

LOCAL EXISTENCE OF POLYNOMIAL DECAY SOLUTIONS TO THE BOLTZMANN EQUATION FOR SOFT POTENTIALS

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ABSTRACT. The existence of classical solutions to the Cauchy problem for the Boltzmann equation without angular cutoff has been extensively studied in the framework when the solution has Maxwellian decay in the velocity variable. cf. [8, 6] and the references therein. In this paper, we prove local existence of solutions with polynomial decay in the velocity variable for the Boltzmann equation with soft potential. In the proof, the *singular* change of variables between post- and pre-collision velocities plays an important role, as well as the *regular* one introduced in the celebrated cancellation lemma by Alexandre-Desvillettes-Villani-Wennberg [1].

1. INTRODUCTION

Consider the Cauchy problem for the Boltzmann equation,

$$(1.1) \quad \partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f = Q(f, f), \quad f(0, x, v) = f_0(x, v),$$

where $f = f(t, x, v)$ is the density distribution function of particles with velocity $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$ at time t and position x . The right hand side of (1.1) is given by the Boltzmann bilinear collision operator

$$Q(g, f)(v) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} B(v - v_*, \sigma) \{g(v'_*)f(v') - g(v_*)f(v)\} d\sigma dv_*,$$

which is well-defined for suitable functions f and g , specified later. Notice that the collision operator $Q(\cdot, \cdot)$ acts only on the velocity variable $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$. In the following discussion, we will use the σ -representation, that is, for $\sigma \in \mathbb{S}^2$,

$$v' = \frac{v + v_*}{2} + \frac{|v - v_*|}{2} \sigma, \quad v'_* = \frac{v + v_*}{2} - \frac{|v - v_*|}{2} \sigma,$$

which follows from the conservation of the moment and energy in the elastic collision. The non-negative cross section $B(z, \sigma)$ depends only on $|z|$ and the scalar product $\frac{z}{|z|} \cdot \sigma$. From the consideration of physical models, it usually takes the form

$$(1.2) \quad B(|v - v_*|, \cos \theta) = \Phi(|v - v_*|)b(\cos \theta), \quad \cos \theta = \frac{v - v_*}{|v - v_*|} \cdot \sigma, \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(|z|) &= \Phi_\gamma(|z|) = |z|^\gamma, \quad \text{for some } \gamma > -3, \\ b(\cos \theta)\theta^{2+2s} &\rightarrow K \quad \text{when } \theta \rightarrow 0+, \quad \text{for } 0 < s < 1 \text{ and } K > 0. \end{aligned}$$

In fact, if the inter-molecule potential satisfies the inverse power law with potential being $U(\rho) = \rho^{-(q-1)}$, $q > 2$, where ρ denotes the distance between the two

interacting molecules, then s and γ are given by

$$0 < s = 1/(q-1) < 1, \quad 1 > \gamma = 1 - 4s = (q-5)/(q-1) > -3.$$

As usual, the hard ($\gamma > 0$) and soft ($\gamma < 0$) potentials correspond to $q > 5$ and $2 < q < 5$, respectively, and the Maxwellian potential ($\gamma = 0$) corresponds to $q = 5$.

The angle θ is the deviation angle, i.e., the angle between post- and pre-collisional velocities. Though the range of θ is originally the interval $[0, \pi]$, it should be noted that the angle θ in (1.2) is now restricted to $[0, \pi/2]$, as in [1], by replacing $b(\cos \theta)$ by its “symmetrized” version

$$[b(\cos \theta) + b(\cos(\pi - \theta))]\mathbf{1}_{0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2},$$

which is possible due to the invariance of the product $f(v')f(v'_*)$ in the collision operator $Q(f, f)$ under the change of variables $\sigma \rightarrow -\sigma$. This enables us to use the *regular* change of variables $v \rightarrow v'$ between post- and pre-collisional velocities (see the proof of the cancellation lemma in [1] and (2.3) below).

The *singular* change of variables $v_* \rightarrow v'$ was firstly introduced in [9, 2] to show the existence of solutions to the linearized Boltzmann equation, and was used in [3, 4, 7] to show the uniqueness of solutions with polynomial decay in the velocity variable to the nonlinear Boltzmann equation for Maxwellian and soft potentials.

The purpose of the present paper is to give a local existence result concerning polynomial decay solutions in the velocity variable to the nonlinear Boltzmann equation for certain soft potentials. Namely, because of the technical difficulties, we confine ourselves to the case

$$(1.3) \quad 0 < s < \frac{1}{2}, \quad -\frac{3}{2} < \gamma \leq 0,$$

though the uniqueness of solutions was discussed in [7] under a more general condition that requires $0 < s < 1$ and $\max\{-3, -2s - 3/2\} < \gamma \leq 0$.

We introduce the function space for the solutions as follows. Set

$$\partial_\beta^\alpha = \partial_x^\alpha \partial_v^\beta, \quad \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}^3,$$

and

$$(1.4) \quad \mathcal{W} = \begin{cases} \langle v \rangle & \text{if } 0 < s \leq 1/4, \\ \langle v \rangle^{2s/(1-2s)} & \text{if } 1/4 < s < 1/2, \end{cases}$$

which ensures $\langle v \rangle \leq \min\{\mathcal{W}^{\frac{1-2s}{2s}}, \mathcal{W}\}$ for the later use. As in [5], we use a weight function in both the space and velocity variables

$$(1.5) \quad \phi(x, v) = \frac{1}{1 + |v|^2 + |x|^2},$$

which possesses the commutator property $[[v \cdot \nabla_x, \phi]] = 2|v \cdot x|\phi^2 \leq \phi$. For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $\ell \in \mathbb{R}$ with $k < \ell$, we define

$$(1.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k, \ell}(\mathbb{R}^6) &= \{g \mid \|g\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k, \ell}(\mathbb{R}^6)}^2 \\ &= \sum_{|\alpha+\beta| \leq k} \sup_{a \in \mathbb{R}^3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^6} \left| \phi(x-a, v) \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha g(x, v) \right|^2 dx dv < +\infty\}. \end{aligned}$$

The function space $\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k, \ell}(\mathbb{R}^6)$ is a variant of the uniformly local Sobolev space $H_{ul}^{k, \ell}(\mathbb{R}^6)$ used in [6], which is defined by replacing $\mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|}$ and $\phi(x, v)$ by $\langle v \rangle^\ell$ and a usual smooth cutoff function $\phi_1(x) \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3)$, respectively. In [6], bounded classical solution with Maxwellian decay in the velocity variable is constructed in

the whole space without specifying any limit behavior at the spatial infinity and without assuming the smallness condition on initial data, under the assumption $0 < s < 1/2$, $-3/2 < \gamma$, $\gamma + 2s < 1$ on the cross section B .

Now for the local existence of polynomial decay solution in the velocity variable, we have the following improvement of Theorem 1.1 of [6] for the soft potentials.

