

Infinite-dimensional nonlinear stationary Fokker–Planck–Kolmogorov equations

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Dedicated to Leonard Gross on the occasion of his 95th birthday

ABSTRACT. We prove existence of a probability solution to the nonlinear stationary Fokker–Planck–Kolmogorov equation on an infinite dimensional space with a centered Gaussian measure γ with a unit diffusion operator and a drift of the form $-x + v(p, x)$, where v is a bounded mapping with values in the Cameron–Martin space H of γ and v is defined on the space $E \times X$, where E is the subset of $L^2(\gamma)$ consisting of probability densities. The equation has the form $L_{b(p, \bullet)}^*(p \cdot \gamma) = 0$ with $L_{b(p, \bullet)}\varphi = \Delta_H\varphi + (b(p, \bullet), D_H\varphi)_H$, so that the drift coefficient depends on the unknown solution, which makes the equation nonlinear. This dependence is assumed to satisfy a suitable continuity condition. This result is applied to drifts of Vlasov type defined by means of the convolution of a vector field with the solution. In addition, we consider a more general situation where only the components of v are uniformly bounded and prove the existence of a probability solution under some stronger continuity condition on the drift.

Keywords: stationary Fokker–Planck–Kolmogorov equation, nonlinear Fokker–Planck–Kolmogorov equation, Gaussian measure

1. Introduction

Leonard Gross, one of the pioneers of infinite-dimensional analysis, initiated his program of the study of infinite-dimensional harmonic analysis in his seminal papers [16], [17], and [18]. In the subsequent years, this direction was developed by Gross himself, his students, including Piech, Kuo, and Gordina (see, e.g., [15], [22], [23], [24], and [25]), and many followers all over the world. Part of Gross’s program was the investigation of elliptic equations on infinite-dimensional spaces, see, e.g., [11], [12], [13], and [14] (of course, there is also a parabolic counterpart which is not discussed here). As in the finite-dimensional case, several different types of elliptic equations arise: direct equations such as $Lf = \Delta f + \langle b, \nabla f \rangle = 0$, divergence type equations, and double-divergence type equations or adjoint equations, which in case of a constant second order coefficients look like $\Delta f - \operatorname{div}(fb) = 0$. The latter equation is naturally defined for measures as

$$L^*\mu = 0,$$

which in the finite-dimensional case is understood as the identity

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} L\varphi \, d\mu = 0, \quad \varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n),$$

and in such a form is called the stationary Fokker–Planck–Kolmogorov equation. This equation is meaningful if b is locally integrable with respect to μ , in particular, if b is locally bounded.

A nonlinear equation arises when the drift b depends on the unknown solution μ . For example, a Vlasov-type equation corresponds to the drift

$$b(\mu, x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} b_0(x - y) \mu(dy).$$

For a recent survey of nonlinear Fokker–Planck–Kolmogorov equations see [10]. In this paper, we study nonlinear stationary Fokker–Planck–Kolmogorov equations on infinite-dimensional spaces. Such equations are defined similarly, which is discussed in Section 2.

Our main result (stated and proved in Section 3) gives the existence of a probability to the infinite-dimensional nonlinear stationary equation with the drift

$$b(\mu, x) = -x + v(\mu, x),$$

where v takes values in the Cameron–Martin space H of a centered Radon Gaussian measure γ on a locally convex space X and is uniformly bounded with respect to the Cameron–Martin norm on H and is continuous with respect to μ in a suitable sense. A solution is constructed in the set of probability measures with densities from $L^2(\gamma)$. It is also shown that if the field v_u depends Borel measurably on a parameter u from a complete separable metric space U , then one can select a solution p_u that is Borel measurable in u . Finally, we consider a more general case where only the components of v are uniformly bounded. However, in order to ensure the existence of a probability solution in this case we impose some stronger continuity condition on v .

2. Notation, terminology and auxiliary results

Let γ be a centered Radon Gaussian measure on a locally convex space X (see, e.g., [2]). The space of continuous linear functionals on X is denoted by X^* . Without loss of generality one can assume that $X = \mathbb{R}^\infty$ is the countable power of the real line and γ is the countable power of the standard Gaussian measure on the real line. In that case the dual space X^* can be identified with the space $\mathbb{R}_0^\infty$ of finite sequences. This measure γ is called the standard Gaussian measure on $\mathbb{R}^\infty$.

