the Three Dimensional Vlasov-Poisson System, *Inventiones Mathematicae*, **105** (1991), 415-430. MR1115549 (92e:35160)
- [21] Morawetz, C. S., Magnetohydrodynamical shock structure without collisions, *Phys. Fluids*, **4** (1961), 988-1006.
- [22] Pfaffelmoser, K., Global Classical Solutions of the Vlasov-Poisson System in Three Dimensions for General Initial Data, *J. Diff. Eqn.*, **95(2)** (1992), 281-303. MR1165424 (93d:35170)
- [23] Rein, G., Nonlinear Stability for the Vlasov-Poisson system - the energy - Cashmir method, *Math. Meth. in the Appl. Sci.*, **17** (1994), 1129-1140. MR1303559 (95i:35302)
- [24] Rein, G., Existence of Stationary Collisionless Plasmas on Bounded Domains, *Math. Meth. in the Appl. Sci.*, **15** (1992), 365-374. MR1170533 (93d:82076)
- [25] Rein, G., Generic Global Solutions of the Relativistic Vlasov-Maxwell System of Plasma Physics, *Comm. Math. Phys.*, **135** (1990), 41-78. MR1086751 (91m:35227)
- [26] Schaeffer, J., Global Existence of Smooth Solutions to the Vlasov-Poisson System in Three Dimensions, *Comm. Part. Diff. Eqn.*, **16(8 and 9)** (1991), 1313-1335. MR1132787 (92g:82113)
- [27] Schaeffer, J., Steady States for a One Dimensional Model of the Solar Wind, *Quart. of Appl. Math.*, **59** (2001), 507-528. MR1848532 (2002j:82114)
- [28] Schaeffer, J., The Classical Limit of the Relativistic Vlasov-Maxwell System, *Commun. Math. Phys.*, **104** (1986), 403-421. MR0840744 (87j:82065)
- [29] Schaeffer, J., A Small Data Theorem for Collisionless Plasma that Includes High Velocity Particles, *Indiana University Mathematics Journal* **53**, 1 (2004), 1-34. MR2048181 (2005f:35300)
- [30] Tidman, D. and Krall, N., Shock Waves in Collisionless Plasmas, *Wiley-Interscience* (1971).