Theorem 1.1. *Assume that the cross section B takes the form (1.2) and satisfies (1.3). If the initial data f_0 is non-negative and belongs to $\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}(\mathbb{R}^6)$ for $k \geq 6$ and $\ell \geq k + 7$, then there exists a $T_* > 0$ such that the Cauchy problem (1.1) admits a non-negative unique solution in the function space $C^0([0, T_*]; \mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}(\mathbb{R}^6))$.*

Throughout this paper, we will use the following notation: $A \lesssim B$ means that there exists a generic positive constant $C > 0$ such that $A \leq CB$. Furthermore, $A \sim B$ means that $A \lesssim B$ and $B \lesssim A$.

The rest of the paper will be organized as follows. In the next section, we will present some preliminary lemmas, in particular, including an estimate about how to compensate the order of moment and the order of differentiation that is one of the key observations in the analysis. The uniform estimate based on the estimations on the commutators and the collision operator will be given in Section 3. In Section 4, we study the cutoff approximations for the construction of local solutions. Finally, the technical estimation on the gain part of the collision operator will be given in the last section.

2. PRELIMINARY LEMMAS

First we prepare a lemma concerning the interpolation of moments and derivatives.

Lemma 2.1. *Let $m > 0$ and $0 < \delta < 1$. Then for any $f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, we have*

$$\|\langle v \rangle^{-m\delta} \langle D_v \rangle^\delta f\| \lesssim \|f\| + \|\langle v \rangle^{-m} \langle D_v \rangle f\|.$$

Proof. Take the Paley-Littlewood decomposition

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \varphi_j(v) = 1, \quad \varphi_0 \in C_0^\infty, \quad \varphi_j(v) = \varphi(2^{-j}v) \text{ for } j \geq 1,$$

where $\varphi \in C_0^\infty$ with $\text{supp } \varphi \subset \{1 \leq |v| \leq 2\}$. It follows from the locally finite covering property that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\langle v \rangle^{-m\delta} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \varphi_j \langle D_v \rangle^\delta f\|^2 &\lesssim \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \|\langle v \rangle^{-m\delta} \varphi_j \langle D_v \rangle^\delta f\|^2 \\ &\lesssim \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} 4^{-mj\delta} \|\varphi_j \langle D_v \rangle^\delta f\|^2 \\ &\lesssim \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \left(4^{-mj\delta} \|\langle D_v \rangle^\delta \varphi_j f\|^2 + 4^{-mj\delta} \|[\varphi_j, \langle D_v \rangle^\delta] f\|^2 \right) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} I_j + \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} R_j. \end{aligned}$$

Since $[\varphi_j, \langle D_v \rangle^\delta]$ is a L^2 bounded operator uniformly with respect to j , we have

$$\sum R_j \lesssim \|f\|^2 \sum 4^{-mj\delta} \lesssim \|f\|^2.$$

Noting $\left(\frac{\langle \xi \rangle^2}{4^{mj}}\right)^\delta \leq 1 + \frac{\langle \xi \rangle^2}{4^{mj}}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} I_j &\leq \|\varphi_j f\|^2 + 4^{-mj} \|\langle D_v \rangle \varphi_j f\|^2 \\ &\lesssim \|\varphi_j f\|^2 + 4^{-mj} \|\varphi_j \langle D_v \rangle f\|^2 + 4^{-mj} \|[\langle D_v \rangle, \varphi_j] f\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

from which we have $\sum I_j \lesssim \|f\|^2 + \|\langle v \rangle^{-m} \langle D_v \rangle f\|^2$ because

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \varphi_j^2 \lesssim 1, \quad \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} 4^{-mj} \varphi_j^2 \lesssim \langle v \rangle^{-2m}.$$

□

Lemma 2.2. *Let $\phi(x, v)$ be the function defined in (1.5). Then we have*

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_x^3; L^2(\mathbb{R}_v))} &\lesssim \sum_{|\alpha| \leq 2} \sup_{a \in \mathbb{R}_x^3} \|\phi(x-a, v) \langle v \rangle^2 \partial_x^\alpha f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \\ &\sim \sup_{a \in \mathbb{R}_x^3} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi(x-a, v) \langle v \rangle^2 f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. If we denote $g(x, v; a) = \langle v \rangle^2 f(x, v) / (1 + |v|^2 + |x-a|^2)$, then it follows from the Sobolev embedding that

$$\begin{aligned} |f(a, v)|^2 &\leq \|g(\cdot, v; a)\|_{L_x^\infty}^2 \lesssim \|(1 - \Delta_x) g(\cdot, v; a)\|_{L_x^2}^2 \\ &\lesssim \sum_{|\alpha| \leq 2} \int_{\mathbb{R}_x^3} |\phi(x-a, v) \langle v \rangle^2 \partial_x^\alpha f(x, v)|^2 dx. \end{aligned}$$

Here the last inequality follows from $|\partial_x^\alpha \phi| \lesssim \phi$. Integrating both sides with respect to v , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}_v^3} |f(a, v)|^2 dv &\lesssim \sum_{|\alpha| \leq 2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^6} |\phi(x-a, v) \langle v \rangle^2 \partial_x^\alpha f(x, v)|^2 dx dv \\ &\lesssim \sum_{|\alpha| \leq 2} \sup_{a' \in \mathbb{R}_x^3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^6} |\phi(x-a', v) \langle v \rangle^2 \partial_x^\alpha f(x, v)|^2 dx dv, \end{aligned}$$

which gives the desired estimate because $a \in \mathbb{R}^3$ is arbitrary. □

For the estimation on $\|Q(\partial^k f, \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-k} f)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)}$, we need the following

Lemma 2.3. *Denote $\phi_a(x, v) = \phi(x-a, v)$. Then we have*

$$\begin{aligned} &\int \|f(x, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}^2 \|\phi_a(x, \cdot) g(x, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}^2 dx \\ &\lesssim \int \|\phi_a(x, \cdot) f(x, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}^2 \|g(x, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}^2 dx \\ &\lesssim \|\phi_a \langle v \rangle^2 f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)}^2 \|g\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_x^3; L^2(\mathbb{R}_v))}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. This is a direct consequence of

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, v_*)\phi_a(x, v)g(x, v) &= \langle v_* \rangle^2 \phi_a(x, v_*)f(x, v_*)\phi_a(x, v)g(x, v) \\ &\quad + \phi_a(x, v_*)f(x, v_*)(|x - a|^2 \phi_a(x, v))g(x, v). \end{aligned}$$

□

For the weight $W_{\phi, \ell}(v) = \phi(x, v)\langle v \rangle^\ell$, we first recall Lemma 3.1 and Remark 3.2 of [7] summarized as follows.

Lemma 2.4. *For $\ell \geq 4$, we have*

$$(2.1) \quad |W_{\phi, \ell}(v) - W_{\phi, \ell}(v')| \lesssim \frac{\theta \langle v \rangle^\ell \langle v_* \rangle^3 + \theta^{\ell-2} \langle v_* \rangle^\ell}{1 + |v|^2 + |v_*|^2 + |x|^2}.$$

For the commutator of $W_{\phi, \ell}(v)$ and the collision operator, we have

Lemma 2.5. *If $-3/2 < \gamma \leq 0$, $0 < s < 1/2$ and $l > \max\{\frac{7}{2} + 2s, 4\}$, then we have*

$$(2.2) \quad \begin{aligned} &\left| \left((W_{\phi, \ell} Q(f, g) - Q(f, W_{\phi, \ell} g)), h \right)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \right| \\ &\lesssim \|h\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \left(\min \{ \|\phi f\|_{L_5^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|g\|_{L_\ell^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}, \|f\|_{L_5^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\phi g\|_{L_\ell^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \min \{ \|\phi f\|_{L_\ell^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|g\|_{L_2^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}, \|f\|_{L_\ell^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\phi g\|_{L_2^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \} \right), \end{aligned}$$

by regarding x in ϕ as a parameter.