Let X_γ^* be the closure of X^* in $L^2(\gamma)$. For the standard Gaussian measure γ on $\mathbb{R}^\infty$ the space X_γ^* can be identified with the standard Hilbert space l^2 : each element (h_n) of l^2 generates the element $\hat{h}(x) = \sum_{n=1}^\infty h_n x_n$ of X_γ^* , and conversely every element of X_γ^* admits such representation.

The Cameron–Martin space $H = H(\gamma)$ of γ is the space of all vectors h with finite norm

$$|h|_H = \sup \left\{ l(h) : l \in X^*, \int_X l^2 d\gamma \leq 1 \right\}.$$

For every element $h \in H(\gamma)$ there is an element $\hat{h} \in X_\gamma^*$ such that

$$l(h) = \int_X \hat{h} l d\gamma \quad \forall l \in X^*.$$

The norm on $H = H(\gamma)$ indicated above is generated by the inner product

$$(u, v)_H = \int_X \widehat{u}\widehat{v} d\gamma.$$

The mapping $h \mapsto \widehat{h}$ is a linear isometry of $H(\gamma)$ and X_γ^* and the inverse isometry is denoted by j_H . Thus, $j_H(\widehat{h}) = h$ and

$$(j_H(f), j_H(g))_H = (f, g)_{L^2(\gamma)} \quad \forall f, g \in X_\gamma^*.$$

For the standard Gaussian measure γ on $\mathbb{R}^\infty$ the Cameron–Martin space coincides with l^2 and $h \mapsto \widehat{h}$ is the identity mapping when X_γ^* is identified with l^2 as explained above.

It is known that the Cameron–Martin space is a separable Hilbert space. In addition, the measure γ is concentrated on a countable union of metrizable compact sets, so one can assume below that X is such a space. Moreover, if H is infinite-dimensional, then there is a Borel linear isomorphism between γ and the standard Gaussian measure γ_∞ in the following sense: there are Borel linear subspaces $X_1 \subset X$ and $X_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^\infty$ with $\gamma(X_1) = \gamma_\infty(X_2) = 1$ and one-to-one Borel linear operator $J: X_1 \rightarrow X_2$ with Borel J^{-1} such that J takes γ to γ_∞ and $J: H \rightarrow l^2$ is an isometry. It follows that the problem we discuss below reduces to the case of $\mathbb{R}^\infty$ with the standard Gaussian measure. The readers who prefer to deal with coordinate representations can assume that we consider this case.

It is always possible to find an orthonormal basis $\{e_n\}$ in $H(\gamma)$ such that $\widehat{e}_n \in X^*$. For all $h \in H$ and $l \in X^*$ we have

$$l(h) = (h, j_H(l))_H = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (h, e_n)_H (j_H(l), e_n)_H = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \widehat{e}_n(h) l(e_n). \quad (2.1)$$

According to Tsirelson's theorem (see [2]), for any orthonormal basis $\{e_n\}$ in $H(\gamma)$, we have

$$x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \widehat{e}_n(x) e_n \quad \gamma\text{-a.e.},$$

where the series converges in X . In particular, for every $l \in X^*$ we have

$$l(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \widehat{e}_n(x) l(e_n) \quad \gamma\text{-a.e.} \quad (2.2)$$

Let $\mathcal{FC}$ be the space of functions on X of the form

$$\varphi(x) = \psi(l_1(x), \dots, l_n(x)), \quad \psi \in C_b^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad l_i \in X^*.$$

Such functions will be called smooth cylindrical. Any function $\varphi \in \mathcal{FC}$ of this form has bounded partial derivatives $\partial_h \varphi$ for all $h \in X$ and

$$\partial_h \varphi(x) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\varphi(x + th) - \varphi(x)}{t} = \sum_{i=1}^n \partial_{x_i} \psi(l_1(x), \dots, l_n(x)) l_i(h).$$

Consequently,

$$\partial_h^2 \varphi = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \partial_{x_j} \partial_{x_i} \psi(l_1, \dots, l_n) l_i(h) l_j(h).$$