Proof. It follows from (2.1) that

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \left(W_{\phi, \ell} Q(f, g) - Q(f, W_{\phi, \ell} g), h \right)_{L^2} \right| \\ &\lesssim \iiint |v - v_*|^\gamma \mathbf{1}_{|v - v_*| \leq 1} b \theta \langle v_* \rangle^3 f_* |\langle v \rangle^\ell g| |h'| \min\{\phi_*, \phi\} dv dv_* d\sigma \\ &\quad + \iiint b \theta \langle v'_* \rangle^3 f'_* |\langle v' \rangle^\ell g'| \min\{\phi'_*, \phi'\} |h| dv dv_* d\sigma \\ &\quad + \iiint b \theta^{\ell-2} \langle v'_* \rangle^\ell f'_* |g'| \min\{\phi'_*, \phi'\} |h| dv dv_* d\sigma \\ &= B_1 + B_2 + B_3, \end{aligned}$$

where $\phi_* = \phi(x, v_*)$, $\phi' = \phi(x, v')$ and so on. By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} B_1^2 &\lesssim \iiint |v - v_*|^\gamma \mathbf{1}_{|v - v_*| \leq 1} b \theta \langle v_* \rangle^3 \tilde{f}_* |\langle v \rangle^\ell \tilde{g}|^2 dv dv_* d\sigma \\ &\quad \times \iiint |v' - v_*|^\gamma \mathbf{1}_{|v' - v_*| \leq 2} b \theta \langle v_* \rangle^3 \tilde{f}_* |h'|^2 dv dv_* d\sigma \\ &= B_{11} \times B_{12}, \end{aligned}$$

where (\tilde{f}, \tilde{g}) equals $(f, \phi g)$ or $(\phi f, g)$. Since it follows from $0 < s < 1/2$ that $\int b \theta d\sigma < \infty$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} B_{11} &\lesssim \int \left(\int |v - v_*|^{2\gamma} \mathbf{1}_{|v - v_*| \leq 1} dv_* \int \langle v_* \rangle^3 \tilde{f}_*^2 dv_* \right)^{1/2} |\langle v \rangle^\ell \tilde{g}|^2 dv \\ &\lesssim \|\tilde{f}\|_{L_3^2} \|\tilde{g}\|_{L_\ell^2}^2, \end{aligned}$$

because $\gamma > -3/2$. The estimation on B_{12} is obtained with the help of the *regular* change of variables

$$(2.3) \quad v \mapsto v' = \frac{v + v_*}{2} + \frac{|v - v_*|}{2} \sigma,$$

which was introduced in [1]. Note that for this change of variables, the Jacobian satisfies

$$(2.4) \quad \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial v'} \right| = \frac{8}{|I + \mathbf{k} \otimes \sigma|} = \frac{8}{|1 + \mathbf{k} \cdot \sigma|} = \frac{4}{\cos^2(\theta/2)} \leq 8, \quad \theta \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}].$$

As in [1], note that after this change of variables, $\mathbf{k} = (v - v_*)/|v - v_*|$ is a function of v_*, v', σ so that θ no longer plays the role of polar angle because the “pole” k moves with σ so that the surface measure $d\sigma$ is no longer given by $\sin \theta d\theta d\phi$. Therefore, we need a new pole which is independent of σ to carry out the integration in σ . A possible (and indeed the best) choice is $\mathbf{k}' = (v' - v_*)/|v' - v_*|$, for which the polar angle ψ defined by $\cos \psi = \mathbf{k}' \cdot \sigma$ satisfies (cf. [1, Fig. 1]),

$$\psi = \frac{\theta}{2}, \quad d\sigma = \sin \psi d\psi d\phi, \quad \psi \in [0, \frac{\pi}{4}].$$

This implies that θ works almost as polar angle and we can write

$$B_{12} \lesssim \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |v' - v_*|^\gamma \mathbf{1}_{|v' - v_*| \leq 2} |\langle v_* \rangle^3 \tilde{f}_*| D_0(v_*, v') dv_* \right) |h'|^2 dv',$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} D_0(v_*, v') &= \int_{S^2} \theta(v_*, v', \sigma) b(\cos \theta(v_*, v', \sigma)) d\sigma \\ &\lesssim \int_0^{\pi/4} \psi b(\cos 2\psi) \sin \psi d\psi < +\infty. \end{aligned}$$

This deduces $B_{12} \lesssim \|\tilde{f}\|_{L^2_3} \|h\|_{L^2}^2$, and then

$$(2.5) \quad |B_1| \lesssim \|\tilde{f}\|_{L^2_3} \|\tilde{g}\|_{L^2_\ell} \|h\|_{L^2}.$$

Using the regular change of variables $v \rightarrow v'$ again, we have

$$(2.6) \quad |B_2| \lesssim \|\tilde{f}\|_{L^1_3} \|\tilde{g}\|_{L^2_\ell} \|h\|_{L^2} \lesssim \|\tilde{f}\|_{L^2_5} \|\tilde{g}\|_{L^2_\ell} \|h\|_{L^2},$$

by the almost same procedure. As for B_3 , we firstly have

$$\begin{aligned} B_3^2 &= \left(\iiint b \theta^{\ell-2} |\langle v_* \rangle^\ell \tilde{f}_*| |\tilde{g}| |h'| dv dv_* d\sigma \right)^2 \\ &\leq \iiint b \theta^{\ell-2-\frac{3}{2}} |\tilde{g}| |\langle v_* \rangle^\ell \tilde{f}_*|^2 dv dv_* d\sigma \\ &\quad \times \iiint b \theta^{\ell-2+\frac{3}{2}} |\tilde{g}| |h'|^2 dv dv_* d\sigma \\ &= B_{31} \times B_{32}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, if $\ell - 2 - \frac{3}{2} - 2s - 1 > -1$, that is, $\ell > 2s + \frac{7}{2}$, we have

$$B_{31} \leq C \|\tilde{g}\|_{L^1} \|\tilde{f}\|_{L^2_\ell}^2.$$

On the other hand, for B_{32} we need to apply the *singular* change of variables $v_* \rightarrow v'$. The Jacobian of this transform is, with $\mathbf{k} = (v - v_*)/|v - v_*|$,

$$(2.7) \quad \left| \frac{\partial v_*}{\partial v'} \right| = \frac{8}{|I - \mathbf{k} \otimes \sigma|} = \frac{8}{|1 - \mathbf{k} \cdot \sigma|} = \frac{4}{\sin^2(\theta/2)} \leq 16\theta^{-2}, \quad \theta \in [0, \pi/2].$$

Notice that this gives rise to an additional singularity in the angle θ around 0. Actually, the situation is even worse in the following sense. Recall that θ is no longer legitimate polar angle. In this case, the best choice of the pole is $\mathbf{k}'' = (v' - v)/|v' - v|$ for which polar angle ψ defined by $\cos \psi = \mathbf{k}'' \cdot \sigma$ satisfies (cf. [1, Fig. 1])

$$\psi = \frac{\pi - \theta}{2}, \quad d\sigma = \sin \psi d\psi d\phi, \quad \psi \in [\frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{\pi}{2}].$$

This measure does not cancel the singularity of $b(\cos \theta)$, unlike the case in the usual polar coordinates. Nevertheless, this singular change of variables yields

$$\begin{aligned} B_{32} &\lesssim \iiint b |\theta|^{\ell-2+\frac{3}{2}} |\tilde{g}| |h'|^2 dv dv_* d\sigma \\ &\lesssim \iint D_1(v, v') |\tilde{g}| |h'|^2 dv dv', \end{aligned}$$

with

$$D_1(v, v') = \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} \theta^{\ell-2+\frac{3}{2}-2} b(\cos \theta) d\sigma \lesssim \int_{\pi/4}^{\pi/2} \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \psi\right)^{-2-2s+\ell-2+\frac{3}{2}-2} d\psi < \infty,$$

because of $\ell > \frac{7}{2} + 2s$. Therefore,

$$B_{32} \lesssim \|\tilde{g}\|_{L^1} \|h\|_{L^2}^2 \lesssim \|\tilde{g}\|_{L^2} \|h\|_{L^2}^2,$$

which concludes

$$|B_3| \lesssim \|\tilde{f}\|_{L^2} \|\tilde{g}\|_{L^2} \|h\|_{L^2}.$$

This together with (2.5) and (2.6) yield the desired estimate. \square

Before ending this section, we recall the upper and lower bound estimates. It follows from Proposition 2.9 of [5] that

Proposition 2.6. *Let $0 < s < 1$ and $\gamma > \max\{-3, -2s - 3/2\}$. Then we have*

$$(2.8) \quad \left| (Q(f, g), h)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \right| \lesssim \left(\|f\|_{L^1_{(\gamma+2s)+}(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} + \|f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \right) \|g\|_{H^{2s}_{(\gamma+2s)+}(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|h\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}.$$

Proposition 2.7. *Let $0 < s < 1$ and $-3/2 < \gamma \leq 0$. Then we have*

$$(2.9) \quad \begin{aligned} (Q(f, h), h) &\leq -\frac{1}{2} \iiint B f_*(h - h')^2 dv dv_* d\sigma \\ &\quad + C \left(\|f\|_{L^1} + \|f\|_{L^2} \right) \|h\|_{L^2}^2. \end{aligned}$$

The above proposition is a direct consequence of the cancellation lemma [1].

3. UNIFORM ESTIMATE

In this section, we will obtain a uniform estimate for solutions in the given function space. We will start with the commutator estimate. For simplicity of notation, we denote $\phi_a = \phi(x - a, v)$. By using the fact that $\langle v \rangle \leq \mathcal{W}$, the following lemma on the commutator follows from Lemma 2.5 and Lemma 2.2.

Lemma 3.1. *If $-3/2 < \gamma \leq 0$, $0 < s < 1/2$ and $\ell \geq 5$, then*

$$(3.1) \quad \left| \left((\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell Q(f, g) - Q(f, \phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g)), h \right)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \right| \\ \lesssim \|h\| \left[\min \left\{ \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^5 f\| \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell+2} g\| \right), \right. \right. \\ \left. \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^7 f\| \right) \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g\| \right\} \\ + \min \left\{ \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell f\| \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^4 g\| \right), \right. \\ \left. \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell+2} f\| \right) \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^2 g\| \right\} \right],$$

where $\|\cdot\| = \|\cdot\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)}$.

Now by $\langle v \rangle^{2s} \leq \mathcal{W}^{1-2s}$, the following upper bound estimate follows from Proposition 2.6 and Lemma 2.2.

Lemma 3.2. *Let $0 < s < 1/2$ and $0 \geq \gamma > \max\{-3, -2s - 3/2\}$. Then*

$$(3.2) \quad \left| (Q(f, \phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g), h)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \right| \lesssim \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^5 f\| \right) \\ \left(\|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell+1} g\| + \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell \nabla_v g\| \right) \|h\|,$$

and

$$(3.3) \quad \left| (Q(f, \phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g), h)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \right| \lesssim \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^5 f\| \\ \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell+3} g\| + \sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell+2} \nabla_v g\| \right) \|h\|.$$

Proof. Since $\langle v \rangle^{2s} \leq \mathcal{W}^{1-2s}$, it follows from Lemma 2.1 that we have

$$\|G\|_{H_{(\gamma+2s)^+}^{2s}(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \lesssim \|\mathcal{W}^{1-2s} \langle D_v \rangle^{2s} G\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \\ \lesssim \|\mathcal{W} G\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} + \|\nabla_v G\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}.$$

Let $G = \phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g$, then the above estimate together with Lemma 2.2 yield the first estimate in the lemma. The second estimate is a direct consequence of Lemma 2.3. \square

By Proposition 2.7 together with Lemma 2.2, we have

Lemma 3.3. *If $0 < s < 1$, $-3/2 < \gamma \leq 0$ and $f \geq 0$, then we have*

$$(3.4) \quad \left(Q(f, \phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g), \phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g \right)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \lesssim \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^4 f\| \right) \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g\|^2.$$

With the above preparation, we now perform the energy estimate for obtaining the uniform estimate on the solution. By differentiating the equation by $\partial_x^\alpha \partial_v^\beta$ with $|\alpha + \beta| \leq k$, where k will be chosen later, and multiplying it by $\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.5) \quad & (\partial_t + v \cdot \nabla_x) \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f - \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} Q(f, \partial_\beta^\alpha f) \\
 & = [v \cdot \nabla_x, \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha] f \\
 & \quad + \sum_{|\alpha' + \beta'| \neq 0} \frac{\alpha'! \beta'! \alpha''! \beta''!}{\alpha! \beta!} \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} Q(\partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f, \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if $f \geq 0$ then it follows from (3.4) and (3.1) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} Q(f, \partial_\beta^\alpha f), \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \\
 & \lesssim \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^7 f\| \right) \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f\|^2 \\
 & \quad + \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f\| \min \left\{ \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} f\| \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^4 \partial_\beta^\alpha f\| \right), \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|+2} f\| \right) \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^2 \partial_\beta^\alpha f\| \right\} \\
 & = A + B.
 \end{aligned}$$

If $|\alpha + \beta| \geq 4$ then

$$\begin{aligned}
 B & \lesssim \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f\|^2 \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|+2} f\| \right) \\
 & \lesssim \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f\|^2 \left(\sum_{|\alpha'| \leq 2} \sup_{a'} \|\phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha'|} \partial^{\alpha'} f\| \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, when $|\alpha + \beta| \leq 3$ then

$$\begin{aligned}
 B & \lesssim \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f\| \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell f\| \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^4 \partial_\beta^\alpha f\| \right) \\
 & \lesssim \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f\| \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell f\| \left(\sum_{|\alpha' + \beta'| \leq 5} \sup_{a'} \|\phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha' + \beta'|} \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

when $\ell \geq 9$ is assumed, which is also enough to estimate A .