Suppose that $v: X \rightarrow H$ is a Borel mapping and

$$b(x) = -x + v(x).$$

Let us fix an orthonormal basis $\{e_n\}$ in $H(\gamma)$ such that $\widehat{e}_n \in X^*$. Then we can define the operator

$$L_b\varphi := \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} [\partial_{e_i}^2 \varphi + \widehat{e}_i(b(x)) \partial_{e_i} \varphi(x)]$$

defined on $\mathcal{FC}$ and taking values in $L^2(\gamma)$. Indeed, writing φ as above, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \partial_{e_i}^2 \varphi + \widehat{e}_i(b(x)) \partial_{e_i} \varphi(x) \\ &= \sum_{j,k \leq n} \partial_{x_k} \partial_{x_j} \psi(l_1, \dots, l_n) l_k(e_i) l_j(e_i) + \sum_{j \leq n} \widehat{e}_i(b(x)) \partial_{x_j} \psi(l_1, \dots, l_n) l_j(e_i), \end{aligned}$$

which gives

$$\begin{aligned} L_b\varphi &= \sum_{j,k \leq n} \partial_{x_k} \partial_{x_j} \psi(l_1, \dots, l_n) \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} l_k(e_i) l_j(e_i) \\ &\quad + \sum_{j \leq n} \partial_{x_j} \psi(l_1, \dots, l_n) \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \widehat{e}_i(b(x)) l_j(e_i), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} l_k(e_i) l_j(e_i) &= (j_H(l_k), j_H(l_j))_H, \\ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \widehat{e}_i(b(x)) l_j(e_i) &= - \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \widehat{e}_i(x) l_j(e_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \widehat{e}_i(v(x)) l_j(e_i). \end{aligned}$$

According to (2.1) and (2.2) the latter equals γ -a.e.

$$-l_j(x) + l_j(v(x)) = l_j(b(x)).$$

Therefore,

$$L_b\varphi = \sum_{j,k \leq n} \partial_{x_k} \partial_{x_j} \psi(l_1, \dots, l_n) (j_H(l_k), j_H(l_j))_H + \sum_{j \leq n} l_j(b(x)).$$

Thus, $L_b\varphi \in L^2(\gamma)$ and L_b does not depend on our choice of $\{e_n\}$ with the indicated properties.

Recall that a Borel probability measure is called Radon if for every Borel set B we have $\mu(B) = \sup \mu(K)$, where $\sup$ is taken over compact subsets of B .

A Radon probability measure μ absolutely continuous with respect to γ satisfies the stationary Fokker–Planck–Kolmogorov equation

$$L_b^* \mu = 0 \tag{2.3}$$

if $l(b) \in L^1(\mu)$ for all $l \in X^*$ and

$$\int_X L_b \varphi d\mu = 0 \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{FC}. \tag{2.4}$$

It is worth noting that (2.3) can be interpreted in a weaker sense: we fix an orthonormal basis $\{e_n\}$ in $H(\gamma)$ such that $\widehat{e}_n \in X^*$, consider the class $\mathcal{FC}_{\{e_n\}}$ of smooth cylindrical functions of the form indicated above defined by means of the sequence of functionals $l_n = \widehat{e}_n$ and define (2.3) by means of the identity (2.4) on $\mathcal{FC}_{\{e_n\}}$. However, it is known (see [7] or [2, Theorem 7.5.6]) that if v is bounded, then any Borel probability measure μ with $X^* \subset L^2(\mu)$ satisfying the equation $L_b^* \mu = 0$ in this weaker sense is absolutely continuous with respect to γ , moreover,

its Radon–Nikodym density belongs to $L^2(\gamma)$ (see [4]). Note also that in this case $\varrho = d\mu/d\gamma$ belongs to the Gaussian Sobolev class $W^{1,1}(\gamma)$ and

$$\int_X \frac{|D_H \varrho|_H^2}{\varrho} d\gamma \leq \int_X |b|_H^2 d\gamma.$$

A more general situation is studied in [9], where the following theorem is proved. Let us consider the class $\mathcal{FC}_{0,\{e_n\}}$ of smooth cylindrical functions of the form

$$\varphi(x) = \psi(l_1(x), \dots, l_n(x))$$

with $l_n = \widehat{e}_n$ and functions $\psi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$; unlike $\mathcal{FC}$, this class is not a linear space. If $X = \mathbb{R}^\infty$ and $H = l^2$ with its natural basis $\{e_n\}$, then $l_n = \widehat{e}_n$ is the n -coordinate function and $\mathcal{FC}_{0,\{e_n\}}$ is just the union of all $C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

A Borel measure μ is called a solution to the equation $L_b^* \mu = 0$ with respect to $\mathcal{FC}_{0,\{e_n\}}$ if $l_n(v) \in L^1(\mu)$ for all n and (2.4) holds for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{FC}_{0,\{e_n\}}$. Although $\mathcal{FC}_{0,\{e_n\}}$ is not a linear space, an advantage of using this class is that for any function $\varphi \in \mathcal{FC}_{0,\{e_n\}}$ the functions $l_j \partial_{e_j} \varphi$ are bounded, so in the case of bounded $l_j(v)$ the functions $L_b \varphi$ are also bounded and belong to $L^1(\mu)$.