When $|\alpha' + \beta'| \neq 0$, by means of (3.2), (3.3) and (3.1) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| (\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} Q(\partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f, \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f), \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \right| \\
 & \lesssim \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f\| (D_1 + D_2 + D_3),
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_1 & = \min \left\{ \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^5 \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \right) \right. \\
 & \quad \times \left(\|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|+1} \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| + \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \nabla_v \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right), \\
 & \quad \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^5 \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|+3} \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \left. + \sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|+2} \nabla_v \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right) \right\},
 \end{aligned}$$

$$D_2 = \min \left\{ \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^5 \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha + \beta| + 2} \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right), \right. \\ \left. \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^7 \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \right) \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha + \beta|} \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right\},$$

and

$$D_3 = \min \left\{ \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha + \beta|} \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^4 \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right), \right. \\ \left. \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha + \beta| + 2} \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \right) \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^2 \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right\}.$$

If $1 \leq |\alpha' + \beta'| \leq k - 2$ then $|\alpha'' + \beta''| \leq |\alpha + \beta| - 1$, from which we have

$$D_1 + D_2 \lesssim \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^7 \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \right) \\ \times \left(\|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha'' + \beta''|} \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| + \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell - (|\alpha'' + \beta''| + 1)} \nabla_v \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right)$$

provided that $\ell \geq k + 7$. On the other hand, if $|\alpha' + \beta'| \geq k - 1$ and $k \geq 6$, then we have

$$\ell - |\alpha + \beta| + 3 = \ell - (|\alpha'' + \beta''| + 2) + 5 - |\alpha' + \beta'| \leq \ell - (|\alpha'' + \beta''| + 2)$$

and therefore

$$D_1 + D_2 \lesssim \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^5 \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha + \beta| + 3} \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right. \\ \left. + \sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha + \beta| + 2} \nabla_v \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right) \\ \lesssim \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k, \ell}}^2.$$

It remains to estimate D_3 . If $|\alpha'' + \beta''| \leq k - 2$, then

$$D_3 \lesssim \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha + \beta|} \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^4 \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right) \lesssim \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k, \ell}}^2.$$

While, if $|\alpha'' + \beta''| \geq k - 1$, then it follows from $k \geq 6$ that

$$\ell - |\alpha + \beta| + 2 \leq \ell - (|\alpha' + \beta'| + 2) - (k - 1) + 2 < \ell - (|\alpha' + \beta'| + 2),$$

from which we have

$$D_3 \lesssim \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha + \beta| + 2} \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \right) \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^2 \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \lesssim \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k, \ell}}^2.$$

Notice that

$$\|[v \cdot \nabla_x, \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha + \beta|} \partial_{\beta}^{\alpha}] f\| \\ \lesssim \sum_{e_j \leq \beta} \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha + \beta|} \partial_{\beta - e_j}^{\alpha + e_j} f\| + \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell - |\alpha + \beta|} \partial_{\beta}^{\alpha} f\| \lesssim \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k, \ell}}.$$

In summary, let $T > 0$ and $f(t) \in C^0([0, T]; \mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k, \ell}(\mathbb{R}^6))$ with $k \geq 6$ and $\ell \geq k + 7$. If we put

$$\mathcal{E}(t) = \|f(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k, \ell}}^2,$$

then there exists a $C > 0$ depending only on s, γ, k, ℓ and $K > 0$ in the hypothesis of b such that

$$(3.6) \quad \mathcal{E}(t) \leq \mathcal{E}(0) + C \int_0^t \mathcal{E}(\tau)(1 + \mathcal{E}(\tau))d\tau, \quad t \in [0, T].$$

To make the argument rigorous, in fact, we can choose $S(\tau) \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ satisfies $S(\tau) = 1$ for $|\tau| \leq 1$ and put $S_N(D_x) = S(|D_x|^2/N)$ for $N \in \mathbb{N}$, then we have

$$\left(v \cdot \nabla_x (S_N(D_x) \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f), S_N(D_x) \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f \right)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} = 0,$$

and

$$\left(F, S_N(D_x)^2 G \right)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \rightarrow \left(F, G \right)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)}, \quad (N \rightarrow \infty), \quad F, G \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^6).$$

Therefore, multiplying $S_N(D_x)^2 \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_\beta^\alpha f$ by (3.5) and integrating with respect to t, x , by means of the limiting procedure $N \rightarrow \infty$, we have (3.6) in view of above estimations.

It follows from (3.6) that we have

$$\mathcal{E}(t) \leq \frac{\mathcal{E}(0)e^{Ct}}{1 - (e^{Ct} - 1)\mathcal{E}(0)},$$

by exactly the same calculation as the one after (4.3.11) of [3]. If we choose $T_* > 0$ small enough such that

$$T_* = \frac{1}{C} \log \left(1 + \frac{3}{1 + 4\|f_0\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}(\mathbb{R}^6)}} \right)$$

then we obtain a uniform estimate

$$(3.7) \quad \|f(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}(\mathbb{R}^6)} \leq 2\|f_0\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}(\mathbb{R}^6)} \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T_*].$$

4. CUTOFF APPROXIMATION

To complete the proof of local existence, we still need to construct a sequence of approximate solutions.

As usual, we construct the approximate solutions by angular cutoff approximation. That is, for $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$, we approximate (cutoff) the cross section by

$$b_\varepsilon(\cos \theta) = \begin{cases} b(\cos \theta) & (\theta \geq 2\varepsilon), \\ 0 & (\theta < 2\varepsilon). \end{cases}$$

Theorem 4.1 (Cutoff case). *Assume that $-3/2 < \gamma \leq 0$ and replace the angular factor of the cross section b by b_ε . If the initial data f_0 is non-negative and belongs to $\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}(\mathbb{R}^6)$ for $k \geq 5, \ell \geq k + 7$, then, there exists a $T_\varepsilon > 0$ such that the Cauchy problem (1.1) admits a non-negative unique solution $f^\varepsilon(t, x, v)$ in the function space $C^0([0, T_\varepsilon]; \mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}(\mathbb{R}^6))$.*

Remark 4.2. *In the cutoff case, the order of derivative k can be taken not less than 5 instead of 6 for the non-cutoff case in our analysis.*

To prove this theorem, define a sequence of successive approximate solutions $\{f^n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ by

$$(4.1) \quad \begin{cases} f^0 = f_0; \\ \partial_t f^{n+1} + v \cdot \nabla_x f^{n+1} = Q_\varepsilon^+(f^n, f^n) - Q_\varepsilon^-(f^n, f^{n+1}), \\ f^{n+1}|_{t=0} = f_0. \end{cases}$$

Here

$$\begin{aligned} Q_\varepsilon^+(g, h) &= \iint_{\mathbb{R}_{v_*}^3 \times \mathbb{S}_\sigma^2} B_\varepsilon(v - v_*, \sigma) g'_* h' dv_* d\sigma, \\ Q_\varepsilon^-(g, h) &= h L_\varepsilon(g), \\ L_\varepsilon(g) &= \iint_{\mathbb{R}_{v_*}^3 \times \mathbb{S}_\sigma^2} B_\varepsilon(v - v_*, \sigma) g_* dv_* d\sigma. \end{aligned}$$

Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} (4.2) \quad & |\partial_\beta^\alpha L_\varepsilon(f)(t, x, v)| = |L_\varepsilon(\partial_\beta^\alpha f)(t, x, v)| \\ & \leq C \int \left(|v - v_*|^\gamma \mathbf{1}_{|v - v_*| \leq 1} + \mathbf{1}_{|v - v_*| \geq 1} \right) |(\partial_\beta^\alpha f)(t, x, v_*)| dv_* \\ & \leq C \left\{ \left(\int |v - v_*|^{2\gamma} \mathbf{1}_{|v - v_*| \leq 1} dv_* \right)^{1/2} \|\partial_\beta^\alpha f(t, x, \cdot)\|_{L_v^2} + \|\partial_\beta^\alpha f(t, x, \cdot)\|_{L_v^1} \right\} \\ & \leq C \|\partial_\beta^\alpha f(t, x, \cdot)\|_{L_{3/2+\varepsilon'}(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}, \quad t \in [0, T_0], \end{aligned}$$

for a constant $C > 0$ depending on ε . Here we have used $\gamma > -3/2$. Putting

$$V^n(t, s, x, v) = \int_s^t L_\varepsilon(f^n)(\tau, x - (t - \tau)v, v) d\tau \quad (\geq 0 \text{ if } f_n \geq 0),$$

in the following, we will consider the solution in the mild form

$$\begin{aligned} (4.3) \quad & f^{n+1}(t, x, v) = e^{-V^n(t, 0, x, v)} f_0(x - tv, v) \\ & + \int_0^t e^{-V^n(t, s, x, v)} Q_\varepsilon^+(f^n, f^n)(s, x - (t - s)v, v) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} (4.4) \quad & \partial_\beta^\alpha V^n(t, s, x, v) \\ & = \sum_{\beta' + \beta'' = \beta} \int_s^t \frac{(\tau - t)^{|\beta''|} \beta!}{\beta'! \beta''!} L_\varepsilon(\partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha + \beta''} f^n)(\tau, x - (t - \tau)v, v) d\tau, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\partial_\beta^\alpha Q_\varepsilon^+(g, h)(x, v) = \sum_{\substack{\alpha' + \alpha'' = \alpha \\ \beta' + \beta'' = \beta}} \frac{\alpha! \beta!}{\alpha'! \beta'! \alpha''! \beta''!} Q_\varepsilon^+(\partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} g, \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} h)(x, v).$$

Furthermore, notice that

$$\begin{aligned} & \partial_\beta^\alpha Q_\varepsilon^+(g, h)(x - (t - \tau)v, v) \\ & = \sum_{\tilde{\beta}' + \tilde{\beta}'' = \beta} \frac{(\tau - t)^{|\tilde{\beta}''|} \beta!}{\tilde{\beta}'! \tilde{\beta}''!} \left(\partial_{\tilde{\beta}'}^{\alpha + \tilde{\beta}''} Q_\varepsilon^+(g, h) \right)(x - (t - \tau)v, v) \\ & = \sum_{\tilde{\beta}' + \tilde{\beta}'' = \beta} \frac{(\tau - t)^{|\tilde{\beta}''|} \beta!}{\tilde{\beta}'! \tilde{\beta}''!} \\ & \quad \times \left(\sum_{\substack{\alpha' + \alpha'' = \alpha + \tilde{\beta}'' \\ \beta' + \beta'' = \tilde{\beta}'}} \frac{\alpha! \beta!}{\alpha'! \beta'! \alpha''! \beta''!} Q_\varepsilon^+(\partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} g, \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} h)(x - (t - \tau)v, v) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Then, by applying Lemma 2.2 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|V^n(t, s, \cdot, \cdot)\|_{L^\infty} &\lesssim (t-s) \sup_{s \leq \tau \leq t} \|f^n(\tau, \cdot, \cdot)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_x^3, L_{3/2+\varepsilon'}^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3))} \\ &\lesssim (t-s) \sup_{s \leq \tau \leq t} \left(\sup_{a \in \mathbb{R}_x^3} \|(1-\Delta_x)\phi_a \mathcal{W}^4 f^n(\tau, x, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore

$$(4.5) \quad \|\partial_\beta^\alpha V^n(t, s, \cdot, \cdot)\|_{L^\infty} \lesssim (t-s) \sup_{s \leq \tau \leq t} \sum_{|q|=|\alpha+\beta|} \sup_{s \leq \tau \leq t} \left(\sup_{a \in \mathbb{R}_x^3} \|(1-\Delta_x)\phi_a \partial^q \mathcal{W}^4 f^n(\tau, x, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \right).$$

Here $\partial^q = \partial_x^{\alpha'} \partial_v^{\beta'}$ with α', β' satisfying $|\alpha' + \beta'| = |q|$.

In order to obtain a variant of (4.5) which includes the factor ϕ_a , we recall the property $\phi_a(x, v) \leq \langle v_* \rangle^2 \phi_a(x, v_*)$ and prepare a simple lemma about the translation invariance of ϕ_a in finite time.

Lemma 4.3. *For $|t| \leq T$, then we have*

$$\phi_a(x, v) \leq \max\{2, 4T^2\} \phi_a(x - tv, v) = \max\{2, 4T^2\} \phi_{a+tv}(x, v).$$

Proof. This follows from

$$\langle v \rangle^2 + |x - tv - a|^2 \leq \langle v \rangle^2 + 2|x - a|^2 + 2t^2|v|^2 \leq \max\{2, 4T^2\} \phi_a(x, v)^{-1}.$$

□

From now on, to be concrete, we take $T < \frac{1}{2}$. It follows from (4.4) and the above lemma that

$$(4.6) \quad \begin{aligned} &\left| \phi_a(x, v) \partial_\beta^\alpha V^n(t, s, x, v) \right|^2 \\ &\lesssim \sum_{|q|=|\alpha+\beta|} \int_s^t |\phi_{a+(t-\tau)v}(x, v) L_\varepsilon(\partial^q f^n)(\tau, x - (t-\tau)v, v)|^2 d\tau \\ &\lesssim \sum_{|q|=|\alpha+\beta|} \int_s^t \left\| \left(\phi_a \mathcal{W}^4 \partial^q f^n \right)(\tau, x - (t-\tau)v, \cdot) \right\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)}^2 d\tau, \end{aligned}$$

where, in the second inequality, we have used a variant of (4.2), namely,

$$\begin{aligned} &|\phi_a(x, v) L_\varepsilon(\partial^q f)(t, x, v)| \\ &\lesssim \int \left(|v - v_*|^\gamma \mathbf{1}_{|v-v_*| \leq 1} + \mathbf{1}_{|v-v_*| \geq 1} \right) |\phi_a(x, v_*) \langle v_* \rangle^2 (\partial^q f)(t, x, v_*)| dv_* \\ &\lesssim \left(\int |\phi_a \mathcal{W}^4 \partial^q f^n(t, x, v_*)|^2 dv_* \right)^{1/2}, \end{aligned}$$

with $x = x - (t-\tau)v$.

Moreover, observe that

$$\|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell e^{-V^n} f_0(x - tv, v)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \leq 2 \sup_{a'} \|\phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^\ell f_0\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)}.$$

Proposition 4.4. *Assume that $-3/2 < \gamma \leq 0$. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ and $D_0 > 0$. Then there exists a $T_\varepsilon' > 0$ such that for any $f_0(x, v)$ satisfying*

$$f_0 \geq 0, \quad \|f_0\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k, \ell}}^2 \leq D_0^2,$$

with $k \geq 5$ and $\ell \geq k + 7$, we have for any $n \geq 0$

$$(4.7) \quad f^n \geq 0, \quad \|f^n(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}}^2 \leq 6D_0^2 \text{ for } t \in [0, T_\varepsilon].$$

Proof. In view of (4.3), for $q \in \mathbb{Z}_+^6$ with $|q| \leq k$ we consider

$$\begin{aligned} & \partial^q \left(e^{-V^n(t, s, x, v)} Q_\varepsilon^+(f^n, f^n)(s, x - (t-s)v, v) \right) \\ &= \sum_{p+q'=q} \frac{q!}{p!q'!} \partial^p \left(e^{-V^n(t, s, x, v)} \right) \partial^{q'} \left(Q_\varepsilon^+(f^n, f^n)(s, x - (t-s)v, v) \right). \end{aligned}$$

The Faà di Bruno formula gives

$$\partial^p \left(e^{-V^n} \right) = e^{-V^n} \sum_{j \leq |p|} \sum_{p_1 + \dots + p_j = p} C_{p_1, \dots, p_j} \partial^{p_1} \left(-V^n \right) \dots \partial^{p_j} \left(-V^n \right).$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \partial^p \left(e^{-V^n(t, s, x, v)} \right) \partial^{q'} \left(Q_\varepsilon^+(f^n, f^n)(s, x - (t-s)v, v) \right) \right|^2 \\ & \lesssim \sum_{j \leq |p|} \sum_{p_1 + \dots + p_j = p} \left| \partial^{p_1} \left(V^n \right) \dots \partial^{p_j} \left(V^n \right) \partial^{q'} \left(Q_\varepsilon^+(f^n, f^n)(s, x - (t-s)v, v) \right) \right|^2 \end{aligned}$$

because $V^n \geq 0$. First we consider the case $|p| \geq k-1$ and the term with $|p_1| \geq k-1$. Since $|p_2|, \dots, |p_j| \leq k-2$, it follows from (4.5) and (4.6) that if we denote the integration of its corresponding term with product of weight ϕ_a by $J(p, q')$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} J(p, q') &\leq (2D_0)^{2j} \iint_{\mathbb{R}_x^3 \times \mathbb{R}_v^3} \left| \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|q|} \partial^{p_1} \left(V^n \right) \dots \partial^{p_j} \left(V^n \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \partial^{q'} \left(Q_\varepsilon^+(f^n, f^n)(s, x - (t-s)v, v) \right) \right|^2 dx dv \\ &\lesssim (2D_0)^{2(j-1)} \iint_{\mathbb{R}_x^3 \times \mathbb{R}_v^3} \left| \left(\phi_a \partial^{p_1} V^n \right)(t, s, x, v) \right|^2 \\ &\quad \times \left| \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|q|} \partial^{q'} \left(Q_\varepsilon^+(f^n, f^n)(s, x - (t-s)v, v) \right) \right|^2 dx dv \\ &\lesssim (2D_0)^{2(j-1)} \sum_{|\tilde{p}_1|=|p_1|} \int_s^t \iint_{\mathbb{R}_x^3 \times \mathbb{R}_v^3} \left\| \left(\phi_a \mathcal{W}^4 \partial^{\tilde{p}_1} f^n \right)(\tau, x, \cdot) \right\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)}^2 \\ &\quad \times \left| \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|q|} \partial^{q'} \left(Q_\varepsilon^+(f^n, f^n)(s, x - (\tau-s)v, v) \right) \right|^2 dx dv d\tau \\ &\lesssim (2D_0)^{2(j-1)} \sum_{|\tilde{p}_1|=|p_1|} \int_s^t \int_{\mathbb{R}_x^3} \left\| \left(\phi_a \mathcal{W}^4 \partial^{\tilde{p}_1} f^n \right)(\tau, x, \cdot) \right\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)}^2 dx d\tau \\ &\quad \times \left\| \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|q|} \partial^{q'} \left(Q_\varepsilon^+(f^n, f^n) \right) \right\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_x^3, L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3))}^2 \\ &\lesssim (t-s)(2D_0)^{2j+4}, \end{aligned}$$

where in the third inequality, we have used the translation $x - (t-\tau)v \rightarrow x$; and the fifth inequality follows from (5.4), in view of $|q'| \leq 1$ ($|p| \geq k-1$).

The other cases are now easy. For example, if $|p| \leq k - 2$, then it follows from (4.5) that

$$\begin{aligned} J(p, q') &\leq (2D_0)^{2j} \iint_{\mathbb{R}_x^3 \times \mathbb{R}_v^3} \left| \phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|q|} \partial^{q'} \left(Q_\varepsilon^+(f^n, f^n)(s, x - (t-s)v, v) \right) \right|^2 dx dv \\ &\lesssim (2D_0)^{2j} \sum_{q_1+q_2=q'} \iint_{\mathbb{R}_x^3 \times \mathbb{R}_v^3} \left| \phi_{a-(t-s)v} \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|q|} \left(Q_\varepsilon^+(\partial^{q_1} f^n, \partial^{q_2} f^n)(s, x, v) \right) \right|^2 dx dv \\ &\leq C_\varepsilon D_0^{2j+4}, \end{aligned}$$

by means of (5.3) and Lemma 4.3.

Finally, if $g^{n+1}(t, x, v)$ denotes the second term of the right hand side of (4.3) then

$$\|g^{n+1}(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}}^2 \leq C_\varepsilon t(D_0^4 + D_0^{2k+4}).$$

It is not difficult to see

$$\|e^{-V^n(t, 0, x, v)} f_0(x - tv, v)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}}^2 \leq 4D_0^2 + C_\varepsilon t(D_0^2 + D_0^{2k+4}).$$

Hence, it is straightforward to check that for any given k and D_0 , there exists a time $T'_\varepsilon > 0$ such that (4.7) holds. And this completes the proof of the proposition. \square

Proposition 4.5. *Assume that $-3/2 < \gamma \leq 0$. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ and $D_0 > 0$. Assume that*

$$f_0 \geq 0, \quad \|f_0\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}}^2 \leq D_0^2,$$

with $k \geq 5$ and $\ell \geq k + 7$. Then for any $\delta > 0$, there exists another $T''_\varepsilon > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T''_\varepsilon]} \|f^{n+1}(t) - f^n(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}} \leq (1 - \delta) \sup_{t \in [0, T''_\varepsilon]} \|f^n(t) - f^{n-1}(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}}.$$

Proof. If we put $w^n = f^{n+1} - f^n$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t w^n + v \cdot \nabla_x w^n + L_\varepsilon(f^n) w^n = \\ -L_\varepsilon(w^{n-1}) f^n + Q_\varepsilon^+(w^{n-1}, f^n) + Q_\varepsilon^+(f^{n-1}, w^{n-1}) := R_\varepsilon^n(t, x, v), \end{aligned}$$

so that we have

$$w^n(t, x, v) = \int_0^t e^{-V^n(t, s, x, v)} R_\varepsilon^n(s, x - (t-s)v, v) ds.$$

Therefore, by the almost same argument used in the proof of Lemma 4.4, we have

$$\|w^n(t)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}}^2 \leq C_\varepsilon t(D_0^2 + D_0^{2k+2}) \sup_{0 \leq \tau \leq t} \|w^{n-1}(\tau)\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}}^2.$$

\square

If we put $T_\varepsilon = \min\{T'_\varepsilon, T''_\varepsilon\}$, then Theorem 4.1 is a direct consequence of Propositions 4.4 and 4.5.