THEOREM 2.1. *Let μ be a Borel probability measure on X such that $|v|_H \in L^1(\mu)$ and $L_b^* \mu = 0$ with respect to $\mathcal{FC}_{0,\{e_n\}}$, where $b(x) = -x + v(x)$. Then μ is absolutely continuous with respect to γ and for its Radon–Nikodym $f := d\mu/d\gamma$ we have*

$$\int_X f(\log(f+1))^\alpha d\gamma \leq C(\alpha) \left[1 + \| |v|_H \|_{L^1(\mu)} \left(\log(1 + \| |v|_H \|_{L^1(\mu)}) \right)^\alpha \right] \quad (2.5)$$

for every $\alpha < 1/4$, where $C(\alpha)$ is a number depending only on α .

It follows from this result that the solution with respect to $\mathcal{FC}_{0,\{e_n\}}$ will be also a solution with respect to $\mathcal{FC}$, because any function $f \in \mathcal{FC}$ can be approximated in any $L^p(\gamma)$ by functions from $\mathcal{FC}_{0,\{e_n\}}$ along with its partial derivatives $\partial_{e_i} f$, $\partial_{e_i}^2 f$, where $i \leq N$ and N is fixed.

Solutions to nonlinear equations are defined similarly. Namely, if E is a Borel set of probability densities in $L^1(\gamma)$ and $v: E \times X \rightarrow H$ is a Borel mapping, then a measure $\mu = \varrho \cdot \gamma$ with $\varrho \in E$ is called a solution to the nonlinear Fokker–Planck–Kolmogorov equation

$$L_{b(\varrho, \bullet)}^* \mu = 0, \quad \text{where } b(\varrho, x) = -x + v(\varrho, x), \quad (2.6)$$

if the measure μ satisfies the linear equation (2.3) with $b = b(\varrho, \bullet)$.

3. Main results

Our main result states the existence of a probability solution to the nonlinear equation with a bounded field v .

THEOREM 3.1. *Let $v: E \times X \rightarrow H$ be a bounded Borel mapping, where E is the subset of $L^2(\gamma)$ consisting of probability densities, equipped with the weak topology of $L^2(\gamma)$. Suppose that for each x and each $h \in H$ the function $p \mapsto (v(p, x), h)_H$ is sequentially continuous on E with respect to the weak topology of $L^2(\gamma)$. Let $b(p, x) = -x + v(p, x)$. Then equation (2.6) has a solution μ given by a density p_μ from E .*

PROOF. Let us fix $p \in E$. According to [26], there is a unique probability density $\varrho_p \in L^1(\gamma)$ such that the measure $\varrho \cdot \gamma$ satisfies the equation $L_{b(p, \bullet)}^*(\varrho_p \cdot \gamma) = 0$ with the drift $b(p, x) = -x + v(p, x)$. It follows from [20] and [4] that $\varrho_p \in L^2(\gamma)$. Therefore, we obtain a mapping $\Psi: p \mapsto \varrho_p$ from E to E . We are going to apply Schauder's theorem to show that this mapping has a fixed point. Clearly, any fixed point gives a solution to the nonlinear equation.

First we observe that there is a constant C such that every probability solution to the equation $L_{b(p, \bullet)}^*(\varrho \cdot \gamma) = 0$ with $p \in E$ satisfies the estimate

$$\int_X \varrho^2 d\gamma \leq C. \quad (3.1)$$

This follows from [4, Theorem 2.3], which gives the bound

$$\gamma(x: \varrho(x) \geq t) \leq e^2 \exp(-\sigma_\infty |\ln t|^2), \quad t > 1,$$

where $\sigma_\infty = (2\pi \| |v(p, \bullet)|_H \|_\infty)^{-2}$. If $|v(p, \bullet)|_H = 0$, then this bound means that $\varrho = 1$. Once $|2\pi v(p, x)|_H \leq C_0$, we obtain

$$\gamma(x: \varrho(x) \geq t) \leq e^2 \exp(-C_0^{-2} |\ln t|^2), \quad t > 1,$$

so that

$$\int_X \varrho^2 d\gamma \leq 1 + 2e^2 \int_1^{+\infty} t \exp(-C_0^{-2} |\ln t|^2) dt.$$