The proof of Theorem 1.1 can be completed in the almost same way as in the proof of Theorem 4.11 of [3] and the subsequent paragraph there, taking into account the uniform estimate (3.7) and Theorem 4.1.

5. ESTIMATE FOR Q_ε^+

In this last section, we will complete the estimate on Q_ε^+ that has been used in the previous section. We start with an almost obvious lemma.

Lemma 5.1. *Let $0 \geq \gamma > -3/2$. Then there exists a $C_\varepsilon > 0$ such that*

$$\|Q_\varepsilon^+(f, g)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \leq C_\varepsilon \|f\|_{L^2_2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}.$$

Proof. It follows from the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and the change of variables $(v, v_*, \sigma) \rightarrow (v', v'_*, \mathbf{k})$, ($\mathbf{k} = (v - v_*)/|v - v_*|$) that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| (Q_\varepsilon^+(f, g), h)_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \right| &\leq \left(\iiint_{\mathbb{R}_v^3 \times \mathbb{R}_{v_*}^3 \times \mathbb{S}_\sigma^2} B_\varepsilon(v - v_*, \sigma) |f_*| |g|^2 dv dv_* d\sigma \right)^2 \\ &\quad \times \left(\iiint_{\mathbb{R}_v^3 \times \mathbb{R}_{v_*}^3 \times \mathbb{S}_\sigma^2} B_\varepsilon(v - v_*, \sigma) |f_*| |h'|^2 dv dv_* d\sigma \right)^2 \\ &= A_1 \times A_2. \end{aligned}$$

By means of the regular change of variables $v \rightarrow v'$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A_2^2 &\leq C_\varepsilon \iint |v' - v_*|^\gamma |f_*| |h'|^2 dv' dv_* \\ &\leq C_\varepsilon \int |h'|^2 \left(\int_{|v' - v_*| \leq 1} |v' - v_*|^\gamma |f_*| dv_* + \int_{|v' - v_*| > 1} |f_*| dv_* \right) dv' \\ &\leq C'_\varepsilon \|h\|_{L^2} \left(\|f\|_{L^2} + \|f\|_{L^1} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we get $A_1^2 \leq C_\varepsilon \|g\|_{L^2} \left(\|f\|_{L^2} + \|f\|_{L^1} \right)$ so that the proof of the lemma is completed. \square

Since it follows that

$$\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell Q_\varepsilon^+(f, g) - Q_\varepsilon^+(f, \phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell) = \phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell Q_\varepsilon(f, g) - Q_\varepsilon(f, \phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell),$$

similar to Lemma 2.5, we have

Lemma 5.2. *If $-3/2 < \gamma \leq 0$, $0 < s < 1/2$ and $\ell \geq 5$, then there exists a $C > 0$ independent of $\varepsilon > 0$ such that*

$$\begin{aligned} (5.1) \quad &\|(\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell Q_\varepsilon^+(f, g) - Q_\varepsilon^+(f, \phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g))\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \\ &\leq C \min \left\{ \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^5 f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\mathcal{W}^\ell g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}, \|\mathcal{W}^5 f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \right\} \\ &\quad + \min \left\{ \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}, \|\mathcal{W}^2 g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\mathcal{W}^\ell f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^2 g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

by regarding x, a in ϕ_a as parameters.

Notice that

$$\|\mathcal{W}^2 f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \leq \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^4 f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\mathcal{W}^\ell g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}$$

because of $\phi_a(x, v) \leq \langle v_* \rangle^2 \phi(x, v_*)$. Therefore, it follows from Lemma 5.1 and Lemma 5.2 to have

Corollary 5.3. *If $-3/2 < \gamma \leq 0$, $0 < s < 1/2$ and $\ell \geq 5$, then there exists a $C_\varepsilon > 0$ such that*

$$(5.2) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell Q_\varepsilon^+(f, g)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \\ & \leq C_\varepsilon \min \left\{ \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^5 f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\mathcal{W}^\ell g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}, \|\mathcal{W}^5 f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \right\} \\ & \quad + \min \left\{ \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^\ell f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\mathcal{W}^2 g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)}, \|\mathcal{W}^\ell f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^2 g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3)} \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

by regarding x, a in ϕ_a as parameters.

It follows from this corollary and Lemma 2.2 that if $|\alpha' + \alpha''| + |\beta' + \beta''| \leq |\alpha + \beta|$, then

$$\|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} Q_\varepsilon^+(\partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f, \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} g)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \lesssim E_1 + E_2,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} E_1 = \min & \left\{ \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^5 \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|+2} \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right), \right. \\ & \left. \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^7 \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \right) \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} E_2 = \min & \left\{ \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^4 \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right), \right. \\ & \left. \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|+2} \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f\| \right) \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^2 \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f\| \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since E_1, E_2 are the same as D_2, D_3 in the section 3, respectively, we have

$$(5.3) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|\phi_a \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} Q_\varepsilon^+(\partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f, \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^6)} \lesssim \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}}^2 \\ & \quad \text{if } |\alpha' + \alpha''| + |\beta' + \beta''| \leq |\alpha + \beta|. \end{aligned}$$

Now we consider the following special case:

$$\alpha + \beta = \alpha' + \beta' + \alpha'' + \beta'' + \alpha''' + \beta''', \quad |\alpha''' + \beta''| \geq k - 1,$$

and write $\partial^{q_1}, \partial^{q_2} = \partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'}, \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''}$. Noting (5.2) with $a = x$, by applying Lemma 2.2 to both factors, we have

$$(5.4) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|\mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|} Q_\varepsilon^+(\partial_{\beta'}^{\alpha'} f, \partial_{\beta''}^{\alpha''} f)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}_x^3; L^2(\mathbb{R}_v^3))} \lesssim \sum_{|q_1+q_2| \leq 1} \\ & \quad \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^7 \partial^{q_1} f\| \right) \left(\sup_{a'} \|(1 - \Delta_x) \phi_{a'} \mathcal{W}^{\ell-|\alpha+\beta|+2} \partial^{q_2} f\| \right) \\ & \quad \lesssim \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_{ul}^{k,\ell}}^2 \end{aligned}$$

because $\ell - 3 \geq 7$, and the fact that from $|q_j| + |\alpha''' + \beta''| \leq |\alpha + \beta|$ it holds that

$$\ell - |\alpha + \beta| + 2 \leq \ell - (|q_j| + 2) + 4 - |\alpha''' + \beta''| \leq \ell - (|q_j| + 2) + (5 - k).$$

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