Next, the subset S of E satisfying (3.1) is weakly compact in $L^2(\gamma)$. In addition, this subset is convex. In order to apply Schauder's theorem, it remains to verify that Ψ is continuous on S with respect to the weak topology of $L^2(\gamma)$. Note that the weak topology is metrizable on S , since S is bounded and $L^2(\gamma)$ is separable. Suppose that functions p_n converge in S to a function $p \in S$ in the weak topology. We have to show that the functions $\Psi(p_n)$ converge weakly to $\Psi(p)$. Otherwise there is a subsequence $\{p_{n_k}\}$ such that $\Psi(p_{n_k})$ converges weakly to some $g \in S$ different from $\Psi(p)$. Thus, we can assume that the whole sequence $\{\Psi(p_n)\}$ converges to $g \neq \Psi(p)$. It suffices to show that g satisfies the equation $L_{b(p, \bullet)}^*(g \cdot \gamma) = 0$, because $\Psi(p)$ is the only solution to this equation in S . Let φ be a smooth cylindrical function of the form $\varphi(x) = \psi(l_1(x), \dots, l_m(x))$, where $\psi \in C_b(\mathbb{R}^m)$ and $l_i \in X^*$. As explained above, we have

$$L_{b(p, \bullet)} \varphi = \sum_{j,k \leq m} \partial_{x_k} \partial_{x_j} \psi(l_1, \dots, l_m) (j_H(l_k), j_H(l_j))_H - \sum_{j \leq m} l_j(x) + \sum_{j \leq m} l_j(v(p, x))$$

and similarly for p_n . Clearly,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_X \partial_{x_k} \partial_{x_j} \psi(l_1, \dots, l_m) \Psi(p_n) d\gamma &\rightarrow \int_X \partial_{x_k} \partial_{x_j} \psi(l_1, \dots, l_m) g d\gamma, \\ \int_X l_j \Psi(p_n) d\gamma &\rightarrow \int_X l_j g d\gamma \end{aligned}$$

for all $j \leq m$. In addition, $l_j(v(p_n, x)) \rightarrow l_j(v(p, x))$ and these functions are uniformly bounded. Hence

$$\int_X l_j(v(p_n, x)) \Psi(p_n)(x) \gamma(dx) \rightarrow \int_X l_j(v(p, x)) g(x) \gamma(dx).$$

Thus,

$$\int_X L_{b(p_n, \bullet)} \varphi \Psi(p_n) d\gamma \rightarrow \int_X L_{b(p, \bullet)} \varphi g d\gamma,$$

where the left-hand sides vanish, so the right-hand side vanishes too, which means that $L_{b(p, \bullet)}^*(g \cdot \gamma) = 0$. The proof is complete. $\square$

EXAMPLE 3.2. Let $b_0: X \rightarrow H$ be a bounded Borel mapping and

$$b(p, x) = \int_X b_0(x - y)p(y) \gamma(dy).$$

Then b satisfies the hypotheses of the theorem. Indeed, if functions p_n converge in E to a function p in the weak topology of $L^2(\gamma)$, then, for every x , we have

$$\int_X b_0(x - y)p_n(y) \gamma(dy) \rightarrow \int_X b_0(x - y)p(y) \gamma(dy).$$

Due to the boundedness of b_0 we have convergence $b(p_n, x) \rightarrow b(p, x)$ in H . In particular, we have $(b(p_n, x), h)_H \rightarrow (b(p, x), h)_H$ for every $h \in H$. For every fixed p the mapping $x \mapsto b(p, x)$ on X is Borel measurable. For every fixed x the mapping $p \mapsto b(p, x)$ is continuous on E in the weak topology. Since the sets

$$E_N = \{f \in E: \|f\|_{L^2(\gamma)} \leq N\}$$

are compact metrizable in the weak topology, we conclude that b is jointly Borel measurable on each $E_N \times X$ (see [3, Exercise 6.10.40]). Then b is jointly Borel measurable on all of $E \times X$.

The theorem proved above can be extended to more general unbounded fields v and non-constant diffusion operators. However, this requires more technicalities based on the results from [5], [9], [4], and [20] and will be considered separately.

We now assume that v depends additionally on a parameter u from a complete separable metric space U and

$$(p, x, u) \mapsto v_u(p, x), \quad E \times X \times U \rightarrow H$$

is a bounded Borel mapping.

PROPOSITION 3.3. *There are solutions $p_u \in E$ to the equations $L_{b_u(p_u, \bullet)}^*(p_u \cdot \gamma) = 0$ such that the mapping $u \mapsto p_u$ from U to E is Borel measurable.*

PROOF. Let S be the weakly compact set in E introduced in the proof of the theorem above. For every $u \in U$ the set S_u of all solutions $p \in S$ to the nonlinear equation $L_{b_u(p, \bullet)}^*(p \cdot \gamma) = 0$ is compact. Let us show that the

$$W = \{(u, p): u \in U, p \in S_u\}$$

is Borel in $U \times E$. Once this is done, we can apply the classical measurable selection theorem, which gives a Borel mapping $F: U \rightarrow S$ such that $F(u) \in S_u$ for every $u \in U$ (see [21, §35]).

As explained above, we can assume that there is a countable family of functionals $l_n \in X^*$ separating points in X , so we can assume that the functionals $l_n = \widehat{e}_n$ play this role (or simply deal with $\mathbb{R}^\infty$ and take the coordinate functions). Then equation $L_b^*(p \cdot \gamma)$ with respect to $\mathcal{FC}$ is equivalent to this equation with respect to $\mathcal{FC}_{0, \{e_n\}}$ (see the discussion in Section 2). In turn, testing the latter reduces to checking (2.4) for a suitable countable family $\{\varphi_j\} \subset \mathcal{FC}_{0, \{e_n\}}$. Therefore, the equality $L_{b_u(p, \bullet)}^*(p \cdot \gamma) = 0$ is equivalent to the countable system of relations

$$\int_X \sum_{i=1}^N [\partial_{e_i}^2 \varphi_j - l_i \partial_{e_i} \varphi_j + (v_u(p, \bullet), e_i)_H] p d\gamma = 0.$$

Thus, it remains to observe that this integral defines a Borel function on $U \times S$. This is obvious for the terms with partial derivatives. Let us consider the function

$$\int_X (v_u(p, \bullet), e_i)_H] p d\gamma.$$

Using an orthonormal basis $\{\psi_j\}$ in $L^2(\gamma)$, we obtain the functions

$$\int_X p \psi_j d\gamma \int_X (v_u(p, \bullet), e_i)_H] \psi_j d\gamma,$$

where the first integral is continuous in p and the second one is Borel measurable in u , because the function $(u, x) \mapsto (v_u(p, x), e_i)_H] \psi_j(x)$ is jointly measurable. $\square$

Finally, we consider a more general situation where v still takes values in H , but is not assumed uniformly bounded with respect to the norm of H . We now assume instead that

$$|(v(\mu, x), e_n)_H| \leq C$$

for some constant C and some orthonormal basis $\{e_n\}$ in H . To simplify our presentation we assume that $X = \mathbb{R}^\infty$ and $H = l^2$ with its standard basis $\{e_n\}$, however, a more abstract formulation can be derived easily from what follows. Now no Gaussian measure is fixed, so the mapping v is defined on $\mathcal{P}(X) \times X$, where $\mathcal{P}(X)$ is the space of all Borel probability measures on X equipped with the weak topology (it is well known that this topology is metrizable by a complete separable metric, for example, by the Prohorov metric or by the Kantorovich–Rubinshtein metric).

THEOREM 3.4. *Suppose that the functions $(\mu, x) \mapsto v_n(\mu, x) := (v(\mu, x), e_n)_H$ are continuous on $\mathcal{P}(X) \times X$ and uniformly bounded. Then there is a probability solution to equation (2.6) with respect to the class $\mathcal{FC}_{0, \{e_n\}}$.*

PROOF. Let us take any sequence of positive numbers α_n with $T := \sum_{n=1}^\infty \alpha_n < \infty$. We construct our solution on the weighted Hilbert space $E \subset X$ of sequences with finite norm

$$|x|_E = \left(\sum_{n=1}^\infty \alpha_n x_n^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

For every $k \in \mathbb{N}$ we define a k -dimensional mapping $v^k: \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^k) \times \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ by setting $v_n^k(\mu, x) = v_n(\mu, x)$, $n \leq k$, where each vector $(x_1, \dots, x_k) \in \mathbb{R}^k$ is identified with the vector $(x_1, \dots, x_k, 0, 0, \dots) \in \mathbb{R}^\infty$ and $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^k)$ is naturally identified with the subset of $\mathcal{P}(X)$ consisting of measures concentrated on $\mathbb{R}^k$.

It follows from our first theorem that for each k there is a probability solution $\mu_k \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^k)$ to the nonlinear equation with the drift v^k , moreover, we have that such a solution is absolutely continuous with respect to the standard Gaussian measure γ_k on $\mathbb{R}^k$. Indeed, we can consider $v_n^k(\mu, x)$ only for absolutely continuous measures and these functions satisfy the continuity assumption from that theorem, because weak convergence of densities in $L^2(\gamma_k)$ implies weak convergence of the corresponding measures.

Let us take $V(x) = |x|_E^2 = \sum_{n=1}^\infty \alpha_n x_n^2$ as a Lyapunov function for our finite-dimensional equations. We have

$$\begin{aligned} L_{v^k(\mu, \bullet)} V(x) &= 2 \sum_{n=1}^k \alpha_n - 2 \sum_{n=1}^k \alpha_n x_n^2 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^k \alpha_n x_n v_n^k(\mu, x) \\ &\leq 2T - 2V(x) + 2CV(x)^{1/2} T^{1/2} \leq 2T + C^2 T - V(x). \end{aligned}$$

Since μ_k satisfies a linear equation with an operator satisfying the above estimate with V , it follows from standard a priori estimates for solutions to linear Fokker–Planck–Kolmogorov equations (see [6]) that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^k} V d\mu_k \leq (2 + C^2)T.$$

The sets $\{V \leq R\}$ are compact in $\mathbb{R}^\infty$, hence it follows from the Chebyshev inequality that the measures μ_k are uniformly tight on $\mathbb{R}^\infty$. Passing to a subsequence, we can assume that they converge weakly to some probability measure μ on $\mathbb{R}^\infty$.

Let us verify that μ is a solution (2.6). Let $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^k)$. We can assume that $|\partial_{x_j}\varphi| \leq 1$. For all $n \geq k$ we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} [\Delta\varphi(x) - (x, \nabla\varphi(x)) + (v(\mu_n, x), \nabla\varphi(x))] \mu_n(dx) = 0.$$

Obviously,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} [\Delta\varphi(x) - (x, \nabla\varphi(x))] \mu_n(dx) \rightarrow \int_{\mathbb{R}^\infty} [\Delta\varphi(x) - (x, \nabla\varphi(x))] \mu(dx)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Let us show that for each $j \leq k$ we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} v_j(\mu_n, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x) \mu_n(dx) \rightarrow \int_{\mathbb{R}^\infty} v_j(\mu, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x) \mu(dx).$$

Let $\varepsilon > 0$. We have $|v_j(\mu_n, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x)| \leq C$. There is $R > 0$ such that

$$\mu_n(V > R) + \mu(V > R) \leq \varepsilon C^{-1}$$

for all n . Hence the integrals of $v_j(\mu_n, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x)$ over the set $\{V > R\}$ do not exceed ε . The sequence $\{\mu_n\}$ with the added limit μ is a compact set. By the uniform continuity of v_j on compact sets we conclude that $v_j(\mu_n, x) \rightarrow v_j(\mu, x)$ uniformly on $\{V \leq R\}$. Hence for all n large enough we have

$$\left| \int_{\{V \leq R\}} v_j(\mu_n, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x) \mu_n(dx) - \int_{\{V \leq R\}} v_j(\mu, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x) \mu(dx) \right| < \varepsilon.$$

In addition, for all n large enough

$$\left| \int_X v_j(\mu, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x) \mu_n(dx) - \int_X v_j(\mu, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x) \mu(dx) \right| < \varepsilon.$$

For such n we obtain

$$\left| \int_{\{V \leq R\}} v_j(\mu, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x) \mu_n(dx) - \int_{\{V \leq R\}} v_j(\mu, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x) \mu(dx) \right| < 2\varepsilon,$$

hence

$$\left| \int_{\{V \leq R\}} v_j(\mu_n, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x) \mu_n(dx) - \int_{\{V \leq R\}} v_j(\mu, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x) \mu(dx) \right| < 3\varepsilon.$$

Therefore, we have the desired convergence of the integrals of $v_j(\mu_n, x) \partial_{x_j}\varphi(x)$, which shows that μ is a solution to our equation. $\square$

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